

Yellowwood/Morgan-Monroe State Forest

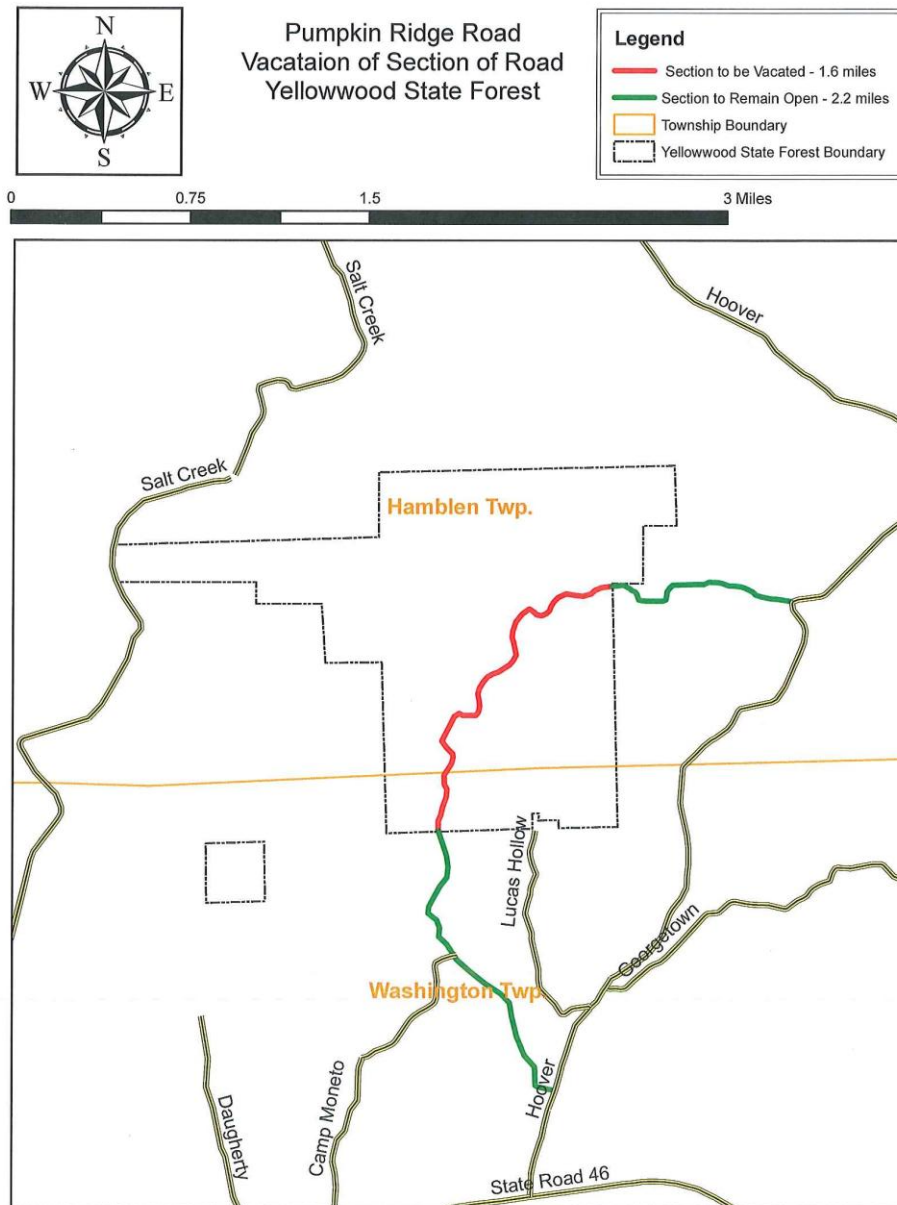
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Proposed Unmaintained County Road Vacation

Yellowwood State Forest is planning to vacate a portion of the old unmaintained county road locally known as Pumpkin Ridge Road. The portion of the road closed will only be that located within the ownership of Yellowwood State Forest and is shown on the map. Neighbors along Pumpkin Ridge Road will not have their access impeded because we are not closing the sections on the south or north from Hoover Road. Through road access is not an option for people at this time either given the current condition of the road. Reasons for vacating this road are listed in order of importance below.

- 1. Public Safety – With the current condition of this unmaintained county road, emergency vehicles would not be able to respond to a property guest who could be injured while visiting the property.**
- 2. Fire Access – If a wildfire occurs on State Forest Property, local volunteers and DNR Fire would have an extremely difficult time at best reaching much of the area creating the potential for larger fires than if a well-maintained road existed.**
- 3. Environmental Quality – Severe soil erosion is occurring on the rutted sloping portions of the road.**
- 4. Public Access – If the road is closed seasonally during the worst road conditions, the road can be opened during good road conditions, allowing better access to the public for activities such as hunting.**
- 5. State Forest Management Access – State forest employees cannot currently use much of this road for routine management activities such as boundary maintenance, forest resource inventories, and timber marking. Loggers would also not be able to haul logs out or skid on several portions of the road due to its current condition.**

Once vacated, the Division of Forestry, using equipment and stone, can make needed upgrades and repairs to the road to mitigate the above itemized issues. Feel free to contact Yellowwood State Forest with any further questions regarding this issue.



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http://www.in.gov/surveytool/public/survey.php?name=dnr_forestry

You must indicate the State Forest Name and “Pumpkin Ridge Road” in the “Subject or file reference” line to ensure that your comment receives appropriate consideration. Comments received within 30 days of posting will be considered.

Note: Some graphics may distort due to compression.