Welcome to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, authorized in 1966 as America’s first national Lakeshore park. I hope your stay with us - whether a few hours or several days - is an enjoyable and safe one.

You will find the Lakeshore encompasses an incredibly diverse landscape. Here are towering cliffs, beautiful white sand beaches, lofty sand dunes, inland lakes, streams and waterfalls and of course, majestic Lake Superior. There is a great deal to see and do here. We encourage you to use this park newspaper and to stop in at one of our several visitor centers to learn all about the possibilities.

This place has been home to people for about 4,000 years. Ancient Woodland Indians, and more recently the Anishnabe have called this place home. The Lakeshore remains a very special place to these people. Explore their heritage as well as that of the U.S. Lighthouse Service and U.S. Coast Guard, or the iron blast furnace industry. Step back in time to ponder what life was like for a lighthouse keeper and his family as you take a Park Ranger guided tour of the Au Sable Light Station.

We all lead incredibly busy lives, so take a few minutes to relax and let the Lakeshore work its magic on you. Sit at the foot of a tree along the trail. Think of how special the Lakeshore is, the quiet of the dunes or forest, the solitude of creekside gurglings, the opportunity to immerse yourself in clean air and the pulse of nature.

National Parks have been referred to as one of “America’s best ideas”. I believe that is true. They are truly democratic, open to everyone, preserve the very best that America has to offer, and present opportunities to learn, have fun, find inspiration, physical challenge and even spiritual renewal.

As always, if we can help you have a safe and enjoyable stay, please feel free to contact a member of the Lakeshore staff.

Welcome to Pictured Rocks.

Jim Northup
Superintendent

Welcome to Seney National Wildlife Refuge, a great place to watch wildlife. Created in 1935 to provide habitat for migratory birds and resident wildlife, it is part of a national network of lands and waters managed by the Fish and Wildlife Services. At over 95,000 acres, Seney is one of the largest refuges east of the Mississippi.

Here you can watch the sun reflect off life-giving waters, observe regal pairs of trumpeter swans glide across the Refuge pools, witness the movements of turtles preparing to lay their eggs and be reminded of the connection of all things, as predators feed on those eggs. The haunting cry of the common loon is often heard drifting across the Refuge waters, and bald eagles, beaver and masses of dragonflies can be seen along the Marshland Wildlife Drive.

If you’re really lucky, you may catch a glimpse of a black bear treeing her cubs or a wolf passing silently through the forest. Moose are rare, but occasionally a few visitors see them plodding through the wetlands.

Here you will find opportunities to learn about or observe wildlife and their natural habitats. Stop by the Visitor Center where volunteers and staff will answer your questions and advise you on how to enjoy the Refuge. Borrow a pair of binoculars and immerse yourself in the outdoors by traveling the refuge roads on foot or a bicycle. Remember your car makes an excellent observation blind while driving the auto tour route. The Manistique River meanders through the Refuge and makes for a relaxing afternoon paddle. If you’re interested in learning more about the refuge and its inhabitants join one of our guided tours or attend a special event.

We manage this national treasure for the benefit of its wildlife inhabitants and in turn, for the benefit of visitors like you.

While you are here, we hope you are able to slow down, enjoy the quiet, and let the wonders of nature rejuvenate you.

Welcome to Seney.

Tracy Casselman
Refuge Manager

Welcome to the Hiawatha National Forest, where some of the most scenic spots in Michigan's Upper Peninsula await you. Consisting of about one million acres, the Hiawatha National Forest offers a wide range of recreation opportunities in a setting of mature forests, scenic lakes and one hundred miles of shoreline on three Great Lakes. Whether you hunt, hike, ski, snowmobile, ride ATV or horse, – whether you enjoy rustic camping, RV camping or cabins, wildlife viewing or historical sites, there is something here for you!

The Hiawatha National Forest was created in 1931 from abandoned farms, razed logging tracts and lands devastated by forest fires. Replanted originally by the Civilian Conservation Corp and cared for since by the US Forest Service, today’s Hiawatha provides quality habitat for a variety of fish, wildlife and rare plants. The Forest is dotted with about 420 inland lakes, and eight hundred miles of streams and rivers flow through the Hiawatha, emptying into the Great Lakes. Five of those rivers are National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Dip your paddle in a river, immerse yourself in a cool clear lake, or skip a rock across the calm sparkling surface. Pedal a bike on a sun-dappled trail up to a breathtaking vista. Catch a glimpse of the northern lights in a dark summer sky. Cross over to adventure on Grand Island National Recreation Area.

Visit us often. As the seasons change, our forest changes, offering new experiences for each new season. The Visitor Center Staff are here to help you plan a memorable vacation. Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

Welcome to the Hiawatha National Forest.

Teresa Chase
District Ranger
Hiawatha National Forest Celebrates its Centennial!

We hope local communities and visitors will join us throughout 2009 as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Hiawatha's East Unit. The Marquette National Forest, now part of the Hiawatha National Forest’s East Unit, was designated by Presidential Proclamation on February 10th, 1909, by Theodore Roosevelt.

According to Hiawatha National Forest archaeologist, John Franzen, "The Marquette National Forest was a small unit in the beginning – so small that for a while it became part of the Michigan National Forest, administered from Cadillac."

But in 1928, Franzen explains, the Mackinac Purchase Unit was established and additional parcels were acquired in Chippewa County. And by 1931, enough land had been purchased to justify expansion and the Marquette National Forest was re-established through proclamation by President Hoover. The next big step in the Forest’s history came with the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corp in 1933.

"Labor intensive projects, like tree planting on cutover lands, would have been impossible without the CCC," says Franzen. Even though the CCC program only lasted from 1933-1942, we are still reaping the benefits from many of the projects they started. In 1962, the Marquette National Forest merged with the Hiawatha National Forest and the Forest took on the basic configuration we know today. In the decades since, the Hiawatha continued to develop its infrastructure as its management responded to the evolution of scientific understanding and public policy.

Today, the Forest includes approximately a million acres in two main units including five Wildernesses, five Wild and Scenic River corridors, a scenic byway, and a National Recreation Area. Several historic sites lie within the Forest’s boundaries, including six lighthouses. These lighthouses and about 100 miles of shoreline on three of the Great Lakes highlight the Hiawatha’s unique character among federal lands. The land is managed to sustain a range of uses including recreation, wildlife habitat and timber production.

A special exhibit will be displayed at the St. Ignace Visitor Center starting in February of 2009. The exhibit will detail the history of the Marquette National Forest and will include historic photos, cartoons, maps, and documents. The exhibit will also be on display at the U.P. State Fair in Escanaba this coming August. A variety of events are being planned and will be publicized throughout the coming months. Check with the Munising Visitor Center for more information.

Hiawatha Interpretive Association
PO Box 913
Munising, MI 49862
www.hiawathainterpretive.com

Seney Natural History Association
1674 Refuge Entrance Rd.
Seney, MI 49883
www.seneyfriends.org

Eastern National
470 Maryland Drive, Suite 1
Ft. Washington, PA 19034
www.easternnational.org

Natural History Associations - Partners in Interpretation & Education

The money you spend on souvenirs in gift stores at the Park, Forest or Refuge, generously donate, or contribute for membership all goes to non-profit natural history associations to be spent on interpretation, education and research. Each natural history association is guided by a volunteer Board of Directors, which votes on how revenue and donations should be spent based on budget and projects suggested by agency staff and volunteers. Here are some improvements paid for in whole or part by these associations:

- Campground programs
- Informational leaflets
- Exhibits and interpretive signs
- Observation scopes and decks
- Summer internships
- ‘This newspaper!’
- Teacher workshop materials and support

Hiawatha Interpretive Association

Calling All Photographers!

We invite you to visit the Seney National Wildlife Refuge and enter your photos in our annual photo contest. For information and rules, contact:

Seney NWR Photo Contest
1674 Refuge Entrance Road
Seney, MI 49883

Artist-in-Residence Programs

Are you an artist working in two dimensions looking for a residency experience in the beautiful central Upper Peninsula? Would the cliffs of Grand Island or Pictured Rocks inspire you? Both Hiawatha National Forest and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore offer artist in residence programs. Let our landscapes and history inspire you! For more information contact Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore or Hiawatha National Forest at 906-387-3700.

Christmas Range Lights

Tucked away on the Hiawatha National Forest among the tamaracks and swamp conifers south of M-28 near Christmas is a lighthouse many people drive by without noticing. This is the Grand Island Harbor Rear Range Light (a.k.a. Christmas Range Light), which stands 62 feet tall. Its partner, the Front Range Light, is only 14 feet tall. Range Lights work in pairs. By keeping the Rear Range Light aligned with the Front Range Light, mariners were able to stay on the proper heading through the narrow channel west of Grand Island. Tours of the Rear Range Light are available during the summer. Please contact the Visitor Center in Munising for dates and times.
The Hiawatha National Forest consists of two large units. The West Unit (shown above) is located between Munising, Manistique and Rapid River. The East Unit is located between St. Ignace and Sault Ste. Marie. The Forest touches Lake Superior, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron and boasts six light-houses and a 26 mile scenic byway along Lake Superior’s south shore.

On the West Unit, the Hiawatha National Forest offers 12 developed campgrounds. These campgrounds provide sites with a fire ring, picnic table, tent or trailer pad, and parking. Drinking water, toilets, and trash disposal are also provided. Some offer waste water dump stations. They do not offer showers and only a few electrical hook-ups are available. All campgrounds have some sites that can accommodate large RVs. Many campgrounds have access to boat launches, swim areas, and fishing piers.

In addition to the Forest’s developed campground, the Hiawatha offers numerous dispersed campsites for those seeking more solitude and few amenities. These campsites are usually accessible over primitive roads, but walk-in sites are also available. The spacing of dispersed sites is irregular, with some distance between campsites. Water and pit toilets are provided in a few instances. Reservations are required for these sites.

Contact:
Hiawatha National Forest
400 E. Munising Ave.
Munising, MI 49862
906-387-2512
www.fs.fed.us/R9/forests/hia-watha
Using Your OHV on the Hiawatha National Forest

Snowmobile use on the Hiawatha will not be affected.
- The MVUM maps will be updated annually. In order to remain current, responsible riders must obtain and use a current map to guide their use of the Forest transportation system.
- Motorized travel off of the designated system is still prohibited, as it has been since 1986.
- Seasonal restrictions are keyed in the maps.
- Law enforcement will continue to enforce these rules.

Additional information on the Travel Management Rule and its implementation is available on-line at [http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv](http://www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/ohv) or by calling your local Forest Service offices.

What you need to know
- The rules apply to all wheeled motorized use, not just ORVs and ATVs.

Monarchs of Peninsula Point

During the summer months, monarch butterflies use the Stonington Peninsula as a nursery, laying their eggs on milkweed plants and the caterpillars grow and mature there. While the migration dates are unpredictable, large numbers of monarchs are often seen from late July to early September, particularly if a cold front is passing through the area. Monarchs use the northerly winds associated with these fronts to speed their flight southward 1900 miles to Mexico. Monarchs may spend several days at the point as they wait for favorable winds. If you are lucky and time your visit just right, you may encounter enough to see thousands of monarchs congregate at the Point, covering the cedar trees and flitting about the picnic area as the day warms. Before you make a journey to see this special phenomenon, be sure to contact the Rapid River/Manistique District of the Hiawatha National Forest at 906-474-6442.

Winter Skiing

The central Upper Peninsula is truly a winter wonderland, with the abundance of snow that falls here. Taking advantage of this snowy resource, the Hiawatha offers several wonderful cross-country ski trails for your enjoyment!

Valley Spur Ski Trail
Offers 62 kilometers of regularly-groomed classic and skating trails for all abilities. Located in the “Lake Effect Snowbelt,” this fantastic trail offers wonderful terrain and scenery. In addition, the Forest provides a rustic log cabin Day Lodge open on weekends throughout the skiing season. Call 906-387-4918 for ski trail conditions or see: [www.valleyspur.org](http://www.valleyspur.org).

McKeever Ski Trail
Also near Munising, offers 8.5 kilometers of more primitive skiing opportunities. At McKeever, the narrow, scenic trails are groomed only about once per week. And if you’d like trail-side lodging, consider renting the Hiawatha’s rustic McKeever Cabin, situated beside McKeever Lake.

Special Events, Races and Festivals on the Hiawatha National Forest

There are many special events that take place on the Hiawatha National Forest that are sponsored by private citizens or non-profit groups. Anyone interested in having an event on the National Forest must obtain a special use permit. For more information about special use permits, please contact the Forest Service at 906-786-3327.

Grand Island Trail Marathon and 10 K, July 25 - Grand Island NRA. The race route takes runners along one of the most spectacular shorelines in Lake Superior. Contact: [http://www.greatlakesendurance.com/](http://www.greatlakesendurance.com/) or runskikayak@hotmail.com for more information.


Tour Da Woods September 5-6, 2009 - Munising, MI. Mountain bikers will love the remote trails that make up this challenging race. More experienced riders can take on “Hiawatha’s Revenge” 30 mile race and beginners can try the 15 mile “Red Deer Run”. There is even a “Tour da Valley” youth race. Contact Anna River Peddlers at [http://www.annariverpedalers.org/events_registration.html](http://www.annariverpedalers.org/events_registration.html) or contact@annariverpedalers.org for more information.

Aldo Leopold Half Marathon, October, 2009 Grand Island NRA. Details to be announced. The race route takes runners along one of the most spectacular shorelines in Lake Superior. Contact [http://www.greatlakesendurance.com/](http://www.greatlakesendurance.com/) or runskikayak@hotmail.com .

Cross Country Ski Bash, January 2010 - Valley Spur. Adults may choose between the 24K Big Foot’s Revenge or 12K Stairway to Heaven. The Locomotive Chute Forest is a 5K Youth Event: Challenge yourself, the trail or take it as a race. No matter what, you will not forget the beauty of your surroundings as you travel through the forests and hills of the Hiawatha National Forest. For more information visit [http://www.valleyspur.org](http://www.valleyspur.org) or contact Dave Worel at 906-387-2865.

UP 200 Sled Dog Race, February 2010. The U.P. 200 is a 12 dog, 240 mile, mid-distance sled dog race, held on the third weekend of February. The race is a qualifying race for the Iditarod. For more information, visit [http://www.up200.org/](http://www.up200.org/)

Snowman Biathlon, February 2010 - Valley Spur. The annual “Snow Man” Biathlon consists of a 12K ski race, followed by a 3K snowshoe run. For more information visit [http://www.valleyspur.org](http://www.valleyspur.org) or contact Dave Worel at 906-387-2865.

Taste and Glide, March 2010 - Valley Spur. Always the first Saturday in March, the popular Taste and Glide cross-country ski event celebrates the joy of skiing and the joy of eating! Fun for all ages, the only race is to get to the Chocolate Strawberries. For more information visit [http://www.valleyspur.org](http://www.valleyspur.org) or contact Dave Worel at 906-387-2865.

Munising 300 Snowmobile Race, March 2010. The exciting Munising 300 snowmobile race includes many trails through the Hiawatha National Forest and the route even goes out to Grand Island and back. For more information visit [http://www.algercounty.org/race.html](http://www.algercounty.org/race.html).
Hiawatha National Forest

Paddle the Hiawatha

Not only are there more than 400 lakes in the Hiawatha National Forest, but there are 5 National Wild and Scenic riverways. This makes the Hiawatha an ideal location for a canoeing or kayaking vacation. Spend a few hours floating on the meandering AuTrain River, take a weekend to explore the 40 mile long Indian River, or spend a week paddling and camping in the Big Island Lake Wilderness.

AuTrain River Canoe Trail - The AuTrain River offers an excellent 4 to 6 hour paddling experience. The lack of rapids and portages makes this a quiet relaxing outing, perfect for families or beginners. In the spring and fall especially, birders and nature enthusiasts should be on the lookout for the many bird species that use this corridor. There are several access points to the river, all within easy walking distance of each other. There are also several outfitters along this river to provide boat rentals and transport services.

Indian River Canoe Trail - The Indian River runs about 40 miles from Fish Lake to Indian Lake and offers excellent paddling. In the spring, the water runs high and fast for more experienced boaters and then after mid-June slows to a gentle flow for paddlers of all levels. A one or two-day trip will take you deep into the Hiawatha National Forest, where you will drift past northern hardwoods, mixed conifers, rolling hills and swamps. There are 8 access points to the river and several primitive campsites along the way.

Sturgeon River Canoe Trail - The Sturgeon River starts near the Alger-Delta County Line and travels 41 miles. It is a relatively slow moving river with many meanders. Fallen trees and heavy brush occasionally block the river and require portaging. Two areas of rapids and rock riffles add excitement to the trip. There are 6 access points to the river with some access to primitive camping.

Whitefish River Canoe Trail - The Whitefish River offers about 28 miles of good paddling, and offers not one trail but two with an East Branch and a West Branch. In the very early spring the river can be deep swift and cold, and should be for experienced canoeists wearing wet suits. Boaters may encounter several rapids. There are 8 access points and suitable spots for primate overnight camping.

Big Island Lake Wilderness - The Big Island Lake Wilderness contains 23 small lakes ranging in size from 5 - 149 acres. Many of the Lakes are connected by maintained portages, while some are remote, making access more challenging. Special regulations exist in the Wilderness Area. Please contact the Hiawatha National Forest at 906-387-2512 before planning a trip in the wilderness area.

Tour Grand Island!

While in the Munising Area, take advantage of a motorized bus tour on Grand Island that relates some of the island’s scenic vistas and historic sites. Each stop on the 2.5 hour tour is designed to give you a glimpse into Grand Island’s past and familiarize you with the recreation opportunities that are available. Some of the stops include:

- Williams Landing: The landing, named for the island’s first settler, features several interpretive exhibits and visitor station.
- Historic District: During the 1900s when Cleveland Cliffs Iron Company purchased Grand Island, company president William G. Mather invited friends and business associates to build summer homes on lots leased from the company. Over time, these Grand Island homes were passed down through generations or sold.
- Murray Bay Cemetery: The cemetery tucked away in Murray Bay is the resting place of the island’s earliest settlers.
- Stone Quarry Cabin: This 1850 vintage Forest Service owned structure was recently renovated and restored to its original condition. It got its name from a nearby quarry on the island which produced stone to build a charcoal furnace for the manufacturing of iron on the west side of Munising Bay across from Grand Island (at Bay Furnace Recreation Area).
- Duck Lake: Once a lagoon on Grand Island’s shoreline, Duck Lake is a good spot to watch for waterfowl.
- Trout Bay Beach: Formed by the action of wind and water, this long, gently arching beach connects the main body of Grand Island to its “Thumb”.
- Trout Bay Overlook: The breathtaking view from this vista makes it the perfect place to consider the area’s geologic history.
- Waterfall Beach Overlook: From Waterfall Beach Overlook you can see nearby Williams and Wood Islands. Stairs lead to a narrow, cobbled beach with its face to the prevailing northwesterly wind - a beach that contrasts sharply with the sandy beaches found elsewhere on the island. This rugged location is a great place to rock pick and look for agates.
- Thunder Coves Trail: This 800-foot long trail runs along hemlock and pine forested cliff edges. Contemplate the power and beauty of Lake Superior as you listen to the roar of the waves in the rocky coves.

For Bus Tour and Ferry schedule and pricing information, please call 906-387-3503

Other Day Use Opportunities
- Grand Island is the perfect place to spend a day, weekend, or even just a few hours biking and exploring. The island’s breathtaking overviews, pristine sandy beaches, fascinating cultural sites, deep hard woods, and inland lakes make it an exciting and secluded mountain biking destination. The island provides a combination of rugged dirt/ sand trails and easier gravel roads that will accommodate any level of biker. If you don’t have a bike with you, no problem! The Grand Island Ferry Service rents mountain bikes right at William’s Landing.
- Spend the day beachcombing, picnicking or swimming on one of Grand Island’s fabulous beaches. Accessible by private boat, biking or hiking, these beautiful sand and rock beaches will captivate you.
- Kayakers can experience the island from a unique perspective. Discover private coves and spectacular rock formations from the water. Kayak rentals are available in the area.

Overnight Opportunities
At this time there are seventeen designated campsites on Grand Island, two at Murray Bay, four at Trout Bay and 11 scattered around the Island’s rim trail. Large groups of 7 to 25 people may camp only in the designated group site at Murray Bay and Juniper Flats. Random camping is also allowed with certain restrictions.

If you are interested in planning a day use or overnight trip to Grand Island, we recommend that you contact the Visitor Center at 906-387-3700 for more information or visit www.grandislandmi.com. We offer updated day use and camping brochures that can assist in planning a trip to suit you. Topographic maps are also available for a fee.
National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation

The National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation (NPLSF) is a newly organized, privately supported effort to fund special projects in the five U.S. National Park areas on Lake Superior. These include Keweenaw National Historical Park (MI), Grand Portage National Monument (MN), Apostle Islands National Lakeshore (WI), Isle Royale National Park (MI), and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore (MI).

Your donation to NPLSF will assist parks with worthy projects over and above funding for basic park operations. Projects include preservation of historic structures, improved visitor services, enhanced environmental education programs, and MORE! The NPLSF is actively seeking partners to assist in developing this new funding organization which will complement efforts by the Friends organizations of individual parks. We invite individuals and major donors to contact the Foundation to learn more about how they can become involved in these efforts. Your donation is tax deductible. For additional information or to make a donation, contact:

www.nationalparksoflakesuperiorfoundation.org
P.O. Box 632 - Houghton, MI 49931 - 906-228-7914

Situational Awareness

Falling rock, cascading dunes, rip currents and encounters with bears due to improper backcountry storage of food... as a Lakeshore visitor, these are things you should be thinking about. As you visit the park, be aware of the situations you are in. Many of the cliff areas along the North Country Trail are actually overhangs with free space below.

While the Grand Sable Dunes are a unique and beautiful part of the park, they too can hold hazards. Be aware that sand banks can collapse - sending you downslope or perhaps covering you. Take care when traversing dune faces.

When visiting the park, if you need to talk on your cell phone, pull over at a safe location out of traffic. Talking on your cell phone may cause you to miss seeing wildlife.

Rip currents are possible at several beach locations along the Lakeshore depending on weather and water conditions. Check the bulletin boards to know what they look like and how to get out of one.

We would all like to see a bear during our visit to the park, but at a safe distance. Remember that a fed bear is a dead bear. Please follow food storage guidelines posted on bulletin boards and in backcountry regulations by hanging your food on the food pole provided or securing food in a vehicle. If you encounter a bear while on foot in the park, make noise and wave your arms. Do not drop your day pack or other items with food in them. Report all incidents to a Park Ranger or visitor center.

Beaver Basin Wilderness A Reality!

On March 30, President Obama signed the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 into law. This Act created the Beaver Basin Wilderness within Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. The designation of this 11,740 acre wilderness fulfills an important element of the park’s 2004 General Management Plan and provides permanent legal protection for this spectacular part of the park. The Beaver Basin Wilderness includes 13 miles of stunning Lake Superior shoreline from Spray Falls on the West, to Seventenmile Creek on the East. The wilderness is some 3.5 miles deep. Attributes of the Beaver Basin Wilderness include:

• Continued opportunities for quiet, solitude, wilderness recreation and spiritual renewal.

• Includes 8.4 miles of the North Country National Scenic Trail, 8.5 miles of other park trails and 6 overnight backcountry campsites.

• Remains open for hunting, fishing, day-hiking, overnight backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and more. Electric boat motors may continue to be used on Little Beaver and Beaver Lakes. Motorboats on Lake Superior may continue to beach along the waterfront adjacent to the designated wilderness.

• Excellent examples of glacial geology including post-glacial meltwater channels, escarpments and ancient beach ridges.

• Extensive beech-maple upland hardwood forest. Wonderful spring wildflowers.

• Extensive wetlands and clear streams providing habitat for native coaster brook trout, largemouth and smallmouth bass, northern pike and other fish.

• Excellent habitat for black bear, grey wolf, fisher and American marten, migrating songbirds, waterfowl and upland game birds.

Enjoy the Beaver Basin Wilderness, and remember - leave nothing but footprints, take nothing but photos...
Favorite Day Hikes

Your visit to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore may be only an hour or two or you may spend a week or more. If you only have a day or two to spend at the Lakeshore, consider visiting these popular attractions in developed areas of the park. Please note that bicycles are not permitted on Lakeshore trails. Pets are allowed along all park roads and are permitted in some other areas. Pets must always be on a 6-foot leash.

**Munising Falls**

Nestled in a cool, shady valley, the 50 foot falls are at the end of a short 800 foot walk on an improved trail. The trail is a good place to look for wildflowers in spring and early summer. Water from the creek was once used in the production of iron at the Schoolcraft blast furnace, a story told on wayside exhibits and in the Munising Falls Interpretive Center. Pets are allowed on the trail to Munising Falls, but not on Becker Farm entrance road and fields or on North Country Trail.

**Sand Point**

The Sand Point beach is a popular spot for walking in the evening to watch the sun go down over Munising Bay. The Sand Point Marsh Trail, a half-mile disabled accessible interpretive trail, features a large print brochure for visually impaired visitors. Sand Point is a good place to look for warblers in spring and fall. Park Headquarters is also located on Sand Point in a former U.S. Coast Guard building. Pets are permitted on Sand Point to the base of the Pictured Rocks cliffs. Pets are prohibited on Sand Point Marsh Trail.

**Miners Castle**

Beginning at the picnic area, a paved foot trail leads you past interpretive exhibits to breathtaking overlooks of Lake Superior and Grand Island. Erosion over long periods of time has created the interesting rock formations that give this place its name. Pets are permitted in picnic and overlook area but prohibited on the North Country Trail.

**Miners Falls**

A 1.2 mile round trip gravel path through a deep woods environment leads to the falls overlook. Miners River plunging some 60 feet over a cliff is home to brook and steelhead trout. A free, self-guiding interpretive trail guide is available at the trailhead. Pets are permitted in picnic area on a 6 foot leash, but are prohibited on the trail to Miners Falls.

**Miners Beach**

A picnicker and beach walker’s delight. Miners Beach extends for one mile on Lake Superior where waves roll in to polish beach cobbles. Miners River is popular for steelhead fishing in spring and fall. A 1.0 mile trail connects Miners Castle developed area and the picnic area at Miners Beach. Pets are allowed in picnic area and on Miners Beach.

**White Pine Trail**

Located at the Little Beaver Lake Campground this 1.0 mile self-guiding interpretive trail explores the plant and animal communities of a cool, shady valley. Free trail guides are located at the trailhead. No pets are allowed on the White Pine Trail.

**Chapel Rock**

Circumnavigating Chapel Lake takes you to the beautiful Chapel Beach and Chapel Rock. The 6.6 mile trip makes a great day hike. Pets are not permitted on this trail.

**White Birch Trail**

Located at the Twelvemile Beach Campground, this two mile self-guiding interpretive trail explores a variety of ancient Lake Nipissing beach and upland plant communities. Free trail guides are located at the trailhead. Pets are not allowed on this trail.

**Log Slide Overlook**

The 1000 foot trail to the viewing platform from the picnic area is worth the walk. Newspaper accounts tell of logs sent down the dry log chute generating enough friction to cause the chute to catch fire. Today the chute is gone, but the lumberjack stories still linger as you gaze out over the Grand Sable Banks and Dunes. This is a good place to glimpse the Au Sable Light Station to the west and Grand Marais to the east. Pets are not allowed on this trail.

**Au Sable Light Station**

Strolling about the grounds on a stormy day, one can feel the sense of duty and history for which this station is preserved. Access to the station is by a 1.5 mile hiking trail beginning at the east end of the lower Hurricane River Campground. Check at visitor centers and park bulletin boards for summer interpretive tours scheduled at the light station. Tour fee $3 adults. Pets are not allowed on the trail to or at the lighthouse.

**Sable Falls**

A picnic lunch at Sable Falls can begin a great afternoon of exploring. A 0.5 mile hike from the parking lot leads you to the falls and Sable Creek and on to Lake Superior. Pets are not allowed on the trail to the falls.

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**Regulations In Brief**

To help ensure a pleasant visit, please take a couple of minutes to become familiar with the following regulations at the National Lakeshore.

**Camping** - permitted only within designated Lakeshore campsites. Camping permits are required. Beach or roadside camping is prohibited.

**Backcountry Campers** - must purchase a $5 per night/person backcountry permit prior to entering the backcountry. Permits are available by reservation and in-person at visitor centers in Munising and Grand Marais.

**Pets** - where permitted, must be on a 6-foot leash. Check the pet map on bulletin boards for specific locations of pet walking areas.

**Bicycles** - permitted on roads where automobiles are permitted. Not permitted on hiking trails or roads closed to vehicular traffic.

**Hunting** - prohibited park-wide during the high visitor use period of April 1 through Labor Day. Hunting is allowed the remainder of the year as established by state and federal laws. Target shooting and trapping are prohibited year-round.

**Campfires** - allowed only in fire rings. Fires on beaches — except in fire rings provided — are prohibited.

**ATVs** - are prohibited in the park.

**Removing rocks or other natural features** is prohibited.

Please do not injure or remove plants or harass wildlife.

**Wildlife Feeding Prohibited** - Birds and small mammals rely on natural food to get them through the winter. Please do not make them dependent on human food.

**No Littering** - Each of us enjoy a clean Lakeshore. Please pick up after yourself and others.

**Fireworks** - are best left to the experts. Use or possession of fireworks within the Lakeshore is prohibited.

Visit the official Lakeshore website: www.nps.gov/piro
What is VHS?
VHS (Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia) is an acute fish disease caused by a virus (called VHSV) that was first noticed in Europe. It spread to the Pacific Northwest in 1988, where it infected migrating salmon. Later, VHSV was found off the Atlantic coast of Canada, and since 2003 it has killed fish in each of the lower Great Lakes, as well as a few inland lakes in the Lower Peninsula, Wisconsin, New York, and southern Ontario. Until the virus reached the Great Lakes, scientists thought only marine fish were susceptible. Since 2006, 28 new species of freshwater fish have died from VHS. These include lake whitefish, rainbow trout, muskellunge, walleye, yellow perch, brown trout, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, rock bass, northern pike, bluegill, pumpkinseed, burbot, and emerald shiners.

VHSV does not affect humans, even if a diseased fish is eaten. There are no human health problems associated with VHSV.

Does VHS kill fish?
Yes, VHS can kill large numbers of fish in a short period of time. The virus causes bleeding in the fish’s organs, especially the liver, spleen, and intestines, and the ultimate cause of death is usually kidney failure. Sick liver, spleen, and intestines, and the ultimate bleeding in the fish’s organs, especially the liver.

How do fish get VHS?
Fish are most likely to get VHSV by eating an infected fish. Fish may also pick up VHSV when they are in groups, especially when they are stressed and the water is cold. VHS can be in urine, feces, and sexual fluids and can be transmitted to other fish through wounds or the gills if the virus is quite concentrated in the water. In some fish species the virus also can be transmitted from an infected female to the surface of her eggs.

How does VHS spread from one lake to another?
There are a number of ways that VHS can move from one body of water to another including: 1) moving infected fish, either game fish or bait fish, from one water to another (freezing does not kill VHSV); 2) moving infected water in ballast tank, in live wells of fishing boats, and in bilges of recreational and fishing boats; 3) planting or releasing infected fish and/or the water containing them from one water body to another; and 4) natural movement of infected fish from one water to another. Fish movement through the Soo Locks is limited.

The National Parks - America's Best Idea

Coming to a PBS Station Near You

Nonetheless, like the nation’s story, it is still the story of an idea — the idea of National Parks that is constantly tested, constantly evolving, and inherently full of contradictory tensions. By partnering with local television stations, parks are bringing their community stories to light and making them the focus of joint efforts on-air, online, in print and in the community as well as using the film as an outreach tool to find new ways to engage underserved populations.

Outreach efforts around THE NATIONAL PARKS: AMERICA’S BEST IDEA will help create a larger discussion about a variety of topics: the unique American idea (and ideal) of setting aside these vast pieces of land, the importance of preserving our natural environment and cultural history, the fragile relationship between development and preservation and the on-going need to create greater accessibility to these treasures so all residents of America can enjoy them.

Watch for a new web site, housed on pbsh.org, that will serve as the base for integrated support of the film, the Untold Stories project, and educational materials. The site will serve the general public, educators and students and offer comprehensive resources, streaming video, story sharing opportunities and more. The Lakeshore will be developing a series of programs around the film as well - watch for the announcements!
Seney National Wildlife Refuge

A Seney Year

Spring
About the time the ice melts off the pools, the Refuge’s summer residents begin returning to their nesting grounds. Canada geese are usually the first to arrive in late March to early April. Their familiar honking is a welcome sign that spring is near. Following shortly behind are sandhill cranes and red-winged blackbirds.

Late Spring - Early Summer
Spring and fall are the best viewing times for most wildlife species. Biting insects (black flies, deer flies, and mosquitoes) can be a problem during warmer months. Wood ticks may also be found. Refuge habitat supports a variety of wildlife including black bear, white-tailed deer, coyote, river otter, beaver, ruffed, spruce, and sharp-tailed grouse, yellow rails, American woodcock, bald eagles, red fox, muskrat, mink, turtles, frogs and insects.

Managing for Wildlife
Water levels on over 7,000 acres of the Refuge are managed using a system of water control structures and dikes. High water levels protect fish populations during the winter, protect nesting birds from predation, and regulate vegetation growth. Low water levels create mudflats for sandhill cranes and other birds, enhance feeding opportunities for migratory waterfowl and shorebirds, and make fish more accessible to osprey and bald eagles. Prescribed burns, river and wetland restoration, mowing, and forest management are used by the Refuge to maintain healthy and diverse wildlife habitats.

Autumn
Songbirds begin to leave in August. Peak waterfowl migration occurs from the end of September to mid-October. Loons are some of the earliest to leave in September. By the end of October most migratory birds have left the Refuge for their wintering grounds. Common species that can be encountered include Canada geese, hooded mergansers, mallards, black ducks, ring-necked ducks, wood ducks, and sandhill cranes.

Special Rules
• Please do not feed wildlife.
• Daylight use only.
• Dogs are allowed on a leash.
• No camping or overnight parking is allowed.
• Off-road vehicles are prohibited.
• Open fires are not allowed.
• No boats or floatation on refuge pools

Getting Around Seney

Finding the Refuge

A Seney Year

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Elusive Marsh Birds and the People Who Study Them

It is nighttime; dark except for the light of the moon. You’re walking around the marshes of Seney National Wildlife Refuge listening to two stones being tapped together. At times the water is almost over your hip boots and the mosquitoes are reminding you which portions of your body have been left exposed. Deet is of no use. If you’re extremely lucky you’ll catch a glimpse of your prize, a small six to seven inch bird who rarely takes to the air unless provoked by a predator. This was the job of two bird researchers.

During the summer of 2008, researchers Kyle Marinoff and Brian Pauly conducted auditory surveys for yellow rails and inventories of their habitat. In the early part of the summer they spent night after night listening for the rail’s distinctive “tik-tik, tik-tik-tik” call, similar to two stones being tapped together. Their goal was to establish an estimate for the number of breeding rails at Seney National Wildlife Refuge and to determine the effectiveness prescribed fire has on improving their habitat. Prescribed burning is thought to enhance yellow rail habitat by reducing the number of encroaching shrubs within the marsh. The thousand acres of sedge meadow marsh within the Refuge are vital to the future of this obscure species. The widespread destruction of Michigan’s wetlands has eliminated most of the large marshes that once served as their breeding grounds. With careful research and detailed management, Seney Refuge will continue to be a haven for this rare species.

Under the direction of Dr. Jane Austin of the USGS – Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, Kyle and Brian dedicated seven to eight hours per night in the marshes gathering data during the breeding and nesting period (May-June). The duo, equipped with recordings of marsh bird calls, would venture out to remote areas of sedge marsh to listen for the male rails’ reply. This method yielded encounters with approximately 30 yellow rails. In the later part of the summer they carried out a census of plant species and their densities present at each rail survey site. Their data will be used to correlate the amount and type of vegetation with the probability of yellow rail occupancy. This information will be used to implement management practices to benefit the rails and other species of marsh birds.

Both the rail counts and habitat surveys on the Refuge will continue. It will take the combined data throughout successive years to determine if management programs are helping to increase the numbers of this small, elusive marsh bird. This means there will be more researchers slugging through the marsh, feeding the mosquito population again this summer.
Discovering Seney

The Refuge is a great place for visitors of all ages and abilities to watch wildlife. Established in 1935 as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife, today the 95,238 acre Refuge supports a variety of wildlife including endangered and reintroduced species by providing a rich mosaic habitat. Nearly two-thirds of the Refuge are wetlands.

Visitor Center
Open May 15 - Oct. 15, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., seven days a week, including holidays. Exhibits, a children’s touch table, orientation slide show, and a bookstore. Binoculars and field guides can be checked out free of charge, courtesy of the Seney Natural History Association.

Marshland Wildlife Drive
This seven mile one-way auto tour route follows alongside wetlands and meadows and through forests. Three free wheelchair accessible observation decks with viewing scopes make this a great wildlife watching opportunity.

Pine Ridge Nature Trail
Starting from the Visitor Center, this 1.4 mile loop trail takes visitors through a variety of landscapes. Songbirds and beavers are common sightings along this trail.

Bicycling
Many miles of backcountry roads are available for biking through the Refuge. For those who seek wildlife and solitude, these are the trails for you. Trails are only open during daylight hours so you need to plan your trip carefully. Refuge staff drive through the backcountry while conducting surveys, so please be aware of the possibility of vehicles on the roads. To help you plan your visit, mileage is marked on the Refuge map. Certain roads may be closed to all entry during peak migration periods. The Pine Ridge Nature Trail and the cross-country ski trails are closed to bicycles.

Canoeing
Enjoy a day of paddling along the Manistique River, which flows through the southern part of the Refuge. Outfitters are located in Germfask. Use is limited to daylight hours with no overnight camping allowed. No boats or other flotation devices are allowed on Refuge pools. Due to numerous snags, shallow water, limited access by road, and no camping allowed, the Driggs River is not recommended for canoeing.

Fishing
Anglers can fish along the 3.5 mile Fishing Loop or at the accessible fishing pier. Species found on the Refuge include northern pike, yellow perch, brown bullhead, brook trout, and sunfish. To protect the trumpeter swan and common loon, lead sinkers cannot be used on the Refuge. Check the fishing brochure for current rules.

Hunting
Ruffed grouse, American woodcock, snowshoe hare, white-tailed deer, and bear may be hunted during some state seasons, in designated areas. Check the hunting leaflet for current rules.

Winter Activities
The Northern Hardwoods Cross-Country Ski Area offers over nine miles of groomed diagonal-tracked trails. Turn west off M-77 onto Robinson Road 1/3 mile south of the blinking light in Germfask. The trailhead is at the end of the road. Snowshoeing is allowed anywhere except on the ski trails. Snowmobiles are not permitted on the Refuge.

Wildlife First

- The National Wildlife Refuge System contains 540 refuges and 3,000 waterfowl production areas located throughout all 50 states and several U.S. territories. At 95 million acres, it is the world’s largest system of lands and waters whose primary purpose is the conservation of wildlife and habitat.
- Our national wildlife refuges provide homes for over 700 bird species, 220 mammal species, 250 reptile and amphibian species, and more than 200 kinds of fish.
- Refugees are home to 25 percent of all federal threatened and endangered species.
- Each year, millions of migrating birds use refuges as stepping stones to rest as they fly thousands of miles south for the winter and return north for the summer.

Welcoming People

- Hunting and Fishing: Hunters are welcome on more than 300 National Wildlife Refuges and on 3,000 Waterfowl Production Areas, which are small wetlands located mainly in the upper Midwest. Anglers also enjoy the outdoors at more than 260 refuges where they catch a variety of fish. Hunting and fishing are both allowed at Seney National Wildlife Refuge. See brochures for regulations.
- Wildlife observation and photography: Bird watchers, photographers and other nature lovers visit refuges for great opportunities to see local wildlife species in their natural habitats and great congregations of birds during peak migrations. Seney has observation decks, nature trails, an auto tour, and miles of backcountry roads for observing wildlife and their habitats.
- Interpretation and environmental education: Refuges are great places for children and adults to learn about the natural world. Programs are offered at over 230 Wildlife Refuges around the country. Seney offers tours, programs and special events, check at the Visitor Center for a calendar of activities.
Vital Signs Monitoring In National Parks

Knowing the condition of natural resources in national parks is fundamental to managing park resources. Park rangers across the country are confronted with increasingly complex and challenging issues that require a broad-based understanding of the status and trends of park resources as a basis for making decisions, working with other agencies, and communicating with the public to protect park natural systems and native species.

Vital signs monitoring is a key component in the Service's strategy to provide scientific data and information needed for management decision-making and education. Vital signs also contribute information needed to understand and to measure the condition of watersheds, landscapes, marine resources, and biological communities. Park vital signs are selected physical, chemical, and biological elements and processes of park ecosystems that represent the overall health or condition of the park, known or hypothesized effects of stressors, or elements that have important human values. Monitoring data help define the normal limits of natural variation in park resources and provide a basis for understanding observed changes and possible management connections.

Understanding the dynamic nature of park ecosystems and the consequences of human activities is essential to maintain, enhance, or restore the ecological integrity of park ecosystems and to avoid, minimize, or mitigate ecological threats to these systems.

Under the program, 270 park units have been organized into 32 networks that share funding and a core professional staff to conduct long-term ecological monitoring. Each network links parks that share similar geographic and natural resource characteristics to improve efficiency and reduce costs. Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore is affiliated with the Great Lakes Monitoring Network in Ashland, WI.

Lakeshore Activity Schedule

Join a Lakeshore Ranger on these interesting, stimulating, and informative programs to learn about the park’s incredible stories. (Check website and bulletin boards for updates.)

June
• Au Sable Light Station Park Ranger Guided Tours and Maritime Museum. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am - 5 pm - Fee $3 Adults, $2 kids under 12.
• Au Sable Transportation - catch an ALTRAN van from Lower Hurricane River Picnic area to the lighthouse, $2.50 one-way, $5.00 round trip. Saturday, June 13 and 27 - 11 am - 5 pm.
• Transportation Interpreter Aboard the Pictured Rocks Cruises.

July
• July 9, 10, 11 - Watch a traditional Anishnabe birch bark canoe builder practice is ages-old technique - Miners Castle overlook.
• Au Sable Light Station Park Ranger Guided Tours and Maritime Museum. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am - 5 pm - Fee $3 Adults, $2 kids under 12.
• Au Sable Transportation - catch an ALTRAN van from Lower Hurricane River Picnic area to the lighthouse, $2.50 one-way, $5.00 round trip. Saturday, July 11 and 25 - 11 am - 5 pm.
• Transportation Interpreter Aboard the Pictured Rocks Cruises.

August
• Au Sable Light Station Park Ranger Guided Tours and Maritime Museum. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 am - 5 pm - Fee $3 Adults, $2 kids under 12.
• Au Sable Transportation - catch an ALTRAN van from Lower Hurricane River Picnic area to the lighthouse, $2.50 one-way, $5.00 round trip. Saturday, August 8 and 22 - 11 am - 5 pm.
• Transportation Interpreter Aboard the Pictured Rocks Cruises.

Pitcher’s Thistle monitoring

To guide the monitoring program, all 32 networks address the following five Goals of Vital Signs Monitoring as they plan, design, and implement integrated natural resource work:
• Determine the status and trends in selected indicators of the condition of park ecosystems to allow managers to make better-informed decisions and to work more effectively with other agencies and individuals for the benefit of park resources.
• Provide early warning of abnormal conditions of selected resources to help develop effective mitigation measures and reduce costs of management.
• Provide data to better understand the dynamic nature and condition of park ecosystems and to provide reference points for comparisons with other, altered environments.
• Provide data to meet certain legal and Congressional mandates related to natural resource protection and visitor enjoyment.
• Provide a means of measuring progress towards performance goals.

The Lakeshore has an active Science and Resource Management group, working on a variety of aquatic, wildlife, and vegetation issues. In addition to our own staff, we collaborate with various universities whose students have undertaken advanced studies in various scientific disciplines. If you see researchers working in the park, they may be taking the Lakeshore's vital signs! Take a minute to introduce yourself and learn what type of information they are collecting.