

RESOLUTION # 37-2024

Resolution to Amend the Oneida County Forest 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Resolution approved for presentation to the Oneida County Board by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Oneida County manages approximately 83,000 acres of County Forest Lands along with numerous recreational trails and facilities for multiple benefits; and

WHEREAS, the lands known as the Oneida County Forest are managed under the direction of the Oneida County Forestry, Land and Recreation Committee, in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute 28.11, the County Forest Law; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute Chapter 28.11 requires that all county forests operate under a County Forest 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use plan (the Plan); and

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Forest is third party certified through the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI®) to ensure long-term sustainable management of the Forest; and

WHEREAS, periodic changes to this plan are needed due to changes in management techniques, land use, and requirements of Forest Certification; and

WHEREAS, Forest Certification requires certain items be placed in certain sections of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Land use changes have occurred since the adoption of the Plan;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the changes to chapters 100, 500, 800 and 900 of the Plan as shown on Attachment A to this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Forest Director will forward the amendments to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for approval.

Vote Required: Majority = [check] 2/3 Majority = _____ 3/4 Majority = _____

The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes [check] No _____ as reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, _____,

Date: 3-12-24

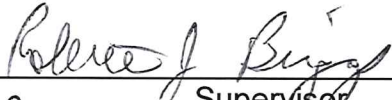
Approved for presentation to the County Board by the Forestry, Land & Recreation

48 Committee this 12th day of March, 2024.


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50 Consent Agenda Item: YES NO

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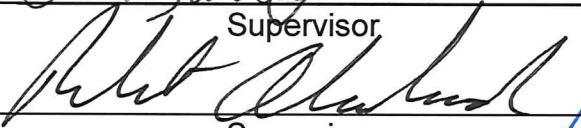
54 Offered and passage moved by:



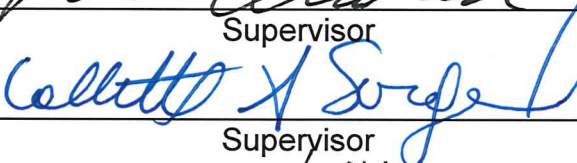
Supervisor



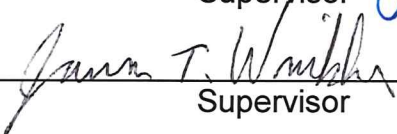
Supervisor



Supervisor



Supervisor



Supervisor

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70 19 Ayes

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72 0 Nays

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74 2 Absent

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76 0 Abstain

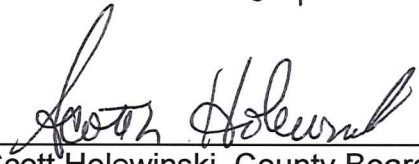
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78 X Adopted

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80 by the County Board of Supervisors this 19 day March, 2024.

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82 Defeated

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Tracy Hartman, County Clerk

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Scott Holewinski, County Board Chair

Supervisors	AYE	NAY	ABS	ABSTAIN
Schultz	X			
Jensen	X			
Fried	X			
Condado	X			
Hanus	X			
Winkler	X			
Roach	X			
Ryden	X			
Schreier	X			
Almekinder	X			
Briggs	X			
Rio	—		X	
Timmons	X			
Cushing	X			
Showalter	—		X	
Newman	X			
Sorgel	X			
Oettinger	X			
Harris	X			
Fisher	X			
Holewinski	X			
TOTALS	19			2
TAGS				

Resolution # 33 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Administration Committee to return Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF) back to Oneida County through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) contingency which were previously allocated in Resolution # 58–2023 for the purpose of the Courthouse HVAC Upgrades – Phase II Project.

Resolution # 34 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Public Works Committee Designating April 15 through April 19, 2024 as Work Zone Awareness Week in Oneida County.

Resolution # 35 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Land Records Committee Granting WPS an Easement for Electric Distribution Across Parcel Number WB-2-1 in the Town of Woodboro.

Resolution # 36 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee to apply for withdrawal from County Forest Law of a Parcel located in the Town of Little Rice for Construction of a Wireless Communication Tower.

Resolution # 37 – 2024: Offered by the Supervisors of the Forestry, Land & Recreation Committee to Amend the Oneida County Forest 15 year Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Appointments to Committees, Commissions and other Organizations:
 Appoint Eileen Persike to the Wisconsin Valley Library Board for a 3-year term to expire in December 2026.

**Oneida County Forest 15 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan Amendments:
February 2024**

Additions are Underlined

Deletions are ~~Struck Through~~

Chapter 100:

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® ~~€006090~~ FSC-100%) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®-0167) ~~SFI-100%~~ certification programs. Forest Certification Chain of Custody and license information can be found at:

<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/timbersales/certification>.

Chapter 500:

505.8.14 Forest Certification

The Oneida County Forest is dual certified by third parties (Forest Stewardship Council® FSC® ~~€006090~~ FSC-100%) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative® SFI®-01617 SFI-100%). Certificate license ~~numbers~~ 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>.

Chapter 800:

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/topic/TimberSales/documents/DNRLandsHCVFSelectionCriteriaFinal.pdf>~~ ~~<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 HCVPs 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 sites 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. ~~Additional inventory is needed to better assess the site's biological values.~~ 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 HCVF)

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.

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)

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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.

Chapter 900:

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.