

Superior National Forest

Forest Service News Release

Tyce Velde, Public Affairs Specialist/ Communications Program Manager tyce.velde@usda.gov

Emily Munter, Superior RAC Coordinator SM.FS.Superior RAC@usda.gov

Recruitment Ongoing for the Superior Resource Advisory Committee

Application Period for Committee Membership Open Through February 15, 2025

Duluth, MN. January 15, 2025 – Are you passionate about the stewardship of the Superior National Forest and its resources? Or perhaps you care about contributing to positive change in your local community, such as access to recreation and healthy waters and forests? If you have about 12 hours available annually to volunteer, then service on the Superior Resource Advisory Committee might just be for you! Applications are being accepted until February 15th.

Curious about what the committee does? The Superior Resource Advisory Committee serves as an advisory body to the Forest and is established via the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act. Under one of the Titles of this Act, funding comes to the Superior National Forest specifically for projects that benefit the Forest's recreational, land and water, and infrastructure resources. The Superior Resource Advisory Committee accepts proposals for these funds, reviews the proposals, and makes recommendations to the Forest on which projects to fund. This is done via one or two committee meetings annually.

Ken Gilbertson, a current member of the Superior Resource Advisory Committee, notes "I am proud to be a member of the Resource Advisory Committee. Having spent the past three years as a member, it is deeply satisfying to know the extent that I am positively contributing to management decisions of natural resources. This includes supporting many agencies and non-profit organizations who are carrying out the implementation of the awarded funds. The time commitment is also such that is well balanced yet doesn't consume my time which allows me to remain committed to this group. Enough so that I have applied to extend my membership for another term."

Committee members must live within Minnesota and ideally reside within St. Louis, Lake, or Cook Counties. The committee consists of 15 members who represent a diversity of areas and interests such as recreation users, environmental organizations, elected officials, Tribal representatives, school officials, timber industry, the public at-large, and more. Members serve 4-year terms. People of all ethnicities, races, gender, disability status, and age are encouraged to apply. More information about the committee and how to apply for membership can be found at <u>https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/superior/workingtogether/advisorycommittees</u> or by contacting Emily Munter, Superior RAC Coordinator, at (218) 626-4360 or <u>SM.FS.Superior_RAC@usda.gov</u>.

About the Forest Service: The mission of the USDA Forest Service 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 the 193 million acres of National Forest System land, provides stewardship assistance to non-federal forest landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world.

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Find out more about the Superior National Forest at <u>www.fs.usda.gov/superior</u> and follow us on X/<u>Twitter</u> @SuperiorNF, on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Flickr</u> (photo credit: Superior National Forest) #superiornf

The Superior National Forest is managed in Five (5) districts, with a Supervisor's Office:

- Supervisor's Office, Duluth: 218-626-4300
- Gunflint District Office, Grand Marais: 218-387-1750
- Kawishiwi District Office, Ely: 218-365-7600
- LaCroix District Office, Cook: 218-666-0020
- Laurentian District Office, Aurora: 218-453-8650
- Tofte District Office, Tofte: 218-663-8060