

Wilderness Lakes Bike Trail System

The Wilderness Lakes Bike Trail System is the name given to a bike trail loop linking the communities of Land O'Lakes, Wisconsin and Watersmeet, Michigan. It has been under construction for several years, adding segments as funding becomes available. Among the items proposed for the current project is the addition of Forest Road 6380 (Whitefish Lake trail/road) to that loop. This trail is located immediately adjacent to the northwestern portion of the Sylvania Wilderness.

The Ottawa National Forest (ONF) is seeking comments. Attached are the ONF letter explaining the proposal and two maps.

After long and serious discussions among Friends of Sylvania (FoS) board members and friends, FoS has concluded that opening that road to bicycles would be a serious mistake. A significant factor in our deliberation was the history of the original closing of FR 6380 in the 1990s which was done to protect the Sylvania Wilderness. Attached are the FoS comments that have been submitted to ONF.

We encourage you to contact the Ottawa National Forest with your comments as soon as possible (email: comments-eastern-ottawa@fs.fed.us, subject line: "Comments on Wilderness Lakes Bike System Project")