



**Division of Forestry**  
**607 1<sup>st</sup> Street West**  
**Park Rapids, MN 56470**

April 16, 2018

Greg Messler  
Rallymaster  
Ojibwe Rally LLC  
6039 Vincent Ave. S  
Minneapolis, MN 55410-2844

Dear Greg,

I'm writing to confirm with you the decision to cancel the 2018 Headwaters Rally scheduled for April 28, 2018. The current snow, road, and weather conditions are roughly 1 month behind compared to an average spring thaw. Regardless of what the weather does between now and the scheduled date, the road conditions will either be partially ice covered or just beginning to thaw. It would not be responsible to continue with a plan to hold the event.

Each spring while the snow is melting and the frost is breaking up in the forest roads, we close the road system for a few weeks. We do this to limit damage that happens when vehicles drive on roads with a muddy surface while underlying frost is holding the snowmelt near the surface. The hills, curves, and shade on the roads in the Paul Bunyan State Forest combine to delay and extend the spring thaw. Part of the roads will be dried up while other areas are muddy, and some are still frozen. This year, that time period will start later this week and extend into May.

Going forward I hope to work with you on a date for 2019 that meets the needs of all parties. Despite this record breaking weather event, I'm confident that we can find a good time to bring your group to our forest. Please accept my regrets that it did not work this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Lichter', written in a cursive style.

Mike Lichter  
Asst. Forestry Supervisor