

SOIL LEGEND *

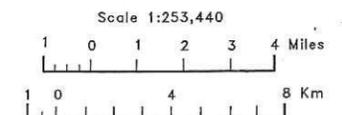
- 1 MAGNOR-FREEON-CAPITOLA ASSOCIATION
- 2 OSSMER-MINOCQUA-SCONSIN ASSOCIATION
- 3 MAGNOR-LUPTON-CAPITOLA ASSOCIATION
- 4 SARONA-KEWEENAW-GOODMAN ASSOCIATION
- 5 NEWOOD-MAGNOR-FREEON ASSOCIATION
- 6 SARWET-MOODIG-LUPTON ASSOCIATION
- 7 VILAS-CROSWELL-MARKEY ASSOCIATION
- 8 LUPTON-PADWET-MINOCQUA ASSOCIATION
- 9 PENCE-PADUS-ANTIGO ASSOCIATION
- 10 VILAS-SAYNER-KEWEENAW ASSOCIATION
- 11 CROSWOOD-LUPTON-AUGWOOD ASSOCIATION

*The units on this legend are described in the text under the heading "General Soil Map Units."

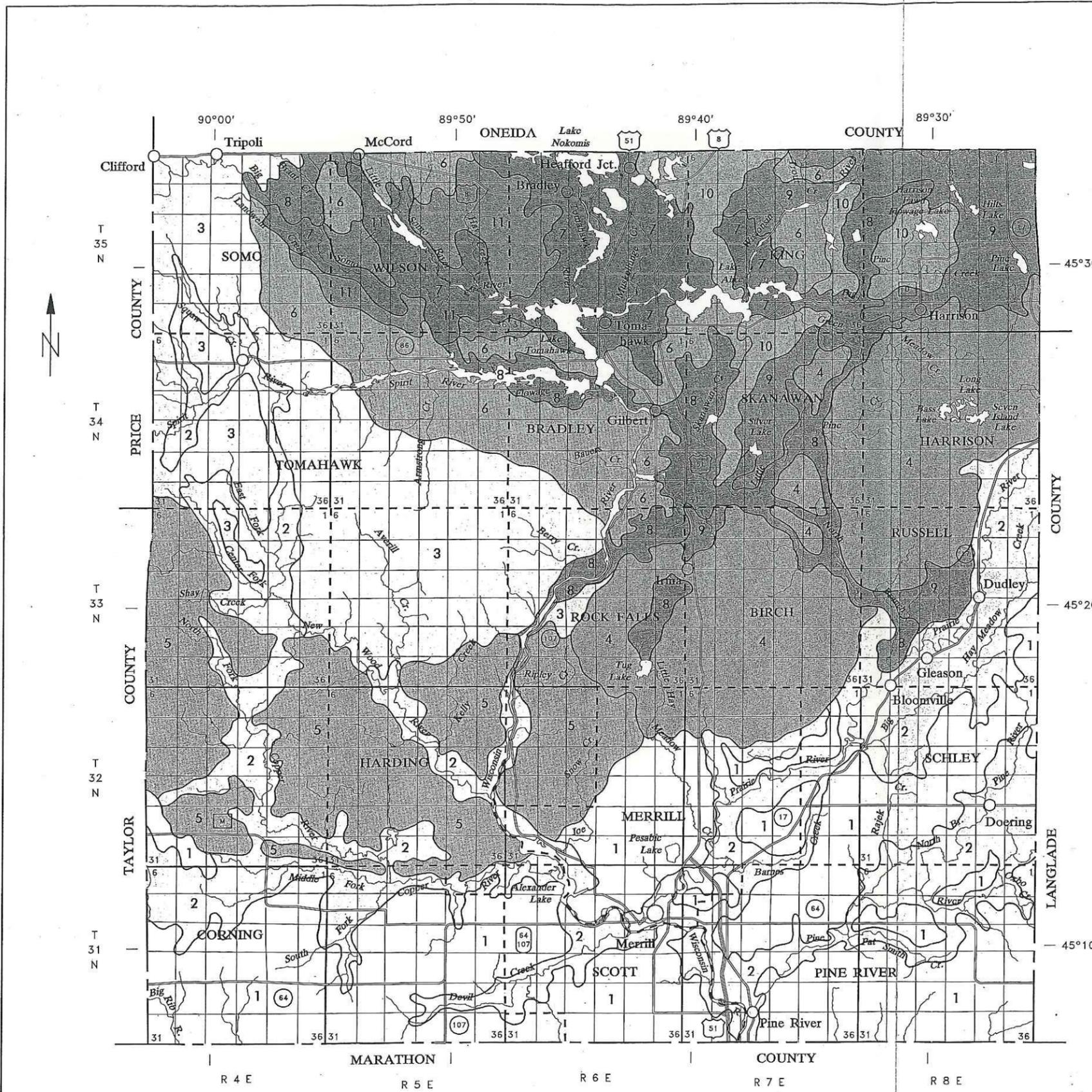
Compiled 1993

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
 RESEARCH DIVISION OF THE COLLEGE
 OF AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES
 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

GENERAL SOIL MAP
LINCOLN COUNTY, WISCONSIN



900.1 General Soil Map of Lincoln County

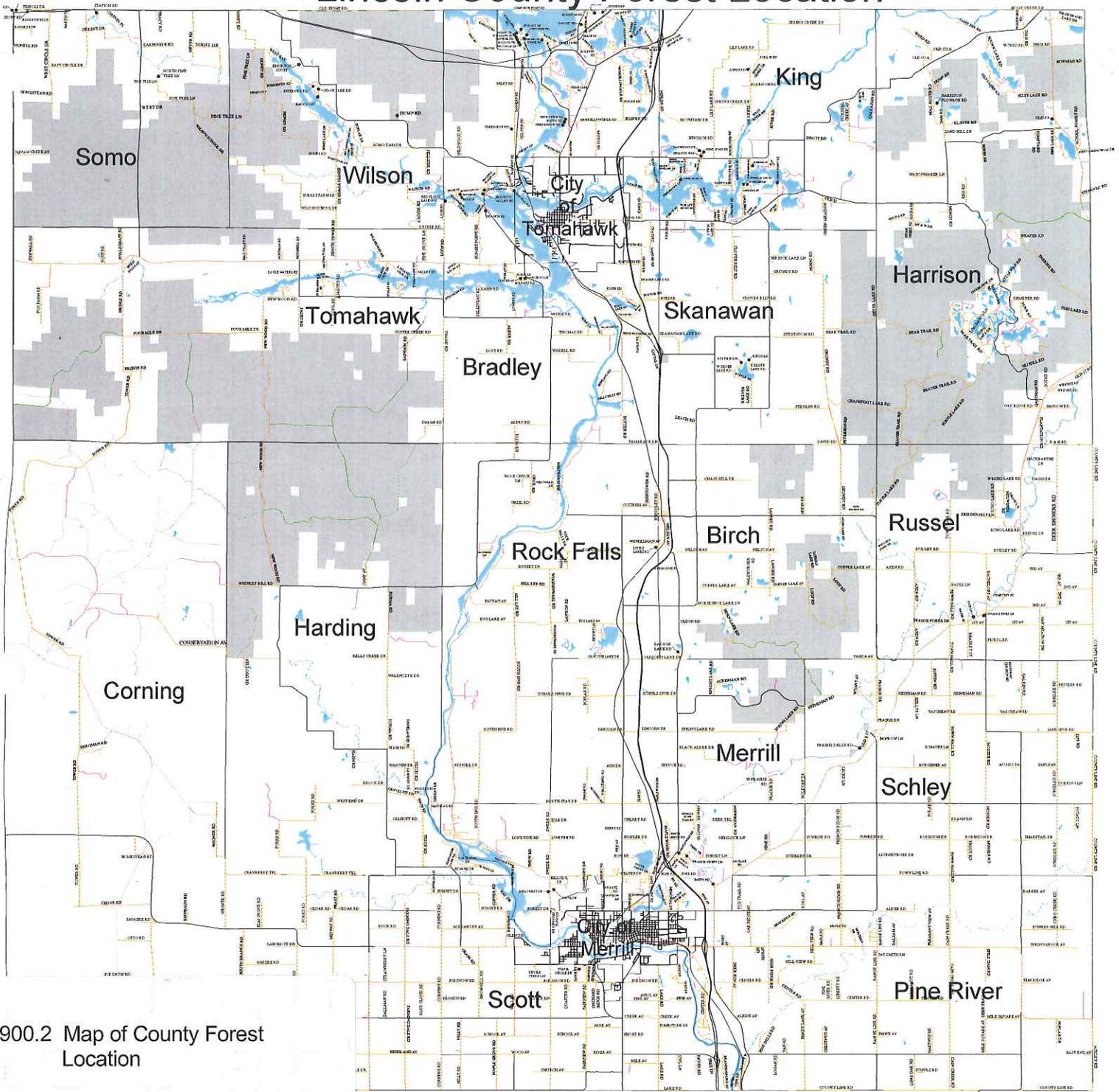


SECTIONALIZED TOWNSHIP

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

Each area outlined on this map consists of more than one kind of soil. The map is thus meant for general planning rather than a basis for decisions on the use of specific tracts.

Lincoln County Forest Location

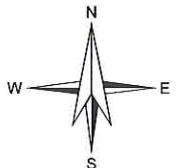


900.2 Map of County Forest Location

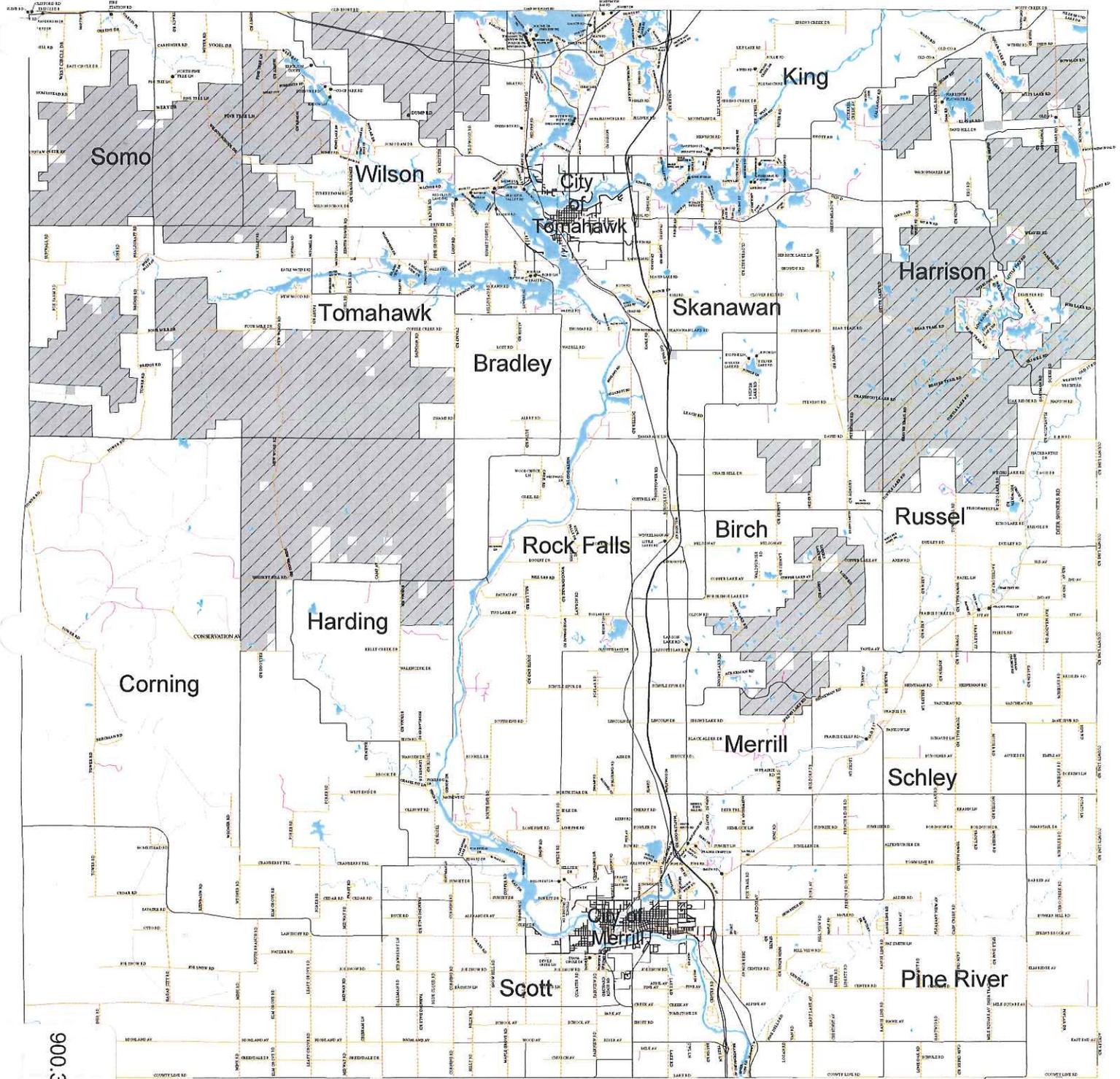
900-4

Legend

Road	Private Named	City	Townships
Types	Private Unnamed	Forest Trail NGT	County Forest
Federal	Railroad	Forest Trail GT	
State	Abandoned Railroad		
County	Recreational Trail		
Town	Snowmobile Trail		

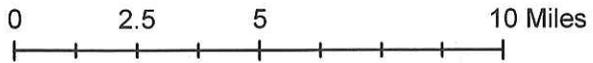


Lincoln County Forest Acquisition Boundary



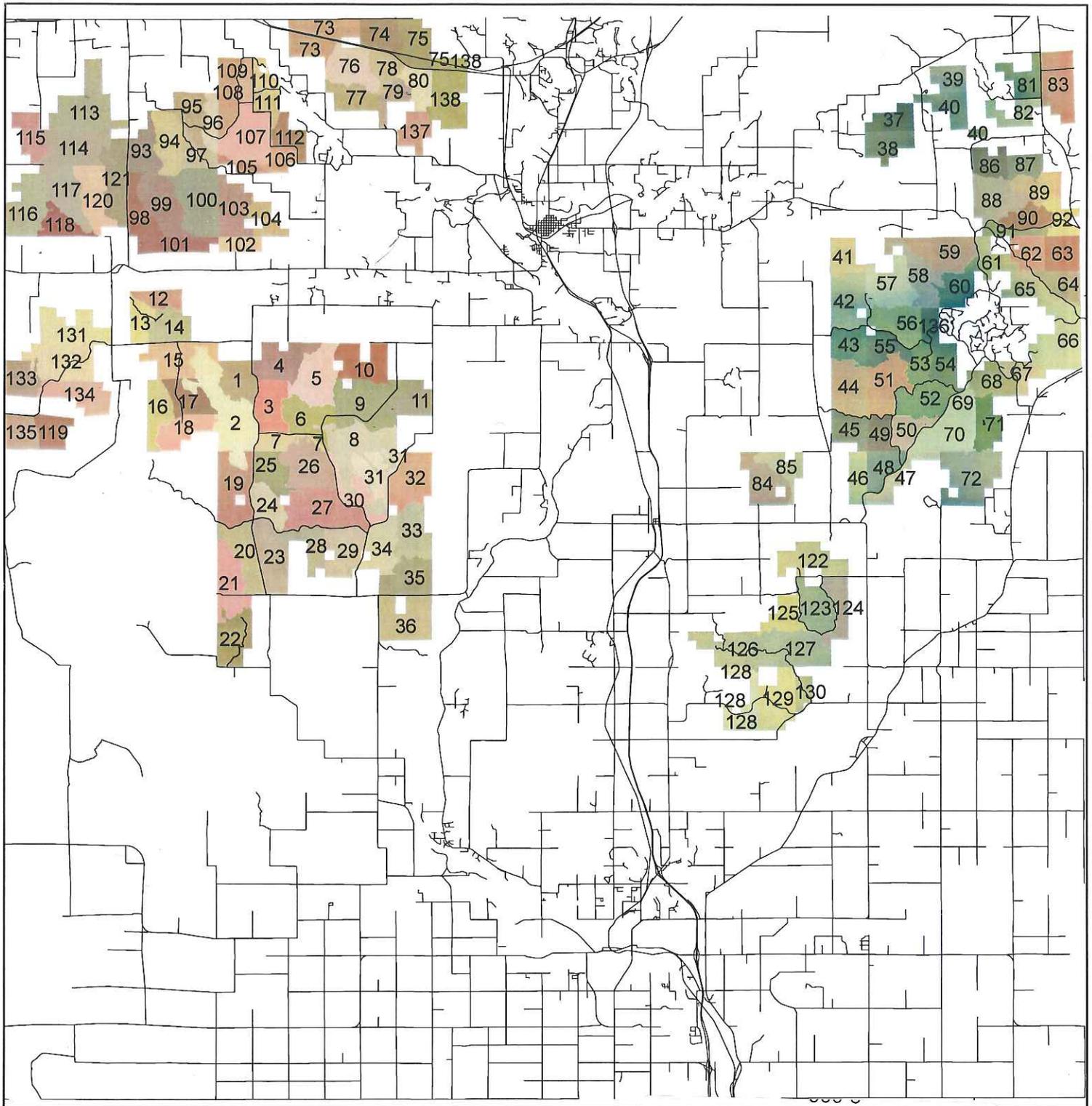
Legend

Road	Private Named	City	Lake
Types	Private Unnamed	Forest Trail NGT	Townships
Federal	Railroad	Forest Trail GT	County Forest
State	Abandoned Railroad	Recreational Trail	Acquisition Boundary
County	Snowmobile Trail		
Town			



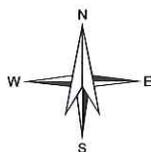
900.3 Official County Forest Acquisition Boundary Map
900-5

Map of Forest Compartments for the Lincoln County Forest



Legend

— Roads



900.4 Forest Compartment Map

0 2.5 5 10 Miles

Lincoln County Forest Cover Types

	<u>Cover Type</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Forest Cover:	Aspen	39,321
	Aspen Off Site	474
	Bottomland hardwood	215
	White Birch	1,592
	Cedar	1,068
	Fir-Spruce	1,272
	Hemlock Hardwood	358
	Red Maple	331
	Northern Hardwood	25,573
	Oak	1,893
	Jack Pine	274
	Red Pine	2,420
	White Pine	183
	Black Spruce	4,475
	Swamp Conifer	1,216
	Swamp Hardwood	1,791
	Noncommercial Forested Wetland	315
	Noncommercial Spruce	140
	Noncommercial Tamarack	31
	Tamarack	981
	Total Forest Acres	83,923
Non-Forest Cover:	True Grasses	451
	Herbaceous Vegetation	49
	Low Shrubs	74
	Developed Use	6
	Marsh	2,510
	Muskég Bog	2,416
	Lowland Grass	455
	Lowland Brush	1,310
	Alder	7,481
	Minor Lake	1,165
	Minor Stream	156
	Right of Way	309
	Upland Brush	240
	Rock Outcrops	117
	Total Non-Forest Acres	16,739
	Total Property Acres	100,662

900.5 Forest Cover Types-Detail

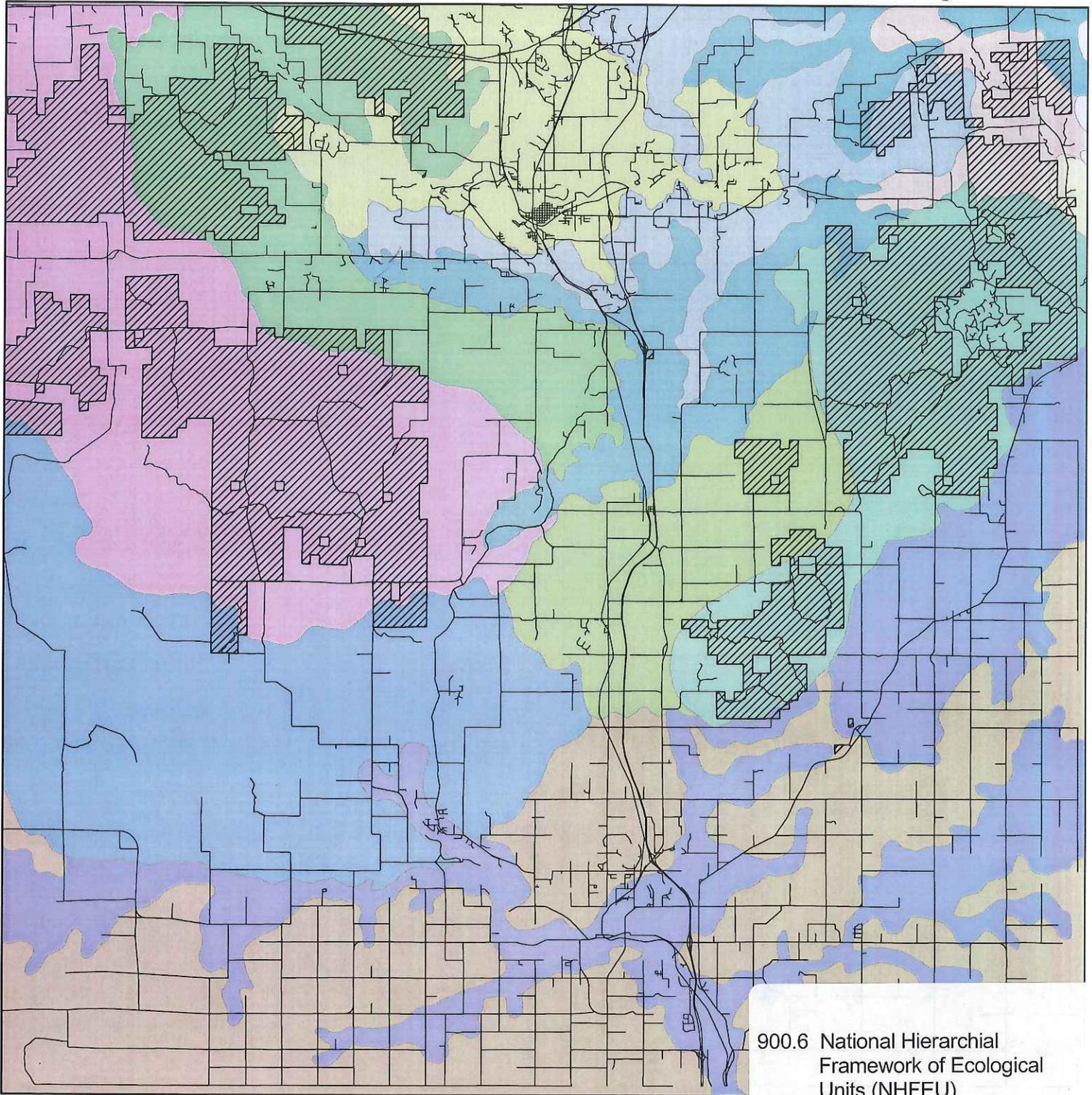
LINCOLN CO. FOREST COVER TYPES



1:189,386

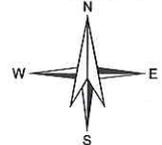
A	AX	BW	FS	GH	HH	K	KG	LBA	LMS	NH	PJ	PW	SB	SH	SXSB	T
BH	C	GG	GLS	I	KB	LB	LM	MR	O	PR	ROW	SC	SX	SXT	UB	

National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units for Lincoln County



900.6 National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (NHFEU)

900-8



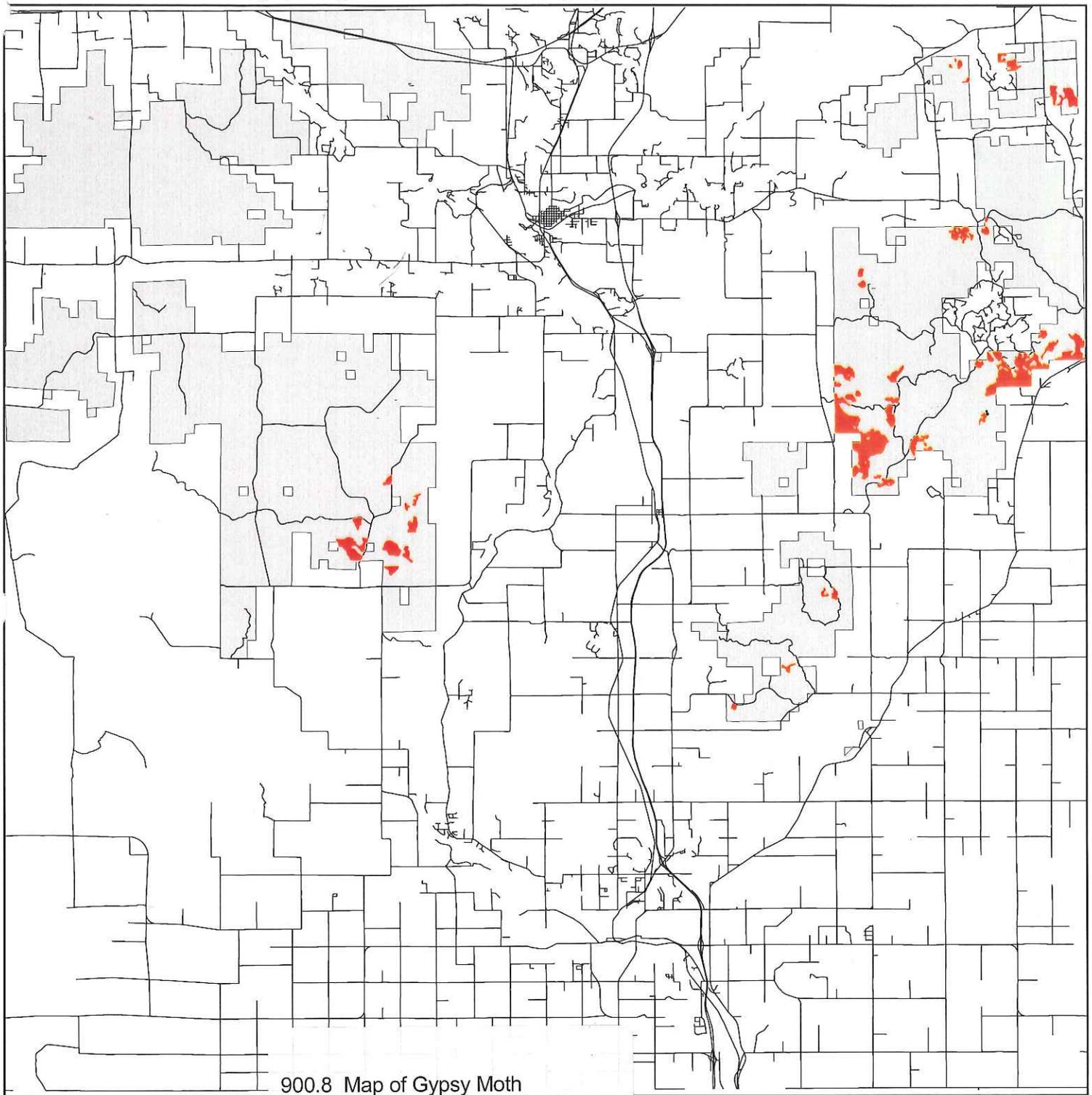
- | | |
|---|---|
|  County Forest |  212Xb07 Oneida Sandy Moraines |
|  212Qc02 Medford-Hamburg Moraines |  212Xb05 Vilas-Oneida Loamy Hills |
|  212Qc03 Merrill Outwash Plain |  212Xd05 Jump River Ground Moraine |
|  212Xa03 Chequamegon Washed Till and Outwash |  212Xe06 Elcho Moraines |
|  212Xb01 Northern Highland Outwash Plains |  212Xe09 Newood Moraines |
|  212Xb03 Vilas Oneida Outwash Plains |  212Xe10 Harrison Hills |
| |  212Xe12 Irma Moraines |

0 2 4 8 Miles

Element Occurrence Numbers within 2-mile Buffer of County Forest Lands

County Forest							
Scientific Name (Common Name)	EO Count	Lastobs Year	State Rank	Global Rank	State Status	Fed. Status	Sensi-tive
Lincoln							
<i>Special Concern Bird (Specific species name withheld)</i>	1	1997	S2B,S2N	G5	SC/M		S
<i>Arabis missouriensis</i> var. <i>deamii</i> (Deam's Rockcress)	2	1955	S2	G4G5QT3?Q	SC		
<i>Buteo lineatus</i> (Red-shouldered Hawk)	1	1997	S3S4B	G5	THR		
<i>Ceratophyllum echinatum</i> (Prickly Hornwort)	2	1951	S2	G4?	SC		
<i>Clematis occidentalis</i> (Purple Clematis)	2	1951	S3	G5	SC		
<i>State Listed Reptile (Specific species name withheld)</i>	6	2004	S3	G4	THR		S
<i>Clinostomus elongatus</i> (Redside Dace)	8	1979	S3	G4	SC/N		
<i>Dendroica cerulea</i> (Cerulean Warbler)	1	2001	S2S3B	G4	THR		
Emergent marsh (Emergent Marsh)	1	1983	S4	G4	NA		
<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i> (Blanding's Turtle)	1	1979	S3	G4	THR		
<i>Epilobium palustre</i> (Marsh Willow-herb)	1	1915	S3	G5	SC		
<i>Erebia discoidalis</i> (Red-disked Alpine)	1	1968	S2	G5	SC/N		
Floodplain forest (Floodplain Forest)	1	1983	S3	G3?	NA		
<i>Gomphurus lineatifrons</i> (Splendid Clubtail)	1	1997	S3	G4	SC/N		
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> (Bald Eagle)	18	2002	S3B	G4	SC/FL	LT, PD	
<i>Juncus marginatus</i> (Grassleaf Rush)	1	1951	S2	G5	SC		
Lake--deep, hard, drainage (Lake--Deep, Hard, Drainage)	1	1982	S3	GNR	NA		
Lake--deep, soft, seepage (Lake--Deep, Soft, Seepage)	5	2001	S3	GNR	NA		
Lake--deep, very soft, seepage (Lake--Deep, Very Soft, Seepage)	1	1982	S3	GNR	NA		
Lake--shallow, soft, seepage (Lake--Shallow, Soft, Seepage)	4	2001	S4	GNR	NA		
<i>Leucophysalis grandiflora</i> (Large-flowered Ground-cherry)	2	1915	S1	G3?	SC		
Muskeg (Muskeg)	1	2000	S4	G4G5	NA		
<i>Myriophyllum farwellii</i> (Farwell's Water-milfoil)	4	2001	S3	G5	SC		
<i>Nasiaeschna pentacantha</i> (Cyrano Darner)	1	1996	S3	G5	SC/N		
<i>Neurocordulia yamaskanensis</i> (Stygian Shadowfly)	2	1997	S3	G5	SC/N		
Northern mesic forest (Northern Mesic Forest)	4	1983	S4	G4	NA		
Northern sedge meadow (Northern Sedge Meadow)	2	1982	S3	G4	NA		
Northern wet forest (Northern Wet Forest)	8	1982	S4	G4	NA		
Open bog (Open Bog)	9	1982	S4	G5	NA		
<i>Ophioglossum pusillum</i> (Adder's-tongue)	1	1950	S2	G5	SC		
<i>Ophiogomphus carolus</i> (Riffle Snaketail)	6	1992	S3	G5	SC/N		
<i>Ophiogomphus howei</i> (Pygmy Snaketail)	1	1996	S3	G3	THR		
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i> (Osprey)	10	1997	S3S4B	G5	THR		
<i>Penstemon pallidus</i> (Pale Beardtongue)	3	1969	S1	G5	SC		
<i>Perisoreus canadensis</i> (Gray Jay)	1	1995	S3B	G5	SC/M		
<i>Platanthera hookeri</i> (Hooker Orchis)	1	1915	S2S3	G5	SC		
<i>Platanthera orbiculata</i> (Large Roundleaf Orchid)	2	1915	S3	G5?	SC		
<i>Pleurobema sintoxia</i> (Round Pigtoe)	1	1996	S3	G4	SC/H		
<i>Poecile hudsonica</i> (Boreal Chickadee)	1	1995	S3B	G5	SC/M		
<i>Potamogeton confervoides</i> (Algae-like Pondweed)	1	1952	S2	G4	THR		
<i>Potamogeton pulcher</i> (Spotted Pondweed)	1	1951	S1	G5	END		
<i>Potamogeton vaseyi</i> (Vasey's Pondweed)	2	1999	S2	G4	SC		
<i>Ribes hudsonianum</i> (Northern Black Currant)	1	1953	S3	G5	SC		
<i>Scirpus georgianus</i> (Georgia Bulrush)	1	1956	SH	G5	SC		
<i>Somatochlora franklini</i> (Delicate Emerald)	1	1996	S2S3	G5	SC/N		
<i>Sorex palustris</i> (Water Shrew)	2	1981	S2	G5	SC/N		
Stream--fast, hard, cold (Stream--Fast, Hard, Cold)	1	1976	S4	GNR	NA		
Stream--fast, hard, cold (Stream--Fast, Hard, Cold)	2	1982	S4	GNR	NA		
Stream--slow, soft, warm (Stream--Slow, Soft, Warm)	1	1983	SU	GNR	NA		
<i>Stylogomphus albistylus</i> (Least Clubtail)	1	1992	S3	G5	SC/N		
<i>Utricularia geminiscapa</i> (Hidden-fruited Bladderwort)	3	2002	S3	G4G5	SC		
<i>Utricularia purpurea</i> (Purple Bladderwort)	2	1982	S3	G5	SC		

Gypsy Moth Suppression Areas

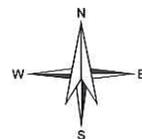


900.8 Map of Gypsy Moth
Suppression Areas

900-10

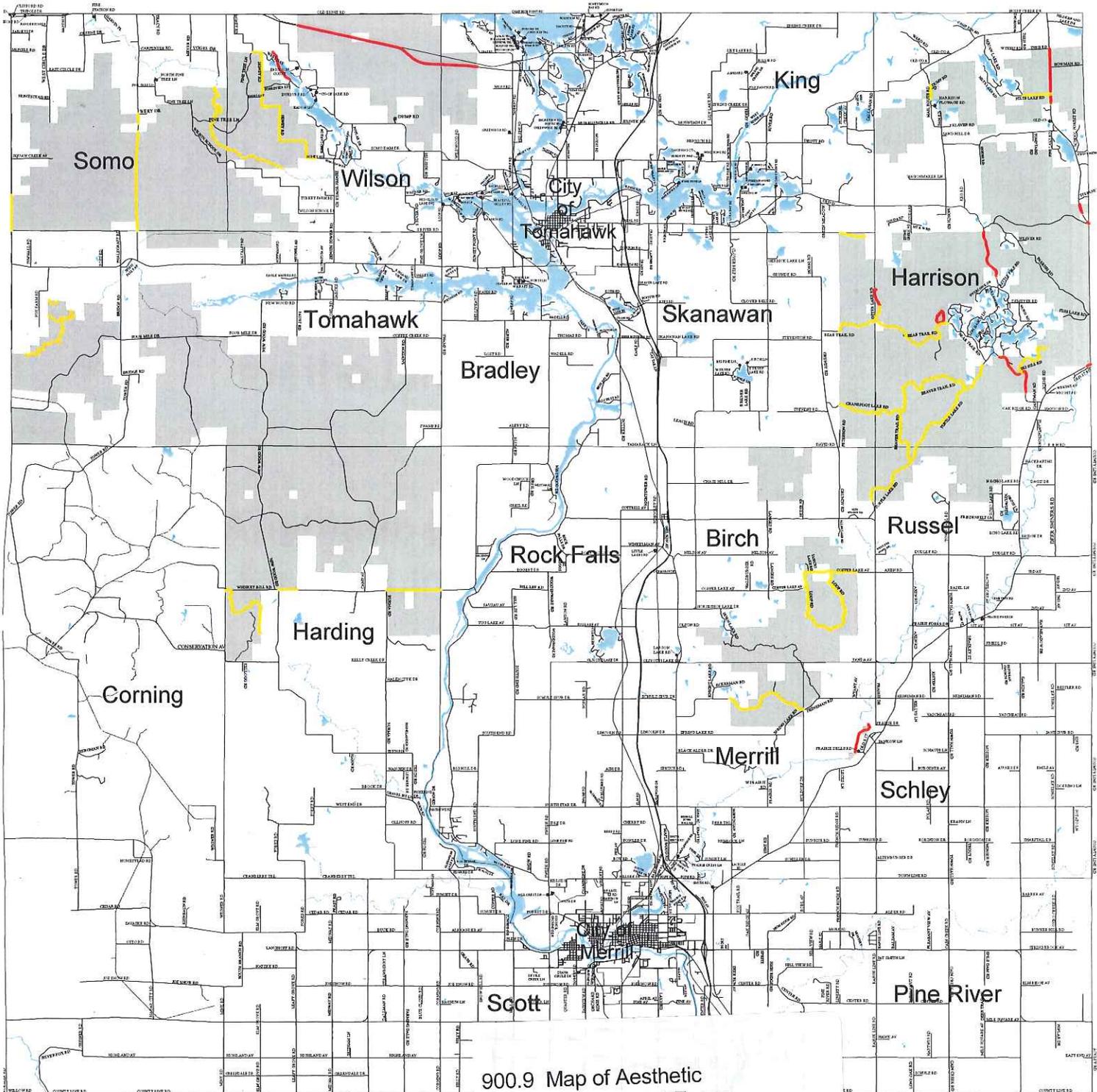
Legend

-  County Forest Boundary
-  Stands Containing High Risk Species
-  Roads



0 2.5 5 10 Miles

Aesthetic Management Zones for the Lincoln County Forest

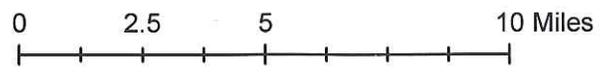
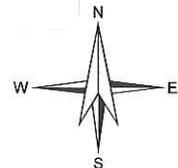


900.9 Map of Aesthetic Management Zones

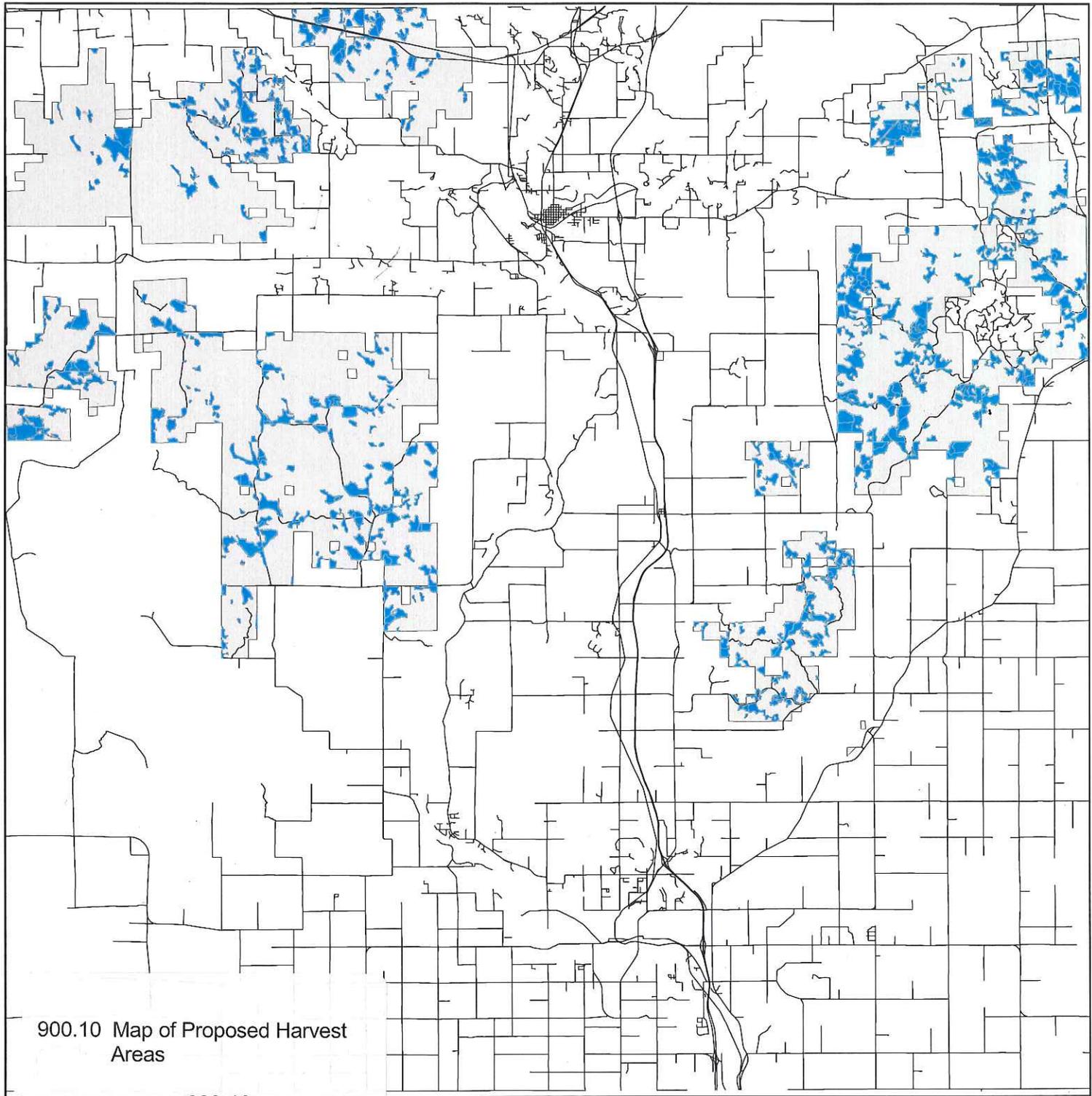
Legend

- Aesthetic Management Zone B
- Aesthetic Management Zone A
- County Forest
- Lakes and Rivers

900-11

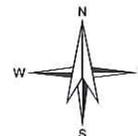


Areas Tentatively Scheduled for Harvest in the Next Ten Years on the Lincoln County Forest



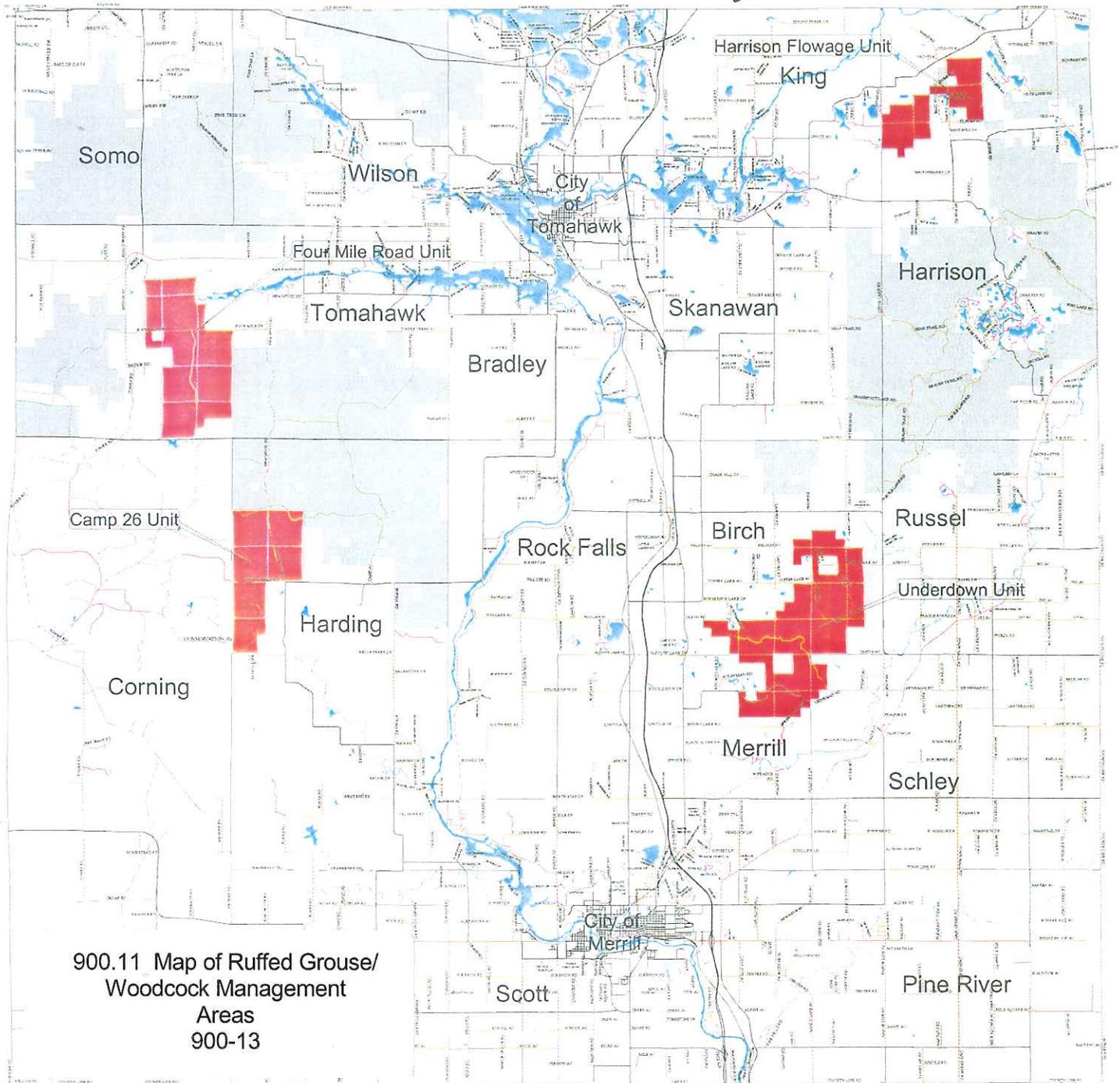
Legend

-  Stands Scheduled for harvest in the Next Ten Years
-  County Forest
-  Roads



0 2.5 5 10 Miles

Ruffed Grouse Management Units Within the Lincoln County Forest



900.11 Map of Ruffed Grouse/
Woodcock Management
Areas
900-13

Legend

Road

— Private Named

— City

□ Townships

Types

- - - Private Unnamed

- - - Forest Trail NGT

■ County Forest

— Federal

— Railroad

— Forest Trail GT

■ Ruffed Grouse Manement Areas

— State

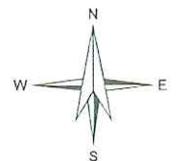
— Abandoned Railroad

— County

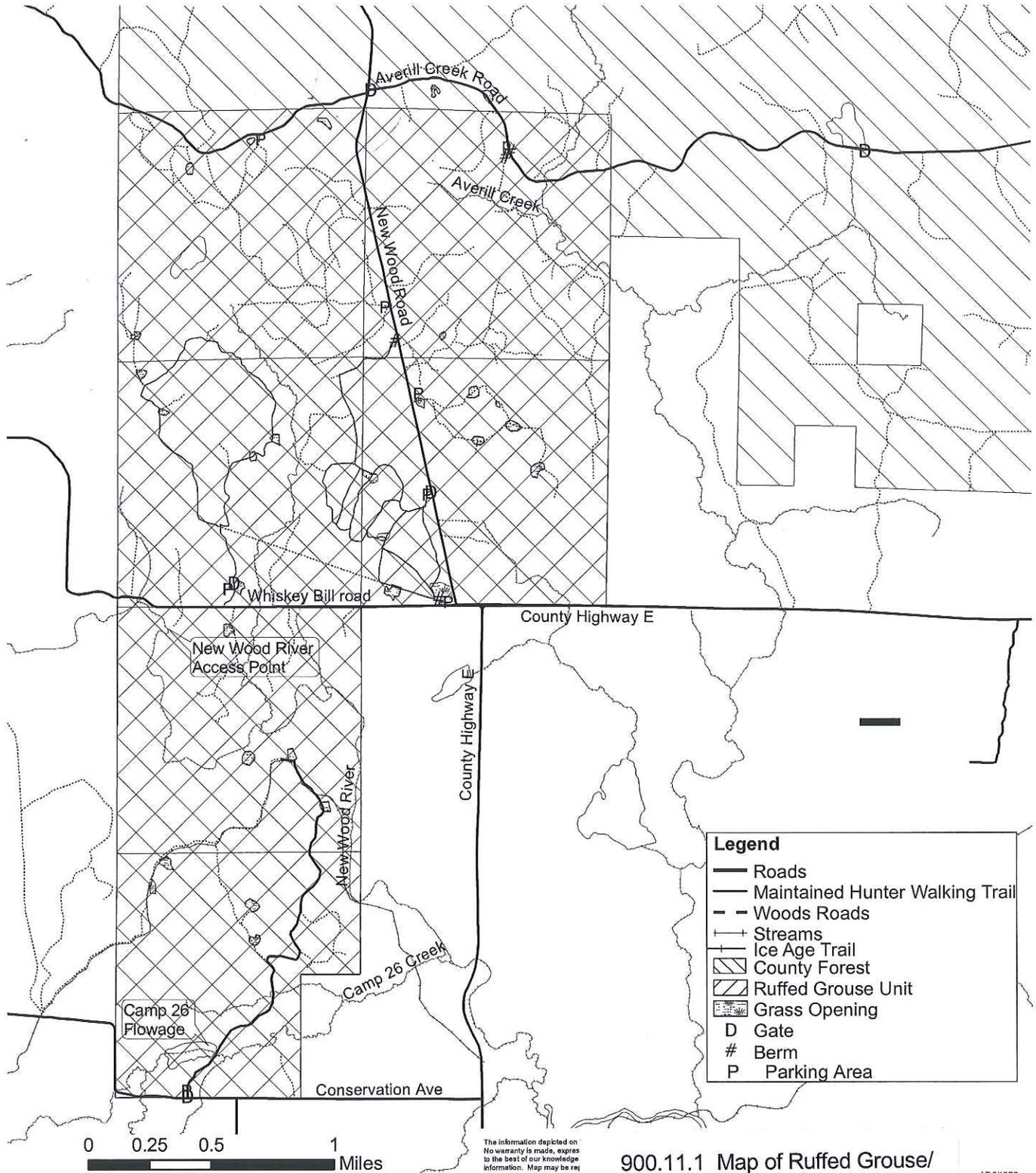
— Recreational Trail

— Town

... Snowmobile Trail

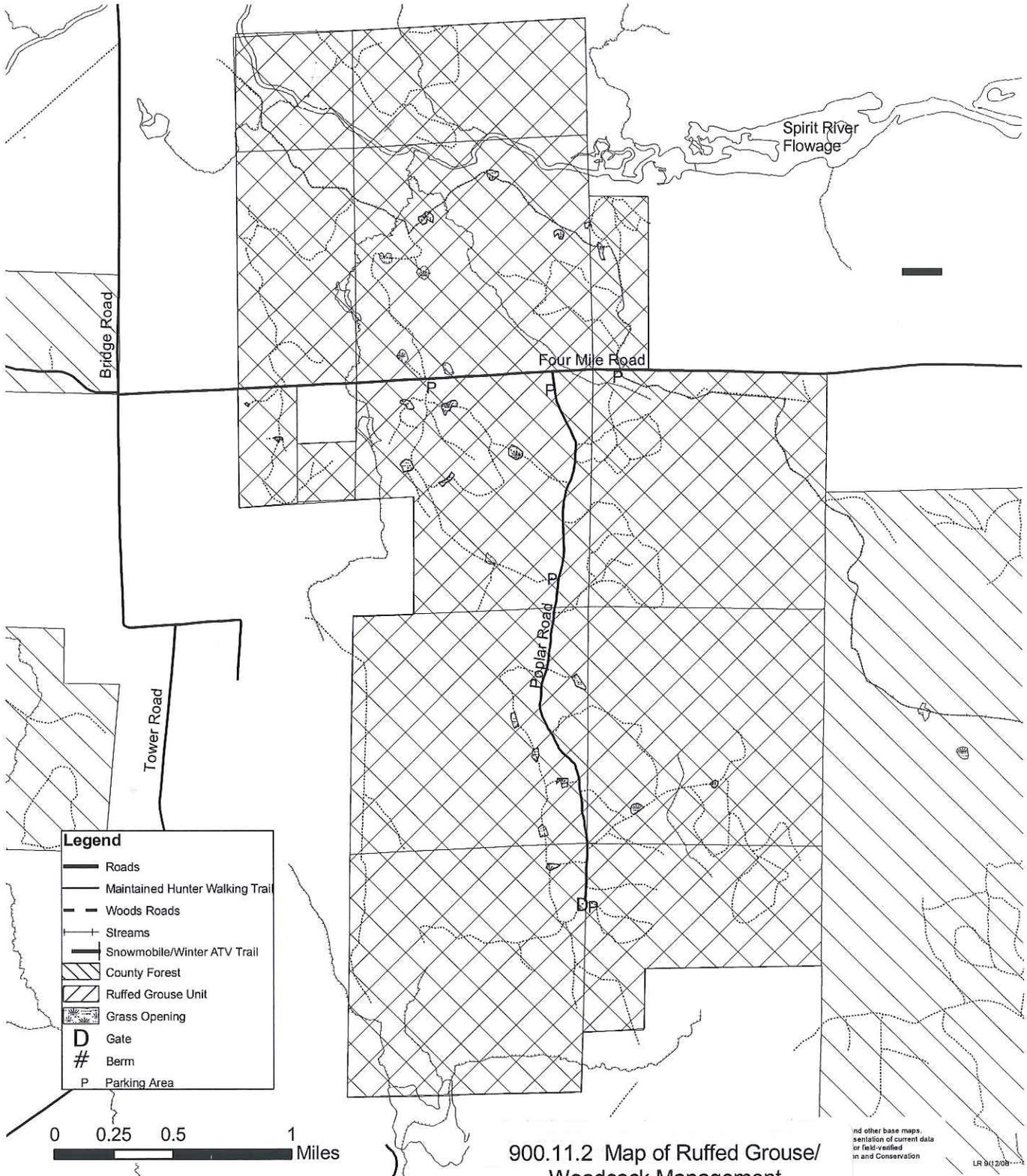


Camp 26 Ruffed Grouse Management Unit

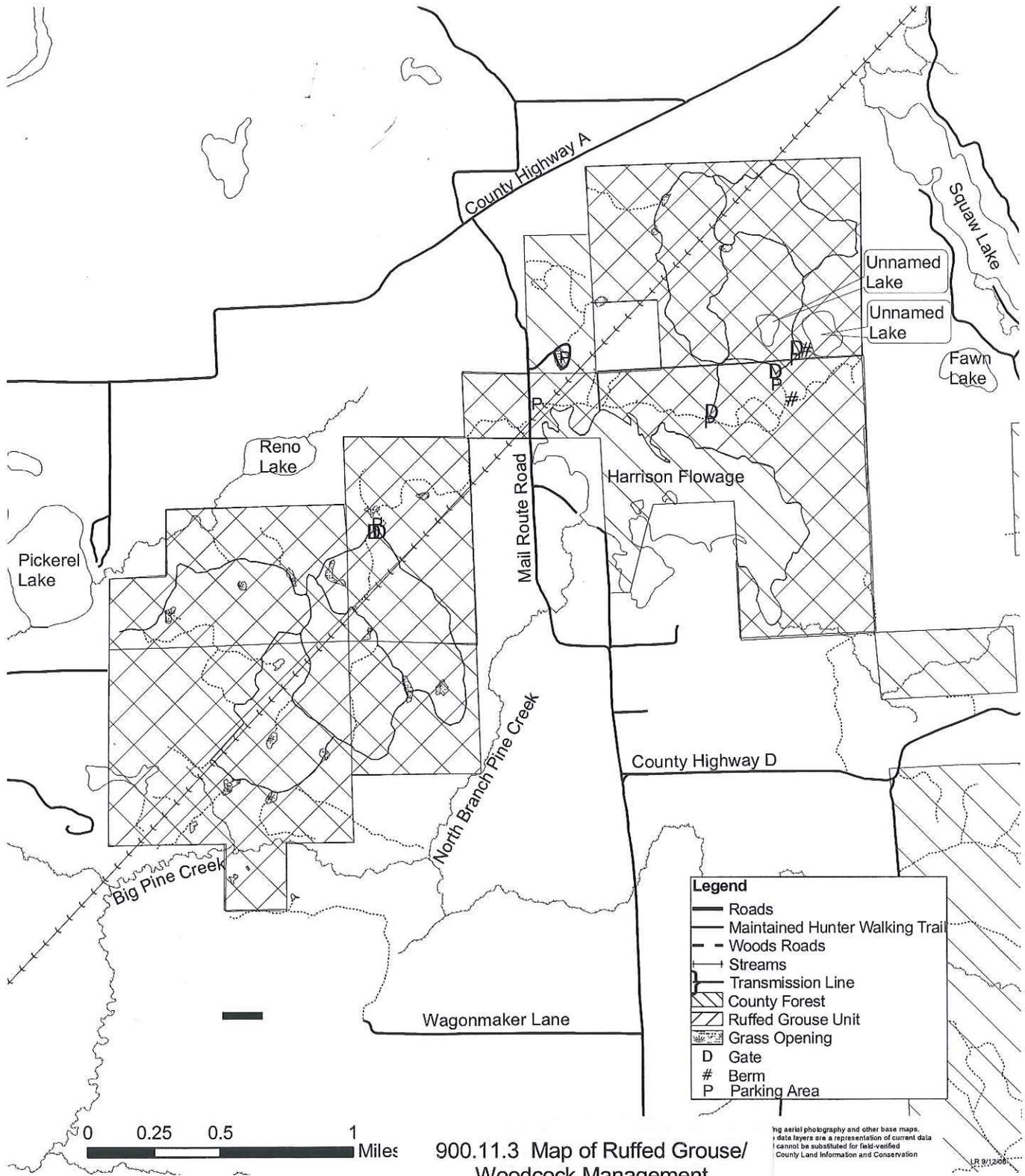


900.11.1 Map of Ruffed Grouse/
Woodcock Management
Areas
900-13

Four Mile Road Ruffed Grouse Management Unit



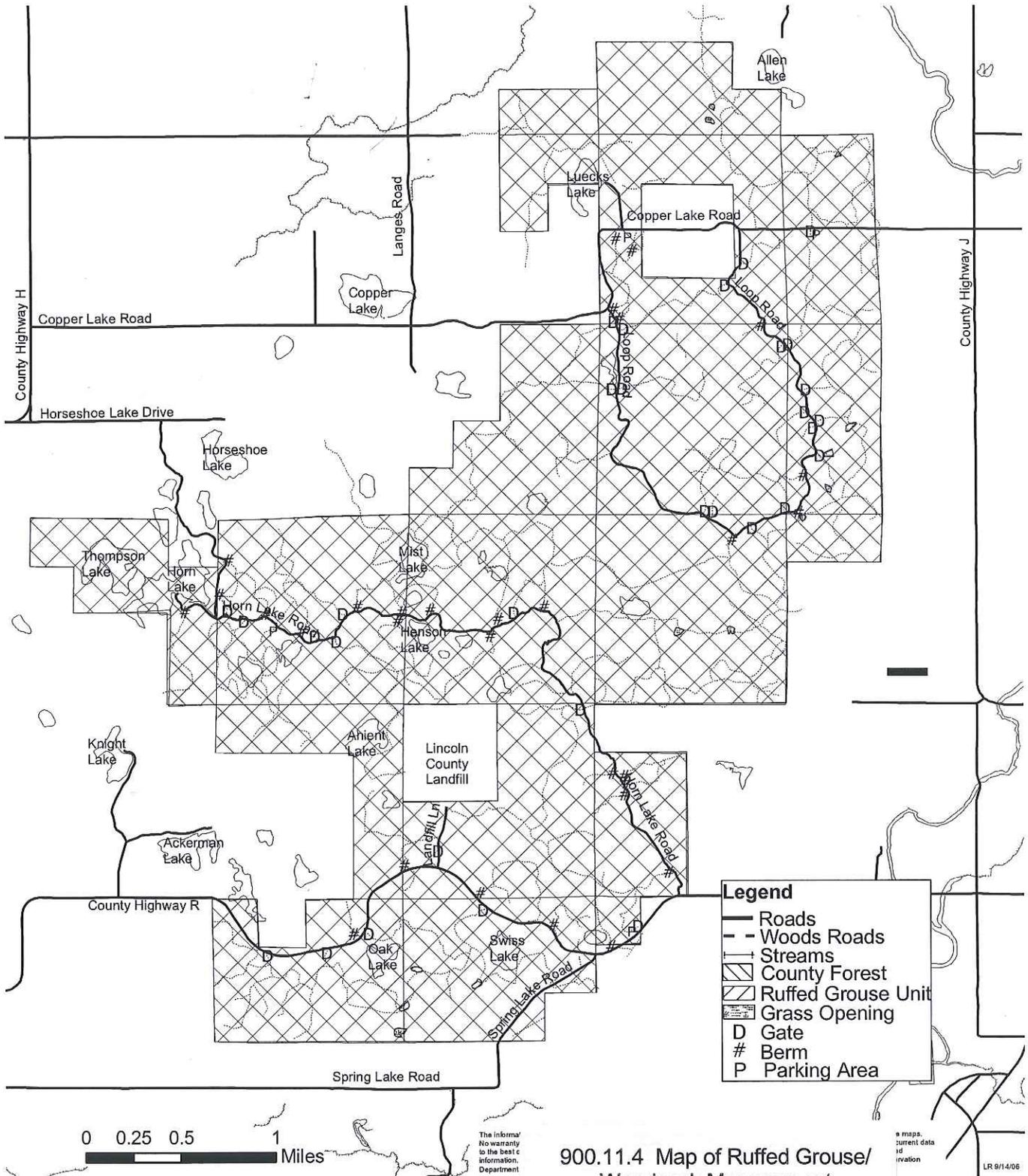
Harrison Flowage Ruffed Grouse Management Unit



900.11.3 Map of Ruffed Grouse/
Woodcock Management
Areas
900-13

Using aerial photography and other base maps, the data layers are a representation of current data and cannot be substituted for field-verified County Land Information and Conservation.

Underdown Ruffed Grouse Management Unit



900.11.4 Map of Ruffed Grouse/
Woodcock Management
Areas
900-13

905 LAWS AND ORDINANCES

905.1 COUNTY FOREST LAW (§28.11, Wis. Stats)

28.11 Administration of county forests.

(1) **Purpose.** The purpose of this section is to provide the basis for a permanent program of county forests and to enable and encourage the planned development and management of the county forests for optimum production of forest products together with recreational opportunities, wildlife, watershed protection and stabilization of stream flow, giving full recognition to the concept of multiple-use to assure maximum public benefits; to protect the public rights, interests and investments in such lands; and to compensate the counties for the public uses, benefits and privileges these lands provide; all in a manner which will provide a reasonable revenue to the towns in which such lands lie.

(2) **Defined.** "County forests" include all county lands entered under and participating under ch. 77 on October 2, 1963, and all county lands designated as county forests by the county board or the forestry committee and entered under the county forest law and designated as "county forest lands" or "county special-use lands" as hereinafter provided.

(3) **Powers of county board.** The county board of any such county may:

(a) Enact an ordinance designating a committee to have charge of the county forests and specifying the powers, duties, procedures and functions of such committee. The members of such committee shall be appointed pursuant to s. 59.13 and may include well-qualified residents of the county who are not members of the county board.

(b) Establish regulations for the use of the county forests by the public and to provide penalties for their enforcement.

(c) Appropriate funds for the purchase, development, protection and maintenance of such forests and to exchange other county-owned lands for the purpose of consolidating and blocking county forest holdings.

(d) Enter into cooperative agreements with the department for protection of county forests from fire.

(e) Establish aesthetic management zones along roads and waters and enter into long-term cooperative leases and agreements with the department and other state agencies or federal agencies for the use of the county forests for natural resources research.

(f) Establish transplant nurseries for growing seedlings, from the state forest nurseries, to larger size for planting in county forests, but no ornamental or landscape stock shall be produced in such nurseries.

(g) Establish forest plantations and engage in silviculture, forest management and timber sales.

(h) Engage in other projects designed to achieve optimum development of the forest.

(i) Enter into leases or agreements, for terms not exceeding 10 years, to explore and prospect for ore, minerals, gas or oil upon any county forest lands. These leases or agreements shall contain proper covenants to safeguard the public interests in the lands involved and to guard against trespass and waste. The county board shall require proper security to ensure that the person engaged in exploration or prospecting fully informs the county of every discovery of ore, minerals, gas or oil and restores the land surface to an acceptable condition and value if no discovery of valuable deposit is made or if county forest lands are not withdrawn from entry under this section. Before a lease or agreement under this paragraph is effective, approval of the lease or agreement by the department is required. If the department finds that the proposed lease or agreement fully complies with the law and contains the proper safeguards, it shall approve the lease or agreement.

(j) Enter into leases for the extraction of valuable deposits of ore, minerals, gas or oil upon any county forest land. If the extraction can be accomplished without permanently affecting the surface of the land, extraction leases may be

entered into and extraction may occur while the land remains county forest lands. If the extraction cannot be accomplished without permanently affecting the surface of the land, extraction may not commence until the land is withdrawn as county forest land. Before an extraction lease under this paragraph is effective, approval of the lease by the department is required.

(k) Establish energy conservation projects which permit individual members of the public to remove up to 10 standard cords of wood without charge from county forest lands for individual home heating purposes. The county board shall limit removal of wood for energy conservation projects to wood that is unsuitable for commercial sale. The county board may require a permit to remove wood for energy conservation projects and may charge a fee for the permit to administer projects established under this paragraph. A county board shall restrict participation in projects established under this paragraph to residents, as defined under s. 29.001 (69), but may not restrict participation to residents of the county.

(4) Entry of county forest lands.

(a) A county may file with the department an application for entry of county-owned land under this section. Such application shall include the description of the land and a statement of the purposes for which the lands are best suited. Upon the filing of such application the department shall investigate the same and it may conduct a public hearing thereon if it deems it advisable to do so at such time and place as it sees fit.

(b) If after such investigation the department finds that the lands constitute a well blocked county forest unit or that they block in with other established county forest lands and are otherwise suitable for the purposes of this section it shall make an order of entry designating such lands as county forest lands. All county lands entered under and participating under ch. 77 on October 2, 1963 shall be designated "county forest lands" without further order of entry.

(c) If the department finds that the lands are not suited primarily for timber production and do not otherwise qualify for entry under par. (b) but that they are suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting and fishing, water conservation and other multiple-use purposes it shall make an order of entry designating such lands as "county special-use lands".

(d) A copy of the order of entry shall be filed with the county clerk and the county forestry committee, and the order shall also be recorded with the register of deeds.

(e) From and after the filing of such order of entry, the lands therein described shall be "county forest lands" or "county special-use lands", as the case may be, and shall so remain until withdrawn as hereinafter provided.

(f) The department may construct and use forest fire lookout towers, telephone lines and fire lanes or other forest protection structures on any lands entered under this section and the county clerk of such county shall execute any easement on or over such lands which the department may require for forest protection. The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority.

(5) Management

(a) On or before December 31, 2005, a comprehensive county forest land use plan shall be prepared for a 15-year period by the county forestry committee with the assistance of technical personnel from the department and other interested agencies, and shall be approved by the county board and the department. The plan shall include land use designations, land acquisition, forest protection, annual allowable timber harvests, recreational developments, fish and wildlife management activities, roads, silvicultural operations and operating policies and procedures; it shall include a complete inventory of the county forest and shall be documented with maps, records and priorities showing in detail the various projects to be undertaken during the plan period. The plan may include an application for aids under s. 23.09 (17m). The application will be considered an annual application for these aids during the 15-year period of the plan. The initial plan may be revised as changing conditions require. Upon the expiration of the initial 15-year plan period, and upon expiration of each subsequent 15-year plan period, the plan shall be revised and shall be in effect for another 15-year period. If a plan under this paragraph is not revised upon expiration of the 15-year plan period, or if a plan under s. 28.11 (5) (a), 2003 stats., is not revised on or before December 31, 2005, that

plan shall remain in effect until such time as that plan is revised and the revised plan takes effect.

(b) An annual work plan and budget based upon the comprehensive plan shall be prepared by the county forestry committee with the assistance of a forester of the department. The plan shall include a schedule of compartments to be harvested and a listing by location of management projects for the forthcoming year. In addition the plan shall include other multiple-use projects where appropriate. A budget, listing estimated expenditures for work projects, administration and protection of the forest, shall accompany the annual plan both to be submitted to the county board for approval at the November meeting.

(5m) Grants for county forest administrators.

(a) The department may make grants, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bw), to counties having lands entered under sub. (4) to fund all of the following for one professional forester in the position of county forest administrator or assistant county forest administrator:

1. Up to 50% of the forester's salary.

2. Up to 50% of the forester's fringe benefits, except that the fringe benefits may not exceed 40% of the forester's salary.

(b) The department may not make a grant under this subsection for a year for which the department has not approved the annual work plan that was approved by the county board under sub. (5) (b). The department may not base the amount of a county's grant on the acreage of the county's forest land.

(c) 28.11(5m)(c) - The department may choose not to make a grant to a county under this subsection if the county board for that county is more than one year delinquent in approving a comprehensive county forest land use plan or revised plan under sub. (5) (a).

(5r) Sustainable forestry grants.

(a) In this subsection, "sustainable forestry" has the meaning given in s. 28.04 (1) (e).

(b) The department may make grants, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bw), to counties having lands entered under sub. (4) to fund the cost of activities designed to improve sustainable forestry on the lands.

(c) 28.11(5r)(c) - The department may choose not to make a grant to a county under this subsection if the county board for that county is more than one year delinquent in approving a comprehensive county forest land use plan or revised plan under sub. (5) (a).

(6) Timber sales and cultural cuttings.

(a) *Limitations.* The county forestry committee is authorized to sell merchantable timber designated in timber sale contracts and products removed in cultural or salvage cuttings. No timber sale contract is required for wood removed under sub. (3) (k). All timber sales shall be based on tree scale or on the scale, measure or count of the cut products; the Scribner Decimal C log rule shall be used in log scaling. All cuttings shall be limited to trees marked or designated for cutting by qualified personnel recognized as such by the department.

(b) *Procedures.*

1. Any timber sale with an estimated value of \$3,000 or more shall be by sealed bid or public sale after publication of a classified advertisement announcing the sale in a newspaper having general circulation in the county in which the timber to be sold is located. Any timber sale with an estimated value below \$3,000 may be made without prior advertising. Any timber sale with an estimated value of \$3,000 or more requires approval of the secretary.

2. Timber sales shall be subject to presale appraisals by qualified personnel recognized as such by the department to establish minimum sales value. Appraisal methods and procedures shall be approved by the department.

3. No merchantable wood products may be cut on any lands entered under this section unless a cutting notice on forms furnished by the department is filed with and approved by the department. Any unauthorized cutting shall render the county liable to the state in an amount equal to double the stumpage value of the cut products which amount shall be paid by the county to the state. If the county does not pay the amount of such penalty to the state, the department may withhold such amount from future state contributions to the county.

4. Within 90 days after completion of any cutting operation, including timber trespass, but not more than 2 years after filing the cutting notice, the county shall transmit to the department on forms furnished by the department, a report of merchantable wood products cut. The department may conduct any investigations on timber cutting operations that it considers to be advisable, including the holding of public hearings on the timber cutting operations, and may assess severance share payments accordingly.

(7) County forest credit. The department shall set up an account for each county showing the lands entered; the sums previously paid under s. 28.14, 1961 stats.; the sums hereafter paid under this section; the sums previously received in the form of four-fifths severance tax collected pursuant to s. 77.06 (5), 1961 stats.; the sums received as forestry fund severance share under this section; and the sums previously reimbursed to the state on withdrawn lands pursuant to s. 28.12 (4), 1961 stats. Whenever the forestry fund account of any county shows an overpayment of such severance tax or severance share as of June 30 of any year, the department shall return such overpayment to the county. All severance taxes previously paid by any county and deposited in the general fund shall be credited to the forestry fund account of the county. If such credit exceeds the balance due to the forestry fund account from such county, the overpayment shall be credited to the county and applied in lieu of future severance shares due to the state until the county account is balanced.

(8) State contribution.

(a) *Acreage payments.* As soon after April 20 of each year as feasible, the department shall pay to each town treasurer 30 cents per acre, based on the acreage of such lands as of the preceding June 30, as a grant out of the appropriation made by s. 20.370 (5) (bv) on each acre of county lands entered under this section.

(b) *Forestry fund account.*

1. A county having established and maintaining a county forest under this section is eligible to receive from the state from the appropriations under s. 20.370 (5) (bq) and (bs) an annual payment as a noninterest bearing loan to be used for the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the county forest lands and the payment shall be credited to a county account to be known as the county forestry aid fund. A county board may, by a resolution adopted during the year and transmitted to the department by December 31, request to receive a payment of not more than 50 cents for each acre of land entered and designated as "county forest land". The department shall review the request and approve the request if the request is found to be consistent with the comprehensive county forest land use plan. If any lands purchased from the fund are sold, the county shall restore the purchase price to the county forestry aid fund. The department shall pay to the county the amount due to it on or before March 31 of each year, based on the acreage of the lands as of the preceding June 30. If the amounts in the appropriations under s. 20.370 (5) (bq) and (bs) are not sufficient to pay all of the amounts approved by the department under this subdivision, the department shall pay eligible counties on a prorated basis.

2. The department may allot additional interest free forestry aid loans on a project basis to individual counties to permit the counties to undertake meritorious and economically productive forestry operations, including land acquisitions. These additional aids may not be used for the construction of recreational facilities or for fish and game management projects. Application shall be made in the manner and on forms prescribed by the department and specify the purpose for which the additional aids will be used. The department shall make an investigation as it deems necessary to satisfy itself that the project is feasible, desirable and consistent with the comprehensive plan. If the department so finds, it may make allotments in such amounts as it determines to be reasonable and proper and charge the allotments to the forestry fund account of the county. These allotments shall be credited by the county to the county forestry aid fund. After determining the loans as required under subd. 1., the department shall make the remainder of the amounts appropriated under s. 20.370 (5) (bq) and (bs) for that fiscal year available for loans under this subdivision. The department shall also make loans under this subdivision from the appropriations under s. 20.370 (5) (bt) and (bu).

3. All payments made under this paragraph shall be known as the "forestry fund account".

(9) County forest severance share.

(a) Except as provided under pars. (b) and (c), on timber cut from lands entered as "county forest lands" the county shall pay a severance share of not less than 20% of the actual stumpage sales value of the timber. A higher rate of payment may be applied when agreed upon by the department and the county. When cutting is done by the county and timber is not sold or is sold as cut forest products the severance share shall be 20% of the severance tax schedule in effect under s. 77.06 (2).

(ag) The severance share paid by a county to the state shall be credited to the forestry fund account of the county and shall be divided into 2 payments as follows:

1. An acreage loan severance share payment that is equal to the product of multiplying the amount of the severance share paid by the county by the percentage of the balance due in the forestry fund account of the county that is attributable to loans made under sub. (8) (b) 1.

2. A project loan severance share payment that is equal to the product of multiplying the amount of the severance share paid by the county by the percentage of the balance due that is attributable to loans made under sub. (8) (b) 2.

(am) The acreage loan severance share payments shall be deposited in the conservation fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bq), and the project loan severance share payments shall be deposited in the conservation fund and credited to the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bu).

(ar) Notwithstanding s. 20.001 (3) (c), if the sum of the unencumbered balances in the appropriations under s. 20.370 (5) (bq), (bt) and (bu) exceeds \$400,000 on June 30 of any fiscal year, the amount in excess of \$400,000 shall lapse from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bq) to the conservation fund, except as provided in subd. 2.

2. Notwithstanding s. 20.001 (3) (c), if the amount in the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bq) is insufficient for the amount that must lapse under subd. 1., the remainder that is necessary for the lapse shall lapse from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bu).

(b) No severance share payment is required if there is no balance due in the forestry fund account of the county. A severance share payment shall not exceed the balance due in the forestry fund account of the county.

(c) No severance share payment is required for wood removed from county forest lands for energy conservation projects established under sub. (3) (k).

(d) Of the gross receipts from all timber sales on the county forests 10% shall be paid annually by the county to the towns having county forest lands on the basis of acreage of such lands in the towns.

(11) Withdrawals.

(a) 1. The county board may by resolution adopted by not less than two-thirds of its membership make application to the department to withdraw lands entered under this section. The county board shall first refer the resolution to the county forestry committee, which shall consult with an authorized representative of the department in formulating its withdrawal proposal. The county board shall not take final action on the application until 90 days after referral of the application to the forestry committee or until the report of the forestry committee regarding the application has been filed with the board. The application shall include the land description, a statement of the reasons for withdrawal, and any restrictions or other conditions of use attached to the land proposed for withdrawal.

2. Upon the filing of an application to withdraw lands under subd. 1., the department shall investigate the application. During the course of its investigation the department shall make an examination of the character of the land, the volume of timber, improvements, and any other special values. In the case of withdrawal for the purpose of sale to any purchaser other than the state or a local unit of government, the department shall establish a minimum value on the lands to be withdrawn. In making its investigation the department shall give full weight and consideration to the purposes and principles set forth in sub. (1), and it shall also weigh and consider the benefits to

the people of the state as a whole, as well as to the county, from the proposed use against the benefits accruing to the people of the state as a whole and to the county under the continued entry of the lands to be withdrawn. The department may conduct a public hearing on the application, if it considers it advisable, at a time and place that it determines, except that if the county requests a public hearing in writing, the department shall hold a public hearing.

3. If the department finds that the benefits after withdrawal of the lands described in the application under subd. 2. outweigh the benefits under continued entry of the lands and that the lands will be put to a better and higher use, it shall make an order withdrawing the lands from entry; otherwise it shall deny the application.

4. If the application is denied, the county board may, by resolution adopted by not less than two-thirds of its membership, appeal to a review committee. The department shall submit the findings of its investigation and of any hearing on a proposed withdrawal to the committee, which shall be composed of the following members:

- a. One member appointed by the county board submitting the application for withdrawal.
- b. One member who is appointed by the governor, who is from another county that has land enrolled under the county forest law, and who shall be chairperson of the review committee.
- c. One member appointed by the department.
- d. One member appointed by the University of Wisconsin from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.
- e. One member to be selected by unanimous vote of the appointed members or, if the appointed members fail to achieve unanimity, by the governor.

5. The review committee appointed under subd. 4. shall, by majority vote within 60 days after receiving the findings of the department, do one of the following:

- a. Approve the application for withdrawal if it finds the proposed use to be of a greater benefit considering all losses and benefits to the people of the state as a whole, as well as to the people of the county.
- b. Provisionally deny the application for withdrawal giving specific reasons why it finds the proposal deficient and making any suggestions for revising the application to reduce the conflict of the proposed use with the public interest.

6. If the committee approves a withdrawal under subd. 5., it shall notify the county board of its approval stating, as necessary, specific procedures to be followed by the county relating to the withdrawal. The county board may then by a resolution approved by not less than two-thirds of its membership, withdraw the lands from the county forest law and shall send copies of this resolution to the department and to the county register of deeds who shall record the resolution.

7. If the committee provisionally denies the proposed withdrawal under subd. 5., it may consider an amended application for withdrawal upon presentation of the application and supporting information, or it may require additional investigation of the amended application by the department before reconsidering the application. Any additional investigation shall include additional public hearings if requested by the county, the department, or the committee.

(b) If the application is approved the county shall reimburse the state the amounts previously paid to the county pursuant to sub. (8) (b) which reimbursement shall be credited to the county forestry fund account; except that the department may waive all or part of such reimbursement if it finds that the lands are withdrawn for a higher public use or that the amount of such reimbursement is unreasonable when compared to the value of the land. If the department has waived any portion of such reimbursement and if at any subsequent time the land ceases to be used for the purpose designated in the application for withdrawal, the full amount of reimbursement due the forestry fund account on the lands withdrawn shall immediately become due and payable to the department and shall be credited to the forestry fund account, unless the department finds and determines that the lands will continue to be put to another higher public use in which case payments of such reimbursement may be deferred by the department so long as the lands are devoted to a higher public use. If payment is not made prior to the time of the next forestry aid payment to the county, forestry aid payments in an amount to be determined by the department shall be withheld until the amount due the forestry fund account is reimbursed.

(12) Enforcement. If at any time it appears to the department that the lands are not being managed in accordance with this section it shall so advise the county forestry committee and the county clerk. If the condition persists the department may proceed against the persons responsible for such noncompliance under s. 30.03 (4).

COUNTY FOREST LAW

(13) Review. All orders of the department made under this section may be reviewed under ss. 227.52 to 227.58.

History: 1971 c. 215; 1975 c. 39 s. 734; 1975 c. 342; 1977 c. 29; 1979 c. 34 ss. 723 to 725, 2102 (39) (a); 1983 a. 27; 1983 a. 192 s. 304; 1983 a. 424 ss. 2 to 5; 1985 a. 29 ss. 655ce to 655cg, 3202 (39); 1985 a. 182 s. 57; 1987 a. 27; 1989 a. 31, 79; 1993 a. 16, 184, 301; 1995 a. 27, 201; 1997 a. 237, 248; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16, 103.

Cross Reference: See also ch. NR 48 and ss. NR 1.24, 47.60, and 302.03, Wis. adm. code.

A county forest withdrawal appeal review committee under sub. (11) (a) is not state agency whose decisions are reviewable under ch. 227. Allen v. Juneau County, 98 Wis. 2d 103, 295 N.W.2d 218 (Ct. App. 1980).

County boards cannot sell or exchange county forest lands without first withdrawing them from the county forest program under sub. (11). 66 Atty. Gen. 109.

910 TIMBER SALE HISTORY

910.1 ANNUAL GROSS TIMBER SALE RECEIPTS

LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST

1965-\$ 27,208.61	1979-\$ 137,416.30	1993-\$ 341,290.09
1966-\$ 31,566.35	1980-\$ 208,737.05	1994-\$ 420,827.44
1967-\$ 37,090.62	1981-\$ 246,592.36	1995-\$ 568,158.05
1968-\$ 34,010.27	1982-\$ 262,901.96	1996-\$ 693,378.82
1969-\$ 33,604.57	1983-\$ 257,283.06	1997-\$ 833,757.68
1970-\$ 43,206.40	1984-\$ 255,906.66	1998-\$ 636,711.90
1971-\$ 29,550.02	1985-\$ 256,362.59	1999-\$ 918,324.31
1972-\$ 35,556.99	1986-\$ 232,682.41	2000-\$1,193,249.92
1973-\$ 56,220.84	1987-\$ 268,758.75	2001-\$ 914,778.57
1974-\$ 92,616.60	1988-\$ 265,785.90	2002-\$1,228,723.76
1975-\$ 97,265.85	1989-\$ 256,480.21	2003-\$1,059,741.00
1976-\$ 125,003.91	1990-\$ 210,147.23	2004-\$1,270,586.91
1977-\$ 102,132.06	1991-\$ 277,416.91	
1978-\$ 88,361.07	1992-\$ 274,197.67	

Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department
Lincoln County Service Center
801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106
Merrill, WI 54452

Phone (715) 539-1034

Fax (715) 539-8091

Contract No.: _____
Effective Date: _____
Expiration Date: _____
Security: _____
(Bond or ILOC, Expiration and Amount)

TIMBER SALE CONTRACT

This Contract is made by and between the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee of the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors, Lincoln County, Wisconsin hereinafter called the "Seller", and _____ of _____, hereinafter called the "Purchaser". For purposes of implementing this Contract, the "County Representative" shall be the Forestry, Land and Parks Department Administrator or his/her designee.

The Seller hereby authorizes the Purchaser to cut and remove all wood products designated by the Seller on the land described on the Contract map(s) or diagrams (including specifications) attached hereto and made a part thereof.

The Seller and the Purchaser mutually agree that this Contract is subject to the following conditions:

1. CONTRACT PERIODS, EXTENSIONS, VIOLATIONS AND TERMINATIONS

- a. **COMMENCEMENT.** Cutting and removal of timber in conformance with this Contract may commence and continue only after the signing of this Contract by both parties and only after submission and maintenance of all bonds, certificates or statements required under this Contract. The Contract will be considered void (or terminated) if the Purchaser does not provide all requested documentation within 30 days of awarding the Contract and the Seller may retain all securities deposited.
- b. All work under this Contract shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Seller between the signing of the Contract by both Parties and expiration date as listed above, for time is of the essence. Contract amendments or extensions may not be relied upon by the Purchaser for the purpose of completing performance under this Contract, however, limited extensions deemed necessary may be granted at the sole discretion of the Seller. All stumpage rates will increase five percent (5%) for first extension and all stumpage rates will increase an additional ten percent (10%) for second extension. The Contract period including extensions may not exceed four (4) years, unless extenuating circumstances exist. If the circumstances are deemed reasonable, additional extensions may be granted for one-year periods with stumpage rates for extension to be set by Seller. Stumpage will be invoiced at the rate in effect at the time wood is scaled. (See Contract map for special conditions and rates).
- c. The Seller may terminate or temporarily suspend this Contract for a breach of any Contract provision or any reason deemed necessary by the Seller by giving the Purchaser, or other persons operating in sale area, verbal or written notice thereof. In the case of a verbal notice, a written notice will follow within three (3) working days. Purchaser shall cease all operations on and immediately leave, and not return to, the Seller's property.

No waiver of any default by Purchaser hereunder shall be implied from any omission by Seller to take action on account of such default or breach if such default persists or is repeated and no express waiver shall affect any default other than the default specified in the express waiver, and then only for the time and extent therein stated. One or more waivers of any term or condition of this Contract shall not be construed as a waiver of a subsequent breach of the same term or condition.

- d. Should the Purchaser enter into more than one timber sale contract, all of the timber sale contracts entered into by and between the Purchaser and Seller shall be considered as one general contract consisting of subunits relating to different sites. A notice of non-compliance with respect to any one site shall constitute notice as to all sites, and the Purchaser shall forthwith cease operations at all sites until Purchaser receives written authorization to resume activity in accordance with the procedures set forth herein. Upon failure of the Purchaser to live up to this Contract, all security deposited may be retained at Seller's discretion.

2. INTENT TO BID

All Bidders must file a declaration of intent to bid, unless previously filed, on forms provided by the Seller. These forms will be due before the date of the bid openings.

3. PERFORMANCE BOND AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- a. At the time of bidding, the Purchaser must deposit cash, cashier's check, personal check, or money order in the amount of 25% of the bid for this Contract. Cash deposits or acceptable checks may be replaced with an acceptable irrevocable letter of credit as a performance bond. In such cases, the irrevocable letter of credit must be received within 15 days of bid opening. A separate irrevocable letter of credit is required for each contract awarded. If the Seller determines there is a breach of any condition, then, at the discretion of the Seller, all of the deposit or any portion thereof shall be forfeited to the Seller as liquidated damages. Before returning any portion of the deposit to the Purchaser, the Seller shall have sixty (60) days from the time it receives notice of completion to inspect the premises to determine if the contract has been performed as required under this Contract. The Seller can also exercise its right to seek actual damages exceeding the amount of the Contract deposit.
- b. If timber or other forest products not specifically described in this Contract or not designated by the Seller for cutting are cut, damaged or removed by the Purchaser, the Seller may pursue any and all remedies for the unlawful use of the Seller's property and the cutting, damage or removal of property without consent, including the seeking of criminal or civil charges for theft, timber theft, or criminal damage to property in addition to its Contract remedies for breach.
- c. The Seller may, when it deems it reasonable and in the best interest of the Seller, allow the Purchaser to continue performance under the Contract and the Purchaser shall pay as liquidated damages double the mill value as determined by the Seller for timber or other forest products cut, removed or damaged without authorization under or in violation of this Contract. The Seller's permission to continue cutting shall not be considered a waiver or breach nor prevent it from considering such breach for purposes of asserting any other remedies available to it. It is agreed that the double mill scale sum is a reasonable estimate of the probable damages suffered by the Seller and shall not be construed as or held to be in the nature of a penalty.
- d. The Purchaser agrees that if the timber identified in this Contract for cutting is to be resold due to a breach of this Contract, as determined by the Seller, the Seller is not obligated to give oral or written notice to the Purchaser of the resale.
- e. The Seller's damages upon the Purchaser's failure to perform this Contract include, but are not limited to:
 - (1) The Purchaser's bid value of timber not cut and/or removed under this Contract.
 - (2) Double the mill value, as determined by the Seller, for timber cut, removed or damaged without authorization under or in violation of this Contract.
 - (3) All costs of sale area cleanup, restoration or completion of performance not completed by the Purchaser.
 - (4) All costs of resale of timber not cut and removed as required under this Contract.

The Seller agrees to mitigate the damages for breach by offering the timber for resale if it determines the timber is saleable based upon its volume or quality.

- f. A Purchaser deemed by the Seller to be in breach of this Contract may also be considered an irresponsible bidder and be refused the opportunity to bid upon or obtain future timber sales of the Seller.

- g. **PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS:** All stumpage payments will be cash, personal check, cashier's check or money order. Accurate mill scale slips and trucker copies of lockbox tickets must be provided to the Seller no later than five (5) business days following mill delivery. On receipt of the mill scale slip, the Seller will invoice the scale, and payment must be received from Purchaser within thirty (30) days of date of invoice. Each payment should be identified by Contract number(s) and invoice number(s). Payment not received 30 days after invoice date will be considered overdue. Payments not received within 30 days of date of invoice will be assessed a finance charge of 1% per month on all late scale or invoices. Deferred payment wood requires advance agreement between the Seller and the Purchaser. Payments of forest product removed in the deferred payment manner are to be paid within ten (10) days after mill payment is received by the Purchaser. (Refer to Clause 12).
- h. **REMOVAL WITHOUT PAYMENT.** Timber or other forest products may not be removed from the sale area until paid for as provided in this Contract or other guarantees for payment have been made with and to the satisfaction of the Seller so as to authorize its cutting and removal. Upon removal of timber or other forest products in violation of this paragraph, the Purchaser agrees to pay as liquidated damages double the mill value of the timber removed, and in addition to pursuing its remedies for breach of Contract, the Seller may seek charges against the Purchaser for timber theft, theft, criminal damage to property, and/or a violation of administrative rule or ordinance.
- i. The Purchaser agrees to pay for timber removed under this Contract in the amount and in accordance with the payment schedule and its conditions which is attached to and made a part of this Contract. Payment shall be in a form acceptable to the Seller.
- j. The volume of timber indicated in this Contract or other appraisal or cruise documents of the Seller are estimates. The Seller gives no warranty or guarantee regarding the quantity, quality or volume of marked or otherwise designated timber or forest products on the sale area.
- k. **Lump Sum Sales:** Refer to separate Addendum.

4. TITLE TO PRODUCTS AND STUMPAGE

Title to timber cut under this Contract shall remain in the Seller until payment as required in this Contract is received by the Seller or written authorization to cut or remove the timber or forest products has been given by the Seller. The Seller shall bear the risk of loss or damage to the timber until payment to the Seller for the timber or authorization to cut or remove the timber has been granted by the Seller, or damage is caused by the Purchaser or the Purchaser's agents or employees. Forest products remaining on the sale area at the expiration of the Contract or upon breach, revert to the ownership of the Seller without any refund of monies paid, unless the Purchaser has received prior written approval from the Seller.

5. AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION

Purchaser authorizes any individual, business, or mill receiving forest products from this Contract to release information to the Seller regarding amount, date received, and other relevant information.

6. UTILIZATION

- a. **PULPWOOD PRODUCTS:** All designated trees shall be utilized to one stick (100 inches long) to a four (4) inch small end diameter inside bark (dib), unless otherwise specified. Wood utilized beyond these specifications will be charged at bid rate for all species. If different pulpwood products or species are mixed, the higher stumpage rate will apply unless alternate arrangements are agreed upon by the Seller and the Purchaser.
- b. **SAWLOG PRODUCTS:** Designated softwood species shall be utilized to an eight (8) inch small end diameter inside bark, and hardwood species shall be utilized down to a ten (10) inch small end diameter inside bark, unless otherwise specified. Product that does not meet sawlog specifications will be utilized as pulpwood. (Refer to Clause 11. e-h)
- c. **BIOMASS PRODUCTS:** Biomass is woody material that is utilized that does not meet pulpwood or sawlog specifications and does not include the forest litter layer, stumps or roots. This product will be charged at a specified rate/ton.
- d. All forest products not paid for at specified stumpage rate are the property of the Seller. This includes, but is not limited to, tops smaller than the utilization specifications for pulpwood products.

- e. All merchantable forest products bulldozed or removed during authorized road, landing or skidway construction must be utilized and paid for at the specified rate. If the species removed during this authorized activity is not listed in the payment schedule attached to and made part of this contract, payment rates will be determined by using the average stumpage rate for that species from the most recent timber sale on the Lincoln County Forest.
- f. Maximum stump height in areas clear-cut and scheduled for replanting shall not exceed six (6) inches. Maximum stump height for all other harvests shall not exceed twelve (12) inches.
- g. All and only the trees designated for cutting on the sale area shall be cut whether it is more or less than the volume listed herein. Any forest product wasted in tops and/or stumps, undesignated trees cut or damaged through negligence, intent, or marked or designated trees left uncut, shall be paid for at a rate no less than the stumpage rate specified or at a rate to be determined by the Seller.
- h. The Purchaser shall be particularly careful not to damage the residual timber stands, including advanced regeneration. Young growth bent or held down by felled trees shall be promptly released. Trees damaged through normal cutting operations may be designated for cutting by the Seller and harvested if merchantable.
- i. The Purchaser agrees to complete all operations on each portion of the sale area or each compartment in a progressive manner, as designated in the cutting requirements.
- j. The Purchaser agrees to remove cut wood product from the sale area in a timely manner which is agreeable to the Seller. Any costs to the Seller because of the Purchaser's noncompliance resulting in the need for entomological, disease, or fire prevention treatment will be charged to the Purchaser at Seller's discretion. The Seller shall give the Purchaser a one (1) day notice before any treatment is to begin.
- k. If harvesting biomass, or harvesting timber to a 2" top or if whole tree skidding or whole tree harvesting operations are used, one out of every 10 trees of average size or larger must be topped at the standard 4" top diameter where they are felled and the tops (or the equivalent amount of woody material) must remain evenly scattered throughout the stand unless otherwise specified.

7. OPERATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS

- a. **INSPECTION:** The Seller retains for itself the right of ingress and egress to and on the sale area and may inspect the sale area and trucks hauling forest products from or traveling on the sale area at any time. If the inspection reveals any violations of this Contract, the Purchaser shall promptly take measures to remedy the violation. The Seller may terminate the Purchaser's operations upon oral notice to the Purchaser. Upon receipt of the notice, the Purchaser shall cease operations until the Seller approves resumption of them.
- b. The Purchaser has no access or privilege to go upon the Seller's property other than to comply with this Contract and may not authorize access or use to others except for the sole purpose of performing this Contract.
- c. In clear-cut areas, all designated trees must be cut concurrently with aspen, unless alternate arrangements are agreed to by the Seller and the Purchaser. In clear-cut areas, all hardwood saplings one (1) inch and over, except oak, butternut, cherry and additional species listed as no cut on the Contract map, must be cut concurrently with the stand or within 30 days thereafter. A penalty of \$50 per acre will be assessed for violation of this provision. Any variations from this standard will be stated on the Contract map.
- d. The Seller must approve skidding method and equipment.
- e. The Seller reserves the rights to establish cutting compartments and designate the sequence in which they will be cut.
- f. **Best Management Practices (BMPs) requirements and other Guidelines:**
 - (1) The Purchaser shall comply with all recommended BMPs for Water Quality guidelines as described in "*Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality*" published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, publication Pub-FR-093, unless specifically provided otherwise below. A copy of this publication is available upon request to the Seller if not possessed by the Purchaser. Purchaser's certification in Wisconsin BMP training or equivalent through a FISTA-coordinated BMP workshop is also required. Contract maps will show restricted equipment or riparian management zones if they apply.

- (2) The Purchaser shall comply with all recommended Forestry BMPs for Invasive Species as described in “*Wisconsin’s Forestry Best Management Practices for Invasive Species*” published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, publication Pub-FR-444-09, unless specifically provided otherwise below. The publication can be found on the Council on Forestry website at: <http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives/forestry>
 - (3) The Purchaser shall comply with all General Guidelines as described in “*Wisconsin’s Forestland Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines*” published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, publication Pub-FR-435-09, unless specifically provided otherwise below. The publication can be found on the Council on Forestry website at: <http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/biomass/>
- g. All logging operations may be suspended temporarily, at the discretion of the Seller, for various reasons such as fire prevention, disease prevention, soil protection, residual stand protection, or site use priority. When feasible, dates of prohibited operation will be shown on the Contract map.
 - h. For silvicultural management purposes, various tree species may be designated for advanced protection. Special conditions will be on the Contract map. The Purchaser agrees to strictly adhere to this no cut provision.
 - i. Annosum Root Rot (*Heterobasidion irregulare*) Prevention and Treatment
 - (1) The Purchaser shall be required to implement the following prevention methods for Annosum Root Rot (*Heterobasidion irregular*) on red, white or jack pine or fir sites where management of pine or fir is the objective. These sites will be identified on the timber sale map.
 - (2) The Purchaser shall enter this harvest with equipment clean of soil or debris from the previous harvest. In addition, if previous job(s) included entering stands with confirmation of Annosum Root Rot, make sure to clean logging equipment (tires, tracks, cutting head, etc) with pressurized water prior to entering this harvest.
 - (3) If Annosum Root Rot does not exist within the timber sale stand(s), then the following conditions will apply:

The harvest period will be limited to December 15 to March 1 if the average daily temperatures for the 2 weeks prior are below 32°F and remain so for the duration of the cutting period.

OR

If the Purchaser conducts harvesting outside the above periods, the Purchaser shall conduct Annosum Root Rot disease control work. The Purchaser shall apply an approved fungicide for Annosum Root Rot control to all fresh cut stumps and horizontal wound surfaces of all conifers except spruce as follows:

- a. Pesticide Applicators must be certified/licensed by DATCP for this treatment and shall comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations concerning the application of pesticides. Applicator shall submit evidence of all licenses, certifications, and other credentials required by federal and state laws and regulations to the Department prior to beginning work. In the event Applicator becomes noncompliant with such laws and regulations at any time during its performance under this contract they shall immediately cease work under this contract and notify the Lincoln County Forestry Department.
- b. The Applicator shall treat all conifer stumps (excluding spruce) in areas requiring treatment by the end of each cutting day (within 24 hours of the tree being cut). For a perforated bar method of application, the maximum allowed gap between strips of fungicide/dye will be ¼ inch. All other types of fungicide application must have a total stump coverage of at least 90%.
- c. All conifer stumps (excluding spruce) in treated areas shall be clear of logging slash to allow for the application and inspection of the approved fungicide.
- d. Applicator shall apply fungicides according to product label directions.
- e. If ‘Cellu-Treat’ is used, the applicator must add a marker dye to the solution to monitor application coverage.
- f. The Purchaser must use extra care during harvesting to minimize damage to residual trees.
- g. The Purchaser will provide the necessary fungicide and dye to carry out this contract requirement.
- h. All leaks and spills of any chemicals are the responsibility of the Applicator and shall be cleaned up and disposed of in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
- i. Applicator shall immediately provide the Lincoln County Forestry Department with notice of any leak or spill of chemicals.

- j. Applicator shall ensure performance of all applications to be safe, competent, and environmentally sound. Applicator shall use and maintain work procedures that will safeguard the public, Lincoln County Forestry Department personnel, and Applicator's own personnel and which comply with all relevant federal and state laws.
- k. If Annosum Root Rot is discovered in the harvest unit prior to the completion of this sale, a harvest protocol of infected area(s) as outlined below shall be established and all harvest equipment must be cleaned of soil prior to leaving this harvest.

(4) If Annosum Root Rot has been confirmed in the stand being harvested:

In addition to the above requirements, the following Operational Requirements shall apply:

- a. The Purchaser will start the thinning/harvesting in the healthy stands or healthy parts of an infected stand, and move to infected areas only after healthy stands or parts of stands have been completed.
- b. Do not cut any dead trees. Leave dead trees infected with Annosum standing to minimize future spore production.
- c. Leave the bottom eight feet of trees that are showing dieback and/or yellowing of the foliage (fader trees) on site to minimize the movement of fruit bodies to uninfected areas of the state.
- d. The Purchaser will clean logging equipment (tires, cutting head, etc.) with pressurized water prior to entering a new uninfected stand.

8. NOTICE OF INTENT TO CUT

The Purchaser shall inform the Seller at least three (3) working days prior to the starting of logging operations or if operations are to be suspended for more than thirty (30) days.

9. SLASH AND DEBRIS DISPOSAL

- a. The Purchaser agrees to comply with State Slash Law (§26.12(b) Wis. Stats.), and with requests regarding forest fire prevention and suppression made by the Seller.
- b. All slash must be removed from grass openings, roads, recreational trails, private lands and below the high watermark of any lake, stream or other water body. (Refer to Contract map).
- c. The Purchaser shall remove, to the satisfaction of the Seller, all waste, trash and debris generated by the Purchaser. Non-compliance will be considered a littering violation.
- d. The Purchaser also agrees to follow all Best Management Practices for Water Quality regarding petroleum spills; that all waste oil, hydraulic oil, antifreeze, fuel or any petroleum products will be disposed of properly and that no petroleum products will be dumped or disposed of on site. Any cleanup costs and liability will be the responsibility of the Purchaser.

10. ROADS, CAMPS, SURVEY CORNERS

- a. Location, construction, and use of logging roads, landings, yarding areas, mill sites, and campsites are subject to advance approval by the Seller. All such areas or facilities used or constructed by the Purchaser must be constructed, maintained and restored prior to termination of the Contract in a manner satisfactory to the Seller. When possible, Contract map will identify timber sale road expectations that will be required prior to sale closure.
- b. No residence, dwelling, permanent structure or improvement shall be established or constructed on the premises. Buildings or equipment not removed from the Seller's property within thirty (30) days after completion cancellation of this Contract shall become property of the Seller and may be removed at the Purchaser's expense.
- c. No skidding onto or decking on any town, county, state or federal roadway right-of-way is permitted unless agreed upon by the Purchaser, municipality involved and the Seller. Said parties must also agree upon access routes to and from such roads. Any damage whatsoever from operation of equipment or decking of wood on or near such roads shall be the liability of the Purchaser.
- d. The Purchaser agrees to pay for the cost of repair or replacement of any bearing trees, survey monuments or accessories that are removed or destroyed or made inaccessible due to Purchaser's activities.

11. SCALING AND CONVERSION FACTORS

- a. All wood hauled under the lockbox system will be mill scaled unless other arrangements are made or required by Seller. The Purchaser must notify the Seller at least two (2) working days in advance if woods scale of forest products is required. Piles must be level and square with at least three (3) cords per pile. Under this system, absolutely no forest products may be removed from the sale area unless they have been scaled and painted by a representative of the Seller. Removal of forest products shall be under either the lockbox ticket method or woods scale method, not both, unless agreed upon by the Seller and the Purchaser.
- b. When two or more species or products having different stumpage rates are mixed, the higher of the rates will apply unless alternate arrangements are agreed upon by the Seller and the Purchaser.
- c. All cordwood volumes are based on unpeeled measure. Unless otherwise specified, a cord is 4 feet X 4 feet X 100 inches. It is agreed that 12.5% will be added to sap peeled volume, 16% for ring-debarked volume and 25% will be added to other machine peeled volume to calculate equivalent unpeeled volume.
- d. All firewood must be woods scaled, unless other arrangements have been made. Wood must be decked properly for scaling.
- e. The Scribner Decimal C Log Rule along with the Official Lake States Grading Rules for Northern Hardwood and Softwood Logs and Tie Cuts shall be used for scaling logs. Variations to this specification will be at the discretion of the Seller.
 - (1) All sawlogs must be separated from pulpwood when decked.
 - (2) If sawlogs are woods scaled, the Purchaser will clearly mark the length of all sawlogs on the small end, or logs must be clearly separated by length, and all small ends must face the landing or road, and logs must be decked neatly.
 - (3) Log decks to be scaled will not exceed six (6) feet in height.
- f. Maximum trim allowance on sawlogs shall be eight (8) inches. Sawlogs overrunning this allowance shall be scaled to the next even foot of scaling measure.
- g. Conversion of MBF (thousand board feet) to cords or cords to MBF will be 2.44 cords per MBF for softwoods and 2.20 cords per MBF for hardwoods.
- h. WEIGHT CONVERSIONS: Payment for forest products meeting the pulpwood definition will be billed for at the bid rate per ton based on the mill weight scale. For products that are required to be converted from cords to tons, or tons to cords, payment will be made at the bid rate based on those weight conversions set forth in the DNR handbook. A conversion of 2.4 tons per cord will be used as a standard for mixed hardwood pulp products.
- i. Wood may be pro-rated when market dictates or upon agreement between the Seller and the Purchaser. The Seller has an established policy for pro-rating of wood products.
- j. Whole tree chipping is allowed on eligible sales and upon agreement between the Seller and the Purchaser. The Seller has an established policy on stumpage calculations for whole tree chipping operations.

12. LOCKBOX TICKET SYSTEM (LBT)

- a. Tickets can be issued after the Contract is signed. Tickets may be issued for one week's hauling or to the value of 60% of the performance bond, unless other arrangements have been made. Tickets are issued for the contract specified on the lockbox ticket, and shall not be used for any other contract. No slips of paper or facsimiles will be allowed to take the place of a lockbox ticket. Double stumpage will be assessed for any wood hauled without a lockbox ticket.
- b. The Seller shall place a Lockbox on the sale area before any forest products may be moved.
- c. The Purchaser shall provide the Seller with a list of all destinations of forest products to be removed from the sale area. Changes in forest product destination shall be reported before hauling to the new destination.

- d. **TRUCK DELIVERY:** A list of all truckers that will be hauling forest product from the sale area shall be provided to the Seller by the Purchaser. It shall be the responsibility of the Purchaser to provide such truckers with appropriate lockbox tickets. Each lockbox ticket has three (3) copies. At the time a load of forest product leaves the sale area, the appropriate portion of the lockbox ticket marked "box" shall be clearly and completely filled out and deposited **IN** the lockbox. When transporting forest products from the sale area, the truck driver shall have in his/her possession the "mill" and "trucker" portion of the lockbox ticket applicable to the load. The middle portion of the lockbox ticket marked "mill" shall be detached at the point where the forest product is scaled and attached to a duplicate copy of the scale slip. If the mill does not accept this portion of the ticket, it is the Purchaser's obligation to return it to the Seller with truck portion of lockbox ticket. The third copy of the lockbox ticket marked "trucker" must be returned with scale slip to the Seller at the end of each week.
- e. If the mill scale slip and attached lockbox ticket is not received at the Seller's office within the time frames listed as follows, the subsequent charges may apply: Five dollar (\$5.00) penalty per slip after 14 days of scale date; Ten dollar (\$10.00) penalty per slip after 21 days of scale date; Double stumpage per slip after 30 days of scale date.
- f. Failure to deposit tickets in the lockbox each time a load of cut forest product leaves the sale area shall be considered wood theft. Timber or other forest products may not be removed from the sale area until paid for as provided in this Contract or other guarantees for payment have been made with and to the satisfaction of the Seller so as to authorize its cutting and removal. Upon removal of timber or other forest products in violation of this paragraph, the Purchaser agrees to pay as liquidated damages double the mill value of the timber removed, and in addition to pursuing its remedies for breach of Contract, the Seller may seek charges against the Purchaser for timber theft, theft, criminal damage to property, or a violation of administrative rule or ordinance.
- g. **RAIL CAR SHIPMENT TO A MILL:** The appropriate portion of the lockbox ticket shall be attached to the bill of lading for the car. At the mill, the lockbox ticket shall be attached to a copy of the scale slip, and then returned to the Seller within seven (7) calendar days. (Refer to Clause 12-d.)
- h. Lockbox tickets must be used for unscaled wood being hauled to a temporary wood yard location. The lockbox ticket must indicate the temporary wood yard name and location, and pile number. The trucker copy of the lockbox ticket must be mailed to the Seller's office at the end of each week. The mill copy of the lockbox ticket must accompany scale. (Refer to Clause 12-e.)
- i. Billing for wood products shipped under the lockbox ticket method will be upon the receiving of mill scale slips at the Seller's office.
- j. All unused lockbox tickets shall be returned to the Seller immediately upon completion or termination of the Contract. There may be a ten dollar (\$10.00) charge for each lost lockbox ticket.

13. INDEMNIFICATION

The Purchaser assumes and agrees to protect, indemnify, and save harmless the Seller (Lincoln County), its representatives, agents, officers, and employees from and against any and all claims, demands, suits, causes of action, liability, costs, or expense by reason of loss or damage to any property or bodily injury to any person, including death, as a direct or indirect result of operations under this Contract or in connection with any action or omission of the Purchaser, who shall defend the Seller, its representatives, agents, officers, and employees in any such cause of action, claim or suit.

14. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR RELATIONSHIP

The Purchaser is an independent contractor for all purposes, including worker's compensation, and not an employee or agent of the Seller. The Seller agrees that the undersigned Purchaser shall have the sole control of the method, hours worked, time and manner of any timber cutting to be performed hereunder and takes no responsibility for supervision or direction of the performance of any of the harvesting to be performed by the undersigned Purchaser or of the Purchaser's employees except for the limited right of the Seller to cease operations under clause 7.g. or for breach of this Contract. The Seller further agrees it will exercise no control over the selection and dismissal of the Purchaser's employees.

15. INSURANCE NOTIFICATION

- a. Unless the Purchaser is exempted by the Seller from this coverage requirement as a (sole proprietor) independent contractor, as defined in §102.07(8)(b), Stats., and as determined by the Seller based on an affidavit submitted to it, the Purchaser agrees to maintain worker's compensation insurance coverage for the cutting operation under this Contract and any and all employees engaged in cutting on the Seller's land during the period of this Contract regardless of any exemptions from coverage under chapter 102, Wis. Stats.
- b. Other insurance requirements.
- c. Prior to commencement of any work under this Contract and during the period of the Contract, the Purchaser shall provide proof of insurance coverage required by this Contract on an original Certificate of Insurance, countersigned by an insurer licensed to do business in Wisconsin naming the Seller as a Certificate Holder.
- d. The Purchaser shall notify the Seller in writing at the Seller's office as indicated in the Contract or otherwise in writing by the Seller, immediately upon any change in or cancellation of insurance coverage required by this Contract.

16. LOGGER TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

Training requirement (effective on sales sold after 1/1/2006)

The Purchaser is responsible for ensuring that the actual logging contractor engaged in performance of this Contract complies with the Wisconsin SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) Training Standard as adopted by the Wisconsin SFI Implementation Committee (SIC) and/or the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council). Criteria for SFI and FSC standards can be found at the website www.fistausa.org/sfi_standards or by contacting the Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance (FISTA). The Purchaser agrees to provide documentation to the Seller that training has been attained prior to initiating sale.

17. NONDISCRIMINATION

In connection with performance of work under this Contract, the Purchaser agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, religion, color, sex, handicap, physical condition, developmental disability as defined in §51.01(5), Wis. Stats., sexual orientation or national origin. This provision shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination; pay rates or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including affirmative action to ensure equal employment opportunities. The Purchaser agrees to post in a conspicuous place available for employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Seller setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

18. ASSIGNMENT

The Purchaser is precluded from assigning payment and Contract oversight duties or other performance requirements of this Contract to another. The Purchaser's direction to or contracting with another to complete performance required under this Contract does not relieve the Purchaser from the responsibility for performance required under this Contract or for liability for breach.

19. ENTIRE CONTRACT

This Contract shall constitute the entire agreement of the parties and any previous communications or agreements are hereby superseded and no modifications of the Contract or waiver of its terms and conditions shall be effective unless made in writing and signed by the parties.

20. CONTRACTING PARTIES

- a. In this Contract, the Seller and the Purchaser include their respective officers, employees, agents, directors, partners, representatives, successors, heirs, members and servants.
- b. If the Purchaser ceases to exist, in fact or by law, the Seller may terminate this Contract without waiving any remedies available to it and take all action necessary to assure its performance.

21. FOREST CERTIFICATION

The area encompassed by this timber sale is certified to the standards of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® NSF-SFI-FM-1Y943 SFI 100% and the Forest Stewardship Council® SCS-FM/COC-00083G FSC 100%. Forest products from this sale may be delivered to the mill as “SFI 100%” and/or “FSC 100%” as long as the contractor hauling the forest products is chain-of-custody (COC) certified or covered under a COC certificate from the destination mill. The Purchaser is responsible for maintaining COC after leaving the sale area.

22. SOIL DISTURBANCE AND RUTTING

The purchaser agrees to take all steps and precautions to avoid and minimize soil disturbances, such as soil compaction and rutting. Excessive soil disturbance (as defined in Thresholds for Soil Disturbances or as determined by Lincoln County Foresters) will not be permitted. If excessive soil disturbance (as defined in Thresholds for Soil Disturbance or as determined by Lincoln County Foresters) occurs in a timber stand or sale area due to poor judgment or poor practices on the part of the operator, the contract holder may be subject to a minimum penalty of \$150.00. Additional charges may be applied based on severity of rutting, amount of area affected by rutting, and/or if contact was made with the operator or contract holder by a Lincoln County or WDNR forester concerning potential rutting. The additional charges will be determined by the Lincoln County Forest Administrator. If a soil disturbance is excessive, the Purchaser will contact the Seller and together they will evaluate the disturbance and determine what actions, if any, are needed to repair or mitigate the effects of the soil disturbance. Ruts deeper than the minimum depth and /or shorter than the minimum length (as defined in Thresholds for Soil Disturbance) may also be considered excessive at the discretion of Lincoln County Foresters. Prior to sale completion the Purchaser shall restore soil disturbances to the Seller’s satisfaction.

Thresholds for Soil Disturbances

Forest Infrastructure

Soil Disturbances are Excessive if:

Roads, Landings, Skid Trails and General Harvest Area

A gully or rut is 6 inches deep or more and is resulting in channelized flow to a wetland, stream or lake.

Roads, Landings, and Primary Skid Trails

In a riparian management zone (RMZ) or wetland, a gully or rut is 6 inches deep or more and 100 feet long or more. In an upland area (outside of RMZ), a gully or rut is 10 inches deep or more and 66 feet long or more.

Secondary Skid Trails and General Harvest Area

Gully or rut is 6 inches deep or more and 100 feet long or more.

NOTE: The depth is to be measured from the original soil surface to the bottom of the depression. If individual lug depressions are visible, the depth would be measured to the lesser of the two depths (the “top” of the lug). The length is measured from the start of the “too deep” section to the end of the “too deep” section.

23. OTHER CONDITIONS

- a. DIGGERS HOTLINE. The Purchaser is responsible to contact the diggers hotline, or other informational sources performing similar services, prior to digging or conducting other activities on the property which may result in contact with utility or service lines or facilities
- b. OSHA Compliance, Danger trees. The Purchaser is responsible to comply with, and assure compliance by all employees or subcontractors with, all Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) requirements for the health and safety of Purchaser’s employees, including provisions relating to danger trees. In addition, the Purchaser agrees to notify, and obtain agreement from, the Seller if the Purchaser intends to modify performance required under this Contract for the purpose of compliance with OSHA requirements.

SELLER

Dated: _____

By: _____
Lincoln County Forest Administrator

PURCHASER

By: _____
Signature of Individual

Typed Name of Individual

doing business as _____
Firm Name

Business Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Fax No.: _____

E-Mail: _____

A similar form is required if contractor status is a PARTNERSHIP, a CORPORATION,
or TWO OR MORE INDIVIDUALS.

Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department

**Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department
Land Resource Center
1106 East Eighth Street
Merrill, WI 54452**

Phone (715) 536-0327

Fax (715) 536-0369

DATE: _____

RE: Contract No. _____

Renewal to: _____

Dear Contractor:

Enclosed find the following forms (indicated by X) to be returned to the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department within **ten (10) days**:

_____ Application for renewal (complete, sign)

_____ Two copies of the Extension to Timber Sale Contract including an updated map. **(PLEASE SIGN, HAVE SIGNATURE WITNESSED AND RETURN BOTH COPIES OF EXTENSION!!!)** A completed copy will be returned to you.

_____ Intent to Bid update required (complete, sign and date OR make any necessary changes)

Lincoln County requires timber sale contractors to comply with the State of Wisconsin Worker's Compensation Law.

If the above information is not received in a timely manner, you will jeopardize your continuation of this contract (requirement #8 of timber sale contract).

It is Lincoln County's policy that contracts not be renewed beyond four (4) years. If this contract exceeds four years, special arrangements must be made if the contract is to be renewed. Below, find rate schedule for contract renewals.

First Renewal	(3rd contract year)	5% rate increase
Second Renewal	(4th contract year)	10% rate increase
Third Renewal	(5th contract year)	15% rate increase

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call our office.

Sincerely,

Administrative Secretary

Enc.

INTENT TO BID

If you are bidding as an INDIVIDUAL complete the following:

By: _____ ** _____
(Signature of Individual) (Typed Name of Individual)

Doing Business As: _____

Business Address: _____

Telephone No: _____

Cell Phone No: _____

Fax No: _____

****Signature above indicates SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) Training Standard Certificate of Completion is on file with the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department.**

Check one box and sign below -

Individual understands Wisconsin Statutes 102, Workers Compensation Act and agrees to provide the seller with Certificate of Insurance.

Worker's Compensation Policy#

Insurance Agent

Individual, owner/operator and sole proprietor electing exemption from coverage pursuant to WIS. STAT 102.75 shall provide the Lincoln County Forestry Department a statement verifying exemption on a form provided by the Lincoln County Forestry Department and sign below.

(Signature of Individual)

APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL

CONTRACT NO. _____ DATE _____

What are your intentions in completing this contract?

Are there any scale slips or payments due Lincoln County? _____

If so, when can we expect this? _____

Estimated volume cut and not hauled _____

Signature of Contractor

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN

Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department

Lincoln County Courthouse Annex

1106 East Eighth Street

Merrill, Wisconsin 54452

Phone (715) 536-0327

Fax (715) 536-0369

**EXTENSION TO
TIMBER SALE CONTRACT**

Contract Number: _____

Contract Expiration Date: _____

This is an extension to the original contract made between the Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department and:

(Name of Contractor)

(Address of Contractor)

Stumpage rates will increase _____% as described on the attached Timber Sale Contract map for a period of one-year expiring 12:01 AM _____ (DATE).

All other conditions as stated in the Timber Sale Contract referenced above between Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department and _____ (CONTRACTOR NAME) shall remain in full force and effect.

Lincoln County Forest Administrator

Date

Contractor

Date

Witness Signature

Date

Print Name

FIREWOOD PERMIT NO. _____

I _____ does hereby apply to the Lincoln County
(Name, address, phone)

Forestry, Land and Parks Dept. for a permit to salvage tops and ends on closed Lincoln County Timber Sale

_____ (see attached map) for a period of one (1) month:
(Timber Sale #, Contractor Name, Township)

_____ through _____. Wood salvaged under this permit will be delivered to _____ with
(Date) (Date) (Address or legal description)

(Vehicle make, model, year, color)

-and is for my personal use and may be inspected at said premises by Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, Department of Natural Resources personnel, Lincoln County Timber sale Contractor or any other authorized representative of this Department and I further agree to present this permit upon request by any representatives of said agencies.

I have physically checked the area covered by this permit and hereby understand and accept responsibility that only wood above described in this permit will be salvaged and only within the area covered by this permit.

I further understand that a \$15.00 fee shall be paid to the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department for any thirty-day firewood permit on Lincoln County Forest Land.

I further understand that this permit does not include any standing trees whatsoever, pulpwood or logs and wood 8 feet or longer.

This permit is valid for up to 10 pulp cord equivalents.

This permit is not valid until signed by a representative of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department.

If in the opinion of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department or Department of Natural Resources personnel the terms and conditions of this permit are being violated and not in the best interest of Lincoln County, this permit is automatically terminated.

Liquidated damages: permit holder shall be assessed the following damages for any timber cut or removed in violation of this permit the highest market value of timber cut or removed. Market value shall be the market value on the date of this permit.

The parties agree to indemnify and save harmless the other party, its agents and employees from and against all claims, demands, suits, liability and expense, by reason of loss or damage to any property or bodily injury to any person whatsoever, that may accrue from the other party's use or negligence of the illustrated land.

No motorized vehicles may be utilized (including ATV's, tractors, etc...) off open logging roads or behind gates, berms, posted or rocked areas unless written permission is granted by the Lincoln County Forest Administrator.

I understand and agree to all terms and conditions of this permit.

Signature of Permittee

Date

Signature of Forestry Dept. Personnel

Date

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

ACCESS PERMIT

**Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department
Lincoln County Service Center
801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106
Merrill, WI 54452
(715) 539-1034**

This access permit is entered into by and between the County of Lincoln, hereinafter referred to as "Owner" and _____, hereinafter referred to as "Permittee", for the sole purpose of obtaining ingress and egress across the following described land in Lincoln County, Wisconsin, as indicated on the attached map, for the sole purpose of accessing Permittee's property.

Legal Description:

It is understood by the Owner and the Permittee that this permit is subject to the following conditions:

1. The permit fee is _____. It is non-transferable and solely for the accommodation of Permittee and members of their household. If additional time and material is required to establish access site, the Permittee agrees to reimburse the County for said expense.
2. Accessway improvements and upgrading must be approved and will be supervised by the Lincoln County Forest Administrator. Prior notification of ten (10) days is required before work starts. This permit does not cover the installation of utilities.
3. If the Owner determines that further use of the above-described property by the Permittee is not in the best interest of the Owner, for whatever reason, the Owner reserves the right to retain permit fee and cancel this permit by thirty (30) days written notice to the Permittee by the Owner.
4. The accessway width is to be no greater than _____ feet.
5. No cutting or trimming of trees shall be done without the prior approval of the Owner.
6. Present and future forest management, timber sales, timber stand improvement, reforestation, or other forest or recreational activity shall be of high priority of the Owner and in no way shall be hindered by this agreement.
7. All stumps, slash, waste materials, and other debris resulting from the permitted land use shall be disposed of by the Permittee as directed by the Owner.
8. The Permittee shall maintain the area under this permit in a safe and environmentally sound condition at all times, causing no obstruction to free and uninhibited use by the public.

9. No gates, signs, or other property of the Permittee will be allowed on the Owner's land without Owner's permission.
10. Gates on the Owner's property, installed by the Owner, must remain closed at all times, except for entry and exit, but may be opened with permission of the County Forest Administrator when frozen conditions exist. If keys to gates are required, a key holder agreement must be signed.
11. This land-use agreement does not extend to the Permittee any permission to use County Forest Land for personal use or to store equipment, lumber, or other miscellaneous items. In addition, the access provided under this permit is not to be used to gain access to a place of business, the permittee is limited to one dwelling, and the dwelling or any out building cannot be used for commercial purposes.
12. At the Owner's discretion, the Permittee agrees to reimburse the Owner or remediate any property damage to the subject property that may arise from the construction, maintenance, or use of the described lands.
13. This permit does not give the Permittee, its members or agents, any rights pertaining to hunting or trapping; said rights remain under the control of the Owner. Hunting during ingress and egress, by vehicle, if accessway is gated, will be grounds for cancellation of the permit. In addition, if access way is gated, motorized use of the County Forest in this area is prohibited except for ingress and egress.
14. The Owner continues full ownership of the improved access and land; however, it shall not be liable for maintenance or upkeep of the accessway.
15. The Permittee agrees to waive any rights to any declaration of ownership or interest in the accessway on the Owner's land.
16. Should the general intended use for which this permit was granted be changed or altered, this permit shall be automatically null and void by action of the Lincoln County Forest Administrator.
17. The Permittee agrees to protect, indemnify, and save harmless the Owner, its agents and employees, from and against all claims, demands, suits, liability and expense, including attorney's fees, by reason of loss or damage to any property or bodily injury, including death, to any person whatsoever, that may arise from the construction and placement of objects on described lands and from the maintenance or use of the described land, and the Permittee shall defend the Owner in any such action or claim upon request of the Owner.

Permittee

Date

Lincoln County Forest Administrator

Date

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

ACCESS AGREEMENT

**Forestry, Land and Parks Department
Lincoln County Service Center
801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106
Merrill, WI 54452
(715) 539-1034**

This access agreement, made this _____ day of _____, between Lincoln County and _____, who are Owner's of land as indicated on attached map.

Legal Description (see attached map)

Witnesseth, that the parties mutually agree to allow ingress and egress to the other's lands as illustrated on attached map and that _____ will also allow the public ingress and egress across that portion of his property as illustrated on attached map for _____.

It is understood by both parties that this agreement is subject to the following conditions:

1. Accessway improvements and upgrading, including gate placement if necessary, must have approval. Prior notification of three (3) working days shall be given before work starts. This agreement does not cover the installation of utilities.
2. If one of the parties determines that future use of this land, illustrated on map, is not in their best interests, the parties reserve the right to cancel this agreement by thirty (30) days written notice.
3. This permit is not transferrable.
4. The accessway width is to be no greater than _____ feet.
5. The parties agree not to store equipment, lumber or other miscellaneous items on the other's property; hunting during ingress and egress (by vehicle) is not permitted on accessway if gated.

6. The parties agree to remediate any property damage occasioned by substantiated use of the accessway. Notice must be provided by the other party within 21 days of same.
7. Parties agree not to accrue any right of ownership to the other's land by use of the same.
8. _____ agrees that the access provided to him/her under this agreement is not to be used to gain access to a place of business.
9. The parties agree to indemnify and save harmless the other party, its agents and employees from and against all claims, demands, suits, liability and expense, by reason of loss or damage to any property or bodily injury, including death, to any person whatsoever, that may occur from the other party's negligent use of the illustrated land.

Permittee Signature

County Forest Administrator

Date Approved

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS DEPARTMENT
BALSAM BOUGH GATHERING PERMIT

801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106, Merrill, WI 54452
(715) 539-1034

Bough Permit No. _____

The Lincoln County Forestry Committee through its authorized agents hereby gives permission to:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Vehicle description and license number: _____

to cut balsam boughs on Lincoln County Forest Lands. Said forest products to be cut on the following descriptions, excluding private land if any: _____

Additional cutters: _____

Permittee agrees to pay the Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department the sum of \$100.00(**nonrefundable**) for a permit which expires no later than December 31, 2009.

The permittee agrees to the following conditions:

- 1) Any cutting of boughs on Lincoln County Forest Lands other than above described, shall be considered trespass and permit will automatically be null and void and trespass rates and charges will be applied. The permit holder assumes all responsibility to gather in designated area only and to assure that he/she is on County Forest property.
- 2) No boughs shall be cut within 100 feet of roads, recreational trails, lakes, rivers or streams.
- 3) No boughs shall be cut from the top 1/3 of tree.
- 4) No boughs shall be cut from trees less than 8 feet in height.
- 5) No axes are to be used in cutting boughs.
- 6) Boughs shall be cut in such a manner as to not kill or permanently damage trees.
- 7) Only balsam fir boughs may be collected. No other trees shall be cut or damaged.
- 8) All roads and trails shall be kept open at all times and may not be damaged.
- 9) No motorized vehicles may be utilized (including ATV's, tractors, etc...) off open logging roads or behind gates, berms, posted or rocked areas unless written permission is granted by the Lincoln County Forest Administrator.

- 10) Permittee agrees to comply with the state timber theft, slash, fire, and litter laws.
- 11) The permit holder assumes all responsibility for his/her own protection and agrees to hold Lincoln County harmless for any accident or injuries that may happen to themselves or others.
- 12) Violations of this permit or any condition of gathering stated herein shall be determined by the County Forest Administrator and will result in the revocation of such permit.
- 13) Violations may also subject the permittee to an assessment for any actual damage caused or prosecution for violation of §26.05 9 (timber theft) or §943.13 (trespass), Wis. Stats., or other applicable statutes or County Park and County Forest Ordinances (Chapters 16 & 19 of the Lincoln County General Code of Ordinances)
- 14) This permit cannot be assigned in part or in whole.
- 15) This permit must be carried on permittee and shown to authorized personnel of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department upon request.
- 16) Permittee will also be issued a permit which must be placed in vehicle so that it is visible from the outside.
- 17) If permittee fails to follow rules and guidelines of this permit future issuance of permits will be denied.

I have read, understand and agree to the conditions of this permit.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Permittee

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Authorized Agent of Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Dept.

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY DISABLED ACCESS PERMIT

Permittee Name: _____
(typed or printed)

Assistant Name: _____
(typed or printed)

WDNR Class A or B Disable Permit #: _____

WDNR Disabled Permit Expiration Date: _____

This permit allows the Permittee to operate a licensed automobile/truck or registered ATV to access the controlled access area(s) defined below: (See attached map)

This permit is valid from _____ through _____, inclusive.

Permit issued by: _____
Lincoln County Forest Administrator

Date

CONDITIONS

1. Only Class A permit holders as defined in §§29.09(9)(2), or Class B permit holders as defined in §§29.09(9)(3) Wis. Statutes are eligible for this permit.
2. The Permittee must carry this permit with them while exercising their Disabled Motorized Access privileges.
3. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department does not guarantee the condition of the trail for motor vehicle use. Caution is advised.
4. Permittee must use caution not to cause any damage while operating vehicle on County Forest roads or trails.
5. All gates must be closed and locked immediately after passing through them. A Key Holder Agreement must be signed and on file at the Lincoln County Forestry office.
6. The Lincoln County Forestry Department may immediately cancel or revoke this permit by oral or written notice if the forest administrator feels that the permit is no longer in the best interest of Lincoln County or upon breach of any condition or restriction of this permit. Permit revocation may also subject violator to prosecution.

7. The Permittee may have one designated mobile assistant. The mobile assistant cannot harvest game, bait, or carry a gun, bow, crossbow, or transport elevated platforms for use by individuals other than the permittee while exercising access privileges as a mobile assistant. Access privileges granted to a designated mobile assistant are only valid while in visual contact with disabled permittee. The Permittee cannot transport game harvested by any other individual, or harvest and transport game under Wisconsin party hunting regulation.

I have read, understand, and agree to the above conditions.

Permittee Signature: _____

Permittee Address: _____

Permittee Telephone Number: _____

Mobile Assistant Signature: _____

Mobile Assistant Address: _____

Mobile Assistant Telephone Number: _____

Inquiries may be directed to:

Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department
801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106
Merrill WI 54452
(715) 539-1034

**LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS
DEPARTMENT
801 N. SALES STREET, SUITE 106
MERRILL, WI 54452**

Phone (715) 539-1034

Fax (715) 539-8091

SEEDLING PERMIT

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department grants

(Name, address and telephone no.)

permission to pick balsam, spruce, red pine and/or white pine seedlings from 0-2 feet in the following described area: _____

from _____ through _____.

Permit must be carried by Permittee and shown to authorized personnel of or by the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department upon request.

A limit of _____ seedlings may be removed with this permit. Any holes created by seedling removal must be refilled to ground level.

Permittee

Date

County Forest Administrator

Date

PHONE NO: _____

WOOD SALE NO. _____

(Name and Address) _____ does hereby apply to the Lincoln County Forestry,
Land & Parks Department for a permit to cut (cordage and price) _____ on Lincoln County Forest
Lands beginning _____ through _____ in the following described area: (see attached
map and cutting instructions) _____

No motorized vehicles may be utilized (including ATV's, tractors, etc...) off open logging roads or behind gates, berms, posted or rocked areas unless written permission is granted by the Lincoln County Forest Administrator.

Wood sold under this sale is for my personal use only and may be inspected by Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, Lincoln County Sheriff's Department, Department of Natural Resources personnel, or any other authorized representative of this department and I further agree to present this permit upon request by any representatives of said agencies.

I have physically checked the area covered by this permit and hereby understand and accept responsibility that only wood above described in this permit will be salvaged and only within the area covered by this permit.

This permit is not valid until signed by a representative of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department.

If in the opinion of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department or Department of Natural Resources personnel the terms and conditions of this permit are being violated and not in the best interest of Lincoln County, this permit is automatically terminated.

Liquidated damages: permit holder shall be assessed the following damages for any timber cut or removed in violation of this permit the highest market value of timber cut or removed. Market value shall be the market value on the date of this permit.

I understand and agree to all terms and conditions of this permit.

Signature of Permittee _____ Date _____

Approval of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department.

Administrator _____ Date _____

Stumpage due \$ _____ Receipt # _____ Dated _____

**TRAIL USE PERMISSION
for ORGANIZED EVENT**

Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department does hereby give permission to

to sponsor an organized trail ride on

_____.

The _____ will provide the Lincoln County Forestry,
Land and Parks Department with proof of insurance coverage.

Representative of Organized Event

Date

Lincoln County Forest Administrator

Date

Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department
801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106
Merrill, Wisconsin 54452
Ph. (715) 539-1034 Fax (715) 539-8091

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS DEPARTMENT

**Lincoln County Service Center
801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106
Merrill, WI 54452
Phone: 715-539-1034
Fax: 715-539-8091**

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS DEPARTMENT hereby permits members of _____ to have vehicles on the _____ Trail for maintenance purposes from _____ through _____ (date) _____ on designated club workdays. (date)

The Lincoln County Forestry Department will be notified of workday dates.

Vehicles must display a placard stating they are _____ (Name of Organization) _____.

This permit must accompany maintenance crew.

Permittee signature

Date

County Forest Administrator

Date

LINCOLN COUNTY PARK SHELTER RESERVATION FORM

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS DEPARTMENT: 539-1034

RULES & REGULATIONS

1. Turn off lights and lock up electricity (Tug Lake Shelter)
2. Clean up all trash
3. Leave by 10:00 p.m. when park closes

Pick up key for Tug Lake Shelter by _____ at the Lincoln County Forestry, Land & Parks Department, Lincoln County Service Center, 801 N. Sales Street, Suite 106, Merrill. Key for Tug Lake Shelter must be returned to the Department by _____ in order to be eligible for refund of security deposit. You **WILL** forfeit your security deposit if the park facilities are not left in an orderly manner. You also agree to release and hold harmless the County of Lincoln against any and all injuries, liabilities, damages or incidental claims of any nature whatsoever resulting from the use of the premises. You may cancel your reservation up to 30 days prior to the date to be used and still receive your deposit back. Cancellation Fee: \$5.00.

_____ Tug Lake Shelter (To access electricity, use key provided to unlock box on pedestal by light pole)
Fee: \$25.00; Security Deposit: \$25.00

_____ New Wood Park Shelter #1-near river (No electricity)
Fee: \$10.00; Security Deposit: \$25.00

_____ New Wood Park Shelter #2-near playground (No electricity)
Fee: \$10.00; Security Deposit: \$25.00

Shelter is reserved by _____
(Name, address and telephone no.)

for _____
Date

Signature of Person Reserving Shelter Date

Signature of Person Receiving Key (Tug Lake) Date

Signature of Person returning key (Tug Lake)

920 FACILITIES AND REPORTS

920.1 RECREATIONAL INVENTORY

- Otter Lake Recreation Area
 - 25 campsites
- Camp New Wood Recreation Area
 - 7 campsites
- Nature & Hiking trails
 - Bike trails – 30 miles
 - Horse trails – 21 miles
 - Cross Country Ski trails – 33 miles
- Snowmobile trails – 305.6 miles
- ATV trails
 - Winter – 44.7 miles
 - Summer – 39.5 miles
- Picnic areas / shelters
 - Otter Lake Recreation Area
 - Tug Lake Recreation Area
 - Camp New Wood Recreation Area
 - Haymeadow Wayside
- Swimming beaches
 - Otter Lake Recreation Area
 - Tug Lake Recreation Area
- Boat landings
 - Camp New Wood Recreation Area
 - Cranefoot Lake
 - Fox Lake
 - Harrison Flowage
 - High Lake
 - Horn Lake
 - Kordick Lake
 - Long Lake

Luecks Lake

Oak Lake

Otter Lake

Penny Lake

LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST ACCESS PLAN
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CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERS

<u>ATV</u>	Representative: Garth Heckendorf	536-2710
	Alternate: Clark Wolfe	453-3444
<u>Bike</u>	Representative: Mark Mehlos	536-9430
	Alternate: Ted Tautges	536-7249
<u>Cross-Country Ski</u>	Representative: Rich Prange	536-1704
<u>Environmental</u>	Representative: Diana Smith	453-5706
	Alternate: Ginger Jach-Richards	453-8518
<u>Fishing</u>	Representative: Paul Kleinschmidt	539-3505
	Alternate: Ken O'Malley	453-5972
<u>Hiking</u>	Representative: Greg Pleski	539-9534
	Alternate: George Cleveland	536-2246
<u>Horse</u>	Representative: Boni Biermier	873-4959
	Alternate: Maureen Johnson	536-7612
<u>Hunting</u>	Representative: Gary Waldburger	
	Alternate: Paul Proulx	536-4260
<u>Loggers/ Industrial Foresters</u>	Representative: Rick Graap	536-7746
	Alternate: Darrell Piersen	564-3217
<u>Snowmobile</u>	Representative: Gary Hilgendorf	453-2629
	Alternate: Mayward Krueger	536-4413
<u>Forestry Committee</u>	Representative: Ron Mittelsteadt	536-8724
	Alternate: R. Wayne Plant	536-6122
<u>Support Team</u>	Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department	536-0327
	Lincoln County Land Conservation	536-0363
	Department of Natural Resources – Bill Groth	536-4502

Forestry, Land and Parks Committee – 2005

Elroy Schmidt, Chair	536-2218
R. Wayne Plant	536-6122
Frank Saal, Jr.	536-6725
David J. Fox	539-3242
Graham Rankin	536-5904

INTRODUCTION CHAPTER

1. PROLOGUE

The Lincoln County Forest was founded in 1935 and presently consists of 100,708 acres. In the 1930's much of these lands had been cut over and burned and left tax delinquent. Access and the desire for access was very limited at that time, but over the years timber harvesting and recreational use of these lands has increased the number of roads and access points to the County Forest. With this increased use, problems have developed which resource managers and citizens must address. The problem areas that have been identified are user conflict, resource degradation, litter, law enforcement, endangered resources, crowding, etc. This Access Plan was developed to address these problems along with the changing and increasing uses of the Lincoln County Forest.

The Access Plan was developed by a 10 member Citizen Advisory Group and a Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee member. The representatives of all groups were elected by their peers. This group was assisted, for technical information, by a support team comprised of DNR and County staff.

In the process of developing the Access Plan, Lincoln County was divided into eight (8) blocks as follows: Harrison Block, Highway 8 Block, Highway T Block, Mail Route Block, New Wood Block, Pine Tree Lane Block, Underdown Block and Wildwood Block.

2. MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Access Plan is to provide direction to the present and future Forestry Committees and resource managers working on the County Forest. The Plan provides balanced access to a wide variety of groups while still protecting the natural resource. The responsibility to protect those natural resources is a shared duty between Lincoln County and the public who use this forest.

To accomplish this mission, scientific, economic and social values along with addressing the safety and education of the public users of this forest were considered in the Access Plan. A final element addressed was to formulate a method to enforce the conditions set forth in this Plan.

With the appropriate implementation of these issues, proper management will occur. The benefactors of proper implementation of conditions set forth in the Access Plan will be the environment as well as the people who use the Lincoln County Forest.

3. HISTORY OF ROADS AND ACCESS ON THE LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST

A. TIMBER HARVEST BEGINNING

From approximately 1860 to 1920 much of the timber in the County was logged, providing raw materials for a thriving timber industry and a growing country. The slash left behind

from the logging left ideal conditions for wildfires to occur, and from 1920 to 1940 many fires burned. After the timber was cut and the fires went through, land that was not suitable for agriculture was left barren and tax delinquent. During 1934, the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors began discussing the possibility of a forest reserve. It was felt that thousands of acres of tax delinquent lands would best be utilized by keeping them in timber production. In December of 1934, 60,000 acres were qualified for the state's forest crop program and were included in the Forestry and Recreation District.

On May 7, 1935 the County Forest Reserve was established with these and other pending lands. By November 13, 1935 Lincoln County had 74,247 acres included in the Forest Reserve. By comparison, today, the Lincoln County Forest has a land area of about 100,708 acres, which makes up approximately 17.5% of the County's land surface.

On May 6, 1936 the County Forest Ordinance was drafted. This ordinance established the Lincoln County Forest and outlined its uses and regulations. (§28.11 Administration of County Forests)

While in the process of harvesting and transporting forest products to the mills over the years, timber producers have built the majority of miles that make up the County Forest trail system. Rarely did staff from the County Forest or the Department of Natural Resources design, locate or set standards for these trails.

In the past decade the demand for and harvest of forest products has increased. Even as more timber has been removed, the forestry staff has decreased the size of sale areas to help improve diversity of age class, and improve the management of timber types. This has led to increases in the need for roads to access the timber resource. Since the early 1980's, the forest harvest contracts have specified that the Forestry Department will approve the location of logging roads.

It is understood that vehicles used in the management of the County Forest by staff, timber sale contractors, or other written permitted uses (handicapped, firewood, boughs, etc.) are exempt from specific regulations as specified in their respective agreements with Lincoln County.

B. OTHER MOTORIZED VEHICLES

The past decade has experienced a large increase in recreational vehicle users. An increase in snowmobile use was noted as well as the introduction of the ATV to the average income family. ATV use presently is noted on all blocks of the forest. Use ranges from casual riders on secondary roads to off-road uses in the most isolated areas by trappers, deer hunters and bear hunters. During the mid-1980's, development of an ATV trail was considered on the New Wood block of the County Forest. Several problems were encountered that would not allow this ambition to become a reality. These included numerous wetland crossings that would have to be negotiated, town roads that wouldn't be opened for ATV use, and this area was included in the eastern timber wolf range. As a result, a 15-mile ATV trail was developed in the Harrison Hills block instead. This state-funded trail is open year-round except during the spring when damage could occur due to soft trail conditions.

There are also many miles of snowmobile and winter ATV trails available to use both on and off the County Forest. Dirt bike use is also increasing. The change from present policy to more restrictive use recognizes the potential need to develop ATV trails and use areas in specific locations. Additional development of snowmobile trails is possible. Relocation of snowmobile trails may be necessary due to private easement changes or environmental conditions. Environmental damage has also occurred as a result of four-wheel drive highway licensed vehicles in certain sensitive areas. Regulations are needed to restrict such traffic in these locations as well.

C. NON-MOTORIZED USE

Non-motorized users of the existing road network have also increased dramatically. Cross-country skiing, mountain biking and hiking show the most noteworthy increase in visitor days in the established trail category. The Underdown Recreational Area has a three-loop cross-country ski trail system as well as a three-loop mountain bike tract. The County also maintains the 6.6-mile Hiawatha Trail that goes north from Tomahawk to the County line and is only open to hiking and biking in the summer. In addition, the Grandfather Falls, Harrison Hills, and Underdown segments of the Ice Age trail all traverse through County Forest property.

D. HORSEBACK RIDING

Horseback riding was only an occasional use in the 1970's. The past few years have shown a marked increase Countywide in private riding stables offering rides at a fee. Use of trails is quite common on the County Forest. The established "Bridle Trail" in the Underdown Recreational Area is being used by local clubs and organized groups for occasional riding events. An 11-site horse trailer camping facility is also available for use at Horseman's Park in the Underdown, although this facility is not exclusive to the horseback riding public.

E. FISHING AND ACCESS TO WATER

Fishing on the Lincoln County Forest has been a traditional use and is likely to continue in the future. Boat accesses have been developed to accommodate fishermen, as well as other recreational water users, and are covered under the Lincoln County Parks and Recreation Ordinance because of their location on County Forest or other County owned land. There are many undeveloped access points to lakes on the County Forest, which are covered under this ordinance as well.

The County Forest has historically been careful not to build excessive water access points to lakes and rivers. Overuse of small lakes and waterways appears possible based on County observations. Large watercraft and personal watercraft can be especially damaging to fragile aquatic ecosystems. Future generations of fishermen, waterfowl hunters, and canoers may benefit from a careful analysis of these sites before any further water access points are developed.

F. HUNTING ACCESS

Another major category of users of the forest is hunters. Whitetail deer, ruffed grouse and turkey hunters make up the majority of hunters. The intensity of habitat management for these species has affected timber sale design and road density and design. In the mid 1990's, 4 areas were identified on the County Forest for intensive grouse habitat management. At the present time, work on these units is underway but has not been completed.

Historically there has been motorized use by deer hunters, bear hunters and grouse hunters, as well as dog trainers on existing trails. With a marked increase in road construction came an expansion in the territory or area available to hunt by vehicle. In recent years this expansion of vehicle hunting area has increased conflicts between the motorized and non-motorized hunter.

G. ACCESS PROBLEMS AND AN ORDINANCE

As more roads were built and the growth of recreation use became apparent, the conflicts began to increase. In 1959 a "County Forest Ordinance" was adopted which, in part, helped regulate the use of County Forest roads and firelanes. In 1980 a "Forest and Parks Ordinance" was established. A portion of the ordinance allows penalties in the form of forfeiture for misuse of forest roads or recreational trails that are regulated in some form by the Forestry Department or Committee.

Gates and professionally manufactured signs have been erected on trails that are most susceptible to road damage. Water bars were constructed on erodible soils with steep slopes. These areas had suffered annual damage to the roadbeds by rutting and in some cases erosion. Users recognized immediate improvements to the safety and quality of their trails after gates and water bars protected these routes.

With the decision to close local landfills came another use of forest roads, an access to a secluded area to dump household and business refuse. Many more dumping incidents take place than are caught and fined. It appears as though illegal dumping may continue to occur as long as it is cheaper to do so than to pay for removal of refuse from the home or business.

The Forestry Office allows for a short period of time for gathering firewood, by permit, from recent cut areas if appropriate. After a period of time for firewood gathering, roads are stabilized and closed off to public road travel as needed to protect the resource.

The two ordinances mentioned above have been effective as a Countywide policy to a point, but damage to the forest continues to be a problem in certain sensitive areas. The ability of the forestry personnel to enforce road regulations for the protection of the County Forest and its users has been a problem because staff time cannot be assigned to these issues on a full time basis.

H. COUNTY FOREST ROAD DEVELOPMENT

In the 1970's the state funded a "County Forest Road" system at \$100/mile (per §86.315 (4)(a)). The County manages a limited number of miles in this system primarily for timber management, fire control and recreational use.

When the state withdrew funding through the Department of Transportation for this system, the County Forest Road system suffered. The Wisconsin County Forest Association (WCFA) began to work for the re-establishment of funds and succeeded in restoring the County Forest Road Aids program in 1988 at the rate of \$200/mile.

In 1999, funds were raised to approximately \$335 per mile. Since this reinstatement, the Lincoln County Forest has added two major roads; Horn Lake Road and Cinder Road. The 2004 mileage is 27.25 miles. Additional mileage will be added as deemed necessary.

I. COUNTY AND TOWNSHIP ACCESS

County

All new timber sales with access onto County Highways will require joint approval by the County Forest Administrator and the County Highway Commissioner. A temporary easement permit is required from the County Highway Commissioner.

Townships

All timber sales with new access onto Town Highways will require joint approval by the County Forest Administrator and the appropriate Town Officials.

J. SUMMARY

The history of access on the County Forest has moved from limited access to increased access by logging roads, to the overuse and destruction of logging roads and sensitive areas by recreational users.

Access to the Forest became necessary to reach timber sales and remove forest products. Today, the road system and the use of these roads for other motorized and non-motorized uses have grown.

The soils of Lincoln County are principally the result of weathering of glacial deposits. Considerable variation occurs in soil types within short distances. Soil types, steepness, length and shape of slopes, and the general pattern of drainage must be considered when designing access routes and trails as well as the use, amount of traffic, type of traffic etc. It is possible to design and maintain roads on erodible soils with steeper slopes but more care must be taken in the development process of these access points and more maintenance costs can be expected.

The resulting problems with increased access have become very evident in the 1990's and led to development of this policy attempting to deal with these situations. Regulating

access in some blocks has already been established providing a clear and concise direction for planning within the block.

Timber sales, snowmobile trails, ATV trails, no vehicle areas, primary County Forest roads, fire lanes, cross-country ski trails, trapping, horseback riding, hiking, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, and others are all legitimate uses of public land affected by roads and access.

The preparation of this plan is hoped to change the management of access from the 1980 and 1990's user-conflict management to a "Balanced Use Management" of access to the Forest, which is also environmentally friendly. Many cooperators such as the Lincoln County Snowmobile Council, Lincoln County Sportsman's Club, Ruffed Grouse Society, ATV Clubs, Logging Contractors, Cross-Country Ski Clubs and Mountain Bikers, Horseback riders and Ice Age Trail organizations have worked with the forestry staff in the past to attempt this multiple use balance on the County Forest. This list of cooperators will no doubt grow in the future with increased use of the Forest.

The benefactors of proper management will be the environment as well as the people who use the Forest. The fieldwork may be the simple part of the management process. Education of the public users as well enforcement of laws and ordinances will be difficult tasks to ensure that everyone's ability to enjoy the Forest is protected for the future.

DEFINITION CHAPTER

All -Terrain Vehicle (ATV)- As defined in §340.01 (2g), Wis. Stats., means an engine driven device which has a net weight of 900 lbs. or less, which has a width of 48" or less, which is equipped with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and which is designed to travel on 3 or more low-pressure tires. A low-pressure tire is a tire which has a minimum width of 6", which is designed to be mounted on a rim with a maximum diameter of 12" and which is designed to be inflated with an operating pressure not to exceed 6 lbs. per square inch as recommended by the manufacturer.

All -Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Route- A highway or sidewalk designated for use by all-terrain vehicle operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction as authorized by §23.33, Wis. Stats.

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Trail- A marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease, designated for use by all-terrain vehicle operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction, but excluding roadways of highways except those roadways which are not seasonally maintained for motor vehicle traffic or are designated as ATV routes.

County Forest- Those lands owned by Lincoln County and entered under the County Forest Law §28.11, Wis. Stats., either as Forest Lands or as Special Use Designated Lands.

Closed Road or Trail- A road or trail will be considered closed to motorized vehicles when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, earthen berms, or any other device placed by the County for the purpose of blocking a road.

Cross Country Travel- Any travel through the County Forest that is not on primary or secondary roads.

Damage- Any occurrence on the landscape that is detrimental or could have a potentially detrimental effect on the natural resources of the County Forest as determined by the Lincoln County Forestry Department.

Designated Trail- A trail signed for a specific recreational activity that has been approved for that use by the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

Highway Licensed Vehicle- Any motorized vehicle which is licensed for use on public highways or is intended to be licensed for such use. These vehicles are allowed on primary roads, secondary roads that are opened to their use, and parking areas except when such facilities are closed.

Hunter Walking Trail- A closed road or trail that is managed to provide access for traditional, non-motorized hunting. Management may include seeding or mowing of roads and trails, planning cutting schemes to diversify timber age classes and designing loop-type trail systems.

Motorized Vehicle-Any vehicle, including a combination of 2 or more vehicles or an articulated vehicle, which is self-propelled, except a vehicle operated exclusively on a rail.

Non-motorized- Use of a motor powered vehicle is prohibited other than when engaged in management activities or contract operations authorized by the Forestry Department.

Off-Road Vehicle- Any motorized vehicle designed or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other terrain, which would include, but not be limited to, such vehicles as four-wheel drive units, dune buggies, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, motorbikes, snowmobiles, amphibious vehicles, air-cushioned vehicles, air boats, and golf carts. (Motorbikes which are not highway licensed are not allowed on the County Forest).

Official Snowmobile and Winter All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Closing- That date and time selected and announced by the County Snowmobile Coordinator designating that the approved trails are closed for snowmobile and/or winter all-terrain vehicle use. Trails may not remain open later than March 31.

Official Snowmobile and Winter All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Opening-That date and time selected and announced by the County Snowmobile Coordinator designating that the approved trails are opened for snowmobile and/or winter all-terrain vehicle use. Winter ATV trails may be opened for use one week after the official opening of the state-funded snowmobile trail system and close when the temperature on the trail at a point four feet above the trail surface is 28 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Trails may not be opened earlier than Dec. 1.

Official Summer All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Closing- Summer all-terrain vehicle trails are closed from Dec. 1 to May 1 or when posted closed. Closed periods may be extended due to conditions that could cause damage or present a safety hazard.

Primary Roads- Roads which are constructed and maintained according to County Forest road standards and are eligible for County Forest road aid payments. These roads must be designated as a snowmobile or ATV route to be open for snowmobile or ATV use.

Quiet Area- An area that is managed for minimal motorized travel.

Secondary Roads- Roads or woods trails which have been approved by the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department; are not eligible for county forest road aid payments; have been developed primarily for use in the management and protection of the forest or for recreational use and receive maintenance or improvements periodically by the County Forestry staff or its agents.

Snowmobile- As defined in §340.01 (58a), Wis. Stats. any engine driven vehicle of a type which utilizes sled type runners, skis or an endless belt tread or any combination of these or similar means of contact with the surface upon which it is operated, but does not include such vehicles which are either manually propelled or driven by a motor of 4 horse power or less and operated only on private property.

Snowmobile or All-Terrain Vehicle Coordinator- The County Forest Administrator, his/her assistant or assistants and such other individuals designated by the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

Snowmobile Route- A highway or sidewalk designated for use by snowmobile operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction as authorized by §350.04, Wis. Stats.

Snowmobile Trail- A marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease, designated for use by operators of snowmobiles by the County Snowmobile Coordinator, but excluding highways, except those highways on which the roadway is not normally maintained for other vehicular traffic by the removal of snow or are designated as snowmobile routes.

SIGNAGE CHAPTER

This chapter is to provide guidance to the Lincoln County Forestry Department and to user groups of the County Forest, as to how signing shall take place on recreational trails so that a safe and uniform policy is in effect between all user groups throughout the Forest. When possible, the Lincoln County Forestry Department and user groups will reroute recreational trails off County timber sales when active harvesting or trucking of forest products is occurring. The DNR Handbook for signing, and each individual user groups' formal agreement with Lincoln County shall be consulted for trail signing guidelines. All trails on the Lincoln County Forest shall conform to State Statute requirements.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Except for informational and guide signs, all trail signs should be fully reflectorized if trail use is possible at night.
2. No trail sign should be placed more than 6 feet from the edge of the trail.
3. Place signs and posts carefully with regard to anticipated speed, brush line, trail curves, and line of sight.
4. Place trail signs to the right of the trail, when possible, to conform with the users familiarity with the placement of highway signs.
5. If 2 signs are placed on one post, place the sign with the more important message on top. Stop signs always convey the most important message.
6. For seasonal trails or special events, erect signs as close to the trail opening date or day of the event as possible and remove promptly at the end of the season or event. This reduces vandalism, reduces potential trespass and conserves sign life by reducing exposure to the elements.
7. Use adequately sized wood or metal sign posts to provide stability and deter vandalism.
8. Posts will be used for proper placement of regulatory, caution and stop signs.
9. Trail signing should be done by a small group of people familiar with trail signing guidelines to retain as much uniformity as possible.
10. Avoid overuse of signs. Only trail signs meeting standards for shape, color, size and reflectorization are allowed on trails. This avoids clutter and confusion.
11. If the Lincoln County Forestry Department and the respective user group allows, informational signs may be placed on the trail by trailside businesses, but these signs must conform to the standards for erection, color and shape (brown with white letters).
12. Extra signs should be carried with the grooming and maintenance equipment and trail patrols so that missing or vandalized signs can be quickly replaced.
13. Professional, positive signing techniques should be used.
14. Establish GPS points for emergency situations.
15. Trail etiquette user signs shall be appropriate for all user groups.

EDUCATION CHAPTER

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this chapter are to inform the public where the Lincoln County Forest Access Plan can be found for study or review and where supporting material from the plan can be found. It will also inform the public in regard to educational opportunities offered by different organizations and the Lincoln County Forestry Department.

Copies of the finalized Lincoln County Access Plan will be made available at the Merrill and Tomahawk public libraries, DNR offices, County Clerk's office, and the Lincoln County Forestry Department. Along with the plans there will be updated trail maps and brochures available at different locations throughout the County such as the Chamber of Commerce offices, County Extension office, DNR offices, Sheriff's office, Lincoln County Forestry office, and the Lincoln County web site.

Education will play a significant part in making the Lincoln County Access plan a success, with the ultimate goal of protecting the resource and reducing user conflict. The

Lincoln County Forestry Department along with other organizations such as the ATV Trail Ambassadors, Sportsman's Club, Snowmobile Clubs, Mountain Bike Club, Cross-Country Ski Club, and the Equestrian Club recognize that it is necessary to educate and inform not only the general public, but their own members as well about the value and importance of our County Forest. It is also important that these organizations help promote the different educational courses that are available such as ATV safety courses, boat safety courses, snowmobile safety courses, and hunters education. These courses not only teach students about the safety issues involved in their particular activities but also teach them about land ethics and the responsible use of the resources.

The Lincoln County Forestry Department would also like to set up educational workshops, open to the public, which will provide information pertaining to forest management and timber harvesting. The Forestry Department feels this would be an excellent opportunity to involve the public in forestry activities. This will enable a better understanding of what is necessary to manage a forest properly and the planning processes that are involved.

Along with the published information about the Access Plan, the Lincoln County Forestry Department and Club members will use professional signing techniques to help inform individuals of trail uses, potential hazards, and topics of interest. Public Service announcements along with the Lincoln County web site may be used to inform the public of trail openings and closings.

Public notification of events occurring on County Forestland will be the responsibility of the Club hosting the event. The Lincoln County Forestry Department must be made aware of all events, and will be able to give interested parties the appropriate contact to obtain information regarding the event.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CHAPTER

A. OBJECTIVES

1. Protect the public, employees, natural resources, and property under the jurisdiction of the Lincoln County Forestry Department.
2. Investigate and enforce applicable laws and regulations which affect the Lincoln County Forest.
3. Prevent criminal violations through informing and educating visitors and users of applicable laws and regulations.

(These objectives were derived from the USFS Law Enforcement division.)

This chapter covers some of the key aspects for law enforcement on the County Forest. These include citizen involvement, the potential role of a Recreation Officer, Staff, Sheriff's Department and Warden's role in law enforcement on the County Forest, and the use of surveillance cameras.

B. CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

The following is a description of the trail ambassador program as described by the Wisconsin DNR. The program is designed for ATV groups working through the DNR's Ride Smart Program. Currently in Lincoln County, the Harrison Hills ATV club is participating in the Trail Ambassador Program. Although this program is designed for ATV groups, other user groups could develop similar programs if they are interested. Citizens can also independently report violations directly to the Forestry Department at 715-536-0327, the Sheriff's Department at 715-536-6272 or anonymously through Crime Stoppers of Lincoln County at 715-536-3726.

The Trail Ambassador Program

What is a "Trail Ambassador?"

- A Trail Ambassador is a volunteer trail patroller. This person is trained through The Ride Smart Program under NOVICE™, a nonprofit organization, to help ATVers while riding on the trail. Trail Ambassadors are trained to act as role models for other ATVers to follow, distribute regulations & information, assist stranded ATVers and report violations if problems cannot be addressed through on-site education. The Trail Ambassador is a "police yourself" tool that is widely used in other community projects. Two well-known examples of this type of volunteer effort are the Neighborhood Watch and Wisconsin's Sturgeon Watch. Other "citizen watch" programs have shown significant increases in compliance and reductions in complaints and localized problems.

Are Trail Ambassadors law enforcement officers?

- No. The volunteers have no law enforcement authority. Although Trail Ambassadors will wear identification that makes them highly visible, the identifying vests are used as a visible deterrence and for recognition only.

C. RECREATION OFFICER

This is a brief description of the characteristics of a Recreational Officer position if it is established in Lincoln County. This description is based primarily on the experience of Douglas County as reported to the WCFA Recreation Committee on June 26, 2002.

The Recreation Officer position is completely under the authority of the Sheriff's Department. A Recreation Officer is typically furnished with full uniform, a truck and a snowmobile. In Douglas County, Snowmobile and ATV funds pay 60% of the salary; the balance comes from General Revenues. Timber revenues go into the General Fund, so in a round about way, the forestry work does pay for the salary. Douglas County has experienced a reduction in vandalism and timber theft. There now is someone to handle complaints related to easement violations. The offenders are being caught and there is reduced motorized damage. It has not, however, solved all the County's problems.

The deputy is a Recreation Officer, not a Patrol Officer. A County must be careful when selecting the person for this job. What is needed is a person who is good at public relations. This is not a 9 to 5 job. Counties must notify the proper State Officials when they plan to hire someone to fill this position. The Sheriff must file intent to patrol.

Some benefits Douglas County has reported from this position are as follows:

1. Reduced timber theft.
2. Reduced vandalism to park facilities.
3. Reduced costs associated with re-routing Snowmobile/ATV trails due to more satisfied landowners who know there is a law enforcement presence to address any potential problems.
4. Increased tourism as the "bad apples" are removed from the trail/park system.
5. Reduced damage caused by motorized and non-motorized users.
6. Revenues generated by tickets issued under County Ordinances.
7. Reduced number of permanent tree stands.
8. Reduced costs associated with illegal dumping.
9. Reduced costs associated with "kegger" type parties with large numbers of minors.
10. Increased compliance with County permits - firewood, special camping, boughs, etc.

The following are brief comments from several Counties that have experience with the Recreational Officer position:

(Marinette) "We have 2 forest patrol officers to work on the County Forest. We could use 10 to keep up. There are 2 parks night caretakers working 40 hrs/wk in the evenings to help keep order in the Parks during the summer".

(Rusk) "This is called a County Conservation Officer. Duties are park, boating, snowmobile trail, County Forest patrol. State funding for boating and snowmobile trail patrol is also used".

(Florence) "Our County hired a person under the COP'S grant program. He was to be a Conservation Officer. Main activities were to do boat, snowmobile, ATV patrol. Help with timber sale, park, and other forestry duties. He was also supposed to be a backup of the deputies. He has done very little conservation work and almost all deputy work. His supervisor is the Sheriff. Has not worked. - person has to work for the Forestry Department".

(Clark) "New position in 2001. Deal struck: Whatever salaries and wages that are not reimbursed under ATV, snowmobile, and boat patrol will be paid for by Forestry budget. So long as work is associated with the forest. (i.e. illegal dumping, tree stands, timber theft, etc.)".

(Burnett) "This has been a great move for the County. We have been able to take care of a lot of problems. It has been one of the best moves for the County to have a deputy working on these issues".

D. THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AND DNR CONSERVATION WARDEN'S ROLE

The DNR Conservation Warden is primarily responsible for enforcing State regulations. They do not have jurisdiction to enforce County Ordinances. Often times they will work closely together with the Sheriff's Department to report violations of County Ordinances when enforcing State Statutes.

The following is an explanation from Rick Peters, Conservation Warden for Lincoln County, on his role in working with the Sheriff's Department on County law enforcement issues:

“Conservation Wardens have statutory authority to enforce State laws relating to hunting, fishing, snowmobile, ATV, boating, and environmental protection on all properties within the State. For recreational vehicles, I can enforce such things as helmet laws, registration, age restrictions, equipment violations, intoxicated use, reckless operation, and trespass to private land. I cannot enforce local ordinances such as speed ordinances or trespass onto County land. This enforcement authority does not apply to such things as go-karts or dirt bikes, because they are not regulated by the DNR.

Wardens may also act on specific requests from local law enforcement, if we see a crime in our presence, or for any violation on State owned lands. If I saw someone traveling off the trail in a restricted area in violation of the County Ordinance, I could notify the Sheriff's Office and they could request me to take action. If I saw someone intentionally damaging property, I could take action as that is a crime.

The Sheriff's Department can enforce all of the same laws that I do, as well as locally adopted ordinances. The Sheriff's Office would be the enforcement agency for any ordinance violations on County lands.

Wardens often work together with local law enforcement on related issues. If I see a violation of a County Ordinance or violation for which I do not have direct enforcement authority, I can take down information and refer it to a deputy for follow-up. Likewise, the Sheriff's Office can and does refer things to me.

In the event of organized recreational patrol by the Sheriff's Department, I could and would assist and participate.”

E. FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS STAFF

The role of the Forestry, Land & Parks staff is to assist and support all aspects of enforcement on the County Forest. In many cases, staff may be in the position to identify enforcement issues and take necessary steps to correct these problems. If a violation of a County Ordinance is observed, pertinent information is recorded and reported to the proper authorities. If a private citizen observes and reports a violation, staff will assist and instruct as to the proper procedure for filing a complaint with a law enforcement officer. Staff will follow through with tips provided by citizens that may result in the issuance of a citation for violations of County Ordinances.

F. SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS

The use of surveillance cameras on the County Forest has some potential in reducing both timber theft and vandalism. Cameras can be set up in problem areas and then checked periodically. Some of the limitations of the Cameras are their ability to work at night and damage or theft of the camera itself if it is discovered.

FUNDING CHAPTER

This chapter contains important information in regard to maintaining and enhancing access, wildlife habitat, timber harvest, resource protection, and recreation on the Lincoln County Forest. The chapter will try to identify all sources of revenue available to Lincoln County and the citizens who use the County Forest. Major funding sources that have been identified are donations from clubs and users, user fees, State and Federal aids and grants, tax levy, and revenue from the sale of timber from the County Forest. It may also be possible to use funds raised from other sources to maintain and establish new trails and facilities. Raising these funds would give diverse groups an opportunity to work together and foster mutual respect and understanding. Fundraisers could include raffles, sales of memberships, etc.

Below find the breakdown of County Forest uses with present funding sources and possible future sources listed.

Equestrian

Club
User Fees
State Organization
Donations
National Recreational Trail Act

Hiking

Club
User Fees
State and Federal Organizations
Rails – Trails
Donations

Biking

Club
User Fees
State Organization
Rails – Trails
Donations
National Recreational Trail Act

Hunting

Club
State and Federal Organizations
a. Whitetails Unlimited
b. Ruffed Grouse Society
c. Turkey Foundation
Wildlife Habitat
County Conservation Fund

Fishing

Club
State and Federal Organizations
a. Trout Unlimited
User Fees – Boat Launchings

Cross Country Ski

Club
User Fees
Donations
State and Federal Organizations
Rails – Trails
National Recreational Trail Act

Handicap - Elderly

Environmental

Sustainable Forestry Grants
Stewardship Grants
a. Habitat Restoration
b. River Protection
c. Lake Protection
d. Stream Bank
County Conservation Fund
Timber Revenue

ATV

Club
Registration – State Aid
Donations
State Organization
Rails – Trails

Forestry Issues

Timber Sale Revenue
Road Aids

Snowmobile

Club

Registration – State A

Donations

State and Federal Organization

Rails – Trails

Recreation Officer

ATV Funds

Snowmobile Funds

Boating Funds

County Resource Aid

Funds (Kincaid)

Timber Sale Revenue

Land Purchase

County Forest Land

Donations

Timber Sale Revenue

Stewardship Funds

Land Legacy

This, as all parts of this plan, is not static. As new issues arise and new funding sources become available, they can be added to our list of funding possibilities. It is recommended that whenever possible, multiple grant sources should be used to stretch the dollars and not deplete one source in favor of another.

REVIEW PROCESS CHAPTER

The objective of this Chapter is to provide a road map for periodic review of access and resource issues that have an impact on the Lincoln County Forest. It is recognized that these issues are not static, and as new ideas and concerns arise, it is prudent to study the outcome they may have on our County Forest. From this study, we can recommend procedures that will enhance the Forest resources that we all depend on for material and recreational use.

I. APPROVAL OF LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST ACCESS PLAN

The Lincoln County Forest Access Plan was approved by the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors on May 18, 2004 per Resolution 2004-03-11.

II. ONGOING CITIZEN’S ADVISORY GROUP AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Lincoln County, along with the Citizen’s Advisory Group, embarked on a plan to involve the public in the process of developing an Access Plan for the Lincoln County Forest. The intention of the Citizen’s Advisory Group is to promote awareness of conflicts and reduce and resolve these conflicts. Ongoing cooperation, respect for other users, along with public involvement is essential in making the Access Plan a good working document.

A variety of techniques were used to provide ways for the public to participate in the planning process. Included in the process were the following:

- *Informational booth at the Lincoln County Fair
- *Questionnaires
- *Press releases
- *Research and Presentations
- *Open meetings of the Citizen’s Advisory Group
- *Public comments
- *Open house meetings

After development of the Access Plan, the Citizen's Advisory Group may meet periodically to address situations which may occur and review the plan's success.

III. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

All User Groups desire access to the County Forest while protecting the natural resource. Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices (BMP's) for Water Quality are designed to help loggers, landowners, land managers, and land users to be good stewards of the County Forest. The Citizen's Advisory Group has incorporated BMP's into the planning process of the Access Policy. Forestry, water, soils, wildlife and recreation are all considerations in forest management. The Forestry Department, Land Conservation Department and the Department of Natural Resources will work together to provide an environmental analysis to evaluate probable environmental effects that various uses may have on the resources of the Lincoln County Forest.

IV. ORGANIZED USER GROUPS LAND USE AGREEMENTS

Each organized User Group with a designated trail designed for their use will complete a formal Land Use Agreement or Contract. These Land Use Agreements or Contracts are subject to change. For organized events, proof of insurance must be provided to the Lincoln County Forestry Department.

LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST BLOCK NARRATIVES AND INDIVIDUAL CONDITIONS, OBJECTIVES AND POTENTIAL PROJECTS

*HARRISON BLOCK

HARRISON BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 26,200 acres of county forestland and includes 319 acres of special use county land referred to as the Wirth property. Mixed hardwood-white birch-oak stands (58%) make up the majority of this unit, followed by aspen (23%), swamp conifer-black spruce-tamarack (8%), swamp hardwood (2%), tag alder (2%), and red pine (1%). The remaining 6% of this tract is primarily composed of lowland marsh, grass, upland brush, and fir-spruce types. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objectives for this property are to expand the aspen cover type for diversity and wildlife habitat enhancement and to develop high quality hardwood stands for timber production. Other primary considerations when managing timber on this block are BMP's and protecting water quality, preventing erosion on steep slopes, and aesthetics.

The topography in this block ranges from nearly level to very steep. This unit is comprised primarily of the Saronia-Keweenaw-Goodman soil association, which consists of well-drained loamy and silty soils on terminal and recessional end moraines. The end moraines have the highest elevations and some of the roughest terrain in the county. In most areas the swells, hills, and ridges are interspersed with many small kettles and lake basins and a few narrow drainage valleys. Many of the kettles and lake basins contain lakes, ponds, bogs or swamps. Slopes are mostly short and complex. A minor secondary type in the northeast part of this block is the Pence-Padus-Antigo soil association. This type consists mostly of soils in outwash areas that are made up of knolls, swells, hills and ridges and are characterized by undulating to hilly topography. The landscape includes some small, nearly level, rather flat outwash plains that are pitted with kettles. The terrain also contains basins and drainageways. Many of the depressional areas contain lakes, streams, ponds, bogs or swamps. Slopes range from nearly level and smooth to very steep and complex.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential for erosion on steep slopes. Forest roads and recreational trails must be located to follow natural contours and to minimize cuts and fills. Drainage structures such as pipe culverts or water bars may be necessary to prevent erosion and protect water quality, especially on long steep grades. Soil stabilization methods such as seeding or installing sediment control structures may be needed on newly constructed roads or trails and existing routes must be well maintained or water quality protection structures may quickly degrade. Inactive roads could be closed to help protect the road surface and the water quality protection structures.

The Big Pine Creek, Little Pine Creek, Green Meadow Creek and Pepper Creek are present on this block. Many small pothole lakes are also scattered across the landscape in this unit.

Fifteen geographic sections of this block are named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community. These

were identified in the Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) generated by the Bureau of Endangered Resources, 7/27/1999.

This unit encounters a wide range of recreational use throughout the year. Among these uses are hunting; sightseers; funded and non-funded snowmobile and winter ATV trails (corridor 15, 16, trail J and Otter Lake trail); the county only summer-use ATV trail; Harrison ice age trail; and the Otter Lake park, campground and nature trail. In addition, the county maintains 21 formal boatlandings to give access to the water resources for fishing or other recreational uses. Many informal access points to water also exist. Funding is currently being requested to construct a second summer-use ATV trail in this unit. Motorized travel, hunting or trapping is not allowed on the special-use Wirth property. At the present time, the County is working on developing a walking trail on this 319-acre parcel.

HARRISON BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Prohibit the use of recreational motorized vehicles, mountain bikes and horses on all designated hiking trails unless the Lincoln County Forestry Department designates a portion of the hiking trail for multiple use.
2. Many of the lakes in the Harrison Block are small and fall under the size allowed for outboard motorized use. Therefore, roads and turnarounds should be no larger than to provide for lightweight boats on small trailers. This refers to small lakes only and is not meant to limit legitimate use of trailers and motors where their use is valid.

HARRISON BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. Preserve the designated hiking trails that traverse this block.
2. Designated ATV use will be allowed on this block.
3. Establish a Quiet area in this block; non-motorized use.
4. Existing trails on Harrison trail map to be implemented for designated multi-use.
5. Non-funded trail from Town Hall Road to Harrison Hills trail area remain open (ATV use).
6. Trail use exclusive to Cross-Country Skiing during snow season.

HARRISON BLOCK POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. Cinder Road and Ament Lake Road signed open for ATV's.
2. State-funded ATV trail expansion for multi-use. (Pending DNR process outline)
3. Create open shelters at ATV parking lots with other amenities.
4. Reclaim Otter Run Ski Trail when appropriate.
5. Creation of designated Equestrian Trails in the future. Until that time, allow Equestrians to use summer ATV trails.
6. Maintain parking areas in northwest end of Harrison and CTH B and at gravel pit dump on east end of CTH B.
7. Complete current proposed hiking trail for the Roothouse Lake area.
8. Establish a new Harrison Hills Hiking Trail from the Ice Age Trail to Otter Lake via Beaver, Ament, Tahoe, and Roothouse lakes area.
9. Develop Harrison Hills designated single or multiple track Mountain Bike trail.

***HIGHWAY 8 BLOCK**

HIGHWAY 8 BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 6500 acres of county forestland and includes 1430 acres of recently acquired property in the townships of Wilson and Bradley. Aspen stands (34%) make up the majority of this unit, followed by Mixed hardwood-White Birch-Hemlock and Hardwood (22%), tag alder (14%), swamp conifer (13%), pine (6%), and swamp hardwood (3%). The remaining 8% of this tract is primarily composed of lowland marsh, grass and fir-spruce types. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objectives for this property are to establish more of the pine cover type and to perpetuate the white birch cover type since this is a diminishing species on the landscape.

The topography in this unit has little local relief and few areas of surface water, except for several small streams. The terrain features are generally linear and orientated from northwest to southeast. The elongated or oval drumlins and moraines are separated by long, shallow drainage valleys that contain swamps and bogs which are only slightly lower in elevation than the crests of the moraines and drumlins. The upland ridges have broad crests and gentle slopes. This unit is comprised primarily of the Croswood-Lupton-Augwood soil association, which consists of moderately well drained, very poorly drained and somewhat poorly drained, nearly level and gently sloping, sandy and mucky soils on outwash-veneered moraines and drumlins. A minor secondary type in this block is the Sarwet-Moodig-Lupton association. This type consists of moderately well drained, somewhat poorly drained, and very poorly drained, nearly level and gently sloping, loamy and mucky soils on moraines and drumlins.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential for rutting on unimproved roads. Many of the logging roads can be rutted by heavy vehicles because of wetness. During dry periods, loose sand can interfere with the traction of wheeled equipment on some soils. Most public roads require graveling and maintenance in order to make them accessible to passenger vehicle traffic during rainy periods.

The Johnson Creek and Hay Creek are present on this block.

Four geographic sections of this block are named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community. These were identified in the Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) generated by the Bureau of Endangered Resources, 7/27/1999.

The major recreational use in this area consists of large and small game hunting which includes ruffed grouse, whitetail deer and black bear. Late summer and fall are when this unit encounters its greatest use. In addition, a non-funded snowmobile trail (trail 8) travels through the north end of this block.

HIGHWAY 8 BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.

HIGHWAY 8 BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. Minimize motorized travel from private land into this block.
2. Designated hiking trails are allowed on this block.
3. Designated ATV use will be allowed on this block.
4. Maintain all secondary hunter access roads to an acceptable level, including ditching, crowning, gravelling, plowing and grading.

HIGHWAY 8 BLOCK POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. Where appropriate, secondary roads should be improved to a suitable point off primary roads and then opened. Beyond these points, it will be non-motorized thus creating a quiet area.

*HIGHWAY T BLOCK

HIGHWAY T BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 14,400 acres of county forestland. Aspen stands (54%) make up the majority of this block, followed by tag alder (15%), keg-lowland marsh (13%), northern hardwoods (8%), swamp conifer (7%), and pine types (1%). The remaining 2% of this tract is primarily composed of swamp hardwood, upland brush, fir-spruce and grass. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objective for this property is to maintain the aspen cover type for timber production and wildlife habitat enhancement. Another major consideration when managing timber on this block is to perpetuate green cover for wildlife and to sustain the many wetlands which are present in this area.

The topography on this block is nearly level and gently sloping. The western portion of this unit is comprised primarily of the Magnor-Lupton-Capitola soil association and the eastern section is predominantly made up of the Sarwet-Moodig-Lupton soil association. The Ossmer-Minocqua-Sconsin and the Croswood-Lupton-Augwood soil associations are also minor soil associations in this block. These types are moderately well drained, somewhat poorly drained and very poorly drained loamy and mucky soils on moraines, drumlins and outwash plains. They are mainly characterized by low recessional moraines and drumlins intermingled with swamps and bogs. The landscape has little local relief and few areas of surface water, except for small streams in the valleys. The swamps and bogs are only slightly lower in elevation than the crests of the moraines and drumlins. The landscape features are linear in the drumlin areas and are oriented from northwest to southeast. The drumlins have broad crests and gentle slopes. Many of the upland areas have a thin surface veneer of glacial outwash deposits. These glacial meltwater deposits are thicker on the foot slopes that border the swamps and bogs. Slopes are mostly long and smooth.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential of rutting on unimproved roads because of low soil strength and wetness. Erosion can also be a concern in areas where the slope is more than 2%. During dry periods, loose sand can interfere with the traction of wheeled equipment or be subject to blowing on certain soil types. Public roads may require graveling and maintenance in order to make them accessible to passenger vehicle traffic during wet periods.

The Landwehr Creek, Squaw Creek and the Flanigan Creek are present on this block.

Fourteen geographic sections of this block are named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community. These were identified in the Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) generated by the Bureau of Endangered Resources, 7/27/1999.

The major recreational use in this area consists of large and small game hunting which includes ruffed grouse, whitetail deer and black bear. Late summer and fall are when this unit encounters its greatest use. In addition, two state-funded snowmobile trails (corridor 19 and trail 86) travel through this block.

HIGHWAY T BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.

HIGHWAY T BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. Designated hiking trails are allowed on this block.
2. Designated ATV trails will be allowed on this block.

HIGHWAY T BLOCK POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. All secondary roads more than 1 mile long will have graveled parking lots.
2. Where appropriate, secondary roads should be improved to about ½ mile off primary roads and then opened. Beyond this point, it shall be non-motorized thus creating a quiet area.
3. Work with Spirit Valley Riders ATV Club to create trails.

***MAIL ROUTE BLOCK**

MAIL ROUTE BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 4,550 acres of county forestland that includes 120 acres of non-forestcrop property being leased as a gravel pit. Aspen stands (40%) make up the majority of this unit, followed by mixed hardwood-oak-white birch (28%), swamp conifer-black spruce-tamarack (10%), keg-lowland marsh (8%), tag alder (3%), red pine-white pine (2%), and fir-spruce (2%). The remaining 7% of this tract are primarily composed of upland brush, grass and swamp hardwood. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objective for this property is to expand the aspen cover type for wildlife habitat enhancement and timber production. A secondary objective is to maintain an intermingling of quality hardwood stands throughout this tract for timber production and cover-type diversity. The western portion of this block has been developed into one of the counties ruffed grouse management units.

The topography in this block ranges from nearly level to very steep. The western portion of this unit is comprised primarily of the Vilas-Sayner-Keweenaw soil association, which consists of excessively drained and well-drained sandy and loamy soils on outwash plains and moraines. This association is composed mostly of soils that formed in ridges of glacial drift deposited along the edge of a glacier that was retreating downslope to the northwest. The ridges of drift are fronted by areas of outwash and contain knolls, hills, and ridges of glacial outwash interspersed with morainic uplands. The outwash was most likely deposited by meltwater flowing southwest along the margin of the glacial ice. Areas of this association have a rough, complex topography and contain many small kettles, basins, and narrow drainageways. Many of the depressional areas have no drainage outlet. Slopes are short and complex. During dry periods, loose sand can interfere with the traction of wheeled vehicles on some types of soil in this association. The eastern portion of this block consists exclusively of the Pence-Padus-Antigo soil association, which are well-drained loamy and silty soils on outwash plains. This association consists mostly of soils in outwash areas that are made up of knolls, swells, hills, and ridges and are characterized by undulating to hilly topography. The landscape includes some small, nearly level, rather flat outwash plains that are pitted with kettles. The terrain also contains basins and drainageways. Many of the depressional areas contain lakes, streams, ponds, bogs, or swamps. Slopes range from nearly level and smooth to very steep and complex.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential for erosion on steep slopes. Sandy soils are especially prone to this risk. Forest roads and recreational trails must be located to follow natural contours and to minimize cuts and fills. Drainage structures such as pipe culverts or water bars may be necessary in some of the more poorly drained soils to prevent erosion and protect water quality. Soil stabilization methods such as seeding or installing sediment control structures may also be needed on newly constructed roads or trails and existing routes must be well maintained or water quality protection structures may quickly degrade. Inactive roads could be closed to help protect the road surface and the water quality protection structures. Plans currently exist on this block to provide for motorized access on a few designated secondary roads to give access to water or into the interior of this unit, and close the remaining roads to motorized travel and maintain these routes as hunter walking trails.

The Harrison Flowage and several branches of the Pine Creek are present on this block. A number of small lakes are also scattered across the landscape in this unit.

Two geographic sections of this block are named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community. These were identified in the Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) generated by the Bureau of Endangered Resources, 7/27/1999.

The major recreational use in this area consists of large and small game hunting, especially ruffed grouse. Late summer and fall are when this unit encounters its greatest use. The county maintains one formal boatlanding to give access to the water resources for fishing or other recreational uses. A second access point is being planned for this unit in the near future.

MAIL ROUTE BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Close the secondary road that travels southwesterly off Mail Route road to motorized traffic.
2. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.

3. Very limited motorized vehicle use (under County Forester's discretion).

MAIL ROUTE BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. Designated hiking trails are allowed on this block.

***NEW WOOD BLOCK**

NEW WOOD BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 30,500 acres of county forestland. Aspen stands (51%) make up the majority of this block, followed by mixed hardwood-oak-white birch (17%), tag alder (16%), and swamp conifer types (6%). The remaining 10% of this tract is primarily composed of swamp hardwood, fir-spruce, white pine, upland brush, grass, and lowland marsh types. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objective for this property is to maintain large blocks of the aspen cover type for timber production and wildlife habitat management. A secondary objective is to develop an intermingling of quality hardwood stands throughout this tract for timber production and cover-type diversity. Another major consideration when managing timber in this block is to perpetuate green cover for wildlife habitat enhancement. The southwest and northwest portion of this region contains two of the county's four ruffed grouse management areas (8600 acres). These areas are still in the planning stage and are currently not completely closed to public motorized travel.

The topography in this unit is mostly flat, except for a few morainic mounds that protrude slightly higher than the level of the plain. Depressional areas, such as drainageways and basins, are common throughout the outwash plain. Streams, lakes, swamps, bogs, and marshes make up these lower features. This unit is comprised primarily of the Magnor-Lupton-Capitola soil association, which consists of somewhat poorly drained and very poorly drained, nearly level and gently sloping, silty and mucky soils on moraines and drumlins.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential for rutting on unimproved roads. Many of the logging trails can be rutted by heavy vehicles because of wetness. Public roads require graveling and maintenance in order to make them accessible to passenger vehicle traffic during rainy periods.

The Averill Creek, Newood River, Kelly Creek, Woodrow Creek, Camp Twenty-six Creek, Alery Creek, Armstrong Creek, Coffee Creek, and the Spirit River are present on this block. In addition, the Coffee Creek, Camp Twenty-six Creek and Morrison Lake Flowages are maintained for waterfowl habitat.

Twenty-seven geographic sections of this block are named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community. These were identified in the Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) generated by the Bureau of Endangered Resources, 7/27/1999.

The major recreational use in this area consists of large and small game hunting which include ruffed grouse, whitetail deer and black bear. Late summer and fall are when this unit encounters its greatest use. In addition, a major north-south snowmobile and winter ATV trail (corridor 19) travels through this block.

NEW WOOD BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Primary roads closed for ATV use unless posted open.
2. Secondary roads closed to all motorized vehicles except those that are designated for winter ATV trails, Snowmobile trails, and those posted open.
3. Snowmobile trail from CTH E to Swamp Road open for ATV use (gated on ends) from May 1 to December 1 unless posted closed.

NEW WOOD BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. Hunter walking trails should be developed and maintained in this block.
2. Designated hiking trails are allowed on this block.
3. Designated ATV use will be allowed on this block.

NEW WOOD BLOCK POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. Averill Creek fire lane from Camp Ave. to Morrison Lake should be improved and then opened.
2. Averill Creek fire lane from New Wood Road to Averill Creek should be improved and then opened.
3. All secondary roads more than 1 mile long will have graveled parking lots.
4. Where appropriate, secondary roads should be improved to about ½ mile off primary roads and then opened. Beyond these points, motorized vehicles will be prohibited, thus creating a quiet area.

***PINE TREE LANE BLOCK**

PINE TREE BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 5000 acres of county forestland. Aspen stands (35%) make up the majority of this block, followed by pine (28%), tag alder (17%), keg (6%), swamp conifer (2%), swamp hardwood (1%), and white birch (1%). The remaining 10% of this tract is primarily composed of grass, upland brush, fir-spruce and cedar. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objective for this block is to maintain the aspen and pine cover types for timber production and wildlife habitat enhancement. Another major consideration when managing timber on this block is to sustain the many wetlands which are present in this area.

NEW WOOD BLOCK

CONDITIONS

1. Primary roads closed for ATV use unless posted open.
2. Secondary roads closed to all motorized vehicles except those that are designated for winter ATV trails, Snowmobile trails, and those posted open.

OBJECTIVES

1. Hunter walking trails should be developed and maintained in this block.
2. Designated hiking trails are allowed on this block
3. Designated ATV use will be allowed on this block.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. Averill Creek fire lane from Camp Ave. to Morrison Lake should be improved and then opened.
2. Averill Creek fire lane from New Wood Road to Averill Creek should be improved and then opened.
3. All secondary roads more than 1 mile long will have graveled parking lots.
4. Where appropriate, secondary roads should be improved to about ½ mile off primary roads and then opened. Beyond these points, motorized vehicles will be prohibited, thus creating a quiet area.
5. Snowmobile trail from CTH E to Swamp Road open for ATV use (gated on ends) from May 1 to December 1 unless posted closed.

The topography on this block is nearly level and gently sloping. This unit is comprised primarily of the Vilas-Croswell-Markey soil association. It is excessively drained, moderately-well drained, and very poorly drained, nearly level to sloping, sandy and mucky soils on outwash plains. This association consists of soils on outwash plains that have little local relief. The topography is relatively flat, except for a few morainic mounds that protrude upward, slightly higher than the level of the plain and a long, prominent esker that extends from northwest to southeast along the Somo River. Depressional areas, such as drainageways and basins, are common throughout the outwash plain. Streams, lakes, swamps, bogs, and marshes are in these lower areas. This association contains much of the surface water in the county. Slopes are mostly long and smooth, except for the short slopes adjacent to depressional areas. The Sarwet-Moodig-Lupton and the Croswood-Lupton-Augwood soil associations are also minor soil associations in this block. These types are moderately well drained, somewhat poorly drained and very poorly drained sandy, loamy and mucky soils on moraines, drumlins and outwash plains. They are mainly characterized by low recessional moraines and drumlins intermingled with swamps and bogs. The landscape has little local relief and few areas of surface water, except for small streams in the valleys. The swamps and bogs are only slightly lower in elevation than the crests of the moraines and drumlins. The landscape features are linear in the drumlin areas and are oriented from northwest to southeast. The drumlins have broad crests and gentle slopes. Many of the upland areas have a thin surface veneer of glacial outwash deposits. These glacial meltwater deposits are thicker on the foot slopes that border the swamps and bogs. Slopes are mostly long and smooth.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential of rutting on unimproved roads in areas which are poorly drained because of low soil strength and wetness. During dry periods, loose sand can interfere with the traction of wheeled equipment or be subject to blowing on certain soil types. Public roads may require graveling and maintenance in order to make them accessible to passenger vehicle traffic during wet periods.

The Somo River and Somo Lake are present on this block.

Three geographic sections of this block are named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community. These were identified in the Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) generated by the Bureau of Endangered Resources, 7/27/1999.

The major recreational use in this area consists of large and small game hunting which includes ruffed grouse, whitetail deer and black bear. Late summer and fall are when this unit encounters its greatest use.

PINE TREE LANE BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.
2. ATV use allowed on this block except where closed.

PINE TREE LANE BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. Designated hiking trails are allowed on this block.

PINE TREE LANE BLOCK POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. Develop Cross-Country Ski, Bike and Horse Trails on this block.

*UNDERDOWN BLOCK

UNDERDOWN BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 8,260 acres of county forestland. Mixed hardwood-white birch stands (49%) make up the majority of this unit, followed by aspen (22%), keg-lowland marsh (15%), swamp conifer-tamarack-black spruce (6%), red pine-white pine (3%), swamp hardwood (1%), tag alder (1%), and fir-spruce (1%). The remaining 2% of this tract are primarily composed of upland brush and grass. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objectives for this property are to develop high quality hardwood stands for timber production and to maintain the current aspen cover type and to expand this type when possible where poorer quality hardwood stands exist, for diversity and wildlife habitat enhancement. Other primary considerations when managing timber on this block are BMP's and protecting water quality, preventing erosion on steep slopes, recreational trails and esthetics.

The topography in this block ranges from nearly level to very steep. This unit is comprised primarily of the Sarona-Keweenaw-Goodman soil association, which consists of well-drained loamy and silty soils on terminal and recessional end moraines. The end moraines have the highest elevations and some of the roughest terrain in the county. In most areas the swells, hills, and ridges are interspersed with many small kettles and lake basins and a few narrow drainage valleys. Many of the kettles and lake basins contain lakes, ponds, bogs or swamps. Slopes are mostly short and complex. A minor secondary type in the northern part of this block is the Lupton-Padwet-Minocqua soil association, which consists of very poorly drained and moderately well drained, mucky and loamy soils on outwash plains. This type consists mostly of soils in flow channels created by glacial meltwater. It encompasses some of the lowest positions on the landscape and includes small swells, hills, ridges, and flat remnants of outwash plains. Many of the flats border the valley slopes of adjacent uplands. The association also includes some isolated morainic knolls and swells and many streams. The channel floors of the streams are frequently ponded during wet periods. Slopes are generally long and smooth.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential for erosion on steep slopes and of overuse from the wide variety of trails present on this block. Forest roads and recreational trails must be located to follow natural contours and to minimize cuts and fills. Drainage structures such as pipe culverts or water bars may be necessary to prevent erosion and protect water quality, especially on long steep grades. Soil stabilization methods such as seeding or installing sediment control structures may be needed on newly constructed roads or trails and existing routes must be well maintained or water quality protection structures may quickly degrade. Inactive roads could be closed to help protect the road surface and the water quality protection structures.

The Prairie River is present on this block in addition to many small pothole lakes and kegs.

One geographic section of this block is named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community.

This unit encounters year-round recreational use. It has the widest range and experiences the most recreational use of any other part of the county forest. Among these uses are hunting; sightseers; funded snowmobile and winter ATV trails (trail 51); cross-country ski trails; Underdown ice age trail; equestrian trails and mountain bike trails. In addition, the county maintains 8 formal boat landings to give access to the water resources for fishing or other recreational uses. Many informal access points to water also exist. This entire unit is also managed as a ruffed grouse management area.

UNDERDOWN BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Allow designated ATV use only after ATV compliance has been demonstrated in Harrison Hills Block. Then open perimeter roads only, such as Horn Lake Road, so that ATV's can connect to open Town Roads. Open Snowmobile trail to summer ATV use only after the area east of Loop Road is repaired and constructed for that use. Compliance will be determined by the Lincoln County Forestry Committee.
2. No RV's or large camper trailers allowed on secondary roads.
3. A core area be managed to accommodate future growth in non-motorized recreational activities. All other motorized vehicles would be prohibited without express and written permission from the County Forestry Department, and said permission would be granted as required.
4. Identify standards of acceptable trail design, construction, maintenance, and use for each user group in this block. For new and existing trails, this would include multiple factors such as fragile areas, types of soils, degrees of slope, surface materials for problem areas, cost, maintenance requirements, frequency of maintenance, and who is responsible for trail maintenance.

UNDERDOWN BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. In water areas, excrement will not be allowed to accumulate. (Signage is suggested to eliminate this problem).
2. Prohibit any motorized recreational vehicles on the Underdown Horse Trails except those designated for multiple use.
3. Trails shall remain as natural as possible unless Lincoln County Forestry Department and the Land Conservation Department decide that improvements are necessary.
4. Restore most trails to their original intended purpose that is hunter walking trails. (By definition a hunter walking trail is non-motorized).
5. Eliminate widening of current logging roads/trails to reduce damage and enhance the trails which run concurrent with these roads. Facilitate meetings between loggers and user groups before harvesting commences in recreational trail areas.

UNDERDOWN BLOCK POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. Select trails intersecting Loop Road and Horn Lake Road shall be gated, rocked or bermed and posted no motorized vehicles. (Existing access points to lakes shall remain open).
2. The woods roads to Mist Lake from Horn Lake Road shall be improved to allow passenger vehicle traffic.
3. Create a designated ATV trail from Heineman Road to Copper Lake Avenue with parking facilities for summer use. Trail to be gated at parking facility, but allowing ATV access. Travel by ATV's only allowed on designated trail.
4. Open sided or enclosed heated shelter at Underdown parking lot for multi-use.
5. Add more campsites at horseman's park.
6. Have 12 "You are here" signs along horse trail with a bench and a hitching post.
7. Re-route horse trails off Loop Rd and Horn Lake Rd and try to keep trails off main roads.
8. Expand the horse trails from 21 miles to 25 miles.
9. Several auxiliary Adirondack style windbreak shelters located at points around X-C ski trail.
10. A beginner X-C ski trail from the parking lot connecting to the Loop Rd. trail.
11. Establish a new Underdown Hiking Loop Trail (3 to 4 miles) incorporating a portion of the existing Ice Age Trail on that block.
12. New mountain bike single track trail.
13. Designated single-track Mountain Bike trails will be allowed on this block.

***WILDWOOD BLOCK**

WILDWOOD BLOCK NARRATIVE

This block consists of approximately 4800 acres of county forestland. Mixed hardwood-white birch and hemlock-hardwood stands (36%) make up the majority of this unit, followed by aspen (27%), swamp hardwoods (11%), swamp conifer (10%), and tag alder (10%). The remaining 6% of this tract are primarily composed of white pine, lowland marsh and grass types. Timber harvesting is a significant commercial activity. The primary management objective for this property is to maintain a balance between the hardwood and aspen cover types for timber production and wildlife habitat enhancement. Other primary considerations when managing timber on this block is to perpetuate green cover for wildlife habitat improvement, preserve the swamp hardwood type and propagate low, wet hardwood swales.

The topography in this unit is mostly flat, except for a few morainic mounds that protrude slightly higher than the level of the plain. Depressional features such as drainageways and basins are common throughout the outwash plain and most soils have a high watertable. Streams, lakes, swamps, bogs and marshes make up the lower areas. The drainageways are frequently ponded during wet periods. This unit is comprised primarily of the Magnor-Lupton-Capitola soil association, which consists of somewhat poorly drained and very poorly drained, nearly level and gently sloping, silty and mucky soils on moraines and drumlins. The terrain has little local relief and few areas of surface water except for small streams in the valleys. A major secondary type in this block is the Ossmer-Minocqua-Sconsin soil association. This type consists of somewhat poorly drained, very poorly drained and moderately well drained, nearly level and gently sloping, silty and mucky soils on outwash plains. The outwash plains are in major river valleys that meander through morainic plains. Many streams are in areas of this association.

The main concern for managing access on this block is the potential for rutting on unimproved roads. Many of the logging trails can be rutted by heavy vehicles because of wetness. Public roads require graveling and maintenance in order to make them accessible to passenger vehicle traffic during rainy periods

The Spirit River, New Wood River, Ritchie Creek, and Marheime Creek are present on this block.

Four geographic sections of this block are named as having the general location of a threatened, rare or endangered aquatic and/or terrestrial species or natural community. These were identified in the Wisconsin DNR Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) generated by the Bureau of Endangered Resources, 7/27/1999.

The major recreational use in this area consists of large and small game hunting which includes ruffed grouse, whitetail deer and black bear. Late summer and fall are when this unit encounters its greatest use. In addition, a snowmobile trail (trail 86) travels through this block on Wildwood Avenue.

WILDWOOD BLOCK CONDITIONS

1. Wildwood Avenue and the secondary loop of Wildwood Block are open to ATV's from May to March 31, and open to Snowmobiles during winter season unless posted closed.
2. A quiet area will be established in this block, as only limited motorized use will be allowed.

WILDWOOD BLOCK OBJECTIVES

1. Designated hiking trails are allowed on this block.
2. Designated ATV use will be allowed on this block.

WILDWOOD BLOCK POTENTIAL PROJECTS

1. Secondary roads that are one mile in length will have a graveled parking lot.

CONDITIONS, OBJECTIVES AND POTENTIAL PROJECTS THAT PERTAIN TO ALL LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST BLOCKS

1. CONDITIONS FOR ALL BLOCKS

1. Between the dates of December 1 and March 31, no person shall operate any type of unapproved motorized vehicle on a Snowmobile, ATV or Cross-Country Ski trail after grooming activities for these trails have commenced.
2. No person shall operate an ATV on any Snowmobile trail within the County between the dates of December 1 and March 31 when the temperature on the trail at a point four feet above the trail

surface is 28 degrees Fahrenheit or higher. Winter ATV trails will not be opened until one week (7 days) after the State Funded Snowmobile Trail System is officially opened.

3. Designated Summer ATV trails will be open for use except from December 1-May 1 unless posted closed.

4. Non-licensed, moto-cross dirt bikes **are not** allowed on County Forest property without written permission from the Lincoln County Forestry Department.

5. Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

6. Primary roads closed to Snowmobile and ATV use unless posted open for Snowmobile or ATV use.

7. Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.

8. Any damage to, manipulation of, or attempt to circumvent, any sign or gate, rock, berm or other device placed by the County or its agent for the purpose of blocking a closed road or area is prohibited.

9. All official recreational signs and speed limit signs must be obeyed.

10. A permit is required to utilize County Forest property for the purpose of gaining access to or removing forest products from any non-county owned lands. A bond may be required to accompany any such access requests. Any timber damaged will be paid for at a rate to be determined by the Lincoln County Forestry Department. Roads will be returned to a condition that is satisfactory with the County Forest Administrator.

11. Highway licensed vehicles are allowed only on primary roads, secondary roads and in designated parking areas except when such facilities are closed.

12. Mountain Bike travel allowed on all primary roads year round, and all secondary roads and designated trails except from March 31-May 1 or when posted closed. These trails are also restricted on winter recreational trails after grooming activities for these trails have commenced. It is suggested that participants should wear blaze orange during any Deer Rifle season.

13. Equestrian travel allowed on all primary roads year round, and all secondary roads and designated trails except from March 31-May 1 or when posted closed. These trails are also restricted on winter recreational trails after grooming activities for these trails have commenced. It is suggested that participants should wear blaze orange during any Deer Rifle season.

14. All secondary roads will be closed to motorized use from March 31 to May 1.

15. Special use permits may be issued by Lincoln County Forestry Department for highway vehicles or ATV's to access closed areas.

16. Blocking access for others is prohibited.

17. Vehicular or equestrian traffic into or through any unfrozen lake, stream or wetland is prohibited unless DNR authorized crossing structures are in place. Any type of activity that causes destruction of natural growth, erosion, rutting, damage to a lakebed, or has the potential to do any other type of environmental degradation or damage is prohibited.

18. No organized events shall be permitted (e.g. races, hiking, derbies, etc.) on the County Forest without approval by the County Forest Administrator or Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

19. Sponsors of any event will accept liability for trail (etc.) damage occurring as a result of the sponsored event. Trails (etc.) are subject to inspection by Lincoln County before and after the event. A charge may be assessed for the inspection.

20. No person shall operate a motorized vehicle with studded tires on property administered by the Forestry Committee unless authorized by the County Forest Administrator or Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

21. Notwithstanding other provisions of this ordinance, the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee and their agents may, at their discretion, close any and all roads or areas within the County Forest boundaries to protect the roads from damage caused by any activity.

22. Where access is limited, ingress or egress to or from private land over County Forest property is prohibited unless permission is granted by Lincoln County.

23. During the bear harvest season, ATV's may be used behind gates, rocks and berms to extract animals from the Lincoln County Forest. Hunters must call the Sheriff's Department at 715-536-6272 and report the following information: back tag number and general location of the site of extraction.

24. During the deer archery season, ATV's may be used behind gates, rocks and berms to extract animals from the Lincoln County Forest. Hunters must call the Sheriff's Department at 715-536-6272 and report the following information: back tag number and general location of the site of extraction.

25. During all deer rifle harvest seasons, ATV's may be used behind gates, rocks and berms to extract animals from the Lincoln County Forest.

26. As opportunities arise, consideration will be made to provide additional access to the Lincoln County Forest for the handicapped and elderly.

2. OBJECTIVES FOR ALL BLOCKS

1. Official request for a Recreational Officer.

2. The Lincoln County Forest road system is open for all phases of forest management activities. Road expectations will be included on timber sale maps. Items being covered

consist of new road construction, use and improvement of existing roads, additional improvement beyond contractor's needs, and conditions of roads at time of closure.

3. Recreational groups, along with the involvement of the Forestry Department, will attempt to develop and enhance recreational trails.
4. Each organized User Group with designated trails for their use must complete a formal Land Use Agreement or Contract with Lincoln County. Lincoln County Forestry Department should determine open and closed roads with consideration for sensitive areas and User Groups.
5. Provide motorized access, with appropriate turn-arounds, to lakes and streams. Improvements to prevent pollution, silting and shoreline damage will be implemented. If damage continues or escalates, Lincoln County Forestry Department can close the area.
6. Use must not result in surface water (lakes and streams) pollution, as determined by Lincoln County.
7. Use must not result in damage to wetland communities or be the cause of shoreline erosion, as determined by Lincoln County.
8. Where appropriate and necessary, primary and secondary roads should be improved, and parking areas should be developed to disperse recreation pressure.
9. All efforts shall be made to take into consideration the elderly and mobility impaired.
10. State funded ATV Trails should be gated and signed "open to ATV's" when crossing primary roads.
11. Trails are multi-use where designated.
12. Trail Ambassador program will be used on all ATV Trails.
13. Follow through on proposed ATV Trails as stated on individual land blocks.
14. Create a fund in the Forestry Budget for recreational trail development and enhancement.
15. Roads or trails that presently or will be rocked or bermed for environmental healing be re-opened when applicable on a regular basis.
16. Close (gate or berm) at least 50% of all secondary roads to motorized recreation.
17. Investigate establishing a trail pass system for all users of the County Forest, not including hikers, hunters and fishers when done without the use of motorized vehicles in the pursuit of their sport on County land. Revenue generated will be used to support Recreational Officer and trail maintenance.
18. Identify problem areas on multiple use trails and attempt to jointly solve them through a facilitation process.

19. To the greatest extent possible, the Ice Age Trail should be managed as a hiking only trail.
20. Increase penalties for littering, vandalism and reckless use.
21. Annual voluntary clean-up to be encouraged and supported by the County.
22. Purchase surveillance cameras to use in areas with repetitive damage.
23. Work with local Chamber of Commerce, restaurants, and lodging to promote awareness of local opportunities.
24. Work with local volunteers to help people coming to the area for the first time or going to remote areas. Could facilitate guides as needed for this purpose.
25. Construction/maintenance of hunter access roads can be assigned to an independent contractor when feasible.
26. Lake access on the County Forest will be inventoried and prioritized, and cost estimates developed for practical boat landing facilities.

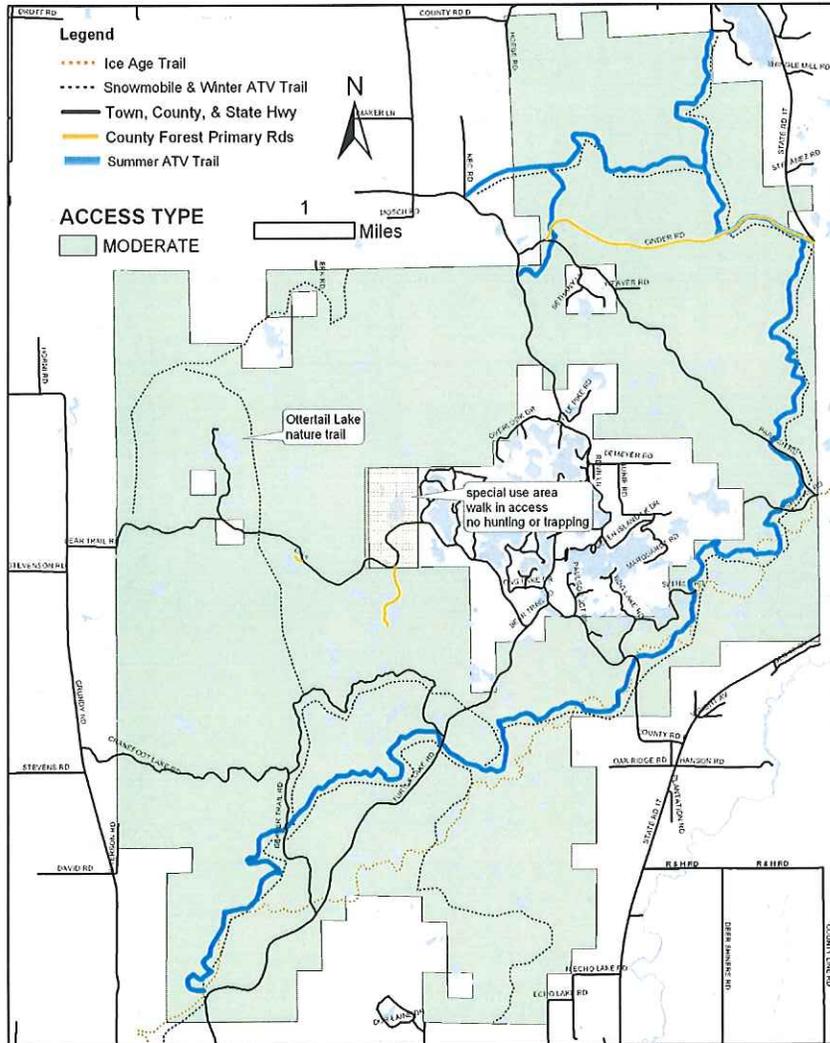
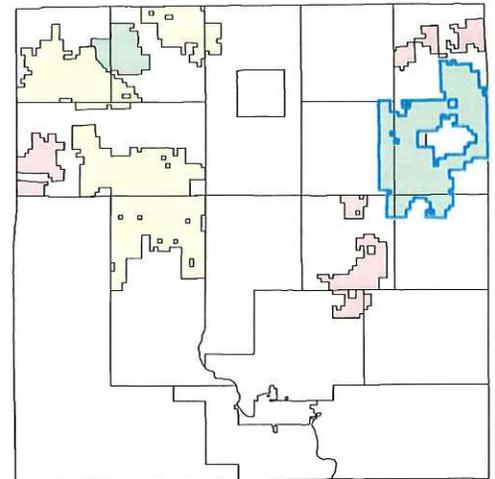
3. POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR ALL BLOCKS

1. Create an east/west corridor ATV trail from Taylor/Lincoln/Langlade Counties.
2. Designated walk in primitive camp sites.
3. Attempt to secure permanent easements or purchase lands necessary to assure timber harvest and/or public access to County Forest land or waters.
4. Continue Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality on all road and trail projects and log landings.
5. Continue to develop ruffed grouse management areas that will also serve as non-motorized use locations.
6. The Forestry, Land and Parks Committee would consider additional recreational activities that would not compromise the protection of the resources on the County Forest or greatly conflict with other uses.

HARRISON BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP *"The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)".* These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.

Lincoln Co. - Block Location



Limited access areas (red areas on map)

Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.

Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)

Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.

Moderate access areas (green areas on map)

Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodible soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.

CONDITIONS

1. Prohibit the use of recreational motorized vehicles, mountain bikes and horses on all designated hiking trails unless the Lincoln County Forestry Department designates a portion for multiple use.

2. Many of the lakes in the Harrison Block are small and fall under the size allowed for outboard-motorized use. Therefore, roads and turnarounds should be no larger than to provide for lightweight boats on small trailers. This refers to small lakes only and is not meant to limit legitimate use of trailers and motors where their use is valid.

GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

This block consists of approximately 26,000 acres of County Forest land and includes 319 acres of special use county forest land. The main tree species found on this block are aspen, northern hardwoods, white birch, and oak. These species are important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography in the block ranges from nearly level to very steep and soils in the block, for the most part are well drained.

The main concern in this block is to control erosion on steep slopes. Forest roads must be located following natural contours and use soil stabilization methods, and be maintained annually. This block has the largest human population in proximity of the County Forest and has the most motorized miles of recreational trails. Access to this block is very good via county and town roads. With these considerations this block has been designated for moderate motor vehicle use.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

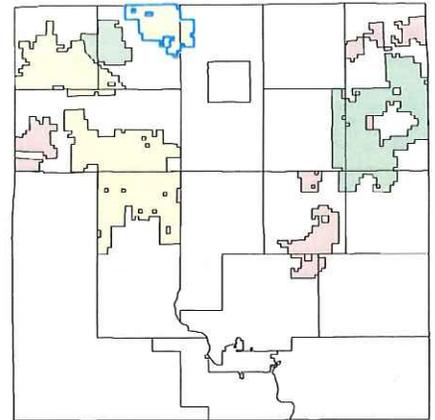
*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.

* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 – 0327.

HIGHWAY 8 BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP "The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)". These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.

Lincoln Co. Block Location



Limited access areas (red areas on map)

Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.

Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)

Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.

Moderate access areas (green areas on map)

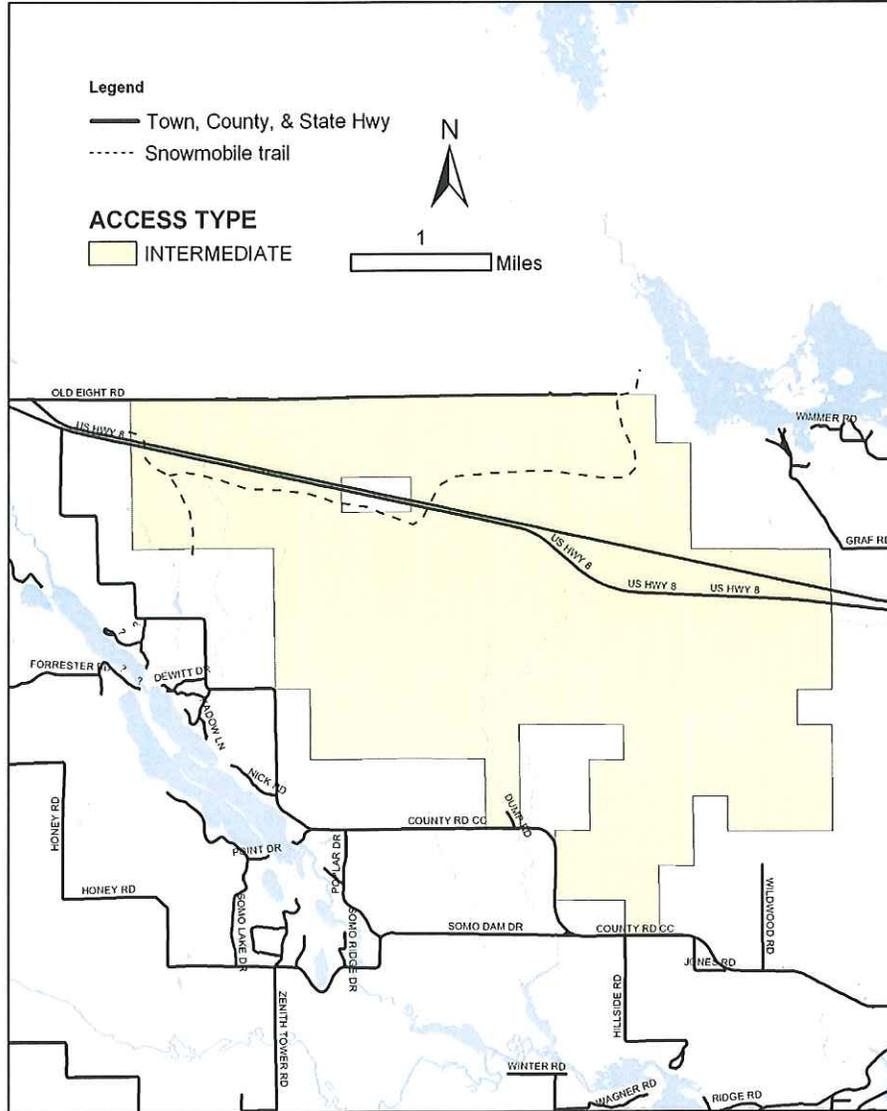
Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodable soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.

CONDITIONS

1. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.



GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

This block consists of approximately 6,500 acres of County Forest land. The main tree species found on this block are aspen and northern hardwoods and are important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography is flat and soils in the block range from moderately well drained to somewhat poorly drained.

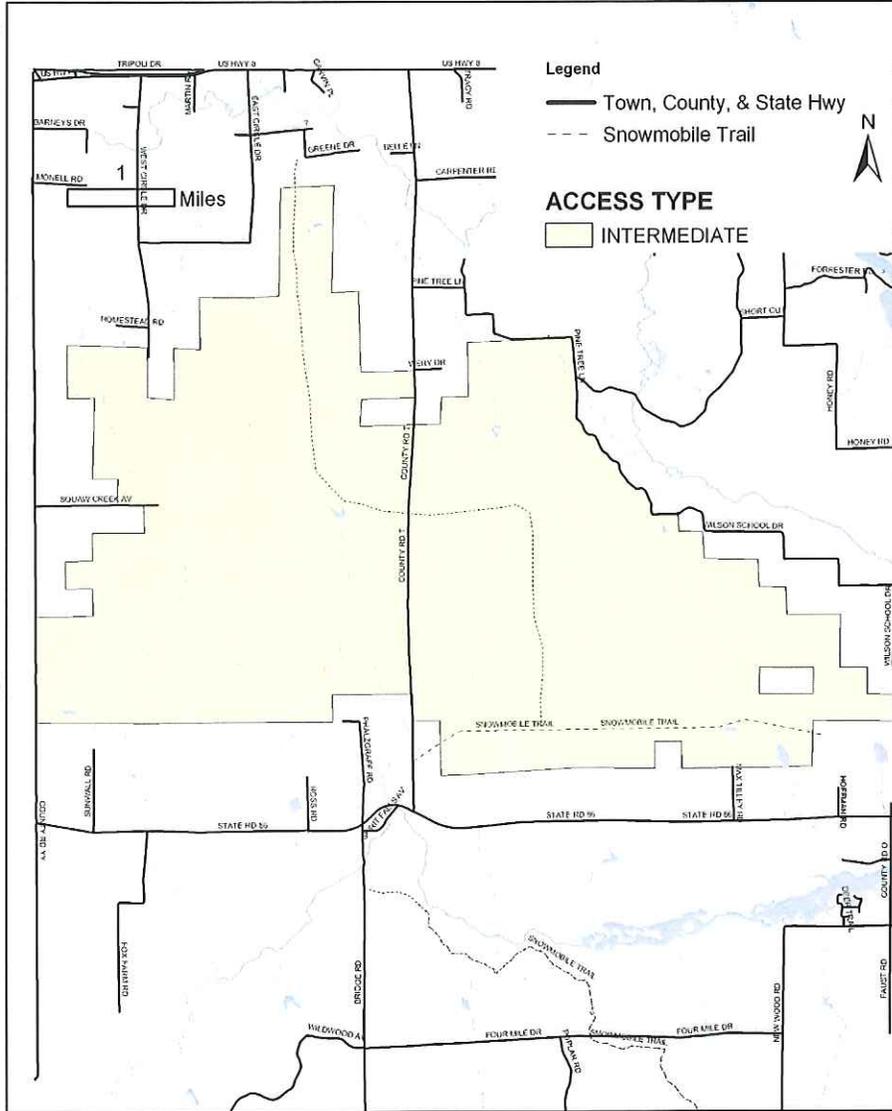
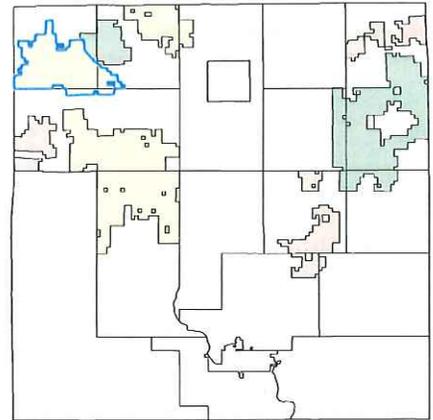
The main concern in this block is to protect the soil from rutting. Public roads in the block require major construction and annual maintenance. With these considerations this block has been designated for intermediate motor vehicle use.

* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 – 0327.

HIGHWAY T BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP "The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)". These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.

Lincoln Co. - Block Location



Limited access areas (red areas on map)
Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.

Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)
Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.

Moderate access areas (green areas on map)
Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodable soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.

CONDITIONS

1. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.

GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

This block consists of approximately 14,400 acres of County Forest land. The main tree species found on this block is aspen and is important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography is flat and soils for the most part are somewhat poorly drained to very poorly drained.

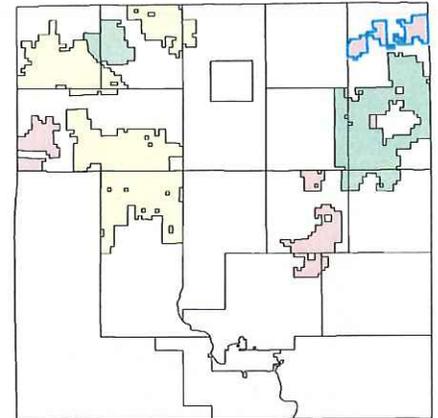
The main concern in this block is to protect the soil from rutting. Public roads in this block require major construction and annual maintenance. With these considerations this block has been designated for intermediate motor vehicle use.

* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 – 0327.

MAIL ROUTE BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP "The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)". These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.

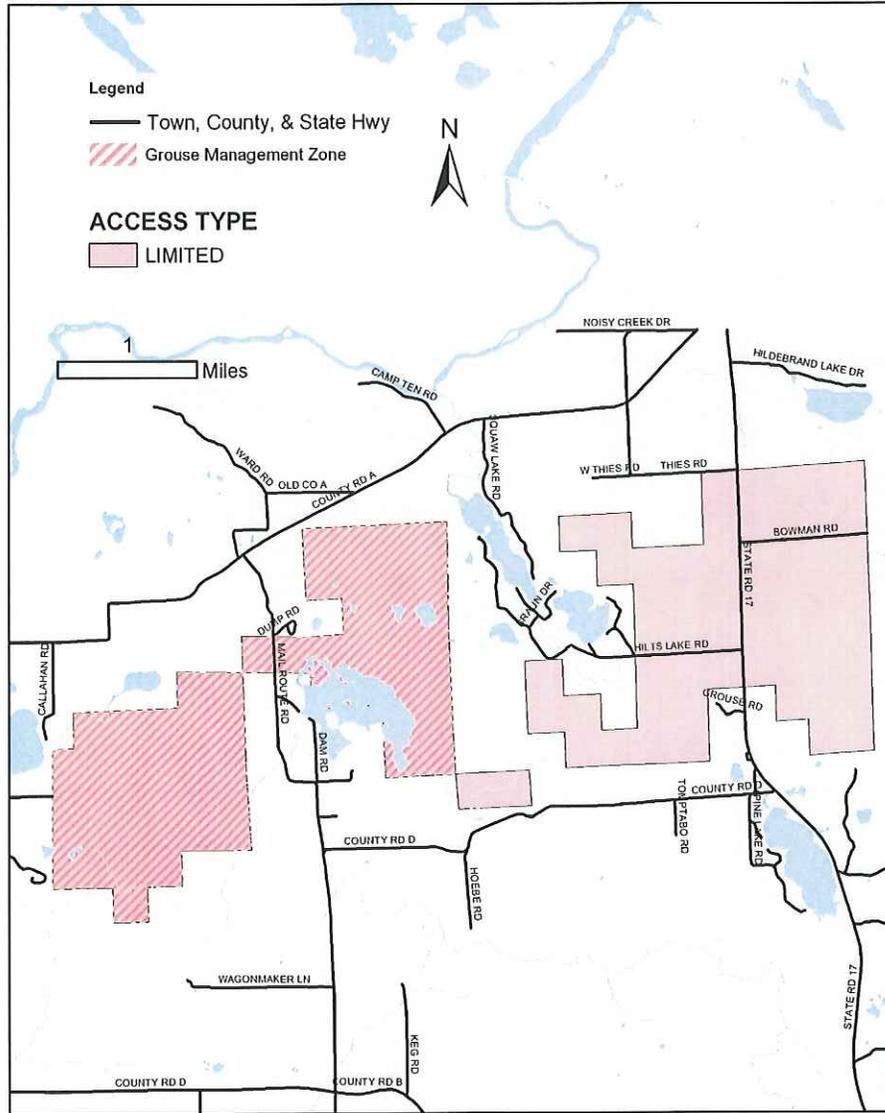
LINCOLN CO. - BLOCK LOCATION



Limited access areas (red areas on map)
Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.

Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)
Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.

Moderate access areas (green areas on map)
Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodable soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.



CONDITIONS

1. Close the secondary road that travels southwesterly off Mail route road to motorized traffic.
2. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.
3. Very limited motorized vehicle use (under County Forester's discretion).

GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

This block consists of approximately 4,550 acres of County Forest land. The main tree species found on this block are aspen and northern hardwoods and are important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography is rolling and soils in the uplands are well drained.

The main concern in this block is to control erosion on steep slopes. Forest roads must be located following natural contours and use soil stabilization methods. Access to this block is very good via state and town roads. With these considerations this block has been designated for limited motor vehicle use.

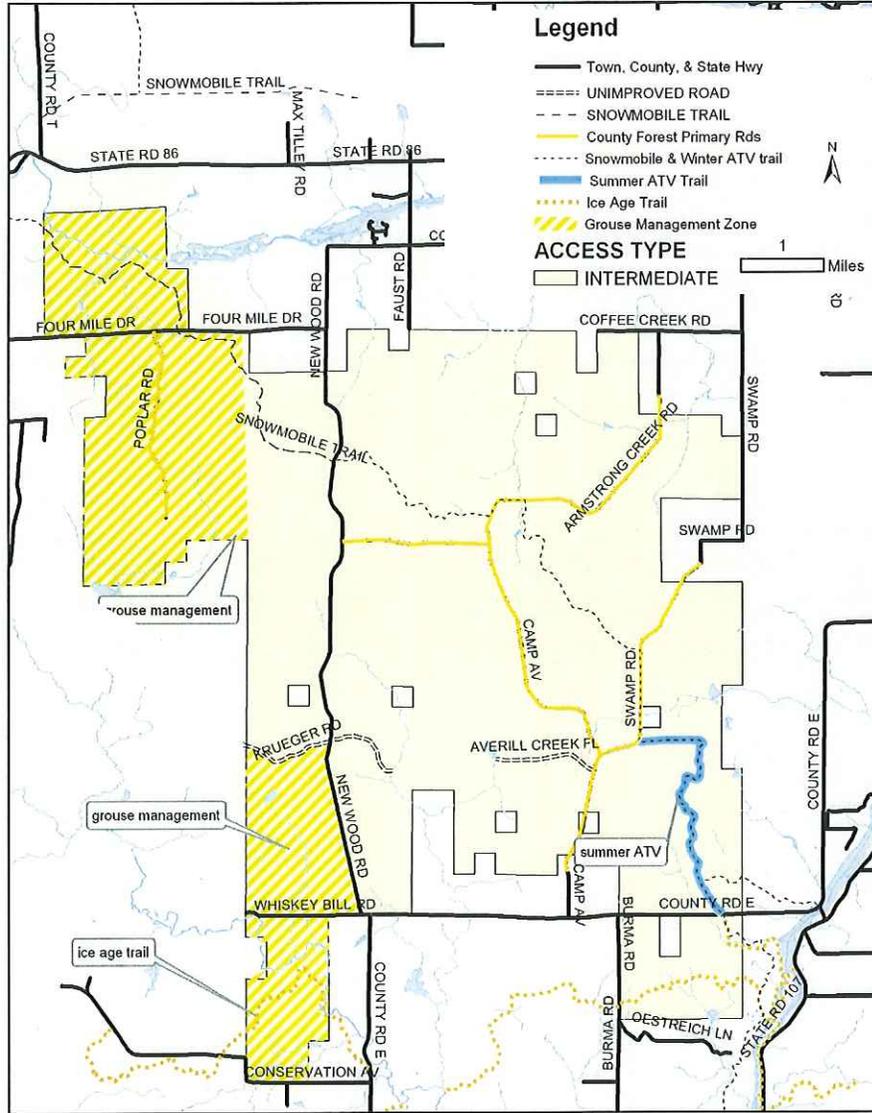
* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 – 0327.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

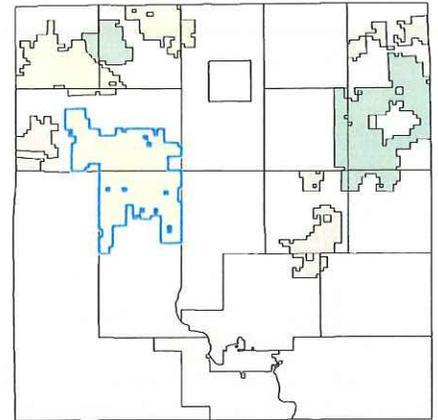
*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.

NEW WOOD BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP "The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)". These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.



Lincoln Co. - Block Location



Limited access areas (red areas on map)
Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.

Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)
Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.

Moderate access areas (green areas on map)
Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodable soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.

CONDITIONS

1. Primary roads closed for ATV use unless posted open.
2. Secondary roads closed to all motorized vehicles except those that are designated for winter ATV trails, Snowmobile trails, and those posted open.
3. Snowmobile trail from CTH E to Swamp Road open for ATV use (gated on ends) from May 1 to December 1 unless posted closed.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.

GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

The block consists of approximately 30,500 acres of County Forest land. The main tree species found on this block is aspen and it is important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography in the block is flat and the soils are somewhat poorly drained to very poorly drained.

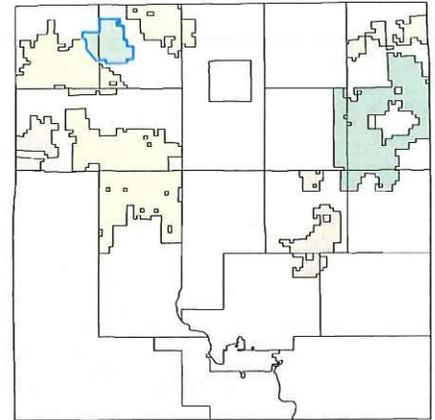
The major concern in the block is to protect the soil from rutting. Public roads in the block require major construction and annual maintenance. With these considerations this block has been designated for intermediate motor vehicle use (see conditions).

* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 - 0327.

PINE TREE LANE BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP "The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)". These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.

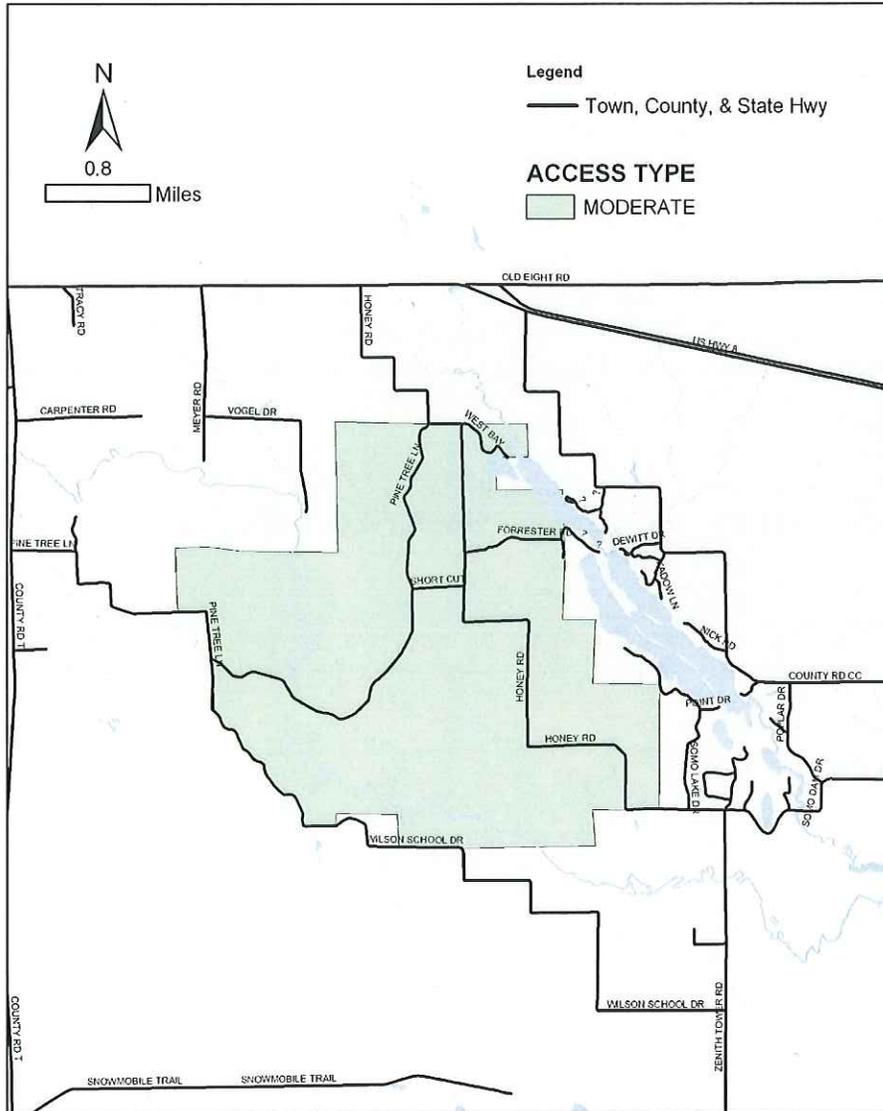
Lincoln Co. - Block Location



Limited access areas (red areas on map)
Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.

Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)
Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.

Moderate access areas (green areas on map)
Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodable soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.



CONDITIONS

1. Secondary roads providing access to fishing areas remain open to motorized use.
2. ATV use allowed on this block except where closed.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.

GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

This block consists of approximately 5,000 acres of County Forest land. The main tree species found on this block are aspen and pine, these species are important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography is flat and soils range from moderately well drained to very poorly drained.

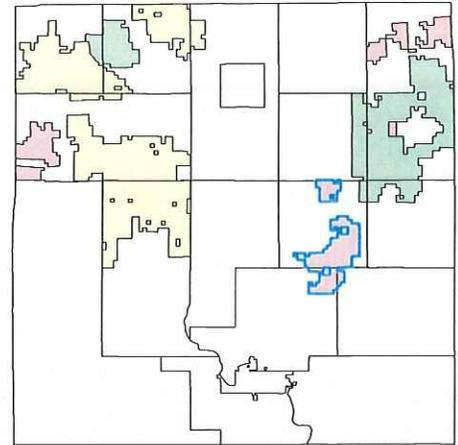
The main concern in this block is to protect the soil from rutting. Public roads in this block require moderate construction and periodic maintenance. With these considerations this block has been designated for moderate motor vehicle use.

* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 – 0327.

UNDERDOWN BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP "The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)". These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.

Lincoln Co. Block Location



Limited access areas (red areas on map)

Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.

Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)

Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.

Moderate access areas (green areas on map)

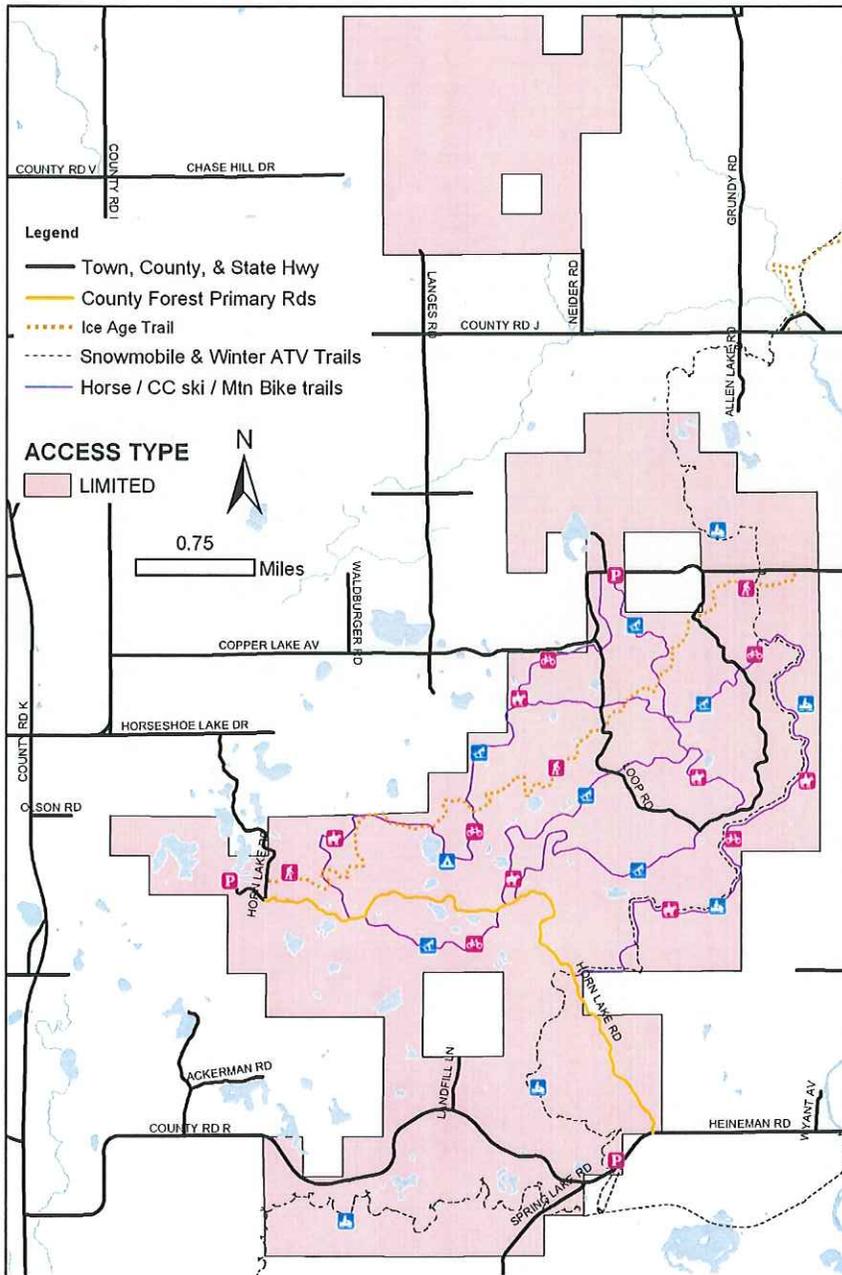
Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodable soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.

CONDITIONS

1. Allow designated ATV use only after ATV compliance has been demonstrated in Harrison Hills Block. Then open perimeter roads only, such as Horn Lake Road so that ATV's can connect to open Town Roads. Open Snowmobile trail to summer ATV use only after eroded area east of Loop Road is repaired and constructed for that use. Compliance will be determined by the Lincoln County Forestry Committee.
2. No RV's or large camper trailers allowed on secondary roads.
3. A core area be managed to accommodate future growth in non-motorized recreational activities. All other motorized vehicles would be prohibited without express and written permission from the County Forestry Department, and said permission would be granted as required.
4. Identify standards of acceptable trail design, construction, maintenance, and use for each user group in this block. For new and existing trails, this would include multiple factors such as fragile areas, types of soils, degrees of slope, surface materials for problem areas, cost, maintenance requirements, frequency of maintenance, and who is responsible for trail maintenance.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.



GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

This block consists of approximately 8,260 acres of County Forest land. The main tree species found on this block are aspen and mixed hardwoods and are important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography in the block ranges from nearly level to very steep and soils in the block, for the most part are well drained.

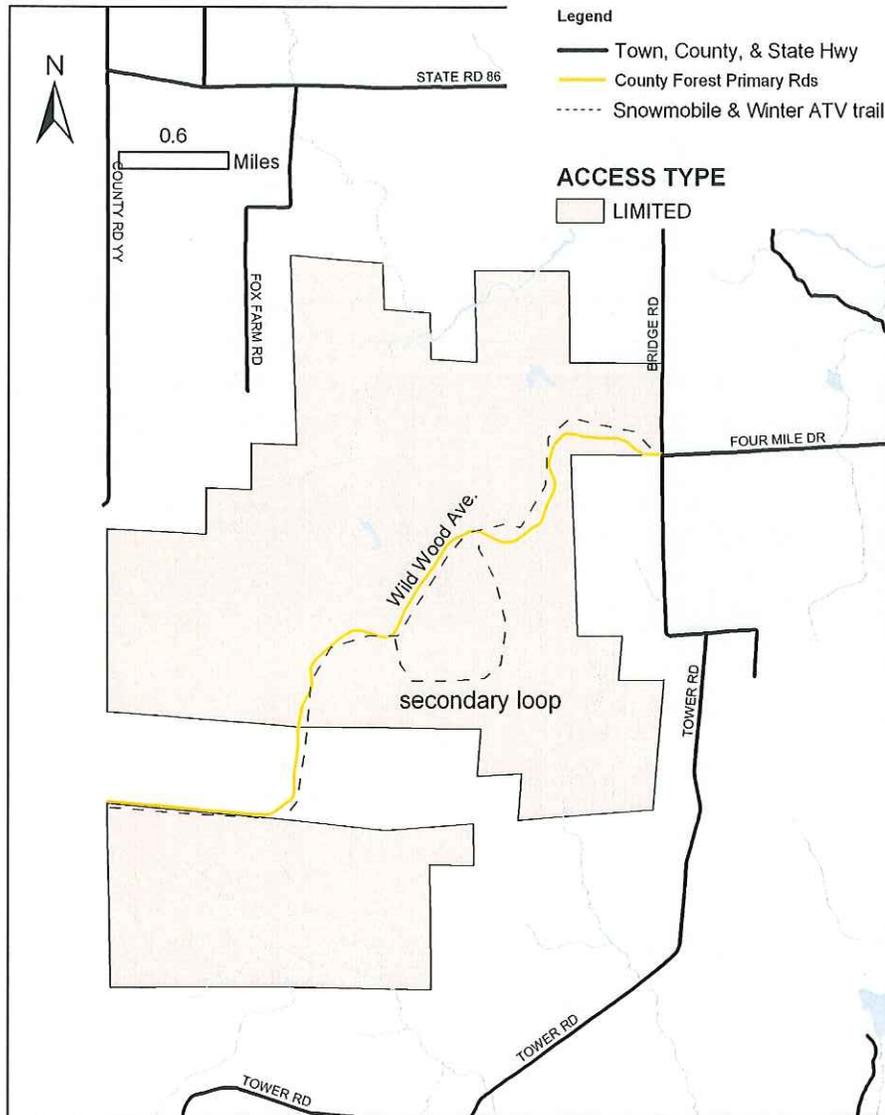
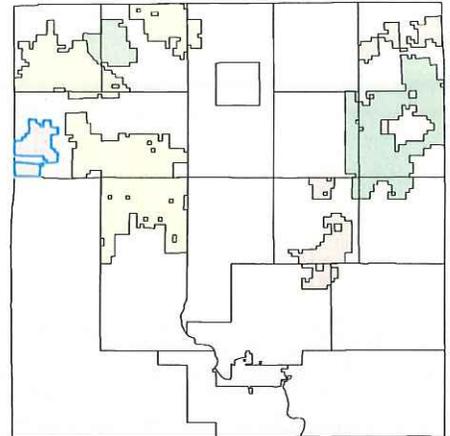
The main concern in this block is to control erosion on steep slopes and control over use from a wide variety of users. Forest roads must be located following natural contours and use soil stabilization methods. Access to this block is very good via county and town roads. With these considerations this block has been designated for limited motor vehicle use.

* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 – 0327.

WILD WOOD BLOCK ACCESS CONDITIONS

BLOCK MAP "The general public shall enjoy the privilege of entering such lands for the purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping and other recreation pursuits subject to such regulation and restrictions as may be established by lawful authority (statute 28.11 4f)". These regulations are addressed under conditions listed on the front and attached document.

Lincoln Co. – Block Location



- Limited access areas (red areas on map)**
Very limited recreational motor vehicle travel is allowed in this area. Certain exceptions are allowed. Access to lakes and very limited designated snowmobile and ATV trails may be developed.
- Intermediate access areas (yellow areas on map)**
Select secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motor vehicle travel. Designated snowmobile and ATV trails are allowed to be developed.
- Moderate access areas (green areas on map)**
Many secondary roads and trails are open to recreational motorized use unless closed to protect sensitive or erodable soils. Snowmobiles and ATVs can ride on designated and other open roads and trails.

CONDITIONS

1. Wildwood Avenue and the secondary loop of Wildwood Block are open to ATV's from May 1 to March 31, and open to Snowmobiles during winter season unless posted closed.
2. A quiet area will be established in this block, as only limited motorized use will be allowed.

*Where primary and secondary roads are open to motorized, Equestrian or Mountain Bike use, cross-country travel between these roads is prohibited except on designated trails.

*Secondary roads will be closed to motorized use when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, berms or any other device placed by the County or its designee for the purpose of blocking a road.

GENERAL OVERVIEW AND CONSIDERATIONS

The block consists of approximately 4,550 acres of County Forest land. The main tree species found on the block are aspen and northern hardwoods and are important for timber and wildlife habitat. The topography in this block is flat and the soils range from somewhat poorly drained to very poorly drained.

The major concern in this block is to protect the soil from rutting. Public roads in the block require major construction and annual maintenance. With these considerations this block has been designated for limited motor vehicle use.

* Detailed recreation trail maps are available, or information to locate these maps can be obtained from the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department, 1106 E. 8th Street, Merrill, WI 54452, phone (715) 536 – 0327.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>GROSS SALES</u>
1965	\$ 27,208.61
1966	\$ 31,566.35
1967	\$ 37,090.62
1968	\$ 34,010.27
1969	\$ 33,604.57
1970	\$ 43,206.40
1971	\$ 29,550.02
1972	\$ 35,556.99
1973	\$ 56,220.84
1974	\$ 92,616.60
1975	\$ 97,265.85
1976	\$ 125,003.91
1977	\$ 102,132.06
1978	\$ 88,361.07
1979	\$ 137,416.30
1980	\$ 208,737.05
1981	\$ 246,592.36
1982	\$ 262,901.96
1983	\$ 257,283.06
1984	\$ 255,906.66
1985	\$ 256,362.59
1986	\$ 232,682.41
1987	\$ 268,758.75
1988	\$ 265,785.90
1989	\$ 256,480.21
1990	\$ 210,147.23
1991	\$ 277,416.91
1992	\$ 274,197.67
1993	\$ 341,290.09
1994	\$ 420,827.44
1995	\$ 568,158.05
1996	\$ 693,378.82
1997	\$ 833,757.68
1998	\$ 636,711.90
1999	\$ 918,324.31
2000	\$1,193,249.92
2001	\$ 914,778.57
2002	\$1,228,723.76
2003	\$1,059,741.00
2004	\$1,270,586.91
2005	\$1,068,336.52
2006	\$1,486,394.04
2007	\$1,320,785.02
2008	\$1,692,287.46
2009	\$1,240,127.94

LINCOLN COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND & PARKS DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL GROSS TIMBER SALE RECEIPTS (CON'T)

2010	\$1,358,953.84
2011	\$1,582,243.42
2012	\$1,414,035.65
2013	\$1,289,049.48
2014	\$1,657,234.69
2015	\$1,973,804.17
2016	\$2,058,842.92
2017	\$1,923,836.25

CHAPTER 16 - COUNTY FORESTS AND RECREATIONAL TRAILS

16.01	General, Administrative and Terms
16.02	Designation of County Forests
16.03	Committee Appointment
16.04	Responsibilities and Duties of the Committee
16.05	County Forest Law Administration
16.06	Forest Finances
16.07	County Forest Use Regulations
16.08	Regulation of County Forest Roads, Routes, Trails and Lakes
16.09	Legal Action
16.10	Penalty

16.01 - GENERAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND TERMS .

- (1) **PURPOSE.** This chapter shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the establishment, protection, development and management of the County Forest and recreational trails to provide a sustained yield of forest products for commercial use along with the associated benefits of soil and water conservation, scenic and recreational values and fish and wildlife resources; all in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources.
- (2) **SCOPE.** Except when the context provides otherwise, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all lands, structures and property owned, leased or administered by the County now held or hereafter acquired for County Forest or recreational purposes under the management, supervision and control of the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee, hereafter referred to as the "Committee".
- (3) **DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this chapter:

Administrator . The Lincoln County Forest Administrator.

All-Terrain Vehicle . As defined in §340.01(2g), Wis. Stats., means an engine driven device which has a net weight of 900 pounds or less, which has a width of 48 inches or less, which is equipped with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator and which is designed to travel on 3 or more low-pressure tires. A low-pressure tire is a tire which has a minimum width of 6 inches, which is designed to be mounted on a rim with a maximum diameter of 12 inches and which is designed to be inflated with an operating pressure not to exceed 6 pounds per square inch as recommended by the manufacturer.

All-Terrain Vehicle Route. A highway or sidewalk designated for use by all-terrain vehicle operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction as authorized by §23.33, Wis. Stats.

All-Terrain Vehicle Trail. A marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease, designated for use by all-terrain vehicle operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction, but excluding roadways or highways except those roadways which are not seasonally maintained for motor vehicle traffic or are designated as ATV routes.

Approved Snowmobile and All-Terrain Vehicle Trails. Includes all snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle trails that have been designated by the County Snowmobile and All-Terrain Vehicle Coordinator or the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee, that receive State aids under §350 (Snowmobile) and §23.33 (All-Terrain Vehicles), Wis. Stats.

Bike Trail (Nonmotorized). A marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease designated for use by bike riders by the governmental agency having jurisdiction over those lands.

Board. The Lincoln County Board of Supervisors.

Closed Road or Trail. A road or trail will be considered closed to motorized vehicles when designated by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, earthen berms, or any other device placed by the County for the purpose of blocking a road.

Committee. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee of the Lincoln County Board of Supervisors.

County. Lincoln County.

County Forest. Those lands owned by Lincoln County and entered under the County Forest Law §28.11, Wis. Stats., either as forest lands or as special use designated lands.

County Forest Plan. The Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

County Forest Road System. That system on which Lincoln County receives State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation road aids and are indicated as County Forest roads in the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Cross Country Travel. Any travel through the County Forest that is not on primary or secondary roads.

Damage. Any occurrence on the landscape that is detrimental or could have a potentially detrimental effect on the natural resources of the County Forest as determined by the Lincoln County Forestry Department.

Department. The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department.

Designated Trail. A trail signed for a specific recreational activity that has been approved for that use by the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

DNR. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Equestrian Trail (hereinafter referred to as "horse"). A marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease designated for use by horseback riders by the governmental agency having jurisdiction over those lands.

Highway Licensed Vehicle. Any motorized vehicle which is licensed for use on public highways or is intended to be licensed for such use. These vehicles are allowed on primary roads, secondary roads that are opened to their use, and parking areas except when such facilities are closed.

Hiking Trail . A marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease designated for use by hikers by the governmental agency having jurisdiction over those lands.

Hunter Walking Trail . A closed road or trail that is managed to provide access for traditional, nonmotorized hunting. Management may include seeding or mowing of roads and trails, planning cutting schemes to diversify timber age classes and designing loop-type trail systems.

Motorized Vehicle . Any vehicle, including a combination of 2 or more vehicles or an articulated vehicle, which is self-propelled, except a vehicle operated exclusively on a rail.

Nonmotorized . Use of a motor powered vehicle is prohibited other than when engaged in management activities or contract operations authorized by the Forestry Department.

Official Snowmobile and Winter All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Closing . That date and time selected and announced by the County Snowmobile Coordinator designating that the approved trails are closed for snowmobile and/or winter all-terrain vehicle use. Trails may not remain open later than March 31.

Official Snowmobile and Winter All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Opening . That date and time selected and announced by the County Snowmobile Coordinator designating that the approved trails are opened for snowmobile and/or winter all-terrain vehicle use. Winter ATV trails may be opened for use one week after the official opening of the State-funded snowmobile trail system and close when the temperature on the trail at a point four feet above the trail surface is 28° Fahrenheit or higher. Trails may not be opened earlier than December 1.

Official Summer All-Terrain Vehicle Trail Closing . Summer all-terrain vehicle trails are closed from December 1 to May 1 or when posted closed. Closed periods may be extended due to conditions that could cause damage or present a safety hazard.

Off-Road Vehicle . Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other terrain, which would include, but not be limited to, such vehicles as four-wheel drive units, dune buggies, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, motorbikes, snowmobiles, amphibious vehicles, air-cushioned vehicles, air boats, and golf carts. Motorbikes which are not highway licensed are not allowed on the County Forest.

Primary Roads . Roads which are constructed and maintained according to County Forest road standards and are eligible for County Forest road aid payments. These roads must be designated as a snowmobile or ATV route to be open to snowmobile or ATV use.

Quiet Area . An area that is managed for minimal motorized travel.

Secondary Roads . Roads or woods trails which have been approved by the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department; are not eligible for County Forest road aid payments; have been developed primarily for use in the management and protection of the forest or for recreational use and receive maintenance or improvements periodically by the County Forestry staff or its agents.

Snowmobile . As defined in §340.01(58a), Wis. Stats., any engine-driven vehicle of a type which utilizes sled type runners, skis or an endless belt tread or any combination of these or similar means of contact with the surface upon which it is operated, but does not include such vehicles which are either manually propelled or driven by a motor of 4 horse power or less and operated only on private property.

Snowmobile or All-Terrain Vehicle Coordinator . The County Forest Administrator, his/her assistant or assistants and such other individuals designated by the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

Snowmobile Route . A highway or sidewalk designated for use by snowmobile operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction as authorized by §350.04, Wis. Stats.

Snowmobile Trail. A marked corridor on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease, designated for use by operators of snowmobiles by the County Snowmobile Coordinator, but excluding highways, except those highways on which the roadway is not normally maintained for other vehicular traffic by the removal of snow or are designated as snowmobile routes.

(4) RULES, PERMITS, EXCEPTIONS.

- (a) Rules. Rules and regulations may be made by the Committee governing the use and enjoyment of County Forest, recreational facilities, trails, parks, waysides, special use areas, playgrounds, beaches, boat landings, campgrounds, lakes, streams and the facilities thereof. Any person who violates such rules or regulations may be excluded from the use of such facility and be subject to the penalties provided for in §25.04 of this Code of Ordinances.
- (b) Permits. Any person to whom a permit is issued shall be bound by the provisions of all ordinances of the County.
1. *Special Events*. No organized events shall be permitted on County property administered by the Forestry, Land and Parks Department without approval by said department or the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.
- (c) Exceptions. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit or hinder the Committee, its administrator, supervisors, park caretakers or other authorized agents or any peace officers from performing their official duties.

16.02 - DESIGNATION OF COUNTY FORESTS .

For the purpose of proper and complete identification all County-owned forest and special use lands now held and entered under the Wisconsin County Forest Law by the County, or hereafter acquired for forestry or other purposes advantageous to the County, are established and designated as County Forests, and such lands shall be shown on the official County Forest map displayed in the County Forestry office in the Lincoln County Land Resource Center in Merrill. County Forest blocking within designated County Forest boundaries will be a priority in land acquisitions or land trades brought before the Lincoln County Board.

16.03 - COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT .

The County Board hereby assigns administration of the County Forestry, Land and Parks Department to the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee composed of 5 members and hereinafter referred to as the "Committee".

16.04 - RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE .

- (1) The Committee is hereby empowered to acquire land within designated County Forest boundaries by purchase, gift or bequest or by exchange of County-owned lands outside such area for the purpose of blocking the forest for better administration or other purposes advantageous to the County, subject to County Board approval.
- (2) In conformity with such procedures established by the Committee or County Board rules, the Committee may purchase, acquire, sell, trade or dispose of instruments, tools, supplies and equipment required for the operation of the Department.
- (3) The Committee is authorized to enter into agreement with the Lake States Forest Experiment Station, the College of Agriculture of the Wisconsin University with the endorsement of or directly with the Department of Natural Resources for the use of tracts of County Forest lands, labor, materials and equipment for conducting forest research.
- (4) With Board approval and after obtaining Department of Natural Resources approval, the Committee may grant permits to prospect for ore or minerals upon County lands under the jurisdiction of this

Committee. The Committee may issue permits to remove sand, gravel, or other nonmetallic materials from County Forest lands only to units of government. Any sales to non-governmental entities shall be let by competitive bid.

- (5) The Committee shall hire a Forest Administrator to act as the agent of the Committee, carry out the Committee's directives, and execute assignments outlined in the Lincoln County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan all within the framework outlined in §28.11 Wis. Stats.
- (6) The Committee or its agent shall establish and maintain in appropriate centers a forest headquarters for office space and the housing of machinery, tools, equipment and supplies needed in conducting forest operations.
- (7) The Committee or its agent shall cooperate with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in preparing budgets for County Forest administration, capital and direct expenditures of forestry funds advanced by the Department for submission to the County Board.
- (8) The Committee or its agent shall do all things necessary to protect the forest, recreational trails and other resources from fire, insects, disease, trespass and from damage by animals or from other causes, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources.
- (9) The Committee or its agent shall regulate the disposal of slash.
- (10) The Committee or its agent shall locate survey lines and appropriately monument corners of County Forest lands.
- (11) The Committee or its agent shall construct, improve and maintain a system of forest roads, trails and fire breaks and regulate use thereof and purchase or secure easements for accessways required to cross privately owned lands.
- (12) The Committee or its agent shall conduct forest improvement work including reforestation, release cuttings, thinnings, pruning and weeding by any method including spraying or dusting of chemicals. Dispose of all salvaged materials.
- (13) The Committee or its agent shall cooperate with the Department of Natural Resources in the determination of the allowable annual cut, through an inventory of growing stock and increment, establishment of cutting compartments and implementation of the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
- (14) The Committee or its agent shall manage the County Forest resources and sell timber stumpage in accordance with the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan and in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources.
- (15) The Committee or its agent shall manage and maintain regulatory control of all County recreation areas, establish, construct and maintain picnic grounds, waysides, camps and campsites, public access roads, motorized and nonmotorized recreational trails, boat landings, scenic areas, nature trails and designate, mark and protect places of natural or historic significance.
- (16) The Committee or its agent shall cooperate with the Department of Natural Resources on all matters relating to wildlife and fish management within the County Forest where a memorandum of understanding between the County Board and the Department exists.
- (17) The Committee or its agent shall do special forest or recreation development work on other public or private lands not included in the County Forest, including lands such as school forests, community forests, County parks, watersheds, reduction of hazards, public highways and recreational trails when deemed to be in the best interest of the County.

16.05 - COUNTY FOREST LAW ADMINISTRATION .

Upon Committee approval of lands for entry under the County Forest Law, the County Forestry, Land and Parks Administrator shall take all necessary action to effect such application as provided by statute. Withdrawal of land entered under the County Forest Law shall be in the manner prescribed by §28.11(11), Wis. Stats.

16.06 - FOREST FINANCES .

- (1) All allotments from the Department of Natural Resources to the County under §28.11(8)(b), Wis. Stats., for the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the County Forest lands, shall be deposited in the County Forestry Aid Fund. All unexpended County Forestry Aid Funds shall be classified as "restricted" in the fund balance.
- (2) The following procedure will apply in crediting income from the Forestry, Land and Parks Department: All monies received from firewood/bough permits, gravel, contract renewal fees, bond forfeitures, fees and use permits, easements, sale of building materials, sale of surplus materials and equipment, fire or other damage collections or other revenue received by the Forestry, Land and Parks Department shall be recorded as revenue in the County Forestry Fund. All monies received from camping fees, shelter rentals and horse/cross-country ski donations shall be recorded as revenue in the Parks Fund. One hundred percent of gross timber sale stumpage shall be deposited in the Forest Land Revenue Account. If the Forestry, Land and Parks Department has an outstanding loan to the Department of Natural Resources, 20 percent of gross timber sale stumpage shall be applied to repay severance loan. Ten percent of gross timber sale stumpage shall be recorded as a liability and apportioned among the towns in accordance with the County Forest Law. Twenty percent of gross timber sale stumpage shall be recorded as revenue in the General Fund. All aforementioned revenues in excess of expenses shall be closed to the Undesignated Account. The balance in this account shall not exceed 75 percent of the previous year's expenses. Monies in excess of 75 percent of the previous year's expenses shall be transferred to the general fund after the annual audit has been completed. In any year which has an operating deficit, monies will be applied from the Undesignated Account to cover expenses until the balance is drawn down to the limit of 25 percent of the previous year's expenses. If this does not cover the full deficit, the 20 percent of revenues recorded in the General Fund will be reduced by an amount sufficient to cover the remaining shortfall.

16.07 - COUNTY FOREST USE REGULATIONS .

- (1) RECREATIONAL USE.
 - (a) The Committee may designate suitable areas for forest parks, campsites, picnic grounds, waysides, boat access, recreational trails and special use lands, and is authorized to provide needed conveniences, including wells and sanitary facilities. Such areas shall be for public use as prescribed by the Committee.
 - (b) All County Forest roads, trails and fire lanes that are cabled, gated, rocked, bermed, signed, stumped or closed by another means by the direction of the County Forestry, Land and Parks Administrator shall be closed to all vehicular travel, except by written permission of the Administrator. (Am. #2011-09-575)
 - (c) Overnight camping, including tents, trailers, cars and trucks, portable hunting or fishing cabins, may be permitted in the County Forest outside of designated camping areas without charge for a period not to exceed 14 days cumulative time in any given calendar year. Camping on the County Forest must be for recreational purposes only. No person may reside on County Forest land. Camping on the County Forest as a means of establishing a place of residence is not allowed. Any person who violates the rules and regulations of this chapter or of good conduct, including without limitation cutting or defacing timber, carelessness with fire, violation of game and fishing laws of the State, or improper disposal of garbage and litter, disorderly conduct, or threatening behavior shall be subject to ejection from the County Forest and subject to the penalties provided by County and State law. (Am. #2017-10-654)
 - (d) The dumping of rubbish, debris, dirt, stone or any other materials shall be prohibited on all County Forest lands. Users, including berry pickers, hunters, fishers, tourists and all others who visit the County Forests are forbidden to leave litter anywhere in the forest or in its lakes or streams.

- (e) Campers using campsites in areas requiring a fee shall pay the required fee before placing any equipment or belongings at the campsite.
 - (f) Persons using County Forest lands or facilities shall observe all County rules and regulations or be subject to ejection from the County Forest and subject to the penalties provided by County and State laws.
 - (g) Hunting or trapping is not allowed north of Bear Trail Road on the Wirth Special Use Property located in the E1/2 of Section 17 T34N-R8E Town of Harrison. (Cr. #2011-09-575)
 - (h) The use of trail cameras shall be authorized on the Lincoln County Forest providing they do not damage any vegetation or other county property. Trail cameras must bear the owner/operator's full name, current address and phone number. This information must be clearly printed on or attached to the outside of the camera and clearly visible without the need to move or adjust the camera. Trail camera use may only occur in areas where hunting is allowed and are prohibited from being used in county parks, campgrounds, beach areas, and buildings. The placement of trail cameras on the Lincoln County Forest is done at your own risk. Lincoln County will not be responsible for theft or damage of trail cameras on county managed lands. Any trail cameras found in violation of this ordinance may be confiscated by the Lincoln County Forestry Department or Lincoln County Sheriff's Office. (Cr. #2017-02-638)
- (2) ELEVATED PLATFORMS AND PORTABLE TREE STANDS.
- (a) The construction or use of any permanently elevated platform, commonly referred to as a permanent tree stand, on the Lincoln County Forest land is prohibited.
 - (b) Screws, nails, lag screws, screw steps, spikes, or other similar devices are damaging to trees, therefore they are prohibited for use in trees on the Lincoln County Forest.
 - (c) Portable tree stands may be used on Lincoln County Forest lands providing that they do not damage trees, they have the owner's name, address, and telephone number clearly printed on or attached to the stand, they are not erected prior to September 1, and are completely removed not later than January 7 of the following year.
 - (d) Elevated platforms and portable tree stands found in violation of this Code will be removed by the Forestry Department employees and destroyed or sold at County auction. A person found in violation of any portion of the aforementioned ordinance is subject to a citation and forfeiture as prescribed in this chapter.
- (3) GROUND STANDS AND BLINDS. All ground stands or blinds must be completely made of materials natural to the area such as dead leaves, branches, bark, or naturally fallen trees. Wire, nails, screws, nylon rope or nonbiodegradable materials may not be used to fasten materials together or to trees. The construction or use of any ground blind or stand which is constructed of other than natural materials is prohibited.
- (4) DEFACING COUNTY PROPERTY PROHIBITED. No person shall scar, deface, remove or destroy any archaeological or geological features, drive nails, screws or other metal into trees or remove, destroy or deface any signs, gates, fences, survey markers, roads, trails, buildings or other County property.
- (5) COLLECTION OF MATERIALS PROHIBITED. Collection or removal of materials, such as but not limited to: nuts, fruits, berries, driftwood, wild flowers, ground pines, mosses or mushrooms for resale or for commercial purposes is prohibited unless a permit is obtained for such activities from the Administrator or authorized personnel.
- (6) CUTTING, REMOVING, OR TAPPING TREES PROHIBITED. (Am. #2011-09-575) Cutting or removal of vegetation for shooting lanes, Christmas trees, firewood, seedlings, or evergreen boughs or the tapping of trees for sap collection is prohibited unless a permit is obtained for such activities from the Administrator or authorized personnel.

- (7) REMOVAL OF MATERIALS PROHIBITED. Removal of materials such as rocks, sand, gravel, topsoil or clay from the County Forest is prohibited unless a permit is obtained for such activities from the Administrator or authorized personnel.
- (8) ATV USE DURING HUNTING SEASON. (Am. #2017-01-635)
- (a) During the bear harvest season, ATVs may be used behind gates, rocks and berms to extract a downed bear from the Lincoln County Forest. The downed bear must be located prior to operating ATVs in restricted area. Hunters must call the Sheriff's Office at 715-536-6272 and report the following information: Wisconsin DNR Customer Number and general location of the site of extraction prior to the use of ATV(s) in these restricted areas.
 - (b) During the deer archery season, ATVs may be used behind gates, rocks and berms to extract a downed deer from the Lincoln County Forest. The downed deer must be located prior to operation of ATVs in restricted areas. Hunters must call the Sheriff's Office at 715-536-6272 and report the following information: Wisconsin DNR Customer Number and general location of the site of extraction prior to the use of ATVs in these restricted areas.
 - (c) During all deer rifle harvest seasons, ATVs may be used behind gates, rocks and berms to extract a downed deer from the Lincoln County Forest. The downed deer must be located prior to the use of ATVs in these restricted areas.
- (9) TIMBER CUTTING.
- (a) Commercial Cutting . Commercial cuttings shall be set up as timber sales with cooperation of the DNR and in compliance with provisions of §28.11(6), Wis. Stats.
 - 1. Commercial cuttings shall include all cutting where stumpage is sold under contract in which the primary objective of the cutting is the marketing of the timber products, including logs, ties, poles, posts, pulpwood, piling, Christmas trees and boughs or other forest products.
 - 2. Proposed timber sales shall be submitted to the Committee by the County Forest Administrator after all provisions relating to forestry practice have been endorsed by a forester of the Department of Natural Resources.
 - 3. Contract specifications for each cutting operation pertaining to payment and financial responsibility of the bidder shall be determined by the Committee.
 - 4. Terms governing these timber sales will be stated in written contracts between the County and the contractor, and shall require final approval of the Committee.
 - 5. In timber sales where the "lock box haul permit system" is in use, the transportation of wood products past a lock box without depositing the proper documentation as designated in the timber sale contract is prohibited. The presence of a load of wood products exiting a timber sale and seen beyond the lock box for that timber sale without proper documentation deposited in the lock box shall be considered prima facie evidence of theft.
 - (b) Cultural Cutting . Cultural cutting will follow recommendations as set forth in the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan with cooperation of the DNR. Cultural cuttings shall include thinnings, release cuttings, sanitation cuttings and improvement cuttings to remove trees of inferior species, form or condition for stand improvement. Materials cut in such operation may be used by the Forestry Department, given to other County agencies or sold.
 - (c) Salvage Cutting . Salvage cutting will follow recommendations as set forth in the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan with cooperation of the DNR. Salvage cuttings include the cutting of timber damaged by any means. Material cut from this type of operation may be used by the Forestry Department, given to other County agencies or sold.
- (10) REGULATING THE GATHERING OF MISCELLANEOUS FOREST PRODUCTS ON COUNTY LAND; TREATY RIGHTS PARTICIPANTS.

- (a) Any treaty rights participant interested in gathering firewood, tree bark, maple sap, lodge poles, boughs, marsh hay or other miscellaneous forest products, except fruits, seeds or berries not enumerated in County ordinances, from County land shall obtain a County gathering permit from the County Forestry office. The County shall respond to the gathering permit request no later than 14 days after receipt of the request. The gathering permit shall indicate the location of the material to be gathered, the volume of material to be gathered and conditions on the gathering of the material necessary for conservation of the timber and miscellaneous forest products on the County land or for public health or safety.
- (b) The County may not deny a request to gather miscellaneous forest products on County property under this subsection unless the gathering is inconsistent with the management plan for that property; the gathering will conflict with the preexisting rights of a permittee or other person possessing an approval to conduct an activity on the property, including a contractor of the County; or is otherwise inconsistent with conservation or public health or safety.

16.08 - REGULATION OF COUNTY FOREST ROADS, ROUTES, TRAILS AND LAKES . (Am. #2012-06-590)

- (1) [COMMITTEE OR ADMINISTRATOR TO REGULATE USE.] The Committee or Administrator shall determine the periods and hours when the County Forest roads and trails shall be open to the public and the periods, seasons of the year and hours when the same shall be closed to the public, if any. The Committee or administrator shall further direct and regulate the County Forest roads and trails systems as to use, access, speeds and parking facilities. Locations and uses of roads and trails should be consistent with efficient fire control, forestry management and recreational use of County-owned lands.
- (2) GENERAL RESTRICTIONS (ALL USES) ON ROADS, ROUTES, TRAILS AND LAKES.
 - (a) No unauthorized person shall ride a horse, bike or drive a motorized vehicle on any secondary road under the jurisdiction of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department between the dates of March 31 and May 1 or when posted closed.
 - (b) No person can gain access to or remove forest products from private land over County property without first obtaining a permit for said use.
 - (c) No person shall cause destruction to any natural growth (unless authorized), cause erosion, rutting, damage a stream, lake bed or wetland or do any other type of environmental degradation.
 - (d) No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle or UTV with tire chains or studded tires on any approved snowmobile trail, all-terrain vehicle trail, or any land administered by the Forestry, Land and Parks Department unless authorized by the County Forest Administrator or the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.
 - (e) No person shall operate any motorized vehicle off from any approved snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle trail or established logging road. This activity, commonly referred to as "cross country travel", is strictly prohibited on any Lincoln County Forest property.
 - (f) No person shall operate a motorized vehicle at a rate of speed that is unreasonable or improper under the circumstances, in any careless way so as to endanger the person or property of another.
 - (g) No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle, UTV, boat or snowmobile which has been mechanically or otherwise altered from the manufacturer's specifications so as to generate additional speed, traction, or noise.
 - (h) No person shall operate a motorized vehicle on the private property of another without the consent of the owner or lessee. Failure to post private property does not imply consent for snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle use.
 - (i) Operation of snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles and UTVs by operators is restricted and defined in §§350.05 and 23.33(5), Wis. Stats.

- (j) No person shall operate a motor vehicle on primary roads in excess of the posted weight limit or if the road is posted closed.
- (k) No person shall operate any unregistered or unlicensed motor vehicle on any County Forest road, route, trail or lake.
- (l) No person shall deface, destroy or remove any signs placed by the Forestry, Land and Parks Department or its agents.
- (m) No person shall place any unauthorized sign on lands under the jurisdiction of the Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Department.
- (n) Notwithstanding other provisions of this chapter, the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee and their agents may, at their discretion, close any and all trails or roads within the County Forest boundaries to protect the trails and roads from damage caused by all forms of motorized or nonmotorized activities.
- (o) Exception. This section shall not apply to any employee of Lincoln County or its agents or representatives conducting County business.
- (p) The statutory provisions set forth in Chs. 110, 340 through 350, §§30.50—30.77 and 23.33, Wis. Stats., relating to regulations for which the penalty is a forfeiture only, including penalties to be imposed and procedures for prosecution are adopted by reference and made part of this chapter, including all existing and future amendments made thereto. Forfeitures for violations of the statutes adopted by reference shall conform to the forfeiture permitted to be imposed for violation of the statutes adopted by reference, including any variation or increases for subsequent offenses.

(3) TRAIL USE RESTRICTIONS.

(a) Restricted Use of Snowmobiles, Utility-Terrain Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles (on Trails).

1. All official recreational signs and speed limit signs must be obeyed. No person shall drive in excess of 10 miles per hour on any portion of an approved snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle trail that is posted with a yellow sign indicating "slow", "steep hill", "dip", "turn" or other yellow caution sign.
2. An operator of a snowmobile, UTV or all-terrain vehicle on an approved trail must stop at all locations marked with a red sign indicating "Stop".
3. No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle on any approved snowmobile and winter all-terrain vehicle trail until 7 calendar days have passed after being officially opened for snowmobile use.
4. No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle on any approved snowmobile trail when the temperature on the trail at a point of 4 feet above the trail surface is 28° Fahrenheit or higher.
5. No person shall operate an all-terrain vehicle, UTV or licensed motorcycle on any approved all-terrain vehicle trail from March 31 to May 1 or if posted "Closed".
6. Street-legal and licensed motorcycles, driven by licensed operators, are allowed on the all-terrain vehicle trails.

(b) Restricted Use of Horse, Bike and Hiking (on Trails).

1. No person shall operate any unauthorized motor vehicle on the Hiawatha Recreational Trail.
2. No person shall ride a horse or bike off any established logging road, except on designated trails. This activity is referred to as "cross country travel" and is strictly prohibited on lands under the jurisdiction of the Forestry, Land and Parks Department.

3. No person shall operate any unauthorized motor vehicle or ride a horse on the Ice Age Recreational Trail, except when the Ice Age Trail travels concurrently with trails signed for those uses.

(c) Restricted Use of Winter Trails.

1. No person shall operate any type of unapproved motor vehicle, ride a horse or bike on a snowmobile trail, all-terrain vehicle trail or cross country ski trail on Lincoln County Forest lands or on the Hiawatha Recreational Trail between the dates of December 1 and March 31, after maintenance activities (dragging) for these trails have commenced. (Am. #2017-02-638)
2. No person shall operate any snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle on any approved snowmobile trail or all-terrain vehicle trail after maintenance activities (dragging) have commenced, until officially opened for this use by the County Snowmobile Coordinator or County Forest Administrator.
3. No person shall operate any snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle on any approved snowmobile trail, all-terrain vehicle trail or cross country ski trail after such trail is officially closed for this use by the County Snowmobile Coordinator or County Forest Administrator.
4. Landowners who permit snowmobiling on their property shall notify the Snowmobile Coordinator if they intend to travel or allow travel on that portion of the approved snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle trail that traverses their property with a vehicle other than a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle.
5. Holders of woodcutting permits from the County Forest Administrator shall not be permitted to travel on approved snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle or cross country ski trails after maintenance activities (dragging) for these trails have commenced.
6. No person shall park any vehicle or place any obstruction on the groomed portion of any snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, snowshoe or cross country ski trail.
7. No person shall allow dogs on the cross country ski trail at any time.

(4) ROAD/ROUTE RESTRICTIONS.

(a) Restricted Use of Snowmobiles, Utility-Terrain Vehicles and All-Terrain Vehicles (on Routes/Roads).

1. No person shall operate a snowmobile or all-terrain vehicle on primary County Forest roads unless the road is posted open for such use.
2. All snowmobiles, UTVs and ATVs shall be operated on the extreme right side of the road except for left turns.
3. All snowmobiles, UTVs and ATVs shall be operated in single-file and yield the right-of-way to other vehicular traffic and pedestrians.

(5) ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE AND UTILITY TERRAIN VEHICLE ROUTES DESIGNATED.

(a) The following portions of the County Forest road system (primary roads) are designated as all-terrain and/or utility terrain [vehicle] routes:

1. Year-Round:
 - a. Armstrong Creek Road.
 - b. Camp Avenue from .55 miles north of CTH E to Newwood Road. (Am. #2014-08-611)
 - c. Wildwood Avenue.
 - d. Cinder Road from the Langlade County line approximately 1.15 miles west to the junction where the snowmobile/ATV trail leaves Cinder Road heading north. (The remainder of Cinder Road west to Parish Road is open for winter use only.)

2. Winter (Seasonal) Use:
 - a. Cinder Road west of junction where the snowmobile/ATV trail leaves Cinder Road heading north to Parish Road.
 - b. Swamp Road from the junction where Corridor 19 enters Swamp Road from the east (approximately 1.1 miles north) to the junction where Corridor 19 leaves Swamp Road heading west.
3. Summer (Seasonal) Use (May 1 to December 1): (Cr. #2012-09-592)
 - a. Horn Lake Road.

(6) SNOWMOBILE ROUTES DESIGNATED.

- (a) The following portions of the County Forest road system (primary roads) are designated as snowmobile trails which are open for use between December 1 and March 31 when officially opened for use by the Lincoln County Snowmobile/ATV Coordinator:
 1. Armstrong Creek Road from the junction where Corridor 19 enters Armstrong Creek Road from the south approximately 0.5 miles southwest to the junction where Corridor 19 leaves Armstrong Creek Road heading west.
 2. Cinder Road.
 3. Swamp Road from the junction where Corridor 19 enters Swamp Road from the east, approximately 3 miles north to the junction where Corridor 19 leaves Swamp Road heading west.
 4. Wildwood Avenue.

(7) STATE FORFEITURE STATUTES. Forfeitures for violations of the statutes adopted by reference shall conform to the forfeiture permitted to be imposed for violation of the statutes adopted by reference, including any variations or increases for subsequent violations.

16.09 - LEGAL ACTION .

- (1) CRIMINAL ACTION. Whenever an arrest shall have been made for unlawful cutting on land owned by the County or on which the County holds a tax certificate, the District Attorney shall take appropriate action.
- (2) SEIZURE. Whenever forest products are found known to have been unlawfully severed from County lands, the Sheriff shall on satisfactory evidence seize such material pursuant to §26.06, Wis. Stats., for use by the County or to sell as the Committee may determine.
- (3) CIVIL ACTION. On recommendation of the Committee, a civil action to recover damages for unlawful cutting may be brought as provided by §26.09, Wis. Stats. by the Corporation Counsel. Similarly, civil suit shall be brought against parties responsible for forest fire damage under §26.21, Wis. Stats.
- (4) COOPERATION. The Committee and its appointed administrative agent shall secure information and seek the cooperation of State, County and town officers in securing information required for legal action.
- (5) PENALTIES. (Am #308-97) Any person violating any of the provisions of this chapter shall be subject to a forfeiture of not less than \$5 nor more than \$500, together with costs as provided in §25.04 of this Code of Ordinances.

16.10 - PENALTY .

Except as otherwise provided herein any person found to be in violation of any provision of this chapter or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder shall be subject to a penalty as provided in §25.04 of this Code of Ordinances.

CHAPTER 19 - PARKS AND RECREATION (Rep. & recr. #2005-09-456)

19.01	General, Administrative and Terms
19.02	Public Meetings and Sales
19.03	Personal Conduct and Nuisances
19.04	Destruction, Entry, Cleaning and Refuse
19.05	Vehicles
19.06	Fires, Fireworks, Firearms
19.07	Animals
19.08	Athletics
19.09	Beaches
19.10	Camping
19.11	Fees, Charges and Deposits
19.12	Penalties and Enforcement

19.01 - GENERAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND TERMS .

- (1) **PURPOSE.** This chapter shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the establishment, protection, development and management of County parks and recreation so as to provide scenic value, recreational benefit and fish and game resources, all in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources.
- (2) **SCOPE.** Except when the context provides otherwise, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all lands, structures and property owned, leased or administered by the County now held or hereafter acquired for park, wayside and special use purpose under the management, supervision and control of the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee, hereafter referred to as the "Committee".
- (3) **DEFINITIONS.** For the purpose of this chapter:
 - Beach . Any water or adjacent land area designated as a swim area by standard regulatory markers.
 - Boat Landing . Any site adjacent to water that provides public access to navigable waters.

Camp or Camping . The use of a shelter, such as a tent, trailer, motor vehicle, tarpaulin, bedroll or sleeping bag, for temporary residence or sleeping purposes.

Campground, Designated . Any tract of land designated exclusively for camping.

Campground, Group . A campground designated for use by organizational or juvenile groups.

Campground, Primitive . A campground or tract with minimum or no improvements where camping may be permitted, facilities may not be provided and access is by hiking or watercraft.

Camping Party . Any individual, family, individual group or juvenile group occupying a campsite.

Camping Unit . A single shelter used for a camp by a camping party, except those used exclusively for dining purposes. A single shelter is defined as a trailer, pop-up, motor home, truck camper, tent or vehicle. Tarps are not considered a camping unit.

Campsite . A segment of a campground which is designated for camping use by a camping unit or camping party.

Closed Shelter . Any building or structure capable of being closed to public access and reserved for public or private group activities.

Committee . The Lincoln County Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

DNR . Department of Natural Resources.

Individual Group . A camping party composed of a family and unmarried guests not to exceed 10 persons occupying one camping unit.

Juvenile Group . A group of juvenile members of an established organization under the leadership of at least one adult for each 10 juveniles in the group and using any number of camping units or occupying a group campground.

Park . The terms "park", "County park" and "Lincoln County Park" are defined to mean all lands and water held for park purposes or designated by the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee for park or recreational purposes. These lands include, without limitation, parks on County land and privately owned lands where the use of these lands has been granted to the County for park, recreational or like public purposes.

Person . Includes any individual, firm, partnership, corporation and association or persons, and the singular number shall include the plural.

Special Recreation Areas . The terms "special recreational area" and "special use area" are defined to mean all lands and water held for special recreational purposes or placed under the jurisdiction of the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee. These areas include, without limitation, hunting areas, fishing areas, ski areas and privately owned lands, the use of which has been granted to the County for special use or recreational purposes.

Wayside . The terms "wayside", "public access", and "boat landing" are defined to mean all lands and water held for day use purposes under the jurisdiction of the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee and includes, without limitation, waysides, beaches, boat landings, public access points and privately owned lands, the use for which has been granted to the County for recreational or like public purposes.

(4) ADDITIONAL RULES, PERMITS, EXCEPTIONS.

(a) Rules . Rules and regulations may be made by the Committee governing the further use and enjoyment of parks, waysides, special use areas, playgrounds, beaches, boat landings,

campgrounds, lakes, streams and the facilities thereof. Any person who shall violate such rules or regulations may be excluded from the use of such facility and be subject to the penalties provided for in §25.04 of this Code of Ordinances.

(b) Permits. Any person to whom a permit shall have been issued by the County Forest Administrator or other authorized park personnel shall be bound by the provisions of all ordinances of the County.

1. *Special Events*. No organized events shall be permitted on County property administered by the Forestry, Land and Parks Department without approval by said department or the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee.

(c) Exceptions. Nothing in this chapter shall prohibit or hinder the Committee, its Administrator, Supervisors, park caretakers or other authorized agents or any peace officers from performing their official duties.

(5) **INSTALLATIONS, PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION**. The location of all sewers and receivers, gas pipes, water pipes, lamp posts, telephone, electric power posts and lines, conductors and pumps within any park or wayside or special use areas shall be subject to the jurisdiction and control of the Committee and their construction, erection, repair or relocation shall be undertaken only after written permission is received from such Committee.

19.02 - PUBLIC MEETINGS AND SALES .

(1) PUBLIC MEETINGS.

(a) Any person desiring to hold a public meeting of any kind whatsoever in any park shall first obtain a permit from the Committee or its authorized agent. The permit must be applied for not less than 48 hours prior to the scheduled event.

(b) Permits will be granted for the purpose of holding any lawful public assembly in accordance with published regulations governing the reasonable use of parks.

(2) **PEDDLING AND SOLICITING**. No person shall peddle or solicit business of any nature whatsoever or distribute handbills or other advertising matter, post unauthorized signs or decorative matter on any lands, structures or property in any County park or use such lands, structures or property as a base of commercial operations for soliciting or conducting business, peddling or providing services within or outside of such lands, structures or property unless first authorized by the Committee or its authorized agent.

19.03 - PERSONAL CONDUCT AND NUISANCES .

(1) **PERSONAL CONDUCT**. No person in any County park shall engage in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonably loud or other disorderly conduct under circumstances in which such conduct tends to cause or provoke a disturbance.

(2) **PROPERTY OF OTHERS**. No person shall destroy, disturb, vandalize or remove the property or personal effects of others without their consent on any property administered by the Committee.

(3) **UNNECESSARY NOISES**. No person shall operate sound tracks, loud speakers, motors, motorboats, motor vehicles or any other mechanical devices or engage in any activities which produce sound levels which are objectionable due to volume intermittence, duration, beat frequency, impulse character or shrillness on any property administered by the Committee without first obtaining a written permit from the Committee or its authorized agent.

19.04 - DESTRUCTION, ENTRY, CLEANING AND REFUSE .

(1) DESTRUCTION AND ENTRY.

(a) Destruction, Defacement or Removal. No person shall disturb, vandalize, deface, remove or destroy any trees, shrubs, plants or other natural growth or sand and gravel; carve on any

rocks, archaeological or geological features, signs, walls or structures; drive nails in trees; or move, injure or deface in any manner roads and trails, or any structures, including buildings, signs, fences, tables or other County property, except with the approval of the Committee or its authorized agent.

- (b) Entry and Manipulation . No person shall enter in any way any building, installation or area that may be under construction, locked or closed to public use; vandalize or manipulate any water control structure, dam or culvert; enter or be upon any building, installation or area after the posted closing time or before the posted opening time or contrary to posted notice in any park.

(2) **CLEANING AND REFUSE.**

- (a) Washing . The washing of cars, persons, pets, cooking utensils, clothing or fish and game cleaning is prohibited in any of the lakes or streams; on any picnic grounds, playgrounds, recreation areas, boat landings, parking lots or roadways; or within 50 feet of any pump, fountain or drinking water outlet in any County park. The washing of persons, cooking utensils and clothing shall be permitted at designated campgrounds or at other authorized and posted locations.

- (b) Refuse .

1. No person shall dispose of any garbage, sewage, bottles, tin cans, paper or other waste material in any manner, except by placing in receptacles provided for such purpose, or dump any such refuse in any park. Throwing of bottles, tin cans, garbage, sewage or other refuse in the water or on the ice of any lakes, streams, recreational trails or along roads on any County-owned property is prohibited.
2. No person shall dispose of any garbage, sewage, bottles, tin cans, paper or other waste material unless such waste material is created, accumulated or results from park usage. Said generated material must be deposited in designated receptacles. Sewage disposal sites are posted at Otter Lake Recreation Area and Camp New Wood County Park.
3. Charcoal residue must be left in a grate or fireplace until cool or placed in receptacles provided for such purpose.

19.05 - VEHICLES .

(1) **VEHICULAR TRAFFIC.**

- (a) No person shall operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour or contrary to posted speed limits in a designated park area.
- (b) No person shall operate any vehicle in any park in a reckless manner.
- (c) No person shall operate or park any motor vehicle, except as provided for herein, upon any hiking trail, beach area, playground, recreational trail, winter sport facility, picnic area or any area other than established roads, parking areas, boat ramps and service areas contrary to posted notice or in any park seasonally or annually closed to vehicular traffic.
- (d) No person shall operate any motor driven boat in waters of Otter Lake by order of the Towns of Harrison and Skanawan and in accordance with §30.77, Wis. Stats.
- (e) Snowmobiles and other snow vehicles are permitted to be used in parks, as long as the use is consistent with State law and providing no problems or complaints arise from such action. Specific areas where snow vehicles are not to be used shall be posted by the Forestry, Land and Parks Committee or its assigns.
- (f) Designated recreation trails in the County Forest shall be kept clear of any unauthorized signs. No signs shall be erected without the express permission of the Committee or its authorized agent.

- (g) No person shall operate any unlicensed motor bicycle or motor vehicle, as defined in §340.01, Wis. Stats., in any park, wayside or special recreation area or operate a motorcycle without a valid operator's permit for motorcycle operations.
- (2) UNLAWFUL PARKING. No person shall park, stop or leave standing, whether attended or unattended, any vehicle, obstruction or watercraft in or on any property administered by the Committee in any manner:
 - (a) As to block, obstruct or limit the use of any road, trail, parking lot, boat landing, waterway or winter sport facility;
 - (b) Outside of any area provided for such purposes when it is practical to use such areas;
 - (c) Contrary to posted notice;
 - (d) In any park between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and the following 6:00 a.m., except that vehicles or watercraft owned by registered campers residing in adjacent campgrounds are permitted. Vehicles used to transport watercraft are permitted at designated boat landings at any time.

19.06 - FIRES, FIREWORKS, FIREARMS .

- (1) FIRES.
 - (a) No person shall start, tend or maintain any fire or burn any refuse, except at designated fireplaces, fire rings or grills within any County park. Fires for cooking or heating are allowed in campgrounds and picnic areas.
 - (b) No person shall leave any fire unattended; throw away any matches, cigarettes, cigars or pipe ashes or any embers without first extinguishing them; or abandon any fire contrary to posted notice in any County park or recreational facilities.
 - (c) No person shall start or possess any fires in or on any property administered by the Committee or on any County-owned land on a DNR designated red flag day including, but not limited to, campfires, use of cooking grills, smoking of cigarettes, cigars or pipes in the open.
- (2) FIREWORKS, ROCKETS, EXPLOSIVE DEVICES. No person shall possess, fire, discharge, explode or set off any squib, cracker or other explosive or pyrotechnic device containing powder or other combustible material within the limits of any County park, except that exhibitions of fireworks under the direction or by permission of the Committee or its authorized agent are permitted.
- (3) DISCHARGE OF WEAPONS PROHIBITED. (Am. #2012-03-586) No person may discharge a firearm, airgun or gas operated gun, slingshot, bow or crossbow or other weapon in a Lincoln County park or other recreational facility.

19.07 - ANIMALS .

- (1) PETS. No person shall allow pets to enter any public building, bathing beach, picnic grounds or playgrounds within any County park or run at large at any time on County park grounds. In other County facilities pets are permitted, provided that they shall be effectively restrained or under the owner's control at all times. No person shall allow his pet to deprive or disrupt the enjoyment or use of any area by others.
- (2) HORSES. No person shall ride a horse or have a horse in any County park without authorization of the Committee or its agent, except in designated areas.
- (3) HUNTING AND TRAPPING. (Am. #2012-03-586) No person shall take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue or otherwise disturb any wild animals or birds in any County park or other recreational facility unless authorized by the committee or its agent.

19.08 - ATHLETICS .

No person shall play or practice ball, golf, tennis, archery, other games or sports upon or within any County park or wayside, except upon ball fields, tennis courts or appropriate athletic grounds established by the Committee, unless such activity in the opinion of an authorized agent of the County does not create any problems of use for other purposes for which the area is so provided.

19.09 - BEACHES .

- (1) BOUNDARY BUOYS, DAMAGE. No person shall swim beyond or disturb or damage a bathing beach boundary buoy or marker in any swimming beach in any County park or wayside. No person shall move or cause to be within that area of water enclosed by swimming area boundary buoys any boat, raft or craft used to transport persons, except inner tubes and air mattresses.
- (2) STORMS AND SWIMMING AREA LIMITS. No person shall:
 - (a) Swim, wade or bathe in the water fronting any bathing beach during electrical storms or in dangerous weather.
 - (b) Swim, wade or bathe within 50 feet of any boat landing.
 - (c) Use or possess any glass containers on designated beach sites.
- (3) BEACH ATHLETICS. Except in locations designated for such purposes, no person shall engage in any athletic game or sport or in any activity upon a bathing beach or in the water when injury or inconvenience to others may result.
- (4) FOOD. No person shall carry or consume food or beverage of any kind in the water adjacent to any bathing beach in any park.

19.10 - CAMPING .

- (1) CAMPING REGULATIONS.
 - (a) Camping Permitted .
 1. Camping is permitted at Otter Lake Campground, Underdown Campground, and at Camp New Wood Campground. (Am. #2011-09-575)
 2. Camping at Otter Lake and Camp New Wood is allowed only at the designated campground and designated campsites.
 - (b) Camping Limited; Designated Campgrounds . No person shall camp and no camping unit shall remain in a designated campground for a period greater than 14 days from May 1 to October 31. Thereafter, the camping unit must be removed from the property for at least 48 hours before being eligible to return. If the campground is not full, the park supervisor may extend the camping period to the camping unit.
 - (c) Campsite Occupancy . It is unlawful for more than one camping party to occupy a single campsite, except that up to ten members of a juvenile group may occupy a campsite, using any number of camping units, on properties which do not have a designated group campground area. Not more than one recreational trailer, motorhome, or pickup camper may occupy a campsite, unless each pays the required fee.
 - (d) Campsite Changes . No registered camping party shall move from its assigned campsite in a designated campground without prior approval.
 - (e) Campsite Registration . Campers must register at designated registration sites before setting up camp.
 - (f) Camping Permit Expiration . All camping permits expire at 3:00 p.m. on the last day of the permit period.
 - (g) Campsite Entry Hours . No camping party shall start setting up or taking down its camping unit between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., except in the case of an emergency.

(h) Campground Closing Hours .

1. No person, except registered campers in or enroute to designated campgrounds, shall enter or be in any County park between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
2. Persons transporting watercraft to and from designated boat landings are permitted at any hour.
3. Campers shall not engage in boisterous, unreasonably loud or other disorderly conduct during quiet hours from 10:00 p.m. to 6 a.m. in designated campgrounds. (Cr. #2011-09-575)

(i) Campground Closing Dates .

1. Otter Lake Campground, Underdown Campground and Camp New Wood Campground are open for camping year-round. Picnic areas, campgrounds and other park facilities are not plowed for vehicular traffic during the winter months, but can be accessed by non-wheeled vehicles. (Am. #2011-09-575)
2. Designated boat landings may be used at any time for access to the lakes.
3. Notwithstanding subparagraphs 1. and 2., the Committee retains sole discretion to close any lands or facilities covered in this chapter at any time.

(j) Campsite Parking . No person shall park any motor vehicle outside the parking area designated at each campsite and not more than 2 motor vehicles are permitted at any campsite.

(k) Campsite Use . Campsite use shall be on a first come, first served basis.

(l) Camping Prohibitions; Posted Notice . No person shall camp on any lands under the management, supervision or control of the Committee contrary to adopted rules and regulations of the Committee or its authorized agent.

(m) Camping Violations . Violation of any State law or any rules of the Committee or this chapter by a member of a camping party is cause for revocation of the camping privilege.

19.11 - FEES, CHARGES AND DEPOSITS .

(1) FEE SCHEDULE. No person shall use any facility, shelter, land or area for which a fee or charge has been established by the Committee without payment of such fee or charge.

(a) Camping fees for tent, trailer or other camping shall be charged only at Otter Lake Campground, Underdown Campground, and New Wood Campground. No overnight camping is permitted at other designated park facilities, waysides or special use areas, unless provided under subsection (2). (Am. #2011-09-575)

(b) Fees for camping shall be established and shall be subject to periodic change at the discretion of the Committee. A fee may be charged for wood supply.

(c) Fees for shelters located at Camp New Wood and Tug Lake Recreation Area shall be established and shall be subject to periodic change at the discretion of the Committee. If shelters are not in use or rented, shelters may be used on a first come, first served basis.

(d) No refunds shall be given for camping, user fees or shelter reservations, except in emergency situations as deemed appropriate by the County Forest Administrator. (Am. #2011-09-575)

(e) No person shall use a recreational trail or facility that requires a user permit without first acquiring the proper permit and paying any associated fees. (Cr. #2011-09-575)

(2) SPECIAL FEES. Any park structure, facility or area other than the above may be reserved or rented for special purposes subject to the approval of the Committee. The Committee or its appointed agent, at its discretion, may set the charge for this facility.

19.12 - PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT .

- (1) PENALTY. Except as otherwise provided, any person found to be in violation of this chapter or any rule or regulation promulgated hereunder shall be subject to a penalty as provided in §25.04 of this Code of Ordinances.
- (2) ENFORCEMENT.
 - (a) An alleged violator of any of the provisions of this chapter can forfeit his right to remain on the premises for at least 48 hours. Authorized County park personnel and/or authorized peace officers shall have sole discretion to terminate the alleged violator's privileges to remain on the premises. No expelled person may return to the property before the eviction period has elapsed. Persons expelled are not eligible for refunds for unused camping fees or vehicle admission fees. People charged with violent, assaultive or disorderly behavior may be expelled until after the case is adjudicated in court. [Nr. 45.04(3)(b)]
 - (b) Any peace officer of the County or any of its municipal subdivisions may without a warrant arrest any offender whom he/she may detect in the violation of any of the provisions of this chapter, and he/she shall have at all times the right to enter the premises of any County building, structure or enclosure in any park or wayside or special use area, including such grounds, buildings, structures or enclosures which may be leased or set aside for private or exclusive use of any individual or group of individuals for the purpose of determining that there is compliance with this chapter and the rules and regulations made by the Committee, and may use all necessary legal means to attain that end.
 - (c) County park personnel authorized to do so by the Committee may issue citations or civil summons for violations committed in their presence of this chapter or rules or regulations made by the Committee and shall have at all times the right to enter the premises of any County building, structure or enclosure in any park or wayside or special use area, including such grounds, buildings, structures or enclosures which may be leased or set aside for private or exclusive use of any individual or group of individuals for the purpose of determining that there is compliance with this chapter and the rules and regulations made by the Committee, and may use all necessary legal means to attain that end.

LINCOLN COUNTY FOREST FIFTEEN-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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CHAPTER 900

APPENDIX

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