



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

June 14, 2017

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Greetings:

Beginning in 2018, thousands of miles of state forest roads in the Northern Lower Peninsula will be open to off-road vehicle (ORV) use in accordance with Public Act 288 of 2016 (PA 288). As a part of this process, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is currently inventorying and mapping state forest roads. DNR staff are also making preliminary proposals on which roads will be open for ORV use and which will remain closed.

Stakeholders, local units of government and members of the public are invited to provide comments on these preliminary proposals in several ways. Detailed information about PA 288, as well as the state forest road inventory maps, can be found at www.michigan.gov/forestroads. Viewers can add their comments directly to the maps (instructions are available on the website).

Alternatively, comments will be accepted via:

- Email at DNR-roadinventoryproject@michigan.gov or by
- Mail at Road Inventory Project, P. O. Box 456, Vanderbilt, MI 49795

DNR staff will also be available for comments at three public meetings, as follows:

- Monday, June 19 – Quality Inn, 2980 Cook Road, West Branch
- Tuesday, June 20 – Carl T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing Center, 6087 M-115, Cadillac
- Wednesday, June 21 – Jay's Sporting Goods, 1151 South Otsego Avenue, Gaylord

The DNR is accepting comments until July 15, 2017. The comments will be incorporated into the final Department recommendations, which will go to the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) meeting in October. DNR Director Keith Creagh is expected to make a final decision at the November NRC meeting. Final maps and the total miles of state forest roads open to motorized uses will be posted on the DNR's website by the end of 2017. This process will continue in other regions of the state into 2018.

Considering that there is a significant amount of state forest land located in many local jurisdictions in the Northern Lower Peninsula, the involvement of you and your constituents in the state forest road inventory process is important and appreciated. Please feel free to distribute this information to your constituents. We look forward to seeing you at one of the scheduled public meetings. If you have any general questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Scott Whitcomb
Department of Natural Resources
Forest Resources Division
Road Inventory Project Coordinator
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