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NOTE: All contracts, county code, maps and tables listed in this fifteen-year plan were current as of the drafting of this plan. Oneida County shall be free to change such documents from time to time, either due to updating by County legal staff, through negotiations with other parties to contracts, or otherwise. A copy of the most current versions of the documents and maps contained herein are available upon request from the Oneida County Forestry Office in the courthouse, Rhineland, WI.

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100 MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Oneida County Forest is to manage, conserve, and protect natural resources on a sustainable basis for present and future generations. These resources, such as those provided by the County Forest, are the base for addressing the ecological and socioeconomic needs of society.

County Forest resources should be protected from natural catastrophes such as fire, insect and disease outbreaks, and from human threats such as encroachment, over-utilization, environmental degradation and excessive development. While managed for environmental needs including watershed protection, protection and maintenance of biotic diversity, these same resources must also be managed and provide for sociological needs, including the production of raw materials for wood-using industries that provide a wide variety of products fulfilling consumer demands, and provisions for recreational opportunities.

Management must balance local needs with broader state, national and global concerns through integration of sound forestry, wildlife, fisheries, endangered resources, water quality, soil and recreational practices. Management will provide this variety of products and amenities for the future through the use of sustainable forest management practices.

105 GOAL OF THE COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

(Hereafter referred to as the “Plan”)

To administer the County Forest program consistent with the mission statement and the purpose and direction of the County Forest Law as stated in s. 28.11, Wis. Stats., giving consideration to input from citizens and groups. The purpose of the County Forest Law being:

“...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.”

110 COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN POLICY

This plan shall incorporate or reference all official County Forest policies, pertinent county regulations, planning documents and the needs and actions for the period 2021 through 2035.

This plan is the authority for management on county forest lands enrolled under Wisconsin County Forest Law s. 28.11 Wis. Stats. This plan may be encompassed within required local planning efforts.

110.1 MANAGEMENT PLANNING OBJECTIVES

Management planning shall be used to establish objectives, policies, procedures, rules and regulations, and to promote an efficient and orderly program of development and management of the County Forest in the interest of:

1. Determining needs and priorities.
2. Achieving goals set forth in the mission statement of this plan.
3. Satisfying the statutory requirements of s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.
4. Satisfying requirements for participation in various state and federal aid programs.
5. Providing broad long-term and detailed short-term guidelines for actions.

110.2 DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN

Section 28.11, Wis. Stats., places the responsibility for the plan development on the Committee with technical assistance from the Department and other agencies. The County Forest Director will take the lead at the committee's request. During development of the plan, public meetings, written, phone and in person contacts will be utilized to provide for public participation throughout the planning process. Examples of entities who are anticipated to provide input are: the general public, local, state, federal and tribal governments, non-profit organizations and user groups who utilize the county forest. All meetings at which the plan will be discussed, will be publicly noticed and public comments will be taken during these meetings. Comments will be received via email, US Mail, phone, or in person throughout the revision of the Plan. Upon completion of a draft of the plan, an open house meeting, or meetings, will be conducted to get final input regarding the revisions made to the plan. Public participation and input into the plan should consider s. 28.11, Wis. Stats., which governs the County Forest program and provides the sideboards to which this plan must adhere.

Oneida County's public participation process includes the following:

<u>Stage of Process</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Tools / Techniques</u>
Draft Development	Inform	Newspaper, Website, Public Information Meeting, Publicized Monthly Committee Meetings
Preliminary Draft	Inform	Monthly Committee Meetings, Website
Final Draft Completion & Environmental Assessment	Inform	Open House

110.3 APPROVAL OF THE PLAN

Comments received should be given consideration during plan development. The Committee will then present the plan to the County Board for their approval. Following County Board approval, the plan will then be forwarded to the Department for approval of the plan by the DNR as required by s. 28.11(5)(a), Wis. Stats.

110.4 DISTRIBUTION OF THE PLAN

Each member of the County Board will have access to a copy of the plan at the time of initial review and approval. Updated official copies will be maintained by the Forest Director and available electronically.

Plan and future amendments will be electronic versions of the plan or plan amendments or electronic links to the documents will be distributed to the following:

1. Department of Natural Resources – Liaison and County Forest & Public Lands Specialist
2. Executive Director – Wisconsin County Forest Association
3. Local Tribal Governmental Agencies
4. Oneida County Board of Supervisors

110.5 UPDATING THE PLAN

Necessary changes in policy and procedure will be incorporated into the plan by amendment as required. Amendments to the plan will require approval by both the County Board and the Department of Natural Resources as stated in s. 28.11(5)(a), Wis. Stats. Changes to official County Forest Blocking maps require County Board approval. The annual county board approved work plan, budget, and annual accomplishment report are appended to the plan and do not require official DNR approval. In addition, changes to Chapters 1000, 2000, 3000, 4000 do not require a plan amendment or official DNR approval, with the exception of the official County Forest Blocking maps.

110.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER PLANNING

The development of this plan and any future amendments to this plan will include considerations, and if warranted, participation in other local and regional planning efforts. Examples of other planning efforts that may be considered are:

1. Local Zoning Plans
2. Land and Water Conservation Plans
3. Tribal Government Plans
4. State and National Forest Management Plans
5. Recreation Plans, Including County, City, State and Federal

115 FOREST RESOURCE PLANNING

The Committee will utilize procedures as set forth in the Department of Natural Resources Public Forest Lands Handbook no. 2460.5.

Silviculture Guidance supported by Wisconsin's forestry community and Silvicultural Guidance Team may be referenced in forest management activities. WisFIRS will be utilized as the primary tool for forest management planning decisions. Additional resources such as forest habitat type classification, soil surveys, and DNR's Best Management Practices for Water Quality guidelines may be utilized in management decisions.

115.1 FOREST CERTIFICATION GROUP ADMINISTRATION

As the certification group manager, the Department of Natural Resources will be responsible for overall administration of third-party certification efforts. The DNR County Forest

Specialist will work in close cooperation with the Wisconsin County Forests Association in coordinating this effort. The group manager's responsibilities will include:

- Record keeping of certification
- Coordinating communication with the certification auditing firms
- Reporting and payment of fees
- Processing new entries and departures from the groups
- Internal compliance monitoring
- Dispute resolution

Detail on the certification group administration is maintained in the Public Forest Lands Handbook.

115.2 FOREST CERTIFICATION

Oneida County's Commitment to Sustainable Forestry

Our county forests provide a vital contribution to the State and the world by providing economic, environmental and social benefits important to our quality of life. Oneida County believes that accomplishing such sustainable forestry requires a commitment and partnership from all the groups and individuals that benefit from these public lands.

Oneida County's Commitment

Within the scope of the Wisconsin County Forest Law and the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Oneida County will implement forestry practices that promote forest sustainability and multiple use of the forest. In the management of the forest, that will include the sustainable harvest of forest products, the protection of special sites, wildlife, plants, water quality and aesthetics.

All forestland owners have a responsibility to provide sound forest stewardship. Oneida County will work in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other natural resource groups / agencies in providing sustainable forestry information to those landowners and individuals impacting forest sustainability in Wisconsin. We will support research efforts to improve the health, productivity, and management of forestlands both internally and through cooperative efforts. In managing the Oneida County Forest, a spectrum of forestry practices will be employed to achieve our sustainable forestry objective. Both

intensive and more extensive forest management techniques will be used to provide for wildlife, forest products, recreation, water quality, aesthetics and ecosystem maintenance. In keeping with this responsibility, Oneida County is committed to both the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) certification programs. Forest Certification Chain of Custody and license information can be found at: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/timbersales/certification>.

120 COUNTY AUTHORITY

The county Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan is the official County Forest authority. The Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee of the County Board enforces the regulations governing the use of the County Forest.

120.1 ORDINANCES

The county ordinances that apply to the administration and management of the Oneida County Forest can be found in Chapter 14 of the Oneida County Code. This code can be found at: <https://www.ecode360.com/33796973>. In addition, the following will be considered in planning process:

- Zoning ordinance
- Floodplain – Shoreland Zoning ordinance
- Motorized and Non-Motorized recreation ordinance
- Non-Metallic Mining ordinance

125 HISTORY

125.1 STATEWIDE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

In 1927, the State Legislature passed the Forest Crop Law, authorizing counties to create county forests. An opinion of the Attorney General, with reference to the Forest Crop Law, stated that the counties would be exempt from the owner's share of annual tax. In 1929, the law was amended to create the County Forest Reserve Law. In 1963, several major revisions were made, creating the County Forest Law s. 28.11 Wis. Stats. The most notable change was the creation of a permanent program of forests that would be managed in accordance with a 10-Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan developed by the County, with the assistance of the

Department of Natural Resources. Several grants and loans were created and remain available to counties to compensate for public uses of these county forest lands as stipulated in s 28.11. To fulfill additional statutory obligations, acreage share payments to towns are currently \$.30/acre, and towns with county forest land receive a minimum of 10% of the stumpage revenue from their respective County Forest each year.

In 2019, twenty-nine counties in Wisconsin owned approximately 2.4 million acres entered under the County Forest Law. In 2020, Adams County entered land under County Forest Law.

Oneida County first participated in the County Forest Crop Law in 1932 with the entry of 26,387.9 acres of forestland. That year, Oneida County received a state aid payment under the program of \$2,618.79. Administration of the program on the county level was to be handled by the land agent. The duties of the land agent were incorporated into other positions such as that of the county agricultural agent and later to the tax lister. In 1949, a separate full time department was implemented. As of 1938, the Oneida County Forest consisted of approximately 137,642 acres. Over the ensuing decades, large portions of this acreage was sold to private industry or was transferred to the State of Wisconsin for State Forest purposes or to the Federal Government for use as National Forests. Early phases of development of the county forests consisted largely of planting open areas with pine and spruce, developing access road and fire lanes, re-monumenting survey corners and performing timber stand improvements. Much of the early work was done by hand using Works Projects Administration (WPA) and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) labor.

The Oneida County Forestry Department, now headed by the County Forest Director, is comprised of approximately 82,940 acres and is staffed by six full time employees and two seasonal employees.

125.2 WISCONSIN COUNTY FORESTS ASSOCIATION

Oneida County is a member of the Wisconsin County Forests Association, Inc. (WCFA). This Association was incorporated on May 15, 1968 under Chapter 181 of the Wisconsin Statutes, without stock and not for profit. The WCFA Board of Directors is composed of fifteen delegates elected from County Forestry Committees who are members of the Association and two members at large.

WCFA provides a forum for consideration of issues and policy that are common to all of the county committees responsible for their respective County Forest programs, including those programs encompassed under s. 28.11 and chapter 77, Wis. Stats. WCFA also provides leadership and counsel to County Forest administrators and forestry committees through regular meetings and active committees on legislative and recreational issues. WCFA develops and implements a strategic plan. The organization's mission statement is as follows:

Wisconsin County Forests Association provides leadership uniting the interests of the world's largest county forest program while ensuring long-term forest health and sustainability.

125.3 TRENDS

The values and uses of the Oneida County Forest contribute significantly to fulfilling many of society's ecological and socioeconomic needs now and in the future. Changing trends will impact the values and uses of the forest in coming years.

- Wisconsin's forests are naturally changing due to forest succession. Most of the County Forest acreage statewide is a result of regeneration or planting from the early to mid 1900's. Mid to late successional northern hardwood forests are replacing the early successional aspen, birch, oak and jack pine forests of the 1940's through the 1970's. The aspen cover type is key habitat for many of the state's premier game species including deer, ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare and woodcock. The county forest system currently has 15% of the State's public land base and 24% of the aspen resource.
- Conflict over timber management practices will likely continue to increase as more individuals and groups demand greater involvement in forestry decisions. Practices such as clear cutting and even-aged management will continue to be controversial. Efforts to educate the public on the merits of these sound forest management techniques will continue.
- Oneida County may experience funding problems as municipalities are being required to provide more services with less money. Potential losses of revenue from decreased shared revenues and resistance to tax increases may make county timber revenues

increasingly important to the finances of county governments. This is complicated by increasing public pressure to reduce timber harvests on county forests.

- Increasing knowledge about a wider variety of species and their habitat needs is leading to a growing list of threatened and endangered species. This could lead to improvements in managing the forest and mitigating impacts to these species. Mitigating measures have the potential to impede recreational and forest management activities. Refer to Chapter 800 (840) for specifics on this subject.
- Invasive exotic species pose an ever-increasing threat to the County Forest. Emerald Ash Borer, Gypsy moth, Asian long-horned beetles, garlic mustard, buckthorn and honeysuckle have all gained a foothold in Wisconsin's forests. Refer to Chapter 600 for specifics on this subject.
- Climate Change: Changing climate conditions may over time, change the dynamics of the county forest. Changes in management techniques may be required to mitigate or adapt to the effects of a changing climate. See section 815.1.4 of this plan for more details regarding climate change.
- The forest is considered an outdoor classroom serving all age groups. It consists of diverse communities with a large variety of plant and animal life giving ample opportunity for study and observation.

125.4 PROTECTING THE PUBLIC RESOURCE

As stated in s. 28.11 (1), Wis. Stats., the county forest program enables and encourages “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.”

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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CHAPTER 200

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200 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Objectives:

1. To comply with and implement the provisions of the County Forestry Ordinance.
2. To administer and manage the County Forest in accordance with s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.
3. To cooperate with the Department of Natural Resources and other agencies and organizations in the interest of furthering the optimum management of the forest on a sustainable basis.
4. To provide adequate financial support for the program by using county designated revenues and appropriations, along with funds available from federal and state sources.
5. To maintain an adequate system of accounts, records and reports for the orderly administration of the forest and evaluation of program needs and implementation.
6. To facilitate the administration of the forest by authorizing personnel, equipment and facilities necessary to assist the Committee and the Director in carrying out their duties.

205 ROLES

The Oneida County Forest is administered through the following hierarchy:

- Oneida County Board of Supervisors
- Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee
- Forestry Director
- Assistant Forestry Director

The County and the Department have a mutual interest in administration of the County Forest. It shall be the policy of the County Board through the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee to cooperate with county and Department personnel in carrying out the program on the county forest. The County/Department roles are further defined in the Public Forest Lands Handbook, 2460.5.

205.1 COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Powers of the Oneida County Board of Supervisors, relative to the management of county forest lands are defined in s.28.11(3) and additional authority may include:

- Annual Budget and Work Plan
- Grants / Loans

- Land Acquisitions

205.1.1 Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee

The Board of Supervisors assigns the administration of the County Forest to the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee as detailed below.

1. Preparation of an annual work plan and budget for the ensuing calendar year to be presented for the Board's approval.
2. Establishment and maintenance of the facilities necessary to conduct forest and recreational operations.
3. Negotiations for and acquisition of lands necessary to further the objectives of the county forest.
4. Review and approve all proposed recreation projects on county forest lands.
5. Cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources on all matters pertaining to natural and cultural resource management on the County Forest.
6. Participation in all other activities involved in the execution and administration of forestry operations in the county forest program.
7. Employ personnel to administer and implement the county forest program.
8. Hold committee meetings as necessary to carry out the above duties.

205.1.2 Forest Director

1. The Forest Director will act as the agent of the committee and will carry out its orders, as well as execute assignments outlined in the comprehensive plan, and an annual plan, all within the framework outline in s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.
2. The Forest Director will prepare an agenda for and will be present at all Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee meetings.
3. The Forest Director or his/her designee will record minutes of each meeting and distribute as appropriate, as well as maintain a permanent minutes record.
4. The Forest Director will serve as the Director of the Forestry Department in coordinating the programs of work of staff members and other matters as directed by the Committee.
5. The Forest Director will supervise the timber sale program, tree planting, site preparation, timber stand improvement, road and firebreak construction and maintenance, land acquisition, entry and withdrawal of county forest lands, trespass investigations, and long and short term planning, all within the restrictions of s. 28.11 Wis. Stats.

6. The Forest Director will supervise and administer all County Forest recreational programs and facilities.

205.2 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The role of the Department in the County Forest program is to:

1. Encourage technically sound management of the County Forest resources.
2. Protect the public rights, benefits and investments in County Forest lands.
3. Administer state compensation to the county for the public rights, benefits and privileges the county forest lands provide as required by s. 28.11 (8) Wis. Stats.
4. Provide County Forest assistance consistent with those identified per the Public Forest Lands Handbook.

205.2.1 Division of Forestry

It is the function of this Division to:

1. Certify and make forest aid payments (variable acreage and project loans) to the county and audit county expenditures of the forestry fund account pursuant to s. 28.11(8)(b), Wis. Stats.
2. Certify and make acreage payments to towns pursuant to s. 28.11(8)(a), Wis. Stats.
3. Maintain and certify Forest acreage by township, and audit distribution of severance share payments (s. 28.11(9) Wis. Stats.) made annually by the counties.
4. Collect severance share payments of not less than twenty percent of actual stumpage sales value on timber cut from the County Forest pursuant to s. 28.11(9)(a), Wis. Stats.
5. Administer various aids and grants pertaining, but not limited to, the County Forest program.
6. Assist with development and implementation of the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
7. Interpret and administer the laws and regulations set forth by the Legislature and the Natural Resources Board.
8. Approve Annual Work Plans
9. Review and approve or deny applications for withdrawal and entry of lands into the County Forest Law program.
10. Audit Programmatic and Financials.

205.2.2 Local Office

Field representatives of the Department are available to provide technical advice and assistance to the county in natural resources management. This assistance includes, but is not limited to the following:

205.2.2.1 *Forest Management*

The forester designated by the Department to serve as liaison to the Committee will provide technical assistance in managing the resources of the county forest. The forester's duties include the following, but not limited to:

1. Attend all Committee meetings and any county board meetings as requested.
2. Assist in establishing, inspecting, and administering timber sales in cooperation with county forest personnel.
3. Process timber sale approvals, cutting notices and reports.
4. Maintain for the Department, a record of forest management accomplishments, forms and maps.
5. Assist in preparation of projects, plans and estimates.
6. Provide assistance to the Committee in preparation of the annual budget, annual work plan and the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
7. Assist in County Forest timber theft and larceny investigations.
8. Organize and prepare minutes of annual partnership meeting as required in the Public Forest Lands Handbook.

205.2.2.2 *Other DNR Program Functions*

1. Fire Management – Maintain a system of communications, equipment and trained personnel to prevent and suppress forest fires, assist with prescribed burns and enforce forest fire related laws.
2. Forest Pest Control – Provide technical services for prevention, detection and suppression of forest pests in the district.
3. Wildlife Management – Conduct surveys of wildlife population, habitat, and public use. Wildlife personnel use this information when providing technical assistance on long term ecosystem planning as well as wildlife habitat management, habitat improvement and wildlife health. Attend committee meetings as requested.

4. Fisheries Management – Maintain the quality of the fishery resource in the waters of the Forest to produce a balanced return to the angler, consistent with sound management principles.
5. Law Enforcement – Enforce state natural resource laws and regulations and assist in the enforcement of county and federal natural resource laws and ordinances.
6. Environment Protection – Enforce and provide technical assistance in matters related to water and shore land management, pollution detection and waste disposal.
7. Endangered Resources – Provide technical expertise on rare, threatened or endangered species and natural community surveys, identification and management. Assist other DNR functions and the county in identifying local and landscape level issues.

210 COOPERATION

To meet the obligation of the county to the public in accordance with s. 28.11 Wis. Stats., it is in the best interest of Oneida County to cooperate with public agencies, non-profit organizations, tribal nations and others.

215 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

An annual budget shall be prepared by the Committee. This budget shall contain county, state, private, non-profit and federal funds needed to carry out the forestry, park and recreation programs on the forest.

215.1 REVENUE FROM OPERATIONS

The following procedures will apply in crediting income from the forest:

215.1.1 Timber Sale Revenue

All revenue received from the sale of timber stumpage or cut forest products derived from lands entered in the County Forest Program, except income specified in Sections 14.06(2)(a) (State and Town Severance and Land Purchase Account) of the County Forestry Ordinance, shall be deposited in the Oneida County General Fund. All severance taxes incurred as a result of such sales shall be segregated into a separate account from

timber sale income and paid as required by statute.

215.1.2 Parks and Recreation Revenue

All revenue including, but not limited to: camping fees, rental fees, day use and trail use fees shall be deposited in the Oneida County General Fund unless authorized by the County Board to deposit in a segregated account.

215.1.3 Other County Forest Revenue

All revenue collected from fees and use permits, sale of building materials, sale of surplus materials and equipment, fire or other damage collections, or other revenue received by the Committee shall be deposited in the Oneida County General Fund unless authorized by the County Board to deposit in a segregated account.

215.2 OUTSIDE SOURCES OF REVENUE

215.2.1 State Funds

In addition to other state funds that may subsequently become available for county use, the following state funding sources will be used where appropriate in administration of the Forest:

1. Variable Acreage Share Loan (s. 28.11(8)(b) 1., Wis. Stats.) The county may apply for variable acreage share loans in the amount of up to fifty cents per acre of regular entry County Forest Land by December 31st. Payment is made to the county on or before March 31st of each year and deposited in the State Forest aid fund. Application is made by County Board resolution.
2. Project Loans (s. 28.11(8)(b) 2., Wis. Stats.) are available to undertake acquisition and development projects of an “economically productive nature”. Fish and game projects or recreation projects do not qualify. Application is made by County Board resolution.
3. County Forest Administration Grant Program (s. 28.11(5)(m) Wis. Stats.) Annual grants are available to fund up to 50% of the salary and fringe benefits of a professional forester in the position of county forest administrator or assistant county forest administrator. Benefits may not exceed 40% of salary. Application is made by the Forestry Director along with the approved Annual Work Plan with payment by April 15th of each year.

4. Sustainable County Forest Grants – Annual grants made for short-term unanticipated projects that promote sustainable forestry. Details are contained in s. NR 47.75, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
5. County Fish and Game Projects (County Conservation Aids) (s. 23.09(12, Wis. Stats.).
6. Wildlife Habitat Development Grant (s. 23.09(17m) Wis. Stats.)
7. County Forest Road Aids – Funds are available for each designated mile of County Forest road. The certification is done on a biannual basis.
8. Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program (s. 23.0953 (2)(a), Wis. Stats and ch. NR 51 subch. XVII, Wis. Adm. Code.) Funds available to expand nature-based recreational opportunities by adding to lands in the county forest system. Funding allocated in the state budget each year to this grant program varies. Grants are typically awarded for up to 50% of acquisition costs. Counties must match at least 50% of project costs with non-state funds.

215.2.2 Federal Funds and Programs

In addition to others that may be available, the following funds and programs will be used where practical:

1. Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LAWCON) – This fund provides up to 50% matching grants for the acquisition, development and renovation of local parks.
2. Resource Conservation and Development (Technical Services).
3. Pittman-Robertson Fund – This fund provides for wildlife management and habitat improvement.
4. Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson) Fund – This fund provides financing for fish management projects administered by DNR.
5. Federal Endangered Species Fund – This fund provides cost sharing and grants for surveys, monitoring and management programs that conserve a threatened or endangered species. Contact the DNR Natural Heritage Conservation for information.

215.2.3 Other Funds

Other potential funding sources are groups such as Ducks Unlimited, Ruffed Grouse

Society, Trout Unlimited, Whitetails Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, local sportsman's clubs, service organizations, etc.

The Committee will consider donations, endowments and other gifts, whether real estate, equipment or cash. The county corporation counsel may be consulted to ascertain whether such gifts benefit the county.

215.3 COUNTY EXPENDITURES

All purchases and expenditures shall comply with County purchasing policy, and state statutes.

220 COUNTY RECORDS

The County Forest Director will keep concise and orderly records and accounts of all revenue received, expenditures incurred and accomplishments resulting from the operations of the forestry department. A job description, time and expense report, and training record will be kept on each employee. All salaries, authorized employee expenses, bills for supplies and equipment, bills for other expenditures and all credits and income are submitted to the Committee on a voucher list for approval.

220.1 ACCOUNTS

All accounts and bookkeeping procedures will be handled by the Forest Director and account technician or as otherwise directed by the Committee.

220.1.1 State Aid Forestry Account

Variable acreage share loan (s. 28.11(8)(b) 1., Wis. Stats.), project loan funds (s. 28.11(8)(b) 2., Wis. Stats.), and sustainable forestry grants (s. 28.11(5r), Wis. Stats., and s. NR 47.75, Wis. Adm. Code) that are distributed by the DNR are deposited in this account. Expenditures of variable acreage share funds from this account are restricted to the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the county forest. Expenditure of project loan funds are governed by the conditions of project approval. Sustainable forestry grants from this account must be spent specific to the approved project. Revenue received from the sale of equipment purchased with State Aid account money must be redeposited in the State Aid account.

220.1.2 County Park and County Forestry Accounts

These accounts are budgeted annually and unused portions lapse to the Oneida County General Fund on January 1st, unless authorized to be carried over.

220.1.3 Business Unit/Account Numbers

<u>County Parks and Recreation:</u>	Business Unit	Expenditures	Revenue
County Parks	55210	Various	467100 485100
County Shelter Rental	55210		467100
Camping	55212	Various	467120 485100

<u>Land, Forest & Parks:</u>	Business Unit	Expenditures	Revenue
Snowmobile Trails	55410	531650/531651	435730
ATV Trails	55412	531650	435732
County Forestry	56110	Various	468100
Firewood Permits	56110		468106
Maps	56920	531904-531907	

<u>State Forest Aid Funds:</u>	Business Unit	Expenditures	Revenue
State Aid Forestry Fund			435807
State Aid Parks	55210	521901/581215	435731
Wildlife Habitat Mgmt	56116	521901/531901	435808
Forest Road Fund	56111	Various	435806 435814
Deposits on Stumpage (Performance Bonds)	101	231700	231700

220.2 TIMBER SALES

220.2.1 Active Files

Active Timber sale files (hard copy or e-copy), at a minimum, should contain or reference

the following items:

1. Timber sale cutting notice and report (Form 2460-1)
2. Timber sale narrative (Form 2460-1A)
3. Contract and all addendums
4. Timber sale map
5. Ledger account of scale
6. Timber sale inspection journal/notes
7. Pertinent correspondence
8. Liability insurance
9. FISTA Training
10. Financial assurance (performance bonds, LOC, etc.)
11. Field scale sheets
12. Lock box tickets (if applicable)

220.2.2 Closed Files

Once sales have been completed and audited by DNR, only the following items need to be maintained in the file as a permanent record:

1. Timber sale cutting notice and report (Form 2460-1)
2. Contract and addendums
3. Timber sale map
4. Pertinent correspondence
5. Financial ledger/summary
6. Timber sale inspection journal/notes

225 PERSONNEL

Under direction of the Committee, the Forest Director shall have authorization to organize the workload of the forestry department employees and contractors. Personnel of the forestry department will be governed by the work policies as set forth by the county and their respective work policies.

225.1 COUNTY FOREST STAFF

The following positions are essential for the operation of the forest: the permanent employees of the County Forest at this time are: Forest Director, Assistant Forest Director, Forester II, Forester

I, Account Technician and Forest Maintenance Technician. Summer LTEs to assist with park maintenance are hired annually. Other labor is hired on a part-time or limited-term basis as needed.

225.2 HIRING PERSONNEL

All hiring of permanent personnel will be approved by the Committee, having been accounted for in the annual work plan and budget. The actual hiring of permanent personnel to fill vacancies will be by recommendation of the Committee and approval of the Labor Relations Employee Services Committee. Creation of and filling of new positions will also require the approval of the County Board. Seasonal help and short-term labor for special projects will be recruited and hired by the Forest Director.

225.3 OTHER SOURCES OF LABOR

The Forest Director will consider supplemental resources that can be utilized on the forest, following county procurement policy.

225.4 TRAINING

The Forest Director will be responsible for scheduling and providing appropriate training to keep staff current with safety requirements, BMP's, WisFIRS, silviculture, pesticides, new technologies, and other training appropriate to manage the Oneida County Forest. A training record will be retained for each employee identifying the course name, content and date of attendance.

230 EQUIPMENT

All equipment and supplies will be coordinated by the Forest Director. The Forest Director will be responsible for locating equipment, considering the most economical alternatives of buying, borrowing, renting or constructing. The Forest Director will also be responsible for maintaining an inventory, to be updated annually, of equipment under his/her jurisdiction. Any forestry department employee may purchase equipment and supplies when he/she has prior approval from the Forest Director or his/her designee. Equipment shall be purchased as per county policy.

230.1 FACILITIES

Maintenance of the facilities is assigned to the Forest Director and includes the following:

1. Office space – Provided in the Oneida County Courthouse.
2. Forestry shop building – Located at 5952 Forest Loop Road, Rhinelander. A heated shop/maintenance building, a cold storage garage and adjacent shed are used to store vehicles and equipment used in operation of the forest and parks program. The garage and maintenance building are also used for construction, maintenance and repair of County Forest equipment and facilities.
3. Almon Park – Located in the Town of Pelican, includes shelters, changing rooms, toilets, tables and grills, swimming beach, nature trail and disc golf course.
4. Perch Lake Park – Located in the Town of Woodboro, includes heated shelter, toilets, tables, grills and ADA fishing pier.
5. Enterprise Forest Campground – Located at 5142 Shingle Mill Road. Includes 11 campsites with picnic tables, grills and fire rings, two toilet buildings, a firewood storage shed and two hand pump wells.
6. Waysides and Day Use Areas such as Bass Lake, Gillette/Wickham Lakes day use area, some of which have picnic tables and toilets.
7. Boat landings located throughout the County.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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CHAPTER 300

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DESCRIPTION OF FOREST AND MANAGEMENT PLANNING

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300 DESCRIPTION OF FOREST

300.1 COUNTY FOREST OWNERSHIP

The County Forest is composed of 111 management compartments ranging in size from 340 acres to nearly 1,300 acres. Within the county forest boundaries, approximately 85 percent of the land is county owned with most of the remaining 15 percent in small private holdings and State of Wisconsin holdings. A map of these compartments can be found in the appendix.

300.2 NATURAL FEATURES

300.2.1 Topography

The Oneida County Forest, located in the north-central part of the state, lies primarily within the Northern Highlands physiographic region of Wisconsin. The topography of the forest and surrounding area has glacial origin. The glaciers eroded hilltops and filled valleys, thus reducing relief. Elevations range from 1,460 feet in the southwest (Little Rice) part of the county forest to 1,750 feet in the southeast (Enterprise). The terrain ranges from flat in the west (Lynne/Little Rice Block) to hilly in the central (Woodboro Block) and the southeast (Enterprise Block) part of the forest.

300.2.2 Geography

Oneida County has a land area of approximately 723,251 acres, plus another 68,477 acres of water included in lakes and streams making it the 9th largest county in Wisconsin. Approximately 79 percent of the land in the county is classified as forest land. The Oneida County Forest contains approximately 82,940 acres, making it the 14th largest County Forest in the state.

Maps of the Oneida County Forest blocks can be found in chapter 1000.1 of this plan and at: <https://www.co.oneida.wi.us/departments/fr/recreational-maps/>

300.2.3 Geology and Soils

The soils of Oneida County have been derived largely from the weathering of the glacial drift deposits and show a great variation within relatively short distances. Since the glacial period, the soils have been modified by water action, wind, and the accumulation and

incorporation of organic material. Soil types on the County Forest range from droughty sands to wet, poorly drained organic soils – from steep, stony moranic soils to those on level outwash plains. This intricate pattern and variety of soils determines the site quality to a large degree. The County Forest in the western portion of the county has relatively poor site quality due to the presence of an underlying hardpan layer and due to the unit being so severely burned in the past that the topsoil was largely destroyed. The soils of the central and eastern units are better drained moranic soils with good to medium site quality. A generalized soil map can be found in chapter 1000.2 of this plan. Detailed soils information is available from the USDA Web Soil Survey: (websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov).

300.2.4 Ecological Landscapes

Ecological landscapes are regions in Wisconsin containing similar ecology and management opportunities. Each landscape can present unique management opportunities and challenges. These landscapes are essentially based on the National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (NHFEU) (Cleland et al. 1997). More information of the 16 Ecological Landscapes defined within Wisconsin is available at: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/landscapes/index.asp?mode=Choose>

Wisconsin's County Forests are part of a larger landscape and managed not as sole entities, but part of a larger ecoregion. The National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (NHFEU) categorizes Wisconsin into two provinces, the Laurentian Mixed Forest (212) found in the northern half of the state and the Eastern Broadleaf Forest (222). Within each province are sections, subsections and land type associations that further group land into areas with similar geology, soil types, surface water features, wetlands and historic and potential plant communities. The Oneida County Forest is encompassed within the Laurentian Mixed Forest province including subsections Northern Highlands Pitted Outwash, Glidden Loamy Drift Plains and the Perkinstown End Moraine. Land Type Associations (LTA's) within the subsections include: Chequamegon Washed Till and Outwash, Vilas Oneida Outwash Plains, Jump River Ground Moraine, Vilas Oneida Loamy Hills, Northern Highlands Outwash Plains, Rhinelander Moraines, Elcho Moraines, Flambeau Silt Capped Drumlins and the Oneida Sandy Moraines. LTA's having common ecological characteristics, allow land managers to better plan for future vegetative

communities, wildlife species to feature and compatible recreation uses. See Appendix 1000.3 for a map and listing of NHFEU's found in Oneida County. More information is available at <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/landscapes/index.asp?mode=detail&Landscape=11>

300.2.5 Vegetative Cover Types

The Oneida County Forest is composed of approximately 82,940 acres. Approximately 80 percent of this acreage is forested and approximately 20 percent is non-forested. The County Forest is broken up into 111 management units referred to as compartments. Each compartment is further divided into individual stands based on timber types.

FORESTED COMMUNITIES

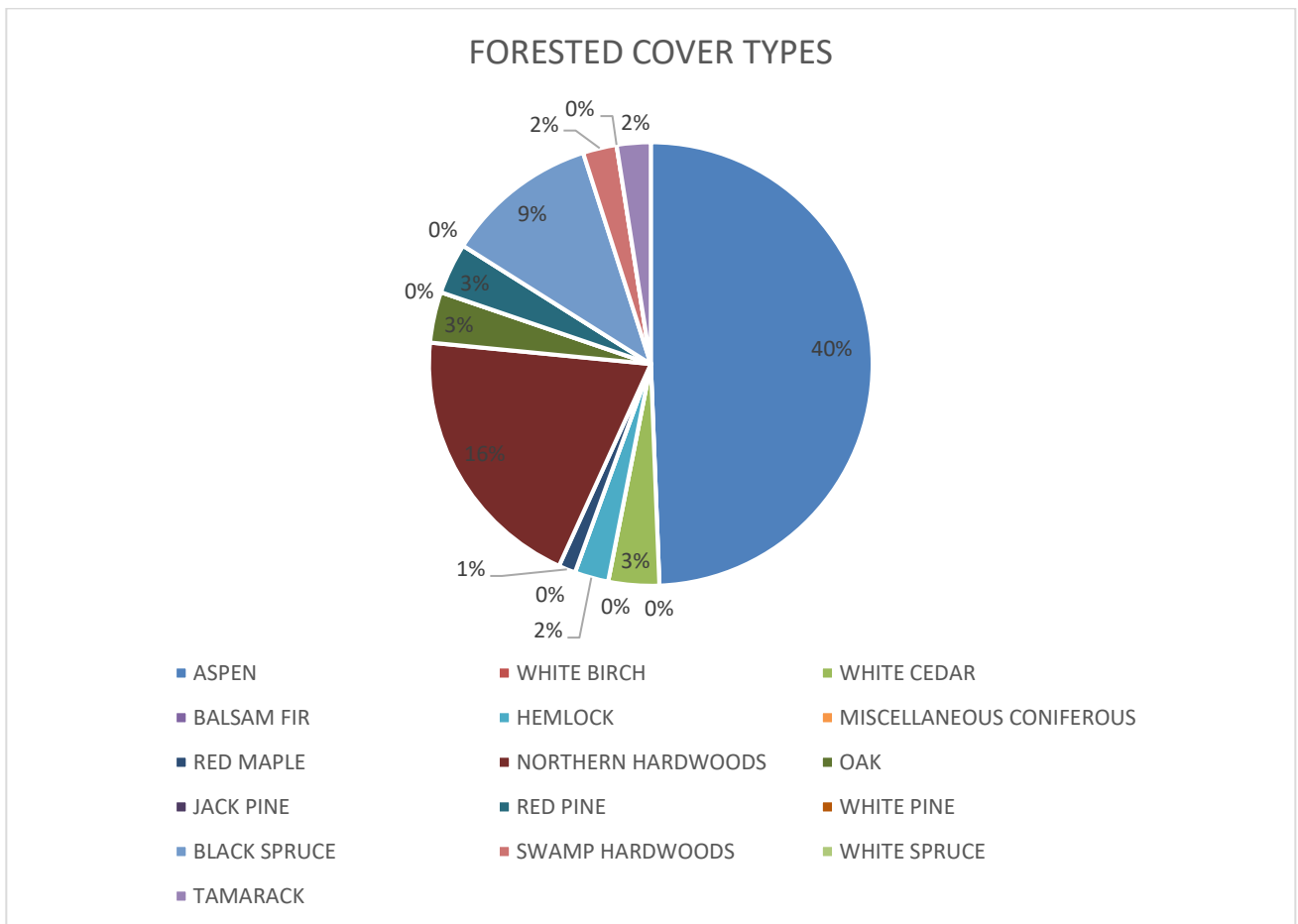
The forested cover types are made up of a variety of size classes (regeneration, sapling-pole, and saw timber) and structure (canopy, layers, ground vegetation, dead and downed material and inclusions).

Note: The following tables and graphs are a snapshot in time of the cover types at the time of drafting this document. For more up to date data, contact the County Forestry Department.

Forest cover types associated with the County Forest are:

FORESTED COVER TYPE ACREAGE ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST					
Forest Type	Forest Type Description	Stands	Acres	Percent of Forested Acres	Percent of Recon Acres
A	ASPEN	630	32,817	49%	40%
BW	WHITE BIRCH	8	201	0%	0%
C	WHITE CEDAR	54	2,749	4%	3%
FB	BALSAM FIR	13	195	0%	0%
H	HEMLOCK	30	1,347	2%	2%
MC	MISCELLANEOUS CONIFEROUS	5	80	0%	0%

MR	RED MAPLE	36	1,085	2%	1%
NH	NORTHERNHARDWOODS	237	13,245	20%	16%
O	OAK	48	2,429	4%	3%
PJ	JACK PINE	4	135	0%	0%
PR	RED PINE	89	2,158	3%	3%
PW	WHITE PINE	16	368	1%	0%
SB	BLACK SPRUCE	123	6,850	10%	9%
SH	SWAMP HARDWOODS	43	1,547	2%	2%
SW	WHITE SPRUCE	10	257	0%	0%
T	TAMARACK	56	1,554	2%	2%
	TOTAL:	1,402	67,017	99%	81%



NON-FORESTED COMMUNITIES

Non-forested habitats are important components of management within the County Forest.

Upland and wetland non-forest types provide important habitat for distinct groups of species.

Non-forested upland cover types associated with the County Forest are:

NON-FORESTED UPLAND COVER TYPE ACREAGE ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST					
Forest Type	Forest Type Description	Stands	Acres	Percent of Forested Acres	Percent of Recon Acres
BK	BRACKEN GRASSLANDS	4	23	0%	0%
CSG	COOL SEASON GRASS	1	3	0%	0%
G	UPLAND GRASS	34	293	2%	0%
GG	TRUE GRASSES	27	169	1%	0%
GH	HERBACEOUS VEGETATION	9	47	0%	0%
GLS	LOW – GROWING SHRUBS	5	67	0%	0%
IP	PICNIC AREA	1	1	0%	0%
R	RECREATIONAL	2	3	0%	0%
ROW	RIGHT OF WAY	70	804	5%	1%
UB	UPLAND BRUSH	10	101	1%	0%
	TOTAL:	163	1,511	9%	1%

Grass openings – consist of upland grasses such as brome, quack, bluegrass, timothy, big and little bluestem and Indian grass.

Herbaceous vegetation – ground cover predominated by herbaceous species with bracken fern, sweet clover, giant ragweed, sting nettle, upland aster, goldenrod and prairie dock being common.

Shrub opening – primarily upland site less than 10% stocked with tree species, but having 50% or more of the area stocked with taller growing, persistent shrubs. This includes hazel, dogwood, juneberry, sumac, alder, willow and prickly ash.

Rock outcrops – include rocky talus and bedrock.

See Chapter 830 for detailed discussion on Biological Community Management Types.

Wetlands non-forested lowland cover types associated with the County Forest are:

NON-FORESTED LOWLAND COVER TYPE ACREAGE ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST					
Forest Type	Forest Type Description	Stands	Acres	Percent of Forested Acres	Percent of Recon Acres
K	MARSH	21	982	6%	1%
KB	MUSKEG – BOG	48	3,991	26%	5%
KEV	EMERGENT VEGETATION	9	289	2%	0%
KG	LOWLAND GRASS	10	488	3%	1%
KH	LOWLAND AND HERBACEOUS VEGETATION	1	43	0%	0%
L	WATER	2	34	0%	0%
LB	LOWLAND BRUSH	4	384	2%	0%
LBA	LOWLAND BRUSH – ALDER	81	6,655	43%	8%
LM	MINOR LAKE	39	552	4%	1%
LMS	MINOR STREAM	14	224	1%	0%
WSA	WETLAND SHRUB – ALDER	6	246	2%	0%
	TOTAL:	235	13,888	89%	16%

Wisconsin State Statutes define a wetland as “an area where water is at, near, or above the land surface long enough to be capable of supporting aquatic or hydrophytic vegetation, and which has soil indicative of wet conditions.” Wetland communities are recognized to be a complex association of plants and animals, soils and water levels having special natural values. They provide many functional values including shoreline and flood protection, water quality protection, groundwater recharge, and animal and plant habitat. Therefore, it is the policy of Oneida County to preserve, protect, and manage wetlands under its jurisdiction in a manner that recognizes the natural values of wetland and their importance on the environment. Scientists distinguish dozens of wetland types, characterized by vegetation, soil type and degree of saturation or water cover. Some of the more prominent

types found on the County Forest include:

Aquatic beds – plants growing entirely on or in a water body no deeper than six feet. Plants may include pondweed, duckweed, lotus and water lilies.

Marshes – characterized by standing water and dominated by cattails, bulrushes, pickerelweed, lake sedges and/or giant bur-reed.

Sedge or “wet” meadows – these wetlands typically have saturated soils rather than standing water. Sedges, grasses and reeds are dominant, but may also have blue flag iris, marsh milkweed, sneezeweed, mint and several species of goldenrod and aster.

Scrub/shrub – these areas, which include bogs and alder thickets, are characterized by woody shrubs and small trees such as tag alder, bog birch, willow and dogwood.

Forested – these areas, include bogs and forested floodplain complexes, are characterized by trees 20 feet or more in height such as tamarack, white cedar, black spruce, elm, black ash, green ash and silver maple.

Forest management is conducted on many of the forested wetland with activities occurring primarily during frozen conditions. See Chapter 830 for detailed discussion on Biological Community Management Types.

300.2.6 Fish and Wildlife

Wisconsin supports over 650 different types of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish as well as millions of invertebrates. Management of county forest lands and the biotic communities they support, provide a mix of habitat types and ages for a wide range of wildlife species. Each species, or interacting group of species, do best under different conditions. County forestlands provide a full range of habitats from open grasslands/barrens to mature forests, from bogs to forested wetlands, from spring ponds to lake shorelines. County forest staff work closely with WDNR fish and wildlife managers and conservation organizations to identify and manage critical habitat for breeding, migrating and wintering fish and wildlife.

While the Oneida County Forest provides for a wide range of fish and wildlife species, current management strategies or programs have emphasized the following species and/or communities: Numerous species of songbirds, waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds, reptiles,

amphibians, fish and mammals frequent the forest. Each species, or interacting group of species, do best under different conditions, ranging from recently disturbed ground to old growth. A diversity of plant communities is key to providing a niche for a variety of wildlife species. For example, two very popular wildlife species in the county are the white-tailed deer and the ruffed grouse. The aspen forest type is recognized as key habitat for these species and is important in maintaining biological diversity across North America. Longer rotation forest communities, such as uneven-aged northern hardwood, similarly provide important habitat for other, less well-known species, such as pileated woodpeckers or northern goshawk.

300.2.7 [Rare and Endangered Resources](#)

A review of the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) indicates the presence of a number of rare species, natural communities and unique natural features on the Oneida County Forest. All land disturbing projects will include an evaluation phase to determine whether an NHI screening is required.

The Natural Heritage Inventory Database is the most comprehensive source of rare species data for Wisconsin. These data are used for a variety of purposes including research, land management, state land master planning, community planning, conservation planning and review of public and private activities across the state. The NHI portal is currently available to DNR staff and County Forest staff who hold data sharing license.

The Wisconsin Historical Preservation Database is the most comprehensive source of cultural resources for Wisconsin. These data are used for a variety of purposes including research, land management, stand land master planning, community planning, conservation planning and review of public and private activities across the state. The Wisconsin Historical Preservation Database is currently available to DNR staff and County Forest staff.

300.2.8 [Water](#)

Oneida County has 68,477 acres of surface waters including 1,129 lakes, of which 406 are named, 5 flowages, and 830 miles of streams. Of these streams, 192 miles are classified as trout streams.

Within the County Forest boundaries, there is a variety of fishery resources. Approximately 23 named and 22 unnamed lakes have all or portions of their shoreline under county ownership. In addition, the county owns frontage on over ten named trout streams and thirteen unnamed trout streams totaling over 49 miles.

Within the Oneida County Forest, there are twelve streams totaling approximately fourteen miles which are classified as Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters. A complete listing and map of Outstanding and Exception Resource Waters in Oneida County can be found in Chapter 1000.5 of this plan.

Note: An entire listing of the Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters can be found in Wisconsin Admin. Code NR 102.10 and 102.11.

300.3 CULTURAL FACTORS

300.3.1 Economy

The importance of the County Forests to Wisconsin's economic health continues to rise. County Forests sustain over 60,000 full-time jobs derived from logging, trucking, paper production, manufactured building materials and lumber. Many other jobs are created in such businesses as the expanding printing industry and are located far from the forested northland. County Forests contribute to the 24-billion dollar forest industry in Wisconsin.

In addition, the lands managed by these 30 counties provide an important recreation resource to complement our state's valuable tourism industry. Tourists spend money at local businesses. By providing 2.4 million acres of public recreation land, we bring tourists to our state. As population increases and public access to privately owned forestland decreases, the need for accessible lands unquestionably will assume an even more important role. More information of the economic impact of the County Forest program can be found at <https://www.wisconsincountyforests.com>

Production of forest products and spin-off industries derived from the recreational opportunities on the forest and the forest products it produces, are vitally important to Oneida County's economic well-being. Forest industry is the # 9 ranked employer in the County;

however, it is the # 1 ranked industry in relation to economic impacts. Recreation ranks # 1 in employment and # 2 in economic impacts. This information can be found at the following link: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestbusinesses/factsheets.html>.

300.3.2 Education and Research

Education and research continue to be critical components in making decisions that affect our natural resources. As public needs and demands of our forest and its products increase, we must be prepared to ensure that sound decisions result. To this end, Oneida County encourages and supports research efforts that relate to the forest, and educational opportunities that will promote a better understanding of forest communities and management.

300.4 OTHER PUBLIC LANDS OWNERSHIP

Oneida County Forest shares a common boundary with Price County, Langlade County, Lincoln County, State of Wisconsin DNR, Bureau of the Commissioners of Public Lands, Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forest, numerous industrial ownerships and private lands. Common borders with these other ownerships create the opportunity to manage resources on a broad scale. Collaboration between public ownerships can enhance the results of each entity's efforts. Road and trail networks, including recreational trails such as snowmobile and ATV/UTV trails, often cross borders between ownerships and a close working relationship with these other owners ensures an uninterrupted trail and road system that provides for a more enjoyable user experience. Collaboration between other public ownerships and the County regarding forest management occurs on a regular basis. Other ownerships (State, Federal, County) have been contacted regarding ongoing forest management on adjacent County forest lands. Oneida County Forest will continue to form and build on these relationships with other adjacent public lands in the best interest of the public.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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CHAPTER 400 OBJECTIVE

The purpose of Chapter 400 is to identify policy and procedures relating to:

1. The acquisition of land to be enrolled in County Forest pursuant to s. 28.11(4)(b), Wis. Stats. or other lands possessing special or unique value areas that are not suited primarily for timber production, to be entered under s. 28.11(4)(c), Wis. Stats., special use classification.
2. The acquisition of lands throughout the county for the purpose of future trading for priority parcels to be enrolled in County Forest pursuant to s. 28.11(4)(b), Wis. Stats.
3. The acquisition of land interests such as conservation easements, first right of refusal, or other land rights of benefit to county forests.
4. Location, identification, and protection of county forest ownership boundaries.

400 COUNTY FOREST OWNERSHIP

The majority of the County Forest lands throughout the state were previously in private ownership and came under public ownership in a substantially degraded condition, by way of real estate tax delinquency and subsequent tax deed to Counties. Continued attempts to sell much of the degraded tax deeded lands were unsuccessful. In response to the lack of demand from private owners, counties worked in cooperation with State and Federal Agencies to restore these lands into productive forests and recreational assets. (“The County Forests of Wisconsin”, WI Conservation Dept., 1938).

Oneida County first participated in the County Forest Crop Law in 1932 with the entry of 26,387.9 acres of forestland. In that year, Oneida County received a state aid payment under the program of \$2,618.79. Administration of the program on the County level was to be handled by the land agent. The duties of the land agent were incorporated into other positions such as that of the County agricultural agent and later to the tax lister. In 1949, a separate full time department was set up. As of 1938, the Oneida County Forest consisted of 137,642 acres. Much of this acreage has since been sold or deeded over to industrial interests, state and federal governments. Over the past 70 plus years, the County acquired, throughout outright purchase, tax delinquency, trade and donations, numerous parcels both within the forest

boundaries and outside the forest boundaries. The purpose of the acquisition of these lands was to block in the county forest, to create recreation areas (parks) and to leverage further acquisition through the Knowles/Nelson Stewardship grant program. The County Forest is currently comprised of approximately 82,940 acres. The Forestry Department, now headed by the County Forest Director, is staffed by six full time employees and two seasonal employees.

Over time, counties have realized benefits from continuing to retain select tax deeded land, acquiring select land from willing sellers by purchase, trade, or gift, and the continual protection of county forest ownership boundaries.

405 LAND OWNERSHIP GOALS

Oneida County may pursue the acquisition of land lying within the forest boundaries from willing landowners as these lands become available for purchase. In the event a property is deemed of such value to the county and general public, that purchase and entry into the County Forest program is pursued, a fair purchase price will be established pursuant to Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practices or other methods approved by the County. See section 420 for criteria on how to achieve these goals.

410 COUNTY FOREST BLOCKING

Since the beginning of the County Forest Program in the State of Wisconsin, counties established boundaries for the purpose of distinguishing between lands that were best suited for publicly owned forests and lands best suited for agricultural production or privately owned forests. This boundary became referred to as a “Blocking Boundary” and provided public information, assisted long-term planning, and guided management decisions.

In the early stages of the development of County Forests, counties commonly traded tax deed parcels that were located outside of the Blocking Boundary for the remaining privately-owned parcels within the Blocking Boundary. A primary purpose for these trades was to promote agricultural economic development by assisting farmers with obtaining the most productive agricultural lands available in a given County.

Blocking boundaries are dynamic and should be evaluated on a routine basis to evaluate adequacy relative to the current priorities. Forestry staff will notify the Committee as parcels become available within the Blocking Boundary.

County Forest Blocking Boundaries are established by Committee and by subsequent approval of the Oneida County Board. A map of the official boundaries is found in the Appendix 1000.1.

415 PRIVATE INHOLDINGS

Oneida County recognizes that extensive private landholdings lie within the forest boundaries. The County will respect the rights of the private landowners who are its neighbors. The County may approach private landowners with proposals for land purchases or trades, but will not coerce landowners to sell or trade. It would not be the intent of Oneida County Forest to pursue properties through condemnation. When owners of property within the blocking boundaries approach the County in regards to the possibility of selling their property to the County, the Committee will evaluate the costs/benefits of acquiring such lands. If it is deemed in the best interest of the County and the general public, a purchase of said properties may be pursued.

420 ACQUISITION OF LAND WITHIN THE COUNTY FOREST BLOCKING BOUNDARY

The land within the blocking boundary includes private land as well as land owned by Oneida County and other government entities. It is not the deliberate intent of Oneida County to acquire all lands within the blocking boundary.

Lands within the blocking boundaries or areas possessing special or unique values shall be recommended to the County Board for acquisition as they become available. Determination of a parcel's value to the County and the State of Wisconsin shall be made by the Committee in concert with the County Forest Director.

Certain lands are considered to be of higher priority for acquisition due to:

1. Lands that improve management efficiencies such as reducing the length of private/public boundaries or improve access to existing county forest.
2. Lands that will increase the county's inventory of productive timberland and provide a consistent source of raw material to the forest products industry along with a consistent income to the county.

3. Lands that conserve surface and groundwater, maintain undeveloped shoreline, and increase public access to water features.
4. Lands that are threatened by private development or fragmentation that may result in a long-term negative impact on adjacent public lands.
5. Lands that are threatened by private development or fragmentation that may result in a long-term negative impact to local and county governments.
6. Lands that will provide for priority trail connections and expansions or reduce or eliminate existing user conflicts.
7. Lands that contain threatened or endangered plants, animals, or communities; or other natural features considered to be of high conservation value.
8. Lands that, when acquired by the county, will not result in an unreasonable negative impact to local tax collections as determined by the Committee in consultation with the affected Towns.
9. Land that may be used to leverage future acquisitions by applying for Knowles/Nelson Stewardship Fund grants.

Lands with the above characteristics may be considered for acquisition by the County.

425 ACQUISITION OF LAND OUTSIDE THE COUNTY FOREST BLOCKING BOUNDARY

Counties may consider acquisition of lands outside the blocking boundary in instances where:

1. Land becomes available to the County which possess values consistent with the priority criteria above and is eligible to be enrolled as County Forest Special Use under s. 28.11(4)(c) Wis. Stats. Uses of such land may include, but are not limited to, parks, recreational trails, water access or natural areas.
2. Land becomes available to the County that, if acquired by the County, will facilitate a fair trade or other transaction resulting in county ownership of land within the county forest blocking boundary.
3. A large block of land that, by itself, may comprise a new block of county forest.

430 ACQUISITION OF LAND RIGHTS

In addition to acquiring fee simple land ownership, counties may find it advantageous to acquire other interests in private or public lands within the blocking boundary such as:

1. Conservation easements for such purposes as:
 - a. Limiting residential density.
 - b. Managing runoff that affects county land.
 - c. Achieving greater silvicultural consistency, pest management, invasive species control, research, or other on adjacent private lands.
2. First right of refusal.
3. Flowage easements.
4. Ingress and egress easements for county management purposes.

435 METHODS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR ACQUISITION LAND TITLE OR RIGHTS

Acquisition may be by outright purchase or trade based on competent appraisal of the value or values involved, or by gift, bequest or action to foreclose tax liens. The County Forest Director will be the agent of the Committee in making first contact with potential sellers and in carrying on acquisition activities.

In the event that the County Forest Director determines that a land or land rights acquisition is in the best interest of the County, in consideration of the factors described above, the County Forest Director shall present a recommendation to the Committee. Upon approval of the Committee, an authorizing resolution shall be forwarded for consideration by the County Board.

County Board authorization is required for execution of any legal instruments that bind the county to acquiring title or other land rights. In the event that any legal documents are signed by an agent(s) of the county, prior to County Board authorization, said legal documents must include an explicit contingency requiring County Board approval.

440 FINANCING

County Forest Director shall forward to the Committee, proposed financing options as part of any recommendations to acquire land. Typical funding sources include:

1. Fund balance in the land purchase account that has resulted from previous county forest withdrawal proceedings.
2. Funds appropriated through the County's capital budgeting procedure.
3. Grants and loans including:

a. Loans

- i. County Forest Project Loans ([s. 28.11\(8\)\(b\)\(2\), Wis. Stats](#))
- ii. Variable Acreage Share Loans ([s. 28.11\(8\)\(b\)\(1\)\), Wis. Stats](#))
- iii. Board of Commissioners of Public Lands State Trust Fund Loan Program ([s. 24.61\(3\)\(a\)\(2\), Wis. Stats.](#))

b. Grants

- i. Warren Knowles – Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program ([s. 23.0953, Wis. Stats.](#))
- ii. County Forest Stewardship Subprogram ([s. 23.0953, Wis. Stats.](#))
- iii. Acquisition and Development of Local Parks Subprogram ([s. 23.09\(20\), Wis. Stats.](#))
- iv. Lake Protection ([s. 281.68 Wis. Stats.](#))
- v. River Protection ([s. 281.70 Wis. Stats.](#))
- vi. County Forest Wildlife Habitat ([s. 20.370\(5\)\(as\)\), Wis. Stats.](#)
- vii. County Forest Fish and Game Projects ([s. 23.09\(12\), Wis. Stats.](#))
- viii. ATV/UTV Trail Aids ([s. 23.33\(9\), Wis. Stats.](#))
- ix. Snowmobile Trail Aids ([s. 23.09\(26\), Wis. Stats.](#))
- x. Federal Funding ([s.20.370\(5\)\(cy\), Wis. Stats.](#)).

445 ENTRY OF LANDS

Lands to be entered under the regular classification of the County Forest Law must be suitable for forestry purposes and be within the County Forest blocking boundary. Lands designated for classification as County Forest Special Use need not be contained within the county forest blocking boundary nor suitable primarily for timber but they must be suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting and fishing, water conservation or other multiple-use purposes.

445.1 TIME OF ENTRY

Application for entry of newly acquired lands under the County Forest Law will be made as soon as possible. Applications for entry will be prepared with the assistance of the DNR Forestry Leader. The County Forest Director will secure the signatures of the proper county officials and transmit the application to DNR's County Forest Specialist.

450 WITHDRAWAL OF LANDS FROM COUNTY FOREST LAW

Lands within the County Forest blocking boundary will not typically be considered for withdrawal from the County Forest Law. Applications for the purchase of these lands by the private sector will be discouraged by the committee, unless a great public benefit can be demonstrated. If, in the opinion of the Committee and County Board, the land will be put to better and higher use and will benefit people of the county and state to a greater extent by being withdrawn from the County Forest Law program, the County should follow the withdrawal procedure as outlined by the [Public Lands Handbook](#). The legal means by which counties may apply for withdrawal of lands from County Forest status is provided by s. 28.11, Wis. Stats. Initially the County Forest Director notifies the DNR Forestry Liaison Forester of the County Forestry Committee meeting at which the proposed withdrawal will be considered. At that meeting, DNR personnel and the County will discuss the proposed withdrawal and, if approved by the County Forestry Committee, the withdrawal will be recommended by the Committee by resolution to the County Board. If approved by the board by the necessary 2/3 majority, the application is prepared by the County and submitted to the appropriate DNR designee. The DNR may ask for additional information from the County. Pending the results of any investigatory hearings deemed advisable, the DNR will act on the withdrawal application. If the application is denied, the County may appeal as provided in s. 28.11(11)(a)(4), Wis. Stats.

450.1 WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE

The purpose of this section is to provide general information in formulating and processing applications for withdrawal of County Forest Lands under s. 28.11(11) Wis. Stats. and ch. NR 48, Wis. Adm. Code. The legal means by which counties may apply for withdrawal of lands from county forests is provided by s. 28.11(11)(a) Wis. Stats. This section states in part: “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.” Section 28.11(11)(a) Wis. Stats. also states: “The county board shall not take final action thereon until 90 days after such referral or until the report thereon of the forest committee has filed with the board.” Consequently, if the county board takes final action on a withdrawal application without referring it to the County Forestry Committee, the application is not valid. On the other hand, if the County Forestry Committee does not report to the county board within 90 days after receipt of the referral, the Board may act upon the application without a Committee recommendation.

455 LAND SURVEYING

The importance of survey corner monumentation is recognized in the interest of avoiding the problems of trespass both by and against the County, facilitating the settlement of those cases which would occur, and aiding in the proper transfer of property.

455.1 LEGAL SURVEYING

Of prime importance are the forest boundaries and property lines in common with other owners. All such surveying shall be under the supervision of a registered surveyor. When the office of the county surveyor is not staffed, the committee will comply with the provisions of Chapter 59, Wisconsin Statutes by hiring registered surveyors to perform the necessary running of property lines. Section corners, one-quarter corners and forty corners (1/16 corners) will be reestablished where needed and Certified Land Corner Restoration forms filled out in duplicate as time permits, under the direction of a registered land surveyor.

455.2 LOCATION OF LINES BY OTHER THAN LEGAL SURVEY

Forestry personnel who are not registered surveyors may, with all possible prudence, establish lines for forest management purposes including those necessary for ordinary management activities such as timber sales and road / trail locations using available equipment including, but not limited to, air photos, quadrangles, county surveyor's records and known corners. In the absence of known corners, lines abutting other ownership may be established by mutual agreement to avert trespass claims. At a minimum, notify the adjoining landowner(s) of the management boundary in writing. This documentation should be retained in the timber sale file.

455.3 PRESERVATION OF LANDMARKS, MONUMENTS, & CORNER POSTS

Section 59.74, Wis. Stats., provides:

1. Penalties for destruction of landmarks, monuments and corner posts established by government survey, the county surveyor or a surveyor or public record.
2. A procedure for notification of intent to destroy such surveying evidence and referencing prior to destruction.
3. The assignment of enforcement responsibility to the Department of Natural Resources, District Attorneys, and professional land surveyors.

All personnel with land management responsibilities are directed to:

1. Make a reasonable search for the above-mentioned surveying evidence prior to implementing any soil moving or cover type manipulation projects, including timber sales, that could result in covering, destruction or removal of such evidence.
2. In the event such evidence is found:
 - a. If practical, redesign the project so that the evidence will not be disturbed.
 - b. If destruction is unavoidable, ((s [59.74\(2\)\(b\)](#), [Wis. Stats.](#).) notify the county surveyor at least 30 days prior to destruction giving the legal description of the monument and the reason for destruction or other obliteration. The notice shall include a description of the landmark, monument of survey, or corner post and the reason for removing or covering it.
3. If reasonable search fails to uncover survey evidence in the suspected vicinity, conduct an additional search if he / she sees fit.
4. In order to further reduce the possibility of inadvertent destruction of invaluable survey evidence:
 - a. Each forester with county forest responsibilities should discuss with county director the need for including adequate protective clauses in easements, rights-of-way, timber sale contracts, and other agreements that might result in destruction of monuments.
 - b. Personnel advising landowners regarding forestry or other land management practices should alert such owners to possible monument destruction that may be caused by them.
 - c. Any instances of potential or accomplished obliteration of survey monumentation discovered in the course of field operations should be brought to the county surveyor's attention.

460 TERMS OF LAND SALE OR TRADE

All sale or trading of county lands within the forest boundaries shall be subject to terms established between the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee and the party which will receive land from the County.

460.1 VALUES AND ACREAGE OF LAND SALE/TRADES

Lands within the County Forest boundary will not normally be considered for withdrawals from the County Forest Law. Applications for purchasing or trading for any of these lands by

the private sector will be discouraged by the Committee. If, in the opinion of the Committee and County Board, the land will be put to better and higher use and will benefit people of the County and State to a great extent, the withdrawal procedure outlined in section 450.1 will be employed. The Public Lands Handbook also contains details on the application procedures for withdrawal. A higher and better use is to be determined by the Committee and the County Board taking into consideration the monetary value received via sale, or the value/acreage of lands received in trade along with the proposed use of the lands being withdrawn. The legal mean by which counties may apply for withdrawal of lands from County Forest status is provided by s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.

460.2 ASSOCIATED COST

All costs such as appraisals, legal surveys, abstracts, title insurance, transfer fees, recording fees, notices, etc. shall be borne by the party initiating the land transaction. Withdrawal application costs shall clearly be borne by the party initiating the land transaction and clearly state the person or entity responsible for such costs. Withdrawal applications can only be initiated/completed by the County.

460.3 PUBLIC HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS

All lands entered into the County Forest program under state statute 28.11 shall be open for all legal forms of hunting, fishing and trapping during seasons as designated by the Department of Natural Resources, except as defined in the Oneida County Code of Ordinances. Hunting, fishing, and trapping may be restricted in certain areas of the county forest where it is deemed these activities are contrary to the intended uses of the area (recreational areas, campgrounds, boat landings, and parks may have restrictions placed on them).

460.4 MINERAL RIGHTS

When purchasing, bartering or trading for land to be entered into the County Forest Program, mineral rights, if available, shall be secured by the County at the time of closing.

460.5 DEED RESTRICTIONS

All land sales and trades shall be accompanied by a deed restriction, approved by the Board of Supervisors, which identifies the specific uses, reservations, and other conditions attached to the lands being released from public ownership if such restrictions exist. If any deed restrictions are placed on a property being withdrawn from the county forest program, the

restriction may include a reversion clause whereby ownership of the land shall revert to the County if terms of the restriction are not observed.

When deemed to be in the best interest of the County, a deed restriction granting the County first right of refusal may be placed on any county forest property being sold, bartered or traded.

460.6 LAND ACQUISITION ACCOUNT

All monetary proceeds from the sale of lands enrolled in the County Forest Law shall be deposited in a non-lapsing account of the General Fund known as the County Forest Land Acquisition Account. This account shall only be used for the acquisition of other lands to be added to the County Forest. Lands acquired from this fund shall immediately be applied for entry into County Forest under the provisions of s. 28.11 Wis. Stats.

465 PROPERTY RIGHT CONVEYANCES

The instrument used for property right conveyances shall be the one which relinquishes the least amount of County control over public land. All property right conveyances will be made on a case by case basis. Examples are listed below:

- a. Easements: An easement is a permanent right that entitles the easement owner to use of the land of another for a special purpose not inconsistent with the general property rights of the owner. Easements run with the land and do not expire. They may be appropriate for public utilities, such as gas, electric and communication uses, and public road rights-of-way. Easements shall not be used for access to private lands unless there is exceptional advantage to the County Forest and unless the easement further promotes the purposes of the County Forest program. The committee may consider easement requests on a case by case basis. The County Forest Director will consult with DNR's County Forest & Public Land Specialist on these cases.
- b. Lease: A lease is a written document which grants use of real property and/or improvements to another party for a specified period of time, for monetary or other consideration. Specific County Forest Law provisions regarding leases can be found in s. 28.11(2)(i) and (j), Wis. Stats. Leases on County Forest lands shall be negotiated for the shortest possible period of time.
- c. Permit: A permit is a written document conferring a right, power or privilege to do a particular act or series of acts on land of another without possessing any interest therein. A permit can be revoked with cause and cannot be assigned to other parties.

A permit, unlike an easement, does not imply an interest in the land and is not transferred with the land. Permits issued on County Forest lands shall be issued for the shortest possible period of time.

Permits shall be the preferred property rights conveyance for private driveways and most other activities dealing with the private individuals using County Forest lands. Driveway permits expire when the land changes ownership. A prospective new property owner may receive a driveway permit in advance of completing a property purchase. Advance permits will not become effective until the new property purchase is recorded by the Register of Deeds office. The County will retain the right to revoke a driveway permit with cause. "Cause" can include, but is not limited to, violation of permit terms, misuse of County land, damage to County property, and non-compliance with County ordinances.

- d. Agreement: An agreement is a written document executed by two or more persons or entities expressing a mutual and common purpose. An agreement details the responsibilities, obligations, conditions, liabilities, etc. of all parties concerned and would be an appropriate instrument for dealing with activities such as public school forests, flowages, gravel crushing operations, and concessions. Agreements shall be effective for the shortest possible time.

465.1 TERMS OF PROPERTY RIGHTS CONVEYANCES

Any agreement, license, permit, lease or easement must contain at least the following information, requirements and terms. More restrictions may be added as needed to protect the interests of the public.

- a. Location by legal description
- b. Permitted uses under the conveyance
- c. Fee for the use of the land
- d. Term of permit
- e. Right of the County to cancel or suspend the conveyed rights with cause
- f. Requirement for restitution to original condition upon expiration or cancellation of the conveyance

465.2 PROCEDURES FOR PROPERTY RIGHTS CONVEYANCE

Proposals to use County Forest lands for private purposes without purchasing the land may be approved depending on the nature of the proposal and its consistency with the purchase of the forest. The following steps are required to consider property rights conveyance to a second party:

1. All proposals must be filed with the Oneida County Forestry Department on the appropriate form with the required processing fee and supportive documentation. Request forms are available at the Forestry Office. Municipalities, other units of government, and public utilities may be exempted from the processing fee by the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee.
2. If the proposal can be addressed through a permit or agreement as defined in Section 465 (C and E), then a report shall be presented at a regular meeting of the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee. The Committee shall consult with the DNR Liaison on the matter. The Committee may then approve, deny, or modify the proposal.

470 TAX DEED LAND

Occasionally tax delinquent lands revert to the County. The lands may lie within the County Forest boundaries and may be added to the County Forest lands. The following procedure shall be observed:

1. The Land Records Committee, or the committee with jurisdiction over disposing of tax delinquent property, will advise the Forestry Department of any tax delinquent property that may be suitable for entry into the County Forest Program.
2. The Forest Director shall inspect such lands and forward information to the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee. The Committee shall make a determination, based on information provided by the Director and criteria listed in Ch. 400 sections 420, 425, and 430, as to the suitability of the parcel(s) for entry into the County Forest Program.
3. If the parcel is deemed suitable for entry in the County Forest Program, the Committee shall forward on to the County Board, an application to enter the parcel(s) in the County Forest Program according to the procedure outlined in Ch. 400 sections 435 and 445.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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CHAPTER 500

Rev. 03/19/24

LAND MANAGEMENT AND USE

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500 LAND USE

500.1 OBJECTIVES

1. To identify policies and procedures employed to effectively manage, utilize and sustain the resources of the County Forest.
2. To identify regulated management activities, land uses and special resource areas.
3. To layout proper permits needed for certain activities on the County Forest.

505 TIMBER SALES

Regulated cutting of timber is essential to the goals and objectives of this plan. Timber harvesting will be conducted to achieve a sustainable harvest level. Harvest areas will be distributed in the forest to accommodate such needs as biodiversity, wildlife, aesthetics, watershed protection and other biological needs. WisFIRS will be used for planning all timber harvest activities on the County Forest. All sales will be established, administered and reported in accordance with the DNR Timber Sale Handbook (2461). All sales on the forest are to be advertised for public bidding, with the exception of small sales with an estimated value of \$3,000 or less or sales that would qualify under a salvage provision (s. 28.11(6)(c), Wis. Stats.). These sales may be sold direct without advertising.

505.1 FIELD PREPARATION OF TIMBER SALES

The County and the DNR will cooperate to locate, designate and prepare harvest areas for sale. The Forest Director and DNR liaison forester shall jointly be responsible to see that the field work on sales is accomplished. Director and Liaison will also jointly be responsible for ensuring that all documentation for each timber sale is properly filled out and routed for signatures.

505.2 ADVERTISING FOR BIDS

After field work is complete and necessary reports receive DNR approval, the Forestry Department shall prepare a sale prospectus and make it available to interested loggers. Under s. 28.11(6)(b), Wis. Stats., timber sale advertisements, at a minimum will be by classified ad in a newspaper having general circulation in the county. Ads shall be run once each week for two consecutive weeks, the last being at least one week prior to the bid opening. A longer advance time will be given when feasible. Sealed bids will generally be offered in late spring and fall, or as needed.

505.3 PROSPECTUS

The following minimum information will be made available to prospective bidders:

1. Species to be harvested and estimated volume
2. Minimum acceptable bid per species
3. Maps of sale areas
4. Special contract provisions
5. Procedures for bidding
6. Bid forms
7. Timber sale bond and advance stumpage

505.4 METHOD OF BIDDING

Bids will be reviewed, and/or approved by the Committee. A sealed envelope showing bidder's name, tract number and marked "sealed bid" shall be submitted on County Forest bid forms by the bidder for each tract bid on, and shall contain:

1. The bid price per unit of species product. The total value of the timber sale shall be indicated on both scaled and lump sum bids. The total bid value must meet or exceed the minimum acceptable bid value, as documented in the 2460 and all bids must meet minimum bid price per species as stated on sale map/prospectus.
2. A minimum of 5% in the form of cash, person/company check or cashier's check, of the bid value of each tract must accompany the bid as a bid bond, payable to Oneida County.

505.5 AWARDED SALE

1. The high bidder is normally awarded the sale contract; however, the Committee reserves the right to reject any or all bids and accept the bid offer most advantageous to the County. Grounds for rejecting bids may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Non-compliance with County Forest contract requirements.
 - b. Failure to meet bidding specifications.
 - c. Delinquent financial obligations.
 - d. Unsatisfactory past performance.
 - e. Inability to demonstrate financial or professional capability. Evaluation criteria on timber sales will be price and documented ability to satisfactorily complete the contract. Factors to be assessed may include proposed equipment and operation, references, proof of financial stability, past performance and documented training completed.

2. Tie bids may be settled by toss of a coin if both parties are agreeable; otherwise the bids on that tract will be rejected and the sale re-advertised.
3. Sales remaining unsold after being advertised for one bid opening, may be sold direct at not less than the appraised or advertised value (whichever is lower), even though their estimated value exceeds \$3,000. (See DNR [Timber Sale Handbook](#)).

505.6 SALE CONTRACTS

All contract clauses listed in this fifteen-year plan are sample clauses and do not encompass all contract terms. Oneida County shall be free to change such clauses from time to time, either due to updating by County legal staff, through negotiations with other parties to contracts, or otherwise. A copy of the timber sale contract, containing all clauses, is available at the Oneida County Forestry Office in the courthouse, Rhineland, WI.

1. Contracts will be prepared with copies provided to the contractor with the original filed in the Forestry office.
2. Contracts are to be signed by the successful bidder within 14 days of the contractor being notified that the contract is ready for signing or before cutting begins, whichever occurs first, with payment made according to the County Timber Sale Bond and Advance Stumpage Payment Schedule. Failure to sign the contract within 14 days may result in forfeiture of the bid bond unless prior arrangements for contract signing are made.

505.7 TIMBER SALE PERFORMANCE BOND

1. Surety bonds (with Committee approval) or an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank which is a member of the Federal Reserve System or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation may be used in lieu of cash as a performance bond on sales. The letter of credit or surety bond with an expiration date at least one year past the contract end date.
2. The required performance bond is 25% of the total bid value.
3. The bid bond may be transferred to the performance bond.

505.8 CONTRACT PROVISIONS

All timber sale contracts will be on the form approved by the Committee and all provisions therein shall apply. A copy of the timber sale map will be attached and become a part of the

contract. The following items are essential contract provisions that should be covered in each contract.

505.8.1 Contract Number and Contract Name

Every contract shall have a unique numerical number and depending on county policies/procedures, shall have a unique name.

505.8.2 Contract Parties

Contracts must have Name, Address and other contact information of the Purchaser.

505.8.3 Duration and Extension of Contracts

1. All contracts begin on the date of signature of the Committee Chair. Contract MUST have a specific end date.
2. A one year extension, if deemed necessary by the County, may be granted with appropriate adjustments in stumpage rates as determined by the following rate schedule:
 - 1 year contract : 1st extension – 5% increase in stumpage rates, 2nd extension – 10% increase, 3rd extension – 15% increase
 - 2 year contract: 1st extension – 10% increase, 2nd extension – 15% increase
 - 3 year contract: 1st extension – 15% increase
 - 4 year contract: No extensions without Committee approval with stumpage increase determined by Committee.
3. The maximum time duration of a timber sale contract, including extensions, shall be four years. Extensions beyond this period of time shall be considered by the Committee, only in the event of special justifications. Special stumpage rate adjustments may be applied.
4. If purchasers do not wish to have contracts renewed or extended and do not finish the sale prior to expiration, appropriate penalties may be assessed. At the discretion of the Committee, all or part of the performance bond may be retained as damages and to cover costs of re-establishing, selling uncut timber.

Any timber sale contract that is cancelled for any reason is subject to the following terms along with all terms of the Timber Sale Contract:

- All outstanding stumpage due will be retained from the performance bond. In the event the stumpage due is more than the performance bond, retention may

be made from performance bonds on other Oneida County contracts or civil action may be taken to recover funds.

- Costs incurred by the County including damage repair, road closure, etc., will also be retained from the bond.
 - Any unharvested portions of the timber sale will be re-offered for sale. The difference between the new bid stumpage rate and the stumpage rate at the time of contract cancellation (based on a cruise estimate of volume of timber remaining) will be retained from the remainder of the bond or any other bond on file with the County.
 - In the event the remaining un-harvested timber receives no bids, retention of the performance bond may be made based on a cruise estimate of timber remaining at the stumpage rate(s) at the time of contract cancellation.
 - In addition, a \$500 re-establishment fee or the actual cost of re-establishing the area for re-sale, whichever is higher, will also be retained from the performance bond.
 - Contractors with a previous Timber Sale Contract cancellation, may be restricted from bidding on future sales. Any bid restrictions will be determined by the Forestry Committee based on severity of contract violation and past performance of the contractor, along with any other information pertinent to the decision.
5. The contractor may request a contract release due to severe physical or financial disability. The Committee shall determine whether a release shall be granted and may withhold all or a portion of the bond deposit for damages and/or to cover costs of re-establishing and selling un-harvested timber.

505.8.4 Termination of Contract by Seller

Committee, may at its sole discretion, terminate the contract based on termination clauses outlined in the Oneida County Forest Timber Sale Contract including:

1. Purchaser breaches the terms of the contract.
2. Purchaser is convicted of any crime which involves the unlawful theft, taking, conversion, receipt or retention of timber or any other forest product, from any person or entity.
3. A civil judgment is entered against Purchaser in a civil proceeding in which it has been alleged that Purchaser committed timber trespass, or unlawfully or wrongfully took, converted, received or retained timber or any forest product, from any person or entity.

4. Purchaser enters into a deferred prosecution agreement or deferred judgement agreement based on Purchaser having been charged with or having been alleged to committing any crime which involves the unlawful theft, taking, conversion, receipt or retention of timber or any other forest product, from any person or entity, and the entry of judgment is deferred.
5. Any other event occurs, the occurrence of which would, under any provision of the contract, allow Committee to terminate.

505.8.5 Performance Bond, Damages, Future Contracts

This section of the contract is to identify the dollar amount and the duration of the performance bond. The Committee requires a performance bond deposit equal to 25% of the total bid to ensure proper performance of the provisions of the timber sale contract. Additionally, performance bonds may be used to cover damages incurred by Oneida County. Performance bonds accepted include: cash, an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank which is a member of the Federal Reserve System, or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or a corporate surety bond (with Committee approval) with an expiration date at least one year past the contract end date.

Also covered under this section of the contract are items for which the performance bond may be used to cover damages. This section also addresses County powers should damages exceed the performance bond amount. Examples of damages include, but are not limited to:

1. Undesignated timber removed
2. Removal of timber without payment
3. Damage to residual timber, roads or other infrastructure
4. Restoration of sale area
5. Costs associated with resale of uncut timber
6. Other costs...

505.8.6 Title to Timber

Committee shall have a lien upon all timber harvested from the described location under the terms of the contract, which lien shall apply against timber stored by the Purchaser and/or upon the proceeds that result therefrom. Said lien shall be and remain in the Committee, until all payments required of the Purchaser under this contract have been made and until the Purchaser has completed all other responsibilities called for under this contract. Committee may enforce the lien in any legal manner, and enforcement of the lien shall not prevent the

Committee from seeking any other remedy at law or in equity.

505.8.7 [Payment Schedule](#)

All contracts shall have a payment schedule that will lay out the responsibilities of the County and the Purchaser for payments under the contract. This schedule will vary based on sale type (lump sum v. scaled sale). Payment for wood products (including products scaled in the woods by a county or state forester), shall be made within 30 days of County invoice date. All payments should include the County invoice number. Copy two (pink) of the Oneida County ticket must be attached to the mill scale slips. Any variance in payment schedule must be approved by the Oneida County Forestry Department.

Interest on unpaid amounts will accrue at 1.5% per month. Despite the existence of the provision requiring the payment of interest, Committee expressly reserves, and does not waive, any and all remedies for breach of contract including, but not limited to, remedies included in the contract, and remedies at law and in equity.

Oneida County reserves the right, upon written notice, to change the payment terms to advance pay status, requiring all payments for timber to be made prior to any logging activity. Advance payment will be based on the estimate of timber that was given at the time of the sale. All wood will be scaled in the same manner as if the advance payment provision had not been enacted by Oneida County and any variations between the actual and estimated harvest will either be billed or the funds returned.

505.8.8 [Utilization Specifications](#)

Cordwood: Any part of a tree that has a minimum top diameter of four inches and a length of 100 inches and is of reasonable straightness to make a pulp stick.

Sawlogs: A hardwood sawlog is defined as any part of a hardwood tree with a minimum top diameter, inside the bark, of 10 inches and minimum length of 104 inches and is capable of making a grade #3 log or better.

A softwood sawlog is defined as any part of a softwood (coniferous) tree with a minimum top diameter, inside the bark, of 9 inches and a minimum length of 104 inches and is capable of making a grade #3 log or better.

All logs will be scaled using the Scribner Decimal-C log rule.

505.8.9 Training Requirement

Proof of training, meeting the standards set forth by the State of Wisconsin Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®), must be provided by the Purchaser to the Committee for at least one person that will be on site at all times while work is being done, will be actively engaged in performance of the contract and is responsible for the logging site.

505.8.10 BMPs, Roads, Landings...

1. The Purchaser will be responsible for securing legal access to sale areas across private or other non-County ownership.

Location of logging roads, decking, or landing areas and campsites must be approved by the representative of the Committee prior to construction. Upon sale completion, all roads must be leveled. Logging roads which intersect or connect with town, county, or state roads must have the intersections or junctions approved by the proper authorities prior to construction. No skidding or decking on official County Forest graveled roads or ditches without prior approval of the County. No skidding or decking on town roads or ditches unless Purchaser provides Oneida County Forestry Department with a written approval from the town.

Regardless if the town gives approval or not, certain sales may have an additional regulation listed on the timber sale map prohibiting skidding or decking on town roads or ditches for reasons such as, but not limited to, aesthetics and safety. Town, county, and county forest roads and ditches must be free of slash and tops. Waste wood, tops and slash at landing sites, decking areas and adjacent to roadways shall be lopped and scattered to reduce height to two (2) feet or less. Town and county road weight limits shall apply to all official county forest graveled roads.

All recreational trails shall be kept open, free of slash and debris, and left in a safe, useable condition. Snowmobile trails must be kept free of logging debris and logging equipment during the snow season. Trails may be plowed, providing at least two (2) inches of packed snow remains on the trail where possible. No logging activity is permitted on active ski trails during the snow season unless approved by the Committee.

2. 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. A copy of this publication is available upon request by the Purchaser. Purchaser’s certification in Wisconsin BMP training or equivalent

through a FISTA coordinated BMP workshop is also required.

3. The Purchaser shall make every attempt to comply with 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. In particular, the Purchaser agrees to work cooperatively with the administering forester and any subcontractors to address the considerations in BMPs 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5 and 9.1. A copy of this publication is available upon request by the Purchaser. The publication can also be found at the Council on Forestry website at: <https://councilonforestry.wi.gov/Pages/InvasiveSpecies/Forestry.aspx>

505.8.11 Soil Disturbance and Rutting

Damage to the soil, including, but not limited to, excessive rutting will be cause to terminate the contract and apply all or part of the performance bond to mitigate damages. The following is the Soil Disturbance Policy of the Oneida County Forestry Department:

SOIL DISTURBANCE POLICY

Soil disturbance is deemed excessive if it exceeds the threshold as described in the table below. An area with excessive soil disturbance requires special attention from a timber sale administrator. Soil disturbances require evaluation to determine the effects they may have and to develop repair or mitigation recommendations. Classifying soil disturbances as excessive shall not mandate closing a timber sale; however, actions will be taken to minimize further soil disturbance.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Soil Disturbance is excessive if:</u>
Roads, Landings, Skid Trails And General Harvest Area	A gully or rut is six (6) inches deep or deeper and is resulting in channelized flow to a wetland, stream or lake.
Roads, Landing and Primary Skid Trails	In a riparian management zone (RMZ) or wetland, a gully or rut is six (6) inches deep or deeper and 100 feet long or longer. In an upland area outside the RMZ, a gully or rut is ten (10) inches deep or deeper and 66 feet long or longer.

Secondary Skid Trails and
General Sale Area

A gully or rut is six (6) inches deep or deeper and 100 feet
long or longer.

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 of the depression to the end of the “too deep” section. Measurements are not cumulative.

Terms and Definitions

Gully: An erosion channel cut into the soil along a line of water flow.

Rut: An elongated depression caused by dragging logs or by wheels or tracks of harvesting equipment or other machinery or vehicles.

Primary Skid Trail: A skid trail used for three or more passes.

Secondary Skid Trail: A skid trail used for one or two passes.

505.8.12 Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance

All contracts shall require proof of insurance. The proof of insurance shall be kept in the sale folder and must cover the entire operation period of the contract.

Purchaser agrees to assume all liability for any damage or injury to persons or property, real or personal, resulting from Purchaser’s operations under the contract including, but not limited to, damage to public and private highways and roads, and will hold Oneida County and its employees harmless from the same. The Purchaser shall maintain insurance of the following types and amounts:

1. Worker’s Compensation Insurance

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. Coverage A: | Limits – Statutory |
| b. Coverage B: | Employer’s Liability Limits |
| c. Bodily Injury by Accident: | \$100,000 each accident minimum |

- d. Bodily Injury by Disease: \$100,000 each employee minimum
 - e. Bodily Injury by Disease: \$500,000 policy limit
2. General Liability Limits: \$1,000,000 bodily injury and
\$1,000,000 property damage
3. Certificates of insurance are required for all policies. The certificate must name Oneida County as an additional insured on the policy and must require a thirty (30) day cancellation notice. An updated copy of the certificate must be provided any time a change is made to the policy.
4. Insurance of subcontractors. It shall be the responsibility of Purchaser to ensure that, during the term of the agreement, all subcontractors who carry out any of the duties of Purchaser under the agreement, carry the same types and amounts of insurance as required of Purchaser, on behalf of itself and its successors and assigns, hereby agrees to save and hold harmless the County, any of its departments, agencies, officers, board members and employees from all claims, losses, demands, damages, fees, charges, liability, injury and damage and costs of defense, by any of the above and from any other injury, claims, losses, demands, damages, fees, charges, liability, injury and damage and costs of defense, to any person or property whatsoever, any of which is caused in whole or in part by the failure of any subcontractors to have such insurance. The above claims, losses, demands, damages, fees, charges, liability, injury and damage and costs of defense, incurred by or to any of the above shall, in the event of an action, include, but not limited to, court costs, expenses of litigation and reasonable attorney's fees. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to allow the use of subcontractors.

505.8.13 Scaling and Conversion Factors

1. All log products (if log products are included on the contract) are to be scaled and marked in the woods by the County or State forester before they can be removed by the Purchaser unless approved by the County. A log is defined as being at least eight (8) feet long and having a small end diameter inside the bark of at least nine (9) inches for softwood and ten (10 inches) for hardwood and be of such quality as to make a #3 grade log or better. All logs will be scaled with the Scribner Decimal C log rule.

Purchasers will mark the length of all logs on the small end of the log with a lumber crayon to facilitate scaling. All logs in each deck are to be decked with the small ends facing the same direction.

Saw logs shall not be removed until the logs are scaled by the County unless authorized by the County. Additionally, Committee shall have a lien upon all timber harvested from the described location under the terms of the contract, which lien shall apply against timber stored by the Purchaser and/or upon the proceeds that result therefrom. Said lien shall be and remain in the Committee, until all payments required of the Purchaser under the contract have been made and until the Purchaser has completed all other responsibilities called for under the contract. Committee may enforce the lien in any legal manner, and enforcement of the lien shall not prevent the Committee from seeking any other remedy at law or in equity.

2. All volumes based on unpeeled measure. An additional 12.5% will be added to hand-peeled wood and 16% added to machine-peeled wood. Unless otherwise specified, a cord is 4' x 4' x 100". Conversion of MBF (Thousand Board Feet) to cords or cords to MBF will be 2.44 cords per MBF for softwoods and 2.2 cords per MBF for hardwoods. Once saw logs have been scaled and marked, they may be hauled from the site without depositing a ticket in the ticket box, as long as all wood on the load has been scaled. If any part of the load has not been scaled, a ticket must be deposited before leaving the site.

3. The following weight/cord – MBF conversions shall be used:

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>GREEN WEIGHT</u>		
	<u>lb/cd</u>	<u>Tons/cd</u>	<u>Tons/MBF</u>
Ash	4,600	2.30	5.06
Aspen	4,500	2.25	4.95
Balsam Fir	4,250	2.13	5.20
Basswood	3,850	1.93	4.25
Birch, White	4,800	2.40	5.28
Birch, Yellow	5,350	2.68	5.90
Cedar	3,150	1.58	3.86

Hemlock	4,800	2.40	5.86
Maple, Sugar	5,100	2.55	5.61
Maple, Red	4,550	2.28	5.02
Mixed Hardwood	4,900	2.45	5.39
Oak, Red	5,500	2.75	6.05
Pine, Jack	4,250	2.13	5.20
Pine, Red	4,500	2.25	5.49
Pine, White	4,200	2.10	5.13
Spruce	4,000	2.00	4.88
Tamarack	4,650	2.33	5.69

505.8.14 Forest Certification

The Oneida County Forest is dual certified by third parties Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®). Certificate license information shall be placed on all lock box haul tickets, field scale sheets and invoices.

Forest Certification Chain of Custody and license information found at:
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/timbersales/certification>.

505.8.15 Other Contract Conditions

1. Waste: The Purchaser agrees to properly use and dispose of all petroleum products and other substances including, but not limited to, oil, hydraulic fuel and diesel fuel. Any on-site spillage must be properly removed and cleaned up by the Purchaser to the satisfaction of the Committee. No litter shall be deposited on the sale area nor on access routes to the area. This includes, but is not limited to, such material as empty oil cans, broken equipment parts, and lunch containers. Violations will be subject to state litter laws and/or county ordinance penalties.
2. Stump heights: Stump height shall not exceed stump diameter, except stumps of less than ten (10) inches in diameter shall not exceed 12 inches in height unless otherwise specified in “Additional Regulations” on timber sale map. All pulp must be utilized to a 100 inch stick to a four (4) inch top diameter, unless specified otherwise in “Additional Regulations” on timber sale map.
3. Zone/Unit completion: All timber, marked or otherwise designated by the contract to be cut, shall be cut progressively and to the satisfaction of the representative of the

Committee, whether or not the quantity of such timber is more or less than the estimates comprising the operational specifications. Individual sale regulations may have requirements for completion of certain areas prior to opening other areas. Refer to “Additional Regulations” section of timber sale map.

4. Slash requirements: Slash control requirements are listed in “Additional Regulations” or “Harvest Regulations” section of each timber sale map. In general, slash is to be pulled away from roads and recreational trails and cut to lie no higher than two feet off the ground. Each timber sale will have specific slash control requirements listed on the prospectus/map.
5. Forest fire prevention: Purchaser shall do all in his/her power to cooperate with fire protection officers to prevent and suppress forest fires and to comply with slash disposal laws s. 26.12(6), Wis. Stats., and any and all applicable laws.
6. Survey monument restriction: The Purchaser agrees to pay for the cost of repair or replacement of any land survey monuments or accessories which are removed, destroyed, or made inaccessible. In the event the performance bond is insufficient to cover such cost, Sec. 59.635, Wis. Stats., “Perpetuation of Landmarks”, and any and all applicable laws may be enforced. Survey monuments will be marked with paint or flags in the field when their locations are known. Bearing trees will also be marked with paint or flagging when located.
7. Indemnification: The Purchaser agrees to protect, indemnify and save harmless the County and the County’s employees and agents from and against all causes of action, claims, demands, suits, liability 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 operation under the contract or in connection with any action or omission of the Purchaser, who shall defend the County and the County’s employees and agents in any cause of action or suit.
8. Independent contractor: Purchaser holds itself out as an independent contractor. Purchaser is a separate and independent enterprise from the County; has a full opportunity to find other business; has made its own investment in its business, trade or profession; possesses the equipment, instrumentalities, materials, and office

necessary to perform the work; controls the means of performing the work; and risks profit and loss as a result of the work. Purchaser shall act as an independent contractor in providing and performing the services contemplated by the contract.

Nothing in, or done pursuant to, the contract shall be construed to create the relationship of employer and employee, principal and agent, partners, or a joint venture between County and Purchaser. The contract does not create an employee/employer relationship between the parties. It is the parties' intention that the Purchaser shall be an independent contractor and not the County's employee for all purposes, including, but not limited to, the application of the Fair Labor Standards Act minimum wage and overtime payments, Federal Insurance Contribution Act, the Social Security Act, the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, the state revenue and taxation law, the state workers' compensation law and the state unemployment insurance law. The contract shall not be construed as creating any joint employment relationship between the Purchaser and the County, and the County shall not be liable for any obligation incurred by the Purchaser, including, but not limited to, unpaid minimum wages, overtime premiums, unemployment insurance benefits, worker's compensation benefits, health insurance, health benefits, disability benefits, or retirement benefits. Purchaser is not entitled to receive any benefits from County or to participate in any County benefit plan.

9. Assignment (sub-contracting): Neither party shall assign any rights or duties under the contract without the prior written consent of the other party. The parties each bind themselves and their successors, executors, administrators, permitted assigns, legal representatives and, in the case of a partnership, the partners, to the other party to the contract and to the successors, executors, administrators, permitted assigns, legal representatives and partners of such other party in respect to all provisions of the contract.
10. Right of inspection by seller: County shall, at all times have the right to ingress and egress for any and all purposes, including, but not limited to, inspection of the property on which the timber is the subject of the contract is being cut, as well as inspection of the interior and exterior of any equipment used or to be used by Purchaser in cutting or transporting such timber. Purchaser shall fully cooperate in

allowing such inspections, including, but not limited to, inspection by County of equipment before such equipment enters any land owned by County.

11. Applicable law: The contract shall be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin, without giving effect to any choice or conflict of laws provision or rule, whether of the State of Wisconsin or any jurisdiction that would cause the application of laws of any jurisdiction other than those of the State of Wisconsin. The parties hereby irrevocably submit to the jurisdiction of the state courts of the State of Wisconsin for the purpose of any suit, action or other proceeding arising out of or based upon the contract. The parties further agree that the venue for any legal proceedings related to the contract shall be Oneida County, Wisconsin. The foregoing shall not be construed to limit the rights of a party to enforce a judgment or order of the above court in any other jurisdictions. The parties further agree that any legal action relating to the contract shall be tried to a court, rather than a jury, and both parties agree to take all action necessary to waive any right to have such action tried to a jury.

505.8.16 Attachments to Contract

Attachments to the contract shall include the timber sale map and associated regulations, often referred to as the timber sale map/prospectus. All addendums to the contract including contract extensions shall be made a part of the contract.

505.9 TIMBER SALE RESTRICTIONS

Each timber sale may have regulations/restrictions in addition to those outlined in the timber sale contract. These regulations/restrictions will be listed on the timber sale map/prospectus and are to be attached to and be part of the timber sale contract.

505.10 TIMBER SALE ROADS

1. The Purchaser will be responsible for securing legal access to sale areas across private or other non-county ownership.
2. The Purchaser will be responsible for securing permission to conduct logging activities within town, county or state road rights-of-way (e.g. decking, skidding).
3. Forestry personnel will approve the lay-out of all roads and make other necessary special provisions within the sale contract.

4. Skidding, decking, or other logging activity is not allowed on County Forest roads or ditches unless approved by the County Forest Director. These areas will be kept free from logging debris. County Forest access roads will be maintained by the logger and left in as good as original condition at the close of the sale. Roads will be inspected by county personnel to insure minimal resource damages.
5. A timber sale Purchaser may request permission to gate a timber sale access road. The Forestry Director may grant a gate permit to prohibit only motorized traffic. See Section 505.8.10 of this plan for more information regarding timber sale roads.

505.11 SUPERVISING SALES

Sale inspections will be performed periodically by county and/or DNR forestry personnel, as requested, with corresponding notations in the sales record. Inspections of timber sales will typically occur on a weekly basis or as needed while the sale is active.

505.12 FOREST PRODUCTS ACCOUNTABILITY

505.12.1 Scaling Merchantability

1. Sawlogs will be scaled by the Scribner Decimal C. log rule. A log is defined as:

Sawlogs: A hardwood sawlog is any part of a hardwood tree with a minimum top diameter, inside the bark, of ten (10) inches and minimum length of eight (8) feet plus trim and is capable of making a grade #3 log or better.

A softwood sawlog is any part of a softwood (coniferous) tree with a minimum top diameter, inside the bark, of nine (9) inches and minimum length of eight (8) feet plus trim and is capable of making a grade #3 log or better.

2. The standard unit of measure for cordwood is measuring 4' x 4' x 8' of unpeeled wood. A pulpwood tree contains at least one 8 foot stick, to a minimum top diameter as defined in the contract.
3. The DNR [Timber Sale Handbook](#) will be used as a guide in determining the conversion rates for posts, poles, bolts, chips, weight-scaled wood or other types of forest products. Due to local conditions and forest composition, Oneida County's weight conversions may vary from the DNR Timber Sale Handbook.

505.12.2 Utilization Standards

Utilization standards will be specified on individual contracts to provide maximum utilization of all merchantable timber and will be based on the scaling standards noted in 505.8.8 of this plan.

505.12.3 Methods of Accountability

Wood harvested from the sale area must be accounted for and payment made in accordance with existing policy and procedure. One or more of the following may be used on an individual sale:

1. The ticket system utilizes serialized three-part tickets. A ticket must be filled out and deposited in the ticket box located on the timber sale prior to the load being removed from the site. An exception to this is when wood, either sawlogs or pulp, are scaled on the landing by a County or State Forester. In this case, if all wood on a load has been scaled, no ticket needs to be deposited. If any part of a load, is not scaled, a ticket must be deposited for that part of the load. Exceptions to the ticket system may be made with prior approval of the County.
2. Wood may also be scaled on the landing. This method is generally used for sawlogs; however, on occasion, pulp wood or other wood products may be scaled on the landing. Payment for wood products scaled is normally due within 30 days of the date of issue of an invoice from the County.
3. Lump sum sales may be utilized and divided into cutting units when practical. The payment schedule for a lump sum sale will be detailed in the timber sale prospectus.

505.13 SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCT PERMITS

1. A written permit is required for taking fuelwood (firewood) for personal home use. Permits are only valid on areas specified in the permit. Rates for firewood permits will be established by the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee. A copy of the firewood permit along with regulations pertaining to the permit, may be viewed at the Forestry Office.
2. A written permit is required for cutting balsam boughs for personal use or commercial use (i.e. for re-sale). Permit rates will be set by the Forestry, Land and Recreation

Committee. A copy of the balsam bough permit along with regulations pertaining to the permit, may be viewed at the Forestry Office.

3. Written permits may be issued for special forest products for community or personal use, with fees established by the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee.
4. Stumpage of fuelwood, Christmas trees, posts and poles and other special forest products for resale will be handled as a regular timber sale or as a miscellaneous forest products permit.

510 TIMBER THEFT

All cases of alleged theft on the county forest shall be investigated and resolved promptly. An allegation of theft by cutting and/or removing timber from the county forest does not alleviate the county from payment under s. 28.11(9) Wis. Stats. The county will collect damages pursuant to s. 26.05 Wis. Stats. and may also pursue criminal charges under s. 943.20 Wis. Stats. and/or seek civil damages.

510.1 TIMBER THEFT INVESTIGATION

The following procedure should be used in all cases of alleged timber theft:

1. Determination of Theft
 - a. Gathering facts – The County, through its sheriff’s department and along with assistance of the DNR liaison, rangers and wardens, will ascertain the facts pertinent to the alleged theft, including determination of the damages to the County. Legal counsel representing the County should be involved in all aspects of investigation. Property involved in the alleged theft may be seized pursuant to s. 26.064 Wis. Stats for use as evidence.
 - b. Boundary determination – If property boundaries are involved, the County shall conduct a legal survey of the boundary in question.

515 ENCROACHMENTS

The County will actively investigate all suspected cases of encroachments on the County Forest. To insure the integrity and continuity of the County Forest land, all cases will be dealt with promptly and in a consistent manner. The following procedures will be used in all cases of suspected encroachments:

1. The County will establish property boundaries; if necessary, a legal survey will be conducted.
2. The County will gather all facts.
3. The Committee, in consultation with the Forest Director, County legal counsel, and the DNR, will make a decision as to the disposition of the case.
 - a. All above ground encroachments that are movable will be removed from county property.
 - b. Permanent type facilities, such as homes, garages, and septic systems shall be addressed individually and may be removed or handled by a land use agreement. Sale or transfer of the encroachment should remain an option depending on the circumstances involved and the viability of an adverse possession claim (s. 893.29 Wis. Stats.).
 - c. Provisions in the land use agreement, if that option is pursued, may include granting the encroacher permission to encroach on the County Forest lands with the following stipulations: no other encroachments will be allowed; the permit is non-transferable; the county must be notified once encroachment is terminated; county continues full ownership and control of property; permittee agrees to waive any rights to any future declaration of ownership or interest in the encroached county property; County reserves the right to cancel the permit; the permit is to be filed in the office of the Oneida County Forestry Department; and all fees related to the land use permit shall be paid by the permittee.

520 SPECIAL USES

1. Recognizing the vast potential for a variety of special uses of the County Forest by governmental units, businesses, organizations or individuals, the committee may designate specified areas for special uses. Specific management methods are to be considered on these areas. Uses must be consistent with the intent and purposes of the County Forest Law.
2. All requests for specialized uses of any County Forest lands will require a permit authorized by the Committee.

520.1 SAND AND GRAVEL

Sand and gravel pits located on the County Forest may only be used by units of government or contractors performing public works. Use of existing pits and the opening of new pits by other than the County Forestry Department will require Committee approval and be authorized by permit only. The conditions of such permits may include, but are not limited to:

1. Requiring the pit and its access road be screened from view from any public highway.
2. Severing trees from the stump and cutting/decking them according to County requirements.
3. Disposition of brush and dirt spoil by leveling or hauling away.
4. Sloping to prevent steep banks.
5. Filing an annual written report with the forestry office of gravel and sand removed.
6. Payment to the County for materials removed as outlined in the permit.
7. Filing for and obtaining all necessary permits to conduct mining activities.
8. Performing all necessary reclamation of site upon closure.

Other conditions may be set at the discretion of the Committee or County Forest Director. The Committee may set fees for materials removed. Other non-metalliferous materials will be dealt with on an individual basis.

All active, non-metallic sites greater than one acre in size, including those on the County Forest, are also subject to provisions of the Non-metallic Mining Reclamation Program, Chapter NR 135, Wis. Adm. Code. The County Forestry Department or entity undertaking non-metallic mining shall work with the local permit coordinator (county planning and zoning office) in obtaining the necessary permits for non-metallic mining operations.

Sand and gravel may, under some circumstances, be leased to private contractors for private use. In these situations, the land must be withdrawn from the County Forest Law until sand/gravel removal and reclamation of the site is completed. Upon completion of reclamation to the satisfaction of the county and the state, the lands shall be reapplied for entry under the County Forest Law.

520.2 EXPLORATION, PROSPECTING AND MINING

1. The Committee may investigate all mineral exploration, prospecting and mining requests as they are received.

2. The DNR shall be notified of all requests as they become known in accordance with s. 28.11(3)(i) and (j) Wis. Stats., and with DNR Manual Code 2712.1 or other codes which may be subsequently adopted.

The [Public Lands Handbook](#) should be referenced for more detailed procedure.

520.3 SANITARY LANDFILLS

The use of County Forest lands for sanitary landfills will not be allowed unless the lands are withdrawn from the County Forest Law.

520.4 MILITARY MANEUVERS

Military maneuvers on County Forest lands will be considered under a lease or written land use agreement. Upon receipt of a written request from the military, the Committee, other necessary County staff, military and DNR representatives will discuss the issue at a public Committee meeting. After the needs have been outlined, the site shall be field checked, DNR input and consistency with the County Forest Law sought, and town officials advised. Depending on the scope of the project, a public hearing may be appropriate. If all aspects and concerns are addressed and agreed to, a legal instrument will be drafted. The matter will then be brought back to a committee meeting for final input and approval. The [Public Forest Lands Handbook](#) will be used for further direction in this matter.

520.5 PUBLIC UTILITIES

Easements for public utilities may be considered by the Committee. Underground installations will be encouraged. The following main provisions shall be included in any County Board resolution granting permission for construction of any utility transmission line:

1. Utility may be billed for merchantable forest products and existing timber reproduction.
2. Utility may be billed for land removed from production due to right-of-way clearing for losses of future income and multiple use benefits.
3. Land removed for utility operations that is no longer suited “primarily for timber production or, that is no longer suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting and fishing, water conservation or multiple use purposes” (s. 28.11(4)(c) Wis. Stats.), may need to be withdrawn from county forest law designation. The utility shall replace any lands requiring withdrawal from county forest with other lands suitable for county forest entry that are in the forest blocking of the County Forest or shall make monetary

payment to the County which shall be deposited in the non-lapsing land purchase account.

4. Utility companies will be encouraged to use existing corridors and underground lines to minimize disturbance to the county forest and native plants and animals.
5. Merchantable timber will be removed in a manner approved by the Committee. Timber cut must be reported to the DNR on form 2460-1.
6. Utility must provide notice of proposed route, including a map of not less than one inch/mile scale, 90 days in advance of proposed construction.
7. Special maintenance, controlled access and signage concerns shall be addressed in any proposal.
8. An appropriate fee shall be charged for easements. Fees are to be determined by the Committee and/or the County Board.

520.6 ACCESS TO PRIVATE LAND

The department has determined that granting a private easement across county forest lands is not consistent with the County Forest Law program. This determination is based on an Attorney General opinion (OAG-08-10). Easement grants to individuals are generally determined to be an exclusive right on a publicly owned asset. Counties are generally restricted from granting easements on county forest lands unless the easement helps to achieve the purpose of the County Forest Law program.

520.6.1 Temporary Access

Requests for temporary access across County Forest Lands will be reviewed for any potential conflicts with management activities or public access. If impacts are minimal, access for short term needs will be permitted through the use of access agreements or letters of authorization. Temporary access is generally for activities such as access to maintain utilities (rail, power lines, etc.) or for logging access on private or other governmental owned lands. The recipient of temporary access is required to restore the roadway to at least its prior condition and to expand coverage of any performance deposits or liability insurance to cover the use of the county road. A copy of the Temporary Access Permit is available in the Oneida County Forestry Office located in the courthouse in Rhineland, WI.

520.6.2 Access Permit

Requests for access to private lands may be made by private parties to build or improve access roads through the County Forest. Access permits will be considered on a case-by-case basis and with the understanding the County is not legally obligated to provide access to private lands.

A fee, based on a 16 ½ foot wide access, along with an administration fee and applicable recording fees, will be assessed by the Committee for access permits. The Committee may elect to waive or modify these fees in cases of permit renewals and/or transfers, or in cases of existing roads or driveways. A copy of the access permit and related fees is available at the Forestry office located in the courthouse, Rhinelander, WI.

Access across County Forest lands must be demonstrated by the applicant as the route of last resort, including evidence of an offer of fair compensation for access across other private lands. The following stipulations will be included in access agreements:

1. Permits are made by and between the County and the property owner. The permits are not transferrable and subsequent property owners must secure their own agreement.
2. The permit is valid as long as one or more of the property owners listed on the deed at the time of signing, and were signers of the permit, remain alive and are listed as owners on the deed.

520.6.3 Prescriptive Easements

Historical access points and driveways may meet the legal requirements of prescriptive use. A prescriptive use easement does not generally trigger a need to withdraw lands from the County Forest program unless the public is excluded from motorized travel on the subject road. Any potential claims of prescriptive easement across County Forest lands must be reviewed by legal counsel in order to determine legal validity and possible legal defense or standing.

520.6.4 Other Types of Access

Complex issues of private access needs may arise in the future. Any proposals to grant an easement across County Forest must help achieve the purposes of the County Forest Law and meet a standard of better and higher public use. Easement to private parties will require

withdrawal from County Forest Law and are to be discussed with the Department prior to initiating any proposals.

520.7 PRIVATE UTILITY SERVICE LINES

If a landowner cannot gain utility access across other lands, the Committee may consider a land use agreement for access across County Forest. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis. These agreements should consider the inclusions mentioned below:

1. The permit is non-transferrable.
2. The County retains full ownership of the utility corridor, however, it shall not be liable for maintenance, upkeep, or other damages associated with the utility service.
3. The permittee waives any rights to any declaration of ownership or interest in the utility corridor on county land for administrative costs as a result of this land use agreement – utility permit. This agreement is granted upon the signature and any fees being received by Oneida County.
4. The fee for a land use agreement and associated administration and recording fees shall be set by the Committee.

520.8 COMMUNICATION TOWERS

The siting of communication towers on the Oneida County Forest will be considered by the Committee on a limited basis. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis subject to the following conditions:

1. It must be demonstrated that the site is the most practical location for such a tower.
2. Land selected for such a tower is no longer suitable for continued entry in the County Forest program. According to s. 28.11(4), Wis. Stats., any accompanying lands needed for tower support wires that inhibit the practice of forestry and are no longer suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting and fishing, water conservation or multiple use purposes may also need to be withdrawn from County Forest Law. Withdrawal is subject to approval by both County Board and DNR.
3. A request to withdraw lands from County Forest Law by a private communications company shall follow withdrawal protocol.
4. Oneida County shall be provided use of such tower, if it is deemed beneficial for the County, for a fee mutually agreed to by the County and the owner of the tower.

5. Any agreement should also consider the inclusions listed under 520.5 (Items 1-8) of this plan.

520.9 OTHER

Other types of special uses of the county forest may be considered by the Committee. Regulations governing these uses will be developed on an individual basis. These may include, but are not limited to, research, independent study and scientific areas.

525 TREATY RIGHTS: GATHERING MISCELLANEOUS FOREST PRODUCTS

Ordinance No. 16-92A, adopted by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Oneida on February 22, 1992, authorizes Oneida County to require permits for gathering miscellaneous forest products on County land by Native American treaty right participants. The ordinance, Chapter 14.07(1)(a)3a-b, of the General Code of Oneida County, adopts language of, and complies with, the Federal District Court decision and states as follows:

1. Any treaty rights participant interested in gathering firewood, tree bark, maple sap, lodge poles, boughs, marsh hay or other miscellaneous forest products (except fruits, seed, 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 of 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.
2. The County may not deny a request to gather miscellaneous forest products on County property under this subparagraph unless the gathering is inconsistent with the management plan for that property; the gathering will conflict with the pre-existing rights of a permittee or other person possessing 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. See subchapter IV, Ch. NR 13, Wis. Adm. Code.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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600 PROTECTION

OBJECTIVE

To protect and manage the resources of the forest from preventable losses resulting from fire, insects, diseases and other destructive elements including those caused by people. Protective methods shall include proper silvicultural methods.

The DNR provides statewide technical guidance that will be used to inform local decisions. This guidance will be referenced to make decisions at the county level.

605 FIRE CONTROL

Damage to the forest caused by uncontrolled fire can create an important challenge in the management of the forest. Loss of resource values caused by fire will be minimized through organized prevention, detection and suppression methods. Maintaining a healthy forest is key to fire management. The DNR is responsible for all matters relating to the prevention, detection and suppression of forest fires outside the limits of incorporated villages and cities, as stated in s.26.11(1), Wis. Stats. The DNR works cooperatively with local fire departments in all fire control efforts. Oneida County Forest is part of the Intensive Forest Fire protection area. The Fire Management Handbook No. 4325.1 and the Area Operations Plan shall serve as the guidelines for fire control activities.

605.1 COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Pursuant to s. 26.11(4) and s. 28.11(4)(f), Wis. Stats., and of the Oneida County Forest Ordinance, the county may cooperate with the DNR in the interest of fire prevention, detection and suppression on the County Forest. This is accomplished through agreements authorizing the DNR to use County Forest land or to utilize county personnel and equipment for fire protection activities.

605.1.1 Personnel

County Forest personnel, upon request from the DNR, shall be made available for forest fire control efforts within the county in accordance with an established memorandum of understanding (MOU). The DNR is responsible for training and directing the activities of county personnel in accordance with the rules identified in the Fire Management Handbook, No. 4325.1.

605.1.2 Equipment

County Forest equipment, upon request and as identified in the MOU, shall be available for forest fire control suppression. A partial list of equipment that may be available includes:

- Four wheel Drive Pickup Trucks (4)
- Four Wheel Drive ATVs (2)
- Four Wheel Drive UTV (1)
- Caterpillar Backhoe/Endloader (1)
- John Deere Endloader (1)

A complete list of equipment available can be found in the Fire Action Plan.

During periods of high fire hazard, all County Forest vehicles and/or crews should be equipped with one or more back pack cans, axes or shovels, appropriate personal protective equipment, mobile communication and any other equipment deemed essential by the MOU. All hand tools shall be maintained and provided by the DNR.

605.1.3 Fire Detection

Fire detection is the responsibility of the DNR. County Forestry personnel may assist and report any wild fires to the DNR, local Fire Department or 911 Dispatch.

605.1.4 Forest Fire Detection

DNR fire control personnel are authorized by the county to place fire prevention signs at recreational areas and other strategic locations within the forest. The County conducts and controls all operations (including harvesting) on the forest in a manner designed to prevent forest fires. The Department will coordinate with the DNR as to the use of the county forest during high fire danger periods to impose any necessary restrictions. These restrictions may include, but are not limited to, recreation and logging.

605.2 DEBRIS BURNING

Unauthorized burning of debris will not be permitted on County Forest Lands pursuant to s. 26.12(5), Wis. Stats.

605.3 CAMP FIRES

During periods of high fire danger, use of campfires may be restricted. Adequate places for campfires will be provided at designated campsites. See Oneida County Code Ch. 14.13(12) regarding campfires.

605.4 PRESCRIBED BURNING

All prescribed burning on County Forest lands will follow the DNR recommendations. See Prescribed Burn Handbook No. 4360.5 for details. Prescribed fire may be an effective management tool on the County Forest and may be used as such. All prescribed burns conducted on the County Forest will be undertaken in consultation with and with assistance from the DNR.

605.5 COUNTY FOREST FIRE HAZARD AREAS

The DNR places primary emphasis on fire control efforts in pine areas. Maps of these areas are available at the local DNR field office. The County will cooperate with DNR Fire Control in providing firebreaks or access ways. Existing access roads, firebreaks and water access points will be maintained as deemed necessary. Secondary emphasis will be placed on hardwood areas with no firebreaks developed or maintained. However, access roads will be maintained as defined in Chapter 700 of this plan.

610 CONTROL OF FOREST PESTS & PATHOGENS

610.1 DETECTION

Damage to the forest caused by insects, other pests and diseases can adversely affect management of the forest resources. Losses to resource values impacted by forest pests will be minimized through integrated pest management methods, with emphasis on silvicultural prescriptions (timber sales). The detection and control of pest problems will be accomplished by county and DNR personnel in cooperation with other agencies.

610.2 PEST SURVEYS

Pest surveys are conducted under the direction of the DNR's forest health specialists. The County may cooperate by providing personnel and equipment to assist in these operations.

610.3 SPECIFIC PESTS AND PATHOGENS OF CONCERN

Integrated pest management for the purpose of this Plan, is defined as follows:

“The maintenance of destructive agents, including insects, at tolerable levels, by the planned use of a variety of preventive, suppressive, or regulatory tactics and strategies that are ecologically and economically efficient and socially acceptable.”

The integrated pest management control and methodology shall be determined jointly by the County Forest Director, and DNR Liaison Forester in consultation with the DNR district Forest Health Specialist. Suppression of forest pests may include the following:

1. Silvicultural prescriptions, including timber sales.
2. Biological control.

3. Chemical control.

610.3.1 Specific Pests of Interest

610.3.1.1 *Gypsy Moth*

Gypsy Moth, *Lymantria dispar*, is an introduced pest that has progressed westward from the northeastern United States since the early 1900's. It reached eastern Wisconsin and has been widespread in some counties since 1988. Despite efforts to slow the spread and suppress outbreaks, it is progressing westerly through Wisconsin. To date, Gypsy Moth damage has been relatively minor in Oneida County. The Oneida County Forest's strategy to combat this defoliating insect will focus on using silvicultural techniques to maintain and improve forest vigor to decrease the likelihood and severity of tree mortality. In addition, suppression spraying with approved insecticides may be considered in high use recreation areas and stands containing a high percentage of susceptible, high value timber. Biological controls may also be available for introduction to help reduce outbreak frequency. All control methods will be coordinated through consultation with the DNR Forest Health Specialist.

610.3.1.2 *Jack Pine Budworm*

Jack Pine Budworm, *Choristoneura pinus*, is a native needle-feeding caterpillar that is generally considered the most significant pest of jack pine. Red, Scotch and white pine, and spruce, can also be defoliated and suffer top-kill and mortality by jack pine budworm. Vigorous, young jack pine stands are less likely to be damaged during outbreaks. The most vigorous stands are well stocked, evenly spaced, fairly uniform in height, and less than 45 years old. Stands older than 45 years that are growing on very sandy sites and suffering from drought or other stresses are very vulnerable to damage. Tree mortality and top-kill are more likely to occur in these stands. In addition, stressed stands are more susceptible to attack by Ips bark beetle. Mortality from Ips can occur for 2-3 years after the jack pine budworm outbreak collapses. This mortality and top-kill create fuel for intense wildfires.

It will be Oneida County's strategy to harvest at the appropriate rotation age, maintain high stand densities (without overcrowding), and use good site selection for jack pine. This will be an effort to help avoid budworm-caused tree mortality and reduce the threat of damaging wildfires while still providing suitable conditions for jack pine regeneration. Prompt salvage following an outbreak will also help reduce the possibility of wildfire. Aesthetic strips and/or islands should not be used. Leaving these aesthetic strips/islands

can prolong the outbreak by giving the budworm areas for breeding. Use of insecticides is not warranted in combating this forest pest on the County Forest.

610.3.1.3 *Oak Wilt*

Oak Wilt, *Bretziella fagacearum*, is a destructive disease of oak trees. It is responsible for the death of thousands of oak trees in forests, woodlots, and home landscapes each year. Oak wilt is caused by a fungus that invades and impairs the tree's water conducting system, resulting in branch wilting and tree death. Trees in both the red oak group and white oak group are affected. There is no known cure once a tree has oak wilt. Prevention of new oak wilt infection centers is the best management option and involves avoiding injury to healthy trees and removing dead or diseased trees. Counties should use the [Oak Harvesting Guidelines to Reduce the Risk of Introduction and Spread of Oak Wilt](#) for management guidance. If pruning is necessary or damage is incurred during the growing season, e.g. through construction activities or storms, the wounds should be painted immediately with a wound paint.

It will be Oneida County's policy to remove infected trees and debark or chip them when located in a high intensive use area. Once chipped or debarked, the materials shall be covered with plastic for a period of six months to kill the fungus and any insects in the material. A vibratory plow, or similar implement, will also be used to sever root grafts on isolated pockets where feasible. Timber harvest of red oak will be restricted between April 15th and July 15th; however, more restrictive harvesting regulations may be imposed if deemed necessary and in the best interest of the County.

610.3.1.4 *Forest Tent Caterpillar*

Forest Tent Caterpillar, *Malacosoma disstria*, can be found throughout the United States and Canada wherever hardwoods grow. The favored hosts in Wisconsin are aspen and oak. This native insect causes region-wide outbreaks at intervals from 10 to 15 years; outbreaks usually last 2 - 5 years in the Lake States. Severe and repeated defoliation can lead to dieback and/or reduced growth of affected trees, which in some instances may be significant. The last outbreak of this pest occurred in 1999-2001 in Oneida County. Populations are often controlled by natural enemies, helping the population crash. Aerial spraying of insecticides can be an option for control as well. It will be Oneida County's strategy to employ sound silvicultural practices to combat this cyclic pest.

610.3.1.5 *Two-lined Chestnut Borer*

The two-lined chestnut borer, *Agrilus bilineatus*, is a common secondary pest in trees which have been severely defoliated several years in a row. Oaks that are under stress from drought and/or defoliation by insects such as gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*), fall cankerworm (*Alsophila pometaria*), and forest tent caterpillar (*Malacosoma disstria*) can be infested and killed by two-lined chestnut borer. Prevention of two-lined chestnut borer through sound silvicultural practices is the best management option. Postponing management activities in stressed stands for two years after severe drought and/or defoliation have ended will provide time for trees to recover and reduce their susceptibility to two-lined chestnut borer attack. Stands that have been infested by this pest and have suffered mortality or significant die-back should be salvaged promptly. Oneida County will strive to maintain healthy stands of trees through sound silvicultural practices to discourage infestation.

610.3.1.6 *Emerald Ash Borer*

The emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*, was accidentally introduced to North America from Asia in 2002. Emerald ash borer (EAB) infestations in Wisconsin have resulted in widespread mortality to *Fraxinus* species including green, white, and black ash. It is expected that 99% of the ash trees in Wisconsin will die. Ash comprises a significant component in the northern hardwood timber type and can be found in nearly pure stands in some lowland areas. Adult EAB beetles feed on foliage but it is the larvae that cause mortality by feeding on the phloem and outer sapwood of the ash trees. EAB was found in the city of Rhinelander in Oneida County in 2014. Shortly after the discovery of EAB in Rhinelander, another infestation site was found just west of the city. Monitoring was undertaken in the County, including on the Oneida County Forest over the next several years, which resulted in no further EAB detections. It is commonly accepted that EAB will continue to spread throughout the County. Oneida County will follow the Emerald Ash Borer Silvicultural Guidelines developed by the DNR to mitigate the negative impacts EAB will likely have on the County Forest.

The [Emerald Ash Borer Silvicultural Guidelines](#) are available to help resource managers make informed stand-level decisions to manage forests that are not yet infested by EAB, as well as implement salvage harvests and rehabilitation in stands that have already been impacted by EAB.

610.3.1.7 *Heterobasidion Root Disease (HRD)*

Heterobasidion root disease (HRD, previously called annosum root rot), is caused by the fungus, *Heterobasidion irregulare*. It is a serious disease that causes pine and spruce mortality in Wisconsin; however, over 200 woody species have been reported as hosts. Red and white pine trees are most commonly affected in plantation-grown stands subjected to thinning. The disease was first confirmed in Wisconsin in 1993 and has since been found in a number of counties throughout Wisconsin. Diseased trees, including overstory trees and understory seedlings and saplings, will show fading, thin crowns with tufted foliage, and eventual mortality. Currently there are no curative treatments to eliminate the HRD pathogen from a stand once it is infested, so preventing disease introduction is the best approach.

Infection most often occurs when HRD spores land and germinate on a freshly cut stump. The pathogen then grows into the root tissue and progresses underground from tree to tree through root contact. As the pathogen spreads, and trees decline and die, an ever-expanding pocket of mortality is formed. HRD fruit bodies, or conks, may be found at the base of dead trees and old stumps. Fruit bodies are most commonly observed in the fall but can be found any time of the year.

[Guidelines for Stump Treatment to Reduce the Risk of Introduction and Spread of Heterobasidion Root Disease in Wisconsin](#) should be used by the county forests. The HRD guidelines are designed to help property managers and landowners determine whether the preventive pesticide treatment should be used to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of HRD at the time of harvest in a pine and/or spruce stand.

It is Oneida County's policy to follow the [Guidelines for Stump Treatment to Reduce the Risk of Introduction and Spread of Heterobasidion Root Disease in Wisconsin](#)

Stump treatment requirements may be written into timber sale contracts.

610.3.2 Funding

The County Forest will make all reasonable efforts to secure funding for control efforts, through county funds, or other state, federal or private funding sources.

610.3.3 Special Projects

The County may cooperate with other agencies in forest pest research. Agencies include, but are not limited to: WI DNR, US Forest Service, educational institutions.

610.4 DEER BROWSE

Forest regeneration and reproduction is critical to sustain both timber production and wildlife habitat and the overall health of the deer herd. As a keystone species, deer can affect forest regeneration, long-term forest production, and forest sustainability. This is a concern for all interested in forest production and trying to balance deer numbers with habitat. The Oneida County Forest will monitor herbivory impacts during forest reconnaissance.

610.5 INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES

Invasive plants can cause significant negative impacts to the forest. Invasive species can displace native plants and hinder the forest regeneration efforts. Preventing them from dominating habitats is critical to the long-term health of the forest. There are a number of invasive plant species in varying densities on the County Forest. Some warrant immediate and continual treatment efforts while others may be allowed to remain due to extent and financial ability to control them. The County will continue to train staff in invasive species identification as well as attempt to secure funding sources to control them as much as is practical. Invasive plants on the forest should be documented as well as potential response to new infestations.

In 2016, the Forestry Department hired an LTE for the purpose of surveying the County Forest for invasive species. As part of this project, a management plan for the control of invasive species was developed. A copy of this plan is available at the Forestry office. It is the intent of the Forestry Department to undertake activities outlined in this plan for controlling the spread and/or eliminating invasive species to the extent possible.

610.5.1 Funding and Partnerships

Grant opportunities for invasive species control funding can be found on the [Financial Assistance webpage](#) of the Wisconsin Invasive Species Council. The number of grants for local governments and county forest is limited, especially for terrestrial invasive plant control. Some grants, such as the Department of Natural Resource's [turkey stamp program](#), support invasive plant control as part of larger efforts to promote certain outcomes and might be applicable.

The Department of Natural Resources promotes the formation of cooperative invasive species management areas (CISMAs) through its [Weed Management Area – Private Forest Grant Program](#). While activities funded by this grant are restricted to non-industrial private forests, CISMAs are encouraged to partner with other groups in their area and can provide technical support to county forests. The CISMA's of Wisconsin can be found on this [map](#).

610.5.2 Best Management Practices for Invasive Species

In 2009, the Department of Natural Resources and many stakeholder groups approved a series of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for minimizing the spread of forest invasive plants. The full text of the [BMPs](#) is found on the Wisconsin Council on Forestry website. Voluntary use of the BMPs during forestry stewardship activities reduces the spread of invasive plants that can impede forest regeneration in county forests.

BMPs used before, during and after a harvest promote forest regeneration. Reasonable efforts to clean vehicles, equipment, footwear and other clothing helps reduce the spread of seeds and plant fragments to un-infested forests. Planning the sequence and timing of stewardship activities to reduce contact with invasive plants during forestry operations is another helpful strategy. Similarly, controlling populations of invasive plants before logging reduces the risk of spreading them. Follow-up monitoring of disturbed stands can detect populations of invasive plants while they are still small and more easily managed.

610.5.3 Current Plant Invasives

The following are some of the main invasive plant species identified on or near the Oneida County Forest:

610.5.3.1 *Buckthorn*

Two species of invasive buckthorn impact Wisconsin's forests. Common buckthorn, (*Frangula cathartica*), is more often found growing on well-drained soils while glossy buckthorn, (*Frangula alnus*), favors wetter soils. Both species grow in shade or sun, quickly form dense, even-aged thickets that shade out understory plants, including tree seedlings, and hinder forest regeneration. Their dark colored fruits are eaten by birds who disperse them long distances. Both buckthorns green-up before native plants and remain green after the natives drop their leaves.

Buckthorn can be controlled by taking advantage of the longer period in which they retain their leaves. Foliar applications of herbicide applied when buckthorn has leaves and the natives are leafless will minimize damage to native plants. Other control options include mowing the shrubs and then treating re-sprouts with foliar herbicide, basal bark herbicide applications, and cut stump herbicide applications.

610.5.3.2 *Garlic Mustard*

Garlic Mustard, (*Alliaria petiolate*), is an herbaceous, biennial, native to Europe. During the first year a basal rosette of only leaves develops. The second year, several stems from 1 – 4 feet tall grow from the basal rosette. The leaves have a distinct garlic

fragrance when crushed. Several small white flowers grow from the stems. Each plant can produce hundreds of tiny seeds inside long, narrow capsules. Garlic mustard can quickly colonize disturbed forests as it often follows corridors such as game trails or man-made roads/paths. As garlic mustard spreads, it quickly displaces native plants and is known to radiate chemicals into the soil that disrupt associations between mycorrhizal fungi and native plants. Small populations can be hand pulled, while larger populations are better controlled with prescribed fire and/or herbicide. All pulled plant materials should be bagged and removed from the forest as seeds have been known to mature on dead plants left on site. Treatment should be repeated until the seed bank is depleted, which takes multiple years. Garlic mustard sites should be monitored annually, until no plants are discovered for several years.

610.5.3.3 *Honeysuckle*

Bush Honeysuckles, (*Lonicera maackii*, *L. tatarica*, *L. morrowii*, *L. X bella*), were introduced from Eurasia as ornamentals, wildlife cover and soil erosion control. Bush honeysuckles are upright deciduous shrubs, ranging from 5 - 12 feet tall with gray shaggy bark. The leaves are opposite, simple, oval and untoothed and can be smooth to velvety depending on species. Flowers are fragrant and tubular ranging in colors of white, red and pink. They bloom May through June and then form red to yellow berries that are found as pairs on the leaf axils. Honeysuckles replace native forest shrubs and herbaceous plants by inhibiting growth of understory plants due to early leaf out which shades out herbaceous ground cover and depletes soil moisture. Control options include hand pulling small infestations and prescribed burning which kills seedlings and top kills mature shrubs. Herbicide options include cut stump treatment and foliar spraying. With all control efforts repeated, continued monitoring of treated sites is needed.

610.5.3.4 *Spotted Knapweed*

Spotted knapweed, (*Centaurea stoebe*), is an herbaceous, short-lived perennial native to Eurasia that can grow 2 – 4 feet tall. This plant first appears as a basal rosette of somewhat silvery leaves and may persist this way for several years before developing pink-purple flowers on long spreading stems. The flowers are thistle-like with many petals and stiff bracts. Knapweed invades dry-upland areas including disturbed sites such as forest trails and openings. The roots exude an allelopathic chemical which inhibits establishment of other plants; hindering forest regeneration. Small populations can be hand pulled provided the entire tap root is removed. Gloves, long

sleeves and pants should be worn when handling this plant as it may cause skin irritation. Chemical control should be applied directly to plants or broadcast across large areas of infestation. Biological control is also available as part of an integrated pest management plan.

610.5.3.5 *Japanese Barberry*

Japanese barberry, (*Berberis thunbergii*), was introduced from Japan around 1875 and now ranges across most of North America. It is a compact, spiny, deciduous shrub with arching branches of dense foliage. It commonly grows 2 - 3 feet tall and has been known to reach heights of 6 feet. Japanese barberry regenerates by seed, creeping roots and branches that root freely when they touch the ground, which increases its overall spread. Small, rounded, smooth edged leaves are clustered in tight bunches close to the spiny branches and small yellow flowers bloom through May forming red oblong berries that mature in mid-summer and persist into winter. This plant is highly adapted to growing in young forests where it forms thorny thickets that shade out and limit the growth of native plants and spreads easily under the shade of established forests. The primary method of mechanically controlling barberry is hand pulling or digging early before seed set in areas where there are only a few plants. It has shallow roots but re-sprouting may occur if the entire root system is not removed. Larger populations may be controlled by herbicides with a cut stump treatment and repeated monitoring for both seedlings and roots re-sprouting.

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700 CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

1. Provide direction to the committee and resource managers in order to maintain a network of roads and trails on the County Forest. This will meet the needs for resource management and protection activities, as well as provide public access for recreation opportunities.
2. Identify the distribution, density and types of roads and trails needed to establish a safe and efficient transportation and recreation system that complements the economic, environmental, and social interest in the County Forest.
3. Identify the existing and future County Forest roads eligible for transportation aids under s.86.315(1), Wis. Stats.
4. Identify areas on the County Forest where the access is limited or restricted.
5. Identify the provisions and criteria that will be policy when addressing management issues on the County Forest.

705 ACCESS CONTROL AND HISTORY

Resource management, protection activities, recreational uses, and other public uses on the Oneida County Forest require several different types of access. Since the forest is large and diverse, a broad network of access opportunities have developed over the years. A combination of geography, soils, vegetation, surface waters, season of the year, presence/absence of roads or trails, ownership of adjoining lands, and public regulations interact to control access to any part of the forest.

Many of the existing roads and trails were originally developed as logging roads, forest fire protection lanes, or trails used to reach popular hunting and fishing areas. The locations and standards for these earlier roads were not routinely established by county personnel, nor were they maintained on a regular basis.

Over the years, the road density and frequency of vehicle use on the forest has increased in response to an expanding number of motorized recreational vehicles and to provide access for our harvest program. Often times, different uses have occurred on the same trails with minimal conflicts. But the diverse demands for, and uses of, the County Forest have reached the point where integrated access management planning is needed.

Access planning on the Oneida County Forest takes into consideration many factors including:

User conflict between groups: e.g., snowmobiling versus cross-county skiing; hunting on foot versus use of vehicles for access to game populations.

Safety: e.g., mountain bike riding on the same trail with ATV vehicle traffic.

Erosion: soils eroding due to use, or over-use by vehicles without routine maintenance.

Damage to access: rutted or impassable roads requiring costly repair by the county or specific user groups (e.g., snowmobile/ATV/UTV club). Excessive damage to access roads by the general public may put undue burden on logging contractors to repair and maintain these roads for use during harvesting and trucking operations. Damaged roads may also pose a safety risk when emergency (wildland fire, rescue) vehicles are not able to travel on roads due to excessive damage.

Litter: depositing garbage and waste on the forest. Remote access areas may result in increased illegal dumping.

Over-utilization of a resource: e.g., reduced availability of trophy-sized deer, excessive harvest of ruffed grouse along trails, overharvest of bobcat.

Fires: e.g., increased exposure of the resource to forest fire occurrence. Access roads that become impassable due to over-use by the general public may hinder response by fire-fighting crews during emergency situations.

Endangered species management: e.g., high road densities may interfere with the protection and management of certain endangered/threatened or rare plant and animal species.

Invasive species: e.g., introduction or the spread of invasive exotic species along travel routes.

Developmental trends: e.g., preservation of the County Forest solitude by limiting access versus development of high intensity use by additional roads and unlimited access.

Road placement: e.g., some roads should be closed for improper location and evaluated for replacement. Many roads are meant for seasonal use only (e.g., winter use under frozen conditions).

710 ROADS

Oneida County Forest staff will oversee the construction and maintenance of all roads within the County Forest. Depending on the intended use of roads, construction and maintenance responsibilities may vary. In general, the Forestry Department will maintain roads not designated for special use (ATV, snowmobile, private access roads, etc.). Construction of all roads on

County Forest lands will be under the supervision of the Forestry Department regardless of the intended use of the road.

The specifications for road construction and maintenance will vary with the frequency, duration, and planned use of each road. Three major types of roads occur on the forest: permanent primary roads, permanent secondary roads, and temporary roads.

New road establishment should consider information identifying areas with sensitive soils or severe slopes that have the potential for adverse water quality impacts from land management practices. County staff may work with local DNR forest hydrologists to develop site-specific measures where appropriate and follow all required permitting processes when applicable.

The forest should have enough roads to provide sufficient access, without degrading water resources, while still maintaining recreational experience. Program evaluation of road infrastructure will continuously occur.

710.1 PERMANENT PRIMARY FOREST ROADS (COUNTY FOREST ROADS)

These roads are the primary roads accessing the County Forest. They are designed and constructed for year-round use. These roads serve as essential access corridors for multiple use management. These roads are graveled and routinely graded. Vehicle use may be restricted at various times of the year to minimize physical damage to the road or for safety reasons.

Forest roads in this category qualify for the County Forest Road Aids program. Qualifying roads in this program must meet minimum design standards set by s. 86.315(4)(a) and 86.315(3) Wis. Stats., and are administered by WI DOT. A yearly aid payment is used to maintain and improve these certified public roads. The following table lists the roads currently certified under s. 86.31(1), Wis. Stats. Also included are roads proposed for addition once improvements meet statute requirements.

ONEIDA COUNTY CURRENT WDOT CERTIFIED ROADS

TOWNSHIP	SECTION	LENGTH (MI)	ROAD NAME/COMMENTS
Enterprise T35N R9E	13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30	8.23	Shingle Mill Rd
Enterprise T35N R9E	1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10	7.09	Zimmer Road
Enterprise T35N R9E	7, 8, 17	2.99	Bowman Road
Enterprise T35N R9E	4, 9, 16, 17, 19, 20, 29	5.76	Camp Six Road
Enterprise T35N R9E	28, 33, 34	2.24	South Exit Road
Enterprise T35N R9E	14, 23, 24, 25	3.59	Bass Lake Road
Nokomis T36N R6E	24, 25, 36	2.20	Cruiser's Road
Little Rice T36N R5E	20, 22, 28, 29	5.50	Rozell Road
Enterprise T35N R9E	19	0.93	John's Memorial Drive
Total		38.53	

ONEIDA COUNTY PROSPECTIVE FUTURE WDOT CERTIFIED ROADS

Oneida County currently does not have any roads determined to be suitable for becoming WDOT certified County Forest roads. In the event roads are later identified as suitable for WDOT certification, the Director will recommend to the Forestry Committee, that application be made for WDOT certification.

All County Forest roads certified by the WDOT under s. 86.31(1), Wis. Stats., will be maintained by the Forestry Department and remain open to all street legal vehicles. These roads may also be designated as open for use by non-street legal vehicles such as ATV's, UTV's and snowmobiles. Maintenance will include spot graveling, grading, culvert replacement and brushing. These roads are not signed. County Forest roads generally are not plowed during the winter by the Forestry Department. In the event access for logging purposes or access to private property is needed, the logging contractor or private landowner may arrange for plowing of the roads at their expense. Plowing of the roads for any other reason may be undertaken by the Forestry Department or other

entity with approval of the Forestry Department.

710.2 PERMANENT SECONDARY ROADS

These roads often serve a variety of uses including forest management, fire protection, and recreation. These roads are maintained as part of a permanent road system, but are often narrower than permanent primary roads and are built and maintained to lower standards. Some of these roads are designed for use only when the ground is firm or frozen.

Some roads in this category are located in areas on the forest where motor vehicle use is limited or restricted. In these instances, the roads will be blocked with earthen berms, rocks, gates or other barricades and/or signed as closed to motor vehicles.

In instances where motorized traffic is restricted, vehicle access will only be authorized for planned management activities, fire protection, and in cases where motorized handicapped access has been approved. Foot traffic and non-motorized bicycle traffic is allowed on all roads unless designated for other use(s) such as ATV/UTV, snowmobile or cross-country skiing.

710.3 TEMPORARY ROADS

Many of the roads on the forest fall into this classification. These roads are designed and constructed for short-term use for a specific project; often for timber harvest access. These roads are used only for a short duration and when the activity is complete, the temporary road is closed. These roads are naturally or artificially revegetated and closed by use of earthen berms/bunkers or other physical barriers. In some cases, roads are completely closed with slash and debris to prevent future use and to encourage natural regeneration of trees.

Temporary roads on existing and past timber sales will be considered for closure. Reasons will include protection of perpetually wet soils, human safety, and prevention of illegal dumping.

The need for new temporary roads will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Road locations will be included in designing timber harvests. Consideration will be given to the objectives within each County Forest unit, existing road density, potential use, and soil type.

As new roads are constructed for access to logging operations, the roads will generally be closed off and abandoned following completion of the logging operation. Existing roads that are improved for logging operations and were closed to vehicle traffic prior to the logging operations,

will typically be closed to vehicle traffic following the logging operations. Existing roads that are improved for logging operations and were open to motor vehicle traffic prior to the logging operations, will typically remain open following the logging operations unless it is determined that leaving the road open will cause environmental degradation.

710.4 STATE, COUNTY, TOWN DRIVEWAY PERMITS

710.4.1 State Highways

Wisconsin DOT generally requires permits for permanent and temporary driveways on state highways. The County will track and retain permit records and work with local DOT officials for access.

710.4.2 County Highways

Access to County Forest lands from County highways will be constructed in consultation with the Oneida County Highway Department. If permits are required, a record of such permits will be maintained by the Forestry Department.

710.4.3 Town Roads

Access to County Forest lands from town roads will be constructed in consultation with the town. If permits are required, a record of such permits will be maintained by the Forestry Department.

710.5 UTILITIES

Public utilities such as power and gas lines are located on the County Forest. In the event access along or across such utilities is required, the appropriate utility company will be contacted and any and all safety measures will be adhered to. Any necessary permits will be obtained for construction and use of access roads/trails that impact utility right-of-ways.

710.6 CULVERTS

In many cases culverts are needed in all three classifications of roads that are on the County Forest when dealing with drainages, wetlands and stream crossings. Some of these are temporarily placed culverts that are used during a specific project then removed, while others are permanent structures.

In all instances, culverts will be placed according to required DNR permitting procedures and will follow BMP's for culverts that can be found in Chapters 4 and 5 of the *WI Best Management Practices for Water Quality* PUB FR-093 2010.

Routine maintenance of these structures will be performed to insure structures are adequately functioning. An inventory of locations, size and condition of culverts on all permanent primary

forest roads will be maintained by the Forestry Department. As culvert conditions warrant, repair or replacement of culverts will be made either by the Forestry Department or by contact with the Highway Department or a private contractor. All necessary permits will be obtained prior to replacement of any culverts whether on permanent primary roads or other roads or trails.

715 RESTRICTED ACCESS AREAS

The County may also provide and designate areas where motorized equipment is not permitted unless authorized by the Committee. The principal intent of these areas is to prevent environmental damage to sensitive areas, protect historical or archeological sites, protect endangered and threatened species, provide for human safety and provide areas for quiet, secluded recreation. Besides secondary roads that are blocked to motorized vehicles, there are other areas and trail systems that have limitations on types of vehicles that are permitted. Trail systems that have, or may have in the future, regulations restricting types of vehicles allowed or time of year certain vehicles may be operated include:

1. Silent Sports Trails (Cross Country Skiing, bicycling, snowshoeing)
2. Snowmobile Trails
3. ATV/UTV Trails
4. Hunter Hiking Trails
5. Disabled Access Trails

See Chapter 14 of the Oneida County Code for specific regulations regarding motor vehicle use on the County Forest.

720 WILD LAKES

The surface waters encompassed under the wild lakes designation include those restricted use areas that are not open to any gasoline-powered vehicles, water craft, or snowmobiles except when snow covered. In general, all or most of the shorelines of these lakes and streams are owned by Oneida County. Counties may request that townships, under authority of s. 30.77 (3), Wis. Stats., establish regulations restricting motorized use on these surface waters. Canoes, kayaks, and boats propelled by wind, oars or electric motors are permitted. Gasoline or diesel powered equipment is not permitted. The intent of these restrictions is to protect the aquatic resources of these lakes but still allow access. On the Oneida County Forest the following lake is designated as a “Wild Lake”: Perch Lake (Town of Woodboro). Additional lakes may be designated as wild lakes in the future. Signs will be posted at access points to these lakes expressing the restrictions placed on the lakes.

725 ROAD CONSTRUCTION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR WATER QUALITY

The layout and construction of any new road or trail situated on the County Forest shall adhere to *Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water Quality* (PUB-FR-093-95). The BMP Manual provides guidelines for road construction. Soil disturbance activities in highly erodible soil areas may require mitigating measures in excess of those currently listed in the Best Management Practices manual PUB-FR-093-2010. Wider buffers, sediment control structures and water diversion techniques will be used as appropriate in these sensitive areas.

730 SIGNS

Signs on the County Forest will be used discreetly to perform and function with minimal disruption to the multiple uses of the forest. Private signs promoting personal, commercial or political objectives will not be permitted on Oneida County forests. Signs erected by the County for management purposes or by non-profit recreational trail groups will be as follows:

1. Informational Type Signs
 - a. Interpretive Signs – to educate the general public about forest management practices.
 - b. Public Land Signs – to identify the land as Oneida County Forest property.
 - c. Trail Markers – to provide direction and safety to trail users.
 - d. Scientific, Historical or Geological Markers – to identify points of interest.
 - e. Recreational Facility Markers – to identify park entrances, etc.
 - f. Directional Markers.
2. Regulatory Type Signs – to regulate the use of the forest in specific areas.

730.1 SIGNING STANDARDS

To assure that signs will serve a purpose without damaging aesthetics, the following standards will be maintained:

1. All signs will be mounted on treated wood posts, steel backed wooden posts or steel fence posts.
2. Reflectorized aluminum signs will be used when possible. Signs of other materials including fiberboard, compressed foam, wood or plastic may be used, but must be neat in appearance.
3. Signs placed on snowmobile/ATV trails must conform to state standards and be approved by the Forestry Department.
4. All authorized signs shall be protected by ordinance from being damaged, defaced,

obstructed, removed or possessed by unauthorized persons.

5. All unauthorized signs will be removed by the Forestry staff. No compensation will be afforded for loss or damage to signs during removal. Individuals erecting unauthorized signs may be prosecuted under s. 943.13(3), Wis. Stats.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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CHAPTER 800

Rev. 03/19/24

INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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800 CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

1. To introduce and communicate to the public, the County Board of Supervisors, and to the Wisconsin DNR, the integrated resource approach that forestry, wildlife and other natural resource staff will use on the Oneida County Forest during this planning period.
2. To provide “Integrated Resource Management Units” (IRMU) that will identify and summarize the natural resources, social and physical management potential and opportunities for each unit.

805 INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Integrated Resource Management is defined as; “the simultaneous consideration of ecological, physical, economic, and social aspects of lands, waters and resources in developing and implementing multiple-use, sustained yield management” (Helms, 1998).

This balance of ecological, economic, and social factors is the framework within which the Oneida County Forest is managed.

For the purpose of this chapter, the scope of Integrated Resource Management includes:

- Forests, habitats, biological communities
- Wetlands and waters
- Wildlife and endangered resources
- Soils and minerals
- Cultural and historical resources

Management of one resource affects the management or use of other resources in an area. Managing each use or resource by itself is less effective than managing all of them in an integrated way. This is a field level approach to integrated resource management. Management decisions are made while considering each site is part of a larger ecosystem. Similarly, the development and implementation of this plan also considers other planning efforts in order to provide for broader scale management.

The working definition of Integrated Resource Management means, in large part, keeping natural communities of plants and animals and their environments healthy and productive so people can enjoy and benefit from them now and in the future.

The remainder of this chapter is written to help communicate how the Forest is managed on an integrated resource approach.

810 SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

The definition of sustainable forestry in the Wisconsin Administrative Code and the Wisconsin statutes is as follows: “the practice of managing dynamic forest ecosystems to provide ecological, economic, social and cultural benefits for present and future generations” NR 44.03(12) Wis. Adm. Code and s. 28.04(1)(e), Wis. Stats.

For the purpose of this chapter, sustainable forestry will be interpreted as the management of the Forest to meet the needs of the present without knowingly compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (economic, social, and ecological) by practicing a land stewardship ethic which integrates the growing, nurturing, and harvesting of trees for useful products with the conservation of soil, air, water quality, and wildlife and fish habitat. This process is dynamic and changes as we learn from past management.

810.1 TOOLS IN INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

810.1.1 Compartment Reconnaissance (Recon)

The County will support and utilize the compartment recon procedures as set forth by the DNR Public Forest Lands Handbook 2460.5. WisFIRS serves as the database for housing recon information. The DNR Liaison Forester will assist in the completion and maintenance of the reconnaissance system and assist in interpretation of the data utilized in planning and scheduling resource management.

810.1.2 Forest Habitat Classification System

The Forest Habitat Classification System (*A Guide to Forest Communities and Habitat Types of Northern Wisconsin Second Edition; Kotar, et al.*) is a natural classification system for forest communities and the sites on which they develop. It utilizes systematic interpretation of natural vegetation with emphasis on understory species.

The Forest Habitat Classification System is an ecological tool that promotes a common language for interpreting site capability based on potential natural vegetation. Its primary use is the assessment of biological potential of upland forest sites. Through the application of Forest Habitat Classification, land managers are better able to assess site potential of current stands, identify ecological and silvicultural alternatives, predict the effectiveness of possible silvicultural treatments, assess feasible management alternatives, and choose appropriate management objectives.

Data will be collected in order to classify the productive, upland forest stands. This information should be collected along with and made part of the compartment reconnaissance

system during regular field inspections. As lowland productive forest habitat types are developed, they will be incorporated into the forest recon. This data should also be compared to soil survey information in order to associate the relationships between forest habitat types and soil types.

810.1.3 Soil Surveys

Forestry staff's knowledge of forest ecology and their experience across the landscape can assist in associating forest habitat types and site indices with soil type information. These associations can be beneficial in determining management prescriptions for specific sites. WisFIRS contains soil survey data, and this information can be found on the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) website-based soil survey <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>. Detailed soil surveys, when available, will be made a part of the compartment reconnaissance system and continue to be correlated to the Forest Habitat Classification system.

810.1.4 Ecological Landscapes of Wisconsin

Integrated resource management recognizes that an individual forest site is part of a larger landscape, and management activities can have an impact beyond a specific site. The National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (NHFEU) is a useful tool in understanding natural landscapes.

The Wisconsin DNR used Ecological Landscapes of Wisconsin (WDNR Handbook 1805.1), which is an ecological land classification system based on the NHFEU. Ecological landscapes distinguish land areas different from one another in ecological characteristics. A combination of physical and biological factors including climate, geology, topography, soils, water and vegetation are used. They provide a useful tool and insight into ecosystem management. Land areas identified and mapped in this manner are known as ecological units.

Generally accepted silvicultural systems are prescribed on a stand level scale, in recognition of the position within an ecological landscape.

810.1.5 Integrated Pest Management

Integrated Pest Management for the purpose of this plan is defined as follows: "The management of destructive agents, including insects, at tolerable levels, by the planned use of a variety of preventive, suppressive, or regulatory tactics and strategies that are ecologically and economically efficient and socially acceptable."

The Committee has the authority to approve and direct the use of pesticides and other reasonable alternatives in an integrated pest management program on the County Forest. Refer to Chapter 600 (610.3) for more detailed discussion and integrated pest management strategies. It is the intention of the county to use chemicals when they are deemed the only reasonable option for control of pests. The choice of pesticides to be used shall be of the least harmful type as will be effective and ones that will have the least effect on non-target species.

810.1.6 *Best Management Practices for Water Quality*

The most practical and cost-effective method to assure that forestry operations do not adversely affect water quality on the Oneida County Forest is to utilize “best management practices” (BMP’s) as described in *Wisconsin’s Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality*, Publication number FR-093.

Consistent with the aforementioned manual (page 6), Oneida County will use BMP’s on the Forest with the understanding that the application of BMP’s may be modified for specific site conditions with guidance from a forester or other natural resource professional. Modifications will provide equal or greater water quality protection or have no impact on water quality. Areas with highly erodible soil types, proximity to streams or lakes, or steep slopes may require mitigating measures in excess of those outlined in the manual. All Oneida County employees practicing forestry will receive BMP training. Additionally, Oneida County will encourage BMP training of all logging contractors that operate on County timber sales.

810.1.7 *Fire Management*

See Chapter 600 (605) for information relating to fire management on the County Forest.

810.1.7.1 *Uncontrolled Fire*

Refer to Chapter 600 (605)

810.1.7.2 *Prescribed Fire*

Prescribed burning on the County Forest may play an important role in management. Many of the plant communities present today are the result of wild fires.

As the needs are presented to regenerate or maintain timber types or other plant communities, the Department will examine the costs and benefits of each opportunity. Increased regulations, the county’s cost of completing the burn, and the risk of breakouts and uncontrolled fires will have to be considered with any benefits of vegetation management through prescribed burning.

All prescribed burning will be conducted in accordance with Wisconsin State Statutes 26.12, 26.14, and the DNR Prescribed Burn Handbook 4360.5 and in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources.

810.1.8 Outside Expertise, Studies and Survey

Additional data necessary to make management decisions on the County Forest will be sought from agencies or individuals, who, in the Committee's opinion, are best equipped to provide that service. This data will be used as appropriate for management planning.

- Forest Silviculture and Ecology
The local DNR Forest Silviculturalist and Forest Ecologist may be consulted on various forest management practices including difficult to regenerate species, unique harvesting needs, and invasive species management.
- Water Resources: WDNR
The DNR Fisheries Biologist and Water Management Specialist may provide surveys, studies, and technical advice as necessary to prepare and carry out recreational and silvicultural planning that affect waters on the County Forest.
- Wildlife Resources: WDNR
DNR Wildlife Biologists may implement population and habitat surveys, provide technical advice, and direct assistance needed for wildlife management planning and implementation on County Forest lands. Wildlife projects are identified and implemented in collaboration with the County Forest Director, DNR Liaison Forester and the Committee.
- Soil Resources: NRCS
Soil maps and surveys prepared by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) may be used in various phases of planning.
- Mineral Resources: WDNR
The DNR may provide information valuable for management of gravel and other mineral resources. (Also refer to Chapter 520.2.)
- Wetland Resources: WDNR, Army Corps of Engineers, County Planning and Zoning, County Land and Water Conservation Department
Maps prepared by the DNR's Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection, may be utilized for identifying wetlands. Although not comprehensive, particularly in forested areas, these maps are good initial tools for identifying

wetlands on County Forest lands. Assistance and technical advice will be requested from the DNR Water Management Specialist when wetlands may be affected by management practices. The Army Corps of Engineers may also be consulted when appropriate. In addition, *Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Protecting Water Quality* will be used. Specialized expertise in areas of water and wetland resources may be available through the County Zoning and/or Land and Water Conservation Departments.

- Navigable Streams: WDNR, Army Corps of Engineers, County Planning and Zoning Maps prepared by the DNR's Bureau of Fisheries Management and Habitat Protection, may be utilized for identifying navigable streams. Although not comprehensive, particularly in forested areas, these maps are good initial tools for identifying navigable streams on County Forest lands. Assistance and technical advice will be requested from the DNR Water Management Specialist when navigable streams may be affected by management practices. The Army Corps of Engineers may also be consulted when appropriate. In addition, *Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Protecting Water Quality* will be used. The County Zoning Department will be consulted regarding any local laws or regulations that may affect management in wetlands on or near waterbodies.

- Floodplains: County Planning and Zoning, Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA)

Maps prepared by the County Planning and Zoning Office and FEMA will be used to identify floodplains. The Oneida County Planning and Zoning staff may be consulted regarding management activities in the floodplain.

- Cultural Resources: WDNR, State Historical Society
Management planning will take historical and archaeological sites into consideration. More information may be obtained from the State Historical Society (Wisconsin Historical Society, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706) or the DNR's Archaeologist (Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921).

- Entomology / Pathology: WDNR
Wisconsin DNR Forest Pest staff will provide information and consultation as requested by the County. (See Chapter 610 of this plan for more information on forest pest control.)

- Endangered Resources: WDNR

DNR Endangered Resource staff will provide Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) information and consultation on endangered resource issues.

- Forestry: Cooperative Field Trials, see WDNR website <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestmanagement/silviculturetrials.html>
- Tribal Resources: Native American Tribal Personnel
Tribal experts may be consulted when issues arise that may affect Native American Cultural Resources or Treaty rights.

810.1.9 Local Silvicultural Field Trials

To date, numerous field trials have been completed or are ongoing on the Oneida County Forest. These trials include:

- Pennsylvania Sedge/Northern Hardwood Regeneration Study (Enterprise Block)
- Aspen Thinning Study (Cassian/Woodboro Block)
- Birch Strip Clear Cut/Herbicide/Scarification Study (Lynne/Little Rice Block)
- Northern Hardwood Regeneration /Deer Exclosures (Enterprise Block)
- Birch Shelterwood with Scarification (Lynne/Little Rice Block)
- Effect of Aspen Regeneration Harvest on Ephemeral Ponds (Cassian/Woodboro Block)

810.1.10 Local Citizen Involvement

The Oneida County Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee meetings are open forums to listen, evaluate and incorporate, where appropriate, the public's input into management of the County Forest.

815 MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS TO REDUCE LOSS

815.1 RISK FACTORS

815.1.1 Wind

Wind events have and will continue to occur on the County Forest. Although wind events are not preventable and are not practically forecastable, the County can take steps to reduce loss in the event of a windstorm. Planning of timber harvest to minimize risk of wind-throw on shallow soils is one method of reducing risk. When wind damage occurs, the quick response of the department is critical to salvage forest products before economic value is reduced or lost. Salvage sales will be a priority immediately following clean-up operations to open roads and facilities and to reduce risks to the public.

815.1.2 Flooding

As with all weather events, the event itself typically cannot be prevented. Management

strategies such as encouraging the growth of or planting of flood tolerant species in areas that may be prone to flooding, may help reduce losses due to flooding. Monitoring beaver activities in areas where beaver induced flooding may impact forest resources will be undertaken during recon activities.

Beaver activity that is or may impact forest resources, may be mitigated by removal of beaver and digging or blowing dams. These activities will be undertaken by the Animal and Plant Health Inspections Services (APHIS) of the USDA through a contract with the County. In the event there is a loss of timber resource due to flooding, actions will be taken to salvage forest products before economic value is lost.

815.1.3 Fire

The Oneida County Forest does not lie in an area with high wildfire risks. Areas of the forest, due to tree/plant species composition and droughty soils, may have a higher risk of wildfire than other areas of the forest. The effects of fire can be mitigated through forest management to a certain degree. Maintaining a road system that provides access to fire prone areas may reduce losses in the event of wildfire. This may include the blocking of logging roads to prevent damage to the roads by the public that may render them un-useable by firefighting equipment when needed. A close working relationship with the DNR fire staff will also help minimize the change of wildfire and the damage sustained in the event of wildlife on the County Forest.

815.1.4 Climate Change

Climate change may pose a significant challenge to the management of the County Forest. Oneida County recognizes these potential changes to our climate can impact our forest and the various programs that are managed. A proactive approach will be followed with consideration given to how changing conditions could impact forest composition, management of roads and recreational trails, wildlife habitat, watersheds, invasive species and forest pests/diseases. Timber management may include goals such as encouraging ecosystems with a variety of species on the landscape whenever possible, and consideration to forest types that will be less impacted by changing climate patterns.

815.1.5 Timber Markets

Volatile timber markets are a common issue faced by the forest products industry and will likely continue to be. Managing for a diverse forest is one way to mitigate this issue. By having a variety of species and types of forest products available, market fluctuations in one species or product can be offset by other available species and products. Establishing timber harvests in a variety of timber types each year will make the variety of species and products available

that can help reduce impacts of the markets.

820 PLANT COMMUNITIES MANAGEMENT

Oneida County recognizes the importance of maintaining the diversity of the forest under an ecosystem approach. The process involved in making management decisions to encourage or discourage specific species or communities is complex. It includes an understanding of:

- Objectives of the County
- Integration of landforms, soils, climate and vegetative factors
- Habitat classification to identify ecological potentials and silvicultural alternatives
- Past, present and future desired conditions
- Surrounding ownership patterns and general objectives
- Wildlife habitat and other values
- Socio-economic needs

820.1 SILVICULTURAL PRACTICES/TREATMENTS

Silviculture is the art and science of controlling forest composition, structure, and growth to maintain and enhance the forest's utility for any purpose. These practices are based on research and general silviculture knowledge of the managed species. The goal is to encourage vigor within all developmental stages of forest stands, managed in an even aged or uneven aged system. The application of silviculture to a diverse forest needs a unified, systematic approach. The DNR Public Forest Lands Handbook (2460.5) and the DNR Silvicultural Guidance will be used as guidelines for management practices on the County Forest.

820.1.1 Natural Regeneration

Where feasible, natural regeneration will be encouraged with silvicultural methods that promote regrowth and recruitment of the forest. In general, the particular silvicultural method chosen will depend on the biological functions of the target species or forest type.

820.1.1.1 *Clearcutting/Coppice*

Clearcutting is a silvicultural method used to regenerate shade intolerant species. Complete, or nearly complete removal of the forest canopy will stimulate the regeneration and growth of species such as aspen, jack pine and white birch. This method is also used as a final rotation removal in species such as red oak, red pine and others. Tree retention guidelines will be taken into consideration when prescribing clearcut or coppice cuts.

820.1.1.2 *Shelterwood /Seed Tree*

Shelterwood harvest is a method used to regenerate mid-shade tolerant and shade

tolerant species. Partial canopies stimulate regeneration, enhance growth and can provide seed source. Canopies are eventually removed. This method is used for white birch, white pine, red oak, and northern hardwood (when managing even aged) and relies on both vegetative (coppice) and seed sourced regeneration. Additional treatments to shelterwood / seedtree harvests may be required. These include scarification to expose mineral soil and reduce competition, prescribed fire or herbicide applications to reduce competition, or supplemental seeding to enhance regeneration.

820.1.1.3 All Aged Regeneration Harvests

All aged regeneration harvests are used in shade tolerant species. Gaps in the forest canopy allow regeneration to occur throughout the stand. Over time, multiple entries into the stand will create multiple age class structure with the intent of creating a fully regenerated stand. All aged regeneration harvests may be prescribed in the form of single tree selection, group selection or patch selection. This method is used in northern hardwood and occasionally in swamp hardwoods (when managing for all aged). Several factors hinder the establishment of all aged stands in certain circumstances. Among these are competition by other vegetation such as Pennsylvania sedge and deer browse.

820.1.1.4 Prescribed Burning

Prescribed burning may be utilized as a tool to promote regeneration. A number of forest types in Oneida County are ecologically tied to fire. Burning may create seeding conditions or release regeneration from competing vegetation. Prescribed fire may be used for regeneration of red oak, jack pine or white pine. All prescribed burning will be under guidance of the DNR.

820.1.1.5 Soil Scarification

Scarification is a technique used to prepare a seedbed beneath forest stands scheduled for harvest and regeneration. This mechanical disturbance exposes bare mineral seedbeds and creates conditions necessary for regeneration of species such as white pine and white birch. Disturbances that mix seeds into duff and soil layers create optimal conditions for regeneration of oak, white birch, fir and other species. Oneida County may utilize salmon blades, root rakes, straight blade, or anchor chain for soil scarification. As new techniques and equipment are developed, Oneida County may employ these in situations where deemed appropriate.

820.1.1.6 *Other*

Other natural regeneration techniques may be considered where necessary and appropriate. New methods for natural regeneration are continually tested for effectiveness.

820.1.1.7 *Tree Retention*

It is the County's goal to retain tree species and size classes that provide multiple benefits to a wide range of wildlife species. In even aged harvest areas, mast-producing trees such as red oak may be retained within clearcut aspen areas. In addition to mast producing trees, large, wolfy trees that exhibit den/nest/cavity characteristics may also be retained. Dead snags are an important part of the ecosystem and will be retained unless they pose a safety hazard to contractors or the public. Retention of conifer species, in particular large white and red pine and white spruce, will occur when the opportunity exists. In uneven aged harvest areas, trees less prevalent on the landscape such as white pine and yellow birch will be retained to the extent possible. Large, wolfy trees that may exhibit den/nest/cavity characteristics or have potential to provide these benefits will be retained when possible. Tree retention guidelines can be found in Chapter 24 of the [WDNR Silviculture and Aesthetics Handbook \(HB24315.24\)](#).

820.1.2 *Artificial Regeneration*

When natural regeneration fails or when tree species present do not coincide with management objectives for the site, artificial means will be employed to establish a desirable stand of trees. Artificial regeneration on a site usually requires some form of site preparation followed by seeding or planting.

820.1.2.1 *Mechanical Site Preparation*

Mechanical site preparation includes the use of soil disturbance equipment such as a disc, roller chopper, patch scarifier, disc trencher or V-plow prior to tree planting or seeding. These types of equipment are used to reduce logging debris to a smaller size, incorporate debris into the soil, clear brush and debris from the site, and reduce competition from other vegetation.

820.1.2.2 *Chemical Site Preparation*

Herbicide application can be an effective means of controlling unwanted vegetation in order to establish seedlings or plantations. It should be used sparingly and in situations where mechanical treatment is not expected to provide the level of vegetative control needed. Chemicals will be selected and applied in strict accordance with label recommendations and requirements. Chemicals that are listed on the FSC and SFI

banned “Highly Hazardous Pesticide” lists will not be used without proper derogation from both FSC and FSI. Whenever possible, non-chemical (mechanical) control will be used.

The objective of herbicide use is not to kill all competing vegetation, but rather to kill or set back competing vegetation only enough to establish a reasonably stocked stand of desirable trees. Proximity to private lands, residences, highways and other public use areas must be considered in selecting both the herbicide and the means of application. Herbicides can be applied with hand-held equipment, by motorized ground based equipment or aircraft. Chemicals will only be applied under supervision of a Certified Pesticide Applicator. A written prescription for each herbicide application will be prepared, kept on file and made available to the primary applicator.

820.1.2.3 Prescribed Burning

Prescribed burning for site preparation can be used to reduce logging debris, clear the site, reduce competing vegetation, and release nutrients into the soil. All prescribed burning on County Forest Lands will follow the DNR recommendations. See Prescribed Burn Handbook No. 4360.5 for details.

820.1.2.4 Tree Planting / Seeding

Both machine and/or hand planting/seeding may be utilized to ensure adequate regeneration. The selection of species will be determined according to the specific management objectives and capabilities of each site. Planting or seeding will primarily occur in areas where natural regeneration is inadequate or conflicts with the management goals of the site. The County will make all reasonable efforts to source seeds/seedlings from local genetics. Currently, only species native to Oneida County will be planted or seeded. The effects of climate change may require alternate species that may be more adapted to a changed climate, be considered for planting or seeding.

820.1.3 Intermediate Treatments

Intermediate treatments are those practices used to enhance the health and vigor of a forest stand. In general, intermediate treatments are applied to forest stands managed as even aged.

820.1.3.1 Mechanical Release

Mechanical release is the removal of competing vegetation by means other than herbicide or fire. Mechanical may include releasing young pine plantations from competing vegetation using chain saws or other hand-held equipment or mowing to release regeneration.

820.1.3.2 *Chemical Release*

Chemical release is the removal of competing vegetation from desirable trees with herbicides. It should be used sparingly and only in situations where mechanical treatment is not expected to provide the level of vegetative control needed. Chemicals will be applied in strict accordance with label recommendations, requirements and under the oversight of a certified applicator. A written prescription for each herbicide application will be prepared and kept on file.

820.1.3.3 *Non-Commercial Thinning (TSI)*

In general, most thinning needs are accomplished through commercial harvest operations. Non-commercial thinning may be considered if the individual site requirements, funding and/or available labor make it more desirable.

820.1.3.4 *Thinning / Intermediate Cuts*

Management of some even aged forest types necessitates the use of commercial thinning, also known as intermediate harvests, to maintain forest health and vigor and to improve quality and quantity of certain forest products. Thinning is generally prescribed in forest types such as red pine, red oak, and in cases of even aged hardwood management. Thinning may be prescribed on other even aged types as appropriate and where feasible. Intermediate harvests include prescriptions for residual densities, marking priorities, spacing, crown closure, diameter distribution or other measurements.

820.1.3.5 *Pruning*

Pruning is the removal of limbs from lower sections of trees to increase log quality. Major pruning efforts have been conducted in the past; however, it is not generally recognized as economically viable on the forest. There may be instances where it is deemed financially or ecologically advantageous to conduct pruning operations.

820.1.4 *Even-Aged Management*

A forest stand composed of trees having relatively small differences in age is referred to as even-aged. Typical cutting practices include clear cutting, shelter wood cutting, and seed-tree cutting. Even-aged management is generally required to manage shade intolerant, early successional forest types. The following are the predominant species on the county forest that are managed under even-aged systems:

820.1.4.1 *Aspen*

These are types where aspen trees comprise more than 50% of the stems. On the forest,

aspen types may be dominated by quaking (*Populus tremuloides*) or big tooth aspen (*Populus grandidenta*) or a combination of both. Aspen stands contain a wide variety of associated hardwood and conifer species.

Aspen is a shade intolerant species that is found throughout various areas of the forest and is managed on an even-aged basis. This means that aspen needs full sunlight to regenerate and the best method for creating optimum conditions for stand replacement is clearcutting.

The aspen type is recognized as providing habitat values to a wide variety of wildlife species as well as being an important species for economics and fiber production. A bulk of the County Forest revenue is generated through the management of aspen.

The extent of this vital resource statewide has been steadily declining since the 1960s. The chief reasons for the decline are: 1) lack of regeneration harvests as stands reach maturity (natural succession) and 2) selective harvest. In both instances, the end result is conversion to more shade tolerant timber types.

Oneida County is committed to maintaining its aspen acreage and will accomplish this by regenerating the mature aspen stands with clear-cuts and other even-aged harvesting techniques. Aesthetic concerns can be mitigated by retaining pine and/or hardwood tree species on the sites, retaining green tree zones within harvest areas, limiting the size of harvests, and creating irregularly shaped sale boundaries.

<u>Shade tolerance:</u>	Intolerant
<u>Habitats:</u>	PArV, PArVAa AVVB, ATD, TMC
<u>Intermediate treatments:</u>	None
<u>Median rotation age:</u>	50 years
<u>Primary regeneration method:</u>	Natural
<u>Harvest method:</u>	Coppice with reserves/standards
<u>Habitat value:</u>	Early successional related species
<u>Economic value:</u>	Fiber production / bolts
<u>Insect disease considerations:</u>	Hypoxylon and other cankers, forest tent caterpillar, gypsy moth

<u>Trends:</u>	General declines on statewide acreage
<u>Landscape considerations:</u>	Retain/increase acreages where possible

820.1.4.2 *Jack Pine*

These are types where jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) makes up more than 50% of the stems. Common associates in Oneida County are pin oak, aspen, and white birch. The jack pine cover type makes up a very small component of the county forest. It is the intention of Oneida County to maintain or increase the acreage of jack pine on the forest.

<u>Shade tolerance:</u>	Intolerant
<u>Habitats:</u>	PQE, PArV
<u>Intermediate treatments:</u>	Plantation Release
<u>Median rotation age:</u>	50 Years
<u>Primary regeneration method:</u>	Planting/Seeding/Presale Scarification
<u>Harvest method:</u>	Clear Cut
<u>Habitat value:</u>	Conifer and early successional related species
<u>Economic value:</u>	Fiber productions, bolts
<u>Insect disease considerations:</u>	Jack Pine Budworm, Deer browse
<u>Trends:</u>	Declining on a statewide basis
<u>Landscape considerations:</u>	Retain/increase acreage where possible

820.1.4.3 *Red Pine*

Red pine (*Pinus resinosa*) comprises 50% or more of the basal area in saw timber and pole timber stands, or 50% or more of the stems in sapling and seedling stands. In mixed pine stands, red pine is predominant.

Red pine on the Oneida County Forest is typically of plantation origin. Plantations were established starting in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps and have continued to be established as conditions warrant. Natural stands of red pine also occur on the County Forest; however, the stands are typically small in size.

Red pine is managed for high quality timber production. Typical management of red pine plantations consists of a row thinning followed by a combination of row and individual tree removal or simply individual tree removal. Red pine stands on higher

quality sites or in aesthetically sensitive areas may be managed on an extended rotation.

<u>Shade tolerance:</u>	Intolerant
<u>Habitats:</u>	PQE, PArV, PArVAa, AVVb
<u>Intermediate treatments:</u>	Plantation Release, Row thinning, Single tree selection.
<u>Median rotation age:</u>	80-120 years
<u>Primary regeneration method:</u>	Planting
<u>Harvest method:</u>	Clear Cut
<u>Habitat value:</u>	Conifer and early successional related species along with extended rotation large tree species.
<u>Economic value:</u>	Fiber productions, bolts, logs, utility poles
<u>Insect disease considerations:</u>	Heterobasidion Root Disease, bark beetles
<u>Trends:</u>	Maintaining Acreage
<u>Landscape considerations:</u>	Retain acreage where possible

820.1.4.4 *White Birch*

White birch (*Betula papyrifera*) on the Oneida County Forest is usually found in conjunction with other species such as aspen, red maple, balsam fir, and red oak. It is seldom found in pure stands of significant size. White birch is a desirable and valuable species used by wildlife, enjoyed by forest visitors and sought after for paper and lumber production.

Management of white birch is typically on an even-aged basis. Stands that are predominately white birch (>50% of the over-story) and where regeneration of white birch is planned, require removal of the majority of the overstory in all or part of the stand followed by some sort of ground scarification, such as anchor chaining to produce a suitable seedbed for white birch seed germination. The overstory removal can be accomplished through a shelterwood harvest:

Shelterwood: Initial harvest leaves 20-40% crown cover. Ground scarification to expose mineral soil, incorporate seed into soil and reduce competition may be conducted prior to harvest or shortly after. When seedlings reach waist high (2-4 years after the initial harvest) the remainder of the over-story is removed. The shelterwood method is the generally accepted practice for regenerating white birch. Regeneration

of white birch is challenging due to competition from other tree and low growing brush species and deer browse.

Other conditionally recommended practices include clear-cut with standards, progressive strip clear cuts, seed tree and overstory removal.

Shade tolerance:	Intolerant
Habitats:	PArV, PArVAa, AVVb, ATM TMC
Intermediate treatments:	Plantation Release, Row thinning, Single tree selection.
Median rotation age:	50 years
Primary regeneration method:	Seeding/Stump sprouting
Harvest method:	Shelterwood with scarification
Habitat value:	Early successional species.
Economic value:	Fiber productions, bolts, logs
Insect disease considerations:	Bronze Birch Borer, leaf miner
Trends:	Acreage declining
Landscape considerations:	Retain acreage where possible

820.1.4.5 *Northern Red Oak*

Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) is found scattered throughout the County Forest. It occurs in nearly pure stands and as a component of Northern Hardwood and Aspen/Birch stands. The management of Northern Red Oak concentrates on production of quality saw timber and retention of oak for its value to wildlife. Oak is typically managed on an even aged basis. In pure oak stands, several thinnings may occur before regeneration of the stand is needed. Individual tree removal to improve stand quality occurs during these thinnings. Regeneration is accomplished through shelterwood or seed tree harvests. Some ground scarification may be required to provide suitable germination conditions for acorns. Deer browse on regeneration is a significant problem. Areas with high deer populations may pose a significant challenge to the regeneration of oak.

Oak is a declining cover type throughout Wisconsin and the Great Lakes Area due to improper management, difficulty regenerating oak, deer browse and mortality due to

insects and disease. Oneida County will continue to attempt to maintain or increase the oak cover type within the County Forest.

Shade tolerance:	Intolerant
Habitats:	PArV, PArVAa, AVVb, ATM
Intermediate treatments:	Single tree selection, group selection.
Median rotation age:	80-120+ years
Primary regeneration method:	Natural Seeding, stump sprouting
Harvest method:	Shelterwood, seedtree
Habitat value:	Mast producer, large diameter trees, den/nest/cavity potential
Economic value:	Fiber productions, bolts, logs
Insect disease considerations:	Oak wilt, Two-lined chestnut borer, browsing, Gypsy Moth
Trends:	Declining Acreage
Landscape considerations:	Retain acreage where possible

820.1.4.6 White Pine

White Pine (*Pinus strobus*) comprises 50% or more of the basal area in saw timber and pole timber stands, or 50% or more of the stems in sapling and seedling stands. In mixed pine stands, white pine is predominant.

White pine on the Oneida County Forest is typically of natural origin, however there are plantations of pure white pine and white pine/red pine/spruce mix plantations. Plantations were established starting in the 1930’s by the Civilian Conservation Corps and have continued to be established as conditions warrant. Natural stands of white pine occur in areas that were likely heavily stocked with white pine prior to the initial harvesting of the forest beginning in the 1880’s. Following these harvests, fires ran through much of the county. Following these fires, white pine was able to re-establish in areas where a seed source remained.

Management of white pine includes producing fiber and bolts/saw logs. This is accomplished through intermediate thinnings. Plantations are row thinned initially then thinned through individual tree removal. Natural origin stands are thinned via

individual tree removal. White pine stands that occur in aesthetically sensitive or ecologically important areas may be managed on an extended rotation of 120 years+. This extended rotation creates large diameter trees and the stands take on “old growth” characteristics.

Regeneration of white pine can be accomplished through intermediate thinnings that encourage natural regeneration to establish. Shelterwood harvests to release existing regeneration followed by seed tree harvests when regeneration is well established can be successful in regenerating white pine. In some cases, scarification of the site to expose mineral soil and reduce competition will enhance regeneration. White pine can be hand planted and hand seeded to supplement natural regeneration or to establish plantations.

<u>Shade tolerance:</u>	Intermediate
<u>Habitats:</u>	PArV, PArVAa, ATM AVVb, TMC
<u>Intermediate treatments:</u>	Plantation Release, Row thinning, Single tree selection.
<u>Median rotation age:</u>	80-120+ years
<u>Primary regeneration method:</u>	Natural seeding, planting
<u>Harvest method:</u>	Seed tree
<u>Habitat value:</u>	Conifer and early successional related species along with extended rotation large tree species.
<u>Economic value:</u>	Fiber productions, bolts, logs, utility poles
<u>Insect disease considerations:</u>	Heterobasidion Root Disease, bark beetles, white pine blister rust, tip weevil
<u>Trends:</u>	Acreage declining
<u>Landscape considerations:</u>	Retain acreage where possible

820.1.4.7

Swamp Hardwoods

Swamp hardwood stands in Oneida County are typically dominated by black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) and red maple (*Acer rubrum*). Associated species include northern white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*), black spruce (*Picea mariana*) and tamarack (*Larix laricina*). These stands are found in areas with the water table at or very near the surface.

Swamp hardwood stands are typically managed for production of fiber and logs/bolts. However, due to extremely wet soil conditions, management can be difficult.

With the discovery of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in the state and Oneida County in 2014, it is assumed that black ash will eventually decline in representation or disappear throughout the county. Management of swamp hardwood stands focus on salvaging black ash before EAB renders it non-merchantable and encouraging alternate species such as red maple, black spruce and tamarack to become more dominant within swamp hardwood sites. In time, planting or direct seeding of swamp hardwood sites may be undertaken to replace black ash with species that are suitable to the site. This process can be very expensive and difficult to conduct so only sites with the highest likelihood of success will be considered for planting/seeding.

Silvicultural systems that are used in swamp hardwood dominated by black ash can be either even-aged or uneven-aged. For even-aged management, overstory removal, strip clear-cuts and seed tree harvests are the generally accepted practices. For uneven-aged management, single tree selection and group selection are the generally accepted practices.

Due to the impending infestation by EAB, swamp hardwood stands that are dominated by black ash will be managed by removing the majority of black ash while leaving as many of the associated species as possible (red maple, black spruce, tamarack, cedar, balsam fir) to encourage conversion to non-ash dominated stands.

<u>Shade tolerance:</u>	Intolerant
<u>Habitats:</u>	LNorg
<u>Intermediate treatments:</u>	None
<u>Median rotation age:</u>	80-120+ years
<u>Primary regeneration method:</u>	Natural seeding, stump sprouting
<u>Harvest method:</u>	Clear-cut with reserves, seed tree, shelterwood
<u>Habitat value:</u>	Lowland swamp related species
<u>Economic value:</u>	Fiber productions, bolts, logs

<u>Insect disease considerations:</u>	Emerald Ash Borer, flooding
<u>Trends:</u>	Acreage likely to decline significantly
<u>Landscape considerations:</u>	Convert acreage where possible

820.1.4.8 *Swamp Conifers (Tamarack and Black Spruce)*

Swamp conifer sites are made up of 50% or more of either black spruce (*Picea mariana*) or tamarack (*Larix laricina*). Associated species include northern white cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) and balsam fir (*Abies balsamea*). Although tamarack and black spruce are considered separate cover types, they are often managed in the same manner. Generally accepted management for both black spruce and tamarack include strip clearcutting in two or three entries when previously cut strips have adequate regeneration. This is done in stands that are large enough that when only harvesting ~33% of the stand will still be economically viable. In small stands, a clear-cut with seed tree reserves may be conducted.

<u>Shade tolerance:</u>	Intolerant
<u>Habitats:</u>	LNorg
<u>Intermediate treatments:</u>	None
<u>Median rotation age:</u>	80-120+ years
<u>Primary regeneration method:</u>	Natural seeding
<u>Harvest method:</u>	Strip clear-cut, clear-cut with seed tree reserves
<u>Habitat value:</u>	Lowland conifer related species
<u>Economic value:</u>	Fiber productions, bolts
<u>Insect disease considerations:</u>	Larch casebearer, larch sawfly, butt rot, windthrow
<u>Trends:</u>	Maintaining acreage
<u>Landscape considerations:</u>	Retain acreage where possible

820.1.5 *Uneven-Aged Management*

A forest stand composed of trees in various age and size classes. The typical cutting practice is selection cutting, where individual trees are removed from the stand. Creation of canopy gaps in conjunction with individual tree removal helps promote regeneration. Regeneration is continually occurring after the stand is cut. Uneven-aged management is generally used to manage shade tolerant forest types.

820.1.5.1 *Northern Hardwood*

These are stands dominated by shade tolerant and mid-shade tolerant species. In Oneida County, northern hardwood stands are typically dominated by sugar maple (*Acer sacharum*), white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), basswood (*Tilia americana*), yellow birch (*Betula allegheniensis*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*) and red oak (*Quercus rubra*). Generally accepted practices for managing northern hardwood include individual tree selection following order of removal with canopy gap creation through group selection. Challenges to uneven-aged management of northern hardwoods are occurring due to deer browse and competition from native and non-native species such as Pennsylvania sedge.

<u>Shade tolerance:</u>	Tolerant to mid-tolerant
<u>Habitats:</u>	AVVb, AVb, ATM, ATD, AOCa, ACaL
<u>Intermediate treatments:</u>	None
<u>Median rotation age:</u>	n/a
<u>Primary regeneration method:</u>	Natural – all aged regeneration through seeding and stump sprouting.
<u>Harvest method:</u>	Single tree, group selection (gaps)
<u>Habitat value:</u>	Multi stage canopy species, cavity nesters
<u>Economic value:</u>	High: fiber, bolts high quality logs
<u>Insect disease considerations:</u>	Emerald ash borer, maple borer
<u>Trends:</u>	Maintaining Acreage. Difficult to establish regeneration due to deer browse and competition.
<u>Landscape considerations:</u>	Maintain acreage

820.2 **LOCALLY UNCOMMON TREES /FOREST TYPES**

The presence or lack of a particular tree species is dependent on land capability, climate, natural range, natural or human disturbance and many other factors. The following trees and types are considered uncommon on the Oneida County Forest and likely across the general region. These trees may be left as reserves in even-aged management prescriptions, or in thinnings and all aged regeneration harvests.

820.2.1 American Elm

American Elm, (*Ulmus americana*), is scarce primarily due to Dutch Elm Disease (DED). Healthy looking elm may be left uncut in hopes that they may continue on the landscape as potential resistant seed sources. American Elm had been making a comeback over the last 40 years since DED nearly wiped it out in Wisconsin; however, with the increased representation of elm on the landscape, DED has again begun killing elm trees. Elm will continue to be favored for retention in the hopes that cohorts that are more disease resistant will develop and continue to be part of the forest.

820.2.2 Burr Oak

Burr oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*), is found in a few areas of the county forest. Where encountered, it will be retained to encourage regeneration.

820.3 FOREST TYPES REQUIRING INTENSIVE EFFORT TO REGENERATE

There are certain forest types within the County Forest that are difficult to regenerate. In many cases, this difficulty may be related to the exclusion of fire from the landscape, deer herbivory or other factors. The following list itemizes forest types with difficult regeneration and County management goals:

820.3.1 White Birch

White Birch (also referred to as paper birch) is a shade intolerant species and is generally found in even-aged stands. A mineral seedbed is necessary to regenerate white birch through natural seeding and is assumed that most white birch present on the forest is of fire origin. Drought conditions of the mid to late 1980's, coupled with unseasonably warm temperatures and secondary pathogens (bronze birch borer and the birch leaf miner), resulted in mortality of nearly 50% of the white birch on the County Forest. Deer browsing on white birch regeneration severely limits its ability to fully occupy a site. Existing stands of white birch should be considered for scarification coupled with shelterwood harvests to encourage regeneration and maintenance of white birch on the forest. Initial trials using this method have proven successful. Where white birch is a lesser component of other timber types such as aspen, red maple, and northern hardwood, consideration should be given to retaining healthy, large canopy birch to continue to provide a seed source for birch regeneration.

820.3.2 Northern Red Oak

The red oak type is widespread across the County Forest outside of the low fertility sandy soils. Red oak tends to favor habitat types that are also suitable for northern hardwood species.

On many sites, normal thinning practices tend to promote these other species. In many cases, regeneration under nearly pure red oak stands tends towards red maple and poor quality sugar maple. Over time, this shade tolerant seral stage will replace the red oak. The difficulty in regenerating red oak on these sites appears to be related to a lack of soil disturbance with the removal of fire from the landscape and browsing by deer.

Red oak has very high wildlife value due to its mast production and tendency to produce cavities that are suitable for wildlife dens. It also has very high timber value in saw log sized timber. Because of these factors, it is important to retain red oak on the Oneida County Forest.

The County is committed to retain as much of the existing acreage of northern red oak as possible. Regeneration efforts will focus on timing soil scarification with good acorn crops and shelterwood harvests. Regeneration may require prescribed burning to release seedlings from competing vegetation. Chemical or mechanical control of competing vegetation (often red maple) may be used to enhance red oak regeneration. Supplemental hand seeding of acorns may be conducted to enhance regeneration.

Silvicultural trials using prescribed burns coupled with shelterwood harvests appear to be successful. However, conducting these burns on a large scale has proven difficult. Scarification and other methods will continue to be investigated as methods to promote red oak regeneration and maintain the type on the forest.

820.4 NON-NATIVE INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES OF CONCERN

Non-native invasive plant species can cause significant ecological and economic damage to the County Forest. Some invasive species, such as common and glossy buckthorn, eliminate not only wildflowers, but limit the regeneration of desired tree species. Keeping them from dominating the understory is critical to the long-term health and economic viability of the forest. Currently, the Oneida County Forest has few significant infestations of invasive plants. With training, vigilance, and control efforts, new infestations can be managed or eliminated. Many highly invasive plants are threatening to invade much of the northern forests in Wisconsin. Oneida County Forest personnel will continue to monitor the forest for the presence of non-native species. As new information and training becomes available, those resources will be used to continue the fight against these species. Details regarding invasive species found on Oneida County forest and management opportunities available can be found

in Chapter 600 (610.5).

820.5 LEGALLY PROTECTED AND SPECIAL CONCERN PLANT SPECIES

There are plants in Wisconsin that are protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act, the State Endangered Species Law, or both. On County Forest, no one may cut, root up, sever, injure, destroy, remove, transport or carry away a listed plant without a valid endangered or threatened species permit. There is an exemption on public lands for forestry, agriculture and utility activities under state law. The County will make reasonable efforts to minimize impacts to endangered or threatened plants during the course of forestry/silviculture activities (typically identified in the timber sale narrative).

The Wisconsin Department Natural Resources Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation tracks information on legally protected plants with the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) program. The NHI program also tracks Special Concern Species, which are those for which some problem of abundance or distribution is suspected, but not proven. The main purpose of this category is to focus attention on certain species before they become threatened or endangered.

The County has access to this data under a license agreement and is committed to reviewing this database for endangered resources that may occur within proposed land disturbing project areas.

In the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) program, the DNR tracks information on these species in the State. Below is a list of legally protected plants known to occur in Oneida County (on or near the County Forest).

820.5.1 Threatened Plant Species

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>State Status**</u>
Potamogeton confervoides	Algae-Like Pondweed	THR
Calypso bulbosa	Fairy Slipper	THR
Scirpus cespitosus	Tufted Club Rush	THR
Callitriche heterophylla	Large Water-Starwort	THR

****Key -State Status:** END- endangered; THR- threatened; SC- special concern

820.5.2 Special Concern Plants

<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Common Name</u>
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adder's Tongue
<i>Rhynchospora fusca</i>	Brown Beakrush
<i>Myriophyllum farwellii</i>	Farwell's Water Milfoil
<i>Utricularia geminiscapa</i>	Hidden Fruited Bladderwort
<i>Platanthera hookeri</i>	Hooker Orchid
<i>Leucophysalis grandiflora</i>	Large Flowered Ground Cherry
<i>Platanthera orbiculata</i>	Large Round Leaf Orchid
<i>Senecio congestus</i>	Marsh Ragwort
<i>Epilobium palustre</i>	Marsh Willow Herb
<i>Utricularia resupinata</i>	Northeastern Bladderwort
<i>Ribes hudsonianum</i>	Northern Black Currant
<i>Penstemon pallidus</i>	Pale Beardtongue
<i>Utricularia purpurea</i>	Purple Bladderwort
<i>Clematis occidentalis</i>	Purple Clematis
<i>Eleocharis bobbinsii</i>	Robbin's Spikerush
<i>Carex vaginata</i>	Sheathed Sedge
<i>Arethusa bulbosa</i>	Swamp Pink
<i>Potamogeton vaseyi</i>	Vasey's Pondweed
<i>Potamogeton capillaceus</i>	Water Thread Pondweed

820.5.3 Special Concern Natural Communities

Similarly, specific records of natural communities are also tracked. The following natural communities have been recorded in Oneida County (on or near the County Forest).

Alder Thicket	Lake-Shallow, Soft, Seepage
Bird Rookery	Lake-Soft Bog
Emergent Aquatic	Northern Dry Forest
Springs / Spring Runs, Soft	Emergent Aquatic-Wildrice
Open Bog	Shrub Carr
Lake-Deep, Soft, Seepage	Lake-Deep, Very Soft, Seepage
Lake-Shallow, Soft, Drainage	Northern Dry-Mesic Forest
Northern Mesic Forest	Northern Sedge Meadow
Northern Wet Forest	Stream-Slow, Hard, Cold
Stream-Slow, Soft, Warm	Submergent Aquatic

820.6 RETENTION

Tree retention guidelines contained in chapter 24 of the [WDNR Silviculture and Aesthetics Handbook \(HB24315.24\)](#) will be used when establishing timber sales and applying silvicultural treatments. Oneida County manages its timber resource on a multiple use and sustainable basis. Economics play a part in management decision making, however, it is not the only factor taken into consideration. Ecosystem diversity, aesthetics, wildlife habitat, recreation and watershed protection are some of the other factors considered when making management decisions.

820.7 BIOMASS HARVESTING GUIDELINES

Biomass harvesting is the practice whereby all or nearly all of the above ground portions of a tree are harvested and utilized. This includes the bole, limbs, twigs and leaves/needles. In traditional harvesting, only those parts of the tree that are larger than four inches in diameter are utilized. Issues of concern regarding biomass harvesting include the removal of woody debris that may serve as habitat for a variety of plants and animals as well as the removal of the vegetative matter which will eventually decay and become part of the soils. Studies have been conducted that show, in Oneida County, that biomass harvesting leaves sufficient woody debris on site through incidental breakage and the requirement that 10% of the tops harvested must be left scattered throughout the harvest area. A set of guidelines has been developed to help land managers determine if biomass harvesting is appropriate on a given site. These guidelines can be found at: [Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines](#).

825 WILDLIFE SPECIES MANAGEMENT

For the purpose of this plan, wildlife will include all native birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, and insects with a strong focus on the natural communities in which they live.

Wildlife biologists will emphasize habitat management that interrelates and benefits wildlife, and complements sound forestry practices. Concerns about the biological diversity of the County Forest and how it fits into the regional, continental and global perspective, may cause wildlife management to place increased emphasis on segments of the forest community. Practices such as old growth, snag and den tree management, access management, forest openings maintenance, oak management, and aspen maintenance, can be priorities in the dynamics of forest management. A primary goal of wildlife management on the Oneida County Forest is to provide a diversity of healthy ecosystems necessary to sustain native populations for their biological, recreational, cultural and economic values. Exceptions are made for Federal or State Listed Endangered or Threatened Species where management for individual species may occur.

825.1 TECHNICAL PLANNING

Management of wildlife populations on the Oneida County Forest falls under the jurisdiction of the DNR. Planning may be a cooperative effort of the County Forest staff, DNR liaison forester and wildlife manager in formulating management plans utilizing forest and wildlife management techniques to accomplish desired forest and wildlife management goals.

825.2 GUIDELINES

DNR operational handbooks including the Public Forest Lands Handbook (2460.5), manual codes and guidance documents are important references and guidelines to utilize in fish and wildlife planning efforts. Local DNR wildlife biologists and technicians are routinely consulted as guidance sources in managing wildlife and wildlife habitats.

825.3 INVENTORY

Habitat needs will be determined by analysis of forest reconnaissance information. Population estimates will be conducted periodically by DNR wildlife, endangered resources personnel, and other trained cooperators. Currently, Department Wildlife staff conduct the following surveys on or adjacent to the Oneida County Forest:

- Bear Hair Snare Trap Surveys and Bear Bait (suet) Surveys
- Ruffed Grouse Drumming Surveys
- Gray Wolf Track Surveys
- Whitetail Deer Browse Studies
- Bald Eagle and Osprey Nest Surveys
- Raptor Nest Surveys (Northern Goshawk)

- Opportunistic surveys on State Natural Areas for both plants and birds
- Frog and Toad Surveys
- Furbearer/Predator Track Surveys

825.4 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR WILDLIFE

The following areas of focus are identified for achieving plan objectives and for benefit of wildlife:

825.4.1 General Management Policies

Forest management practices may be modified to benefit wildlife and diversity. The following will be considered when planning for management activities:

- Even-aged regeneration harvests (clear-cuts) should vary in size and shape and include retention considerations.
- A diversity of stand age, size and species.
- Mast-bearing trees and shrubs, cavity trees, and an adequate number and variety of snags.
- Cull trees (future snag or den trees) not interfering with specific high value trees.
- Timber types, habitat conditions and impacts on affected wildlife.
- Access management.
- Best management practices for water quality (BMP's).
- Timber types, habitat conditions and impacts on affected wildlife.

825.5 IMPORTANCE OF HABITATS

Important habitat types include cover types known to be of importance to certain native wildlife and whose absence would make that wildlife significantly less abundant. These shortages may be on a local or broader scale. The following habitat types can be considered important:

825.5.1 Non-forested Wetlands

The Oneida County Forest contains 13,115 acres of non-forested wetland types providing a variety of habitats for common, rare and endangered species. Emergent wetland, sedge meadow, muskeg bog and deep marsh provide habitat for species such as wood turtle, black tern, American bittern and numerous other species.

825.5.2 Aquatic Habitats

The Oneida County Forest includes 810 acres of lakes, rivers, streams, ponds and other aquatic habitats. Open water provides habitat for species such as wood duck, boreal chorus frog, water shrew and many other species reliant on water related resources.

825.5.3 Riparian and Other Non-Managed Areas

Undisturbed shoreline and riparian areas present on the forest and provide habitat for species such as red shouldered hawk, green frog, and woodland jumping mouse.

825.5.4 Early Successional Forests

Management of aspen, white birch, jack pine and other shade intolerant species creates habitat for a large suite of wildlife species that benefit from early successional forests. On the Oneida County Forest, there are currently 33,125 acres of these forest types present. This is a key habitat used for recreational hunting activities, providing conditions favorable for American woodcock, ruffed grouse, white-tailed deer and non-game species such as golden-winged warbler, Kirkland's warbler and black-billed cuckoo.

825.5.5 Conifers

Conifers, whether jack pine, white pine, spruce, fir or other types appear to be an important habitat for a number of wildlife species. The Oneida County Forest currently has 15,689 acres of coniferous habitat. Connecticut warbler, red crossbill, northern flying squirrel, and many others utilize conifer types. Jack pine areas can be managed to provide temporary barrens habitat for Kirtland's warbler and other barren related species.

825.5.6 Oak Management

Oak is an important mast producing food source on the forest, providing acorns for a wide variety of game and non-game species. The Oneida County Forest has 2,513 acres of oak habitat. It is considered a critical resource to retain on the landscape for both its timber and wildlife value, providing habitat for species such as scarlet tanager, wood thrush, red headed woodpecker, and black bear.

825.5.7 Uneven/ All-Aged Management

Management of uneven aged stands provides for multi-storied canopies, diverse age structure and potentially older forest characters. The Oneida County Forest has 13,227 acres being managed under an all aged management system. Species such as Canada warbler, little brown bat, black throated blue warbler and many others benefit from these forest types. In addition, numerous amphibians and reptiles utilize these forest types.

825.5.8 Large Forest Blocks

Large blocks of County Forest provide habitat for numerous interior species. Gray wolf, black throated blue warbler, Canada warbler and least flycatcher are a few examples of animals that rely on these large blocks.

825.5.9 Grasslands, Openings, Upland Brush

Wildlife openings, grass rights-of-way, natural openings, upland brush and other upland open habitats provide for diversity and unique habitats benefitting pollinators, numerous species including upland plover and whip-poor-will. Oneida County Forest currently has 615 acres identified as open grassland or upland brush habitat.

825.6 INTENSIVE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Wildlife management projects on Oneida County forestlands includes ruffed grouse management areas. In these areas, large blocks of aspen with associated cover types such as tag alder, red maple and balsam fir are managed to produce optimal habitat for ruffed grouse. This is accomplished by harvesting large aspen stands in a patchwork design. This provides numerous age classes of aspen interspersed on the landscape. The Bowman Road and the Bird Lane Grouse Management areas are both designed to provide this type of habitat. There are several other areas, not officially designated as grouse management areas, but have been managed in a similar way to improve grouse and woodcock habitats. These areas were very large (400 acre+) stands of aspen that was basically one age. These areas have been harvested in a patchwork of smaller sale areas broken up over 10 to 20 years resulting in a mosaic of aspen age classes.

The Spruce Lake Flowage has been managed to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl including ducks and geese. Nesting habitat has been maintained through mowing and prescribed burning. The water level of the flowage is managed to provide both emergent and submergent aquatic plants that are key to quality waterfowl habitat. This area also provides habitat for numerous non-game wildlife species including cranes, herons, frogs, toads and other wetland associated species.

Additional intensive management of habitats may be conducted in consultation with DNR wildlife biologists.

825.6.1 Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan (WWAP) / Species of Greatest Conservation Need

In addition to species listed as endangered, threatened or special concern within the BHI database, the Department also maintains a statewide list of species of greatest conservation need.

This list includes species that have low or declining populations and may be in need of conservation action. The list includes birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and insects that are:

- Already listed as threatened or endangered
- At risk due to threats
- Rare due to small or declining populations
- Showing declining trends in habitat or populations

The WWAP working list can provide information on how management activities may affect, or in many cases benefit species of greatest conservation need. More information is available on the WWAP website: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/actionplan.html>.

825.7 FISH AND WATERS MANAGEMENT

Public waters shall be managed to provide for optimum natural fish production, an opportunity for quality recreation, and a healthy balanced aquatic ecosystem. Emphasis will also be placed on land-use practices that benefit the aquatic community. Management of County Forest lands will attempt to preserve and/or improve fish habitat and water quality.

825.7.1 Technical Planning and Surveys

Management of all waters within the County Forest is the responsibility of the DNR. The local fisheries biologist will provide technical assistance. Studies and management will be conducted in the manner described in DNR Fish Management Handbook 3605.9. Water and Population Surveys fall under the jurisdiction of the Department and will be conducted as needed by fisheries biologists.

825.7.2 Shoreland Zoning

The practice of silviculture within shoreland zoning jurisdiction is exempt from zoning permit requirements provided it be carried out without filling, flooding, draining, dredging, ditching, tilling or excavating. Shoreland zoning jurisdiction is defined as “areas of Oneida County which are within one thousand (1,000) feet of the ordinary high water mark of navigable lakes, ponds or flowages. Lakes, ponds or flowages in Oneida

County shall be presumed to be navigable if they are listed in the DNR publication *Surface Water Resources of Oneida County* or shown on the 7.5 minute series United States Geological Survey quadrangle maps and within three hundred (300) feet of the ordinary high water mark of navigable rivers or streams or to the landward side of the floodplain, whichever distance is greater. Rivers and streams in Oneida County shall be presumed to be navigable if they are designated as either continuous or intermittent waterways on the United States Geological Survey quadrangle maps. Flood Insurance Rate Maps, which have been adopted by Oneida County, shall be used to determine the extent of the floodplain of navigable rivers or streams in Oneida County. Floodplain areas are subject to the Oneida County Zoning and Shorelands Protection Ordinance.” Ch. 9.90(A)(1) and (2) Oneida County Zoning and Shoreland Protection Ordinance.

Uses involving limited fill / dredge activity are allowed provided a shoreland alteration permit is issued and the filling, flooding, draining, dredging, ditching, tilling or excavating, is limited as specifically provided below:

The construction and maintenance of roads that are necessary to conduct silvicultural activities or are necessary for agricultural cultivation provided that:

- The road cannot as a practical matter, be located outside the wetland.
- The road is designed and constructed to minimize the adverse impact upon the natural functions of the wetland.
- The road is designed and constructed with the minimum cross sectional area practical to serve the intended use.
- Road construction activities are carried out in the immediate area of the roadbed only; and
- Any filling, flooding, draining, dredging, ditching, tilling or excavating must be necessary for the construction or maintenance of the road.

Ch. 9.90(D)(3)(a) Oneida County Zoning and Shoreland Protection Ordinance.

825.7.3 Access and Development

Access and development of County Forest waters will be limited to those activities consistent with the above water management policies. Access points to various waterbodies may be created as the need is identified. Boat landings and carry in access points are found throughout the county forest. See chapter 900 – 935.4 for a list of boat landings.

825.7.4 Important Water Resources

Management activities adjacent to these water resources, or in areas with sensitive soils or severe slopes, should consider measures beyond the customary BMP practices. County staff may work with their DNR Liaison Forester in cooperation with the local DNR Water Resources staff to develop site-specific measures where appropriate. An inventory of water resources can be obtained for the County from DNR Water Resources staff. A map and list of the Outstanding and Exceptional Water Resources in Oneida County are included in Chapter 1000.

830 EXCEPTIONAL RESOURCES, UNIQUE AREAS

830.1 HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS (HCVFs)

The DNR criteria for establishing HCVFs on state lands is found below. For the purpose of this plan, the county recognizes this criterion for identifying HCVFs on county land. This does not preclude the county from identifying other unique areas that do not meet the definition of HCVFs.

<https://dnr.wi.gov/sites/default/files/topic/TimberSales/HCVFcertWDNR.pdf>

HIGH CONSERVATION AREAS

- Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values included RTE species.
- Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all, naturally occurring species exists in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.
- Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.
- Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g., watershed protection). **Wisconsin does not have known locations meeting this criterion.**
- Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health of indigenous communities). **Wisconsin does not have known locations meeting this criterion.**
- Forest areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (e.g. areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).

The HCVFs on Oneida County Forest are the following:

McCord Village (FSC HCVF Category 6)

The McCord Village (470On221) is a historic Native American settlement located on the Oneida County Forest. This area was settled sometime around 1890-1900 by Potawatomi, Ojibwe and related Native American Tribes and was abandoned around 1950. This site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

This area consists of remnants of dwellings, gardens, dance rings, maple sap boiling arches and other associated items. This site is believed to contain the highest concentration of sap boiling arches in the state. The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) archaeologists have surveyed and mapped the site. “No management” buffers have been established adjacent to the features of this area to prevent disturbance. As new features of this site are located, the WHS will be notified. The Lac du Flambeau and Forest County Potawatomi tribes have been notified of this site and are informed of any management practices occurring in the area.

Noisy Creek Cedars (FSC Category 3 HCVF)

This approximately 500-acre high conservation value forest lies in sections 21 and 22 of T35N R9E. This site was designated by WDNR experts following site surveys and consultation with the County. The site consists primarily of white cedar, tamarack and alder. The waters of Noisy Creek and the several spring sources are mineral rich with an alkaline quality. These types of forested wetlands have more diverse species composition especially sedges and orchids, and such is the case with Noisy Creek. With only one preliminary survey in 2005, over 120 wet forest plant species were identified including 11 orchid species. The site also had an abundance of nesting bird species with excellent populations of Canada Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler and Northern Water thrush. Due to the site’s diverse plant and bird communities, exceptionally wet soils and concerns regarding regeneration of white cedar, Oneida County will continue to manage the area in such a way as to not adversely affect the unique value of this area. The county recognizes the site’s biological values and may collaborate with the Wisconsin State Natural Areas Program in the future.

Enterprise Wetland Forest Hemlocks (FSC Category 3 HCVF)

This approximately 720 acre site (of which approximately 500 acres is County owned and 220 acres is State owned) lies in sections 11, 14, and 15 in T35N R9E and contains a large forested wetland that abuts several Board of Commissioners of Public Land (BCPL) WDNR parcels.

This site was designated by WDNR experts following site surveys and consultation with the County. This intact mosaic of wetland forest types affords a rare opportunity for Oneida County to work collaboratively with BCPL and WDNR to maintain a relative extensive example of representative northern Wisconsin wetland forest communities. The site contains upland hemlock, white cedar swamp, black ash swamp, tamarack, black spruce and open bog communities. Several rare plants (sparse-flowered sedge, showy lady's slipper, small yellow lady's slipper and common bog arrow grass) are found at this site. WDNR experts have assessed this site in the past. It was determined that hemlock trees as old as 200 years exist on the site and may have been passed over during the late 1800-early 1900 logging era. Oneida County will continue to manage the area in such a way as to preserve the unique values of this area. That part of the Enterprise Wetland Hemlocks that lies on WDNR lands was designated as the Enterprise Hemlocks State Natural Area (#608) in 2010. Those parts lying on Oneida County lands are not designated as part of the SNA.

Gobler Lake SNA (FSC Category 3 HC VF)

This 700-acre site is found in sections 5 & 6 T35N R5E. This designated State Natural Area was set up in 1974 to recognize the significant biological features and promote research activities. Gobler Lake SNA contains a large open muskeg and a soft water bog lake. With road access along the esker on the south boundary, this is an outstanding location for interpretation of flacial impacts and muskeg formation. This site is ideal for research on large bog (muskeg) functions and for understanding boreal birds such as Canada and Connecticut Warblers and Lincoln's Sparrow here near their southern range limit.

830.2 AREAS RECOGNIZED BY STATE OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

830.2.1 State Natural Areas (SNA)

Oneida County manages a variety of property designations including Wisconsin State Natural Areas (SNA). The SNA system represents the wealth and variety of Wisconsin's native landscape. They contain outstanding examples of native biotic communities and are often the last refuges in the state for rare and endangered plant and animal species. The Wisconsin SNA program works with counties to further recognize outstanding native biotic communities that Oneida County is presently managing as exceptional areas. SNA's are unique in that they can exist as stand-alone properties or designated within the boundaries of another property type. Oneida County maintains its land ownership,

management and decision-making authority, but with cooperative recognition of these sites, the County can enhance its ability to provide a broader range of opportunities for the citizens.

DNR State Natural Areas staff work cooperatively with the County Forest by coordinating educational, monitoring, and research activities. Assistance on management projects can provide the county with more resources to accomplish necessary management. Management will protect the unique character of the area. The importance of the Wisconsin State Natural Areas has been recognized on the County Forest through cooperation with the Department staff in designating and managing 700 acres of the County Forest for one SNA.

Gobler Lake SNA (FSC Category 3 HCV):

This 700-acre site is found in sections 5 & 6 T35N R5E. This designated State Natural Area was set up in 1974 to recognize the significant biological features and promote research activities. Gobler Lake SNA contains a large open muskeg and a soft water bog lake. With road access along the esker on the south boundary, this is an outstanding location for interpretation of glacial impacts and muskeg formation. The site is ideal for research on large bog (muskeg) functions and for understanding boreal birds such as Canada and Connecticut Warblers and Lincoln's Sparrow here near their southern range limit.

Enterprise Wetland Forest Hemlocks (FSC Category 3 HCVF)

This approximately 720-acre site (of which approximately 500 acres is County owned and 220 acres is State owned) lies in sections 11, 14 and 15 in T35N R9E and contains a large forested wetland that abuts several Board of Commissioners of Public Land (BCPL) WDNR parcels. This site was designated by WDNR experts following site surveys and consultation with the County. This intact mosaic of wetland forest types affords a rare opportunity for Oneida County to work collaboratively with BCPL WDNR to maintain a relative extensive example of representative northern Wisconsin wetland forest communities. The site contains upland hemlock, white cedar swamp, black ash swamp, tamarack, black spruce and open bog communities. Several rare plants (sparse-flowered sedge, showy lady's slipper, small yellow lady's slipper and common bog arrow grass) are found at this site. WDNR experts have assessed this site in the past. It was determined

that hemlock trees as old as 200 years exist on the site and may have been passed over during the late 1800-early 1900 logging era. Oneida County will continue to manage the area in such a way as to preserve the unique values of this area.

830.2.2 Other Exceptional Resources

- **Scott Creek:** This stream has an excellent population of Red-sided Dace. BMPs for water quality should address the management needs for this species.
- **Willow Rapids Bog:** This small acid bog lake in section 15, Lynne Township has a rare plant, *Scirpus cespitosus*, growing in the open surrounding the small lake. The inaccessibility of the bog mat should provide needed protection.
- **Little Rice River:** The one-mile stretch in Section 22 has a population of Wood Turtles. BMPs for water quality should address the management needs for this species.

830.3 AREAS RECOGNIZED BY COUNTY OR LOCALLY

Oneida County may contain areas that are locally considered exceptional or unique. Some are recognized by other agencies, while others are designated only within this Plan. These resources may include wild rivers, lakes, natural areas, geological features or historical/archeological sites.

830.3.1 Forests with Old Growth Characteristics

Certain stands within the county forest exhibit old growth characteristics. The main characteristic is large diameter trees. Examples of areas like this are natural red and white pine stands and hemlock stands found throughout the forest. These stands are managed to maintain or enhance the characteristics that make them unique. Thinning stands from below (removing sub-canopy, suppressed trees) and retaining the majority of the large diameter trees are ways to maintain these characteristics. Natural red and white pine sites adjacent to the Gobbler Lake SNA are being actively managed to maintain old growth characteristics.

830.3.2 Wildlife Sites (Hibernacula, Rookeries, Special Habitats)

Although no specific wildlife sites have been identified on the county forest, in the event any are, they will be managed through consultation with DNR wildlife biologists.

830.3.3 Wild Rivers, Wild Lakes

The County Forest contains numerous undeveloped, wild lakes and stretches of river. These waterbodies are managed to maintain the wild nature that makes them unique. Access to the lakes is limited and forest management adjacent to the lakes is modified to

minimize impacts. Wider riparian management zones adjacent to these waterbodies may be created during forest management.

830.4 CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT SITES

Sites of significant cultural value are found on the Oneida County Forest. Management practices have been modified to minimize any disturbance to the sites. State archaeologists and tribal experts are routinely consulted when management activities may impact culturally significant sites.

830.4.1 McCord Village

The McCord Village (47On221) is a historic Native American settlement located on the Oneida County Forest. This area was settled sometime around 1890-1900 by Potawatomi, Ojibwe and related Native American Tribes and was abandoned around 1950. This site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002.

This area consists of the remnants of dwellings, gardens, dance rings, maple sap boiling arches and other associated items. This site is believed to contain the highest concentration of sap boiling arches in the state. The Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) archaeologists have surveyed and mapped the site. “No management” buffers have been established adjacent to the features of this area to prevent disturbance. As new features of this site are located, the WHS will be notified. The Lac du Flambeau and Forest County Potawatomi tribes have been notified of this site and are informed of any management practices occurring in the area.

830.4.2 Logging Camps, Dams, Forest History

Remnants of old logging camps exist throughout the forest. These sites are catalogued and noted when timber management occurs in the area. Logging restrictions are placed on the timber sales to protect these sites.

830.4.3 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Camp

CCC Company 1608 - Camp Tomahawk, was located in the town of Little Rice and is now part of the county forest. The site was planted with red pine upon abandonment in the 1940's. Currently the site contains cement slabs from buildings and stone piles. Management of the plantation takes into account these features and is modified to protect them.

835 AESTHETICS

Public perception of forestry has changed over the last planning period. In general, it appears that the public is more accepting of the visual impact of sound forestry. In response to this, aesthetic management planning is intended to be more simplified in this Plan.

835.1 AESTHETIC MANAGEMENT

Aesthetic management techniques may be applied in areas of high visibility or high public use. Altered management, visual screens, slash disposal, conversion to other species, no cut zones or other methods may be employed, depending on the circumstances of the specific site.

835.2 AESTHETIC MANAGEMENT ZONES

Aesthetic Management Zones include areas where they may be high levels of public presence because of scenic attraction, or some use of the area that would be enhanced by special timber management practices.

835.2.1 Aesthetic Management Zone Examples

- Parks and Recreation Areas
- Campgrounds
- Boat Landings
- Lakes and Rivers with Significant Recreational Use
- Roads with Heavy Traffic or Scenic Views

835.2.2 Aesthetic Management Prescriptions/Options

- Adjusting timing of timber harvesting: Due to user conflicts, date/seasonal restrictions may be placed on timber sales that lie within or adjacent to developed recreational facilities (e.g. silent sports trails, campground)
- Slash restrictions/requirements: Slash treatment restrictions will be placed on timber harvests occurring adjacent to recreational trails, facilities and campgrounds and town, county, state or county forest roads.
- Staggered Harvests / Visual Screens: Retention areas may be placed adjacent to recreational trails and facilities. In addition, stands may be broken up and only parts harvested at one time, leaving other areas to be harvested in the future.
- Forced conversion to longer-lived species: Where appropriate, short-lived species may be discriminated against in favor of longer-lived species to enhance or protect aesthetic values. This may include the removal of short-lived species and planting longer-lived species.
- Irregular harvest lines, interrupted sight distances: Undulating harvest boundaries

and strategically placed retention areas may help reduce line of sight across harvest areas.

- Green tree retention and reserve trees: Areas within a harvest boundary may be left un-cut and individual trees or entire species of trees may be left within a harvest area to improve or protect aesthetics.

840 LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

The County will make efforts to evaluate surrounding landscapes while managing the County Forest. The County will strive to provide management that complements the landscapes, but also try to provide for resources or forest types that are lacking or declining within surrounding landscapes.

840.1 CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

For the purposes of this plan, biological diversity will be interpreted to reference the variety and abundance of species, their genetic composition, and the communities, ecosystems, and landscapes in which they occur. Forest management activities on the Oneida County Forest enhance biological diversity by managing for a wide variety of habitat types, age structures and by attempting to perpetuate and protect declining forest types.

840.2 HABITAT FRAGMENTATION

For the purposes of this plan, habitat fragmentation is interpreted as conversion of forests to land uses other than forestry. Lands enrolled in the County Forest Law help protect against habitat fragmentation. A continued program of encouraging land acquisition within the forest blocking boundary is intended to decrease the conversion of forestland to other uses.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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CHAPTER 900

Rev. 03/19/24

RECREATION

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900 RECREATION

Recreation is an integral part of the management of the Oneida County Forest and recreation uses are referenced in most of the previous chapters. Due to the tremendous growth in recreational demands over the duration of the last planning period, this Plan recognizes the importance of more intensive recreational planning and emphasizes its importance with a separate chapter.

905 PLANNING

In addition to this Plan, the Oneida County Five Year Outdoor Recreation Plan also guides the recreation program. This plan is revised every five years and is made part of this Plan. The Oneida County Outdoor recreation Plan includes, but is not limited to, activities on the County Forest. It incorporates snowmobile and ATV/UTV plans, silent sports plans, campgrounds, parks and boat landings, recreational maintenance and development plans and other recreation surveys and reports.

The Outdoor Recreation Plan, Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), public input, and other local or regional planning documents will be used as resources in recreational planning and development efforts. The responsibility for recreational planning, development and maintenance on the County Forest will rest with the Committee. This plan can be viewed at <https://www.ncwrpc.org/oneida/orp/> or at the Oneida County Forestry Office.

910 AUTHORITY

The Oneida County Code of Ordinances and s.28.11 Wis. Stats, authorizes the Oneida County Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee to provide recreational opportunities for the public. This authority is further recognized in the mission statement for the County Forest Plan (Chapter 100), which specifically identifies outdoor recreational opportunities. This mission statement also charges the Committee to conduct activities in a manner that prevents or minimizes environmental damage.

- a. The Committee may establish and maintain recreation areas and facilities within the County Forest. The Committee has been empowered to establish and enforce rules and regulations for the use of such developments and to establish fees for their use.
- b. The County Outdoor Recreation Plan, updated approximately every five years, will reflect the public use and interest in the County's recreation facilities and how the County plans to accommodate those uses and interests.

- c. The Oneida County codes and ordinances shall govern the lands designated by the County for park or recreational purposes.

Maps of the recreational facilities managed through the Oneida County Forest program are appended or referenced in Chapter 1000.

915 ENTRANCE AND USER FEES

The Committee is empowered and shall have responsibility for establishing entrance, camping and other user fees on recreational facilities maintained by the County. Camping, entrance or other fees shall be comparable to fees charged by similar private facilities so as not to provide undue competition and are subject to periodic change by the Committee. Fees, where appropriate, will be utilized to assist in the maintenance of recreational facilities. Detailed information regarding park or recreation use regulations are found in the Oneida County Outdoor Recreation Ordinance section 14 of the Oneida County General Code.

920 RECREATIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS

It is permissible for the Committee to contract with clubs or individuals to provide for recreational maintenance or services to the public. As part of the Plan, the County contracts for the following services:

1. Snowmobile trail construction, grooming and maintenance
2. ATV/UTV trail construction, grooming and maintenance
3. Silent Sports Trail construction, grooming and maintenance

925 RECREATIONAL USE PERMITS FOR ORGANIZED EVENTS

Recognizing the vast potential for a variety of special uses of the County Forest by governmental units, businesses, organizations or individuals, the Committee may designate specified areas for special uses. Specific management methods are to be considered on these areas. Uses must be consistent with the intent of the County Forest Law.

Any event on the Forest which is advertised to the public, for which a fee is charged, or is otherwise organized as an event, requires a permit or authorization by the Committee. Fees for permits issued for special events shall be set by the committee.

- a. Permits may be issued by the Committee provided the use is consistent with management activities and will not cause resource damage.

- b. Appropriate levels of event liability insurance is required and will be determined by Corporation Counsel in consultation with the County's risk manager and insurance provider.
- c. No permits for the sale of malt or intoxicating beverages will be issued on the County Forest.

930 UNDESIGNATED RECREATIONAL USE OF THE FOREST

Undesignated recreation includes those informal activities for which the County generally does not provide a facility or service. These uses include activities such as hunting, fishing, hiking and others. These uses do not require a permit but must be conducted in compliance with the County Code of Ordinances. The Forest Director and the Committee shall periodically review such uses and enact ordinances as necessary to protect the County Forest from resource damage.

930.1 HUNTING

The entire County Forest is open for regulated hunting, with the exception of areas developed for high public use such as parks, picnic areas, campgrounds and the County Forest shop building complex. Other areas may have hunting restrictions placed on them as deemed necessary by the Committee. [Chapter 14](#) of the Oneida County Code of Ordinances regulates activities relating to hunting.

930.2 FISHING

All lakes and streams within the forest are available for fishing unless otherwise listed in state regulations. The County Forest also provides fishing opportunities for those with mobility limitations. A fishing pier, which is accessible by persons with disabilities is located at the Perch Lake Park. Additional facilities for disabled fishing access may be developed at the direction of the Committee.

930.3 PICNICKING / DAY USE

Picnicking and other day uses, outside of established facilities is permitted. [Chapter 14](#) of the General Code of Oneida County also regulates day use. No waste disposal facilities are provided outside of park, picnic and campground areas. All waste generated by day use must be removed and disposed of in proper containers. Violators will be subject to citations/fines for littering.

930.4 CAMPING

A permit is required to camp outside of developed campgrounds on the County Forest. Detailed information on camping can be found in [Chapter 14](#) of the General Code of Oneida County. General regulations for camping outside of designated campgrounds are as follows:

- a. No littering or site destruction will be permitted.

- b. A fee, as set by the committee, may be charged for camping outside of designated campgrounds.
- c. Maximum permit period is 14 consecutive days.
- d. Camping will not be allowed in any park, at boat landings, parking areas or within 100 feet of any recreational trail that is open for its designated use unless the county has designated sites for camping within or adjacent to these areas.
- e. No camping will be allowed within the Gillette/Wickham Lakes Recreation Area.
- f. No camping will be allowed within 50 feet of the water's edge of any waterbody (lake, river, stream, impoundment).
- g. Natural vegetation and terrain may not be damaged or altered in any way, except for the construction of an adequate fire ring. Fasteners such as nails, screws or bolts may not be attached to trees. Only dead, downed woody material may be utilized for firewood.
- h. Manufactured materials (lumber, concrete, plastics, etc.) may not be left on the site when it is vacated. No trees or other vegetation, either native or exotic, may be planted on the site.
- i. Fires must be completely extinguished and must be cold to the touch when not attended. Use of campfires may be restricted during periods of elevated fire danger or in areas deemed as high fire potential.

930.5 **MOTORIZED TRAVEL**

The Oneida County Forest is a multiple use forest. Motorized travel on trails can be a legitimate use of this forest provided that these trails are designed and maintained in a manner that minimizes damage to the environment and reduces user conflict. Trail use and development must be compatible and sustainable with the characteristics of the landscape. It shall be the policy of the Committee to consider opportunities for motorized trail use.

[Chapter 14](#) of the General Code of Oneida regulates motorized uses on the County Forest. More detailed information regarding motorized vehicle use is included in Chapter 700. In general, the following regulations apply to motorized travel outside of a developed recreational trail system.

- a. Operating a motor vehicle on a trail designated closed with a gate, earthen berm, sign, or other closure is prohibited.

- b. The use of two wheeled motorized vehicles (dirt bike, mini bike) is prohibited on County Forest Roads (gas tax) unless said vehicle is street legal and licensed. Unlicensed two wheel motor vehicles may be operated on logging roads that are not designated as closed to motor vehicles.
- c. Motorcycles, whether street legal or not, are prohibited from operating on ATV/UTV trails when trails are open for said use.
- d. Use of motorized vehicles off of existing roads or trails (cross country travel) is prohibited.
- e. Use of a motor vehicle on any trail designated for silent sports is prohibited.
- f. Use of a motor vehicle in any park, campground or other recreation facilities is prohibited except on roads/parking lots and graveled camping pads.
- g. Use of a car or truck on ATV/UTV trails, snowmobile trails, and designated bike trails when said trails are open for designated use is prohibited.

930.6 OTHER USES

Other uses of the County Forest such as hiking, wildlife viewing, and collecting wild edibles are permissible within the regulations of [Chapter 14](#) of the General Code of Oneida.

935 DESIGNATED RECREATION AREAS/USES

Designated recreation includes those uses for which the County provides a trail or facility. The Oneida County Forest has developed sites and areas to accommodate a higher degree of public use. The Committee may prohibit other recreation activities that are not compatible with the intent of the developed facilities.

The Committee and Forestry Department has noted a marked increase in demand for recreation facilities. Oneida County may attempt to develop additional facilities and will maintain its currently developed facilities.

935.1 CAMPGROUNDS

935.1.1 Enterprise Campground

The Enterprise Campground is located at 5142 Shingle Mill Road, Pelican Lake, WI 54463. The facility includes eleven campsites, two hand pumps, two pit toilet buildings and a firewood storage shed.

Camping is on a first come – first served basis and a kiosk for self-registration is available at the entrance to the campground.

935.2 PICNIC / DAY USE AREAS

- a. Almon Park: Picnic areas, open-air shelter available for rent, beach, restrooms, changing facilities, nature trails, disc golf course.
- b. Perch Lake Park: Heated shelter with open-air shelter facility, restrooms, trail head for Washburn Lake Silent Trails area.
- c. Townline Lake Park: Picnic area, swimming beach, walking trail, boat landing, accessible kayak/canoe launch, fishing pier.
- d. Bass Lake Picnic Area: Minimal facilities and maintenance
- e. Willow Rapids Picnic Area: Minimal facilities and maintenance
- f. Gillette/Wickham Lakes Day Use Area: Carry in boat launch. This area is to be developed over the course of this plan. Possible uses include picnic facilities and hiking trails.

935.3 SWIMMING AREAS / BEACHES

- a. Almon Park

935.4 BOAT LANDINGS

As a result of the wide distribution of lakes, streams, rivers, and other surface waters on the Forest, water access may be planned, developed, or restricted as a component of the overall Forest access management plan. Several boat landings, canoe landings, and adjacent roads currently provide water access on the Forest primarily for recreational activities. In addition, these water access points provide water supply points for fire apparatus working to suppress forest fires or nearby structural fires.

The existing water access points will be maintained to provide a place to launch a small fishing boat or canoe. Not all watercraft will be able to use these access points. These landings are built for public use and not for private boat mooring sites. Mooring or storing boats for longer than 24 hours is prohibited.

The following public boat access sites have been developed on the Oneida County and are open to public use:

935.4.1 Public Boat Access Sites Maintained by Oneida County

- a. Townline Lake Boat Landing (Town of Crescent)
- b. Bass Lake Boat Landing (Town of Enterprise)
- c. Bass Lake Boat Landing (Town of Little Rice)

- d. Perch Lake Boat Landing (Town of Woodboro)
- e. Flannery Lake Boat Landing (Town of Newbold)
- f. Tom Doyle Lake Boat Landing (Town of Newbold)
- g. Wisconsin River – County Highway O (Town of Newbold)
- h. Wisconsin River – Journey’s End Road (Town of Pine Lake)
- i. Gillette/Wickham Lake Day Use Area (Town of Enterprise)

935.4.2 Other Boat Landings

Other entities such as Towns, Cities, and the State provide boat landing facilities on various other waterbodies throughout the county. Please contact these entities for more information regarding their facilities.

935.4.3 Undeveloped Water Access Points

Other undeveloped water access points for canoes and boats currently exist on the Forest. These are used routinely to hand launch boats or canoes but have not been developed for boat trailer launching. These sites are not routinely maintained and may be closed if erosion damage becomes severe. All new sites for developed water access must be reviewed and approved by the Committee.

935.5 SHOOTING RANGES

Ranges may be established, with Committee approval, that allow for public use of rifles, bows, pistols and shotguns on County Forest lands. If the range is operated by an organization other than the County, a written land use agreement, including proof of insurance, will be required. A provision for use by the public will be included in the agreement. Currently there are no designated shooting ranges on the Oneida County Forest.

935.6 DISC GOLF COURSE

The Almon Park Disc Golf Course consists of an 18-hole course traversing a variety of landscapes. Tee boxes and metal baskets are located on each hole. This par 56 course is 4,025 feet in length. This course was developed by the County with the help of volunteers. The Department now maintains the facility.

935.7 OTHER FACILITIES

There may be opportunities for development of other recreational facilities during the period of this plan.

935.7.1 Dog Training Area

A waterfowl dog training area has been approved for development on a network of un-named ponds on Trout Creek Road in the Town of Woodboro. This facility will consist of a graveled access road, parking lot, trails to access the ponds and a gate to control access. Maintenance

of the facility will be a combination of volunteer labor and county resources. Grant funding and \$.05/acre Wildlife Grant funds may be used to offset any direct cost to the County.

940 DESIGNATED RECREATION TRAILS

Designated recreation trails are those for which the County provides a designated trail and/or facility. The County currently provides trail systems that accommodate a relatively high degree of public use. The Committee may prohibit other activities on these trails that are not compatible with the intent of the development. These networks of trails provide access for many recreational opportunities on the Forest. An important role of the Forest is to provide sustainable recreational trails that do not cause long-term natural resource damage, and are compatible with other uses. Management activities adjacent to recreational trails will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Where deemed necessary, alterations will be made to accommodate the recreational use. The Committee has the authority to open, close or relocate trails.

Whenever possible, multiple uses of various trail systems are encouraged and are subject to policy review of the Committee. Wherever possible, attempts will be made to avoid user conflicts. Recreational users, however, will frequently encounter forest management activities instrumental to the existence and future of the County Forest.

940.1 TRAIL CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for recreational trails will be reviewed by the Committee. Groups requesting specific trail development or use must present a plan for the long term funding and maintenance of proposed trails. Organized trail uses and group-sponsored activities must protect Oneida County with liability insurance coverage as determined by Corporation Counsel in consultation with the County's risk manager and insurance provider and provide a certificate of insurance as proof of coverage. Refer to *Snowmobile and ATV Trail Maintenance Guidelines* and the silent trails maintenance contract available in the County Forest Office.

Construction of any recreational trail in which the activity would increase the erosion potential of one acre or more of land is subject to State and Federal storm water runoff requirements (NR216, Wis. Adm. Code and s. 283.33, Wis. Stats). Construction or development for silvicultural purposes is presently exempt from these requirements. Designated recreational trail development in Oneida County will employ *Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water Quality* (PUB-FR-093-95) to mitigate any adverse impacts. For projects requiring a storm water permit, an erosion control plan will be prepared for each project.

940.2 NON-MOTORIZED RECREATION TRAILS

The Oneida County Forest is a multiple use forest. Non-motorized recreation trails are a legitimate use of the forest. Design and maintenance of these trails may highlight natural features present on the Forest, should minimize damage, and reduce user conflict. Trail use and development must be compatible and sustainable with the characteristics of the landscape. It is the policy of the Committee to consider opportunities for non-motorized trail use.

940.2.1 Undesignated Hiking Trails

All portions of the County Forest including all logging roads, are open to hiking or foot travel unless marked with signs closing an area to foot travel. Most logging roads are minimally maintained. Designated hiking trails are maintained by the department through periodic mowing, brushing and grading.

940.2.2 Designated Hiking Trails

- a. Hwy Q Hunter Hiking Trail
- b. Bird Lane Hunter Hiking Trail
- c. Almon Park Nature Trails
- d. Washburn Lake Non-Motorized Trail Area
- e. Cassian Two-Way Ski/Bike Trail
- f. Nose Lake Ski/Bike Trail

940.2.3 Undesignated Bicycle Trails

All trails, roads, and fire lanes are open for recreational bicycle use unless designated for other uses. Off-trail mountain bike use may be restricted in specific areas if use causes erosion or other environmental damages.

940.2.4 Designated Bicycle Trails

- a. Washburn Lake Silent Sports Trails Area
- b. Nose Lake Ski Trail
- c. Cassian Two-Way Trail
- d. Enterprise Primitive Ski, Snowshoe, Fat Tire Bike Trail

940.2.5 Equestrian Trails

All County Forest roads and trails are open to horseback riding except for trails designated for other special uses. Trails signed for walking only or Hunter/Hiking are open to horseback riding. Horseback riding is prohibited on snowmobile, ATV/UTV, bicycle, or ski trails when trails are open for said uses. Oneida County has no designated equestrian trails.

940.2.6 Undesignated Cross Country Ski Trails

All trails/logging roads on County Forest property are open to cross country skiing unless designated as a snowmobile or ATV/UTV trail.

940.2.7 Designated Cross Country Ski Trails

- a. Washburn Lake Silent Sports Trails Area – Trail network that is groomed for both ski-skating and tracked skiing along with snowshoeing. Snowshoeing is only allowed on designated single-track trails as signed.
- b. Cassian Two-Way Trail – groomed for tracked skiing only.
- c. Nose Lake Ski Trail – groomed for tracked skiing only. Dogs are allowed on this trail.
- d. Enterprise Winter Recreation Trail – provides primitive cross country ski and snowshoe trails along with groomed fat-tire bike trail.

940.2.8 Other

Other non-motorized recreational trail uses including, but not limited to, snowshoeing, dog sledding and hunting on foot are permitted on all trails except where otherwise designated as closed to such uses. Almon Park Nature Trail and the Enterprise trails are designated and signed as snowshoe trails and Washburn Non-Motorized Trail area has designated snowshoe trails.

940.2.9 Future Non-Motorized Trail Systems

The development of additional non-motorized trail systems will include careful consideration of public demand, analysis of user conflicts and potential damage to the natural resource. Trail system development should comply with the Outdoor Recreation Plan goals and referenced in SCORP or other regional planning documents.

Non-motorized trail systems generally are not supported by statewide grant programs. The County may require proof of an organized club or user group, with the ability to assist with maintenance and support of the trail and associated facilities. Appropriate trail passes or other user fees may be implemented as indicated in Section 915.

940.3 MOTORIZED RECREATION TRAILS

The use of motorized vehicles on the Forest continues to increase. The size, design, maneuverability and power of the vehicles have changed since the inception of motorized recreation trails. This has led to greater use, increased trail use conflicts, unnecessary environmental damage, and increased expenses for trail maintenance. Additional regulation on these types of recreational vehicles may be needed to protect the Forest and limit adverse

impacts on non-motorized uses. As motorized recreation trail uses evolve, the regulations applied to these uses will be revised as needed in order to provide safe trails with limited user conflict and minimal environmental disturbance.

940.3.1 Designated Snowmobile Trails

Designated snowmobile trails are those recognized by the Committee as the official trails within the County. Two types of groomed snowmobile trails are authorized on the Forest: State-Funded Trails and Local Club Trails. The Forestry, Land and Recreation Department manages the snowmobile trail system in Oneida County. Designated snowmobile trails include all snowmobile trails that receive State funding under Ch. 350 of the WI State Statutes and are sponsored by the Oneida County Forestry Department, trails in which Oneida County holds the land use agreement, and trails on land owned by Oneida County. These trails are designated on the official County snowmobile map, a copy of which is kept on file in the Forestry Office. Annual agreements outline the operation, maintenance and insurance obligations between the County and local clubs. The County contracts with the following snowmobile clubs for trail maintenance:

- Bo-Boen Snowmobile Club
- Cross Country Cruisers Snowmobile Club
- Hodag Sno-Trails Club
- Minocqua Forest Riders
- New-Tom Snow Fleas
- Northern Trails Unlimited
- Northwoods Passage
- Sugar Camp Snowmobile Club
- Three Lakes Trails, Inc

The County periodically assists with mowing, grading, signing or other trail maintenance projects as needed.

The County shall inspect and monitor bridges and other infrastructure on the trail system and attempt to secure funding from grants or other sources to periodically replace or rehabilitate infrastructure as needed.

The Oneida [County Code](#) section 14.15 regulates snowmobile trails. Please refer to this section of the County Code for regulations regarding snowmobiling. A summary of rules and regulations relating to snowmobile trails is as follows:

- a. Snowmobile trails are closed to cars and trucks during the period when trails are officially open for snowmobiling. Snowmobile Trails have the potential to be open from December 1st through March 31st. Only snowmobiles, groomers and vehicles authorized to maintain the trail system are permitted on the snowmobile trails during this winter period. Access to timber harvests via snowmobile trails may be permitted if no other viable access is available.
- b. The Forest Director in consultation with the Forestry Department's County Snowmobile Coordinator and Clubs will make determinations to officially open and close snowmobile trails based on snow and maintenance conditions.
- c. Snowmobile trails used for logging access during snowmobile season will be posted with signs warning users of activity. When vehicle use is authorized, contractors must maintain the trail in a safe, useable condition, free from debris and equipment, and the trail must be kept snow covered during the snowmobile season. Trails must be returned to their original condition or better at the end of each period of use and at the end of the contract. If deemed necessary by the Department, trails may be closed or re-routed during timber sale activity to prevent safety issues for the trail users.
- d. ATV/UTV's are not permitted on groomed snowmobile trails when trails are open for snowmobiling unless the trail has been designated and signed as a dual use snowmobile/ATV/UTV trail or authorized by the County.

940.3.1.1 Trail Types

Oneida County recognizes several different classifications of snowmobile trail:

County Funded Trails – these are state approved and funded trail miles on designated trails that are part of a statewide network of trail systems. Snowmobile registration fees and gas tax allotments fund grants that support maintenance, rehabilitation and development of these trails. There are approximately 413.5 miles of funded trails in Oneida County, with approximately 82 miles on County Forest Lands.

State Sponsored Trails – these are state approved trail miles on designated trails that are part of a statewide network of trail systems on state lands. Snowmobile registration fees and gas tax allotments fund grants that support the maintenance, rehabilitation and development of these trails. There are approximately 40 miles of state funded trails in Oneida County, all of which are on State Lands or on long-term easements.

Club Trails – these are trails that are not funded by State maintenance grants. These trails are maintained and groomed by local clubs. These trails may not meet eligibility requirements of a funded trail and may dead end at local businesses. There are approximately 312 miles of club trails in Oneida County, with approximately 15 miles lying on County Forest lands.

940.3.1.2 *Trail Maintenance*

Oneida County contracts with nine clubs for the maintenance of the snowmobile trail system. These clubs are responsible for the development, brushing, signing and grooming of trails. The county assists with development of trails by preparing development plans, and bidding out and administering trail and bridge construction and rehabilitation projects. The County is the conduit by which maintenance grant funds are distributed to the clubs to reimburse them for expenses incurred in the above activities.

940.3.1.3 *Future Snowmobile Trails*

The Committee shall have jurisdiction over any trail development proposals. It is recommended that future trails be considered only after careful consideration of costs, benefits and impacts and as part of a larger planning effort.

Oneida County deems that the existing number of snowmobile trail miles is sufficient to satisfy public demand. Proposals to relocate trails or to make adjustments to the existing trail system will be encouraged where there are concerns of public safety or environmental damage. Funded trails that are lost due to the loss of a land use agreement will be re-routed or relocated, if possible, by the County and cooperating club. Club trails should be evaluated for maintenance funding application when deemed appropriate.

940.3.2 *Designated All Terrain / Utility Terrain Vehicle (ATV/UTV) Trails*

Designated ATV/UTV trails are those recognized by the Committee as official trails within the County. These may lie on County, State, private or other agency lands. Annual

agreements outline the operation, maintenance and insurance obligations between the County and local clubs. The County contracts with the following ATV/UTV clubs for trail maintenance:

- Hodag 4-Wheelers ATV/UTV Club
- Little Rice ATV Club
- Pel-cho Mudd Nutz
- Lakeland ATV/UTV Club

It is anticipated that during the time covered by this plan, additional segments of funded ATV/UTV trails will be developed and additional ATV/UTV clubs will be under contract with the County for maintenance of these trails.

There are numerous types of designated ATV/UTV trails managed throughout the state. The following are the different types of trails available statewide:

940.3.2.1 Trail Types

Of the following trail types, Oneida County currently only has Funded Summer ATV/UTV Trails and Troutes. In the future, additional trail types may be designated in Oneida County as the opportunity or need arises.

Funded Winter ATV/UTV Trails – trails that are open to ATV/UTV traffic during the winter snow season. Many of these ATV/UTV trails also serve as designated snowmobile trails. Oneida County currently has no Funded Winter ATV/UTV trails due to DNR regulations, little public use and the clubs' reluctance to maintain winter trails.

Funded Summer ATV/UTV Trails – these are trail systems funded for only spring/summer/fall use. These trails are open from May 22nd to December 2nd. There are approximately 32 miles lying on the County Forest. Currently all Oneida County ATV/UTV trails fall into this category. ATV/UTV registration fees and gas tax allotments are used to fund grants that support the maintenance, rehabilitation and development of these trails.

Funded Year-Round Trails – these are trail systems funded for both winter and summer use. Oneida County does not currently have any Funded Year Round Trails.

Funded Trout Trails – The ATV/UTV program does not allow for full maintenance funding on ATV/UTV trails that are open to highway traffic (cars, trucks, etc.). ATV/UTV trails with this dual use, that were maintained and funded prior to August 1, 2012, are still funded at 100% of the annual per mile maintenance rate. Troutes funded after August 1, 2012 allow for partial funding under the following:

- County Forest Gas Tax Roads – these are gas tax roads used as a connector to trails or services and are funded at a rate determined by the full per mile funding rate, less gas tax funding rates, not to exceed 50% of the full maintenance funding rate. Oneida County maintains four miles of County Forest Road Troutes. Prior to 2012, Oneida County did not have any Troutes. It is the intention of Oneida County to open an additional 26.93 miles of County Forest gas tax roads to ATV/UTV use in the near future. Application will be made to obtain funding for additional Trout miles for all eligible segments of County Forest roads.

Club Trails – these trails are not funded under the state ATV/UTV program. In some cases, these are trails that are maintained and may be added as a funded trail at a future date. Oneida County currently recognizes zero miles of club trails.

940.3.2.2 *ATV/UTV Trail Maintenance*

For the purpose of ATV/UTV trails, the term sustainability is intended to mean the development of a trail surface that is maintainable in such a way as to not cause significant environmental degradation through erosion, runoff or unnecessary destruction of native vegetation. It appears evident there are no circumstances where an ATV/UTV trail can be considered sustainable without intensive maintenance. Of primary importance, trail surfaces need to be conducive to periodic grading or restoration that promotes water runoff from the trail surface and eliminates the opportunity for water flow to gain velocity, causing erosion.

Oneida County currently contracts with four ATV/UTV clubs for the maintenance of the ATV/UTV trail system. Clubs are responsible for the development, brushing,

signing and grading of the trails. The county assists with development of trails by preparing development plans, bidding out and administering trail or bridge construction and rehabilitation projects. The County is the conduit by which maintenance grant funds are distributed to the clubs to reimburse them for expenses incurred in the above activities.

It is anticipated that as new trails are planned and developed throughout the county in the future, additional clubs will be under contract with the County for development and maintenance of trails.

The County shall inspect and monitor trails, Troutes, bridges and other infrastructure and attempt to secure funding from grants, or other sources, to periodically replace or rehabilitate trail surfaces or bridges as needed.

940.3.2.3 Future ATV/UTV Trails

The use and popularity of ATV's and UTV's increased dramatically over the period of the 2006-2020 County Forest Plan and continues to increase yearly. Increased usage of trail systems proved there is a tremendous need for much higher levels of trail maintenance in order to mitigate and minimize environmental damages.

Adding ATV/UTV trails should be done as part of larger planning efforts that incorporate considerations for impact on other users and user groups; how future trail systems will be maintained; and impacts on the natural resources. New ATV/UTV trail systems will only be considered with the following framework:

- Trails should be designed and planned to connect communities.
- Loop trails will be discouraged unless part of a larger trail system that connects communities or connects to other trail systems.
- Dead end trails will not be sanctioned as part of the County ATV/UTV trail system unless the trail dead-ends at parking facility.
- Intensive use areas may or may not be permitted. Intensive use areas are areas designated and designed for more rigorous riding of ATV/UTV's. Activities may include but are not limited to sand pits, mud pits, hill climbs and race tracks. Oneida County currently has no intensive use areas and none are planned in the near future. If in the future, it is deemed to be in the best interest

of the County, intensive use areas may be permitted and developed only if they can be shown to be sustainable and non degrading to the environment.

- New trails will only be allowed if they fit within an ATV/UTV plan established by the Department in conjunction with the clubs and approved by the Committee.
- Trails will only be considered on suitable soils and in appropriate locations unless measures are taken to create trails that are sustainable and cause no adverse environmental issues.

Oneida County has an ATV/UTV Council comprised of four contracted clubs plus six other local clubs that currently do not have any trails but are working toward establishing them. This Council, including the Department, has quarterly meetings and one of the main goals is to establish more ATV/UTV trails throughout Oneida County. It is critical that trail layout and design is done in such a way as to prevent erosion, soil loss and other environmental degradation. Trails must be developed in such a manner as to be sustainable and safe for all users. For the purpose of this plan, sustainability is defined as follows:

Sustainability – For the purpose of ATV/UTV trails, the term sustainability is intended to mean the development of a trail surface that is maintainable. It appears evident there are no circumstances where an ATV/UTV trail can be considered sustainable without intensive maintenance. Of primary importance, trail surfaces need to be conducive to periodic grading or restoration that promotes water runoff from the trail surface and eliminates the opportunity for water flow to gain velocity, causing erosion. Trails should be built with a slight crown and appropriate ditching to allow for adequate and proper water dispersal.

To this end, the construction and development of new ATV/UTV trails are to comply with the **WCFA ATV/UTV/ORV Trail Standards**, which is appended to this Plan.

940.3.3 Undesignated All Terrain / Utility Terrain Vehicle (ATV/UTV) Trails

All logging roads and trails are open to ATV/UTV use unless closed with a berm, rocks, gate or other physical barrier or if they are signed as closed to motorized or ATV/UTV vehicle traffic. Trails that are designated as walking only, hiking, biking, skiing,

snowshoeing or snowmobile only are not open to ATV/UTV traffic. No cross-country, off trail travel is permitted.

940.3.4 Other Public Roads

Other units of government such as the County Highway Department, Towns, Cities and the State may, at their discretion and within the laws and regulations of the state and local governments, open roads to ATV/UTV use. The Department does not recognize these road routes as part of any County trail system unless they are deemed to be connector routes between off-road trails at which time they will be added to the officially recognized trail system. The county does not inspect these road routes nor do they publish them on maps of the trail system.

940.3.5 Designated Off-Road Motorcycle Trails

Oneida County currently does not have any designated Off-Road Motorcycle Trails. Off-road motorcycles are not permitted on funded ATV/UTV trails, snowmobile trails or County Forest gas tax roads. Motorcycles that are licensed and street legal are permitted on all County Forest gas tax roads. Off-road motorcycles are also permitted on undesignated logging roads that have not been designated as closed to motor vehicles by a physical barrier or signs.

940.3.6 Other Designated Motor Vehicle Trails

Oneida County currently does not have any trails specifically designated for other motor vehicle use. All motor vehicles are permitted on logging roads that have not been designated for other uses such as biking, hiking, ATV/UTV'ing and have not been designated as closed to motor vehicles by physical barriers or signs.

940.4 RECREATION TRAIL CONSTRUCTION/REHABILITATION PERMITS

940.4.1 Storm Water Discharge

In general, any trail construction or rehabilitation activities that disturb one acre or more of land will require a Storm Water Discharge Permit. There have been instances of inconsistent application of permit requirements statewide. In order to further define the County's understanding and implementation of permit requirements, the following current acceptable process will be used for determining when a permit is needed.

- The one-acre threshold will be determined by measuring/estimating new disturbance or disturbance of previously vegetated surfaces.
- Periodic grading of impervious or non- vegetated trail surfaces is not considered disturbance.

- Restoration of water filtration/diversion devices, such as sediment traps or catch basins is considered maintenance and not disturbance.
- Reconstruction of previously vegetated ditch lines as part of trail rehabilitation is considered disturbance.

940.4.2 Chapter 30 of Wis. State Statutes

Chapter 30 permits are required for bridges or culvert crossings of navigable waterways. These permits are classified either as general permits or individual permits depending on specific site conditions. These permits are not required for culvert or bridge crossings of non-navigable or intermittent streams, nor are they required to install a clear span bridge over wetlands.

940.4.3 Wetland Fill

Permits are required any time fill is placed in a wetland. Permits are available to fill small wetlands for recreational trail purposes. Wetland fill must be less than 10,000 square feet and the permit does not require wetland mitigation. Clear span bridge and boardwalks placed on pilings generally do not require a wetland fill permit. Puncheon style bridges do require a permit. DNR Water Regulations will be consulted during the planning phases of all construction/maintenance projects. Other entities such as the Army Corps of Engineers may also be consulted when appropriate.

945 RECREATION PROGRAM FUNDING AND GRANTS

945.1 RECREATION AREA FUNDING (PARKS, CAMPGROUNDS, DISC GOLF COURSE)

Funding for recreation areas is generally provided through budgeting tax levy funds for development, maintenance and rehabilitation. These budgeted funds are, to a certain extent, offset by user fees charged for recreational area usage and through grants. User fees include things such as trail passes and camping fees. Aid for Development of Local Parks (ADLP) funding is available for facility development or enhancement but there is normally a very high level of competition for these funds. County Conservation Aids grants are available for development of certain conservation related recreational facilities. The Recreational Trail Program (RTP) grants are available to help offset costs of developing and maintaining recreational trails and facilities.

945.2 RECREATION TRAIL FUNDING

945.2.1 Non-Motorized Trail Systems

At this time, there is very limited access to any grant funds that will assist with non-motorized recreational trail maintenance. The County relies on levy funds, trail passes, and RTP grants to fund the development and maintenance of non-motorized trails. The ski/bike trail club(s) contracted for the maintenance and development of non-motorized trails also fund a portion of the cost of non-motorized trails through both direct payment for development/maintenance and through in-kind volunteer labor. This funding source and volunteer labor are very important factors in the non-motorized trail system, without which, the trail systems would likely not be as extensive nor as well maintained as they are. As new funding sources become available, including new grant programs, the County will use these sources to the extent possible.

945.2.2 Motorized Trail Systems

There are numerous grant programs available to offset motorized trail system costs. Oneida County utilizes the following funding sources:

- Snowmobile Maintenance - \$300/mile plus supplemental funds, which can be an additional \$600/mile, and are subject to pro-ration based on state-wide funds available.
- ATV Summer Maintenance - \$700/mile
- ATV/UTV Winter Maintenance - \$100/mile
- UTV Maintenance - \$100/mile
- ATV/UTV Rehabilitation - 100% grants
- ATV/UTV Development - 100% grants
- ATV/UTV Troute Maintenance - full per mile funding rate, less gas tax funding rate, not to exceed 50% of the full maintenance funding rate.

950 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RECREATION PROGRAM

The following are recommended changes that this Plan recognizes as improvements or enhancements to the recreation program.

950.1 ENFORCEMENT NEEDS

Oneida County has employed a Limited Term Employee (LTE) Park Ranger during the summer months. The duties of this position include patrolling recreational facilities and the County Forest to monitor compliance with regulations and county code. This position has helped reduce the instances of code and regulation violations at recreational facilities through

showing a presence outside normal working hours. It is the intention of the Department to continue with this position.

Additional support from a Sheriff's Deputy designated as Recreation Deputy is provided to help patrol recreational trails such as snowmobile and ATV/UTV trails along with assisting in investigating other violations such as illegal dumping, illegal tree stands, timber theft and the like. Continuation of this program is needed to reduce regulation and code violations occurring on the county forest.

950.2 STAFF NEEDS

Current staff levels are adequate to maintain the operations of the department at this time. In the event additional duties are assigned to the department, or significant expansion of the current programs occur, additional staff may be required to meet the additional workload. Continued use of two summer LTE's for parks maintenance and trail mowing is imperative. Without these positions, maintenance of recreational facilities will not be adequate to provide safe recreational opportunities for the public.

950.3 CAMPGROUNDS

The department manages one campground consisting of 11 sites, 2 hand pump wells and 2 pit toilet facilities. If it is deemed that this is inadequate to provide the general public with sufficient camping opportunities, this campground may be expanded or a new campground(s) may be developed.

950.4 PARKS

The two existing parks, Perch Lake Park and Almon Park provide a variety of outdoor activities to the public. These include picnicking, swimming, hiking, disc golfing, fishing and skiing/biking/snowshoeing. There is an opportunity to provide additional park facilities at the recently acquired Gillette/Wickham Lake property. These facilities may include parking lots, restrooms, fishing/boat docking piers, hiking trails, fishing and boating. Hiking trails and remote campsites are development possibilities on this property.

950.5 TRAILS

Additional recreational trails are likely to be developed over the period covered by this plan. Non-Motorized trails (skiing/biking/snowshoeing) are continually improved and often expanded to provide more and better silent trail opportunities. Additions to the Washburn Non-motorized trails, the Nose Lake Trails, the Cassian Trails and the Enterprise Primitive Skiing/Biking trails are outlined in a five-year trail plan developed by the Ski/Bike club contracted to maintain these trails systems. This five-year trail plan is presented to the

Committee for approval every five years. Improvements and expansion of non-motorized trails within these systems are to be outlined in this plan in order for them to be approved.

The snowmobile trail system is currently deemed adequate to serve the snowmobiling needs of the county. Trails may be re-routed and improved when the need arises. As trail segments are lost due to the loss of land use agreements, a concerted effort will be made to find alternate routes to serve the purpose of the trail(s) being lost. Non-Funded club trails will be continually evaluated for application to be placed in the funded trail program.

The ATV/UTV trail system will likely expand during the period of this plan. A county-wide trail network plan is being developed by the Department and the ATV/UTV Council. The purpose of this plan will be to provide guidance in the development of a sustainable county-wide trail system that will serve additional communities within the County. Upon completion of this plan, a copy may be obtained or viewed at the Forestry Office, Oneida County Courthouse in Rhineland, WI.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN
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CHAPTER 1000

Rev. 01/12/21

APPENDIX

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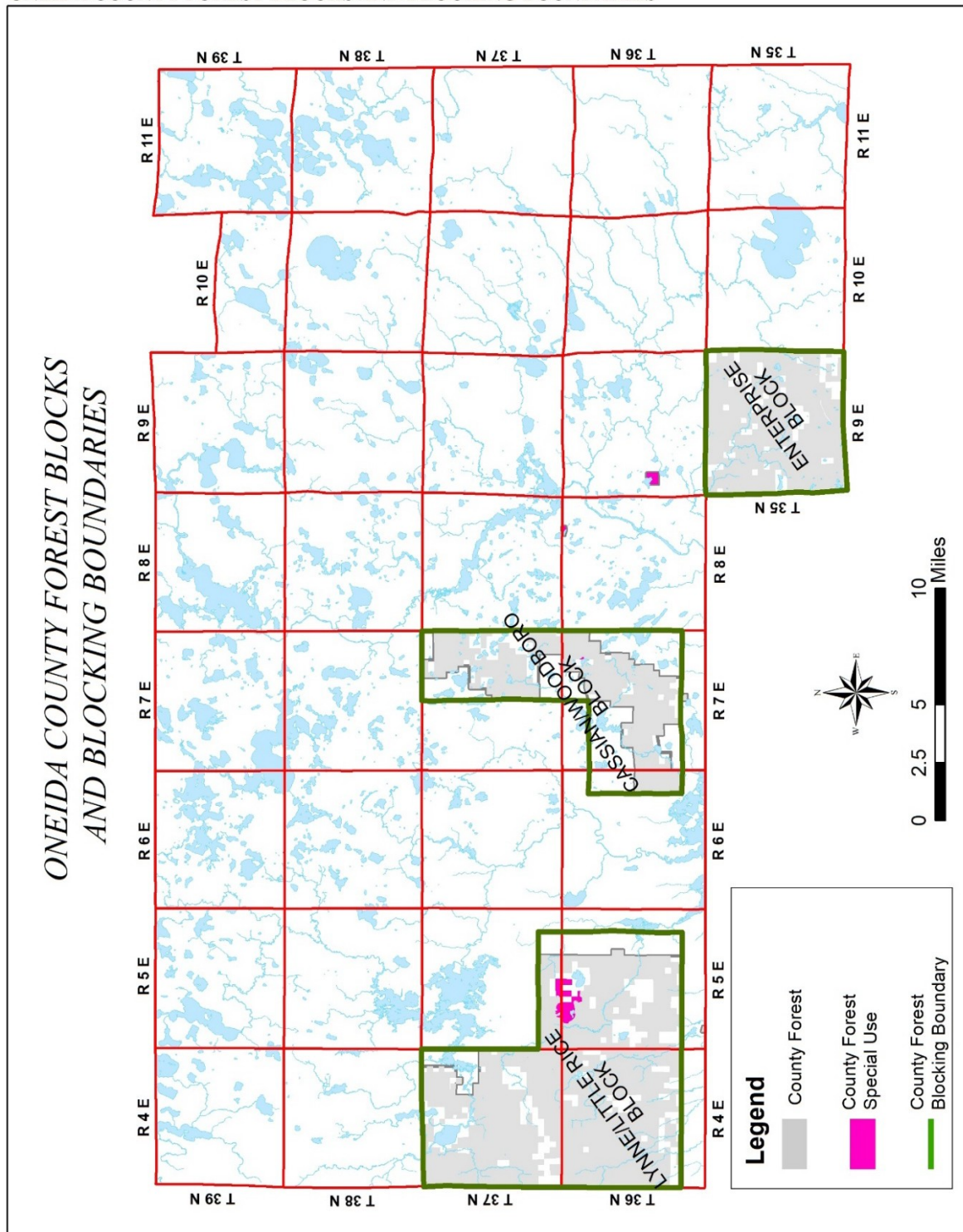
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NOTE: All contracts, county code, maps and tables listed in this fifteen-year plan were current as of the drafting of this plan. Oneida County shall be free to change such documents from time to time, either due to updating by County legal staff, through negotiations with other parties to contracts, or otherwise. A copy of the most current versions of the documents and maps contained herein are available upon request from the Oneida County Forestry Office in the courthouse, Rhinelander, WI.

1000 RESOURCE MAPS AND TABLES

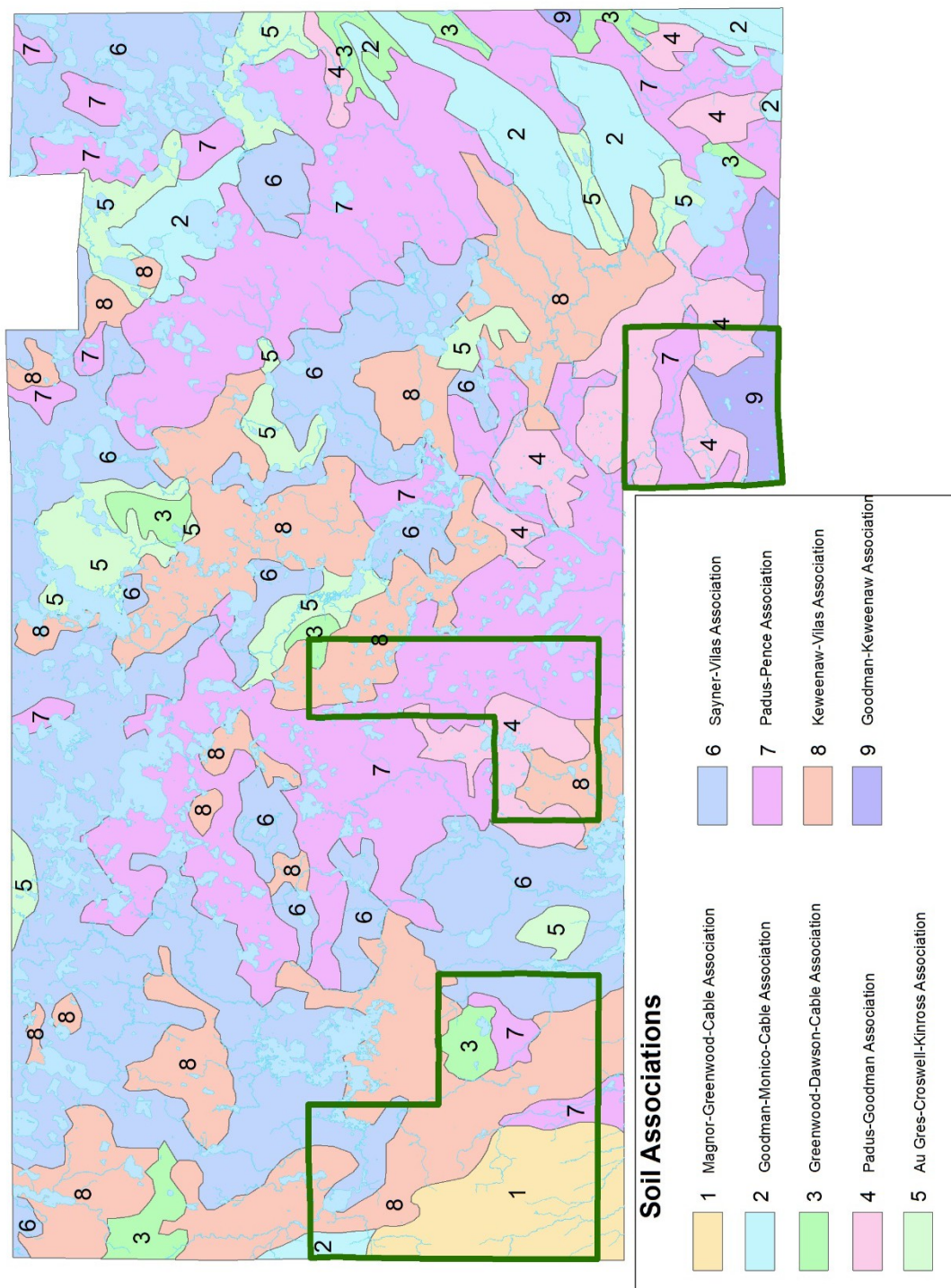
1000.1 MAP OF COUNTY FOREST LOCATION AND OFFICIAL COUNTY FOREST BLOCKING BOUNDARY

ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST BLOCKS AND BLOCKING BOUNDARIES

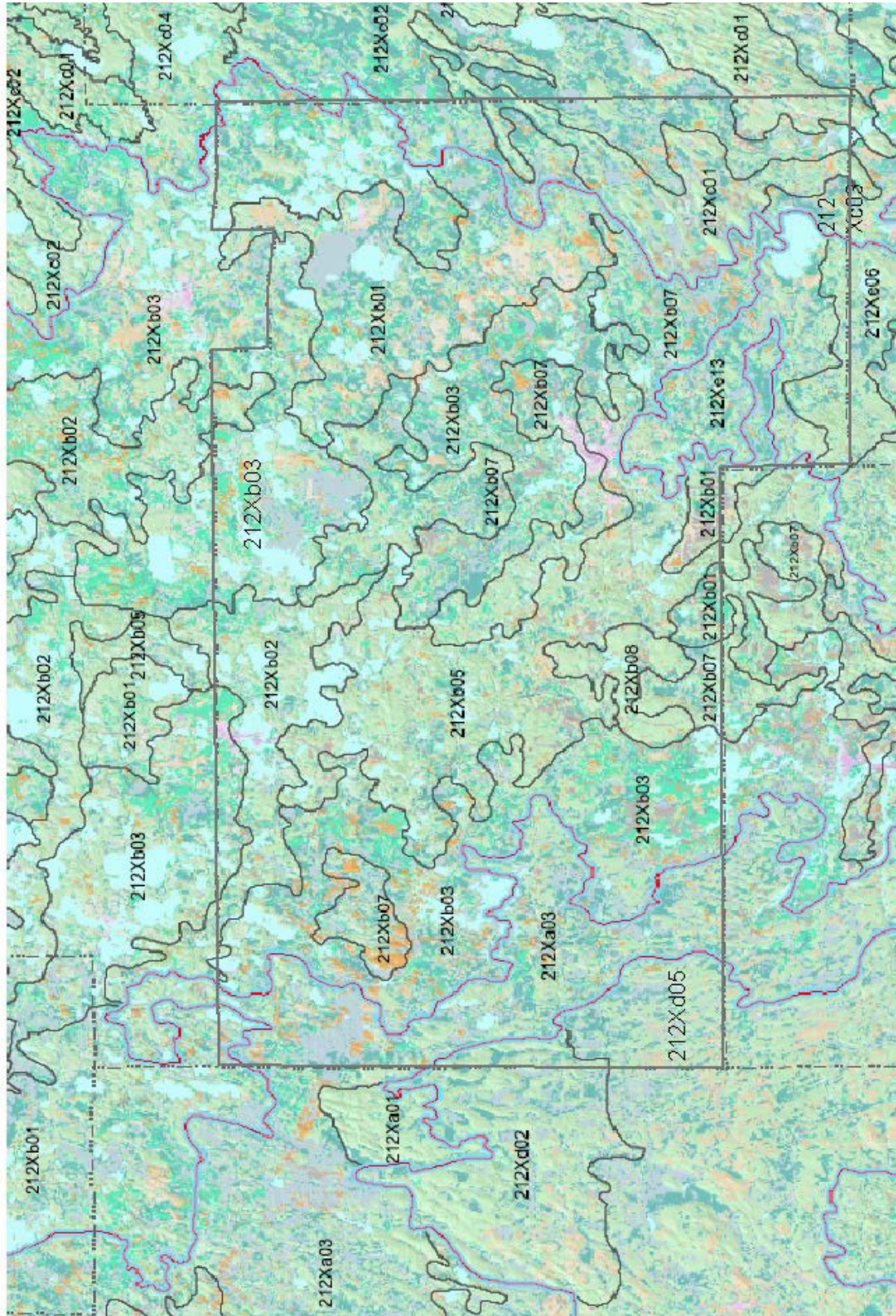


1000.2 GENERAL SOILS MAP OF ONEIDA COUNTY

Oneida County General Soils Map



National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units for Oneida County



(NHFEU)

See Next page for details

NHFEU's Found in Oneida County

212X NORTHERN HIGHLAND SECTION

212Xa Glidden Loamy Drift Plain Subsection

212Xa01 Glidden Drumlins

212Xa02 Phillips Plains

212Xa03 Chequamegon Washed Till and

212Xe05 Perkiinstown Moraines

212Xe06 Elcho Moraines

212Xe07 Kempster Moraines

212Xe08 Summit Lake Moraines

212Xe09 Newood Moraines

Outwash

212Xb Northern Highlands Pitted Outwash Subsection

212Xb01 Northern Highland Outwash Plains

212Xb02 Vilas-Oneida Sandy Hills

212Xb03 Vilas-Oneida Outwash Plains

212Xb04 Powell Marsh

212Xb05 Vilas-Oneida Loamy Hills

212Xb06 Trout Lake Drumlins

212Xb07 Oneida Sandy Moraines

212Xb08 Rhinelander Moraines

212Xe04 Pikes Peak Moraines

212Xc Brule and Paint River Drumlinized Ground
Moraine Subsection

212Xc01 Iron River Argonne Drumlins

212Xc02 Argonne Outwash Plains

212Xc03 Pickerel Plains

212Xc04 Nicolet Hills

212Xc05 Popple River Knolls

212Xc06 Wabeno Drumlins

212Xc07 Wabeno Plains

212Xc09 Bass Lake Drumlins

212Xd Central Northwest Wisconsin Loess Plains
Subsection

212Xd01 Pipestone Hills

212Xd02 Flambeau Silt Capped Drumlins

212Xd03 Exeland Plains

212Xd04 Chippewa-Flambeau Plains

212Xd05 Jump River Ground Moraine

212Xe Perkiinstown End Moraine Subsection

212Xe01 Meteor Hills

212Xe02 Blue Hills

212Xe03 Maple Hill Moraines

212Xe10 Harrison Hills 212Xe11 Black

River Moraines 212Xe12 Irma Moraines

212Xe13 Rhinelander Moraines

212Xf Hayward Stagnation Moraines Subsection

212Xf01 Cable Rolling Outwash

212Xf02 Telemark Washed End Moraine

212Xf03 Lac Court Oreilles Plaines 212Xf04

Hayward Moraines

212Xf05 Frog Creek Moraines 212Xf06

Smokey Hill Basal Ridge 212Xf07

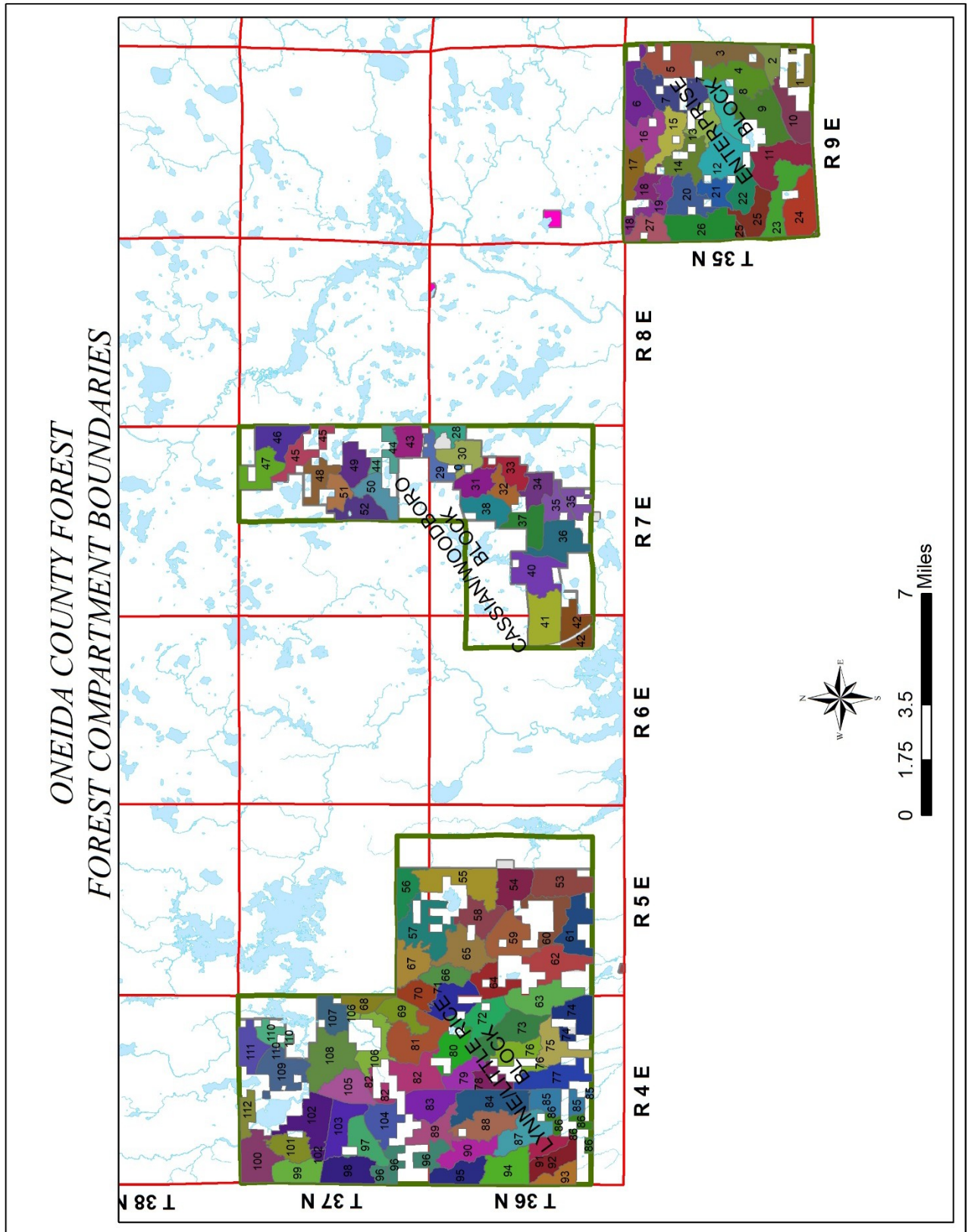
Birchwood Lakes

212Xg Crystal Falls Plains and Hill Subsection

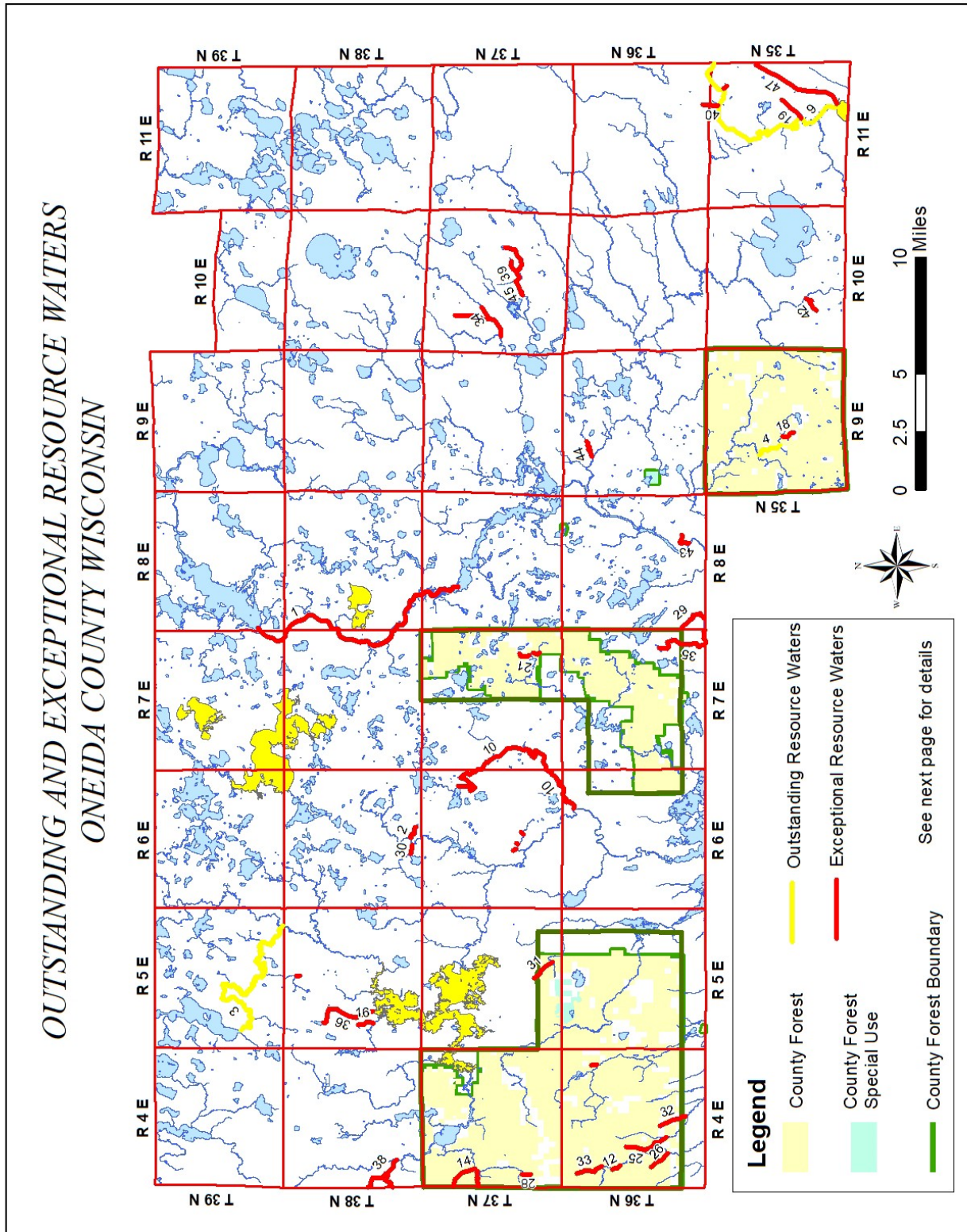
212Xg05 Florance

212Xg06 Fenn Moraines Moraines

1000.4 ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST COMPARTMENT MAPS



1000.5 OUTSTANDING/EXCEPTIONAL RESOURCE WATERS



See next page for details

List of Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters

Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters - Oneida County WI			
	Waterbody Name	Portion Within ORW/ERW Classification	Status
1	Big Carr Lake	All	ORW
2	Clear Lake	All	ORW
3	Little Tomahawk Lake	All	ORW
4	Noisy Creek	Jct with Camp 6 Creek upstream to S21 T35 R9	ORW
5	Tomahawk Lake	All	ORW
6	Two Sisters Lake	All	ORW
7	Upper Post Lake	All	ORW
8	Willow Reservoir	All	ORW
9	Wolf River	All	ORW
10	Bearskin Creek	From Tomahawk River to Little Bearskin Lake	ERW
11	Creek 12-8 T36N R4E	All	ERW
12	Creek 18-1 T36N R4E	All	ERW
13	Creek 18-3 T37N R4E	All	ERW
14	Creek 18-4 T37N R4E	All	ERW
15	Creek 2-13 T35N R11E	All	ERW
16	Creek 20-11 T38N R5E	All	ERW
17	Creek 21-14 T35N R9E	All	ERW
18	Creek 21-8 T35N R9E	All	ERW
19	Creek 22-16 T35N R11E	All	ERW
20	Creek 26-13 T37N R7E	All	ERW
21	Creek 26-4 T37N R7E	All	ERW
22	Creek 27-7 T37N R6E	All	ERW
23	Creek 28-1 T37N R6E	All	ERW
24	Creek 28-2 T37N R6E	All	ERW
25	Creek 28-6 T36N R4E	All	ERW
26	Creek 29-8 T36N R4E	All	ERW
27	Creek 3-7 T38N R5E	All	ERW
28	Creek 30-3 T37N R4E	All	ERW
29	Creek 31-15 T36N R8E	All	ERW
30	Creek 34-10 T38N R6E	All	ERW
31	Creek 34-14 T37N R5E	All	ERW
32	Creek 34-6 T36N R4E	All	ERW
33	Creek 7-13 T36N R4E	All	ERW
34	Gudegast Creek	Bridge S 16 & 17 (T37N R10E) to Jennie Webber Creek	ERW
35	Jennie Creek	All	ERW
36	Langley Creek	All	ERW
37	Lela Creek	All	ERW
38	Little Willow Creek	All	ERW
39	Outlet Creek	All	ERW
40	Palm Springs and Creek	All	ERW
41	Pine Creek	All	ERW
42	Planert Creek	All	ERW
43	Radtke Spring	All	ERW
44	Slaughterhouse Creek	E from Pelican Road. 0.7 mi	ERW
45	Starks Creek	Tenderfoot Lake Road upstream	ERW
46	Stony Creek	All	ERW

1000.6 SURFACE WATERS OF ONEIDA COUNTY

1005 LAWS AND ORDINANCES

1005.1 COUNTY FOREST LAW (s. 28.11, Wis. Stats) *

28.11 ADMINISTRATION OF COUNTY FORESTS

28.11(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.

28.11(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.

28.11(3) POWERS OF COUNTY BOARD. The county board of any such county may:

28.11(3)(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.

28.11(3)(b) Establish regulations for the use of the county forests by the public and to provide penalties for their enforcement.

28.11(3)(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.

28.11(3)(d) Enter into cooperative agreements with the department for protection of county forests from fire.

28.11(3)(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.

28.11(3)(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.

28.11(3)(g) Establish forest plantations and engage in silviculture, forest management and timber sales.

28.11(3)(h) Engage in other projects designed to achieve optimum development of the forest.

28.11(3)(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.

28.11(3)(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.

28.11(3)(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. No timber sale contract is required for wood removed under this paragraph.

28.11(4) ENTRY OF COUNTY FOREST LANDS

28.11(4)(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.

28.11(4)(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.

28.11(4)(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".

28.11(4)(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.

28.11(4)(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.

28.11(4)(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.

28.11(5) (5) MANAGEMENT.

28.11(5)(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.

28.11(5)(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.

28.11(5m) COUNTY FOREST ADMINISTRATION GRANTS.

28.11(5m)(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:

28.11(5m)(a)1. Up to 50 percent of the forester's salary.

28.11(5m)(a)2. Up to 50 percent of the forester's fringe benefits, except that the fringe benefits may not exceed 40 percent of the forester's salary.

28.11(5m)(am) The department may make grants, from the appropriation under s. 20.370 (5) (bw), to counties having lands entered under sub. (4) to fund up to 50 percent of the costs of a county's annual dues to a nonprofit organization that provides leadership and counsel to that county's forest administrator and that functions as an organizational liaison to the department. The total amount

that the department may award in grants under this paragraph in any fiscal year may not exceed \$50,000.

28.11(5m)(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.

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).

28.11(5r) Sustainable forestry grants.

28.11(5r)(a) In this subsection, "sustainable forestry" has the meaning given in s. 28.04 (1) (e).

28.11(5r)(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.

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).

28.11(6) TIMBER SALES AND CULTURAL CUTTINGS.

28.11(6)(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. 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.

28.11(6)(b) PROCEDURES.

28.11(6)(b)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.

28.11(6)(b)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.

28.11(6)(b)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.

28.11(6)(b)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.

28.11(6)(c) Exception. Paragraph (b) 1. Does not apply to any sale of timber that has been damaged by fire, snow, hail, ice, insects, disease, or wind. Timber damaged in that manner that is located in a county forest may be sold by the county forestry committee for that county on such terms and in such manner as the committee determines is in the best interest of the county.

28.11(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.

28.11(8) STATE CONTRIBUTION.

28.11(8)(a) (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.

28.11(8)(b) FORESTRY FUND ACCOUNT.

28.11(8)(b)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.

28.11(8)(b)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).

28.11(8)(b)3. All payments made under this paragraph shall be known as the "forestry fund account".

28.11(9) COUNTY FOREST SEVERANCE SHARE.

28.11(9)(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 percent 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 percent of the severance tax schedule in effect under s. 77.06 (2).

28.11(9)(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:

28.11(9)(ag)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.

28.11(9)(ag)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.

28.11(9)(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).

28.11(9)(ar)1. 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.

28.11(9)(ar)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).

28.11(9)(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.

28.11(9)(c) No severance share payment is required for wood removed from county forest lands for energy conservation projects established under sub. (3) (k).

28.11(9)(d) Of the gross receipts from all timber sales on the county forests 10 percent 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.

28.11(11) WITHDRAWALS.

28.11(11)(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.

28.11(11)(a)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.

28.11(11)(a)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.

28.11(11)(a)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.

28.11(11)(a)5. 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.

28.11(11)(a)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.

28.11(11)(a)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.

28.11(11)(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.

28.11(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).

28.11(13) REVIEW. All orders of the department made under this section may be reviewed under ss. 227.52 to 227.58.

28.11 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; 2003 a. 242; 2005 a. 48; 2007 a. 20.

28.11 Cross-reference: See also ch. NR 48 and ss. NR 1.24, 47.60 to 47.75, and 302.03, Wis. adm. code.

A county forest withdrawal appeal review committee under sub. (11) (a) is not a 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.

Conservation easements and restrictive covenants are permissible in county forests as long as they are consistent with and do not interfere with the purposes of county forests and the management plans properly developed for them under the county forest law. OAG 08-10.

1005.2 COUNTY ORDINANCES

1005.2.1 County Forestry Ordinance

ARTICLE I

General Provisions

§ 14.01. Forestry, Land and Outdoor Recreation Committee.

(1) Appointment. The County Board hereby assigns administration of the County Forestry Department to the Forestry, Land, and Outdoor Recreation Committee of the County Board.

(2) Definitions. [Amended by Ord. No. 53-2008]

ADMINISTRATOR — The Oneida County Forest Administrator.

ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV) — A vehicle as defined in § 340.1(2g), Wis. Stats.

BOARD — The Oneida County Board of Supervisors.

CAMPING — The use of any shelter such as a tent, trailer, or motor vehicle for temporary residence or sleeping purposes.

CLOSED ROAD OR TRAIL — A road or trail will be considered closed when designated as such by the presence of gates, signs, rocks, or earthen berms.

COMMITTEE — The Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Outdoor Recreation Committee of the Oneida County Board of Supervisors.

COUNTY — Oneida County.

COUNTY FOREST — Those lands owned by Oneida County and entered under the County Forest Law § 28:11, Wis. Stats., either as Forest Lands or as Special Use Designation Lands.

COUNTY FOREST ROAD SYSTEM — That system on which Oneida County receives State of Wisconsin, Department of Transportation road aids and are indicated as County Forest roads in the County Forest Ten- Year Plan.

COUNTY FOREST TEN-YEAR PLAN — The Oneida County Forest Ten- Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

D.N.R. — Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

DEPARTMENT — The Oneida County Forestry Department.

MOTORIZED VEHICLE — An engine powered device designed for transporting people or materials, including but not limited to, automobiles, snowmobiles, trucks, motorcycles, all terrain vehicles, mini-bikes, go-carts, dune buggies, air-boats, air-cushioned craft, golf carts, and heavy equipment both wheeled and tracked.

- (3) Powers and Duties. Subject to budget limitations, the Committee is responsible for the activities and functions required of it in the administration of the County forest and County recreation areas as provided in this General Code and in accordance with the County Forest Ten-Year Plan.
- (a) An annual work plan will be prepared along with the Department's annual budget for approval through the County Board's budget process. The work plan and budget shall serve as a directive to the Committee and shall establish the limits as well as the purpose for which expenditures may be made. It shall also be in conformity with the long range goals set forth in the County Forest Ten-Year Plan.
 - (b) The Committee shall direct and supervise the Department. It shall employ an Administrator as its agent in the management and regulation of the County Forest and the County recreational facilities as set forth in County Code § 1.02 (2)(d). It shall employ such additional competent personnel as the Board may authorize to direct, perform and enforce the administrative and management functions of this chapter.
 - (c) The Committee shall establish and maintain a forest headquarters for office space and the housing of machinery, tools, equipment and supplies needed in conducting forestry operations.
 - (d) 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 and equipment required for the operation of the Department.
 - (e) The Committee may negotiate for the acquisition of lands for the purpose of inclusion into the County Forest or for recreation purposes. This may be done by purchase, gift, exchange, or bequest and such acquisitions shall be presented to the County Board for its ratification before it may be consummated.
 - (f) 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 lands only to units of government or to contractors if those contractors are using the materials for public works. The County Board retains the power to grant permits for metallic mining operations on County lands.

- (g) The Committee shall prepare and present an annual report of the Department's activities to the County Board. The report shall include statistics showing work accomplished and at what cost. Such reports shall be in sufficient detail so that performance of the Department may be measured.

(4) Administration of the Forest.

- (a) The Committee shall do all things possible for the protection of the forests, whether from fire, insects, disease, trespass, damage by animals or other causes, in cooperation with the D.N.R.
- (b) The Committee shall be responsible for the location of survey lines and the appropriate monumentation of corners of County forest lands.
- (c) The Committee shall construct, improve and maintain a system of forest roads, trails and firebreaks and purchase and secure easements for access ways required to cross privately owned lands.
- (d) The Committee shall conduct forest improvement work, including thinning, pruning, reforestation, and tree release by either mechanical or chemical means.
- (e) The Committee shall cooperate with the D.N.R. in the determination of the allowable annual cut by establishment of cutting compartments and other necessary items for such plan.
- (f) The Committee shall manage the County forest resource and sell timber stumpage in accordance with a County Forest Ten-Year Plan and in cooperation with the D.N.R.

(5) Administration of Outdoor Recreation.[Amended by Ord. No. 53-2008]

- (a) The Committee shall have the management and regulatory control of all County recreation areas and, in the exercise of its authority over such matters, it shall have the powers and duties enumerated in this subsection.
- (b) Subject to budget limitations and in accordance with the Outdoor Recreation Plan approved by the Board and provisions of this chapter, the Committee shall establish, construct and maintain, wherever the County deems desirable within the forest and on County Forest Special Use Lands, recreation areas, including but not limited to, picnic grounds, designated campgrounds, waysides, public access roads and boat landings, scenic areas, and trail networks, and shall designate, mark and preserve places of natural or historic interest and significance. Management and regulatory control of all County recreation areas is specifically designated to this Committee.

- (c) In cooperation with the D.N.R., the Committee shall do all things necessary for the protection of the County recreation areas, boat landings and special use areas, whether from fire, insects, disease, trespass, vandalism, damage by animals or other causes.
- (d) The Committee shall cooperate with the D.N.R. on matters relating to game and fish management within the County forests.
- (e) The Committee is authorized to enter into agreements with the D.N.R. for projects under Fish and Game Aids (§ 23.09(12)), Wildlife Habitat Aids (§ 23.07(17)), and Snowmobile Trail funding programs (Ch. 350), and any other applicable Wisconsin Statutes.

ARTICLE II

County Forests

§ 14.05. County Forest Law.

- (1) Entry of lands under the County Forest Crop Law will be done according to the procedures laid out in the Ten-Year County Forest Land Use Plan.
- (2) No lands entered as County forest land shall be sold unless recommended by the Committee and subsequently authorized by resolution of the County Board. Notice of withdrawal of lands entered under the County Forest Law shall be filed with the D.N.R. pursuant to § 28.11(11), Wis. Stats., or any amendment thereto and as laid out in the County Forest Ten-Year Plan.

§ 14.06. Forest Finances.

- (1) State Allotments. All allotments from the D.N.R. to the County under § 28.11(8)(b), Wis. Stats., or any amendment thereto, for the purchase, development, preservation, management, and maintenance of the County forest lands shall be deposited in the State forestry aid fund. If any lands purchased from such funds are sold, the County shall restore the purchase price to the State forestry aid fund. All unexpended State forestry aid funds shall be nonlapsing.
- (2) General Fund. All monies received from the sale of timber stumpage, cut forest products, fees and use permits, sale of building materials, sale of surplus materials and equipment, fire and other damage collections, forfeited timber sale deposits or other revenue received by the Committee shall be deposited in the County General Fund, except income specified as follows:
 - (a) Of the stumpage money received, the amount as set forth in

§ 28.11(9), Wis. Stats., will be placed in Oneida County State Severance Payment Account for payment to the State. Money will be placed in Oneida County Town Severance Payment Account in the amount as set forth in § 28.11(9)(d), Wis. Stats., for payment to the towns. In addition money will be placed in Oneida County Land Purchase Account as set forth in the County Forest Ten-Year Plan.

- (b) Payments received from mineral lease activities will be placed in the Mineral Revenue Account.

§ 14.07. Forest Use Regulations. [Amended by Ord. No. 107-2005]

(1) Timber Cutting.

- (a) Commercial Cutting. Commercial cuttings shall be set up as timber sales with cooperation of the D.N.R and in compliance with provisions of § 28.11(6), Wis. Stats.

1. Terms governing these timber sales will be stated in written contracts between the County, with the Committee as its agent, and the contractor.
2. In timber sales where the "lock box-haul permit system" is designated in the contract, the transportation of wood or wood products past a lock box without depositing in the lock box the proper documentation in the proper manner, as designated in the timber sale contract, is prohibited.
3. Miscellaneous Forest Products. Treaty Rights Participants.

- a. Any treaty rights participant interested in gathering firewood as defined on the County's permit, tree bark, maple sap, lodge poles, boughs, marsh hay or berries not enumerated in County ordinances, from County land shall obtain a County gathering permit from the Department's Courthouse 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 subparagraph unless the gathering is inconsistent with the management plan for that property; the gathering will conflict with the pre-existing 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.

(b) Noncommercial Cutting. [Amended by Ord. No.53-2008]

1. Noncommercial wood such as dead or naturally fallen trees or logging residue from completed timber sales may be made available to the public under a fuel wood permit system.
 2. The cutting and/or removal of trees or wood products including, but not limited to, branches, tree tops, logging residue, firewood, pulpwood, boltwood or sawlogs from County-owned land is prohibited unless the person doing the cutting or removal is the holder of a valid written permit that has been issued by the Department, except registered campers staying at a designated campground may collect dead and down woody material for use as firewood during their registered stay at the campground.
 3. The cutting and/or removal of trees or wood products including but not limited to firewood, pulpwood, boltwood or sawlogs while holding a valid written permit but in violation of any term of that permit is prohibited.
 4. The cutting of merchantable trees or the seedlings and saplings of merchantable trees to create shooting lanes is prohibited.
- (c) Defacement of 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, buildings or other County property.
- (d) 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. Conifer cones may be collected for resale to nurseries for reforestation purposes.
- (e) Cutting or Tapping Trees Prohibited. Cutting or removal of Christmas trees or the tapping of trees for sap collection is prohibited except as allowed under § 14.07(1)(a)3 of this Code. [Amended by Res. No. 89-2014]
- (f) Removal of Materials Prohibited. Removal of materials such as rocks, sand, gravel, topsoil, or clay from the County forest, except as provided in § 14.01(2)(f) of this Code is prohibited.
- (g) Balsam boughs may be collected upon purchasing a permit from the County Forest Office. [Added by Res. No. 89-2014]
- (h) No person may cut, root up, or gather wild ginseng located on

County forest land. [Added by Res. No.89-2014]

(2) General Use. [Amended by Ord. No. 53-2008]

- (a) No overnight camping including tents, trailers, cars, trucks, portable hunting or fishing cabins is permitted in the County forests or its developed recreation areas. They are to be considered day use facilities. Except as follows:
 - 1. Temporary residence of logging crews.
 - 2. During the deer rifle hunting season camping will be allowed in the County forest from the Thursday prior to the opening weekend until the Sunday following Thanksgiving Day. Campers staying in areas other than a designated campground must register with the Department's Courthouse Office.
 - 3. Registered Campers Staying at a Designated Campground. See § 14.18 of this Code for regulations related to designated campgrounds.
- (b) All motorized vehicles are prohibited from traversing any forest road or trail which has been designated as closed, except those vehicles which are authorized by the Department.
- (c) Any damage to, manipulation of, or attempt to circumvent, a gate, sign, rocks, or earthen berm is prohibited.
- (d) All motorized vehicles, except those which are authorized by the Department, are prohibited from traveling off-road, off-trail, or cross-country in the County forest and must remain on roads or trails open to them.
- (e) The dumping of litter, rubbish, debris, dirt, stone, lawn clippings, or brush any other materials shall be prohibited on all County forest lands. All forest users, including berry pickers, hunters, fishermen, loggers, and all others who visit or work in County forests are forbidden to leave litter anywhere in the forest or in its lakes or streams. No posting of unauthorized signs, handbills, markers, marking material or advertising matter will be permitted.

§ 14.08. Designation of County Forests.

- (1) For the purpose of proper and complete identification, all County owned forest lands now held and entered under the State County Forest Law by the County or hereafter acquired for forestry purposes and located within the existing County forest boundaries, are established and designated as County forests, and such lands shall be shown on the official County forest map on file in the County Forestry office in the Courthouse in Rhinelander, and according to the records in the office of the Register of Deeds.

- (2) It is the intent of the County Board to consolidate County forest holdings as lands are acquired by the County within the above mentioned boundaries.

ARTICLE III

Outdoor Recreation

§ 14.10. Definitions.

Unless the context specifically indicated otherwise, the meaning of the terms used in this subchapter shall be as follows:

- (1) **RECREATION AREAS** — All lands and water heretofore and hereafter acquired by the County or placed under the jurisdiction of the Committee and designated by signage or, as a matter of record, as a distinct unit for special recreational functions to include swimming areas, picnicking areas, fishing areas, nature study areas, campgrounds and general recreation areas. The following are designated as County recreation areas: [Amended by Ord. No. 107-2005; Ord. No. 53-2008; Res. No. 93-2009]
- (a) Almon Park.
 - (b) Townline Park.
 - (c) Perch Lake Park.
 - (d) Enterprise Forest Campground.
- (2) **BOAT LANDING AND PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS** — All lands and water heretofore and hereafter acquired by the County or placed under the jurisdiction of the Committee which are signed and developed for water access purposes. The following areas are designated as County boat landings: [Amended by Res. No. 93-2009]
- (a) Bass Lake Boat Landing.
 - (b) Wisconsin River Boat Landing.
 - (c) Flannery Lake Boat Landing.
 - (d) Perch Lake Boat Landing.
 - (e) Tom Doyle Boat Landing.
 - (f) Highway O Boat Landing.
 - (g) Townline Park Boat Landing.
- (3) **SPECIAL USE AREAS** — All lands and water heretofore and hereafter acquired by or placed under the jurisdiction of the Committee in order to develop or maintain singular characteristic or purpose. Designated

Oneida County special use areas are: [Amended by Ord. No. 107-2005]

- (a) Gobler Lake Scientific Area.
 - (b) Spruce Lake Waterfowl Management Area.
 - (c) Memorial Forest.
 - (d) Highway O Fishing Bridge.
- (4) SILENT SPORTS TRAIL FACILITIES — All lands heretofore and hereafter acquired by the County and developed into non-motorized trail systems which are signed, groomed, or otherwise maintained for any of the following activities: hiking, biking, snow-shoeing, or cross country skiing. Those designated silent sports trail facilities are listed as follows: [Amended by Ord. No. 107-2005; Res. No. 93-2009]
- (a) Enterprise Winter Silent Sports Trail. [Amended by Res. No. 3-2015]
 - (b) Washburn Silent Sports Trail System. [Amended by Res. No. 3-2015]
 - (c) Cassian Two-Way Ski Trail.
 - (d) Nose Lake Ski Trail.
 - (e) Almon Park Trails (for summer hiking and winter snowshoeing only). [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
 - 1. Wetland Trail.
 - 2. Upland Trail.
- (5) PET — A domesticated dog or cat. [Amended by Res. No. 93-2009]
- (6) SILENT SPORTS TRAILS — Trails formally designated and maintained for one or more of the following activities: hiking, biking, skiing, or snowshoeing. [Amended by Res. No. 93-2009; Res. No. 53-2014]

§ 14.11. Scope.

Except when otherwise provided, the provisions of this subchapter shall apply to all lands, structures and property owned, leased or administered by the County, and under the management, supervision and control of the Committee.

§ 14.12. Promulgation of Rules.

- (1) The Committee may from time to time prescribe rules and regulations for the further use and enjoyment of recreation areas, boat landings, special

use areas, playgrounds, beaches, streams, lakes and the facilities thereof. Any person who violates such rules or regulations, or who refuses to subject himself thereto, may be excluded from the use of such facilities and be subject to the penalty provided in § 14.20, Wis. Stats.

- (2) Nothing in this Code shall prohibit or hinder the Committee, its administrator, supervisors, recreation area caretakers, other authorized agents or any peace officer from performing his official duties.

§ 14.13. Rules and Regulations. [Amended by Ord. No.65-2003; Ord. No. 107-2005; Ord. No. 53-2008; Res. No. 93-2009]

- (1) Closing Hours. No person shall enter or be in any County recreation area between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. No overnight camping shall be allowed at any County recreation area, boat landing, or special use area. County campgrounds are exempt from closing hour regulations. Regulations pertaining to designated campground use are listed in § 14.18 of this code. Persons transporting watercraft to and from designated boat landings are permitted at any hour.
- (2) Recreation Area Infrastructure Maintenance Schedule. All County recreation areas are open year-round for public use. However, infrastructure of some County recreation areas are only seasonally maintained, resulting in access roads, parking lots, and toilet buildings to be unplowed, gated, or locked during specific dates. The infrastructure maintenance schedule for County recreation areas is follows:
 - (a) Almon Park:
 1. Toilet buildings are seasonally maintained and remain open for public use between the dates of May 15th and October 31st.
 2. Access road and parking lots are seasonally maintained and open to public use between the dates of May 15th and November 15th.
 - (b) Townline Park: [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
 1. Access road and parking lots are seasonally maintained and open to public use between the dates of April 30 and November 15.
 - (c) Perch Lake Park. All park infrastructure is open and maintained year-round for public use.
 - (d) Enterprise Forest Campground. All campground infrastructure is seasonally maintained and open to public use between the dates of May 22 and December 2.
- (3) Personal Conduct and Nuisances. No person shall indulge in violent, abusive, indecent, profane, boisterous, unreasonably loud or otherwise disorderly conduct under circumstances in which such conduct tends to cause or provoke a disturbance, or to be so intoxicated that he is unable to

care for his own safety on any County owned property.

- (4) Destruction of Personal Property. No person shall destroy, disturb, molest or remove the property or personal effects of others.
- (5) Unnecessary Noises. No person shall operate sound trucks, loudspeakers, motors, motorboats, motor vehicles or any other mechanical devices that produce unduly loud or unnecessary noises.
- (6) Destruction, Defacement or Removal. Except for the picking of edible fruits or nuts for noncommercial purposes, the following are prohibited:
 - (a) Disturbing, molesting, defacing, removing or destroying any trees, shrubs, plants or other natural growth.
 - (b) Carving on any rocks, archaeological or geological features, picnic tables, signs, walls or structures. [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
 - (c) Driving nails, placing screws, or other metal in trees.
 - (d) Removing, damaging or defacing in any manner any structures including buildings, signs, fences, tables, or other County property.
- (7) Entry and Manipulation. No person shall:
 - (a) Enter any building, installation or area that may be under construction or locked or closed to public use.
 - (b) Molest or manipulate any water control structure, dam or culvert.
 - (c) Enter or be in any building, installation or area after the posted closing time or before the posted opening time, or contrary to posted notice, in any recreation area or special use area, unless specifically authorized to do so by the Forest Director or Forestry, Land, and Recreation Committee. [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
- (8) Cleaning Restricted. No person shall wash themselves, cars, pets, cooking utensils or clothing in any lake or stream or 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 recreation area.
- (9) Disposal of Refuse. No person shall dispose of any litter, garbage, sewage, bottles, tin cans, cigarette butts, paper or any other waste material by dumping such refuse in any County recreation area, boat landing, special use area, or forest land, except by placing said refuse in receptacles provided for such purposes. Charcoal residue in any grill, fire-ring, or fireplace shall be left in its place of origin until completely extinguished and cold. Waste and recyclable receptacles provided in Oneida County recreational facilities are only for refuse and recyclables generated by individuals while recreating in said facilities. No waste or recyclable materials may be brought into an Oneida County recreational

facility for the purpose of disposing of said material in the waste and recyclable receptacles. [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014; Res. No. 79-295; Res. No. 63-2017]

(10) Glass Prohibited. No glass containers are allowed in any County recreation area.

(11) Vehicles and Boat Restrictions.

- (a) Excessive Speed Prohibited. No person shall operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of 10 mph or contrary to official traffic signs in any County recreation area.
- (b) Reckless Driving Prohibited. No person shall operate any vehicle in a reckless manner or contrary to § 346.62, Wis. Stats., in any recreation area.
- (c) Operation Restricted. No person shall operate or park any motorized vehicle, except as otherwise provided in any County recreation area, boat landing and public access area, special use area, ski trail area or upon any hiking trail, other than established roads, parking areas, boat ramps, and service areas, or contrary to posted notice.
- (d) Use of Motor Boats Restricted. By order of the Town Board of the Town of Pelican, no person shall operate any motor-driven boat in waters of Buck Lake; nor shall any person operate any motor-driven boat in waters of Perch Lake by order of the Town Board of the Town of Woodboro.
- (e) Parking Restricted. No person shall park, stop or leave standing, whether attended or unattended, any vehicle, obstruction, or watercraft:
 - 1. Blocking, obstructing, or limiting the use of any road, trail, gate, parking lot, boat landing, or waterway.
 - 2. Outside any area provided for such purposes when it is practical to use areas so provided.
 - 3. Contrary to posted notice.
 - 4. In any recreation area between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., except as follows:
 - a. Vehicles of registered campers may be parked in campgrounds owned by Oneida County at any hour. Specific regulations pertaining to campground parking are listed in § 14.18(4)(f) of this Code.
 - b. Vehicles used to transport watercraft to and from the boat landing at Townline Park may be parked at said boat landing at any hour.

- (12) Fires. No person shall start, tend or maintain any fire except for cooking, heating, or when camping, and then only in designated fireplaces, fire-rings, or grills in any County recreation area, boat landing and public access area. Further, no person shall leave any fire unattended at designated fireplaces, fire-rings, or grills or throw away any matches, cigarettes, cigars, pipe ashes or any embers without extinguishing them, and then only in the proper receptacle.
- (13) Fireworks, Rockets, Explosive Devices. No person shall possess, fire, discharge, explode, or set off a pyrotechnic device, firecracker, fireworks or other explosive material on any County forest lands, boat landings, recreational areas and special use areas, except exhibitions of fire works given under the direction or by the permission of the Committee or its authorized agent.
- (14) Firearms. No person shall possess or have under their control any firearm, airgun, bow, crossbow, slingshot or dangerous weapon as defined in § 939.22, Wis. Stats., unless it is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case, in any County recreation area. Firearms, bows, and crossbows used for the purpose of participating in a State hunting season with a valid State hunting license are authorized at boat landings, public access areas, special use areas, silent sports trails located outside County recreation areas, and other County forest lands. See § 14.18 of this Code for regulations related to hunting and trapping in County owned campgrounds.
- (15) Pet Regulations for Recreation Areas. No person shall allow pets to enter any public building, swimming beach, picnic area, playground, or concrete pad surrounding a water pump within any County recreation area. Pets are allowed in all other areas of County recreation facilities, provided they are leashed and under the owner's control at all times. No person shall allow their pet to deprive or disrupt the enjoyment or use of any County recreation area by others. Regulations pertaining to pets on formally designated Silent Sports Trails are listed under § 14.13(21). Regulations pertaining to pets at designated campgrounds are listed under § 14.18(4)(c). [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
- (16) Horses. No person shall ride a horse on any formally designated silent sports trails or have a horse in any County recreation area. Organized events or commercial rides will require Committee approval as set forth in 525.5 of the current County Forest Fifteen-Year Plan.
- (17) Bicycles. No person shall ride a bicycle in any County recreation area except on asphalt roads or parking areas, unless signed or formally designated otherwise.
- (18) Athletics. No person shall play or practice any outdoor sport or other games in a manner that could injure, disturb, or inconvenience others. [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
- (19) Beaches.

(a) No person shall sunbathe or swim at any County recreation area or beach without wearing a swimsuit or other appropriate attire. The object of this subsection is to prevent nudity.

(b) Changing Clothing. No person shall change clothes, except in beach houses or other enclosed places.

(20) Silent Sports Trail Facilities. [Amended by Ord. No.3-2015]

(a) No motorized vehicles are allowed on silent sports trails except those being used for inspection, maintenance, or as authorized by the Forestry Department.

(b) No walking, snowshoeing, bicycling, sledding, or mode of travel other than that of skiing is allowed on trails designated and periodically groomed for cross-country skiing during periods when said trails are snow covered. The following silent sports trails are included in this category:

1. That portion of the Washburn Silent Sports Trail System groomed for skiing.
2. Cassian Two-Way Ski Trail.
3. Nose Lake Ski Trail.

(c) Ski trails can be crossed by other County approved recreational trails under the following conditions:

1. Trail intersections must be formally approved by the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Outdoor Recreation Department and designated as such with signs.
2. Alternative use recreational trails can only bisect ski trails in the most direct manner possible. Trail crossings must be at or close to a 90° angle.

(d) The following activities are allowed on the Enterprise Winter Silent Sports Trail, when said trail is frozen, snow-covered, and periodically groomed for bicycling.

1. Cross country skiing.
2. Snowshoeing.
3. Bicycling.

(e) Use of trails in a manner or direction contrary to posted signs is prohibited.

(f) A nontransferable valid trail pass is required by individuals 18 years of age and older to bike, ski, or snowshoe on trails designated, signed, and otherwise maintained specifically for said activities.

1. Annual Trail Passes are available for a cost of \$20 each. Annual Trail Passes are valid for a one-year period from January 1st through December 31st of each calendar year.
 2. Daily Trail Passes are available for a cost of \$5 each. Daily Trail Passes are only valid for the date that is entered on the registration form.
 3. Trail users must have a valid trail pass in their possession while biking, skiing or snowshoeing on designated trails.
 4. Trail Passes become valid upon a (completed registration form and appropriate user fee) being submitted to the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Outdoor Recreation Department in any one of the following acceptable methods:
 - a. Depositing the completed registration form and appropriate user fee into an Oneida County self- registration drop box. A self-registration drop box is located at the entrance of each formally designated non- motorized trail facility that requires a trail pass for designated uses.
 - b. Depositing the completed registration form and appropriate user fee into any U.S. Office mail receptacle.
 - c. Submitting the completed registration form and appropriate user fee to an attendee at any government office or business location listed on the trail pass registration form.
- (g) Pet regulations for Silent Sports Trails:
1. When silent sports trails are located within the boundary of a formally designated County recreation area, pet regulations for County recreation areas supersede those for Silent Sports Trails. The following silent sports trails, or segments thereof, must follow pet regulations for County recreation facilities listed under §14.13(15):
 - a. That portion of the Washburn Silent Sports Trail located within the boundary of Perch Lake Park.
 - b. The Upland Trail located within the boundary of Almon Park.
 - c. The Wetland Trail located within the boundary of Almon Park.
 2. Pets are permitted on all silent sports trails when said trails are not snow covered, provided that said pets are under the owner's control or leashed. [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
 3. Winter Ski Trail Pet Regulations. The following regulations are enforced when ski trails are snow covered or being periodically

groomed for cross-country skiing:

- a. Pets are not allowed on the following ski trails: that portion of the Washburn Silent Sports Trail System maintained for skiing, and the Cassian Two-Way Ski Trail.
 - b. Pets are allowed on the following ski trails: Enterprise Winter Silent Sports Trail, and the Nose Lake Ski Trail.
4. Snowshoe Trail Pet Regulations. The following regulations are enforced when snowshoe trails are snow covered:
- a. Pets are not allowed on that portion of the Washburn Silent Sports Trail System maintained for snowshoeing.
 - b. Pets are allowed on the following snowshoe trails: Enterprise Winter Sports Trail, Almon Park Wetland Trail, and the Almon Park Upland Trail.

(21) 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 Oneida 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 Oneida County Forest land.
- (c) Portable tree stands may be used on Oneida County Forest land providing that they do not damage trees, and they have the owner's name, address, and telephone number clearly printed on or attached to the stand. Portable tree stands can be placed on Oneida County Forest land not more than one week prior to the opening day of Wisconsin's first big game hunting season, and must be completely removed no later than one week after the closing date of Wisconsin's last deer season the following year.
- (d) Elevated platforms and portable tree stands found in violation of 14.13(21) of the General Code of Oneida County, Wisconsin will be removed by forestry department employees, destroyed, or sold at County auction. A person found in violation of any portion of the aforementioned ordinance is subject to a citation and monetary forfeiture.

(22) Ground Blinds. A ground blind means a structure, enclosure, or any material, natural or manufactured, placed on the ground to assist in concealing or disguising the user or occupant for the purpose of taking game. The following types of ground blinds are legal on Oneida County Forest land:

- (a) Dead Natural Material Ground Blind. These blinds must be completely made of materials natural to the area such as dead leaves,

branches, bark, or naturally fallen trees. Screws, nails, lag screws, screw steps, metal spikes, wire, nylon rope, or other

nonbiodegradable materials may not be used to fasten materials together or to trees.

- (b) Portable Manufactured or Portable Constructed Ground Blind. These blinds must be clearly portable and be completely removed from the Oneida County Forest at the end of each day's hunt. Fasteners, if used to attach or anchor the blind, cannot damage any living trees or penetrate the cambium of a living tree and must be completely removed with the blind at the end of each day's hunt. Owner identification is not required on this type of blind. [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]
- (c) Seasonal Manufactured or Seasonal Constructed Ground Blind. These blinds include all other blinds not meeting the requirements of either Type (a) or Type (b), including portable manufactured or portable constructed ground blinds if not removed daily. Type (C) blinds can be placed on Oneida County Forest land one week prior to the opening day of Wisconsin's first big game hunting season and must be completely removed no later than one week after the closing date of Wisconsin's last deer season the following year. The name, address, and telephone number of the blind owner must be clearly printed on or attached to the blind. Fasteners, if used to anchor or attach the blind, cannot damage any living trees or penetrate the cambium of a living tree and must be removed with the blind. [Amended by Res. No.53-2014]
- (d) Any ground blinds found in violation of § 14.13(22) of the General Code of Oneida County, Wisconsin, will be removed by Forestry Department employees, destroyed, or sold at County auction. A person found in violation of any portion of the aforementioned ordinance is subject to a citation and monetary forfeiture. [Amended by Res. No. 53-2014]

§ 14.14. Permits.

- (1) Special Consideration Permits. Recreation structures, facilities, or areas may be reserved by County residents for special purposes, subject to approval by the Committee. The Committee, or its appointed agent, at its discretion, shall issue a permit and may set a charge or security deposit for this facility. Any person to whom a permit is issued by the Forest Administrator, or other authorized personnel, shall be bound by the provisions of all County ordinances and State laws as though the same were provided in each permit.
- (2) Peddling and Soliciting. No person shall peddle or solicit any business, offer or advertise items for sale, distribute handbills or other advertising matter, post unauthorized signs or decorative matter on any County

owned lands, structures or property; or use County property as a base of commercial operations for soliciting or conducting business, peddling or providing services within or outside such lands, structures or property unless first authorized by the committee or its authorized agent.

§ 14.15. Snowmobiles.

(1) Definitions.

APPROVED SNOWMOBILE TRAILS — All snowmobile trails that receive State funding under Ch. 350 and are sponsored by the Oneida County Forestry Department or trails in which Oneida County holds the land use agreement, or trails on land owned by Oneida County. These trails are designated on the official County snowmobile map, a copy of which is kept on file in the Forestry Office, Courthouse, Rhineland.

OFFICIAL TRAIL CLOSING — That date selected by the Oneida County Forestry Department in conjunction with the Oneida County Snowmobile Council and which is published in the official County newspaper designating the approved snowmobile trails closed for snowmobile use.

OFFICIAL TRAIL OPENING — That date selected by the Oneida County Forestry Department in conjunction with the Oneida County Snowmobile Council and which is published in the official County newspaper designating the approved trails opened for snowmobile use.

SNOWMOBILE — Any engine powered vehicle of a design which uses sled type runners or skis, is propelled by a continuous track, and which requires snow or ice for efficient travel.

SNOWMOBILE ROUTE — A highway designated for use by snowmobile operators adopted by the respective town or municipality and posted with signs by area snowmobile clubs.

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL — A marked trailway on public property or on private property, subject to public easement or lease, designated for use by operators of snowmobiles by the Oneida County Forestry Department, but excluding highways except those highways on which the roadway is not normally maintained for other vehicular traffic by the removal of snow.

(2) Restricted Use of Snowmobiles.

(a) No person shall drive a snowmobile on any land under the supervision, management, or control of the Department that is posted or gated.

(b) No person shall drive a snowmobile at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour on any portion of an approved snowmobile trail that is posted with yellow sign indicating "Slow," "Steep Hill," "Dip," "Turn," or other caution.

- (c) Operators of a snowmobile on approved snowmobile trails must stop at all locations marked with a red sign indicating "Stop."

(3) Restricted Use of Snowmobile Trails. [Amended by Ord. No. 3-2015]

- (a) No person shall operate any bicycle, four-wheel drive vehicle, passenger car, off-road vehicle, truck, all-terrain vehicle, utility terrain vehicle, or motorcycle on any approved snowmobile trails without the written permission of the land owner or lessee, except for trail maintenance and/or inspection activities.
- (b) No person shall operate any snowmobile on any approved snowmobile trail until officially opened by the Department.
- (c) No person shall operate any snowmobile on any approved snowmobile trail after such trail is officially closed by the Department.
- (d) No person shall deface, destroy, or remove any snowmobile sign posted on any approved snowmobile trail.
- (e) No person shall post any unauthorized signs on any approved snowmobile trail without the written permission of the Committee or its agent.
- (f) No person shall leave an unattended vehicle or place an obstruction on the groomed portion of any approved snowmobile trail.
- (g) Pedestrians, including skiers, using approved snowmobile trails must yield to all snowmobiles on said trails.
- (h) Operation by youthful operators is restricted and defined in §§ 350.5 and 23.33(5), Wis. Stats.
- (i) No person shall operate a snowmobile in a careless way or at a rate of speed which would endanger person or property of self or others.
- (j) No person shall operate a snowmobile off the leased 16.5 foot right-of-way and onto the private land along the designated snowmobile trails.
- (k) No person shall operate a snowmobile contrary to state laws or regulations.

§ 14.16. Special Exceptions.

Special exceptions may be granted by prior approval of the Committee.

§ 14.17. All Terrain Vehicles. [Added by Ord. No. 114-99; amended by Res. No. 63-2012]

(1) Definitions.

ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE — Is defined in § 340.01(2g), Wis. Stats.

ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE ROUTE — A highway or sidewalk designed for use by all terrain vehicle and/or utility terrain vehicle operators by the governmental agency having jurisdiction as authorized by § 23.33, Wis. Stats.

ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE TRAIL — A marked trail way on public property or on private lands subject to public easement or lease, designated for use by operators of all terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles by the Oneida County Forestry Department, but excluding roadways or highways except those roadways which are not seasonally maintained for motor vehicle traffic.

DESIGNATED ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE TRAILS — Trails that have

been designated by the Oneida County Forestry Department as being open for use by operators of all terrain and utility terrain vehicles, and are identified on official County All Terrain Vehicle Trail maps, copies of which are kept on file in the Oneida County Forestry Office, Court House, Rhinelander, Wisconsin. All other motorized vehicles are prohibited on designated all terrain vehicle trails when said trails are officially classified as open for all terrain vehicle use, except for those motorized vehicles used for forest management, logging, and trail maintenance activities.

OFFICIAL ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE TRAIL CLOSING — That date

selected by the Oneida County Forestry Department and which is published in the official County newspaper classifying designated all terrain vehicle trails as being closed for all terrain vehicle and utility terrain vehicle use.

OFFICIAL ALL TERRAIN VEHICLE TRAIL OPENING — That date

selected by the Oneida County Forestry Department and which is published in the official County newspaper classifying designated all terrain vehicle trails as being opened for all terrain vehicle and utility terrain vehicle use.

UTILITY TERRAIN VEHICLE — Is defined in § 23.33, Wis. Stats.

(2) Restricted Use of All Terrain Vehicles and Utility Terrain Vehicles.
[Amended by Ord. No. 49-2015]

- (a) No person shall operate a motorized vehicle other than an all terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle, as defined by Oneida County, on a designated all terrain vehicle trail without the written permission of

the Oneida County Forestry Department, except for motorized vehicles used for forest management, logging, and trail maintenance activities.

- (b) No person shall drive an all terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle at speeds in excess of 10 mph on any portion of an approved all terrain vehicle trail that is posted with a yellow sign indicating "slow," "steep hill," "dip," "turn," or other caution.
- (c) The operator of an all terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle on a designated all terrain vehicle trail must stop at all locations marked with a red sign indicating "stop."
- (d) No person shall operate an all terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle with tire chains or studded tires on a designated all terrain vehicle trail or on land owned by Oneida County that is entered under the County Forest Law § 28.11, Wis. Stats., either as Forest Lands or as Special Use Designation Lands.
- (e) No person shall operate an all terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle on any trail classified as being opened for public snowmobile, all terrain vehicle, and utility terrain vehicle use by the Oneida County Forestry Department when the temperature on the trail at a point four feet above the trail surface, measured in the shade, is 28° F. or higher.
- (f) No person shall deface, destroy, or remove any all terrain vehicle trail signs posted on a designated all terrain vehicle trail.
- (g) No person shall operate an all terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle at a rate of speed that is unreasonable or improper under the circumstances, or in any careless way so as to endanger the person or property of another.
- (h) No person shall operate an all terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle which has been mechanically or otherwise altered from the manufacturers specifications so as to generate additional speed, traction, or noise.
- (i) All terrain vehicles (ATVs), utility terrain vehicles (UTVs), off-road motorcycles, mini-bikes, go carts, and other non-street-legal vehicles may not be operated on the County forest road system, except that ATVs and UTVs may travel on that segment of the following road segments: Camp Six Road from a point 0.6 mile north of the intersection of the Camp Six Road and the Wickham Road to a point on the Camp Six Road 0.2 mile south of the intersection of the Camp Six Road and the Wickham Road, and the entire length of Rozell Road, a distance of 5.50 miles, between Kelly Fire Lane and McCord Road, and Bowman Road from the Oneida/ Lincoln County line to a point on Bowman Road located 0.45 miles east and the entire 3.59-mile segment of Bass Lake Road from County Highway Q north to

Shingle Mill Road, and 7.05-miles of Shingle Mill Road from the westernmost ATV/UTV trail crossing of Shingle Mill Road east to County Highway G. The aforementioned segments of the County Forest road system shall be signed with ATV/UTV route signs to indicate the road is legal for ATV and UTV operation. [Amended by Ord. No. 22-2003; Ord. No.63-2003; Ord. No.95-2012]

- (j) All terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles are authorized for use on existing woodland trails that have not been designated as closed to motorized use by the placement of a gate, sign, earthen berm, or other similar blockade across said trail. Any attempt to circumvent a gate, sign, earthen berm, or other similar blockade with any motorized vehicle is prohibited. All terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles are prohibited from traveling off-road, off- trail, or cross-country in the County Forest and must remain on roads or woodland trails designated as open for all terrain vehicle and utility terrain vehicle use.

§ 14.18. Campgrounds and Camping. [Added by Ord. No. 53-2008; amended by Res. No. 35-2013]

Opening Date: May 22 thru December 2.

(1) Definitions.

CAMPGROUND — Any tract of County Forest Land designated by Oneida County and managed by the Oneida County Forestry, Land, and Outdoor Recreation Department exclusively for camping purposes. The boundaries of campgrounds shall be marked with signs stating "Campground Boundary".

CAMPING — The use of any shelter such as a tent, trailer or motor vehicle for temporary residence or sleeping purposes.

CAMPING PARTY — Any individual, family or, unorganized group, occupying a single campsite. A camping party may not exceed six individuals.

CAMPING SEASON — That period from May 23rd to December 2nd.

CAMPING UNIT — A single shelter used for camping by a camping party, except those used exclusively for dining purposes. A single shelter is defined as a recreational camping trailer, pop-up camping trailer, motor home, truck camper, or tent.

CAMPSITE — A portion of a campground that is designated for use by a camping unit.

FIREWORKS — As defined in Wis. Stats., § 67.10, to include anything manufactured, processed, or packaged for exploding, emitting sparks, or combustion, which does not have another common use.

OCCUPANCY — A camping unit, as defined, has been set up in a usable condition for camping.

PET — A domesticated dog or cat.

(2) Campsite Registration.

(a) Campsite use shall be on a first come, first serve basis. No sites will be reserved.

(b) Campsites designated as being accessible for the physically disabled.

1. Campsites designated as being accessible for the physically disabled can be registered by a camping party if one or more members of said camping party have in their possession a valid, state issued, Identification Card indicating that the card holder is Physically Disabled.
2. When a campsite designated as being accessible for the physically disabled is the last unoccupied site in the campground, a camping party without a physically disabled member can register said site.

(c) An individual or a camping party may register only one campsite.

(d) The fee for an individual campsite is \$10/night.

(e) Campsite Registration Form.

1. Prior to setting up a camping unit a Campsite Registration Form must be properly filled out in its entirety and deposited in the Campsite Registration Receptacle.
2. Satisfactory completion of the following items, as determined by a designated Oneida County Official, shall constitute a properly filled out Campsite Registration Form:
 - a. All information requested on the Campsite Registration Form must be provided in full, in a neat and legible manner. Any missing, falsified, or non-legible responses to the requested information on the Campsite Registration Form could result in said form being considered invalid.
 - b. The individual registering the campsite, as determined by the name of the individual listed on the Campsite Registration Form, must be 18 years of age or older and must occupy the campsite.
 - c. The appropriate campsite registration fee, in the form of either a personal check made out to the Oneida County Forestry Department or cash, must be enclosed within said Registration Form.

- d. Upon completion of the Campsite Registration Form, said form must be deposited in the Campsite Registration Receptacle less the Campsite Registration Receipt.
- (f) Campsite Registration Receipt.
 - 1. The individual registering the campsite must detach and retain the Campsite Registration Receipt.
 - 2. Each camping party must display their Campsite Registration Receipt on the campsite marking post that identifies the campsite for which they have registered.
- (g) No refunds shall be given on camping permits, except in the case of an emergency as determined by the forest Director. Said decision can be reviewed by the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee.
- (3) Campsite Occupancy and Use Regulations.
 - (a) Only one camping party may occupy a single campsite.
 - (b) Unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian, all persons not having obtained the age of 18, occupying a campsite shall have in their possession a statement of consent signed by a parent or legal guardian.
 - (c) All camping parties must set up a camping unit, as defined, in a usable condition for the entire period of registered occupancy. Sleeping in cars or on the ground in the open is not permitted.
 - (d) A maximum of two camping units, with only one being a truck camper, motor home, pop-up camping trailer or recreational camping trailer, may occupy a single site.
 - (e) No more than two motor vehicles (not including ATVs and UTVs) shall be permitted at any one campsite including the camping unit if said is a motor vehicle. **[Amended by Res. No.35-2013]**
 - (f) All camping permits expire at 2:00 p.m. on the last day of the registered period. The campsite must be completely vacated by 2:00 P.M. on the last day of the registered period.
 - (g) All camping units must be set up within the graveled portion of the campsite.
 - (h) It is unlawful to park any motor vehicle, including ATVs and UTVs, at any campsite except upon the parking area therein provided.
 - (i) A maximum of one ATV or UTV is allowed for each member of a registered camping party.
 - (j) No person shall camp and no camping unit shall remain in a campground for a period in excess of 14 nights in succession.

Thereafter, the camping unit must be removed from the property for at least five days before the camping party is eligible to return.

(4) Campground Use Regulations. The following regulations pertain to campgrounds located on Oneida County Forest land.

(a) General Campground Use Regulations:

1. Quiet hours are 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Gas powered generators may not be used during quiet hours.
2. Only members of registered camping parties are allowed in the campground between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
3. Lewd, vulgar, boisterous, unnecessarily loud behavior, disorderly conduct, littering, unauthorized selling or destructive acts and tampering with County property is strictly prohibited.
4. The removal of trees or wood products including, but not limited to, branches, tree tops, logging residue, firewood, pulpwood, boltwood or sawlogs from campgrounds owned by Oneida County is prohibited unless the individual or group removing said wood products holds a valid written permit to do so that has been issued by the County Forest Director.
5. The washing of cars, persons, pets, cooking utensils or clothing is prohibited within fifty-feet of any water pump, water fountain, or drinking water outlet within Campgrounds.
6. The cleaning and/or field dressing of fish and game is prohibited within Campgrounds.
7. No sewer or grey water waste shall be permitted to drain to the ground surface. Said waste must be disposed of at a licensed disposal facility.
8. Picnicking in campgrounds is prohibited except for registered camping parties and their guests.
9. With the exception of edible fruits, nuts, wild mushrooms and wild asparagus for personal consumption, no person may destroy, molest, deface, remove or attempt to remove any living natural vegetative growth from campgrounds.
10. Registered campers and their guests are required to deposit all refuse and recyclable waste material they generated while staying at an Oneida County campground in receptacles designated for said materials, prior to their final departure from the campground.
11. Only refuse and recyclables generated by registered campers and their guests, during the course of their stay at a campground

managed by the Oneida County Forestry Department, may be deposited in the designated waste and recyclable receptacles provided in the campground.

12. Screws, nails, lag screws, screw steps, spikes, or other similar devices are prohibited for use in trees on Oneida County Forest land and within Oneida County Forest Campgrounds.
13. No person shall ride a horse, or have a horse in any County owned campground.

(b) Campfires and Firewood Regulations:

1. To reduce the risks of introducing harmful non-native invasive species, no firewood may be brought into the Oneida County Forest, including recreational areas and campgrounds, from outside Oneida County.
2. Registered campers staying at a designated County owned campground may collect dead and down woody material located within said campground for use as firewood during their registered stay at the campground. No limbs, branches or bark may be taken from standing trees, nor shall any standing trees be felled.
3. No person shall start, tend or maintain any fire except for cooking or heating and then only in designated fireplaces, fire-rings, or grills in any County owned campground.
4. The removal of trees or wood products including, but not limited to, branches, tree tops, logging residue, firewood, pulpwood, boltwood or sawlogs from County owned campgrounds is prohibited unless the individual or group removing said wood products holds a valid written permit to do so that has been issued by the County Forest Director.
5. No person shall leave any fire unattended at designated fireplaces, fire-rings, or grills or throw away any matches, cigarettes, cigars, pipe ashes or any embers without extinguishing them, and then only in the proper receptacle.
6. During periods of elevated fire danger, further fire restrictions may be imposed. In the event further fire restrictions are imposed, a notice will be posted at the campground registration station.

(c) Campground Pet Regulations:

1. The number of pets, as defined, that a registered camping party may bring into a campground is limited to a maximum of 2.
2. Pets must be kept on a leash not exceeding eight feet in length.

3. Excessive noise created by pets will be considered a nuisance and the owner of said pets may be subject to expulsion from the campground without refund and may be given citation.
 4. It is unlawful for any person to allow their pet to run, roam, or walk at large at any time.
 5. Pets must be attended by and be under the control of a member of the registered camping party to which the pet belongs at all times.
 6. While within an Oneida County Forest Campground, all pet fecal droppings must be cleaned up immediately by a member of the registered camping party to whom the pet belongs, and disposed of in the trash receptacle.
 7. Pets are prohibited from entering any building except working dogs such as seeing-eye dogs.
 8. Pets are prohibited from being on the concrete pads surrounding water pumps.
- (d) Firearm, Fireworks, And Pyrotechnic Device Regulations
1. No person shall fire, discharge, explode, or set off fireworks, pyrotechnic device, or any other explosive material within campgrounds.
 2. Within campgrounds located on Oneida County Forest land, it is unlawful for any person to have in his or her possession or under his or her control any firearm or air gun as defined in § 939.22(2), Wis. Stats., unless it is unloaded and enclosed in a carrying case, or any bow, crossbow or slingshot, unless it is unstrung and/or enclosed in a carrying case.
- (e) Hunting and Trapping Regulations:
1. It is unlawful for any person to take, catch, kill, hunt, trap, pursue, or otherwise capture any wild animals or birds within the boundary of any campground.
 2. It is unlawful to feed or bait any wild animals within the boundary of a campground.
- (f) Vehicle Operation, Parking, and Road Use Regulations within County Forest Campgrounds are as follows:
1. It is unlawful for any person to park, stop, or leave standing whether attended or unattended, any vehicle in a manner which is blocking, obstructing or limiting the use of any campground road, trail, sidewalk, formally designated parking area, or contrary to posted notice.

2. No person shall operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour or contrary to official traffic signs within any campground.
 3. No person shall operate any motor vehicle in a reckless or dangerous manner or contrary to any federal or state law or any County ordinance.
 4. ATV and UTV use is restricted to parking areas, graveled portions of camp sites, the designated, signed ATV/UTV trail and the graveled campground road except where signed closed to ATVs and UTVs.
 5. No vehicles may be parked within the campground except those owned, leased or rented by members of registered camping parties between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
- (5) Evictions. Any person or persons may be evicted from the campground for violation of any State Law, Federal Law, Oneida County Ordinance or Campground Regulation. The period of time for which a person may be expelled is 48 hours, or for the period of their camping permit, whichever is longer. No evicted person may return to the property before the eviction period has elapsed. Persons evicted are not eligible for refund of any unused camping fees.

ARTICLE IV

Enforcement and Penalties

§ 14.20. Enforcement and Penalties.

- (1) Criminal Action. Whenever an arrest has 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 under Ch. 26, Wis. Stats.
- (2) Seizure. Whenever forest products are found, known to have been unlawfully severed or removed from County lands, the Sheriff shall on satisfactory evidence seize such materials pursuant to § 26.06, Wis. Stats., for use by the County or sale as the Committee may determine.
- (3) Civil Action. Whenever the Corporation Counsel has evidence of unlawful cutting on County lands, Counsel shall, on recommendation of the Committee, bring suit to recover damages as provided by § 26.09, Wis. Stats. Similarly, civil suit shall be brought against parties responsible for forest fire damage under § 26.21, Wis. Stats.
- (4) Citation or Summons. Any person to whom a citation or summons has been issued for a violation of this subsection, except Paragraph (b), may enter into a stipulation of no contest with the County by posting the

appropriate sum with the Clerk of Court within 48 hours after the issuance of such summons or citation. Violators of this subsection who do not timely post such sum as a forfeiture shall be required to appear at the next regular session of the court for the setting of a trial date.

- (5) 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.
- (6) Penalties. Except as otherwise provided herein, any person violating any provision of this Chapter or the rules and regulations promulgated by the Committee shall be subject to a penalty under § 25.04 of this General Code.

1005.2.2 ATV/UTV Ordinance

See Chapter 14.17 of General Code of Oneida County

1005.2.3 Shoreland Zoning Ordinance

See Chapter 9 of the General Code of Oneida County

1010 PERMITS, USE AGREEMENTS, POLICIES AND CONTRACTS

1010.1 TIMBER SALE CONTRACT

ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST TIMBER SALE CONTRACT

TIMBER SALE NAME: «Sale_Name»

TRACT NO. «Tract_»

SALE ACREAGE: «Acreage»
«Contract_»

CONTRACT NO.

This Contract is entered into between Oneida County, Wisconsin, hereinafter referred to as the “County” and

«Contractor»

Hereinafter called “Purchaser”. The County and Purchaser, in consideration of the covenants hereinafter set forth, mutually agree as follows. Purchaser may cut and remove timber on the following described lands:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: «Legal_Desc»

TOWNSHIP: «Township»

As indicated by the timber sale map, all marked or designated timber is subject to the following terms and conditions:

PURCHASER AGREES TO PAY THE FOLLOWING RATES:

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>EST. VOLUME</u>	<u>\$/TON/MBF</u>	<u>EST. VALUE</u>
TOTAL			

Purchaser shall comply with all items/regulations contained in this contract plus any additional regulations which are listed on the attached map and “Notice for Sealed Bids.”

All volumes based on unpeeled measure. An additional 12.5% shall be added to hand-peeled wood and 16% added to machine-peeled wood. Unless otherwise specified, a cord is 4’ x 4’ x 100”. Conversion of MBF (Thousand Board Feet) to cords or cords to MBF shall be 2.44 cords per MBF for softwoods and 2.2 cords per MBF for hardwoods.

Purchaser shall completely perform his obligations under this contract by «Date».

An extension of time may be granted by the Oneida County Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee (“Committee”), in its sole discretion, with appropriate adjustments in stumpage rates as determined by the following rate increase schedule:

One Year Contract	5% increase	1 st extension
	10% increase	2 nd extension
	15% increase	3 rd extension
Two Year Contract	10% increase	1 st extension
	15% increase	2 nd extension
Three Year Contract	15% increase	1 st extension
Four year Contract	No Extension	

Additional extensions beyond those stated above are not frequently granted, but may be granted by the Oneida County Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee at its sole discretion. If an extension is granted, the extension shall be for one (1) year unless otherwise specified. Any increased stumpage rate for the extension, is at the Committee’s sole discretion. If no extension is granted, and the Purchaser does not complete its obligation under this contract, it shall, at the Committee’s sole option, forfeit its rights to all remaining timber under this contract.

1. **DEPOSIT.** Purchaser shall furnish a performance deposit in the sum of «Perf_Dep» to ensure proper performance of the provisions of this contract. In lieu of cash bond, an irrevocable letter of credit for the full deposit may be accepted, **with an expiration date at least one year past the contract end date.** At the discretion of the Committee, corporate surety bonds may be approved as an acceptable performance deposit. Before returning any portion of the deposit or releasing the letter of credit to the Purchaser, the County may inspect the premises to ensure the contract has been satisfactorily completed. County may also exercise its right to seek actual damages exceeding the amount of the performance deposit.

Upon failure of Purchaser to comply with one or more of the conditions of this contract, the performance deposit or any portion thereof, may be forfeited to Oneida County upon written notice by the Committee to the Purchaser at the mailing address provided. In such event, the County may also terminate the contract or require an additional performance deposit. The parties agree they also have recourse by injunction and/or specific performance, as well as any other legal or equitable remedy available, in the event there is a breach of any of the provisions of this agreement by either party.

Purchaser may be required to forfeit other performance bonds held by the County under other contracts if damages exceed the amount of the performance bonds for this contract. It is expressly agreed that, if Purchaser breaches any contract which it has with Oneida County, or any department thereof, Committee may, in its sole discretion, terminate any or all other contracts that it has with Purchaser, upon written notice to Purchaser.

2. **REMEDIES.** The remedies provided under this paragraph shall not be exclusive and the County shall have the right to seek any and all other remedies at law or in equity. The County's damages upon the Purchaser's failure to perform this contract include, but are not limited to:
 - A. Retention of all or part of the performance bond.
 - B. The Purchaser's bid value of timber not harvested and removed under this contract.
 - C. Double the mill rate, as an extra assessment, as determined by the Committee, for timber harvested, removed or damaged without authorization under or in violation of this contract.
 - D. All costs for sale area cleanup, restoration or completion of performance not completed by the Purchaser.
 - E. All costs for re-sale of timber not cut and removed as required under this contract.
 - F. Termination of the contract, with possible referral to the District Attorney for prosecution.
 - G. Cancellation of other timber contracts with the County.
 - H. Banning from further purchase of County timber sales.
3. **TERMINATION.** County may, at its sole discretion, terminate this contract if any of the following occur:
 - A. Purchaser breaches the terms of this contract.
 - B. Purchaser is convicted of any crime which involves the unlawful theft, taking, conversion, receipt or retention of timber or any other forest product, from any person or entity.
 - C. A civil judgment is entered against Purchaser in a civil proceeding in which it has been alleged that Purchaser committed timber trespass, or unlawfully or wrongfully took, converted, received or retained timber or any forest product, from any person or entity.
 - D. Purchaser enters into a deferred prosecution agreement or deferred judgment agreement based on Purchaser having been charged with or having been alleged to committing any crime which involves the unlawful theft, taking, conversion, receipt or retention of timber or any other forest product, from any person or entity.
 - E. Purchaser is charged with any crime which involves the unlawful theft, taking, conversion, receipt or retention of timber or any other forest product, from any person or entity, and the entry of judgment is deferred.
 - F. Any other event occurs, the occurrence of which would, under any provision of this contract, allow County to terminate.

In the event that any of the events stated above occur, Purchaser shall immediately provide written notice to County of the occurrence of such event(s). If County chooses to exercise its right to terminate, it shall provide written notice to Purchaser by regular, certified, or registered mail, at the address stated herein, or an updated address if Purchaser has provided an updated address to

County. Upon termination, Purchaser shall immediately cease all operation on, remove its personal property from Oneida County property, and leave Oneida County property. Upon termination, Purchaser shall not remove from Oneida County property, any previously cut timber, unless Purchaser has already paid Oneida County in full for such timber. Upon termination, Purchaser shall not return to Oneida County property without the express written consent of Committee. Upon termination, Purchaser shall remain liable for all payments to Oneida County for timber which was removed from Oneida County property, and shall pay in accordance with this Contract.

4. **SUSPENSION.** Upon notice by the County to Purchaser that he/she is not in compliance with one or more conditions of this contract, all operations shall be suspended and if so shall not be resumed without written authorization of County. Neither the forgoing, nor the exercise of the right of suspension shall act as a waiver by County of any other remedy, including the right to terminate.
5. **DECISIONS.** The decisions of the County, acting on the advice of its agent and the Department of Natural Resources liaison forester as to whether Purchaser is in compliance with the terms of this contract, shall be final.
6. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.** Purchaser holds itself out as an independent contractor. Purchaser is a separate and independent enterprise from the County; has a full opportunity to find other business; has made its own investment in its business, trade or professions; possesses the equipment, instrumentalities, materials and office necessary to perform the work; controls the means of performing the work; and risks profit and loss as a result of the work. Purchaser shall act as an independent contractor in providing and performing the services contemplated by this Contract. Nothing in, or done pursuant to this Contract, shall be construed to create the relationship of employer and employee, principal and agents, partners, or a joint venture between County and Purchaser. This Contract does not create an employee/employer relationship between the parties. It is the parties' intention that the Purchaser shall be an independent contractor and not the County's employee for all purposes, including, but not limited to, the application of the Fair Labor Standards Act minimum wage and overtime payments, Federal Insurance Contribution Act, the Social Security Act, the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, the state revenue and taxation law, the state workers' compensation law and the state unemployment insurance law. The Contract shall not be construed as creating any joint employment relationship between the Purchaser and the County, and the County shall not be liable for any obligation incurred by the Purchaser, including, but not limited to, unpaid minimum wages, overtime premiums, unemployment insurance benefits, worker's compensation benefits, health insurance, health benefits, disability benefits, or retirement benefits. Purchaser is not entitled to receive any benefits from County or to participate in any County benefit plan.
7. **ASSIGNMENT.** This contract may not be assigned in whole or in part by Purchaser without advance written consent of the County. The parties each bind themselves and their successors, executors, administrators, permitted assigns, legal representatives and, in the case of a partnership, the partners, to the other part to this Contract and to the successors, executors, administrators, permitted assigns, legal representatives and partners of such other party in respect to all provisions of this Contract.
8. **AMENDMENT.** No amendment of this Contract shall be binding unless in writing and signed by all parties.
9. **PAYMENT.** **Payment for wood products (including products scaled in the woods by a county or state forester), shall be made by Purchaser within 30 days of County invoice date.** All payments shall include the County Invoice number. Copy two (pink) of the Oneida County ticket shall be attached to the mill scale slips. No variance in payment schedule shall be allowed without approval of the Oneida County Forestry Department.

10. **INTEREST.** Interest on unpaid amounts shall accrue at the rate of 1.5% per month. Despite the existence of the provision requiring the payment of interest, County expressly reserves, and does not waive, any and all remedies for breach of contract including, but not limited to, remedies included in this contract, and remedies at law and in equity.
11. **PAYMENT TERM AMENDMENT.** Oneida County reserves the right, upon written notice, to change the payment terms to advance pay status, requiring all payments for timber to be made prior to any logging activity. Advance payment shall be based on the estimate of timber that was given at the time of the sale. All wood shall be scaled in the same manner as if the advance payment provision had not been enacted by Oneida County and any variations between the actual and estimated harvest shall either be billed or the funds returned.
12. **TICKET BOX SYSTEM REGULATIONS.** Purchaser shall comply with all of the following regulations.
- A) The ticket system shall be used, which requires depositing the completed white copy of the ticket in the designated ticket box **before** each load of wood products is removed from the sale area.
 - B) Ticket books shall be issued when the Purchaser is ready to begin operations and periodically thereafter as needed. Unused tickets shall be returned to the County Forestry Department immediately after final wood products have been hauled.
 - C) Tickets are issued for the contract specified on the cover of the ticket book and shall not be used for any other contract. Tickets shall be used sequentially.
 - D) Ticket boxes shall be placed on the sale area by Oneida County Forestry personnel.
 - E) **Before** each load of cut wood products leaves the sale area, the ticket shall be properly, clearly and completely filled out and deposited in the ticket box. The ticket shall provide all of the necessary information.
 - F) Use of an “unofficial” ticket (i.e. scratch paper, match book covers, etc.) shall not be done without prior authorization from the County and shall contain all information listed on an official ticket. A forfeiture shall be enforced for each occurrence without prior approval.
 - G) Tickets (white copy) **shall** be completely inserted in the box. Hung tickets shall be considered the same as not depositing tickets. A ticket shall be considered hung if the ticket is deposited into the ticket box and yet is retractable.
 - H) Failure to deposit tickets in the ticket box **before** each load of cut wood products leaves the sale area shall be considered a violation of Oneida County Code, Chapter 14.07(1)(a)2 or State Statute Chapter 26.05 and Chapter 943.20 or any and all applicable laws.
 - I) When wood products are delivered to buyers not providing a mill scale slip, the Purchaser shall provide the name, address, and phone number of the buyer. This information shall be attached to copy two (pink) of the ticket which shall list other information normally found on tickets. This information shall be submitted to the Oneida County Forestry Department.
 - J) When transporting timber from the sale area, the truck driver shall have in his/her possession, copy two (pink) of the ticket applicable to the load. The Oneida County Forestry, Sheriff's Department, and DNR personnel may check scale and inspect tickets at any time.
 - K) Copy three (yellow) shall remain in the book for the Purchaser's records. All unused or lost tickets shall have a value of \$2.00 per ticket, which shall be assessed against the performance deposit if not returned at the completion of the sale.
13. **NOTICE OF INITIATION.** Purchaser shall notify the Oneida County Forestry Department between 24 and 72 hours prior to initiation of logging operations. Oneida County Forestry Department shall also be notified between 24 and 72 hours prior to any subsequent start-up of logging operations if operations have been inactive for more than five (5) consecutive days. Oneida

County Forestry Department shall also be notified when logging activity ceases for more than five (5) consecutive days. Definition of “logging activity” includes, but is not limited to: cutting, bunching, processing, skidding, road building, and trucking.

14. **BOUNDARIES.** Purchaser shall be responsible for knowledge of the boundaries of the sale area and shall be liable for all trespass committed by the Purchaser outside of such boundaries. All tree tops felled onto private property shall be brought back onto county property.
15. **MARKING.** Purchaser shall not cut trees that have been painted to mark either legal boundaries, approximate boundaries, interior or exterior sale lines, shall not be cut.
16. **CUTTING.** All timber, marked or otherwise designated by this contract to be cut, shall be cut by Purchaser progressively and to the satisfaction of the representative of the County, whether or not the quantity of such timber is more or less than the estimates comprising the operational specifications.
17. **STUMPS.** Purchaser shall not allow any stump heights to exceed stump diameter, except stumps of less than ten (10) inches in diameter shall not exceed 12 inches in height. All pulp shall be utilized by Purchaser to a 100 inch stick to a four (4) inch top diameter, unless specified otherwise in “Additional Regulations” on timber sale map.
18. **DECKING.** Only wood products harvested from Oneida County Forest lands may be decked on Oneida County Forest lands by Purchaser unless approved in advance by the County.
19. **VIOLATION.** Purchaser shall pay double the specified mill rate for any timber cut in violation of this Contract and for trees which are unreasonably damaged. Additionally, the County reserves the right to pursue any and all remedies at law or in equity including, but not limited to, timber theft under Wis. Stats. Sec 26.05 or any other statute.
20. **SCALING AND MARKING.** All log products (if log products are included on the contract) are to be scaled and marked in the woods by a county or state forester before they can be removed by the Purchaser unless approved by the County. A log is defined as being at least eight (8) feet long and having a small end diameter inside the bark of at least nine (9) inches for softwood and ten (10) inches for hardwood and **be of such quality as to make a #3 grade log or better.**
21. **SCALING METHOD.** All logs shall be scaled with the Scribner Decimal C log rule. Purchasers shall mark the length of all logs on the small end of the log with a lumber crayon to facilitate scaling. All logs in each deck are to be decked with the small ends facing the same direction.
22. **LOG REMOVAL.** Saw logs shall not be removed by Purchaser until the logs are scaled by the County unless authorized by the County. Additionally, County shall have a lien upon all timber harvested from the described location under the terms of this contract, which lien shall apply against timber stored by the Purchaser and/or upon the proceeds that result therefrom. Said lien shall be and remain in the County, until all payments required of the Purchaser under this contract have been made and until the Purchaser has completed all other responsibilities called for under this contract. County may enforce the lien in any legal manner, and enforcement of the lien shall not prevent the County from seeking any other remedy at law or in equity.
23. **FIREWOOD.** Firewood cutting by the public shall not be allowed on areas with active timber sale contracts. Any firewood sold by the Purchaser shall be paid for at timber sale contract stumpage rates. The Purchaser and his employees may remove non-merchantable wood for personal use.

Non-merchantable wood is defined as any part of a tree not capable of being cut to a 100 inch length with a small end diameter of four (4) inches or larger.

24. **EQUIPMENT CLEANING.** Purchaser shall ensure that all of its equipment is clean of all debris prior to entering Oneida County property. Purchaser shall pressure wash all cutting heads prior to entering Oneida County property. This provision is to minimize the potential introduction of invasive plant species and potentially damaging insects and disease into the Oneida County Forest. Cleaning of equipment shall take place at a site outside the Oneida County Forest boundary.
25. **WATER BODIES.** Purchaser shall not operate any machinery below the high water mark or the current water level, whichever is higher, of any lake, stream or river except as approved by this contract.
26. **EQUIPMENT RESTRICTION.** The County reserves the right to restrict the use of equipment used on the premises whether due to size, terrain or other reason.
27. **SUBSTANCES.** The Purchaser shall properly use and dispose of all petroleum products and other substances including, but not limited to, oil, hydraulic fuel and diesel fuel. Any on-site spillage shall be reported to County, properly removed and cleaned up by the Purchaser to the satisfaction of the County.
28. **LITTER.** The Purchaser shall not deposit any litter on the sale area nor on access routes to the area. This includes, but is not limited to, such material as empty oil cans, broken equipment parts, and lunch containers. Violations shall be subject to state litter laws and/or county ordinance penalties.
29. **ROADS, DECKING, LANDINGS AND CAMPSITES.** Purchaser shall not construct the location of logging roads, decking, or landing areas and campsites without the advance written approval of the County. Upon sale completion, Purchaser shall level all roads. For logging roads which intersect or connect with town, county, or state roads Purchaser shall have the intersections or junctions approved by the proper authorities prior to construction and cleared of all unsightly debris at the time of construction. No skidding or decking on official County Forest graveled roads or ditches without prior approval of the County. No skidding or decking on town roads or ditches unless Purchaser provides Oneida County Forestry Department with a letter from the town stating its approval.
30. **ROAD RESTRICTIONS.** Regardless whether the town gives approval or not, certain sales may have an additional regulation listed on the timber sale map prohibiting skidding or decking on town roads or ditches for reasons such as, but not limited to, aesthetics and safety. Purchaser shall comply with such regulations. Town, county and county forest roads and ditches shall be kept free of slash and tops by Purchaser. Purchaser shall lop and scatter all waste wood, tops and slash at landing sites, decking areas and adjacent to roadways to a height of two (2) feet or less. Purchaser shall comply with all town and county road weight limits on all roads, including but not limited to, official county forest graveled roads.
31. **RECREATIONAL TRAILS.** Purchaser shall keep all recreational trails open, free of slash and debris, and in a safe, useable condition. Purchaser may travel on such trails as necessary to access logging and decking areas. Decking areas may be along such trails, but shall not be on such trails.
32. **SNOWMOBILE TRAILS.** Purchaser shall keep snowmobile trails free of logging equipment, slash and debris, and in a safe, useable condition during the snow season. Purchaser may plow

trails, providing at least two (2) inches of packed snow remains on the trail where possible. Purchaser shall not conduct any logging activity on active ski trails during the snow season unless approved by the County. Purchaser may travel on such trails as necessary to access logging and decking areas. Decking areas may be along such trails, but shall not be on such trails.

33. **SURVEY MARKERS.** The Purchaser shall give notice to County of and pay for the cost of repair or replacement of any land survey monuments or accessories which are removed, destroyed, or made inaccessible. In the event that the performance bond is insufficient to cover such cost, Purchaser shall make payment on demand. Section 59.635, Wisconsin Statutes, “Perpetuation of Landmarks”, and any and all applicable laws may be enforced.

34. **TRAINING.** Purchaser shall provide proof of training, meeting the standards set forth by the State of Wisconsin Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), for at least one person who shall be on the site at all times while work is being done, and who shall be actively engaged in performance of this contract and who is responsible for the logging site.

35. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP) REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER GUIDELINES.:

A) 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 herein. A copy of this publication is available upon request by Purchaser. Purchaser’s certification in Wisconsin BMP training or equivalent through a FISTA-coordinated BMP workshop is also required.

B) Purchaser shall comply with 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 herein. Purchaser shall work cooperatively with the administering forester and any subcontractors to address the considerations in BMPs 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5 and 9.1. A copy of this publication is available upon request by Purchaser. The publication can also be found at the Council on Forestry website at: <http://www.wisconsinforestry.org/initiatives/other/invasive-species-bmps/forestry-bmps>

C) 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 herein. A copy of this publication is available upon request by the Purchaser. The publication can also be found at the Council on Forestry website at <http://www.wisconsinforestry.org/initiatives/other/woody-biomass>

36. **FIRE PROTECTION.** Purchaser shall fully cooperate with fire protection officers to prevent and suppress forest fires and to comply with slash disposal laws 26.12(6) Wisconsin Statutes and any and all applicable laws.

37. **DISASTERS.** The County reserves the right to order Purchaser to temporarily terminate activities under this contract in the event of a fire or other man made or natural disaster that has threatened or engulfed the area in which the sale is located or in general when conditions warrant such action. Conditions shall include, but are not limited to, the need to prevent insect or disease outbreaks.

38. **INDEMNIFICATION, HOLD HARMLESS AND INSURANCE.** Purchaser agrees to protect, indemnify and save harmless the County and the County's supervisors, employees and agents from and against all causes of action, claims, demands, suits, liability 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 pay for the defense of the County and the County's supervisors, employees and agents in any cause of action or suit.

Purchaser shall maintain insurance of the following types and amounts:

A. Worker's Compensation Insurance

a. Coverage A:	Limits – Statutory
b. Coverage B:	Employer's Liability Limits
c. Bodily Injury by Accident:	\$100,000 each accident minimum
d. Bodily Injury by Disease:	\$100,000 each employee minimum
e. Bodily Injury by Disease:	\$500,000 policy limit

- B. General Liability Limits: \$1,000,000 bodily injury and
\$1,000,000 property damage

- C. Certificates of insurance are required for all policies. The certificate shall name Oneida County as an additional insured on the policy and shall require a thirty (30) day cancellation notice. An updated copy of the certificate shall be provided any time a change is made to the policy.

- D. Insurance of subcontractors. It shall be the responsibility of Purchaser to ensure that, during the term of this Contract, all subcontractors who carry out any of the duties of Purchaser under this Contract, carry the same types and amounts of insurance as required of Purchaser. Nothing in this section shall be deemed to allow the use of subcontractors.

39. **SOIL DAMAGE.** Unreasonable damage to soil, including, but not limited to, excessive soil disturbance or rutting shall be cause to terminate this contract and apply all or part of the performance bond to mitigate damages. The following is the Soil Disturbance policy of the Oneida County Forestry Department.

SOIL DISTURBANCE POLICY

Soil disturbance shall be deemed excessive if it exceeds the threshold as described in the table below. An area with excessive soil disturbance requires special attention from a timber sale administrator. Soil disturbances require evaluation to determine the effects they may have and to develop repair or mitigation recommendations. In the event of excessive soil disturbance, County may require action to minimize further soil disturbance, terminate this Contract, or exercise any other remedies available under this Contract or at law.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Soil Disturbance is excessive if:</u>
Roads, Landings, Skid Trails resulting and General Harvest Area	A gully or rut is six (6) inches deep or deeper and is in channelized flow to a wetland, stream or lake.
Roads, Landing and Primary	In a riparian management zone (RMZ) or wetland, a gully

Skid Trails	or rut is six (6) inches deep or deeper and 100 feet long or longer. In an upland area outside the RMZ, a gully or rut is ten (10) inches deep or deeper and 66 feet long or longer.
Secondary Skid Trails and General Sale Area	A gully or rut is six (6) inches deep or deeper and 100 feet long or longer.

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 of the depression to the end of the “too deep” section. Measurements are not cumulative.

Terms and Definitions

Gully:	An erosion channel cut into the soil along a line of water flow.
Rut:	An elongated depression caused by dragging logs or by wheels or tracks of harvesting equipment or other machinery or vehicles.
Primary Skid Trail:	A skid trail used for three or more passes.
Secondary Skid Trail:	A skid trail used for one or two passes.

40. HETEROBASIDION (ANNOSUM ROOT ROT) PREVENTION AND TREATMENT.

A) NOTE: These regulations only apply to Red Pine and White Pine stands and Balsam Fir that is associated with pine stands.

B) In the event that there is a discovery of Heterobasidion (Annosum) in Oneida County or an adjacent county during the contract period, the Purchaser shall be required to implement the following prevention methods for stands that include the harvesting of conifers.

1. The Purchaser shall enter this harvest with equipment clean of soil from the previous harvest. In addition to item 23 regarding equipment cleaning, if previous job(s) included entering stands with confirmation of Heterobasidion (Annosum), Purchaser shall clean logging equipment (tires, cutting head, etc.) with pressurized water prior to entering this harvest.
2. If Heterobasidion (Annosum) does NOT exist within the timber sale stand(s) the harvest period shall be limited to December 15th to March 1st if the average daily temperatures for the two weeks prior are below 32°F and remain so for the duration of the cutting period.
Alternatively, if the Purchaser conducts harvesting outside the above periods, the Purchaser shall conduct Heterobasidion (Annosum) disease control work. The Purchaser shall apply an approved fungicide to all fresh cut stumps and horizontal wound surfaces of all conifers except spruce as follows:
 - a. Pesticide Applicators shall have certification/licensing 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, it shall immediately cease work under this contract and notify the Oneida County Forestry Department.

- b. The Applicator shall treat all conifer stumps (excluding spruce) by the end of each cutting day (within 24 hours of the tree being cut).
- c. All conifer stumps (excluding spruce) 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 shall add a marker dye to the solution to monitor application coverage.
- f. The Purchaser shall use extra care during harvesting to minimize damage to residual trees.
- g. 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. Applicator shall immediately notify Oneida County Forestry Department of any leak or spill of chemicals.
- h. Applicator shall ensure performance of all applications to be safe, competent, and environmentally sound. Applicator shall use and maintain work procedures that reasonably safeguards the public, Oneida County Forestry Department personnel, and Applicator's own personnel and which comply with all relevant federal and state laws.

C) If Heterobasidion (Annosum) is discovered at any time prior to the completion of this sale, all work done from the time of discovery forward shall include all of the following steps:

- a. The Purchaser shall 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. The Purchaser shall not cut any dead trees. The Purchaser shall leave dead trees infected with Heterobasidion (Annosum) standing to minimize future spore production.
- c. The Purchaser shall 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 shall clean logging equipment (tires, cutting head, etc.) with pressurized water prior to entering a new non-infected stand.

41. SAFETY.

- A) Utilities. The Purchaser shall take all reasonable steps to determine the location of utility and service lines and facilities, telephone lines, buried gas, oil and other pipes, and similar items located on, above, adjacent to or under the property, including, but not limited to, contacting the digger's hotline, the controlling utility company, and any other appropriate information sources, prior to digging or conducting other activities on the property which may result in contact with or damage to utility or service lines and facilities, telephone lines, buried gas, oil and other pipes, and other similar items located on, above, adjacent to or under the property. The Purchaser shall take all reasonable steps to avoid damaging such items, and in the event of damage to such an item, all reasonable steps to minimize such damage and avoid damage to any other property, and to any persons.
- B) Safety Standard Compliance. The Purchaser shall conduct its activities in a safe and professional manner, shall possess and exercise the same degree of care, skill and diligence, and employ the safety measures in the performance of its duties under this contract as ordinarily possessed, exercised and employed by a member of the same profession, currently practicing,

under similar circumstances. The Purchaser shall also comply with all applicable safety standards for logging including, but not limited to, those established by the United States Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and as required by Wisconsin State law (Safety Standards). The County shall have no responsibility to enforce any such safety standards and shall not be deemed responsible for any injuries or accident to workers or any third parties occurring at the site throughout the term of the contract. In addition, the Purchaser shall notify and obtain the advance written permission of the County if the Purchaser wishes to modify performance required under this contract for the purpose of compliance with any safety standard requirements including, but not limited to, “danger tree” removal.

42. **GOVERNING LAW, JURISDICTION AND VENUE.** This Contract is to be construed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Wisconsin, without giving effect to any choice or conflict of laws provision or rule, whether of the State of Wisconsin or any other jurisdiction, that would cause the application of laws of any jurisdiction other than those of the State of Wisconsin. The parties hereby irrevocably submit to the jurisdiction of the state courts of the State of Wisconsin for the purpose of any suit, action or other proceeding arising out of or based upon this Contract. The parties further agree that the venue for any legal proceedings related to this Contract shall be Oneida County, Wisconsin. The foregoing is not intended to be construed to limit the rights of a party to enforce a judgment or order of the above court in any other jurisdictions. Any legal action relating to this Contract is to be tried to a court, rather than a jury, and both parties shall take all action necessary to waive any right to have such action tried to a jury.

43. **STANDARD OF CARE.** The same degree of care, skill and diligence shall be exercised in the performance of the services as is ordinarily possessed and exercised by a member of the same profession, currently practicing under similar circumstances. No other warranty, express or implied, is included in this contract or in any task order, drawing specification, report, opinion or other instrument of service, in any form or media, produced in connection with the services.

44. **NOTICES.** Any notice required by this Contract shall be made in writing to the addresses specified below:

Owner: ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 400
RHINELANDER, WI 54501

Contractor: «Contractor»
«Address»
«City»

Nothing contained in this paragraph shall be construed to restrict the transmission of routine communications between representative of County and Purchaser.

45. **WAIVER.** A waiver by either Purchaser or County of any breach of this contract shall be in writing. Such a waiver shall not affect the waiving party’s rights with respect to any or further breach.

46. **AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION.** Purchaser authorizes any individual, business, or mill receiving timber from this contract to release mill scale slips and any other information to the County regarding amount, date received, and other relevant information.

47. **SEVERABILITY.** The invalidity, illegality or unenforceability of any provision of this Contract or the occurrence of any event rendering any portion or provision of this Contract void shall in no

way affect the validity or enforceability of any other portion or provision of this Contract or any task order. Any void provision shall be deemed severed from this Contract and the balance of this Contract shall be construed and enforced as if it did not contain the particular portion or provision held to be void. The parties further agree to amend this Contract to replace any stricken provision with a valid provision that comes as close as possible to the intent of the stricken provision. The provisions of this paragraph shall not prevent this entire Contract from being void should a provision which is of the essence of this Contract be determined void.

48. **INTEGRATION.** This Contract, including issued task orders (and their respective attachments, if any), represents the entire and integrated agreement between the Purchaser and County. It supersedes all prior and contemporaneous communications, representations and agreements, whether verbal or written, relation to the subject matter of this contract.
49. **SUBCONTRACTORS.** County may allow Purchaser to contract with subcontractors who are not employees of contractor to complete some of the services performed hereunder. No subcontractors shall perform work without prior approval of the County. Purchaser shall remain personally responsible for all work completed and for all obligations under this Contract, despite the fact that as a matter of law, subcontractors may also incur liability. Purchaser shall insure that all of its subcontractors comply with all requirements of this Contract. No subcontractor shall perform under this Contract until subcontractor has completed and signed the subcontractor acknowledgement of responsibility form, which is attached hereto as addendum 2, and has provided said signed original document to County. Additionally, all subcontractors shall have insurance of the same types and in the same amounts required of Purchaser by this Contract with the same provisions for naming the county as an additional insured, providing certificates, and the same provisions for cancellation notice.
50. **NO CONSTRUCTION AGAINST EITHER PARTY.** This Contract is the product of negotiations between the two parties and was either reached with the advice of legal counsel or the opportunity to obtain legal counsel, and shall not be construed against either party.
51. **MULTIPLE ORIGINALS.** This Contract may be executed in multiple originals, each of which together shall constitute a single contract.
52. **COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS.** The parties agree to comply with all applicable Federal, State and local codes, regulations, standards, ordinances, and other laws.
53. **LEGAL PROTECTIONS.** It is agreed by the parties that nothing in this Contract, including but not limited to, indemnification and duty to defend clauses, in any way constitutes a waiver or estoppel of the County or its insurer, of its right to rely upon the limitations, defenses, privileges, limitations of liability or immunities contained within Wisconsin law, including but not limited to, those contained within Wisconsin Statutes 893.80, 895.52 and 345.05. To the extent that indemnification or duty to defend is available and enforceable, neither the County nor its insurer shall not be liable in indemnity or contribution for an amount greater than the limits of liability for claims against counties established by Wisconsin law. To the extent that any provision of this Contract is found by any court of competent jurisdiction to conflict with any such legal protection, then whichever protections, either legal or contractual, provide a greater benefit to the County shall apply, unless the County elects otherwise.
54. **ACCESS TO RECORDS.** Purchaser shall permit County or its designee(s) timely access to the Provider's records, as necessary to review Provider's compliance with this Contract.

55. **SURVIVAL.** The warranties, representations, waivers, and covenants of this Contract shall survive completion of the Services under this Contract or any termination of this Contract.
56. **OPEN RECORDS LAW COMPLIANCE.** Purchaser understands and agrees that, because County is a party to this Contract, provisions of the Wisconsin Open Records Law and other laws relating to public records may apply to records kept by Purchaser. Purchaser agrees to fully comply with such laws, and to cooperate with County in its compliance with such laws. Cooperation shall include, but not be limited to, the provision of records, or copies of records to County or others upon the request of County. Compliance and cooperation of Purchaser shall be at its sole cost and expense.
57. **ELECTRONIC SIGNING.** It is agreed by the parties that either party or both may, by email, provide the other party with a copy of this Contract, in PDF form or otherwise, showing the signatures of, or on behalf of the sending party, with such signatures being as binding as original signatures, regardless of whether the other party signs in the same fashion, or by using original ink signatures. For the purposes of this section, "signatures" may be original written signatures, photocopies of signatures, or signatures added to a contract or through the addition by a signing party of a typed or electronically added signature.
58. **REMEDIES.** Cumulative Remedies. All rights and remedies provided in this Contract are cumulative and not exclusive of any other rights or remedies that may be available to the parties, whether provided by law, equity, statute, in any other contract between the parties or otherwise.

BY SIGNING BELOW, THE SIGNORS AFFIRM AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT: they have read and understand this Contract and its Attachments, if any; they have authority to enter into this Contract on behalf of the Entity, Corporation, or County they are signing for; they are knowingly, freely, and voluntarily entering into this Contract; and that they accept and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this Contract and its Attachments, if any.

ONEIDA COUNTY BY:

Dave Hintz, Chair, Oneida County Board of
Supervisors

Date: _____

Jack Sorensen, Chair, Oneida County Forestry,
Land & Recreation Committee and

Date: _____

Oneida County Forestry Department
PO Box 400

Rhineland, WI 54501
(715) 369-6140

And

By: Purchaser

Date: _____

Printed Name

Contractor: _____

Address:

Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

SUBCONTRACTOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

Timber Sale Number: _____

Purchaser: Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone #: _____

Subcontractor: Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone #: _____

Worker's Compensation Insurance Provider Information:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone #: _____
Policy #: _____

The subcontractor, _____, agrees to:

1. Carry insurance of the same types and amounts as the Purchaser is required to carry, and comply with all other insurance provisions with which Purchaser must comply, including but not limited to, listing County as an additional insured and providing certificates.
2. Protect, indemnify and save harmless the County and the County's supervisors, employees and agents from and against all causes of action, claims, demands, suits, liability 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 pay for the defense of the County and the County's supervisors, employees and agents in any cause of action or suit.
3. Comply with all of the terms of this Contract between County and Purchaser to the same extent required of the Purchaser.

The Purchaser, _____, by signing this Contract, acknowledges and fully agrees that despite the use of subcontractor, it retains full responsibility for all of its obligations under this Contract between County and Purchaser, including but not limited to, payment for any timber cut, and for all costs or penalties imposed by the county as the result of damage caused by and/or the failure of the subcontractor to perform under the terms of the above referenced Timber Sales Contract. In no instance shall the subcontractor be allowed to perform any work under the Timber Sales Contract until such time as written approval is given by the County. Oneida County shall continue to hold the performance bond/letter of credit of the Purchaser until such time as all of the obligations of the Purchaser under the Timber Sales Contract have been fully and completely satisfied.

Subcontractor Signature Date: _____

Purchaser Signature Date: _____

ADDENDUM 2

1010.2 TIMBER SALE EXTENSION / RENEWAL POLICY *

See Section 1010.1 of this plan: Timber Sale Contract, for Extension policy.

1010.3 FIREWOOD PERMIT

A copy of the firewood permit is available at: <http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/Firewood-Permit.pdf> or can be obtained from the forestry office.

1010.4 PRIVATE ACCESS – LAND USE PERMIT

A copy of the Private Access – Land Use Permit can be obtained from the Forestry Office.

1010.5 CAMPING POLICY / PERMIT

See [Ch 14.18](#) of the General Code of Oneida County for camping policy.

1010.6 TREE STAND POLICY

See Chapter [14.12\(21\) and \(22\)](#) of the General Code of Oneida County for tree stand and ground blind policies.

1010.7 PARK SHELTER RESERVATION FORM

A copy of the park shelter reservation form can be found at:

<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/ALMON-RESERVE-FORM.pdf>

<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/PERCH-RESERVE-FORM.pdf>

1010.8 CHRISTMAS TREE PERMIT

A Copy of the Christmas tree permit can be obtained from the Forestry Office.

1010.9 REMOTE CAMPING PERMIT

A copy of the remote camping permit can be obtained from the Forestry Office.

1015 FACILITIES AND REPORTS

1015.1 RECREATIONAL INVENTORY

Include the following information:

- # Campgrounds / # camp sites: One campground (Enterprise Campground): 9 individual unit sites and one double unit site. 11 total sites. Two pit toilet restroom facilities and two hand pump wells
- # Group campgrounds: Oneida County Forest has no group campgrounds.
- Nature & Hiking trails (# miles): Two Nature Trails (Almon Park: Upland Trail – 1.0 miles and Wetland Trail – 1.25 miles).

- Ski Trails: Four cross country ski trail systems, of which three are groomed for both traditional and ski skating: 39 miles of groomed trail and 8 miles of primitive trail.
- Bike Trails: Three designated bike trail systems totaling: 8 miles of single track trail, 27 miles of 2 way trails and 4 miles of Fat Tire winter trails.
- Snowshoe Trails: 7 miles of single track and 8 miles of primitive trail.
- Hunter Hiking Trails: Two designated Hunter/Hiking Trails: Hwy Q Trail – 5.3 miles and Bird Lane Trail – 5.4 miles
- Snowmobile trails (# miles): 413 miles of funded trails and 312 miles of club trails.
- ATV/UTV trails (# miles): 43 miles of funded ATV/UTV trails.
- Picnic areas / shelters: Two developed picnic areas with shelters: Almon Park: Four picnic shelters and Perch Lake Park – one picnic shelter. Additional picnic area is located at Willow Rapids.
- Swimming beaches: One swimming beach located at Almon Park
- Boat landings: Nine boat landings maintained to different degrees.
- Other recreational developments: One 18 Hole Disc Golf Course located at Almon Park.

 Wisconsin Department Of Natural Resources Report 15 Statement Of County Forest Loan Accounts as of June 16, 2020 Report: Page: 53A 1 of 1										
County	Variable Acreage Share Loans			Project Loans			Balance Owed DNR			
	DNR Issued Loans	County Repayments	DNR Issued Loans	County Repayments	DNR Issued Loans	County Repayments	County Repayments	Tot To Date	Tot To Date	
	CY 2020	Tot To Date	CY 2020	Tot To Date	CY 2020	Tot To Date	CY 2020	Tot To Date	Tot To Date	
Ashland	250,830.08	690,598.26	190,570.93	670,445.66	104,805.68	1,125,780.74	852,236.92	1,125,780.74	1,125,780.74	20,152.60
Barron	0.00	122,285.69	-107,630.38	122,285.69	463,927.00	874,219.80	742,294.25	874,219.80	874,219.80	0.00
Bayfield	507,727.01	2,327,946.84	288,740.24	2,327,946.84	0.00	300,000.00	218,986.77	300,000.00	300,000.00	0.00
Burnett	806,271.84	2,511,234.66	460,962.26	2,511,234.66	1,238,036.50	2,025,672.27	1,424,035.29	1,786,261.48	1,786,261.48	239,410.79
Chippewa	127,716.72	552,019.26	93,537.40	552,019.26	81,500.01	161,000.51	115,679.33	161,000.51	161,000.51	0.00
Clark	0.00	1,161,477.30	-44,887.51	1,161,477.30	0.00	53,000.00	44,887.51	53,000.00	53,000.00	0.00
Douglas	0.00	1,876,638.45	-115,805.60	1,876,638.45	0.00	529,850.00	115,805.60	529,850.00	529,850.00	0.00
Eau Claire	0.00	526,533.23	-79,177.97	526,533.23	0.00	126,933.08	79,177.97	126,933.08	126,933.08	0.00
Florence	0.00	444,068.78	-165,302.62	444,068.78	23,000.00	1,677,376.82	980,100.00	1,677,376.82	1,677,376.82	0.00
Forest	84,948.81	236,907.91	84,948.81	236,907.91	4,750,417.53	4,750,417.53	404,010.06	404,010.06	404,010.06	4,346,407.47
Iron	345,163.81	2,701,711.99	449,913.97	2,701,711.99	18,110.74	767,860.74	639,271.02	767,860.74	767,860.74	0.00
Jackson	212,788.67	1,876,477.59	-30,105.25	1,876,477.59	688,517.00	1,200,507.00	668,910.92	938,007.00	938,007.00	262,500.00
Juneau	0.00	116,824.82	-93,008.21	116,824.82	938,920.63	1,213,470.63	797,865.09	937,106.88	937,106.88	276,363.75
Langlade	0.00	555,874.24	0.00	555,874.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lincoln	0.00	590,731.41	-379,776.25	590,731.41	0.00	1,220,980.00	554,698.90	1,220,980.00	1,220,980.00	0.00
Marathon	218,963.31	595,486.56	304,255.15	595,486.56	1,081,250.00	2,545,511.00	1,003,063.18	1,331,448.89	1,331,448.89	1,214,062.11
Marmette	0.00	1,104,208.02	-38,000.00	1,104,208.02	0.00	38,000.00	38,000.00	38,000.00	38,000.00	0.00
Monroe	0.00	21,340.37	-13,965.86	21,340.37	301,020.00	328,770.00	130,001.34	143,785.48	143,785.48	184,984.52
Oconto	0.00	219,031.59	-108,717.68	219,031.59	90,000.00	450,000.00	258,717.68	450,000.00	450,000.00	0.00
Oneida	139,512.10	1,186,720.14	-19,851.37	1,186,720.14	0.00	439,010.00	301,195.66	439,010.00	439,010.00	0.00
Polk	90,459.82	323,941.93	31,930.71	315,710.71	0.00	840,363.50	650,488.47	840,363.50	840,363.50	8,231.22
Price	228,579.77	1,491,622.00	192,108.02	1,491,622.00	155,042.48	804,427.48	572,499.21	804,427.48	804,427.48	0.00
Rusk	686,507.57	2,147,849.67	615,203.95	2,136,157.28	0.00	136,950.00	39,611.23	136,950.00	136,950.00	11,692.39
Sawyer	0.00	1,172,316.95	0.00	1,172,316.95	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	0.00
Taylor	0.00	204,461.52	-20,446.16	204,461.52	0.00	36,398.28	20,446.16	36,398.28	36,398.28	0.00
Vernon	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	806,858.99	978,838.53	22,516.16	22,516.16	22,516.16	956,322.37
Vilas	143,083.24	779,307.74	-114,733.56	779,307.74	210,784.61	678,019.42	468,784.64	678,019.42	678,019.42	0.00
Washburn	1,114,260.99	3,312,826.65	1,006,823.17	3,312,826.65	642,236.05	930,724.71	749,673.87	930,724.71	930,724.71	0.00
Wood	0.00	259,901.61	-14,602.08	259,901.61	0.00	77,000.00	66,602.08	77,000.00	77,000.00	0.00
State Total :	493,6813.74	29110345.18	2372984.11	29070268.97	12594427.22	25311072.04	12859559.31	17831021.03	17831021.03	7520127.22

NOTE: Severance Payments " in the mail " OR Otherwise still in Process are not in this Report. This Report is on a Calendar Year basis.

Prepared by Division of Forestry, June 16, 2020

WI. Department Of Natural Resources

1020 MISCELLANEOUS MAPS AND BROCHURES

Hard copies of the below listed maps may also be obtained by contacting the Forestry Office at (715)369-6140.

1020.1 COUNTY SNOWMOBILE MAP

The Oneida County Snowmobile Trail system map can be found at:

<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/Oneida-County-Snowmobile-Map.pdf>

1020.2 COUNTY ATV/UTV TRAILS

The Little Rice ATV/UTV trail map can be found at:

<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/Little-Rice-ATVUTV-Map-19PE.pdf>

The Enterprise ATV/UTV trail map can be found at:

<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/EntATVFullMap2019Landscape.pdf>

1020.3 COUNTY NON-MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL TRAILS

Maps of the Ski, Bike, and Snowshoe trails can be found at:

<https://www.co.oneida.wi.us/departments/fr/silent-sports-trails/>

1020.4 PARKS CAMPGROUND AND RECREATION MAPS

Maps of the Parks, Campground and Disc Golf Course can be found at:

<https://www.co.oneida.wi.us/departments/fr/parks-campground/>

1020.5 GROUSE HABITAT MAPS

Maps of grouse habitat are located at:

<https://www.co.oneida.wi.us/departments/fr/hunting/>

1020.6 GENERAL FOREST BLOCK MAPS

The maps of the three county forest blocks can be found at:

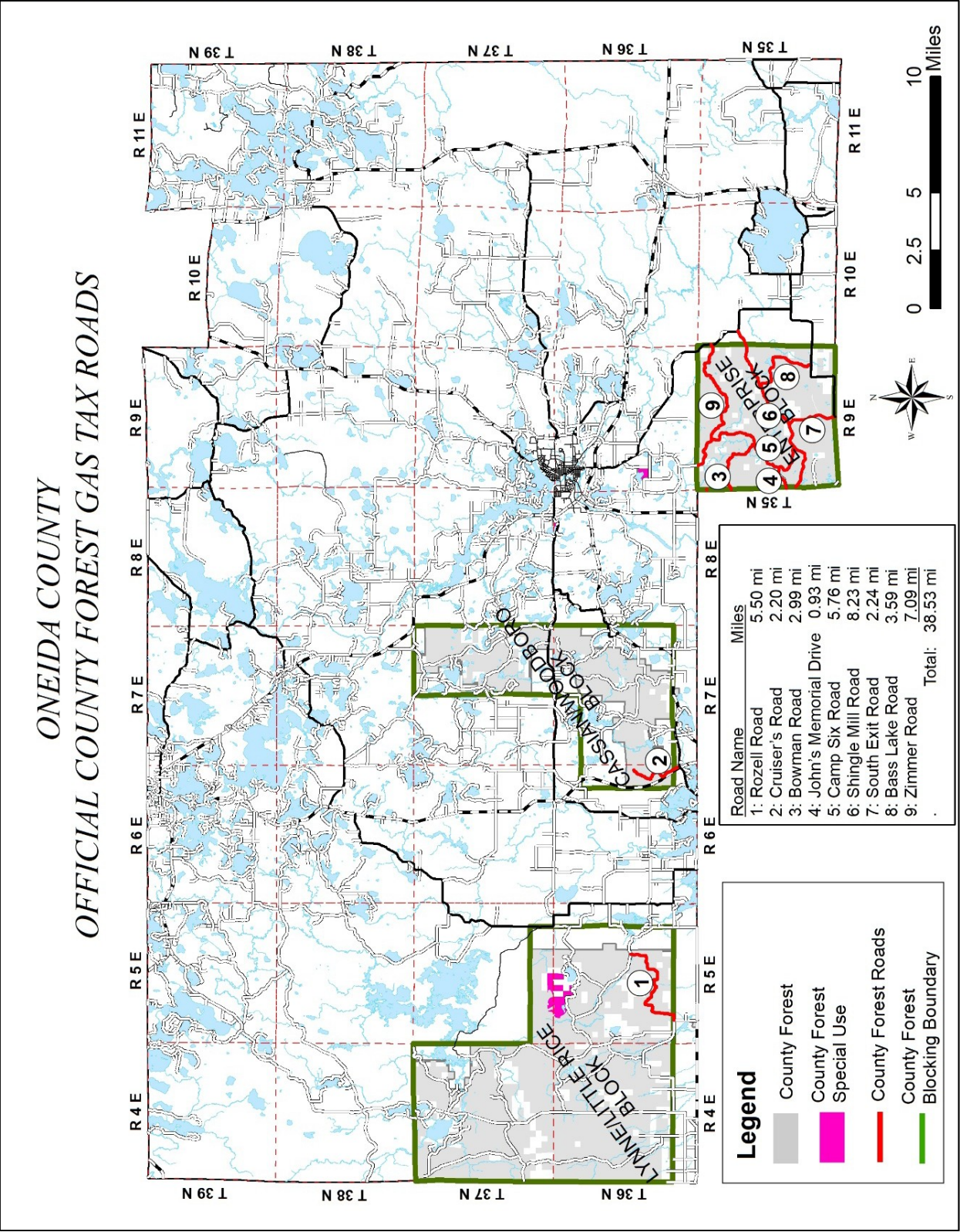
<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/CassianWoodboroBlock.pdf>

<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/EnterpriseBlock.pdf>

<http://www.co.oneida.wi.us/wp-content/uploads/LR-Block.pdf>

1020.7 CERTIFIED COUNTY FOREST ROAD MAP

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICIAL COUNTY FOREST GAS TAX ROADS



COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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CHAPTER 2000

Rev. 01/12/21

PLANNING, REPORTS, BUDGET

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2000 NEEDS OBJECTIVE AND FORMAT

Objectives: To provide guidelines which define the optimum level of activities that should be undertaken to achieve full potential benefits from the forest.

Format and Policy:

Needs for the county forest shall be listed without regard to budgetary constraints or other limitations. This list shall identify the forest potential in terms of public benefits, investments or opportunities, and financial returns. Silvicultural needs of the county forest are identified in the Forest Compartment Reconnaissance printout. The DNR Public Lands handbook (<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/TimberSales/2461.pdf>) describes procedures for use of this information. Other needs shall be determined by the Committee and the forest director, with technical assistance from the DNR and other interested agencies or individuals qualified to provide such assistance.

2005 DETAILED ANNUAL NEEDS FOR FIFTEEN YEARS

Annual silvicultural needs are identified in the Forest Compartment Reconnaissance printout. The printout, referenced in the plan, is available in the County Forest director's office. Printout listings include timber harvests, tree planting, and other silvicultural activities. Other unanticipated needs will be addressed in accordance with procedures outlined in this plan. These items will be identified and plans made for implementation, as part of the annual budget work plan prepared by the director and Committee. Annual work plans are approved by the County Board and forwarded to the DNR as required by statute (s. 28.11(5)(b) and s.28.11(5m)(b), Wis. Stats.

2010 SUMMARY OF FIFTEEN-YEAR NEEDS

A schedule giving a summary of silvicultural needs and other needs for the period covered by this plan, appear as an inclusion in this chapter. This list is not all inclusive, but is meant to give some of the main future needs to sustain the operations of the Forestry, Land and Recreation Department.

ONEIDA COUNTY FOREST SUMMARY OF 15 YEAR NEEDS

Function and Units	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total	Average/ Year
Personnel																	
Employees: Total FTE	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7		
Equipment:																	
Pickup Trucks	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	8	1
Snowmobiles	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
ATV's	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	4	1
Farm Tractor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
End Loader	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Snowmobile Trailer	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	4	1
Utility Trailer	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
																0	0
Land Acquisition - Acres	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	280	35
Entry of Lands - Acres	32	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	312	39
Land Surveying - Miles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	2
Function and Units	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total	Average/ Year
Timber Harvest Acres *																	
Aspen	665	657	712	714	721	787	657	700	1009	755	982	1017	806	800	*	10982	784
White Birch	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	21	2
Cedar	0	0	0	7	161	91	25	0	17	17	0	0	0	33	*	351	25
Fir/Spruce	0	10	0	12	57	0	24	0	61	0	0	0	0	0	*	164	12
Red Maple	31	51	13	101	34	18	30	28	109	36	25	4	0	199		679	49
Northern Hardwood	170	259	481	657	1544	860	771	677	864	298	175	521	259	774	*	8310	594
Oak	31	225	64	129	21	32	254	122	88	31	94	367	257	15	*	1730	124
Hemlock	27	48	26	9	39	101	218	0	0	0	199	62	0	0		729	52
Black Spruce	0	4	0	175	157	41	17	6	45	43	84	0	47	86	*	705	50
R Pine	201	39	246	87	12	165	239	195	78	139	151	67	7	73	*	1699	121
White Spruce	0	29	14	6	0	0	0	0	3	0	55	0	0	0		107	8
Swamp Hardwood	0	176	40	0	14	0	0	54	18	66	56	0	0	0	*	424	30
Tamarack	16	35	16	25	91	17	35	45	18	100	42	26	82	20	*	568	41
White Pine	18	0	0	0	3	0	0	10	0	0	4	39	10	32	*	116	8
Total	1159	1533	1633	1922	2854	2112	2270	1837	2310	1485	1867	2103	1468	2032	0	26585	1899
Cultural Practices	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total	Average/ Year

Site Prep Acres	0	89	0	0	30	5	0	0	30	0	0	0	30	0	32	216	14
Planting Acres	0	40	28	0	63	0	0	40	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	191	13
Conifer Release Acres	0	0	0	40	28	0	63	0	0	40	0	0	20	0	0	191	13
Thinning	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	0	0	0	0	76	5
Regeneration Checks	0	106	332	13	229	115	95	92	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	1014	68
Recreation	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total	Average/ Year
Campground Development # sites	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	1
Picnic Area Maintenance	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	45	3
Swimming Beach Maintenance	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	1
Boat Landing Maintenance	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	120	8
County Forest Road Maintenance - Miles	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	38.53	577.95	39
Non-Motorized Recreation Trails Development Miles:																	
Hiking Trails	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	7	0.9
Function and Units	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total	Average/ Year
Development Miles																	
Bicycle Trails	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	10	0.7
Cross-Country Ski Trails	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	7	0.5
Snowshoe Trails	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	10	0.7
Maintenance Miles																	
Hiking Trails	10	11	11	12	12	13	13	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	17	206	14
Bicycle Trails	30	30	31	31	32	32	33	33	34	34	35	35	36	36	37	499	33
Cross-Country Ski Trails	36	37	37	38	38	39	39	40	40	41	41	42	42	43	43	596	40
Snowshoe Trails	11	14	14	15	15	16	16	17	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	249	17
Motorized Recreation Trails Development Miles:																	
Snowmobile Trails	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	15	1
ATV Trails	11	0	0	6	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	27	1.8
Maintenance Miles:																	
Snowmobile Trails	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	415	6225	415
ATV Trails	43	48	51	51	59	59	62	62	64	64	66	66	68	68	70	901	60

Restricted Access Areas																	
Gates Installed	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	11	1
Signs																	
Interpretive Signs	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0
Public Land Signs	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	0
Recreation Facility Signs	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	5	0
Function and Units	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	Total	Average/ Year
Wildlife Management																	
Game Opening Maintenance Acres	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	600	40
Trail Seeding - Miles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	1
Waterfowl Flowage Maintenance	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15	1
Prescribed Burns Acres	18	0	15	0	5	0	18	0	0	15	0	0	5	0	0	76	5

Note: The “Needs” schedule is put together for planning purposes. The best available information has been used in developing the schedule. It is not intended to be followed without modification. Forests are dynamic and managers must be adaptive to change. Funding and staffing shortfalls may also impact the ability of Oneida County Forestry Department to fulfill identified needs. Refer to Chapter 2020 – Annual Work Plan and Budget, for reference on progress towards the identified needs in this chapter.

2015 WORK PLAN OBJECTIVE AND POLICY

OBJECTIVE

To develop an annual work plan and budget that will satisfy the needs specified in Chapter 100 to the greatest extent feasible, consistent with program priorities established in the Mission Statement.

POLICY

The County Forest program will sustain a level of operation that considers the needs of the forest and the public in accordance with the goals identified in Chapter 100.

2020 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET

Each year an Annual Work Plan and Budget shall be prepared by the forest administrator with assistance from the Committee and the DNR liaison forester. This plan shall be based upon the detailed annual needs contained in Section 2010 of the Plan. Annual work plans are approved by the County Board and forwarded to the DNR as required by Wisconsin statutes s. 28.11(5)(b) and s.28.11(5m)(b).

2020 WORK PLAN FOR THE ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

Forest and recreational management activities scheduled for the Oneida County Forest will be accomplished with the aid of funds described below and approved for use by the Oneida County Forestry Department in 2020.

Account	Revenue			Expenses			Requested
	Appl. Cont.						
	New	Appropriations	Total	Personnel	Other	Total	
51570							
Land Purchase	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
55210 Co. Parks	58,210.00-	10,000.00-	68,210.00-	231,907.00	62,900.00	294,807.00	226,597.00
55212 Campground	7,500.00-	0.00	7,500.00-	0.00	1,800.00	1,800.00	5,700.00-
55410 St. Aid Snowmobile	363,150.00-	0.00	363,150.00-	0.00	363,150.00	363,150.00	0.00
55412 St. Aid ATV	31,500.00-	0.00	31,500.00-	0.00	31,500.00	31,500.00	0.00
56110 Co. Forest	1,348,093.00-	0.00	1,348,093.00-	284,043.00	81,200.00	365,243.00	982,850.00-
56111 St. Aid Roads	13,550.00-	0.00	13,550.00-	0.00	13,550.00	13,550.00	0.00
56116							
St. Aid Wildlife	3,885.00-	0.00	3,885.00-	0.00	3,885.00	3,885.00	0.00
56210							
Mining Impact	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
56920							
Maps	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Total	1,825,888.00-	10,000.00-	1,835,888.00-	515,950.00	560,985.00	1,076,935.00	758,953.00-

Annual County Forest Integrated Planning Meeting

The Annual County Forest Integrated Planning Meeting between the Oneida County Forestry Department (OCFD) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was held on September 11, 2019. The purpose of the planning meeting is to provide a forum where both departments can jointly establish and agree upon County Forest Management Goals for the upcoming year.

Individuals present at the 2019-20 Oneida County Forest Integrated Planning Meeting were: Oneida County Director, Paul Fiene; Oneida County Foresters, Eric Rady and Joe Renik; DNR Area Forestry Staff Specialist, Hillary Keller; DNR Northern Region Team Supervisor, John Gillen; DNR Wildlife Biologist, Jeremy Holtz; DNR Wildlife Technician, Eric Kroening; and DNR County Forest Liaison, Manny Oradei. The main items discussed at the meeting were: County Forest Time Standards, Wildlife Habitat funds, proposed timber sales and harvest acreage goals, reforestation, County Forest Roads, forest health and protection issues, forest reconnaissance, forest blocking, forest certification, and Park/Recreation matters.

FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Timber Sale Establishment

The Oneida County Forestry Department has established a target goal of approximately 1,500 acres of timber to be established for sale in 2020. However, only 1,252 acres of timber are scheduled for harvest in Sec. 202 of WISFIRS. In addition to the 1,252 acres scheduled for harvest, we have also identified several large aspen stands (200 acres and larger) that will be entered earlier than the scheduled date in order to start breaking up the stands. These early entries along with several unscheduled hardwood thinning's (two stands that were recon'd in summer of 2019 and determined to be ready for harvest) along with the 1,252 acres scheduled should approximately equal the target establishment goal of 1,500 acres. The sale areas will be distributed throughout the three County Forest Blocks (Enterprise, Cassian-Woodborp and Lynne-Little Rice). The estimated value of the 1,500 acres of timber sales is approximately \$1,100,000.

The labor required to establish the aforementioned timber sale acreage will be provided by the OCFD with assistance from DNR Forestry personnel.

Acres by Forest Cover Type Proposed for Harvest in 2020			
Forest Cover Type	Total Acres on County Forest	Acres Scheduled for Harvest in 2020	Non-Scheduled Acres Proposed For Harvest in 2020
Aspen	32,865	702	52^A
Hemlock	1,351	73	
White Spruce/Fir-Spruce	468	32	
Red Maple	1,032	97	
Northern Hardwood	13,280	0	196^B
Red Oak	2,495	22	
Red Pine	2,116	123	
White Pine	371	0	
Black Spruce-Tamarack-Swamp Conifer	8,333	114	
Swamp Hardwood	1,542	89	
Total Acres Scheduled		1,252	
Total Non-Scheduled Acres			248
Total Acres proposed for harvest in 2020		1,500	

^A – Large Aspen stand breakup. ^B – Hardwood stands determined to be ready for harvest and marked during fall marking camp.

The 1,252 acres scheduled for harvest in 2020 lie in all three blocks of the County Forest. Approximately 25 separate timber sales will be established to address the scheduled acres to be harvested.

Due to unforeseen factors such as wind storms, insect or disease outbreaks and other acts of nature, the above scheduled acres may change.

For more detailed information regarding the acres scheduled for harvest, such as which compartments/stands are scheduled, contact the Oneida County Forestry Office at (715) 369-6140.

Timber Sale Administration

It is anticipated that between 30 and 40 timber sale contracts will be active during 2020. This contract activity will be spread throughout the year with fall and winter being the most active times. Department involvement will include contract administration, sale inspection, and fiscal record keeping. A harvest of 30,000 cord equivalents with an equivalent value of approximately \$1,288,000 is anticipated. The haul permit system will continue to be used for pulpwood, and wood scaling will be utilized for saw logs. Weekly timber sale inspections will be conducted by both County and DNR personnel when sales are active.

Forest Reconnaissance

Forest Reconnaissance (recon) work scheduled for 2020 includes the updating of recon information that is older than 15 years as time permits. A total of approximately 3,000 acres of recon update is anticipated. In addition, the acres recon'd during timber sale establishment will be counted toward recon updates.

Forest Protection

Cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be sought to protect the forest from insects, disease, and forest fires. Cooperation from the DNR will also be sought to assist in the eradication of Glossy Buckthorn and Garlic Mustard. These two non-native invasive plant species were found in the Enterprise Block of the County Forest in 2013. A combination of chemical and mechanical treatment was performed on these non-native invasive species in 2014-2018. An LTE was hired in 2016 to do a more intensive survey of the County Forest for invasives, and to begin eradication measures on populations. This survey located numerous populations of invasive species. A management plan was developed by the LTE and OCFD personnel to monitor and conduct control measures on those populations deemed most threatening. The LTE continued with established control measures on the Garlic Mustard population, along with initiating control on newly located populations of Garlic Mustard, Glossy Buckthorn, Canada Thistle and Wild Parsnip. This included application of herbicides and hand pulling of plants. These efforts, along with additional monitoring of invasive species populations, will continue in 2020.

With the recent discovery of Oak Wilt in the Woodruff area, Lake Nokomis area, Woodboro Wildlife Area, and the Town of Lake Tomahawk, the OCFD will continue to monitor oak stands for any signs of Oak Wilt. If found, all attempts will be made to isolate the infection and prevent additional spread. The OCFD will continue to apply restrictions to all timber sales that fall within the Oak Wilt guidelines (e.g. no harvesting until after July 15th).

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), will be contracted to help control nuisance beaver damage. Isolated beaver colonies that have been identified as posing a threat to timber productivity, or causing damage to County Forest Roads and Trout Streams will be targeted for capture and removal.

Forest insects and diseases already in our area, and/or projected to emerge or migrate into our area were discussed. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was found in Oneida County in October of 2014. The result of this discovery is that Oneida County was quarantined against the movement of ash log/pulp products and all firewood out of the county without the proper documentation; however, in 2018 this quarantine was expanded to the entire state so the above mentioned forest products may be moved year round within the state. Numerous areas within the city are now infested with EAB. This shows that EAB is spreading regardless of the quarantine. The OCFD will continue to work with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the DNR to devise a strategy to minimize the environmental and economic impact this discovery may have on the County. The OCFD will focus more on harvesting White and Black Ash during normal timber sale establishment especially within a 15-mile radius of the EAB discoveries. EAB traps were placed around the Enterprise block of the county forest in 2018. No EAB were captured in these traps. The County will continue to monitor the forest for signs of EAB. To date, no signs of EAB have been found within any of the forest blocks.

Reforestation and Plantation Release

Small, irregular-shaped clear cuts ranging in size from 3-10 acres will be established in scattered areas adjacent to the Washburn Recreational Trail System. Upon completion of the aforementioned harvest, the harvested areas will be planted with fast growing coniferous species to provide evergreen cover along the trail.

The reforestation efforts described above will greatly reduce the visual impact of subsequent timber harvests planned for the area by providing a natural visual screen surrounding the Washburn Recreational Trail. Time permitting, several recently thinned hardwood stands will be chain scarified in order to expose mineral soil and prepare a seed bed for Oak, Maple, Pine, and Birch trees.

No additional conifer planting is anticipated for 2020.

Efforts to regenerate Red Oak will be undertaken in 2020. This will include application of herbicides, soil scarification and possibly the planting of acorns. Part of the cost for this regeneration effort will be paid for using Wild Turkey Stamp Grant funds, the DNR Wildlife \$0.05/Acre grant fund and County Conservation Aids grants.

Forest Certification

The Oneida County Forest is certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) programs. These certifications require periodic random audits of certified forests.

Oneida County joined the FSC Certification Program in late 2016. In order to be compliant with this program, several amendments to the 15-Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan (15-Year Plan) had to be made. These changes dealt with stating Oneida County's commitment to the FSC program along with numerous small changes dealing with High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) nomenclature, acreage of the HCVF's, along with the deletion of previously maintained day use areas that are no longer maintained. No significant change to the management of the forest is anticipated due to these 15-Year Plan amendments.

In 2019, four counties in the north central part of the state were audited by both SFI and FSC. No Corrective Action Requests (CAR) Opportunities for Improvement (OFI) or Observations were identified by Wisconsin County Forest programs certified under SFI or FSC.

SFI/FSC Corrective Action Requests (CARs): **NONE**

SFI Opportunity for Improvement (OFI): **NONE**

FSC Observations: **NONE**

All CAR's, OFI's and Observations identified in previous audits were addressed and/or corrected by OCFD.

Wildlife Management

In cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, wildlife management activity on the County Forest will center on forest openings maintenance and rehabilitation, habitat trail mowing, control of terrestrial invasive species through chemical application, hand-pulling and burning, and designing timber sales that incorporate wildlife habitat needs for both game and non-game wildlife species.

In addition to those projects listed above, State Aid Wildlife funds have also been budgeted in 2020 for the following wildlife habitat projects:

- 1) Control encroachment of undesirable vegetation into wildlife openings and hunter hiking trails with a combination of prescribed burns and mowing.
- 2) Seed logging roads and landings with a mixture of grass/forbe seed.
- 3) Control beaver damage to forest roads by contracting with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for removal of undesirable beaver colonies.
- 4) Promote the establishment and growth of mast producing tree species with scarification techniques that optimize soil conditions for natural seed germination.

5) Purchase and install interpretive/educational signs that describe various forest management techniques; where, when, and why different forest management techniques are used, and how the different techniques benefit a wide range of wildlife species.

6) Rehabilitate existing woods and hunter hiking trails within the newly designated Bowman Road Grouse Management Area.

County Forest Roads

2020 County Forest Roads, Capital Improvement Schedule:

Replace two small (12-24 inch diameter) culverts.

Spot gravel and grade ~5.0 miles of County Forest Road located in the Enterprise block of the Oneida County Forest (Shingle Mill Road).

Add a 1.0-mile segment of John's Memorial Drive into the County Forest Road network. Develop a road improvement plan for the newly added segment of County Forest Road. Rehabilitation of this road began in 2019 in order to allow gravel trucks to travel on the road for an ATV/UTV trail surface project. The road had previously been in such a condition that operation of heavy trucks during non-frozen conditions would have been difficult or impossible.

Explore the possibility of opening a gravel pit along Cruiser's Road in the Town of Nokomis. This pit would be used for maintenance on Cruiser's Road and may be used for supplying material for a new ATV/UTV trail running from Co. Hwy N to Oscar Jenne Rd. The towns of Nokomis and Woodboro have expressed interest in using a pit in this location if it is ever developed. If it is determined that opening a gravel pit in this area is feasible and needed, the process of developing the pit would begin in 2020.

In addition to the specialized projects mentioned above, annual road maintenance projects, including but not limited to: grading, signing, wash-out repair, spot graveling, brushing, mowing, and beaver flood control, will take place throughout the County Forest Road system in 2020.

Equipment and Facilities

Each year an amortized allotment of funds is budgeted in a non-lapsing automotive equipment line item. The funds within this line item are used to purchase and replace new and existing equipment. In 2019, funds budgeted within the automotive equipment account were used to replace an existing 19-year old, 2-wheel drive, park maintenance truck. There are no plans to purchase equipment in 2020.

PARKS

In addition to the timber and wildlife management programs mentioned above, the Oneida County Forestry Department will administer and maintain two day-use parks and one campground in 2020.

At 160 acres in size, Almon Park is the largest and most popular day use park maintained by the Forestry Department. Some of the more popular features offered at Almon Park include a large swimming beach, 18-hole disc golf course, picnic shelters and several miles of picturesque hiking trails.

Perch Lake Park is open year round and offers a heated shelter building, lakeshore picnic facilities, an ADA compliant fishing pier, and serves as the main trail head for the Washburn Silent Trail System.

The Enterprise Forest campground features 11 oversized campsites, two bathroom buildings, onsite firewood, potable water, and connects directly to the Oneida County ATV/UTV Trail System.

2019 Park Capital Improvement Project Accomplishments:

- No new Park Capital Improvement projects were undertaken in 2019. All park work activities were focused strictly on maintaining existing park facilities.

2020 Park Capital Improvement Project Schedule:

- Replace two small shelters located on and adjacent to the Almon Park swimming

Beach.

- Repair retaining wall (ice damage) at Almon Park swimming beach.
- Repair and lengthen an existing wetland boardwalk located at Almon Park.
- Develop primitive campsites along the Washburn Silent Sport Trail System.

Recreational Trails

Miscellaneous recreational opportunities provided by the Oneida County Forestry Department in 2020 will include: 35 miles of cross country ski trail, 25 miles of hiking trail, 12 miles of mountain bike trail, 10 miles of snowshoe trail, 6 miles of Fat tire bike trail, 414 miles of state funded snowmobile trail, and 40 miles of off road ATV/UTV trail and 33 miles of ATV/UTV road routes. In addition to those trail systems mentioned above, the Oneida County Forest offers hundreds of miles of unimproved woodland trails open and available to the public for recreational use.

2019 Capital Improvement Project Accomplishments:

- Clear, grub, grade and surface 5-miles of new ATV Trail. Trail development work on the newly developed segment of trail also included the installation of three new bridges.
- Re-routed ~1/2 mile of ATV/UTV trail to eliminate road route on Bowman Rd.
- Re-surfaced and corrected erosion issues on ~5 miles of ATV/UTV trail in the Enterprise trail system.

2020 Capital Improvement Project Schedule:

- Begin process of developing the “Forest County Connector” ATV/UTV trail, which will run from Monico to the Forest County line adjacent to US Hwy 8.
- Begin process of replacing the Gilmore Creek snowmobile bridge in the town of Woodruff. Design specification to be drawn up and application for grant funding to be made. Construction to likely take place in 2021.

Land Acquisition

It is a policy of Oneida County to consider the acquisition of parcels of land located within the formal boundaries of our existing county forest blocks, as said parcels become available for purchase. The rationale for this policy is largely rooted in the concept that land management becomes more efficient with the elimination or reduction of privately owned inholdings.

2019 Land Acquisition Accomplishments:

- 230-acre acquisition surrounding Gillette and Wickham Lakes located in the Town of Enterprise.

The Forestry committee and department staff worked throughout 2018/19 on the acquisition of two privately owned parcels of land totaling approximately 230 acres that are located within the Town of Enterprise. The two parcels are surrounded by existing county forest land and contain two small lakes that total approximately 51 acres in size. The majority of the funds required for the acquisition of said parcels were obtained through a Knowles Nelson Stewardship land acquisition grant with the balance obtained from the Oneida County general fund.

2020 Proposed Land Acquisitions:

- No new acquisitions are currently planned for 2020. Rather, the Oneida County Forestry committee and staff will prepare a plan for the future management of the 230-acre parcel acquired in 2019.

2025 ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORTS OBJECTIVE AND POLICY

OBJECTIVE

To provide a quantifiable means of evaluating progress on both short and long term goals on the Oneida County Forest.

POLICY

Annual accomplishments will be recorded as a historical record, to assist in future planning, and to provide documentation for both the County, and the County Forest system. This information is invaluable in addressing public, County Board, and other legislative inquiries on the operation of the Forest as well as assessing progress on goals.

2030 ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORTS

A copy of an annual accomplishment report, which is available to view on the county website at: <https://www.co.oneida.wi.us/departments/fr/> or at the forestry office, shall be prepared and provided to members of the County Board and to official copyholders of this Plan for inclusion into this chapter.

This report shall include, at a minimum, the following:

1. Timber sale accomplishments including gross and net sale receipts and harvest goals achieved.
2. Timber stand improvement accomplishments.
3. Recreation development and maintenance accomplishments including recreation revenues and expenses.
4. Wildlife management accomplishments including revenues and expenses.
5. Fisheries management accomplishments including revenues and expenses.
6. Other accomplishments identified as “needs” in Chapter 100.

2035 PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2035.1 FOREST PRODUCTS

2035.1.1 Timber Sales.

The following table shows the number of sales closed out per fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) based on DNR Report 26A.

Oneida County Forest Timber Sales						
Year	# of Sales	Sawtimber MBF	Pulpwood Cords	Acres Cut	Total Cord Equivalents	Sales Value
1996	9	13	13,724	767	13,752	\$167,128.19
1997	10	50	8,458	547	8,571	\$132,234.71
1998	20	386	31,265	1,836	32,181	\$739,964.51
1999	13	166	22,646	1,509	23,014	\$455,326.60
2000	9	8	6,877	493	6,895	\$140,571.61
2001	8	123	5,327	434	5,604	\$110,105.42
2002	18	220	16,571	1,158	17,073	\$388,662.27
2003	7	66	8,268	609	8,413	\$173,618.29
2004	10	187	11,620	761	12,037	\$253,231.70
2005	20	429	12,224	743	13,226	\$523,937.00
2006	19	332	22,669	1,306	23,408	\$835,164.00
2007	18	548	23,853	1,374	25,087	\$972,954.00
2008	22	379	25,509	1,434	26,344	\$1,101,949.00
2009	20	416	24,912	1,399	26,370	\$1,011,060.00
2010	18	749	19,070	1,253	20,720	\$787,562.00
2011	32	304	51,991	2,889	52,661	\$1,840,815.00
2012	21	833	34,817	2,175	36,650	\$1,321,822.00
2013	15	427	19,871	1,257	20,810	\$863,739.00
2014	23	328	36,975	2,341	37,696	\$1,575,527.00
2015	20	347	26,862	1,314	27,626	\$1,408,979.00
2016	21	1,111	27,798	1,759	30,278	\$1,672,011.00
2017	14	554	16,207	1,064	17,427	\$939,941.00
2018	32	1,017	48,950	2,457	49,188	\$2,591,994.00
2019	28	566	31,475	1,630	32,724	\$1,466,855.00
Total	427	9,559	547,939	32,509	567,755	\$21,475,152.30
Average	18	398	22,831	1,355	23,656	\$894,798.01

2035.1.2 Non-timber forest products

The following table is the number of Balsam Bough gathering permits and the total value of the permits.

Oneida County Non-Timber Forest Product Sales		
Year	# of Sales	Sales Value
2007	15	\$880.00
2008	15	\$510.00
2009	12	\$850.00
2010	10	\$740.00
2011	14	\$700.00
2012	16	\$1,160.00
2013	18	\$1,640.00
2014	8	\$910.00
2015	9	\$650.00
2016	11	\$1,220.00
2017	9	\$740.00
2018	9	\$650.00
2019	4	\$320.00
Total	150	\$10,970.00
Average	12	\$843.85

2035.2 REFORESTATION

Oneida County Reforestation History					
	New Planting		Re-Planting		
Year	Acres	# Trees	Acres	# Trees	Scarification Acres for Regeneration
1996	0	0	0	0	0
1997	60	60,000	0	0	0
1998	5	500	2	2,000	10
1999	61	50,000	25	11,000	0
2000	0	0	0	0	21
2001	0	0	0	0	48
2002	5	200	0	0	0

2003	0	0	0	0	0
2004	0	0	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0	0	0
2006	0	0	0	0	0
2007	0	0	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0	26
2011	26	26,000	0	0	0
2012	0	0	0	0	0
2013	6	6,000	24	12,000	
2014	0	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0	17
2018	0	0	0	0	0
2019	2	1,200	6	1,800	0
Total	165	143,900	57	26,800	122
Average	7	5,996	2	1,117	5

2035.3 TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT

The following table shows timber stand improvements conducted over the past 24 years.

Oneida County Timber Stand Improvement								
	Treatment Acres					Treatment Acres		
Year	Release*	Site Prep*	I/D***		Year	Release*	Site Prep*	I/D***
1996	0	60	0		2008	0	0	0
1997	86	0	0		2009	0	0	0
1998	5	61	0		2010	0	0	0
1999	5	0	0		2011	0	26	0
2000	0	0	0		2012	0	0	0
2001	0	0	1		2013	0	0	0
2002	0	0	0		2014	0	0	0
2003	0	0	83		2015	0	0	0
2004	0	0	50		2016	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0		2017	0	17	0
2006	0	0	0		2018	0	0	0

2007	0	0	0		2019	0	0	0
					Total	96	164	134
					Average	4	7	6

2035.4 RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The following table shows Recreational Facility and Trail Developments.

Oneida County Recreational Developments									
Year	Snowmobile Trail Miles Added	ATV Trail Miles Added	Ski Trail Miles Added	Mountain Bike Trail Miles Added	Snowshoe Trail Miles Added	New Changing Rooms/ Toilets	New Camp Sites Added	Disc Golf Course Holes	Picnic Shelters Added
1996	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1997	13	-20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1998	0	10	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
1999	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2001	0	-10	0	0	2	1	0	0	0
2002	26	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2004	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2005	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2006	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
2007	1	2	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
2008	-5	5	0.25	0.00	0.00	2	11	0	0
2009	0	0	0.30	0.50	0.50	1	0	0	1
2010	7	0	0.60	0.75	0.75	1	0	18	1
2011	0	0	0.00	0.25	0.25	0	0	0	0
2012	0	2	0.00	0.25	0.25	0	0	0	0
2013	1	3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	1
2014	3	0	0.00	0.80	0.80	0	0	0	0
2015	0	1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
2016	0	2	3.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
2017	-5	1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0
2018	3	3	0.00	0.50	0.50	0	0	0	0
2019	2	7	0.00	12.00	0	0	0	0	0
Total	64	5	6.15	24.05	6	6	11	18	3
14 Yr Ave	0.67	1.67	0.41	1.07	0.27	0.27	0.73	1.20	0.20
24 Yr Ave	2.67	0.21	0.26	1.00	0.25	0.25	0.46	0.75	0.13

2000 - 20

2035.5 WILDLIFE PROJECTS

Oneida County Wildlife Projects					
Year	Miles Trail Seeding	Walking Only Gates Installed	Waterfowl Flowage Dam Reconstruct	Waterfowl Nesting Area Development	Land Purchase Acres
1996	0	0	0	0	0
1997	1	0	1	0	0
1998	0	3	0	1	0
1999	0	0	0	0	0
2000	0	0	0	0	0
2001	1	0	0	0	0
2002	0	5	0	0	40
2003	1	0	0	0	0
2004	2	10	0	0	80
2005	0	0	0	0	0
2006	1	0	0	0	0
2007	1	0	0	0	0
2008	0	0	0	0	0
2009	0	0	0	0	0
2010	1	0	0	0	0
2011	1	0	0	0	80
2012	1	0	0	0	0
2013	0	0	0	0	0
2014	2	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0	80
2016	1	0	0	0	120
2017	0	0	0	0	0
2018	1	0	0	0	231
2019	0	0	0	0	0
Total	14	18	1	1	631

2040 MONITORING

Oneida County prepares annual work plans and annual reports to help compare yearly and long-term goals and accomplishments. These documents serve as a tool to monitor the management of the County Forest and to identify modifications that may need to be implemented. The Annual

Report for 2019 is included in this chapter, section 2020. Subsequent Annual Reports will be posted on the Oneida County Website: [Annual Reports](#) and will be available upon request for viewing at the Oneida County Forestry Office in Rhineland, WI.

2040.1 FOREST TYPES

Oneida County Forest Composition

Forest Type	Original Acres (1977)	Original % (1977)	1996 Acres	1996%	2005 Acres	2005%	Proposed Acres	2020 Acres	2020%	Proposed Acres	Proposed %
Aspen	26958	34.85%	32379	40.35%	31274	39.34%	30999	32835	39.78%	32800	39.74%
Wh. Birch	5118	6.62%	2907	3.62%	1068	1.34%	1005	201	0.24%	200	0.24%
Cedar	1180	1.53%	2372	2.96%	2069	2.60%	1928	2725	3.30%	2750	3.33%
Fir/Spruce	3222	4.17%	1159	1.44%	889	1.12%	1304	229	0.28%	230	0.28%
Hemlock	190	0.25%	541	0.67%	877	1.10%	877	1347	1.63%	1350	1.64%
Misc Conifer	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%		80	0.10%	80	0.10%
R. Maple	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	551	0.69%	505	1086	1.32%	1090	1.32%
N. Hardwood	13002	16.81%	12475	15.55%	14174	17.83%	14545	13213	16.01%	13300	16.11%
Oak	1207	1.56%	2069	2.58%	2044	2.57%	1689	2446	2.96%	2450	2.97%
Jack Pine	102	0.13%	168	0.21%	112	0.14%	118	135	0.16%	135	0.16%
Red Pine	1645	2.13%	1717	2.14%	1889	2.38%	1975	2150	2.60%	2000	2.42%
White Pine	0	0.00%	171	0.21%	203	0.26%	444	368	0.45%	360	0.44%
Black Spruce	2043	2.64%	2088	2.60%	2228	2.80%	2153	6377	7.73%	6500	7.87%
Swamp Conifer	2111	2.73%	1076	1.34%	830	1.04%	830	501	0.61%	1500	1.82%
Swamp Hwd**	1860	2.40%	2130	2.65%	1283	1.61%	1134	1535	1.86%	500	0.61%
Wh Spruce								239	0.29%	240	0.29%
NonCom Spruce	1777	2.30%	2858	3.56%	2682	3.37%	2682	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
NonCom Tam	249	0.32%	248	0.31%	172	0.22%	172	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Tamarack	840	1.09%	748	0.93%	1239	1.56%	1239	1575	1.91%	1557	1.89%
Total Forested	61504	79.51%	65106	81.14%	63584	79.99%	63599	67042	81.22%	67042	81.22%

**Due to Emerald Ash Borer, it is anticipated that the swamp hardwood component, which is mainly Black Ash, will disappear within the timeframe of this plan.

Non-Forest Type	Original Acres (1977)	Original % (1977)	1996 Acres	1996%	2005 Acres	2005%	2020 Acres	2020%	Proposed Acres	Proposed %
CoolSeasGrass							3	0.00%	3	0.00%
Braken Grass							98	0.12%	98	0.12%
Developed Use							1	0.00%	1	0.00%
Emergent Wtld							165	0.20%	165	0.20%
Upl. Grass	441	0.57%	364	0.45%	361	0.45%	237	0.29%	237	0.29%
True Grass	84	0.11%	128	0.16%	245	0.31%	152	0.18%	152	0.18%

Herb Vegetation	137	0.18%	194	0.24%	128	0.16%		32	0.04%	32	0.04%
Low Shrubs	233	0.30%	173	0.22%	89	0.11%		67	0.08%	67	0.08%
Industrial Area	0	0.00%	2	0.00%	22	0.03%		0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Picnic Area	0	0.00%	1	0.00%	1	0.00%		1	0.00%	1	0.00%
Motor Veh. Trail	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	23	0.03%		0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Marsh	6624	8.56%	1447	1.80%	1160	1.46%		800	0.97%	800	0.97%
Muskeg Bog	0	0.00%	3340	4.16%	4480	5.64%		4091	4.96%	4091	4.96%
Emergent Veg.	0	0.00%	163	0.20%	154	0.19%		253	0.31%	253	0.31%
Low Grass	0	0.00%	587	0.73%	591	0.74%		492	0.60%	492	0.60%
Low Herb								43	0.05%	43	0.05%
Noncom Veg	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	42	0.05%		0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Water	0	0.00%	12	0.01%	12	0.02%		39	0.05%	39	0.05%
Lowland Brush	2633	3.40%	1910	2.38%	924	1.16%		384	0.47%	384	0.47%
Low Brush/Alder	5025	6.50%	5741	7.16%	6578	8.28%		6429	7.79%	6429	7.79%
Minor Lake	0	0.00%	448	0.56%	551	0.69%		532	0.64%	532	0.64%
Minor Stream	0	0.00%	101	0.13%	98	0.12%		223	0.27%	223	0.27%
Recreational								4	0.00%	4	0.00%
Right of Way	0	0.00%	87	0.11%	301	0.38%		814	0.99%	814	0.99%
Upland Brush	675	0.87%	432	0.54%	145	0.18%		100	0.12%	100	0.12%
Upland Shrub								4	0.00%	4	0.00%
Wet Shrub Alder								535	0.65%	535	0.65%
Total non-forest	15852	20.49%	15130	18.86%	15905	20.01%		15499	18.78%	15499	18.78%
Total Property	77356		80236		79489			82541	100.00%	82541	

The Oneida County Forestry Department is committed to maintaining diverse cover types on the forest. Species such as Aspen and Oak, which are declining statewide, are two forest cover types that will be maintained at current levels or increased as opportunities permit. A decrease in the acreage of White Birch over the last 44 years is mainly due to a significant dieback of the species beginning in the mid 1980's. Drought and insects, along with natural succession, are the suspected cause of this dieback. The County attempts to regenerate White Birch whenever possible. However, high deer populations and the resulting browsing of White Birch seedlings have made this effort difficult. The discovery of Emerald Ash Borer in the County has put at risk the entire ash timber type. As such, it is anticipated that within the timeframe of this plan, the majority of the ash timber type including swamp hardwoods will disappear or decrease significantly and likely convert to other species such as tamarack, black spruce and cedar.

Some acreage changes over the years are a result of updating reconnaissance (recon) information. Beginning in 2004 Oneida County made a concerted effort to update reconnaissance of the entire county forest. Limited Term Employee (LTE) foresters were hired in 2004, 2005, 2007, 2013, 2014, and 2015 to perform recon updates. In that time period, these LTE's updated approximately 42,000 acres of recon that was over 15 years old. As stands are visited it is not uncommon to find that either a stand was mistyped originally or, due to natural succession (such as a grassy area that has seeded in with white spruce and is now a spruce stand), a stand has changed from one species to another. The continued updating of recon information will help accurately identify the changing composition of the forest. The preceding table shows that the productive forested acreage of the Oneida County forest has decreased slightly, mainly due to updating of inaccurate old recon.

2040.2 HARVESTING

The following tables depict the 2006-2019 actual sold, established and closed timber sale acreage by species vs. the allowable harvest acres by species for each year along with a total acreage sold, established and closed per year vs. the yearly allowable harvest acres.

	Aspen					W Birch					Red Maple			
Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest
2006	30	501	489	638	2006	0	9	166	21	2006	40	0	50	38
2007	404	282	425	638	2007	9	22	155	21	2007	40	40	0	38
2008	732	383	345	785	2008	40	18	8	24	2008	246	222	40	38
2009	386	401	554	677	2009	0	148	89	24	2009	5	52	0	45
2010	114	474	138	704	2010	0	70	0	15	2010	13	25	75	42
2011	1225	850	980	688	2011	233	15	122	14	2011	277	218	176	44
2012	672	702	330	701	2012	21	21	57	7	2012	69	69	72	41
2013	390	443	707	689	2013	0	10	15	2	2013	94	160	142	38
2014	823	740	532	716	2014	10	0	57	1	2014	225	222	145	47
2015	439	438	666	731	2015	0	0	0	1	2015	146	95	95	46
2016	607	607	536	720	2016	0	0	21	1	2016	107	95	54	45
2017	629	670	337	707	2017	21	0	0	1	2017	29	68	110	45
2018	560	571	872	729	2018	0	0	31	1	2018	46	46	256	39
2019	528	828	435	795	2019	0	0	0	1	2019	0	24	115	37
Total	7539	7890	7346	9918	Total	334	313	721	134	Total	1337	1336	1330	583
Ave	539	564	525	708	Ave	24	22	52	10	Ave	96	95	95	42
	N Hwd					W Pine					R Pine			
Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest
2006	634	634	402	713	2006	4	4	13	5	2006	23	23	61	10
2007	634	552	492	713	2007	4	3	82	5	2007	153	87	139	10
2008	1456	912	953	713	2008	3	0	4	5	2008	0	66	173	87
2009	553	779	631	716	2009	0	0	0	11	2009	0	174	11	104

2010	739	885	759	678	2010	0	0	3	11	2010	216	58	186	102
2011	973	593	1167	689	2011	0	0	0	13	2011	158	158	173	100
2012	993	993	1054	688	2012	0	0	0	12	2012	170	170	0	97
2013	889	925	674	707	2013	10	10	0	12	2013	221	221	214	101
2014	739	710	697	683	2014	0	0	0	13	2014	127	127	151	79
2015	1147	1189	484	683	2015	0	0	0	13	2015	175	179	132	99
2016	961	912	580	640	2016	0	0	0	12	2016	42	53	99	98
2017	649	747	440	643	2017	0	0	0	10	2017	113	98	260	110
2018	344	636	1612	546	2018	44	44	10	11	2018	109	109	85	113
2019	528	358	519	545	2019	0	0	44	6	2019	152	152		112
Total	11239	10825	10464	9357	Total	65	61	156	139	Total	1659	1675	1684	1222
Ave	803	773	747	668	Ave	5	4	11	10	Ave	119	120	130	87
	Cedar					Oak					Hemlock			
Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest
2006	5	5	0	9	2006	9	22	65	11	2006	37	37	24	14
2007	0	0	0	9	2007	0	138	0	11	2007	37	20	102	14
2008	0	0	0	9	2008	178	40	0	99	2008	20	0	129	14
2009	0	0	0	14	2009	79	182	0	136	2009	0	0	122	14
2010	0	0	0	14	2010	81	187	259	116	2010	0	8	0	14
2011	0	0	0	13	2011	335	126	101	120	2011	58	50	28	14
2012	0	0	0	21	2012	108	108	0	109	2012	36	36	0	15
2013	0	33	0	22	2013	131	131	213	104	2013	31	31	50	15
2014	0	0	0	22	2014	133	133	56	113	2014	15	15	0	22
2015	0	35	0	29	2015	124	124	0	76	2015	30	30	25	20
2016	35	0	0	26	2016	7	7	351	87	2016	107	107	72	19
2017	0	39	33	26	2017	0	0	97	80	2017	48	48	18	54
2018	21	0	31	31	2018	7	7	7	116	2018	0	0	0	54
2019	0	56	0	31	2019	0	97	92	130	2019	0	0	0	54
Total	61	168	64	276	Total	1192	1302	1241	1308	Total	419	382	570	337
Ave	4	12	5	20	Ave	85	93	89	93	Ave	30	27	41	24
	Fir, Fir/Spruce					Swamp Hwd					Bl Spruce/SC			
Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest
2006	0	19	36	20	2006	0	40	0	32	2006	0	17	0	75
2007	19	32	119	20	2007	40	0	0	32	2007	17	0	0	75
2008	45	83	15	20	2008	0	0	40	32	2008	14	14	0	75
2009	0	0	19	21	2009	0	0	0	34	2009	0	0	0	91
2010	12	12	0	18	2010	0	0	0	34	2010	0	0	0	89
2011	0	0	115	13	2011	0	0	0	35	2011	28	28	145	92
2012	5	5	0	20	2012	0	0	0	40	2012	69	69	14	103
2013	0	0	0	27	2013	0	0	0	45	2013	24	24	0	82
2014	59	70	17	21	2014	14	52	0	46	2014	13	13	0	84
2015	11	0	45	21	2015	68	43	0	42	2015	62	62	14	64
2016	0	49	0	15	2016	13	0	0	47	2016	0	0	0	64
2017	0	0	0	15	2017	4	77	0	61	2017	10	10	106	60
2018	49	0	49	15	2018	0	127	18	58	2018	0	0	0	48
2019	0	0	11	14	2019	3	106	81	41	2019	0	0	0	69
Total	200	270	426	260	Total	142	445	139	579	Total	237	237	279	1071

Ave	14	19	30	19	Ave	10	32	10	41	Ave	17	17	20	77
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	Wh. Spruce					Tamarack			
Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest	Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest
2006	0	0	0	2	2006	0	0	0	37
2007	0	0	0	2	2007	0	0	0	37
2008	0	0	40	2	2008	0	0	0	37
2009	0	0	0	2	2009	0	0	0	36
2010	0	9	0	2	2010	0	0	0	40
2011	9	0	0	3	2011	0	0	0	42
2012	0	0	9	3	2012	0	0	0	35
2013	0	0	0	7	2013	0	0	0	36
2014	34	34	0	9	2014	0	0	0	35
2015	11	11	0	7	2015	0	47	0	39
2016	0	0	0	3	2016	47	0	0	37
2017	0	0	0	6	2017	8	8	0	41
2018	0	0	45	6	2018	0	20	0	42
2019	0	0	0	6	2019	20	0	0	45
Total	54	54	94	60	Total	75	75	0	539
Ave	4	4	7	4	Ave	5	5	0	39

All Sales 2006-2019				
Year	Ac Sold	Ac Estab	Ac Closed	Allowable Harvest
2006	782	1311	1306	1625
2007	1357	1176	1514	1625
2008	2734	1738	1747	1940
2009	1023	1736	1426	1925
2010	1175	1728	1420	1879
2011	3296	2038	3007	1880
2012	2143	2173	1536	1892
2013	1790	1988	2015	1887
2014	2192	2116	1655	1891
2015	2213	2253	1461	1871
2016	1926	1830	1713	1814
2017	1511	1765	1401	1859
2018	1180	1560	3016	1809
2019	1231	1621	1297	1886
Total	24553	25033	24514	25783
Ave	1754	1788	1751	1842

Harvest goals are generated by the WisFIRS recon system. These goals are based on timber types, rotation and re-entry ages/periods and stand ages. The goal is to have a regulated harvest acreage each year that allows for a sustainable harvest of timber products in perpetuity. Although acreages harvested may exceed or fall short of the allowable harvest goals on a yearly basis, the average acres harvested per year over the 14-year period depicted in the table, shows that the Oneida

County Forest is harvesting at or below the long-term allowable harvest goal, thus allowing for a sustainable harvest acreage over the long term.

2040.3 FLORA / FAUNA

Natural eco-systems are ever changing. Factors such as climate, insects, disease, human disturbances and natural succession are some of the factors causing this constant change. Timber type changes that have been notable over the past 15 years include the reduction of white birch acreage due to drought, insects, deer browse and natural succession. Invasive species are a constant concern. Over the past 15 years, new populations of invasive species have been identified and treated to minimize or eliminate these species on the landscape. A continued effort to locate, monitor and treat these invasives will continue throughout the course of this plan.

2040.4 RECREATIONAL USE

Recreational uses of the forest continue to be a major part of the management of the county forest. Over the past 15 years, an increase in demand for both silent sports (biking, skiing, snowshoeing and hiking) and motorized sports (ATV/UTV, Snowmobiling) has occurred. In response to these increasing demands, additional silent and motorized recreational opportunities and facilities have been developed and will likely continue to be developed. The development of these facilities must be done on a sustainable basis that takes into account all uses and needs of the forest.

2040.5 HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FOREST AREAS (HCVF)

HCVF's as they are found on the Oneida County Forest continue to provide a valuable asset to the overall health and diversity of the county forest. Over the past 15 years, the boundaries of the HCVF's on the forest have been better delineated to more accurately show the locations of these areas. The areas continue to be monitored by DNR and County personnel to ensure negative impacts are not occurring. No additional HCVF's were identified during that period.

2040.6 ROADS & ACCESS

The roads, both official county forest gas tax roads and non-maintained logging roads are continually monitored by forestry staff. County forest roads are inspected multiple times per year and are continually maintained. Weather events such as flooding and wind can cause issues on a regular basis. These issues are immediately addressed to mitigate any safety issues that may arise. Small segments have been added to the official county forest road system in

the town of Enterprise. There are no anticipated additions to the road system over the course of this plan.

2040.7 DAMS

As required by the DNR, County staff make regular inspections to ensure the Spruce Lake Waterfowl Area dam remains in proper and safe working order. The dam is mowed and woody vegetation is removed several times each growing season. The outflow culvert is continually monitored for beaver activity and when they arise, the issue is reported to APHIS to remedy. These inspections and maintenance activities will continue as long as the dam is in operation. An inspection log for the Spruce Lake Waterfowl Area dam is available upon request from the forestry office.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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Rev. 01/12/2021

CHAPTER 3000

INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT UNITS

The Oneida County Forest does not have designated Integrated Resource Management Units.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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CHAPTER 4000

Revised 01/12/2021

PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS OF 15 YEAR PLAN/FUTURE AMENDMENT LIST

2021-2036 Oneida County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan Updating Schedule and Public Participation Approval

The following will be the process used to update the next Oneida County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan (15-Year Plan). Process was discussed and agreed to at the October 2, 2019 meeting of the Forestry, Land and Recreation committee.

1. Notify public of the upcoming revision process via public notice in newspapers, public service announcements to media and on website and via direct email to interested parties and user groups.
2. Bring 1-2 updated draft chapters to committee for approval each month at the regularly scheduled committee meetings. Meetings are open to the public and public comments on chapters will be taken during meeting.
3. Open up plan to public comments for a 30-day period upon approval of all draft chapters by the Committee. Public comment period is to be announced via public notice in newspaper, public service announcements to media and on website and via direct email to interested parties.
4. Hold one open house for the general public to comment and discuss the plan after the 30-day public comment period.
5. After 30-day comment period and open house, comments are to be addressed and any necessary plan amendments made with Committee approval of draft plan.
6. Once the draft plan has been approved by the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee, it will be sent on to DNR for draft plan review, in case changes are needed prior to approval of Final Plan. (Send to DNR by October)
7. After review by DNR if changes are needed, it will require a final Draft Plan Approval by the Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee.
8. Final County Board Approval of 15-Year Plan.
9. Send to DNR for Final Draft Approval by **December 2020.**

This is the tentative schedule that is required in order to have the plan updated within the required period.

FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

DATE: September 16, 2020

TIME: 5:00 p.m. County Board Room, 2nd Floor, Court House, Rhinelander, WI

PRESENT: Committee Members: Sorensen, VanRaalte, Pence
Via Phone: Mott Excused: Almekinder
Forestry Staff: Fiene, Rady, Tischendorf,
DNR Liaison: Oradei; NCWRPC: Fred Heider

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Sorensen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting has been properly posted in accordance with the procedures set forth by the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

APPROVE CURRENT AGENDA WITH THE ORDER OF AGENDA ITEMS AT CHAIR'S DISCRETION

Motion by Pence to approve the current agenda with the order of agenda items at Chair's discretion. Second by VanRaalte. All aye, motion carried.

Mott joined the meeting via zoom at 5:05 p.m.

15-YEAR PLAN OPEN HOUSE & PUBLIC COMMENTS

Fiene introduced the department employees and read an opening statement including Oneida County Forest statistics and the update procedure for the 15-year plan.

The following comments were received prior to the meeting via phone/email/US mail:

Public comment from Henry Wozniel requesting UTV verbiage be added to County code was read into the record by Fiene. Fiene stated this will be addressed with the final code revisions.

Public comment from Ryan Williams in support of smaller, diverse, and evenly staggered timber harvests to provide better wildlife habitat read into the record by Fiene. Fiene believes his concerns have been addressed.

Public comment from Ron Eckstein, a retired DNR wildlife biologist, supporting Oneida County continuing efforts to sustainably manage the forest resources summarized by Fiene. Fiene believes the County is already focused on the forest management as outlined.

Public comment from TJ Hauge of the Wisconsin Chapter of Hunters and Anglers requesting areas of the county forest remain closed to recreational motor vehicle to promote hunting and fishing opportunities was summarized by Fiene. Fiene believes we have covered his comments.

There were not any public comments received from the Lac du Flambeau Tribe. As required, a virtual meeting was set up by the WDNR comprised of the WDNR, LDF, Oneida County and Vilas County representatives to discuss the 15-year plan.

Public comment from the Oneida County ATV Council in support of developing more ATV/UTV trails was read into the record by Fiene.

Public comment from Andrew at sampkamp@yahoo.com in support of primitive camping on County Forest land was read into the record by Fiene. Fiene stated a remote camping permit and regulations will be developed for the revised 15-year plan.

Technical difficulties resulting in Zoom disconnect from 5:30-5:35.

VanRaalte left the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Mott left the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

Pence left the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Technical difficulties resulting in Zoom disconnect from 6:12-6:14 p.m.

Due to technical issues with Zoom connection, the public comment period will be extended for ten days. Comments will be accepted through noon on September 27, 2020.

No additional comments were received during the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With business completed, Chair Sorensen adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

JACK SORENSEN
CHAIR

TANYA TISCHENDORF
RECORDING SECRETARY