

Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan – 2023

THE HONORABLE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Following is the annual Lincoln County Forest work plan for the calendar year 2023.

The plan gives direction and meaning to the proposed County Forest budget, and further defines and supplements the Lincoln County Forest Fifteen-Year

Comprehensive Land Use Plan and emphasizes the current needs of the County Forest and Recreation program. This plan is required to comply with Wis. Statute 28.11(5) and Chapter NR47.70 (4) of the Wisconsin Administrative Code for the administration of the County Forest Administration Grant program.

Motion By: Cummings

Second By: DePasse

Resolution 2022-10-35

TO APPROVE THE 2023 LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST ANNUAL WORK PLAN

WHEREAS, Lincoln County has lands enrolled in the Wisconsin County Forest Land Program commonly referred to as the Lincoln County Forest; and

WHEREAS, Wis. State Statute 28.11(5) (b) and Wisconsin Administrative Code 47.70 (4) (f) requires an annual work plan to be approved by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors to be eligible for the County Forest Administration Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee reviewed and approved the 2023 County Forest Annual Work Plan to supplement the Fifteen-Year Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan as a way to help prioritize projects and emphasis the current needs of the County Forest and Recreational System.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors does hereby ordain and resolve to approve and adopt the 2023 Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2023 Lincoln County Forest Annual Work Plan will be included as an amendment to the Fifteen-Year Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the approved Annual Work Plan be forwarded to the Department of Natural Resources for their acceptance.

Dist.	Supervisor	Y	N	Abs
1	Bialecki			
2	Anderson-Malm			
3	McCrank			
4	Osness			
5	Peterson			
6	Ashbeck			
7	Rusch			
8	Thiel			
9	Friske			
10	Boyd			
11	Detert			
12	DePasse			
13	Callahan			
14	Hafeman			
15	Lemke			
16	Loka			
17	Brixius			
18	Wickham			
19	Allen			
20	Cummings			
21	Simon			
22	Hartwig			
Totals				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried				
<input type="checkbox"/> Defeated				
<input type="checkbox"/> Amended				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice vote				
<input type="checkbox"/> Roll call				

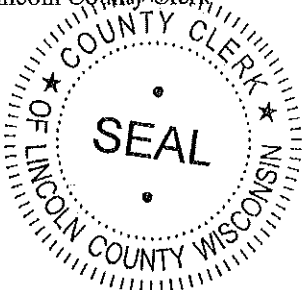
STATE OF WISCONSIN)
COUNTY OF LINCOLN) SS

I hereby certify that this
resolution/ordinance
is a true and correct copy of a
resolution/ordinance adopted
by the Lincoln County Board of
Supervisors on:

October 18, 2022



Christopher J. Marlowe
Lincoln County Clerk



Dated: This 18th day of October, 2022

Authored by: William Bialecki
Co-Sponsored by: Kenneth Wickham
Committee: Forestry, Land and Parks
Committee Vote: All Ayes

Date Passed: October 10, 2022

Fiscal Impact: Loss of approximately \$57,000.00 of State Grant Funds if not approved.

Drafted by: Dean Bowe, Forest Administrator

LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2023

TO: THE LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND AND PARKS DEPARTMENT
COMMITTEE AND HONORABLE SUPERVISORS OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY
BOARD

Following is the proposed Lincoln County Forest work plan for the year 2023. The plan gives direction and meaning to the proposed County Forest budget. The plan further defines and supplements the Fifteen-Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan and emphasizes the current needs of the County Forest and Recreational System.

TIMBER HARVEST

Timber harvests are not only important for the economic well-being of Lincoln County, but for the health and vigor of the forest. This includes all aspects of the forest; wildlife, watershed protection, air quality, recreation, and other noncommercial values. Professional implementation of proper forest management and harvest techniques is essential. The timber management goal is to produce a sustained yield of forest products by scheduling timber sales to achieve the average annual allowable cut. Compartment reconnaissance information from the Wisconsin Forest Inventory and Reporting System (WisFIRS) and field proofing will be used to determine stands where timber harvesting is needed. When harvesting in these stands takes place, inspections and reports will be filed as needed and as required by Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Forest Certification. The Lincoln County Forest became SFI certified in March of 2005 and FSC certified in July of 2007. Lincoln County Forest plans to offer for sale approximately 1,900 acres for harvest in the following timber types in 2023:

Northern Hardwoods	<u>900 Acres</u>
Aspen	<u>800 Acres</u>
Red Pine	<u>100 Acres</u>
Other Types as Needed	<u>100 Acres</u>

Information about what timber sale establishment activities are occurring may be obtained by contacting the Lincoln County Forestry Office, Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452, Phone (715) 539-1034.

DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION OF FOREST

Lincoln County will maintain current cover types in similar acreages. Changes in cover type acreages may occur over time due to natural succession or conversion in areas where it makes sense economically and ecologically. Aspen, white birch, jack pine, swamp conifer and red oak are timber types whose acreage is decreasing across the landscape. These decreases are largely due to fire suppression and/or an emphasis on managing for shade tolerant, later successional species. These types and associated species are important to wildlife, the timber industry, and the ecology and diversity of the forest. When possible, early successional cover types will be maintained with consideration being given to aesthetics, recreation, and other multiple-use values that the forest provides, along with the costs and logistics of maintaining these cover types. The management and planning of forest structure will target goals defined in the attached Report 207 for the desired future condition of the Lincoln County Forest.

REFORESTATION

- A. Site Preparation: 60 Acres (Herbicide treatment, mechanical site Prep)
- B. Aspen Regeneration: 800 Acres
- C. Plantings: 63 Acres
- D. White Birch Regeneration: 10 Acres
- E. Survival Checks 18 Acres

TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT

Release: Spruce and Pine release 10 Acres

COUNTY FOREST ROADS

Total Miles approved for gas tax: 27.25
Maintenance will be done as needed on County Forest Roads.
Culvert replacement based on necessity.
Continue roadside brushing and ditch improvement work.

LAND ACQUISITION

On Going
Explore trade possibilities or purchase of private interior properties as they arise.
Use Stewardship Program to cost share land acquisition projects.

SURVEYING

On Going
Establish county forest property boundaries (primarily for timber sales).
Work with County Surveyor as needed.

FOREST PROTECTION

- On Going
- A. Implement Gypsy Moth, Oak Wilt, HRD, and Emerald Ash Borer Plan.
 - B. Monitor Pine Root Collar Weevil, Jack Pine Budworm, armillaria root rot, and pockets of oak decline. Watch for signs of Emerald Ash Borer activity, oak wilt, oak and red pine pocket decline.
 - C. Control exotic invasive plant species such as garlic mustard and glossy buckthorn.
 - D. Educate user groups on invasive species.

FISH AND WILDLIFE PROJECTS

County Conservation Aids:

- A. Improve forest access roads for hunting, trapping and fishing, and cut roadside brush.
- B. Continue to complete wildlife habitat enhancement projects of merit.
- C. Work on signing and access/landing maintenance on small lakes where needed.

Wildlife Habitat:

- A. Forest Openings maintenance and improvements, including mowing hunter walking trails in conjunction with openings. Long term goal is to prioritize and better manage forest openings.
- B. Release cutting: oak or green cover.
- C. Alder shearing if winter conditions are favorable.
- D. Hunter parking lots/access improvement.
- E. Site prep for early successional species such as oak and birch.
- F. Any other meritorious fish and wildlife projects.

RECREATION AREAS

- A. Recreation Trails: On-going programs (Snowmobile, ATV, Cross Country Ski, Snowshoe, Ice Age, Horse, & Mountain Bike Trails. Explore ATV Trail development where needed. Continue improvements to X-C ski, bike and horse trails with RTA Grant Funding.
- B. Parks & Campgrounds: Maintenance as needed at all parks and campgrounds. Replace restrooms at New Wood Campground (if grant funding support is attained).
- C. Boat Landings: On-going improvements to lake access.
- D. Other: Implement Lincoln County Forest 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan and 5-Year Recreation Plan.

FOREST CERTIFICATION

Implement SFI and FSC standards and procedures.

Improve understanding of SFI "Special Sites" designation. (Geologically or culturally important sites or unique features)

Continue to complete Environmental and Social Risk Assessment for every pesticide application with a specific chemical. Report use of Cellutreat.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS


- A. Forestry Department Facilities: On Going Maintenance.
- B. Equipment: Repair or Acquire as Needed

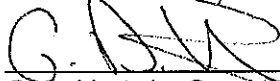
SPECIAL PROJECTS, GRANTS, AND FUNDING


- A. Ruffed Grouse Society
- B. Turkey Stamp
- C. Woodcock Initiative
- D. Snowmobile and ATV Rehabilitation/Development Funding
- E. Recreational Trail Aids Grant
- F. Sustainable Forestry Grant
- G. Lumberjack RC&D
- H. Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Grant

Annual Work Plan approved this 10th day of October, 2022 by the
Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department Committee.

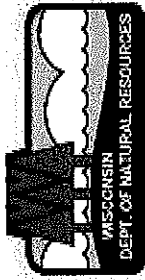

William Bialecki, Chairman


Norbert Ashbeck, Vice Chair


Greg Hartwig, Secretary


Ken Wickham

Calvin Callahan



Forest Structure - Past, Present, Future

Print Date: 8/23/2022

Report 207

3500 - LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST

Timber Text	Acres Past (1977)	Acres Present (2022)	Acres Future
ASPEN	40,839	39,350	38,836
BALSAM FIR	0	155	654
BLACK SPRUCE	4,300	8,059	8,049
BOTTOMLAND HARDWOODS	0	194	194
FIR SPRUCE - *OLD CODE, RECODE	2,810	0	0
HEMLOCK	158	222	218
JACK PINE	784	297	297
NORTHERN HARDWOODS	20,410	23,084	23,636
OAK	49	1,499	1,282
RED MAPLE	0	1,613	1,570
RED PINE	1,501	2,065	1,978
SWAMP CONIFER-*OLD CODE, RECODE	1,445	0	0
SWAMP HARDWOODS	1,618	2,000	1,980
TAMARACK	583	2,225	2,225
WHITE BIRCH	2,641	376	291
WHITE CEDAR	450	1,607	1,256
WHITE PINE	0	187	301
WHITE SPRUCE	0	648	814
Total :	77,588	83,581	83,581
CAMPGROUND	0	24	0
COOL SEASON GRASS	0	559	21
DEVELOPED USE	0	1	0
EMERGENT WETLAND	0	2,503	0
FARMLAND	0	3	0
HERBACEOUS VEGETATION - *OLD CODE, RECODE	56	0	0
LOW - GROWING SHRUBS - *OLD CODE, RECODE	87	0	0
LOWLAND BRUSH - *OLD CODE, RECODE	7,427	0	0



Forest Structure - Past, Present, Future

Print Date: 8/23/2022
Report 207

3500 - LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST

LOWLAND BRUSH - ALDER - *OLD CODE, RECODE	3,368	0	0
MARSH - *OLD CODE, RECODE	7,979	0	0
MINOR LAKE	0	1,029	0
MINOR STREAM	0	82	0
MUSKEG - BOG	0	1,614	0
PARKING AREA	0	38	0
RIGHT OF WAY	0	796	0
TRUE GRASSES - *OLD CODE, RECODE	801	0	0
UPLAND BRUSH - *OLD CODE, RECODE	861	24	24
UPLAND GRASS - *OLD CODE, RECODE	10	0	0
UPLAND SHRUB	0	38	0
WATER	0	13	0
WETLAND SHRUB	0	203	0
WETLAND SHRUB - ALDER	0	10,131	706
Total :	20,589	17,058	751