Last updated April 2024

# Peter Wolfe Chapter hikes Forest Highway 16 (just east of Bob Lake Campground) to Plains road at Tibbets Falls Trailhead PWC Segments 33-46 NCTA map of segment 33-46

Avenza map #24 to #27 of the Western UP

The Peter Wolfe Chapter has SEGMENTS that were determined years before we had this website. The segments are mostly from one road or spur access to the NCT to the next for easy maintenance access. We try to have a volunteer adopter for each of these 67 segments across 121 miles of trail.

#### Segment 33 Forest Highway 16 to Forest Road 1500

**Length:** 0.9 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 24 <u>**Ownership**</u>: Ottawa National Forest

Responsible for maintenance: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Signs at FH-16

<u>General description of segment</u>: Western third follows flat ridge. Middle section descends (eastbound) pretty, narrow ridge. Eastern third is gentle, with thicker forest. Trail follows the road FR 1500 north/south for a short distance; watch for signs on the road.

Water: There are no water sources on this trail segment.

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

**Parking:** West end: parking area at FH 16. East end: parking off FR1500, south of NCT crossing of FR1500 along gate, but do not block gate.

**Winter:** West:FH-16 is a blacktop road and plowed in winter, but the parking area is not plowed. This area receives quite a bit of snow, so roadside parking in winter may be difficult.

East end: FR 1500 on the east end of this segment is not plowed in winter and takes a good time

to dry out after snowmelt in the spring to be drivable with a street vehicle. If parking on FR 1500, park near gate south of trail, but do not block gate any time of the year even if it looks unused. Trail follows FR 1500 north/south for a short distance. Watch for signs.

Note: There are often swans in a pond on the east side of FR 16, just north of S Laird Rd.



#### Segment 34 Forest Road 1500 to South Laird Road next to the gated Forest Rd 1360

Length: 5.5 miles on NCT map <u>here</u>, driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 24-25 <u>Ownership</u>: Ottawa National Forest <u>Responsible for maintenance</u>: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter **Developments along trail**: Signs and parking area at junction of South Laird Road (aka L-137 on google maps) and the gated FR 1360. Boardwalk over headwaters of West Branch Sturgeon River, and several small plank boardwalks farther west.

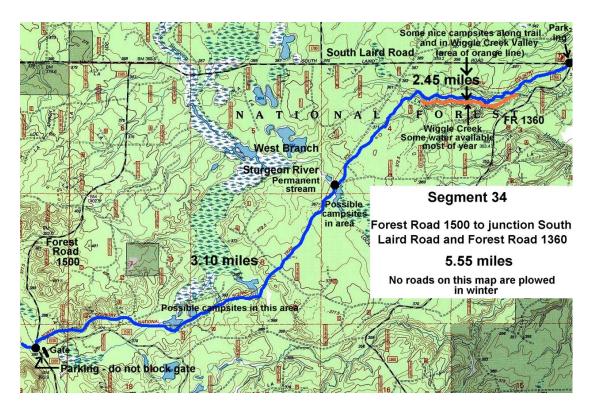
<u>General description of segment</u>: Flat to rolling, with some hillier areas. Wetlands and beaver ponds in places. Western part is beautiful old Hemlock forest; it is about 1.9 miles from FR1500 to Doug Welker boardwalk built in 2017 with Amish helpers. Eastern section of trail follows top of bluff above Wiggle Creek and is about 3.6 miles from S Laird Rd to DW boardwalk. Numerous potential campsites, including in Wiggle Creek valley. LNT!

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

**<u>Parking</u>**: West end: parking area just south of trail on FR1500, but do not block the gate, big logging vehicles need full entrance to this gate!

East end: parking is on the North side of South Laird Road at junction of South Laird Road and FR 1360. Do not block gates.

**Winter:** West: FR 1500 is not plowed in winter. East: South Laird Road is plowed from M38 south to the 90 degree bend and a short way west from the bend, to within about 1/4 mile of the trailhead at the east end of the segment. Sometimes there is a winter plowed parking area near there on the south side of the road near where they stop plowing. FR 1360 is gated and closed to passenger vehicles; do not block gate.



# Segment 35 South Laird Road (next to gated FR 1360) to 90-degree bend in South Laird Road

**Length:** 1.2 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, Driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 25 <u>**Ownership**</u>: Ottawa National Forest, private lands, gravel road

**Responsible for maintenance**: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Signs at South Laird Road (aka google L-137), near the gated FR 1360. The east end of seg 25, is about a quarter mile road walk on South Laird Road to the 90 degree bend in road; continue east thru the parking area to the trail with 2 carsonite posts signed No ATVs, marking the trail entrance. Private property on either side of South Laird Road, no camping, follow blue blazes on road to the trail entrais.

<u>General description of segment</u>: Flat to rolling. Crosses some private roads; watch the blue NCT blazes.

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

**Parking:** West end: Parking off South Laird Road near FR 1360, do not block gate, logging vehicles need full entrance to FR 1360.

East end: large parking area at 90 degree bend in South Laird Road.

**Winter:** West end: South Laird Road is plowed from M38 south to the 90 degree bend and a short way west from the bend, to within about 1/4 mile of the trailhead at the east end of the segment. Sometimes there is a winter plowed parking area near there on the south side of the road near where they stop plowing.



# Segment 36 90-degree bend in South Laird Road to Forest Road 2270 near Silver Mountain

**Length:** 1.9 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, Driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 25-26 <u>**Ownership**</u>: Ottawa National Forest

Responsible for maintenance: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Signs at FR 2270 (aka google 193). Registration box for comments between Boulder Creek and Silver River on the ridge in an old growth hemlock stand. Fords of Boulder Creek and the Silver River. Foundations of the former <u>CCC Camp project F-46</u>, 685 Sturgeon near west end of segment; old sign about <u>CCC Camp</u> on S Laird Road, just north of the bend. Several boardwalks.

<u>General description of segment</u>: Flat to rolling on upland areas. Passes beaver ponds. Very steep along Boulder Creek and the clear sandy bottomed Silver River. Highly scenic section in Boulder Creek / Silver River area, with good campsites from east of Boulder Creek to east side of Silver River Valley. LNT! You will need to FORD both Boulder Creek and Silver River which are normally usually easy to do by jumping the sand bars or on logs that have fallen across them in flood stage. But they can be 2 feet deep in spring or after heavy rains so use caution. If the waters are high, you can easily walk around this 1.9 mile segment on a 2.5 mile road walk on this map. Westbound go north on FR2270>FR2276>S Laird Rd (SLrd=L-137) We hope to someday have bridges over these.

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers and <u>UPEC</u> (Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition); please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

**<u>Parking</u>**: West end: Parking area at bend in South Laird Road (aka google L-137) East end: parking area on FR 2270 (aka 193 on google maps)

Winter: South Laird Road is plowed in winter (from M 38 only), and parking area at bend in South Laird Road may be plowed out in winter. FR 2270 (aka 193 on google) is not plowed in winter.

**POI** Note: For a spectacular mtn top hike near the east end of PWC Segment 36, it is highly recommended that you hike just one mile south to the trailhead to Silver Mountain and hike the white blazed trail to the **top of Silver Mountain**! Walk from FR 2270 aka 193 then west on Silver Mountain road aka 922 <u>on this map</u> to the trailhead. Note to the north side of parking area is a minor mid-1800s silver mine (now gated to protect hibernating bats). There is a white blazed trail up the mountain that starts on the south side of the parking area. You will hike to see 360 degree views from the top and stand on top of prominent glacial grooves on the oldest exposed rock in the world, called the Canadian Shield. From the <u>ONF website</u>: "Silver Mountain is an isolated basalt dome that was the interior of a volcanic vent. At 1,312 feet elevation, it commands a spectacular view of Prickett Lake Backwaters and a majority of the Sturgeon River Gorge wilderness and surrounding forested countryside." Part of the path on the way up and back down, the mtn goes on a challenging short steep rocky switchback, so have good footwear, good balance, poles, and be careful of loose rocks so do not follow too close behind the person in front of you. This path is not recommended if you are not prepared to hike that somewhat

difficult rocky steep path up the mtn. Before you get to that steep rocky path section, you can watch mtn climbers try their skills on the sheer cliffs.



# Segment 37 Forest Road 2270 near Silver Mountain to Forest Rd 2270 by Sturgeon River Bridge

**Length:** 0.82 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, Driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 26 **Ownership**: Ottawa National Forest, private

**Responsible for maintenance**: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Signs at trailheads, short road walk on private road.

<u>General description of segment</u>: Trail follows narrow ridge at west end, then descends ridge to open forest with mixed flat areas and hills. Seasonal views up Sturgeon River valley from narrow ridge near west end. Trail makes a short jog west (eastbound) on private road near east end of segment, west of the Sturgeon River. Watch for blazes on that road walk.

Trail conditions Maintained and blazing maintained annually by PWC and UPEC (Upper

Peninsula Environmental Coalition) volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

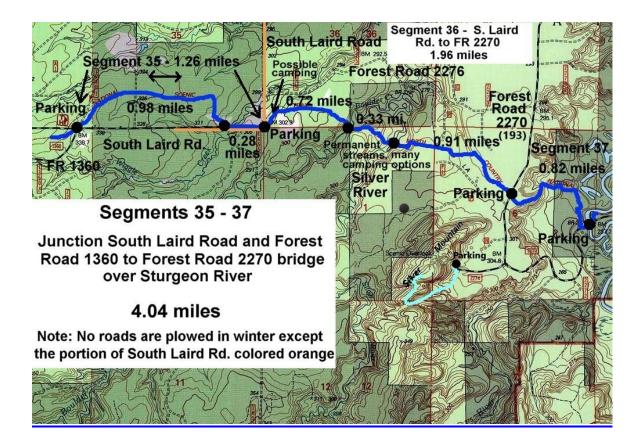
<u>Water</u>: If eastbound, the Sturgeon River here is the last dependable water source along the NCT until the Sturgeon River is reached again near the Oren Krumm NCT Shelter, 12 miles to the southeast.

Parking: West end: Parking area on FR2270 (aka 193 on google maps)

East end: parking area north west of the Sturgeon River Bridge

Winter:: No roads in this area are plowed in winter, and in early spring, they often have wash outs and muddy road conditions into June.

**POI** Note: For a spectacular mtn top hike near the east end of PWC Segment 36, it is highly recommended that you hike on FR 2270 just one mile south to the Silver Mountain parking area, and hike the white blazed trail to the top of Silver Mountain! Walk from FR 2270 aka 193 then west on Silver Mountain Road aka 922 on this map to the trailhead. Note to the north side of parking area is a minor mid-1800s silver mine (now gated to protect hibernating bats). There is a white blazed trail up the mountain that starts on the south side of the parking area. You will hike to see 360 degree views from the top and stand on top of prominent glacial grooves on the oldest exposed rock in the world, called the Canadian Shield. From the ONF website: "Silver Mountain is an isolated basalt dome that was the interior of a volcanic vent. At 1.312 feet elevation, it commands a spectacular view of Prickett Lake Backwaters and a majority of the Sturgeon River Gorge wilderness and surrounding forested countryside." Part of the path on the way up and back down, the mtn goes on a challenging short steep loose rock switchback, so have good footwear, good balance, poles, and be careful of loose rocks so do not follow too close behind the person in front of you. This path is not recommended if you are not prepared to hike that somewhat difficult rocky steep path up the mtn. Before you get to that steep rocky path section, you can watch mtn climbers try their skills on the sheer cliffs.



# Segment 38 Forest Road 2270 by Sturgeon River Bridge to Sturgeon Falls Spur Trail

**Length:** 3.3 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 26 <u>**Ownership**</u>: Ottawa National Forest

**Responsible for maintenance**: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Signs at both ends of segment. Swimming and fishing hole and sand beach at first bend northeast of Sturgeon River bridge via short, unmarked side trail, often used by locals.

**General description of segment**: Trail follows Sturgeon River east from bridge, then ascends hill steeply and gradually climbs southward on plateau. Possible nice campsites along river, but FR 2270 aka 193 would be within site of that campsite. LNT! The western half mile of this segment is mowed every season to where we cannot take the mower further. On the east end, the half mile spur to FR 2270 aka 193 on google map, is also mowed. This segment was logged 2022-23

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

Parking: West end: On FR 2270 aka 193 north west of the Sturgeon River bridge.

East end: not drivable but you can park at the large parking area for the Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness trail, and walk north on the mowed half mile spur to the NCT.

Winter: No roads in this area are plowed in winter.

Water: If eastbound, the Sturgeon River is the last dependable water source along the NCT until the Sturgeon River is reached again near the Oren Krumm NCT Shelter, 12 miles to the southeast. Plan accordingly, especially in hot weather. Much of this 12-mile section can be sunny and hot, as it crosses sandy plains. It is possible to stash water (gallon milk jugs, e.g.) near a number of road crossings along this section. FR 2200 aka Clear Creek Road or FR 2240 aka 553 on a google map, might be good choices.



**POI** Note: For an amazing view and waterfall hike, it is highly recommended that you take a white blazed half mile spur trail off the east end of Segment 38 to the Trailhead Parking area. This is the trailhead for <u>the Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness</u> hike! The trail to the Sturgeon Falls, west of the NCT, in the SRG Wilderness is a steep switchback down to the river and back; this trail is easily followed, but not blazed since it is part of a Designated Wilderness since 1987 and maintained by the Ottawa NF.

# Segment 39 Sturgeon Falls Spur Trail to Forest Road 2200

**Length:** 1 mile, on NCT map <u>here</u>, no drive to this spur, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 26 <u>**Ownership**</u>: Ottawa National Forest

Responsible for maintenance: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Signs at both ends of segment. Parking lot FR 2200 aka google 193. **General description of segment**: Pleasant open woods in places. Flat to rolling.

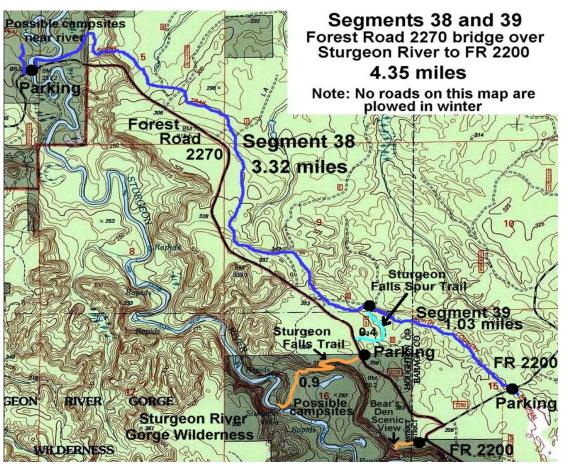
Trail crosses junction of Houghton-Baraga county lines @ mile 159.95 This segment is mowed every season, along with the half mile spur to FR 2270 aka 193 on google map.

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

**Parking**: West end:, parking at the end Trailhead to the Sturgeon River Gorge Wilderness trail then walk half mile NE starting on FR2270 aka 193, then turn east onto the spur leading to the NCT. East end: Parking area on FR 2200 aka google 193 aka Cleak Creek Road

Water: No water on this segment 39

Winter: No roads in this area are plowed in winter.



# Segment 40 Forest Road 2200 to Forest Road 2240

Length: 2.9 miles, on NCT map here, driving map here, and Avenza map # 27
Ownership: Ottawa National Forest
Responsible for maintenance: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers
Developments along trail: Signs at both ends of segment.
General description of segment: Pleasant open woods in places. Flat to rolling.
Trail conditions This segment is mowed each season. Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please let us know if you encounter any problems in this area.
Parking: West end: Parking area on FR2200 aka Clear Creek road,
East end: parking on FR2240 (aka 553 on google map.)

Water: No water source on this Segment

Winter: No road to this segment are plowed in the winter

See map below



### Segment 41 Forest Road 2240 to Forest Road 2236

**Length:** 1.86 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 27 **Ownership**: Ottawa National Forest

**Responsible for maintenance**: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

Developments along trail: Signs at FR 2240 (aka 553 or Gorge Cutoff road) and FR 2236

General description of segment: Pleasant open woods in places. Flat to rolling.

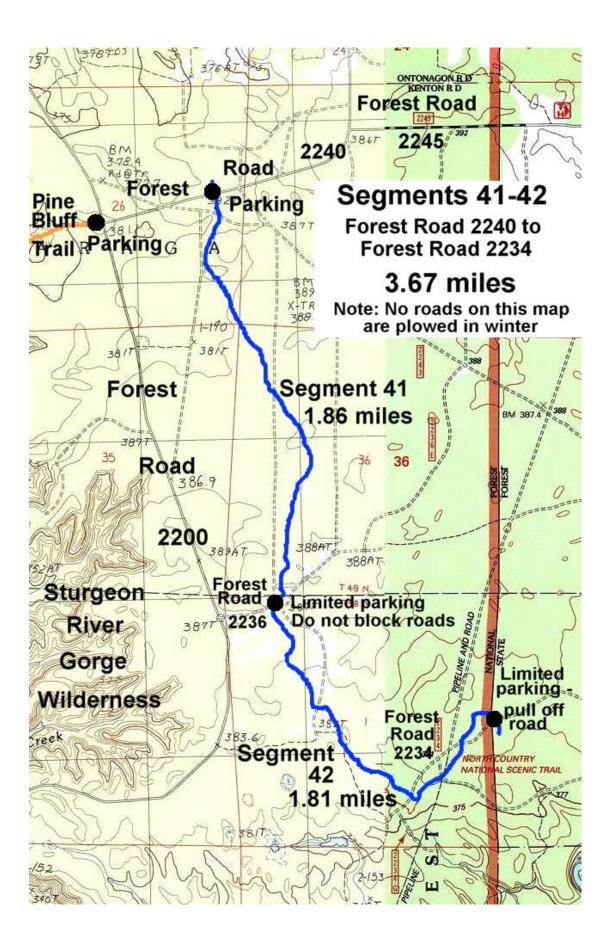
<u>**Trail conditions**</u> This segment is mowed each season. Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please let us know if you encounter any problems in this area.

Parking: West end Parking area at FR 2240 (aka 553 on google map).

East end Parking is possible off remote sandy road at FR 2236 if accessed from the west from FR 2200 aka Clear Creek Road.

#### Water: No water sources.

Winter: No roads in this area are plowed in winter.



# Segment 42 Forest Road 2236 to Forest Road 2234 at east boundary of Ottawa National Forest

**Length:** 1.81 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, no driving on those sandy roads, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 27 <u>**Ownership**</u>: Ottawa National Forest, click on the ONF map <u>here</u>

Responsible for maintenance: ONF and Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Sign at FR 2234 (aka 268 on google maps.)

**General description of segment**: Pleasant open woods in places. Flat to rolling. Much of this segment is impacted by the <u>Baraga Bump forest fire</u> of 2007 with charred, blown down trees. Trail passes a cleared pipe line on east end.

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> This segment is mowed each season. Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

**Parking:** West end: Parking is possible off a sandy remote FR 2236 (aka 556 on google) if accessed from the west from FR 2200 aka Clear Creek Road.

East end: Driving on narrow, sandy FR 2234 (aka 268 on google) is not recommended; the sand is so soft, it would be easy to get stuck on this remote road with zero traffic.

Water: No permanent water sources. In very wet weather, a wetland MAY have water for emergency, but you would likely have to wade to get it. It's a shallow wetland pond. Wetland is a couple hundred feet off-trail, at approximately 46.581 deg N, 88.624 deg W. No trail leads from the NCT to the wetland.

Winter: No roads in this area are plowed in winter.



#### Segment 43 Forest Road 2234 at east boundary of Ottawa National Forest to side trail to Oren Krumm Shelter

**Length:** 1.07 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, no driving on sandy roads, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 27 <u>**Ownership**</u>: State of Michigan

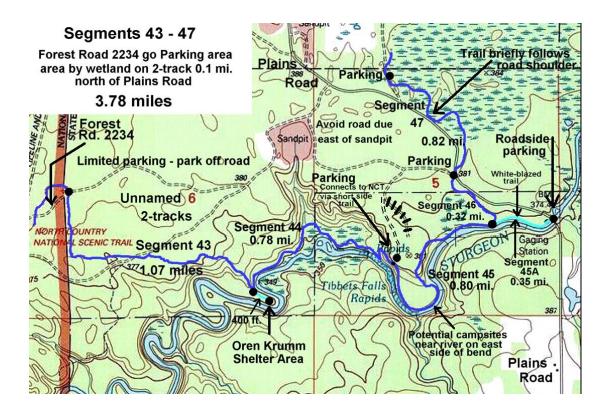
Responsible for maintenance: Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Signs at FR 2234 indicating entering/leaving the ONF and a sign at the junction for the spur to the Oren Krumm NCT Shelter Trail.

**General description of segment**: Segment 43 is mowed each season. This area was burned in the Baraga Bump forest fire in 2007. Numerous charred tree trunks are still present, though some larger trees were spared. The understory is now thick with young aspen and cherry saplings. **NCT Shelter:** The Oren Krumm NCT shelter is about 400 feet off the NCT at the west end of this segment! LNT! The shelter area has a wilderness latrine, two campsites, firepit and benches overlooking an oxbow in the river. Part of this area, including the original Oren Krumm Shelter built by volunteers and scout friends of Oren, was burned in the Baraga Bump forest fire of 2007. The shelter was rebuilt by volunteers later that year. Some hikers set up their tent inside the 4 bunk, screened in shelter for warmth in the winter! Be sure to sign the register book inside the shelter; the family of Oren Krumm love to read your entries. Then return the book to the firesafe box for safe keeping! This shelter is a popular wintertime campsite; snowshoe in the 2.55 miles from the Plains Road parking area, which is located about a mile NW of the river's bridge on the Plains road.

**Trail conditions:** Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area. Some fast-growing brush in the sunlight along the river is hard to keep up with, and occasional blowdowns of fire-damaged trees may still be encountered. **Water:** There is short steep trail to the river from just outside the shelter, look for arrow & rope. **Parking:** Parking at the ends of this segment is NOT recommended. Driving on narrow, sandy FR 2234 is not recommended; the sand is so soft, it would be easy to get stuck on this remote road with zero traffic.

Winter: No roads in this area are plowed in winter other than the Plains road.



# Tibbets Falls Trail Segment 44 Side trail to Oren Krumm Shelter to side trail to Tibbets Falls Parking Lot

**Length:** 0.7 miles on the NCT map <u>here</u>, driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 27 <u>**Ownership**</u>: State of Michigan

**Responsible for maintenance**: Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: There are several short bridges and boardwalks. There is a sign at the junction with the short spur to the Oren Krumm Shelter Trail.

**NCT Shelter:** The Oren Krumm NCT shelter is about 400 feet off the NCT at the west end of this segment! LNT! The shelter area has a wilderness latrine, two campsites, firepit and benches overlooking an oxbow in the river. Part of the shelter area, including the original Oren Krumm Shelter built by volunteers and scout friends of Oren, was burned in the Baraga Bump forest fire of 2007. The shelter was rebuilt by volunteers later that year. Some hikers set up their tent inside the 4 bunk screened in shelter for extra warmth in the winter! Be sure to sign the register book inside the shelter; the family of Oren Krumm love to read your entries. Then return the book to the firesafe box for safe keeping! This shelter is a popular wintertime campsite; snowshoe in the

2.55 miles from the Plains Road parking area, which is located about a mile NW of the river's bridge on the Plains road.

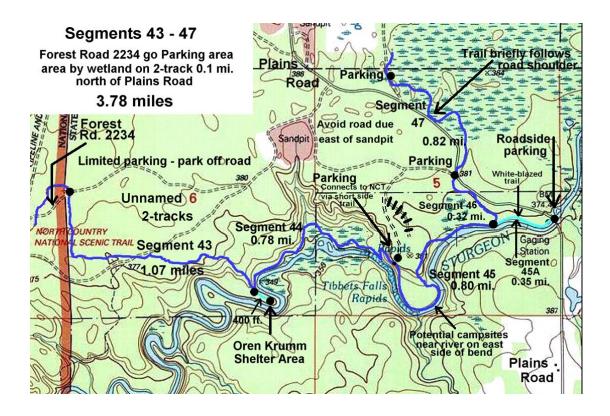
<u>General description of segment</u>: The trail follows along or close to the Sturgeon River throughout this segment. Tibbets Falls, a series of small drops over slate ledges, extend for several hundred feet along the river; visible from the NCT as the trail ascends the bluff eastbound.

NOTE: The slate rocks at the downstream end of the Falls provide a great view, but can be very slippery, exercise caution on the rocks.

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> The west quarter mile of this segment is mowed each season. Due to the open sunlight along the river, summer growth of tall grass and berry bushes are encountered. We are looking for volunteers to help brush cut the rest of this segment that can not be mowed. Maintained and blazed annually by the Oren Krumm family with help from other PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area.

**<u>Parking</u>**: No driving access to this segment, need to park and hike to the trail. You can park at the Tibbets Falls parking area or you can try to drive west on the sandy 2 track from the Tibbets Falls parking area and take the first turn to the south <u>on this map</u> and park in a small parking spot and hike down a path to the river. That soft sandy 2 track is not maintained, or cleared of branches etc so leaning branches will prob scratch your car up.

Winter: No roads in this area are plowed in winter except the Baraga Plains road.



### NCT Trail to Tibbets Falls Segment 45 All along the Sturgeon River, west of the Plains Road.

**Length:** 0.8 miles, on the NCT map <u>here</u>, no drive to this mid segment, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 27 <u>**Ownership**</u>: State of Michigan

Responsible for maintenance: Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: Several bridges and boardwalks. Future sign at junction of NCT and Fisherman's white blazed <u>spur trail</u> along river to Plains Road Bridge. Registration box at that junction.

<u>General description of segment</u>: Trail is level then hilly, with some rocky areas and narrow benching on hillside. Trail is close to the Sturgeon River for most of its length. There is camping potential near the trail on the southeast portion of the bend east of Tibbets Falls. LNT! A low-lying section of this area has been known to flood in very high water, so bypassing the flooded area would be necessary. The Oren Krumm NCT Shelter is just a mile further West on PWC Segment 44. At the junction with the Registration Box at the east end of this segment, be sure to head north, up the steep hill to stay on NCT rather than follow the white blazed spur "Fisherman's trail" along the river that leads to the Plains road bridge.

<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by the Oren Krumm family with help from other PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area. Due to the sunny proximity to the river, it can get thorny brush alongside trail; dress accordingly. We are looking for volunteers to help brush cut this segment. Let us know if you can help!

**<u>Parking</u>**: No driving access to this segment, only hiking spurs. East End: From the Tibbets Falls parking area you can try to drive west on the sandy 2 track from the parking area and take the first turn to the south on this map and park in a small unmarked, unimproved parking spot and hike down a path to the river. That soft sandy 2 track from the Tibbets Falls parking area is not maintained, or cleared of branches etc so leaning branches will prob scratch your car up. (Do not follow that two track further west to a sand pit! Street vehicles will not return from the sand pit!)

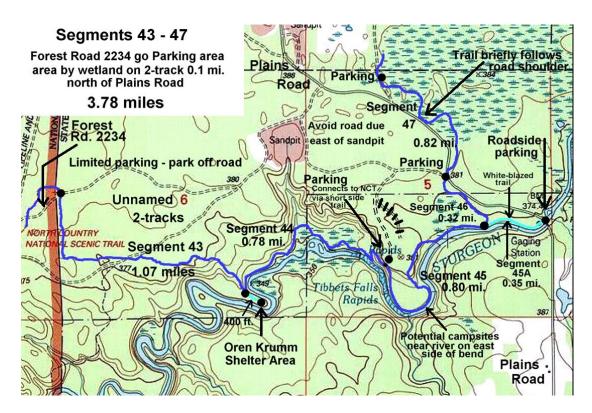
West end: Park along the Plains road near the bridge and hike in along the white blazed path along the river to the NCT.

**ReSupply Option**: If you are eastbound and you plan to walk to Watton to eat or resupply, stay along the river from the NCT registration box and follow the white blazed spur Fisherman's trail to the bridge on the Plains Road. A 3 mile walk south on the Plains Road gets to the intersection with M28. Turn East to go one mile to the Hardwood Steakhouse and Bar, for a delicious meal. Or turn West to go one mile to the Watton grocery and supply store with the Post Office just across the road. See those 2 options <u>on this map</u>.

Supply store open 8am- 9pm M-S, 9am-8pm Sunday ph 906-355-2653 <u>Post Office</u> is usually open 8am to noon M-F, 8:15-9:45 Saturday; lobby open till 4:30 M-S

Winter: No roads in this area are plowed in winter except Plains Road, and roadside parking is not always plowed, you can contact the <u>Baraga County Road Commission</u> to ask if the parking

area is plowed out at the Tibbets Falls trailhead on the Plains Road.



#### Segment 45A Fishing Trail Spur Riverside Trail to/from Plains Rd Bridge

**Length:** about 0.35 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 27 <u>**Ownership**</u>: State of Michigan

**Responsible for maintenance**: NOT on NCT but the Oren Krumm family maintains this Fisherman's trail from time to time.

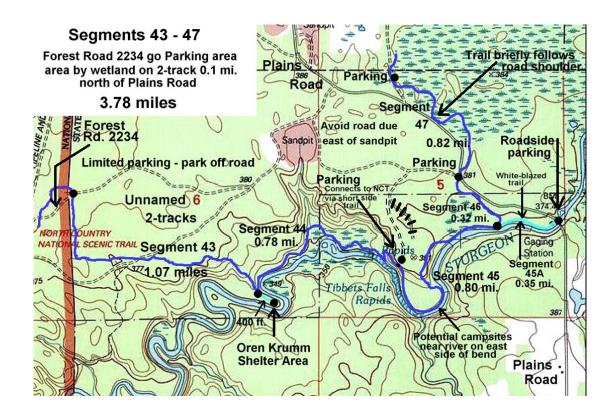
**Developments along trail**: Future sign at junction of NCT and spur trail to Plains Road Bridge. Registration box at junction of NCT and spur trail to Plains Road Bridge.

<u>General description of segment</u>: This white blazed spur rail off the NCT is mostly level. The trail was originally a fishing trail; it is blazed with white blazes. Near the bridge (and its gauging station for water levels in the river) the spur trail enters the woods at the base of the hill on the west side of the road. Spur follows along the Sturgeon River. If hiking east and going off trail into the village of Watton for dining, mail or supplies, use this Fisherman's spur to the Plains road bridge, see resupply option above for NCT segment 45.

**Parking** near the bridge is poor, best park a mile north of the bridge in the Tibbets Falls parking area and walk to the Falls on the NCT. The shoulder of Plains Road is wide enough for day-use parking to fish. However, do Not park near the bridge at night because of limited visibility at the bridge and curve.

**ReSupply Option**: see above with the NCT segment 45 description.

<u>**Trail conditions</u>**: This spur is NOT on NCT but the Oren Krumm family maintains this fishing trail from time to time; you can <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area. <u>Link to hydrologic gauging station</u> water levels and flow rates at bridge on Plains Road. **Winter:** No roads in this area are plowed in winter except Plains Road, and roadside parking is difficult when the snow is deep and the banks are high.</u>



# Segment 46 Spur Trail to Plains Road Bridge to Plains Road Tibbets Falls Parking area

**Length:** 0.3 miles, on NCT map <u>here</u>, driving map <u>here</u>, and <u>Avenza</u> map # 27 <u>**Ownership**</u>: State of Michigan

Responsible for maintenance: Peter Wolfe Chapter Volunteers

**Developments along trail**: NCT Arrow signs on east end a few feet south of Tibbets Falls parking area. The south (west) end of this segment is at the Registration box. If east bound, be sure to hike up the hill at the Registration box rather than follow the river side white blazed spur fishing trail to the Plains Road bridge.

# Note: The East bound actually goes NW, and West bound goes SE on this segment! General description of segment: Trail is level to slightly hilly.

NOTE: If Eastbound, from the Tibbets Falls parking area, the trail goes north a hundred feet or so on Plains Road before heading into the woods on the east side of Plains Road on Segment 47. Watch for blue blazes.

**Parking:** East end: There is good parking in the Tibbets Falls Trailhead parking area. Do not block the sandy 2 track road leading west. Also leave room for other cars to park at this popular trailhead.

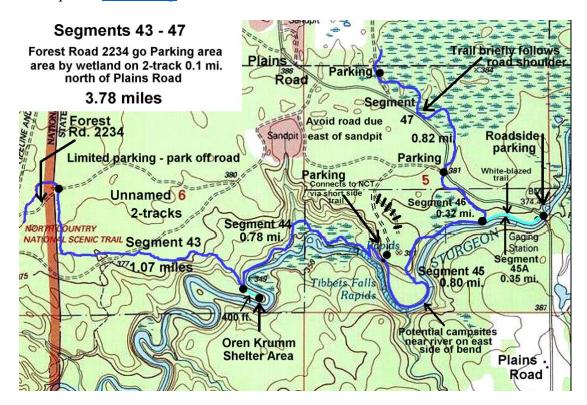
<u>**Trail conditions**</u> Maintained and blazed annually by PWC volunteers; please <u>let us know</u> if you encounter any problems in this area. Some low spots fill with water after heavy rains. Let us know if you can help brush cut this segment!

**Winter:** The Plains Road is plowed all winter and they often plow the parking area too; roadside parking can be difficult in the winter due to deep snow.

**Supply Store nearby!** If you plan to walk to Watton: A 3 mile walk south on the Plains Road gets to the intersection with M28. At M28, turn East to go one mile to the <u>Hardwood Steakhouse</u> and <u>Bar</u>, for a delicious meal.

Or turn West at M28 to go one mile to the <u>Watton Country Store</u> ph 906-355-2653. The Post Office is just across the road.

See those options on this map.



End of Trail Guide for PWC Segments 33 to 46 Go to bottom of <u>PWC webpage</u> for Trail Guide for Segments 47 to 58