



# Saginaw Valley Chapter Of the Ruffed Grouse Society

## “Habitat Meeting”

Monday January 5, 2009

At the

Saginaw Gun Club  
9540 Gratiot Road  
Saginaw, Michigan

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Refreshments and light snacks will be served.

The chapter will be hosting an informative meeting on ruffed grouse hunting and habitat concerns in Michigan with guest speaker Al Stewart, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Upland Game Bird Specialist, and Regional Director Doug Doherty of the Ruffed Grouse Society.

*This meeting is open to everyone.*

Habitat management activities on public forestlands have been an emphasis of the Ruffed Grouse Society, since 1986 when the first management area was established. Project sites in the Lower Peninsula are found on federal, state and county forests and provide outstanding habitat for wildlife that depend on young forests.



## ***RUFFED GROUSE SOCIETY 2008*** **HABITAT HAPPENINGS IN THE UPPER PENINSULA**

### **UP Overview:**

The first Ruffed Grouse Society Management Area Project (MAP) in the Upper Peninsula was initiated in 1985. Since that time, the Society has provided over \$145,000 in funding over 33 projects in the UP. These funds have enhanced ruffed grouse and woodcock habitat on over 38,000 acres of public land. Thanks must go out to our local chapter committees and you, the banquet attendees who continue to make all of this possible.

### **2007:**

The Society has recently joined in a five year partnership agreement with the Hiawatha National Forest to support ruffed grouse and woodcock habitat management efforts on the Forest. Projects slated in this partnership include the development of the Little Bear Ruffed Grouse and Woodcock Habitat Management Area near Rudyard and improving habitat and trail conditions on the Birch Farm Grouse Management Area in Delta County. Project work was also conducted on the Gogebic County Forest that included promoting aspen regeneration efforts. A partnership with the Ottawa National Forest continues with work in 2007 concentrating on alder regeneration efforts and improvements to hunter walking trails in the Bluebill Creek Grouse Management Area. I

### **What's ahead in 2008?**

Work is scheduled to continue on both National Forests in the UP. On the Hiawatha National Forest efforts will be centered on improvement on the Little Bear Habitat Management Area. On the Ottawa National Forest work will be targeted toward maintaining alder and aspen habitats. In addition, support is being provided for a research project through Michigan Technological University addressing the potential impact of using aspen forests for ethanol production on wildlife populations. This research is timely and will evaluate potential tradeoffs between biomass production and wildlife habitat management objectives in aspen stands and develop recommendations for managing aspen forests to meet quality-oriented standards.

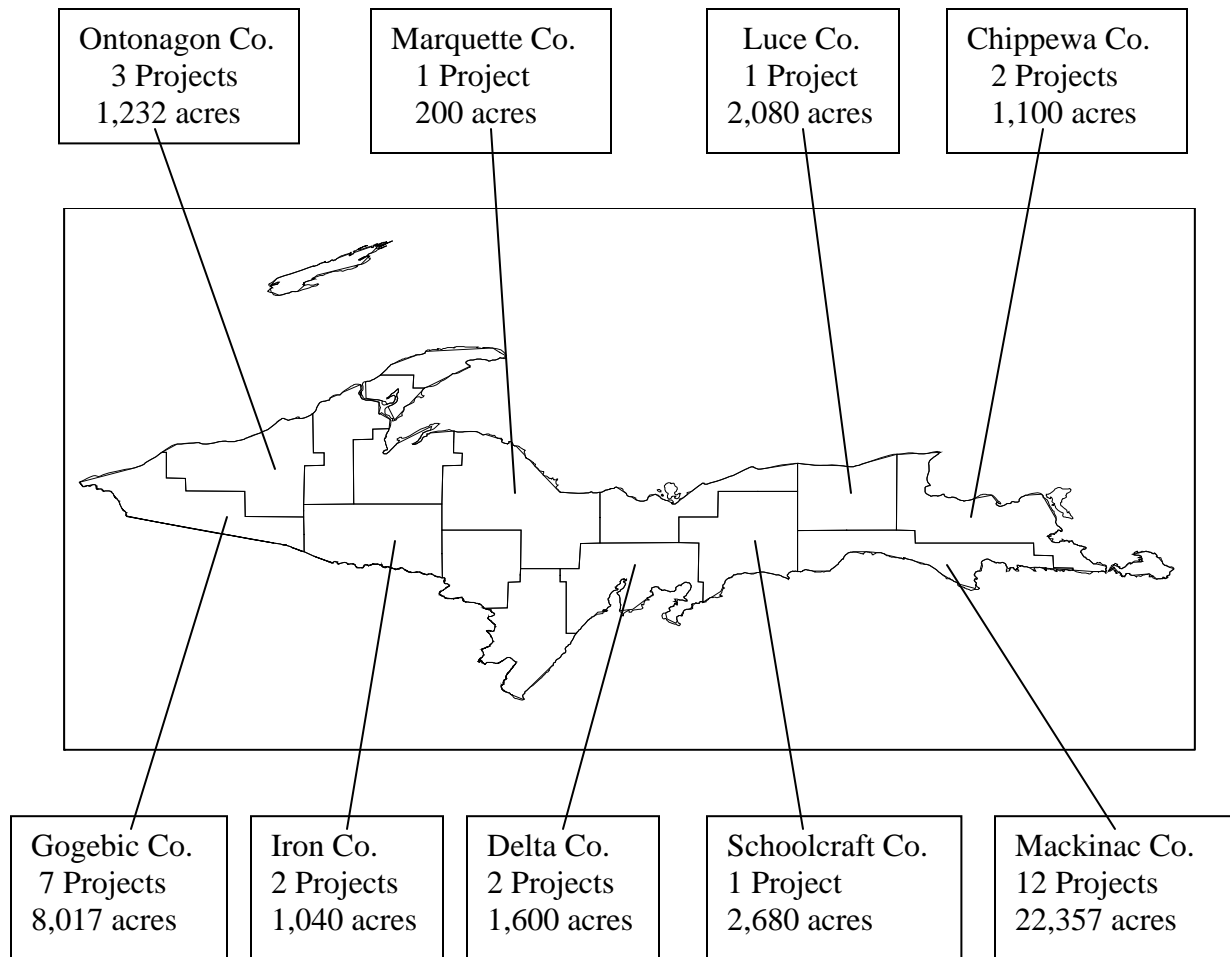
**National Emphasis:** The Ruffed Grouse Society continues to actively promote common-sense forest wildlife conservation and the interests of sportsmen and women on the ground, in the courts, and in the legislative and policy arenas. At the local, state and federal levels, the Society is protecting the ability of public land managers and private landowners to use the tools needed to manage our forests to benefit ruffed grouse, woodcock, and other wildlife of young forest habitats.

In Washington, over 4 years of work by the nation's leading wildlife conservation organizations, spearheaded by the Society, resulted in significant improvements to regulations that guide habitat management on 191 million acres of National Forest System lands. Previously, these regulations had often tied the hands of natural resource managers and greatly complicated the ability of the Society and others to implement needed on-the-ground projects. The improvements to these regulations will greatly enhance opportunities for the Society to promote science-based wildlife conservation on our National Forests.

### **Thank you for your support!**

From Ironwood to Lansing to Washington DC, none of the Ruffed Grouse Society's accomplishments would be possible without the generous support from our members. We are in this together; in this struggle to protect the future of our hunting heritage and to preserve our nations forest wildlife. Please consider becoming a committee member if you are not already. If you are interested in receiving regular updates on grouse related issues please consider becoming a member of our Forest Action Network (FAN), a group of grouse enthusiasts who are taking an active role in grouse and woodcock management. For information contact your [Regional Director](#) or Regional Biologist Gary Zimmer at 715-674-7505, or by email at [rgszimm@newnorth.net](mailto:rgszimm@newnorth.net).

# Michigan's Upper Peninsula Ruffed Grouse Society Management Area Projects 1985 to 2007



Note: An additional partnership project, completed in 2003, to inventory the aspen forest type on the Ottawa National Forest was conducted in parts of Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, and Ontonagon Counties.