

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item**

SUBJECT: Tier 3 Management Plans for Stewardship Demonstration Forests

FOR: October 2014 Board meeting

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Teague Prichard, Division of Forestry, State Lands Specialist

SUMMARY:

The Department requests approval of Tier 3 management plans for eight Stewardship Demonstration Forests, totaling 798 acres located in Marinette, Polk, Lincoln, Sawyer, Grant, Iowa, Vernon, and Trempealeau Counties. The purpose of Stewardship Demonstration Forests is to demonstrate sustainable forestry practices to students, professional foresters and non-industrial private forest landowners.

Individual management plans include an assessment of current conditions, their history and use, surrounding landscape and management objectives and prescriptions. The public was informed of the process and an opportunity to comment by way of statewide news release and electronic media. Tribal consultation occurred for properties located within ceded territory.

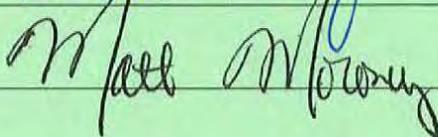
Tier 3 property management plans are minor actions under s. NR150.20(1m)(k) and do not require an environmental analysis.

No public comments were received or controversial issues during the planning process.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend Approval of Tier 3 Management Plans for Stewardship Demonstration Forests

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS (check all that are applicable):

- Background memo
- Tier 3 Management Plans

Approved by	Signature	Date
Bob Mather, Bureau Director		9/5/2014
Paul DeLong, Administrator		9/5/14
Cathy Stepp, Secretary		10/6/14

cc: Board Liaison – AD/8

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: September, 2014

TO: Natural Resources Board Members

FROM: Cathy Stepp – Secretary, Department of Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Approval of Stewardship Demonstration Forests Tier 3 Management Plans

The Department is seeking approval for eight Stewardship Demonstration Forest management plans, totaling 798 acres, owned and administered by the Department and designated as Tier 3 properties for planning purposes. Forestry Demonstration Forests were established in the 1940's to demonstrate forest management practices to woodlot owners and farmers. They continue to serve the purpose of demonstrating forest management practices to students, professional foresters and non-industrial private forest landowners.

In May of 2006, the NRB approved, and the Department codified in manual Code 2230.1, a three tiered planning approach for Department properties. Stewardship Demonstration Forests are defined as Tier 3 management plans, generally described as small, non-complex properties. Tier 3 plans are exempt from the full requirements of NR 44, but generally follow the same planning process and require approval by the Natural Resources Board.

I. Property Descriptions

Originally named, "Timber Harvest Demonstration Forests", these areas were established in the 1940s to demonstrate growing timber and woodlot management to farmers. Over the years the emphasis has changed to include total ecosystem management and education. In 1990, the tracts were renamed "Stewardship Demonstration Forests" to reflect their use to educate the public about managing land for multiple benefits. These unique state properties are currently used to demonstrate past and ongoing sustainable forest management practices to students, natural resource managers and non-industrial private forest landowners.

There are 12 designated Stewardship Demonstration Forests covering a total of 1,056 acres in Wisconsin. The eight demonstration forests pending approval of revised management plans are stand-alone properties. Four additional Stewardship Demonstration Forests are located within existing Department properties, and management and use are included in the property's master plan.

Stewardship Demonstration Forest	County	Established	Acres
Properties included in the public review			
Wausaukee Timber	Marinette	1948	32
Apple River	Polk	1947	46
Chilsen	Lincoln	1947	44
Uhrenholdt Memorial	Sawyer	1952	54
Douglas Hallock	Grant	1984	437
James J. Rule	Iowa	1968	80
Champion Valley	Vernon	1947	52
Hardies Creek	Trempealeau	1950	53
Total Acres			798

II. Management Plan Summary

Each management plan includes a property description complete with maps, including regional and property assessment, the property's purpose and goals, and management objectives and prescriptions.

While each property is unique in character, features, and management needs, the primary purpose of all the properties is the same. Some management commonalities among the properties include: sustainable forestry techniques for demonstration and education; invasive species monitoring and control; educational signage; parking area and trail maintenance for forest management, timber harvest, educational tours and public access. Properties are open for nature-based outdoor recreation, including hunting and trapping.

III. Public Involvement and Significant Issues of Public Interest

Beginning on May 20, 2014, a 21-day public review period for revision of the Stewardship Demonstration Forest property management plans was publicly noticed statewide. People were informed by way of a statewide press release and an email distribution to subscribers of 'eGov', a statewide electronic delivery system.

A comprehensive DNR web page was developed for the Stewardship Demonstration Forests to describe their history and purpose, and to identify individual properties and locations. Draft management plans were posted on the website for public viewing:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/masterplanning/demoforests/>

Public feedback was collected by on-line electronic comment form, paper comment forms and email. Consultation occurred for Stewardship Demonstration Forests located within tribal ceded territory.

No comments were received from the public regarding the draft Stewardship Demonstration Forest Management Plans and, consequently, no issues of concern were raised by the public.

IV. Environmental Analysis Conclusions and Department Recommendations

The Department of Natural Resources concludes that:

- 1) Tier 3 property management plans are minor actions under s. NR150.20(1m)(k) and do not require an environmental analysis.
- 2) Tier 3 property plans are exempt from the requirements of NR 44 and NR 1.60, but they are to be approved by the NRB per Manual Code 2230.1

Recommendation: The Department recommends Natural Resources Board approval of the eight Stewardship Demonstration Forest Tier 3 Management Plans.

Stewardship Demonstration Forests pending approval of Tier 3 Management Plans

Stewardship Demonstration Forest	County	Established	Acres
Wausaukee Timber	Marinette	1948	32
Apple River	Polk	1947	46
Chilsen	Lincoln	1947	44
Uhrenholdt Memorial	Sawyer	1952	54
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Champion Valley	Vernon	1947	52
Hardies Creek	Trempealeau	1950	53
Total Acres			798



**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Tier 3 Management Plan**

Property Name: Wausaukee Stewardship Demonstration Forest

Property Designation or Type: Stewardship Demonstration Forest

DNR Property Code Number: 6975

Forestry Property Code: 3820

Property Location-County: NW1/4 SW1/4 Section 22, T34N-R21E, Town of Wausaukee,
Marinette County

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: **38.00**

Easement acres owned: **None**

NRB approved acreage goal (land records): **NRB has not approved any additional
acreage.**

Map: See Page 6.

Property Manager: Dan Mertz

Address 1: **P.O. Box 199**

Address 2: **1025 Co. Hwy. C**

City, State, Zip: **Wausaukee, WI 54177**

Office Phone: **(715) 856-9153**

Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1. Landscape and Regional Context

The Wausaukee Stewardship Demonstration Forest is located in the Northeast Sands Ecological Landscape. The Land Type Association is 212Tc10 (Wausaukee Outwash Plains). There are no designated Conservation Opportunity Areas or Wisconsin Important Bird Areas associated with the property.

2. Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses

The property is surrounded on three sides by a large block of privately owned recreational land. The fourth side is bounded by a town road and smaller private tracts of generally 10 acres or less. The adjacent lands are a mixture of sandy, abandoned farm fields and upland forests.

3. General Property Description and Management History and Use

The property is a 38 acre tract of land which is primarily growing large, old white and red pine trees with an understory of white pine poles, saplings and seedlings in most areas. There is also a few acres of red pine which was planted in 1948 and has now grown into small sawtimber. The topography of the property is flat to gently rolling. The soils are sandy and there are no water resources. A woods road loops through the property and is connected to a town road which runs the entire length of the west side.

The State of Wisconsin acquired this tract from the federal government in November 1908. When acquired most of the tract was a pole sized stand of mixed pine, predominantly white pine, which probably originated around the time of the Peshtigo Fire. Historical records and ring counts on dominant trees following the 1984 harvest indicate a stand origin of approximately 1875.

From the time of acquisition (1908) until 1945, there are no records of any management activities being conducted on the property.

On March 16, 1945, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Wisconsin Conservation Department and the University of Wisconsin Extension Service. District Forester H.J. Hovind selected this tract as a Timber Harvest Forest for demonstration of potential farm forest production. The purpose of the Timber Harvest Forests, as stated in the 1945 MOU, was to provide publicly owned forest tracts on which "annual or at least biennial timber harvest field days will be the principal medium for demonstrating timber cropping, the maintenance of adequate growing stock and most profitable markets". The first field day was held in 1946, and field days continued to be held periodically until the 1960's.

The U.S. Forest Service became involved in the Timber Harvest Forest program in 1946 with the responsibility of silvicultural management and inventory of volume, growth and yield. The first Cooperative Agreement between all three partner agencies was signed in 1951 and this document reflected the initial focus on research. In the summer of 1948 Carl Arbogast Jr., from the Lake States Forest Experiment Station, established 20 permanent 1/5 acre growth plots.

A revised Memorandum of Understanding was developed in 1969 between the Department of Natural Resources, the University of Wisconsin Extension Service and the U.S. Forest Service. The new objective was to "demonstrate management practices and principles as they can be applied to privately owned forest lands in the state", including timber harvests, recreation, wildlife management, watershed protection, logging techniques, utilization, and marketing.

Approximately 15 timber harvests have occurred during the period of 1945 to 2014. Initially, the harvests consisted of a small volume of pine pulpwood due to the fact that the trees were small and immature. The harvests occurred in conjunction with field days to demonstrate to private landowners that forests could produce periodic harvests and provide income if properly managed. Due to various factors, field days did not occur through the 1970's and by 1980 it was decided that the pine sawtimber growing on the demonstration forest was not typical of the type of timber that most private landowners had on their properties, and therefore field days focusing on this type of timber were of limited value to private landowners. Field days were discontinued. Harvests occurring after 1980 were intended to properly manage the forest resource without including an active educational component. In 1990, the forest was redesignated as a "Stewardship Demonstration Forest" and new signage on the property promoted this concept. The public could tour the forest on their own and observe sustainable forestry taking place, but no formal field days were conducted, and this has been the case until the present (2014).

4.Land Management Cover Types

Most of the property contains white pine and red pine sawtimber with an understory of white pine seedlings and saplings. Three acres of red pine sawtimber was planted, and six acres has a secondary component of aspen. The climax tree species is white pine for the entire property, and most of the property is at this successional stage.

5.Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

There are no listed or concern species on this property or any unique habitat types. This is a common forest community in this area.

6. Invasive Species

There are no known invasive species.

7. Cultural and Archaeological Features

There are no known cultural or archaeological features.

8. Public Uses and Infrastructure

The public uses this property for hunting, hiking, and sightseeing. The only infrastructure is a gated horseshoe shaped logging road made of native soil.

9. Refuges and other Closed Areas

There are no refuges or closed areas.

10. Administrative Facilities

There are no administrative facilities.

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

There are no apparent issues, trends, or needs.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals

The primary purpose of this property is to demonstrate sustainable forest management and responsible stewardship while also using this land as an educational tool for students, professional foresters and non-industrial private forest landowners. A secondary purpose and goal for this property is to maintain the present public recreational uses of this property which includes, but is not limited to hunting, hiking, and sightseeing.

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

Since the entire 38 acre property is growing white pine sawtimber or is succeeding to white pine, the entire property will be managed for natural maintenance of white pine on an evenaged basis. The goal is to grow high quality white pine sawlogs, following principles of

sustainable forestry. Aesthetics management techniques will be practiced along the town road to reduce the visual impact of harvesting and to maintain some white pine legacy trees. The habitat type indicates a rotation age of 110-180 years on this site. Stands will be rotated using shelterwood harvests. Immature stands of white pine will receive intermediate thins until they reach rotation age.

Current and Planned Facilities or Infrastructure

The only facilities on the property now are a native soil logging trail which is about ½ mile long, a small parking area, and an iron gate at each end of the logging trail where it meets the town road. It is the intention to maintain these facilities. There are no new facilities planned.

Other On-going Management Activities

There are no plans to increase the project boundary. The presence of invasive species will be monitored on an ongoing basis, and control measures undertaken if appropriate. Endangered resources, if discovered on or near the property will be taken into consideration during land management activities. The same applies to cultural or archaeological resources.

Additional Comments: None.

Changes or Additions to Current Management and Development: None.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THIS PLAN AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

On May 20, 2014, a 21-day public review period for revision of Stewardship Demonstration Forest property management plans was publicly noticed statewide. Publics and partners were informed by way of a statewide press release and an email distribution to subscribers of 'eGov', a statewide government delivery system.

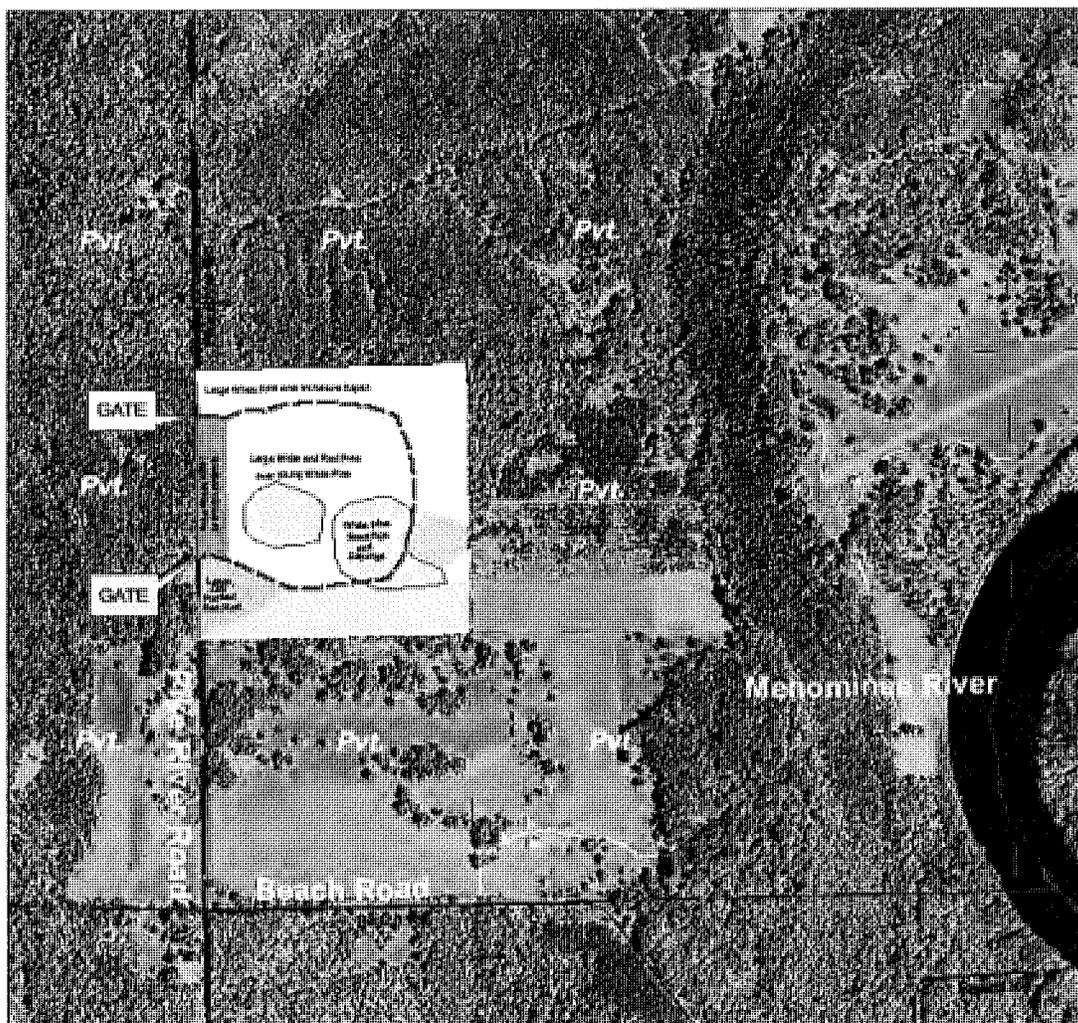
A comprehensive DNR web page was developed for Stewardship Demonstration Forests to describe their history and purpose, and to identify individual properties and locations. Draft management plans were posted on the website for public viewing.

The public was invited to respond by on-line electronic comment form, paper comment forms and email. Consultation occurred for Stewardship Demonstration Forests located within the tribal ceded territory.

No comments were received by the public.

Wausaukee Stewardship Demonstration Forest

NW1/4SW1/4 Section 22, T34N-R21E
Town of Wausaukee
Marinette County
38.00 Acres



March 2014

Scale: 8" = 1 Mile

Mapped by: Dan Mertz



**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Master Plan - Tier 3**

Property Name: Apple River Timber Harvest Forest

Property Designation or Type: Demonstration Forest

DNR Property Code Number: 6910

Forestry Property Code: 4988

Property Location-County: Polk

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: 46

Easement acres owned: 0

NRB approved acreage goal (land records):

Maps

1. Ownership, State Locator, Facilities (Page 4)
 2. Property Boundary and Cover Types (Page 5)
 3. Original Survey (Page 6)
-

Property Manager: Paul Heimstead

Address 1: DNR Forestry
Address 2: 941 Mallard Lane Rm 104
City, State, Zip: Balsam Lake, WI 54810
Office Phone: 715-485-3518

Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1.Landscape and Regional Context

The Apple River Demonstration forest is located entirely within the Forest Transition Landscape. It is located in the part of Wisconsin covered by the Superior lobe of the Keewatin ice sheet. The characteristic landform pattern is rolling collapsed moraine interlaced with outwash terraces and intermixed with ice-walled lake plains. Soils are predominantly moderately well drained sandy loam over dense, acid sandy loam till. Common habitat types include ACaCi and AA.

2.Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses

The property is surrounded by wooded private property on 3 sides and the county owns lands on the other. The Apple River serves as the east boundary. Current surrounding land uses are classed as productive forest.

3.General Property Description and Management History and Use

(Management History and use, Vegetation, Topography, Soils, Water Resources)

Land for this 46 acres forest was purchased from LeRoy and Clarence Markee of Amery, Wisconsin in 1946 for \$5200. So far as it is known, heavy timber cutting has never occurred on this land. From 1938 to 1945, the forest was grazed quite severely in some parts.

The current forest is predominantly red oak 90-100 years old with several patches of older white pine. Northern hardwoods dominate the understory.

Management objectives have been to maintain northern hardwoods but to explore red oak and white pine regeneration as these species mature beyond the thinning stage.

In 1947, the forest was divided into 8 compartments of 5 to 8 acres in size with the goal of cutting one each year for demonstration purposes. 21-5th acre permanent plots were established and measured 6 times through 1961. 7 timber harvests were made through 1957, two of them being salvage cuts that covered the entire property. The latest harvest was in 1985 being again part salvage and part selection. Over 230,000 Board Feet have been removed from the forest during these harvests, yet current standing volumes are similar to those in 1946.

Latest activities include: creating an access point off of State Hwy 8, dozer scarification on a few acres in 1992 to stimulate white pine and/or red oak regeneration, boundary re-establishment in 2001, permanent plot relocation in 2003, and reconnaissance update in 2008.

Soils: The soils are a combination of Amery and Santiago silt loams, Rosholt loam, and Cromwell sandy loams. There are some fluvial and saturated soils associated with the river along the east boundary.

Water Resources: The Apple River is the properties property's east boundary. The Apple River is a high value warm water stream, which supports a regionally noted recreational industry centered on tubing float trips. The river is impacted by nonpoint source pollution generally agriculturally related although rural residential development is increasing. This stream and watershed should be considered a high priority for nonpoint source pollution control.

4.Land Management Cover Types

(land cover, forest cover types, size class and successional stage)

The property is 100% wooded and is typed as 86% large sawlog size red oak and 14% large sawlog size white pine. The oldest hardwood is just over 100 years old and the oldest white pine is just over 135 years old. The understory is mainly a mix of northern hardwood species including red maple, sugar maple, basswood, elm, and ash.

5.Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Northern dry mesic forest is noted on the current NHI database review. This is a common forest community in this area.

6.Invasive Species

None noted on latest reconnaissance data, but buckthorn is likely present.

7.Cultural and Archaeological Features

No archeological or historic sites have been identified to date.

8.Public Uses and Infrastructure

(recreation uses, recreation facilities, road infrastructure, etc)

A state snowmobile trail bisects the property north to south. This trail is maintained by the local club. Access to the property is a small driveway off of State Highway 8 through county owned woodlands on the north side of the property.

The main recreation uses of the property are hunting, snowmobile, and fishing.

9.Refuges and other Closed Areas None

(Describe and include in map):

10.Administrative Facilities None

(administration facilities, service roads, etc)

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

Need: Securing legal access to the property. Current access is across county owned woodlands that are managed in conjunction with the demonstration forest (county land restricted by deed).

Trend: Seemingly endless threats to forest health from invasive plant species, non-native and native forest insects, diseases and deer, all being exacerbated by climate changes, will likely become more and more of an issue as time goes on.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals

The purpose of the stewardship demonstration forests is to demonstrate sustainable forest management and responsible stewardship while also using these lands as educational tools for students, professional foresters and non-industrial private forest landowners. The forests provide an opportunity to demonstrate active timber management and sustainable forest management. While growth and yield records are no longer maintained on a regular basis, most of the tracts do have good historical information that may be useful in research, and the lands are open for potential "new" research opportunities.

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

Cover Types	Total Acres	Management Objectives	Management Practices	Management Issues and Constraints
Oak Woodland	40	The objective of this stand is to use periodic single tree and group selection practices through big tree silviculture to maintain an oak component as long as possible while slowly converting the stand to a mix of northern hardwoods and white pine.	Single tree and group selection improvement harvests as density and stand condition dictate.	Access, economic feasibility, and deer browse damage.
White Pine Woodland	6	The objective of this multi parted stand is to grow large white pine to biological maturity using single tree selection and improvement thinnings to maintain the health and growth of the residual.	Single tree selection for stand health in conjunction with stand 1.	Access, economic feasibility, and deer browse damage.

Current and Planned Facilities or Infrastructure

Type of Facility	Total (number/length)	Management Activities	Management Issues and Constraints
Roads - public	0		
Roads – non-public	0		
Parking lots	0		
Boat landings	0		
Designated trails	0		
Managed, non-designated trails	1	Snowmobile trail maintenance by local club	None
Dikes, ditches	0		
Dams	0		
Other	0		

Other On-going Management Activities (add additional items as necessary)

	Current Management Actions	Management Issues and Constraints
Project Boundary Modification	N/A	
Invasive exotic species	Inventory and monitoring	Time and Funding
Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need	None	
Cultural and Archeological Resources	None	

Additional Comments: None

Changes or Additions to Current Management and Development: None

Summary of Public Involvement Activities

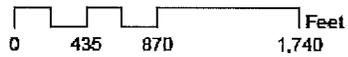
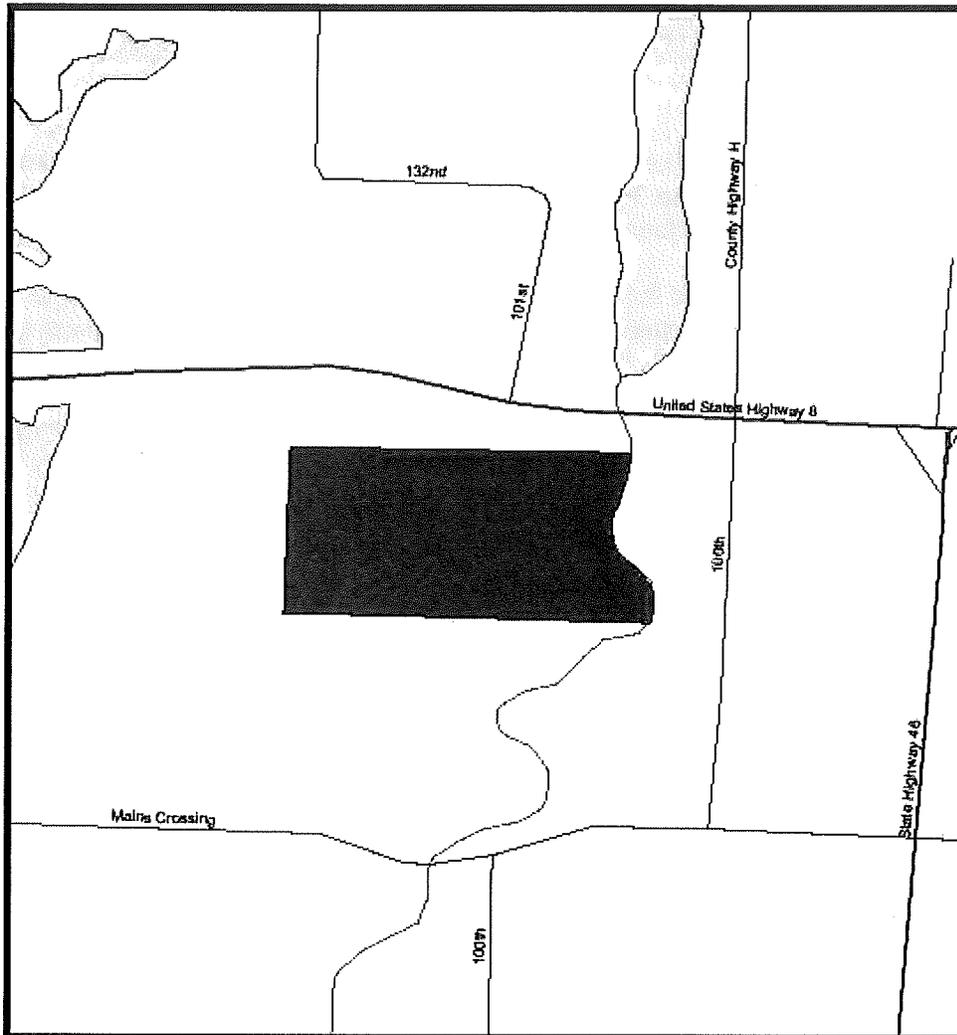
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The public was invited to respond by on-line electronic comment form, paper comment forms and email. Consultation occurred for Stewardship Demonstration Forests located within the tribal ceded territory.

No comments were received by the public.

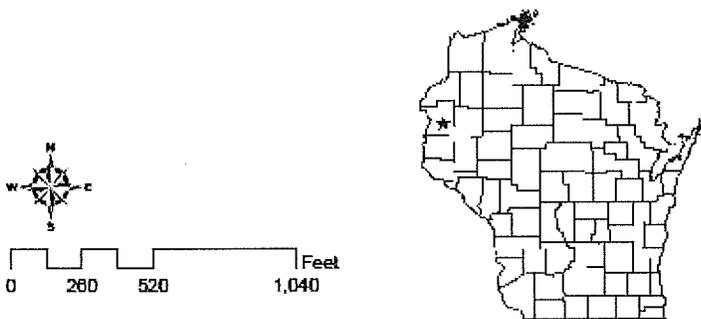
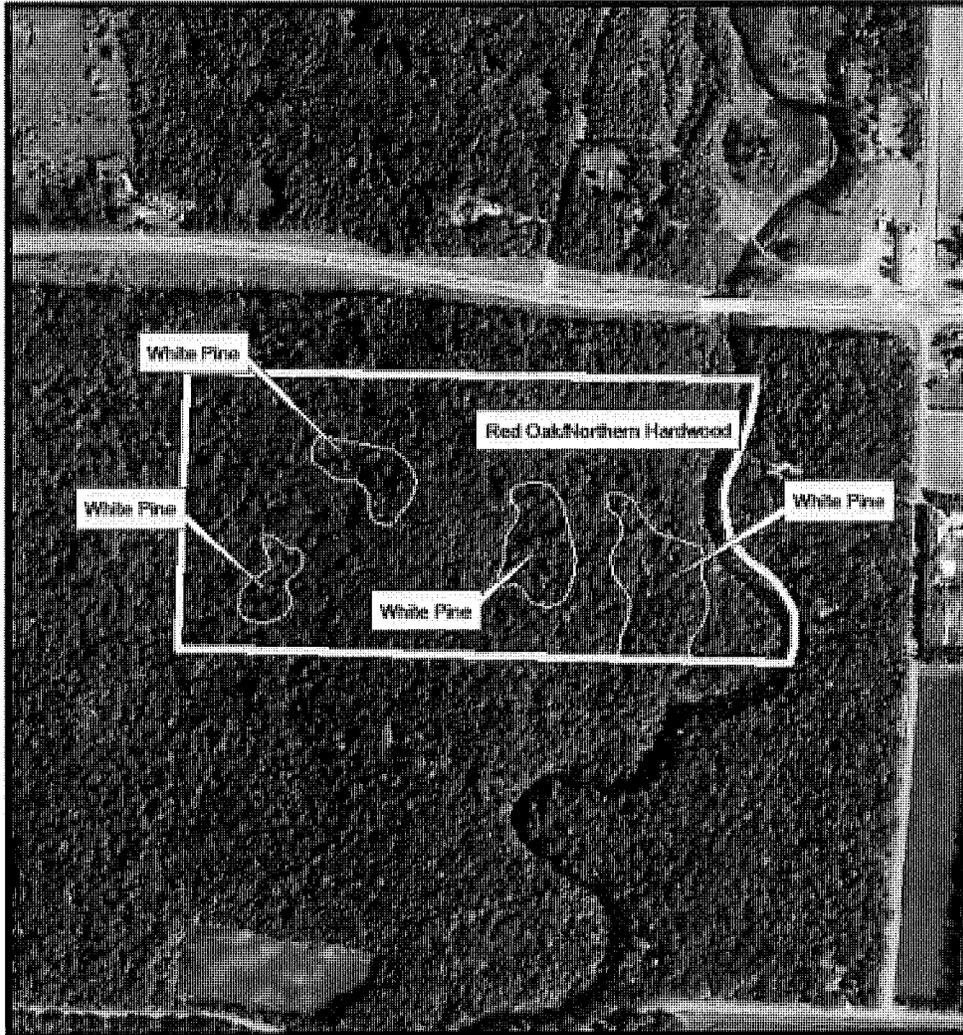
Apple River Harvest Demonstration Forest



Legend

- polk_roads
- state highways
- polk_water
- open water

Apple River Harvest Demonstration Forest



SURVEY OF SECS 32 & 33 T 34 N. R 16 W

APPLE RIVER
TIMBER HARVEST FOREST

1 inch = 5.00 chains

Center U.S. Highway No. 8

Pond
1/2 Cor.

19.913

19.913

29
32
28
33

State Highway
Commission

State Highway
Commission

9.90

19.89

19.89

NE 1/4 - NE 1/4
30.40 Acres
State

NW 1/4 - NW 1/4
15.5 Acres
State

15.27

Inc
4.34 1/2

15.33

15.31

13.84 1/2

13.84 1/2

12.65

of 31.00
Iron pipe
P. 10.00
at the top

River

19.81

19.81

19.85

Iron Pipe

19.78

19.78

1/4 Iron pipe

Nov. 1970
1970



**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Master Plan – Tier 3**

Property Name: Chilsen Demonstration Forest

Property Designation or Type: Demonstration Forest

Property Code Number
Forestry Property Code: 3508

Property Location-County: Lincoln

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: 44
Easement acres owned: 0
NRB approved acreage goal (land records): 44

Property Manager: Richard LaValley Merrill DNR Forester

Address 1: Merrill Ranger Station
Address 2: 101 Eagle Dr.
City, State, Zip: Merrill, WI 54452
Office Phone: (715) 536-4149
Email: Richard.LaValley@wisconsin.gov



Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1.Landscape and Regional Context

The Chilsen Demonstration forest is located in the Forest Transition Ecological Landscape. These properties include the following Land type Associations: 212Qc02 Medford-Hamburg Moraines and 212Qc03 Merrill Outwash Plain. There are no designated Conservation Opportunity Areas or Wisconsin Important Bird Areas associated with the property.

In the early 1900's, near the end of the pine era, the untapped potential of the vast stands of hardwoods and hemlock in Lincoln County was realized. These forested parcels were clearcut in 1920. Much of the suitable cut over land in the forest transition was cleared for agriculture leaving lands too wet or too rocky to grow back to forests. The result is a mosaic of woodlands and agricultural lands in this landscape.

2.Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses These parcels of land are surrounded by private ownership. Adjacent land uses include agriculture, single family housing and forest management and recreation.

3.General Property Description and Management History and Use

The land that comprises the Chilsen Demonstration Forest is a 44 acre property just south of the intersection of County Highways C and G in the Township of Schley. The 44 acre property was originally clearcut in 1920 and then purchased by the Chilsen family in 1925. In 1947 the land was leased to the

University of Wisconsin as an area used to demonstrate the following:

1. Continuous periodic harvests of timber crops
2. Compatible recreational uses
3. Wildlife management and habitat management.
4. Watershed protection and restoration
5. Logging techniques and safety.
6. Utilization and marketing practices
7. Growth projection methodology
8. Analysis of silvicultural strategies.

For 40 years the University of Wisconsin and the WI DNR managed the property and conducted field tours. The University of Wisconsin along with staff from the North Central Forest Experiment Station (Stoeckeler and Arbogast) of the USFS maintained, re-measured and analyzed data on 20 continuous forest inventory (CFI) plots that monitored growth and yield, species composition, ingrowth and mortality, and harvest levels over time. By 1990 the University of Wisconsin lacked the staff and budget to continue their lease of the property. The Chilsen family donated the property to the WI DNR in 1991 who has continued management along with staff from the North Central Forest Experiment Station and re-measurement of the CFI plots. The property has become part of a system of demonstration forests across the state.

The property has been used as a demonstration area for landowners to see the effects of various management strategies. Many field days and tours have been held on the property for the public.

Soils: The southern 44 acre parcel is dominated by a Magnor Silt Loam soil in the upland portions of the property and Minocqua Muck in the Hemlock portions of the property. These soils are very wet which will limit harvesting to frozen ground conditions.

4.Land Management Cover Types

Northern Hardwoods - A total of 34 acres (77%) of the property is typed as northern hardwoods. The dominant size class is large saw timber 15+” in diameter (31 acres). Three acres were regenerated to demonstrate even-aged management in 1989 making saplings the second most prevalent size class.

Hemlock comprises the bulk of the remaining timber types. 10 acres are 9-15” in diameter. All of the hemlock has abundant natural regeneration of hemlock with over 3000 seedlings and saplings per acre.

5.Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Both properties contain northern mesic forest community. Within the Forest Transition Ecological Landscape, northern mesic forest is listed as a major ecological gap in the State Natural Area system.

6.Invasive species

A few buckthorns have been observed in the parking lot I the southern portion of the property. These will be controlled either chemically or mechanically when management takes place and after management takes place on the property.

7.Cultural and Archaeological Features

The Lincoln County Archaeological and Historical Sites map (WDNR, 2012) indicates no hits on any of the properties.

8.Public Uses and Infrastructure

This property provides opportunities for public recreation. Hunters use the property and the public uses the property for walking trails and bird watching. A portion of the main connecting corridor of a snowmobile trail crosses the eastern portion of the property.

9.Refuges and other Closed Areas

No portions of either property are designated as refuges or closed to the public.

10.Administrative Facilities

The property has a 120 foot long improved driveway entering the property off of County Highway G which provides access to a 50 foot by 50 foot improved gravel parking lot. These improvements were graveled in the fall of 2013. In addition to the gravel approximately 4150 feet of (access) walking trails were mowed and cleared in 2013. A snowmobile trail crosses the western side of the property and is approximately 1400 feet long on this land.

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

The issues and trends with this property include:

1. Impeded drainage makes the walking trails very wet during a significant portion of the growing season. This limits the time of the year in which to schedule field tours.
2. There have been in the past some encroachments along the property line to the south that included mowing, locating improvements and cutting of trees on state land. Enforcement has reduced this in recent years.
3. Land industrial landowners own land to the east and south of this property. These properties were also high quality northern hardwood stands and all have been high graded or clearcut in the last 3 years.

Management needs include:

1. The property sign naming the property was removed several years ago due to poor condition. This sign has not been replaced due to lack of funds.
2. Walking trail improvements including gravel would make this property more accessible to field tours.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals :

Demonstrate forest management practices associated with timber types associated with the property. Demonstrate land management practices associated with soils and conditions found in north central Wisconsin. Illustrate economic, social, and environmental benefits of forest management.

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

Northern Hardwoods:

The primary objective for this timber type is to maintain and regenerate these stands while demonstrating the range of management options for the sustainable management of northern hardwoods both uneven-aged and even-aged. The primary values for management are demonstrating methods of timber production while maintaining or enhancing wildlife values, watershed protection and aesthetics.

Hemlock/Tamarack:

The management objective for the hemlock is to demonstrate methods to maintain and regenerate hemlock outside riparian zones.

Property Prescriptions:

Northern Hardwoods:

Stand 1 of Compartment 1 is a 31 acre stand that has been managed uneven- aged for several harvests over a number of decades and has now begun to develop a regulated age and size class distribution. This management regime will continue by implementing harvests designed to improve stand quality by removing poor quality trees and releasing crop trees. Canopy gaps will

be included to enhance regeneration of species such as yellow birch, basswood and white ash and to enhance shrub and ground layer communities to benefit wildlife. Treatment blocks managing to a maximum diameter of 18", 24" and 30" have been established and will be continued so as to demonstrate the pros and cons of each management goal.

Stand 2 in Compartment 1 is sapling-sized even-aged northern hardwoods and will be managed even-aged through periodic thinning to release the best quality trees and red oak.

Hemlock/Tamarack:

Stand 3 in Compartment 1 (the southern parcel) will be managed by individual tree selection harvests under uneven-aged management designed to discriminate against all hardwood species except yellow birch and create a mixture of canopy gaps or group selection harvests to release the abundant hemlock seedlings and saplings. Maximum stand diameter will be extended retaining trees that approach biological maturity.

Current and Planned Facilities or Infrastructure

Type of Facility	Total (number/length)	Management Activities	Management Issues and Constraints
Roads - public	0		
Roads – non-public	1/120'	The Non-public improved road was graveled in 2013	
Parking lots	1	Parking lot was graveled in 2013	
Boat landings	0		
Designated trails	1/1400'	Facilities and Lands and Forestry staff cut trees and mowed trail in 2013	In past have had problems with unauthorized motor vehicle access and cutting trees over the property line by adjacent landowners.
Managed, non-designated trails	5/4150'	Facilities and Lands and Forestry cut trees and mowed trail in 2013	Lack of funds to improve walking trails
Dikes, ditches	0		
Dams	0		
Other		Old sign with the property name was removed from property due to poor condition. New sign placed May of 2014	

		The property line re-established and marked in blue paint and public land signage in 2012.	
--	--	--	--

Other On-going Management Activities (add additional items as necessary)

	Current Management Actions	Management Issues and Constraints
Project Boundary Modification	44	
Invasive exotic species	Buckthorn	
Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need	No biotic inventory has been completed on property,	
Cultural and Archeological Resources	None	

Additional Comments: None.

Changes or Additions to Current Management and Development:

MAP ATTACHMENTS:

1. Ownership, State Locator, Facilities (including a state locator map) (Page 8)
2. Property Boundary and Habitat (cover types) (Page 9)

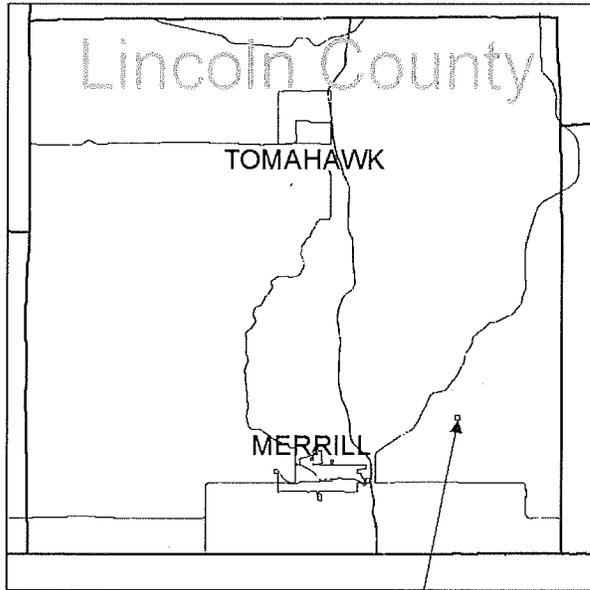
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The public was invited to respond by on-line electronic comment form, paper comment forms and email. Consultation occurred for Stewardship Demonstration Forests located within the tribal ceded territory.

No comments were received by the public.

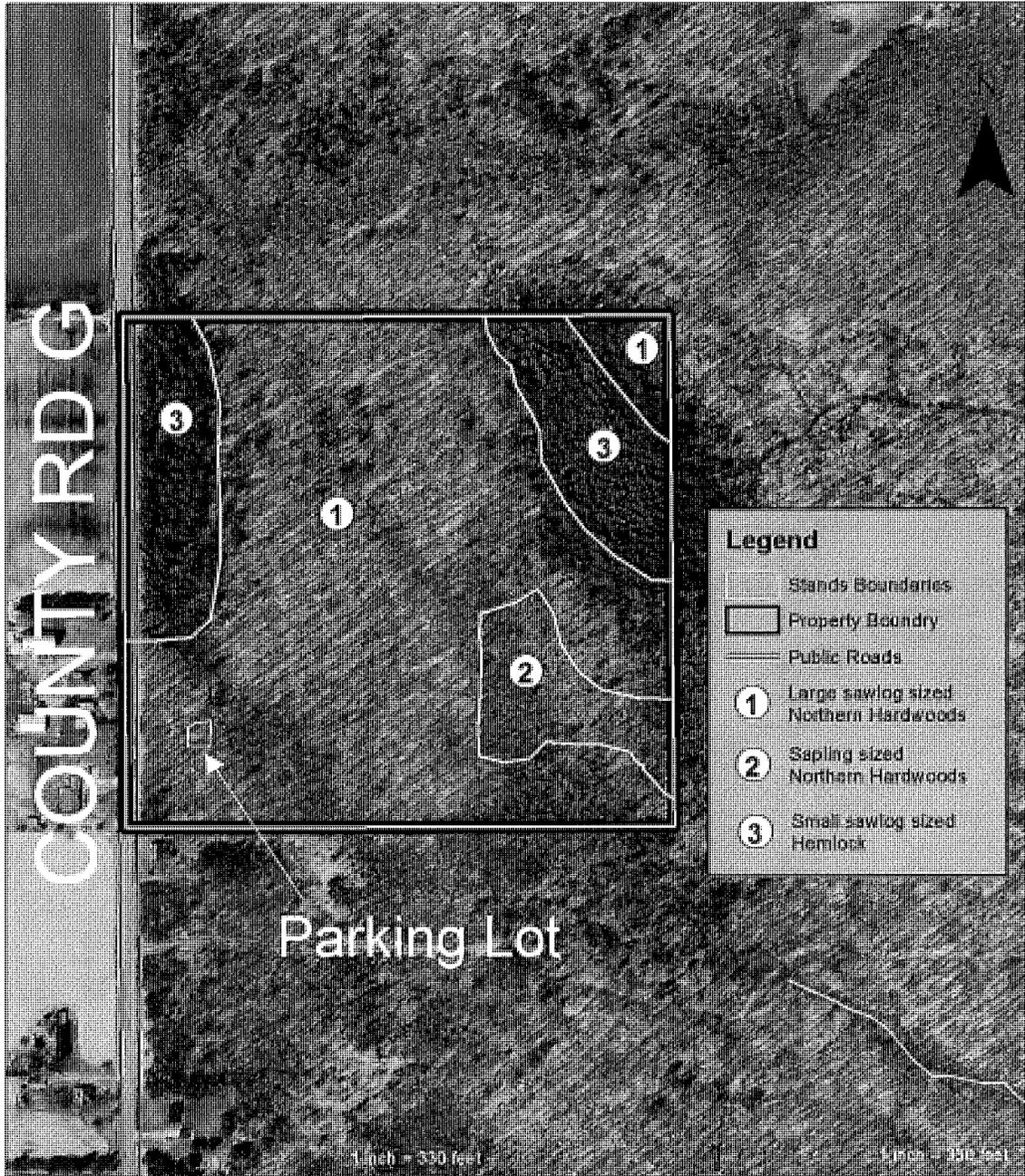


Chilsen Demonstration Forest
 T32N R8E section 30 - 44 acres
 Township of Schley -Lincoln County



Chilsen Demonstration Forest
T32N R8E section 30 - 44 acres
Township of Schley -Lincoln County

Covertypes Map





**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Tier 3 Management Plan**

Property Name: Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest

Property Designation or Type: Demonstration Forest

DNR Property Code Number: 6970

Forestry Property Code: 5802

Property Location-County: Sawyer County

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: 123.39

Easement acres owned: none

NRB approved acreage goal (land records): UNKNOWN

Maps

1. Ownership Boundary with State Locator
 2. Access: Parking, Trails and Road Systems
 3. Topographic Map
 4. WisFIRS Cover Type Boundaries
-

Property Manager: James Kujala

Address 1: 10220 State Road 27

Address 2: DNR Service Center

City, State, Zip: Hayward, WI 54843

Office Phone: 715-634-9658 ext. 3502



Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1. Landscape and Regional Context

The Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest is located primarily within the Northwest Sands Ecological Landscape, although the southern portion of the property crosses into the North Central Forest. The property is within the Upper Namekagon River watershed. The local landscape is almost entirely forested, with relatively minor amounts of agriculture present, including a nearby cranberry operation to the north.

2. Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses

The Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest is located near Seeley, Wisconsin in Sawyer County, less than 1/8 mile from U.S. Highway 63. County Highway OO bisects the Uhrenholdt Forest, and a town road, Old Highway OO, borders the forest on a portion of its' southeastern side. A town road, Valley Road, borders the property on its northeastern side.

Adjacent ownership includes the Sawyer County Forest (Seeley Hills Block) on the south boundary, and many small privately owned parcels (developed and undeveloped) surrounding the rest of the property, including the Vortanz Sawmill on the western boundary. Although it is not immediately adjacent, the Namekagon River, part of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, is less than 1/4 mile away to the west.

3. General Property Description and Management History and Use

Located in the Namekagon River valley, much of the Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest is dominated by flat topography with sandy and sandy loam soils, primarily supporting red and white pine, and aspen forest types. The south end of the property includes land that rises in elevation and climbs to the Seeley Hills, and this part of the property includes a red oak forest type with slightly more fertile soils. There are wetland areas within the Uhrenholdt, comprised of tamarack and black spruce timber types, as well as non-forested tag alder and lowland grass types. There are not any navigable streams, lakes, or ponds located on the property.

DNR records indicate that the Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest was acquired by the State of Wisconsin in several steps beginning in 1947 with a purchase of 104 acres from Jens Uhrenholdt, a local farmer, logger, and son of Soren and Kristine. Jens Uhrenholdt sold an additional 3.5 acres to the state in 1969. In 1974 two additional purchases were made from William Flavell and Edward Cody totaling approximately 15 acres, completing the current ownership and boundaries of the Uhrenholdt Forest.

Soren and Kristine Uhrenholdt established a family farm in the Namekagon River valley in 1900. As with many farmers, logging and caring for the land played a large role in the family's survival. After World War II, the children of Soren and Kristine desired to create a

memorial forest as a sanctuary for the memory of their parents, as well as for son Andrew and grandson Curtis, who were lost in World Wars I and II respectively. In 1947 a large memorial stone was engraved with an inscription in memory of these 4 family members, and placed in the forest by the Wisconsin Conservation Department on the north side of Highway OO.

Records indicate the old growth stand of white pine located *north of Highway OO* where the memorial stone was placed has been unmanaged or passively managed, with the primary objective of leaving this area as a "memorial sanctuary" to Soren, Kristine, Andrew, and Curtis. This unmanaged white pine stand has also been used as an educational comparison to the managed part of the Demonstration Forest located south of the highway, and those managed areas on the north side of the highway surrounding the old growth stand. The portion of the property located *south of Highway OO* has a long history of active forest management, with the purpose of demonstrating sustainable forest management techniques.

4.Land Management Cover Types

- See attachments from WisFIRS.

5. Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

The NHI database lists Northern Wet Forest and Northern Mesic Forest as occurring on the Uhrenholdt Demonstration Forest. The NHI database does not list any wildlife or plant species as occurring on the property, but comprehensive surveys have not taken place.

6.Invasive Species

An invasive species survey has not been completed for the property. A survey is planned to be completed in the summer of 2014.

7.Cultural and Archaeological Features

A search of the state database for cultural and archeological features indicates that a burial site is located within the Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest. This area must be protected against any unauthorized disturbance by WI stats 157.70.

Within the defined burial site area:

- Any ground disturbing activities such as stump pulling and road construction will be prohibited.
- Harvesting should be restricted to be done only on well-frozen ground, ideally with snow cover, to minimize soil disturbance.
- All other vehicle use within burial site area will be prohibited year round.

8. Public Uses and Infrastructure

- A small parking area is located on the south side of Highway OO. There is a sign located at the parking area.
- Recreational users include walkers, hikers, runners, bikers, cross country skiers, hunters and snowmobilers.
- The Seeley Lions Club hosts an annual children's fat tire bike event that utilizes a portion of the trail system.
- A short stretch of snowmobile trail crosses the property on the north side of Hwy OO on its' western edge. Sawyer County currently has an approved DNR Snowmobile Use Permit to use and manage this very short section of trail in the winter.
- A simple weather resistant pamphlet holder contains a map and information about the educational foot/walking path and the stands of timber along the path. The walking paths include several wooden walkways that pass through wetlands. These wooden walkways were built in the 1970s and 1980s.
- Service roads, which are better described as "woods roads", are present and open for foot and bike travel, as well as cross country skiing, but are normally gated and closed to motorized travel except when needed for working staff and contractors, or for special public events.
- A gated forest road allows access to a block of the Sawyer County Forest to the south, but the hill leading from the Demonstration Forest to the County Forest is so steep it is not practical to use it for timber hauling purposes.

9. Refuges and other Closed Areas

There are not any areas on the property that are closed to the public. Access roads within the property are normally gated and closed to vehicle access. These access roads are occasionally opened for organized public recreation events or for work access by staff or contractors.

10. Administrative Facilities

- There are not any administrative facilities located on the property.

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

Robert Olson, son of famous writer and outdoorsman Sigurd Olson and his wife Elizabeth Olson, and grandson of Soren and Kristine Uhrenholdt, currently lives on the original Uhrenholdt homestead that is adjacent to the Uhrenholdt Demonstration Memorial Forest. Mr. Olson has been actively involved in the development of this plan by providing a history of the property and his family's ideas for future management. His comments have primarily focused on the past and future management of the area of the property located north of Highway OO.

In the area of the Demonstration Forest north of Highway OO, Mr. Olson has requested the area be managed primarily as a "Memorial", or area of "sanctuary", as was originally proposed and practiced since 1947. He did state that his extended family's current wishes for

management of this area would include:

- maintenance of the parking area and trail system, as well as the main sign, and;
- the felling and removal of dead and dying timber, and the removal of fallen timber, and;
- the forest "be kept open to the public for educational, spiritual, aesthetic, historic, and scientific purposes."

In essence, Mr. Olson indicated that some management could take place in the memorial area, but that management primarily be done to provide a clean and safe forest for the public to walk and reflect in.

The following activities would need to be completed on the north side of Highway OO to fulfill Mr. Olson's requests:

- addition of signage on north side of Highway OO
- trail system improvements including clearing downed trees, and brushing
- felling and removal of standing dead trees
- removal of fallen trees
- maintenance/improvement to boardwalk over wetland

The following activities are recommended to be completed on the south side of Highway OO:

- gating and gate replacement
- signing
- boardwalk maintenance/improvement
- continued brushing and mowing of current trail system.
- parking lot improvement.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals

Originally named "Timber Harvest Demonstration Forests", these areas were established in the 1940's to demonstrate growing timber and woodlot management to farmers. Over the years, the emphasis changed to include total ecosystem management and education. In 1990, the tracts were renamed "Stewardship Demonstration Forests" (SDF) to reflect their use to educate the general public about managing land for multiple benefits.

The present purpose of the Stewardship Demonstration Forests is to demonstrate sustainable forest management and responsible stewardship while also using these lands as educational tools for students, professional foresters and non-industrial private forest landowners. The forests provide an opportunity to demonstrate active timber management and sustainable forest management. While growth and yield records are no longer maintained on a regular basis, most of the tracts do have good historical information that may be useful in research, and the lands are open for potential "new" research opportunities.

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

Use table below if desired **OR** narrative to describe objectives / prescriptions

Cover Types	Total Acres	Management Objectives	Management Practices	Management Issues and Constraints
Aspen	10	Maintain in aspen timber type.	Coppice regeneration harvests	None
Red Pine	14	Maintain as red pine timber type	Periodic thinnings with clearcutting at rotation	None
Oak	15	Maintain as oak type but assess possibilities for partial conversion to white pine at rotation	Intermediate thinnings with even-age rotation method	None
White Pine	57	Managed Area: Maintain as white pine in managed area. Implement practices to regenerate white pine. Unmanaged Old	Managed Area: Periodic thinnings with clearcut at rotation age. Unmanaged	Management of old growth stand on north side of Hwy 00 will be restricted to

		Growth Area: Allow natural processes to determine future timber composition.	Area: Active management is not planned at this time.	clean up of dead trees from trail system.
Black Spruce	13	Maintain as black spruce timber type.	Some of spruce was planted on upland and used as a seed nursery.	Water Quality BMP use required in wetland areas
Tamarack	7	Maintain as tamarack timber type.	Part of stand has previously served as a seed nursery.	Water Quality BMP use required in wetland areas
Lowland Grass	1	Allow natural ecological process to determine future type.	No active management planned.	None
Lowland Brush - Alder	4	Protect and release experimental planting of wet/fenced area. In other areas allow natural ecological processes to determine future type.	Monitor/measure results of experimental planting of tamarack, spruce, white pine.	None

Current and Planned Facilities or Infrastructure

Type of Facility	Total (number/length)	Management Activities	Management Issues and Constraints
Roads - public	none	n/a	n/a
Roads – non-public	More than 2 miles	These roads were originally constructed for forest management activities such as logging, and now serve a dual purpose of interpretive and recreational trails	These roads/trails will continue to be needed for periodic logging activities. Interaction with recreational user groups before and during logging activities will help reduce conflicts.
Parking lots	One parking lot on the south side of Hwy OO with room for approximately 6 vehicles.	An additional parking area, if built on the north side of Hwy OO, would likely encourage more visits to the old growth and memorial stone.	Since reconstruction of Co. Hwy OO, the approach to the parking area needs to be lifted adjacent to the Hwy.
Boat landings	none	n/a	n/a
Designated trails	2.75 miles of trails, including 4 board walks with a total length of 715 feet.	Trails include sign posts with a self-guided interpretive brochure. Four board walks cross wetlands.	The trails on the north side of Hwy. OO need trees removed, brushing, and mowing. All trails need some sign replacement or maintenance.
Managed, non-designated trails	Cross country ski trails. Snowshoeing and winter fat bike trails.	Interpretive trails on the south side of Hwy OO have been “unofficially” mowed and then groomed in winter for ski trails, snowshoeing, and biking by local ski club.	These uses are very compatible with the property goals. Formal agreements with partners/user groups doing trail maintenance will be needed in the future to continue to allow these management activities.
Dikes, ditches	none	n/a	n/a
Dams	none	n/a	n/a
Other	“Memorial”. A rock with approximate dimensions	A large Memorial stone, etched with a dedication in memorium to 4 Uhrenholdt family members in 1947	The rock currently has lichens and mold growing on it due to age and its location in a dark, damp

	4'x3'x3'	and placed adjacent to the trail system on the north side of Hwy 00.	forest understory. Also, it is located just far enough off the highway that it is not readily apparent to visitors that it is there. A sign indicating its presence and a cleaning of the stone's surface is recommended.
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Other On-going Management Activities (add additional items as necessary)

	Current Management Actions	Management Issues and Constraints
Project Boundary Modification	None	None
Invasive exotic species	None known. Survey planned for summer 2014.	None at this time.
Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need	Search of Natural Heritage Inventory database shows 2 forest communities, a special concern mussel, and a threatened reptile within the 1 mile buffer area.	None of these NHI hits are known to exist or have suitable habitat within the Uhrenholdt Forest.
Cultural and Archeological Resources	Archeological records indicate a burial site may be located on the south and west side of the property.	Future ground disturbing activities prohibited in the designated area.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THIS PLAN AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

Gordon Christians, Retired DNR Forester and assigned Uhrenholdt property manager for more than 30 years. (1980-2012)

Robert Olson, local resident, grandson of original owners and homesteaders Soren and Kristine Uhrenholdt

Terry Penman, volunteer and Seeley Lions Club member

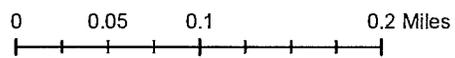
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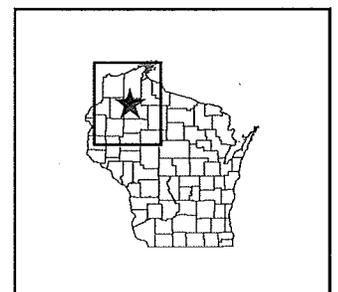
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Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest Sawyer County, Wisconsin

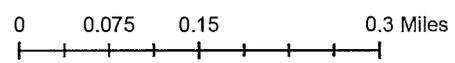
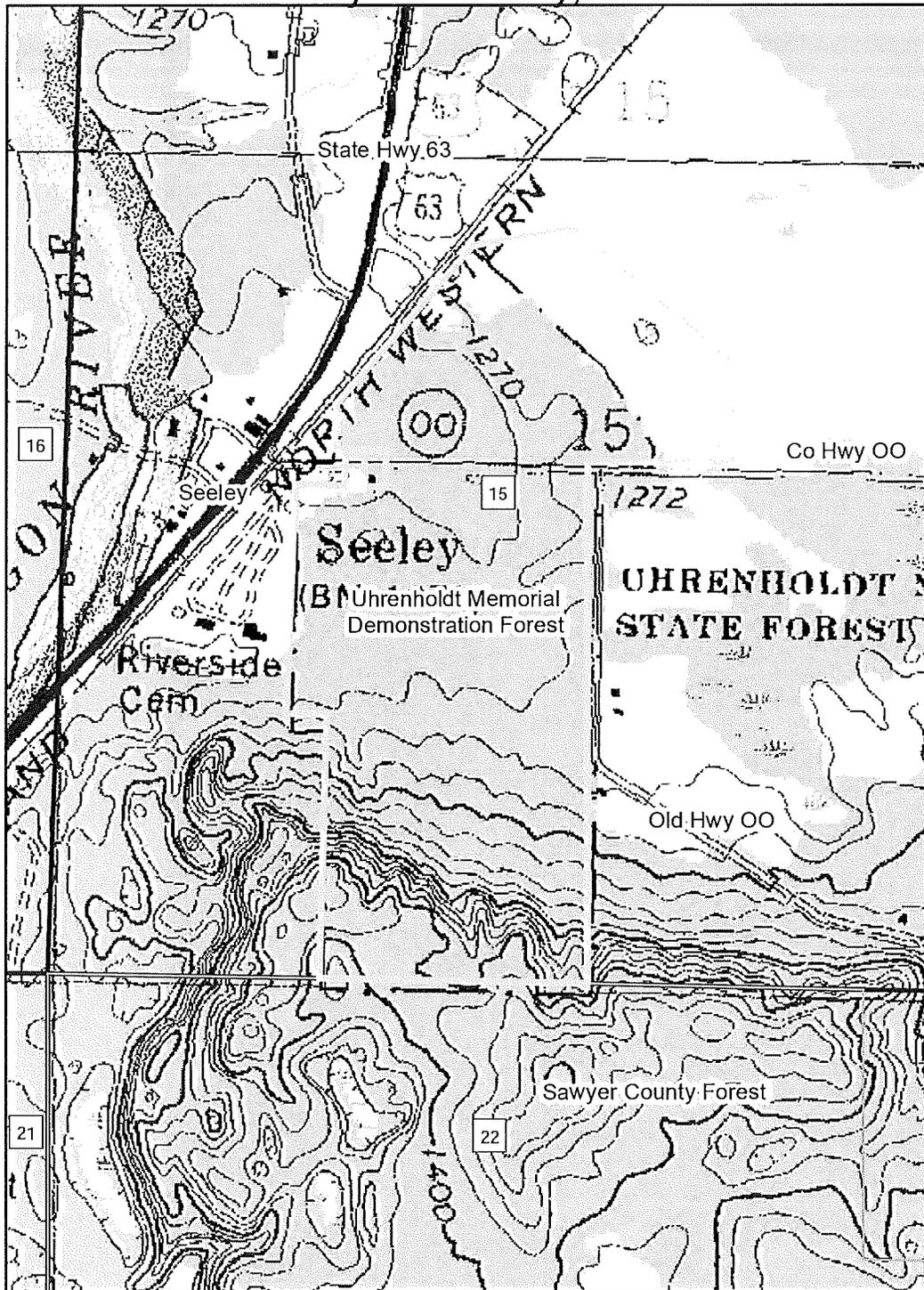


Legend

- Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest
- County Forest
- Sections

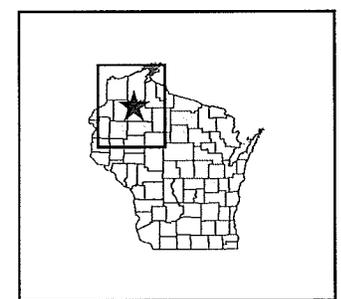


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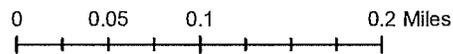


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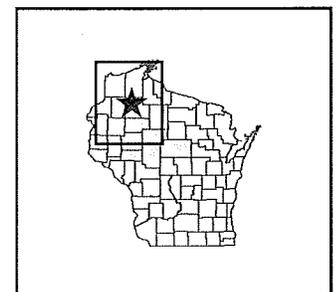


Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest Trail and Road System



Legend

- Uhrenholdt Memorial Demonstration Forest
- Uhrenholdt Boardwalks
- Uhrenholdt Trails 2014
- Sections





Property Cover Type Acreage

Print Date: 7/10/2014
Report 101

5802 - UHRENHOLDT MEM TIMBER DEMO FOREST

Acreage

Recon Acres	121	
Forested Acres	116	Forested acres include acreage from stands that have a true forest type for their primary forest type.
Scheduled for Management	93	
Not Scheduled for Management	23	Acreage not scheduled for management includes acreage from stands with a prefix of: R - Designated Wild River Zone Y - Designated Wilderness Area Z - Other Stand Omitted from Management
Non-Forested Acres	5	





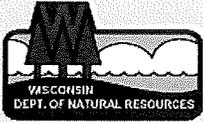
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Print Date: 7/10/2014
Report 101

5802 - UHRENHOLDT MEM TIMBER DEMO FOREST

Forest Type Acreage	Forest Type	Forest Type Description	Stands	Acres	Percent of Forested Acres	Percent of Recon Acres
	A	ASPEN	2	10	9 %	8 %
	O	OAK	1	15	13 %	12 %
	PR	RED PINE	2	14	12 %	12 %
	PW	WHITE PINE	6	57	49 %	47 %
	SB	BLACK SPRUCE	2	13	11 %	11 %
	T	TAMARACK	2	7	6 %	6 %
		Total:	15	116	100 %	96 %





Property Cover Type Acreage

Print Date: 7/10/2014
Report 101

5802 - UHRENHOLDT MEM TIMBER DEMO FOREST

Non-Forest Type Acreage	Forest Type	Forest Type Description	Stands	Acres	Percent of Non-Forested Acres	Percent of Recon Acres
	KG	LOWLAND GRASS	1	1	20 %	1 %
	LBA	LOWLAND BRUSH - ALDER	1	4	80 %	3 %
		Total:	2	5	100 %	4 %

*Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding





Stand Information by Compartment

Print Date: 7/10/2014
Report 110

Treatment Description
 TN - Thinning, non-commercial HM - Habitat maintenance, non-commercial T - Thinning, commercial
 PR - Pruning SP - Site Prep RE - Regeneration even-aged
 RL - PL - Planting harvest RA - Regeneration all-aged harvest
 Release

Harvest Status
 A - Active
 X - Tract # assigned, contract not signed

Property : 5802 - UHRENHOLDT MEM TIMBER DEMO FOREST

Stand	Exam	Primary	Secondary	Understory	Origin	Site Index	Inv.	Mgt.	Forester	Pres.	Harvest																		
Pre	#	Year	T	S	D	T	S	D	T	S	D	Habitat	Acres	Yr.	Ht.	MSD	Spp.	SI#	BA	CD	BDFT	Lvl	Soil	Obj	Treat	Codes	Year	Status	
Compartment No : 590																													
A	1	2008	PW	1500	5	NH	0511	1					12	1890	120	24	PW	68	138	4	34,380	32	C	O	RE	10,0,0	2024		
2007: 7 acres prep'd for planting/natural regen - fecon/spraying (11/08)																													
AZ	2	2008	PW	1500	5	PR	1500	3					23	1890	120	24	PW	68	157	4	37,900	32	C	A					
No Cut Comparison Stand (11/08)																													
P	3	2008	PR	0509	5	PW	0509	1					3	1962	63	8	PR	68	143	41	0	32	C	O	T	2,0,0	2014		
																								RE	10,0,0	2062			
TRACT #198 SALE #87 (06/00)																													
P	4	2014	T	0509	4	PW	0509	1					6	1989	55	7	T	54	145	25	0	32	F	A	T	2,0,0	2014		
	5	2008	LBA										4		0	0		0			0	32	F	A					
	6	2014	PW	0005	1								3	2000	10	1	PW	55	1	1	0	31	C	O	T	2,0,0	2030		
	7	2008	O	1115	4								15	1924	80	14	OR	62	78	2	6,000	32	C	A	T	1,0,0	2015		
																								RE	3,0,0	2024			
	8	2008	A	1115	3								6	1986	36	7	A	70	115	15	1,200	32	C	A	RE	1,0,0	2031		
Pocket of AB and T should be left at time of harvest (11/08)																													
AP	9	2008	PW	0509	1								1	1984	32	6	PW	78	90	4	0	32	C	O	TN	1,0,0	2012		
																								T	2,0,0	2038			
																								RE	3,0,0	2068			
Portion of stand includes apalachian white pine plantation (11/08)																													
	10	2008	A	0005	3	NH	0005	1					4	1984	20	4	A	46	10	0	0	32	C	A	RE	1,0,0	2029		
P	11	2008	PR	0509	3								11	1986	38	6	PR	85	160	16	0	32	C	O	T	2,0,0	2016		
																								RE	10,0,0	2076			
1 acre Tamarack plantation is included here (north of main stand) (11/08)																													
AP	12	2008	T	0005	3								1	1986	42	4	T	77	73	0	0	32	C	O	T	2,0,0	2016		
																								RE	10,0,0	2076			





Stand Information by Compartment

Print Date: 7/10/2014
Report 110

Treatment Description

TN - Thinning, non-commercial HM - Habitat maintenance, non-commercial T - Thinning, commercial
 PR - Pruning SP - Site Prep RE - Regeneration even-aged
 RL - PL - Planting harvest RA - Regeneration all-aged harvest
 Release

Harvest Status

A - Active
 X - Tract # assigned, contract not signed

Property : 5802 - UHRENHOLDT MEM TIMBER DEMO FOREST

Stand	Exam	Primary	Secondary	Understory	Origin	Site Index	Inv.	Mgt.	Forester	Pres	Harvest
Pre #	Year	T S D	T S D	T S D	Habitat	Acres	Yr. Ht. MSD	Spp. SI# BA CD BDFT	Lvl Soil	Obj	Treat Codes Year Status

Compartment No : 590

13	2008	KG				1	0 0	0		0	32 C	A			
P	14	2014	PW 0509 5	A 0511 1		11	1989 40 10	PW 62 167 28	0	30 C	O T	2,0,0	2014		
P	15	2008	PW 0005 2			7	2000 4 1	PW 65 0 0	0	32 C	C TN	1,0,0	2024		
S	16	2008	SB 0005 2			12	1980 35 4	SB 56 80 3	0	32 C	A TN	1,0,0	2016		
Will thin as cones become available/necessary (11/08)															
	17	2014	SB 0509 3			1	1989 35 5	SB 62 80 10	0	31 C	A T	2,0,0	2030		
SubTotal :						121									
Total :						121									





Long Term Harvest Goals

Print Date: 7/10/2014
Report 201

5802 - UHRENHOLDT MEM TIMBER DEMO FOREST

Forest Type	15 Year Total (acres)	15 Year Average (acres)	Forest Type Description
O	30	2	OAK
PR	15	1	RED PINE
PW	12	1	WHITE PINE
T	1	0	TAMARACK
Total:	58	4	

* This report reflects average acreage goals over a 15 year period. The specific acreage goals for each year are presented on the Annual Goals page. The information presented above should not be used for annual target amounts.





**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Tier 3 Management Plan**

Property Name: Douglas Hallock Demonstration Forest

Property Designation or Type: Demonstration Forest

DNR Property Code Number: 6937

Forestry Property Code: 2207

Property Location-County: Grant

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: 440.56

Easement acres owned: 0

NRB approved acreage goal: 435.59

Maps

1. Ownership, Property Boundaries, State Locator, Roads, and Access: Page 4
 2. Cover Types: Page 5
-

Property Manager: Allen King

Address 1: DNR Forestry

Address 2: 150 West Alona Lane, Suite 3

City, State, Zip: Lancaster, WI 53813

Office Phone: (608)723-2397

Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1. Landscape and Regional Context

The Douglas Hallock Demonstration Forest (DHDF) is located in the Western Coulee and Ridges Ecological Landscape (WCREL) and has the following Land type Association (LTA): 222Lc18 - Hills and Valleys – Wisconsin River Drainage.

The Western Coulee and Ridges Landscape is characterized by its highly eroded, unglaciated topography with steep sided valleys and ridges, high gradient headwaters streams, and large rivers with extensive, complex floodplains and terraces. Ancient sand dunes occur on some of the broader terraces along the Mississippi and Wisconsin rivers.

The Hills and Valleys – Wisconsin River Drainage LTA is characterized by well drained and moderately well drained silty and loamy soil with a silt loam or sandy loam surface over noncalcareous clayey or loamy residuum or over silty loess; most areas over limestone, sandstone, or shale bedrock.

Historical vegetation in this landscape consisted of southern hardwood forests, oak savanna, scattered prairies and floodplain forests and marshes along the major rivers. With Euro-American settlement, most of the land on ridge tops and valley bottoms was cleared of oak savanna, prairie, and level forest for agriculture. The steep slopes between valley bottom and ridge top, unsuitable for raising crops, grew into oak-dominated forests after the ubiquitous pre-settlement wildfires were suppressed.

Current vegetation is a mix of forest (41%), agriculture (36%), and grassland (14%) with wetlands (5%) mostly in the river valleys. Primary forest cover is oak-hickory (51%). Maple-basswood forests (28%), dominated by sugar maple, basswood and red maple, are common in areas that were not burned frequently. Bottomland hardwoods (10%) dominated by silver maple, swamp white oak, river birch, ashes, elms, and cottonwood are common within the floodplains of the larger rivers. Relict "northern" mesic conifer forests composed of hemlock, white pine and associated hardwoods such as yellow birch are rare but do occur in areas with cool, moist microclimates. Dry rocky bluffs may support xeric stands of native white pine, sometimes mixed with red or even jack pine. Prairies are now restricted to steep south- or west-facing bluffs, unplowed outwash terraces along the large rivers, and a few other sites. They occupy far less than 1% of the current landscape. Mesic tall grass prairies are now virtually nonexistent except as very small remnants along rights-of-way or in cemeteries.

2. Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses

The Douglas Hallock Demonstration Forest, while not itself within the official boundary of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway, is adjacent to the LWSR and is thus influenced by some of the same resource designations and management implications, including being within the boundaries of the Lower Wisconsin Bluffs and Floodplains Conservation Opportunity Area (COA). The property is surrounded on all other sides by private property that is primarily wooded, some agricultural lands, as well as pastured woodlands.

3. General Property Description and Management History and Use

The Douglas Hallock Demonstration Forest is located in Grant County approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the village of Millville. The property contains 440.56 acres of forest land. The area is open to public use such as hunting, fishing, and hiking.

The land which is now the Douglas Hallock Demonstration Forest was private farmland until the mid-1980's, when the state bought the property. Historically, dairy was the main emphasis during the years 1866 to 1958. The property was part of two farms later combined into one farm. The total forestland

cleared for cropland was 59 acres. Beef were raised from about 1920 to 1940. In 1959, cattle were removed and the cropland was entered under the Conservation Reserve Program.

In 1959 to 1961 the fields were planted to trees. Red pine was planted on the uplands and white spruce on the valley fields, with 500 walnut scatter planted near the parking lot. The spruce failed due to inadequate early management as did the walnut seed interplanted later with red pine in low survival areas. A new landowner replanted the valley fields to walnut/white pine in 1968.

Since the DNR purchased the property in 1984 there have been several timber sales to regenerate oak. In these areas, oaks were planted and for the most part these have regrown to oak forests. Via grants and timber sales, an excellent road and trail system has been developed throughout the property.

Most recently, strip clearcuts and an overstory removal of a shelterwood system have been implemented in order to regenerate oak. These areas were planted with oak and walnut to supplement natural regeneration. There will be continued grant funded site preparation and planting work done in the strip clearcut areas to insure adequate oak regeneration. This will insure an oak forest in the future in a landscape where oak stands are declining.

Permanent regeneration plots have been established in past harvest areas with assistance from DNR silviculturalist. Monitoring of these plots is ongoing.

4. Land Management Cover Types

- Forested cover types total 440.56 acres (99%) of total recon acres.
- Oak (82%) 366 acres of 80-120 year old oak in the 15+ inch size class
- Central Hardwoods (9%) 42 acres of 1-100 year old stands ranging in all size classes from seedlings to 15+ inch trees
- Red Pine (6%) 26 acres of 50 year old trees in the 9-15 inch size class
- White Pine (2%) 9 acres of 50 year old trees in the 9-15 inch size class
- Walnut (~1%) 4 acres of 90 year old 15+ inch trees
- Non-forested acreage accounts for less than 1% of the total acreage for the property.

5. Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

The DHDF is not specifically listed in the DNR's Wildlife Action Plan's Implementation document for the Western Coulee and Ridges Ecological Landscape (WCREL) (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/COA.html>). However, one natural community type – Southern Dry-mesic Forest – is found on the property, for which there are “major” opportunities for protection, restoration or management.

In addition, oak forests are an important resource for several important resident bird species along with other neo-tropical migratory songbirds. Insects that feed on oak buds and during leaf out, along with the structure of large oak trees create prime habitat for these birds during bird arrival and migration. The presence of oak forests is important for neo-tropical songbirds, making continued management and regeneration of the oak type necessary for future populations.

Priority Species of Greatest Conservation Need for the WCREL associated with the community and habitat types on each property include Acadian Flycatcher, Blue-winged Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Red-headed Woodpecker, Whip-poor-will, Wood Thrush, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Black Rat Snake, Bullsake, Northern Prairie Skink, Ornate Box Turtle, Prairie Ringneck Snake, Timber Rattlesnake, Western Worm Snake,

Yellow-bellied Racer, Gray Fox, and Woodland Vole. The DHDF contains at least 2 State Threatened bird species as well as a Bird Rookery within the property boundary.

The DHDF, while not specifically identified within the 2005 Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan, does physically lie within the Lower Wisconsin Bluffs and Floodplain COA, which is recognized as COAs of Continental Significance because of the large river system that includes riparian natural and upland natural communities that support numerous Species of Greatest Conservation Need. As such, this property could be considered to have Continental Significance. Additionally, the DHDF property contains the Southern Dry-mesic Forest and Southern Mesic Forest community types which are typical features found in the Driftless area and should be considered when managing the area.

6. Invasive Species

Moderate levels of buckthorn, garlic mustard, multiflora rose, and honeysuckle exist throughout the property.

7. Cultural and Archaeological Features

No known cultural or archeological sites found on the property.

8. Public Uses and Infrastructure

Barker Hollow Road bisects the property North to South and provides access to both portions of the property. Hunting is one of the heaviest recreational uses of the property. Numerous trails provide access to hunters as well as hikers and bird watchers.

9. Refuges and other Closed Areas

None

10. Administrative Facilities

None

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

Need: There is a need for proper signage and boundary line marking. Stream bank protection measures are needed to mitigate erosion concerns caused by heavy rains. Monitoring of forest health issues is needed annually. Monitoring for the presence of Thousands Cankers (black walnut) is needed. This disease has not been documented in Wisconsin (or the Midwest as of 2014). An active monitoring program should be started to ensure this disease does not create forest health problems in the DHDF in years to come.

Issues: Threats to forest health from invasive plant species, non-native and native forest insects, diseases and deer browse will likely become more and more of an issue as time goes on. Oak wilt and gypsy moth are significant forest health threats that should be monitored. Thousands Canker of walnut may become an issue in the future.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals

Purpose:

The purpose of the stewardship demonstration forests is to demonstrate sustainable forest management and responsible stewardship, while also using these lands as educational tools for students, professional foresters, and non-industrial private forest landowners. The forests provide an opportunity to demonstrate active timber management and sustainable forest management. While growth and yield records are no longer maintained on a regular basis, most of the tracts do have good historical information that may be useful in research, and the lands are open for potential "new" research opportunities.

Goals:

- 1) The production of high quality saw logs at maximum growth rate is the highest priority for the property. Oak is the dominant merchantable cover type. Management will include other merchantable, compatible species whenever possible, including reforestation work.
 - a. Veneer production will be the goal unless specifically stated otherwise. Oak and walnut will normally receive the benefit of management when site conflict occurs.
 - b. Sawlogs of all merchantable species will be harvested when economically feasible from all stands. Management will favor of oak, walnut, and high value species or softwoods in established plantations.
- 2) Maintain oak cover types where feasible
 - a. Diversify age classes-regenerate stands so that all age classes of oak are represented on the property
 - b. Thin to achieve larger diameter trees
 - c. Increase coarse woody debris
 - d. Crop tree release oak in young stands
- 3) Emphasize importance of forest interior songbirds
- 4) Thin scattered pine plantations to promote growth and maintain for forest diversity
- 5) Control invasive species as needed
- 6) Continued management and possible expansion of small prairie openings in oak woodlands. Prescribed fires have been previously used in these areas to benefit native prairie species.

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

- (1) **Oak** - Maintain oak cover types by conducting regeneration harvests in stands suitable for oak. Shelterwood and strip clearcuts are already in use at the property. Plant oak seedlings in areas where natural regeneration is lacking. When regeneration is adequate, remove shelterwood trees and conduct regeneration harvests once stand rotation age is reached. Sale design will consider effects on forest interior songbirds.
- (2) **Pine** – Sell pine plantation thinnings when age appropriate and markets allow. Maintain pine as long as possible for forest diversity.
- (3) **Central Hardwoods** – If there is a walnut component to any central hardwood stand, these will take priority in management. Although this property main objective is to promote oak, this does

not necessarily mean the stand will be converted to oak. Central hardwood stands will be allowed to remain if site is not suitable for oak or other merchantable species exist.

(4) Walnut – Grow large high quality walnut to demonstrate to the public the economic benefits of growing large diameter walnut.

Current and Planned Facilities or Infrastructure

Type of Facility	Total	Management Activities	Management Issues and Constraints
Roads - public	0		
Roads – non-public	0		
Parking lots	1	Unsurfaced lot/log landing. Maintenance is performed as needed.	None
Boat landings	0		
Designated trails	0		
Managed, non-designated trails	1/approx. 100'	BMP demonstration area	Clearing of timber along adjacent fence line
Dikes, ditches	0		
Dams	0		
Other	0		

Other On-going Management Activities

	Current Management Actions	Management Issues and Constraints
Project Boundary Modification	Marking/signing of boundaries is in planning stages. Will be underway soon.	Funding
Proposed Timber Sales	Approximately 100 acres have been proposed for harvest in primarily oak stands.	None
Invasive exotic species	Monitoring of invasive species is ongoing.	Personnel time and funding

Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need	Monitoring and mitigation of impacts to species and habitats are ongoing. Multiple species and habitats are found on the property.	Timing of management practices to mitigate impacts, personnel time and funding
Cultural and Archeological Resources	None	None

Additional Comments: None

Changes or Additions to Current Management and Development: None

The 3.97 acres of property owned above the current acreage goal are recommended as an addition to the property acreage goal as part of the Tier 3 Master Plan Approval. The land was purchased to improve access.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THIS PLAN AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

Summary of Public Involvement Activities

On May 20, 2014, a 21-day public review period for revision of Stewardship Demonstration Forest property management plans was publicly noticed statewide. Publics and partners were informed by way of a statewide press release and an email distribution to subscribers of 'eGov', a statewide government delivery system.

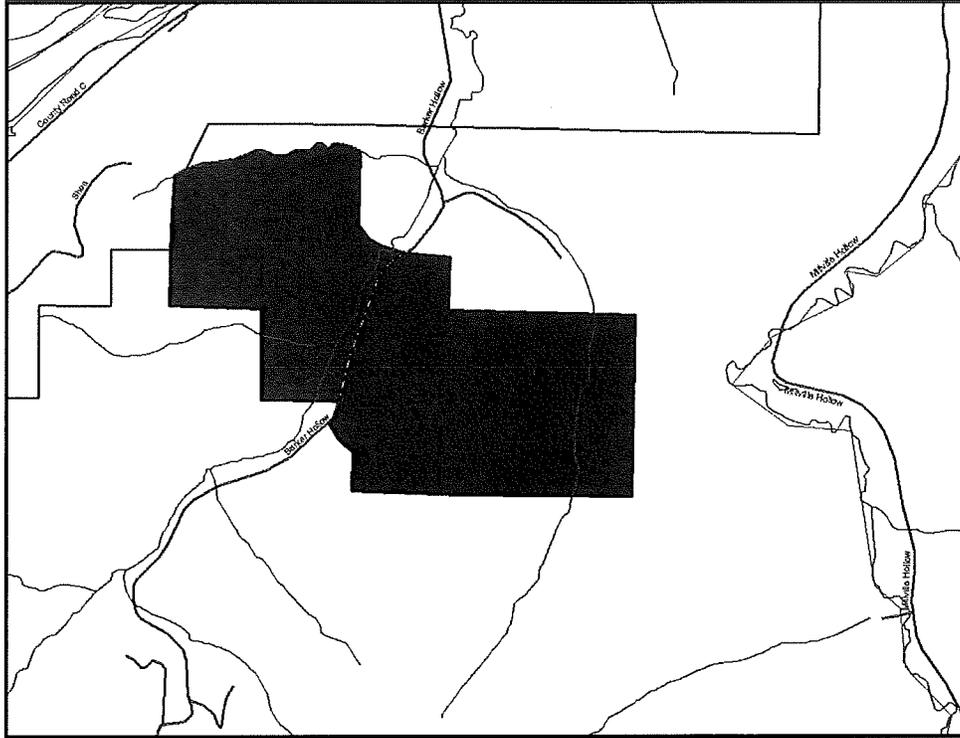
A comprehensive DNR web page was developed for Stewardship Demonstration Forests to describe their history and purpose, and to identify individual properties and locations. Draft management plans were posted on the website for public viewing.

The public was invited to respond by on-line electronic comment form, paper comment forms and email. Consultation occurred for Stewardship Demonstration Forests located within the tribal ceded territory.

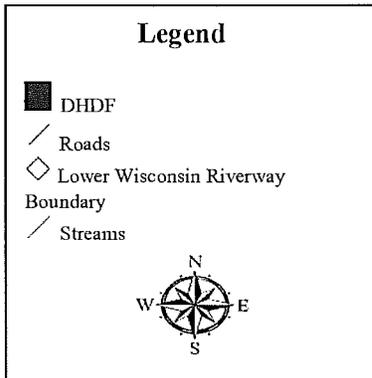
No comments were received by the public.

Douglas Hallock Demonstration Forest

Ownership, Property Boundaries, State Locator, Roads, and Access Map

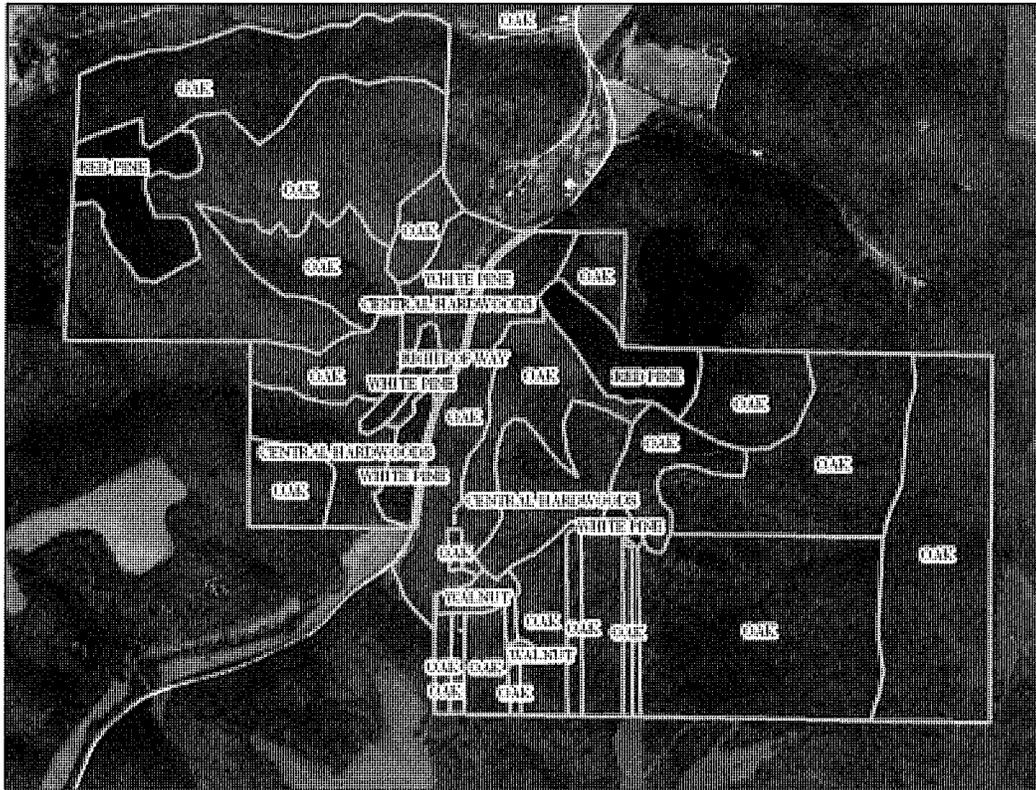


1 in. = 2640 ft

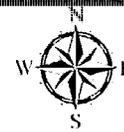


Cover Type Map

Douglas Hallock Demonstration Forest



0 275 550 1,100 1,650 2,200 Feet





**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Tier 3 Management Plan**

Property Name: James J. Rule Demonstration Forest

Property Designation or Type: Demonstration Forest

DNR Property Code Number: 2503

Forestry Property Code: 2503

Property Location-County: Iowa County

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: 86 acres

Easement acres owned: 0 acres

NRB approved acreage goal (land records):

Maps

1. Ownership, State Locator: State Map Rule DF.pdf
 2. Property Boundary and Cover Types: Cover Types Rule DF.pdf
-

Property Manager: Tom Hill

Address 1: DNR-Division of Forestry

Address 2: 1500 N. Johns Street

City, State, Zip: Dodgeville, WI 53533

Office Phone: (608) 935-1917

Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1. Landscape and Regional Context

The James J. Rule Demonstration Forest (JRDF) is located in Iowa County, approximately 8 miles northwest of Dodgeville. The property contains 86 acres of forest land. It is located in the Western Coulee and Ridges Ecological Landscape (WCREL), and has the Land type Association 222Lc18 (Hills and Valleys-Wisconsin River Drainage), characterized by well-drained and moderately well-drained silt and loamy soil with a silt loam or sandy loam surface over non-calcareous clayey or loamy residuum or over silt loess; most areas over limestone, sandstone, or shale bedrock. It is on the southern edge of the Dodgeville Wyoming Oak Woodlands and Savanna Conservation Opportunity Area (COA) located in the Western Coulees and Ridges Landscape.

The Western Coulee and Ridges Landscape is characterized by its highly eroded, non-glaciated topography with steep sided valleys and ridges, high gradient headwaters streams, and large rivers with extensive, complex floodplains and terraces. Ancient sand dunes occur on some of the broader terraces along the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers.

Historical vegetation in this landscape consisted of southern hardwood forests, oak savanna, scattered prairies and floodplain forests and marshes along the major rivers. With Euro-American settlement, most of the land on ridge tops and valley bottoms was cleared of oak savanna, prairie, and level forest for agriculture. The steep slopes between valley bottom and ridge top, unsuitable for raising crops, grew into oak-dominated forests after the ubiquitous pre-settlement wildfires were suppressed.

Current vegetation is a mix of forest (41%), agriculture (36%), and grassland (14%) with wetlands (5%) mostly in the river valleys. Primary forest cover is oak-hickory (51%). Maple-basswood forests (28%), dominated by sugar maple, basswood and red maple, are common in areas that were not burned frequently. Bottomland hardwoods (10%) dominated by silver maple, swamp white oak, river birch, ashes, elms, and cottonwood are common within the floodplains of the larger rivers. Relict "northern" mesic conifer forests composed of hemlock, white pine and associated hardwoods such as yellow birch are rare but do occur in areas with cool, moist microclimates. Dry rocky bluffs may support xeric stands of native white pine, sometimes mixed with red or even jack pine. Prairies are now restricted to steep south- or west-facing bluffs, unplowed outwash terraces along the large rivers, and a few other sites. They occupy far less than 1% of the current landscape. Mesic tall-grass prairies are now virtually nonexistent except as very small remnants along rights-of-way or in cemeteries.

2. Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses

The property is surrounded by privately-owned land: agricultural croplands on shallower slopes and hardwood forests dominate the steep ridge tops and slopes of the coulee complex. Blackhawk Lake Recreational Area is a large public property approximately 1.5 miles west of JRDF, connected by wooded corridors.

3. General Property Description and Management History and Use

Management History and Use

The James J. Rule Demonstration Forest was a private farm used as pasture until the state purchased the property as a demonstration forest in 1967. Since the demonstration forest's inception, it has been open to public uses such as hunting, fishing, and hiking. A memorandum of understanding for the objectives, development, and assignment of responsibilities for Wisconsin's Demonstration Forest Program originally existed between the U.S. Forest Service, UW-Ext., and DNR. Present management is the responsibility of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The current forest is predominately black walnut and central hardwoods. A variety of forested stands are maintained, ranging from a 10 acre central hardwood(walnut) sapling stand to 90 year old walnut saw log stands. The forest's high quality walnut resource is/has been a primary focus of forest management and research on the property. Studies were started in the 1970's by the USFS including; "Crown Release and Fertilization of Natural Walnut", publ. 1986) and in "Hormonal and Enzymatic Aspects of Heartwood Formation (1975)". Periodic timber sales have been conducted over the last three decades focusing on regenerating hardwoods (walnut specifically), growing high quality walnut veneer and improving overall forest health and productivity.

In the later 1980/early 90's wildlife openings were created, woods roads were established/seeded, and invasive plants were treated. Ongoing timber stand improvement (TSI) projects have been implemented throughout the forest and supplemental hardwood plantings have been completed in several stands that were regenerated.

More recent management includes, timber stand improvement, invasive plant removal, walnut sanitation/salvage and sale and the creation of three deer exclosures to further define herbivory problems.

The JRDF is a popular destination for State and National woodland/forestry groups/tours, college site visits and local high school site visits. The National Walnut Council has used the JRDF several times as the focal point of its National Meeting.

Soils

The soils at the JRDF are the Dubuque series that are moderately deep, well drained soils formed from loess over limestone bedrock. These soils are on ridges and side slopes on uplands. Slopes range from 2 to 60 percent.

Water

A stream named Lee Creek lies just outside the border of the property to the east. Lee Creek is a Class II trout stream. An intermittent branch of Lee Creek enters the northwest portion of the property, and another intermittent branch of the creek borders the southeast edge of the property.

4.Land Management Cover Types

- 100% of the 86 acres of the James Rule Demonstration Forest is forested.
- Central Hardwoods (walnut) dominate approximately 55 acres (64%) of the JRDF. The majority (44 acres) of the Central Hardwoods (including walnut and oak) are 90-130 years old and large diameter (>15"+ diameter) saw log class trees. There is an 11 acre Oak saw log stand (>15"+ diameter) that is mature –over mature (130 years old +).
- Pole timber Central Hardwoods (walnut) can be found on 21 acres (24%) of the JRDF. These younger stands are all products of even aged regeneration harvests periodically completed over the last 30 years. Within many of the pole timber stands are scattered larger reserve walnut saw logs (many over 30" in diameter). These large walnuts are estimated to be 90 years old.
- Recently over 10 acres (11%) of the JRDF was harvested and treated, establishing young walnut/central hardwood sapling stands. Within these areas, invasive brush was treated, non-commercial stems 2"+ was removed and walnut/oak regeneration was augmented with hand planting.

5.Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

The JRDF is not specifically listed in the DNR's Wildlife Action Plan's Implementation document for the Western Coulee and Ridges Ecological Landscape (WCREL) (<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/COA.html>). The property does contain natural community types: Southern Dry-mesic Forest, and Moist Cliff Communities, for which there are limited opportunities for protection, restoration and management. The JRDF also lies within the boundary of the Dodgeville and Wyoming Oak Woodland/Savanna Conservation Opportunity Area (COA) which is considered a Driftless Area Feature of Continental Significance. A biotic survey proposed for the summer of 2014 will update the property's plant and animal species inventory, and natural community characteristics.

Oak forests, which are present on the property, are an important resource for several important resident bird species along with other neo-tropical migratory songbirds. Insects that feed on oak buds and during leaf out, along with the structure of large oak trees create prime habitat

for these birds during bird arrival and migration. The presence of oak forests is important for neo-tropical songbirds, making continued management and regeneration of the oak type necessary for future populations.

Priority Species of Greatest Conservation Need associated with the community and habitat types on the James Rule Demonstration Forest include the Acadian Flycatcher, Blue-winged Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Louisiana Water thrush, Red-headed Woodpecker, Whip-poor-will, Wood Thrush, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Black Rat Snake, Bull snake, Northern Prairie Skink, Ornate Box Turtle, Prairie Ring neck Snake, Timber Rattlesnake, Western Worm Snake, Yellow-bellied Racer, Gray Fox, and Woodland Vole.

6. Invasive Species

Low levels of buckthorn, garlic mustard, multiflora rose, and honeysuckle exist throughout the property. Several recent projects have targeted honeysuckle, buckthorn and multiflora rose throughout the JRDF.

7. Cultural and Archaeological Features

No known cultural or archeological sites found on the JRDF property.

8. Public Uses and Infrastructure

Hunting and hiking are the primary recreational uses of the JRDF. Good walking access is available on roads and trails that were developed for forest management. Recent timber sales have enabled the property manager to establish an extensive systems of forest trails/landings and openings throughout the forest. These trails have been bladed, shaped and seeded to minimize soil erosion and enhance hunter opportunities.

Deer hunting, turkey hunting and small game hunting are all popular activities on the JRDF. **Gun deer hunting is restricted to "Muzzleloader ONLY Hunting" per a local ordinance enforced by Eden Township, Iowa County.**

9. Refuges and other Closed Areas

None Present

10. Administrative Facilities

None Present

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

Issues:

- A property line disagreement exists along the southern boundary of the JRDF.
- Invasive plant species are a concern with regards to future hardwood regeneration and native plant populations.
- Oak wilt and gypsy moth are significant forest health threats that should be monitored.
- Thousands Canker of walnut.
- Deer browse is negatively impacting hardwood regeneration.

Needs:

- Resolution of the property line situation along the southern boundary of the JRDF.
- Continue to monitor invasive plant populations and eliminate/mitigate their presence when possible/feasible.
- Monitor the forest health issues on an annual basis.
- Monitor for the presence of Thousands Cankers (black walnut). This disease has not been documented in Wisconsin (or the Midwest as of 2014). An active monitoring program should be started to ensure this disease does not create forest health problems in the JRDF in years to come.
- Encourage public deer hunting throughout the property in an effort to keep populations at acceptable levels.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals

Purpose:

The purpose of the stewardship demonstration forests is to demonstrate sustainable forest management and responsible stewardship, while also using these lands as educational tools for students, professional foresters, and non-industrial private forest landowners. The forests provide an opportunity to demonstrate active timber management and sustainable forest management. While growth and yield records are no longer maintained on a regular basis, most of the tracts do have good historical information that may be useful in research, and the lands are open for potential "new" research opportunities.

Goals:

- (1)** Production of high-quality hardwood saw logs while demonstrating sustainable forest management practices and improving songbird habitat and ecosystem health is the priority for JRDF. Central Hardwoods (walnut/oak) are the dominant merchantable cover type and a specific objective of the property is to manage for high quality walnut, oak and other hardwoods. Management will include other merchantable, compatible species whenever possible, including reforestation work.
 - a. Veneer production will be the goal unless specifically stated otherwise. Walnut and oak will normally receive the benefit of management when site conflict occurs.
 - b. Saw logs of merchantable species other than walnut and oak will be harvested when economically feasible from all stands. They will be discriminated against in favor of walnut and oak.
- (2)** Maintain central hardwood cover types with a major component of walnut where feasible
 - a. Diversify age classes-regenerate stands so that all age classes of central hardwoods and walnut are represented on the property
 - b. Increase coarse woody debris
 - c. Crop tree release walnut and oak in young stands
- (3)** Emphasize importance of forest interior songbirds.
- (4)** Control invasive species as needed

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

(1) Central Hardwood (Walnut) – The walnut trees within the central hardwood stands take priority in all management decisions. A large portion (45 acres) of the JRDF is a large saw log size central hardwood stand with a significant walnut component. Grow large high quality walnut to demonstrate to the public the economic benefits of growing large diameter walnut. Management of this area will be focused on maintaining walnut quality and attempting to regenerate walnut when necessary. Even aged forest management techniques will be used with regards to thinning and regeneration.

There are several younger sapling/pole size central hardwood stands (30 acres). Within these areas the walnut trees take priority in all management decisions. Non-commercial crop tree release activities and even aged thinning later in the rotation will be applicable. Crop trees will include; black walnut, red oak, white oak, black cherry.

(2) Oak - There is an 11 acre oak stand within the JRDF. An effort should be made to maintain the oak cover type. Even age management techniques should be used when working in this area. A regeneration sale will be scheduled in this area prior to 2024. Oak will be planted in areas where natural regeneration is lacking. Sale design will consider effects on forest interior songbirds. This oak is approaching 130 years old. The boundary disagreement on the southern line of the JRDF must be resolved before this sale can be established.

Current and Planned Facilities or Infrastructure

Type of Facility	Total (number/length)	Management Activities	Management Issues and Constraints
Roads - public	0		
Roads – non-public	0		
Parking lots	1		
Boat landings	0		
Designated trails	0		
Managed, non-designated trails	0		
Dikes, ditches	0		
Dams	0		

Other	0		
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Other On-going Management Activities (add additional items as necessary)

	Current Management Actions	Management Issues and Constraints
Project Boundary Modification	Survey completed(southern line)	Need solution to southern boundary disagreement
Invasive exotic species	Monitoring of invasive species is ongoing.	None
Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need	Bird Survey Spring 2014	None
Cultural and Archeological Resources	None	None

Additional Comments:

Southern boundary fence has been established via survey. Solution to line discrepancy has never been reached with neighbor to the south.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THIS PLAN AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

On May 20, 2014, a 21-day public review period for revision of Stewardship Demonstration Forest property management plans was publicly noticed statewide. Publics and partners were informed by way of a statewide press release and an email distribution to subscribers of 'eGov', a statewide government delivery system.

A comprehensive DNR web page was developed for Stewardship Demonstration Forests to describe their history and purpose, and to identify individual properties and locations. Draft management plans were posted on the website for public viewing.

The public was invited to respond by on-line electronic comment form, paper comment forms and email. Consultation occurred for Stewardship Demonstration Forests located within the tribal ceded territory.

No comments were received by the public.



**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Tier 3 Management Plan**

Property Name: Champion Valley Timber Demonstration Forest

Property Designation or Type: Demonstration Forest

DNR Property Code Number: 6930
Forestry Property Code: 6302

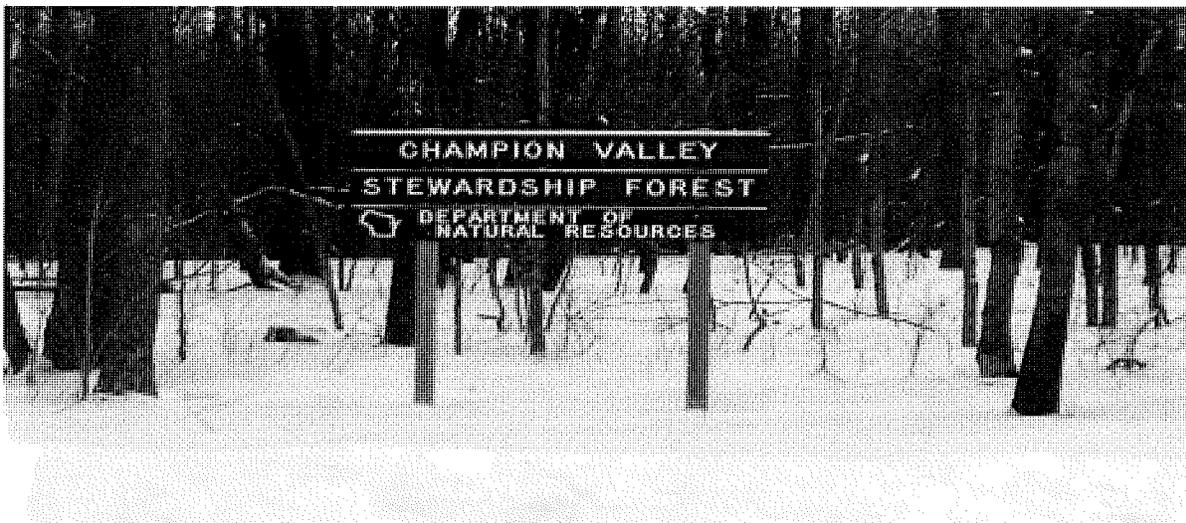
Property Location-County: Vernon

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: 52
Easement acres owned:
NRB approved acreage goal (land records):

Property Manager: Dennis Hutchison

Address 1: DNR Forestry
Address 2: 220 Airport Road
City, State, Zip: Viroqua, WI 54665
Office Phone: 608-637-3784



Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1. Landscape and Regional Context

Champion Valley Forest is located in the Western Coulees and Ridges Ecological Landscape in southwestern Wisconsin and is characterized by a lack of glacial features. It is part of the region called the "Driftless Area" because it lacks glacial deposits known as "drift" (although glacial outwash materials do occur in river valleys). The topography is unique in the state due to the long periods of erosion that have created dissected ridges, steep-sided valleys, and extensive stream networks with dendritic drainage patterns. The Western Coulees and Ridges Ecological Landscape is more forested than the rest of southern Wisconsin. The Baraboo Range, rugged hills formed primarily of Precambrian *Baraboo Quartzite*, is located in the eastern part of the ecological landscape. Soils are mostly silt loams (loess) and sandy loams over dolomite and sandstone bedrock. Several large rivers, including the Mississippi, Wisconsin, Chippewa, and Black, flow through or border the ecological landscape. Historical vegetation consisted of southern hardwood forests of several major types, oak savanna, and prairie, with extensive floodplain forests, sedge meadows, and marshes along the major rivers. With Euro-American settlement, most of the more level lands on ridge tops and in valley bottoms were cleared of native vegetation and converted to agricultural uses. The steep slopes between valley bottom and ridge top, unsuitable for raising crops, either remained in forest or grew up into oak or maple-dominated forests after the wildfires common before Euro-American settlement were suppressed. Current vegetation is a mix of forest (the largest landcover component, at over 40%), agriculture, and grassland (mostly nonnative), with wetlands restricted almost entirely to the river valleys. The primary forest cover is oak-hickory (51%) dominated by oak species (*Quercus* spp.) and shagbark hickory (*Carya ovata*). Maple-basswood forests (28%), dominated by sugar maple (*Acer saccharum*), American basswood (*Tilia americana*), and red maple (*Acer rubrum*), are common in areas that were not subjected to repeated wildfires prior to Euro-American settlement. Bottomland hardwoods (10%) are common and restricted to the valley bottoms of the larger rivers and are dominated by silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), ashes (*Fraxinus* spp.), elms (*Ulmus* spp.), and eastern cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*). Coniferous forests are not extensive and include the so-called "relict" conifer stands of eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*), red pine (*Pinus resinosa*), and (rarely) jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) on dry sites.

2. Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses

The surrounding private property is a mixture of natural forest communities and current agriculture fields.

3. General Property Description and Management History and Use

Following extensive logging in the early 1800's, the area was settled primarily by farmers from Bohemia. The subsequent land clearing and sheep culture has a profound impact of the development of today's forest. The generally poor silvical conditions of the area's woods today is largely due to destructive cutting and the adverse effects of livestock grazing on tree quality and regeneration. The area today has a major daily production emphasis.

In 1946 the state of Wisconsin purchased 51.86 acres of woods in the Town of Union upon

which could be demonstrated the best practices for managing farm woodlots of similar conditions. These demonstrations included, but were not limited to:

1. Continuous annual or periodic harvest of timber crop
2. Compatible recreational uses
3. Wildlife management and restoration
4. Watershed protection and restoration
5. Logging techniques and safety
6. Utilization and marketing practices

Soils: The majority of the property is sitting on silt loam type soils.

4. Land Management Cover Types

Northern Hardwoods: A total of 49 acres (94%) of survey data is typed as northern hardwoods. Within this cover type there is 10% large sawlogs, 67% small sawlogs, and 23% seedling/saplings.

Oak: A total of 3 acres (6%) is typed as oak, all in the large sawlog class

5. Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

At the time of this plan (2014) the Natural Heritage Inventory database identified Southern Mesic Forest, as well as two state threatened and 1 special concern species that are known from the general vicinity of the property. Negative impacts to these and other rare species will be avoided by following DNR's Species Guidance Documents: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/EndangeredResources/guidance.asp>. In cases where species guidance documents haven't yet been developed, avoidance to rare species will occur via practices such as time of year restrictions, modified harvest boundaries, and/or consultation with rare species experts.

Additionally, although the property is not specifically listed in the Wildlife Action Plan's Implementation document for the Western Coulee and Ridges Ecological Landscape (WCREL), one priority natural community type is listed in the document that the property contains; Southern Mesic Forest. Species of Greatest Conservation Need associated with southern mesic forest included Acadian Flycatcher, Cerulean Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Veery, Wood Thrush, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Cherrystone Drop Snail, Northern Long-eared Bat, Eastern Red Bat, Woodland Vole, Hickory Hairstreak, Blue-winged Warbler, and Whip-poor-will. Although the majority of these species will benefit from large block old forest management, a few (primarily the latter species listed) will benefit from the development of quality "feathered" edge habitat along field edges and other open habitats.

6. Invasive Species

A small pocket of Reed Canary grass is located along old logging trail. This area covers approximately one half acre.

Minor amounts of multi-flora rose are scattered across the property.

7. Cultural and Archaeological Features

The Vernon County Archaeological and Historic Sites map (WDNR. 2012) indicates a potential historic site exists. Further review will be needed from the state archaeologist.

8. Public Uses and Infrastructure

This property provides opportunities for multiple forms of public recreation. Hunters use the property during legal hunting seasons, while the general public uses it for bird watching, mushroom hunting, nut gathering, snowshoeing, and hiking.

9. Refuges and other Closed Areas

No portion of this property is designated as a refuge or closed to the public

10. Administrative Facilities

No administrative facilities located on property

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

Property line survey:

Neighboring landowner to the east continually marks the property line with No Trespassing signs. The signs appear to cross back and forth along the property line causing confusion for property users. There are old fence posts that appear to be marking this line, but the accuracy of this line is questionable. Having this line surveyed will delineate the proper boundary location.

Potential non-native earthworm population:

There are spots within the property that appear to have earthworm issues. Bare mineral soil areas that are free of leaf litter and ground layer plant growth indicates a possible non-native earthworm problem.

Old corner posts are hard to find, if they exist at all. The old fence along the east boundary is becoming more difficult to identify as it falls into disrepair.

Potential natural community survey with focus on rare plants, birds, and terrestrial snails: Although the property was examined in the 1970's and early 1980's for natural communities and rare plants, no work has taken place since that time. Of particular importance is rare bird

and snail information which could serve to guide forest management. Additionally, there may be a good opportunity for monitoring bird use, rare plant response, and natural community characteristics under experimental/demonstration oak/northern hardwood management regime.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals

The main goal for this property is to manage the Northern Hardwood and Oak timber types accordingly to the WI DNR Silviculture Handbook and Generally Accepted Practices.

Based on the properties inventory data the Oak timber type is not regenerating as well as planned. There is the potential to promote oak even if the property is converting to Northern Hardwood species. Conducting non-commercial thinning and releasing any oak that is found will help perpetuate oak on the property.

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

Cover Types	Total Acres	Management Objectives	Management Practices	Management Issues and Constraints
O/NH	3	Non-commercial Thinning Stand 4 in year 2006	TSI	Need funding
NH/O	4	Non-commercial Thinning Stand 5 in year 2010	TSI	Need funding
NH/NH	33	Un-even aged harvest Stand 1 in year 2021	Single Tree Selection	
NH/NH	5	Un-even aged harvest Stand 3 in year 2021	Single Tree Selection	
NH/NH	7	Un-even aged harvest Stand 2 in year 2036	Single Tree Selection	

Additional Comments:

None

Changes or Additions to Current Management and Development:

None

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES FOR THIS PLAN AND COMMENTS RECEIVED

On May 20, 2014, a 21-day public review period for revision of Stewardship Demonstration Forest property management plans was publicly noted statewide. Publics and partners were informed by way of a statewide press release and an email distribution to subscribers of 'eGov', a statewide government delivery system.

A comprehensive DNR web page was developed for Stewardship Demonstration Forests to describe their history and purpose, and to identify individual properties and locations. Draft management plans were posted on the website for public viewing.

The public was invited to respond by on-line electronic comment form, paper comment forms and email. Consultation occurred for Stewardship Demonstration Forest located within the tribal ceded territory.

No comments were received by the public.

**Champion Valley Demonstartion Forest
T13N R01W Sec. 14 and 23- 52 acres
Township pf Union- Vernon County**

Juneau

Vernon



Champion Valley Demo Forest

Sauk

Richland

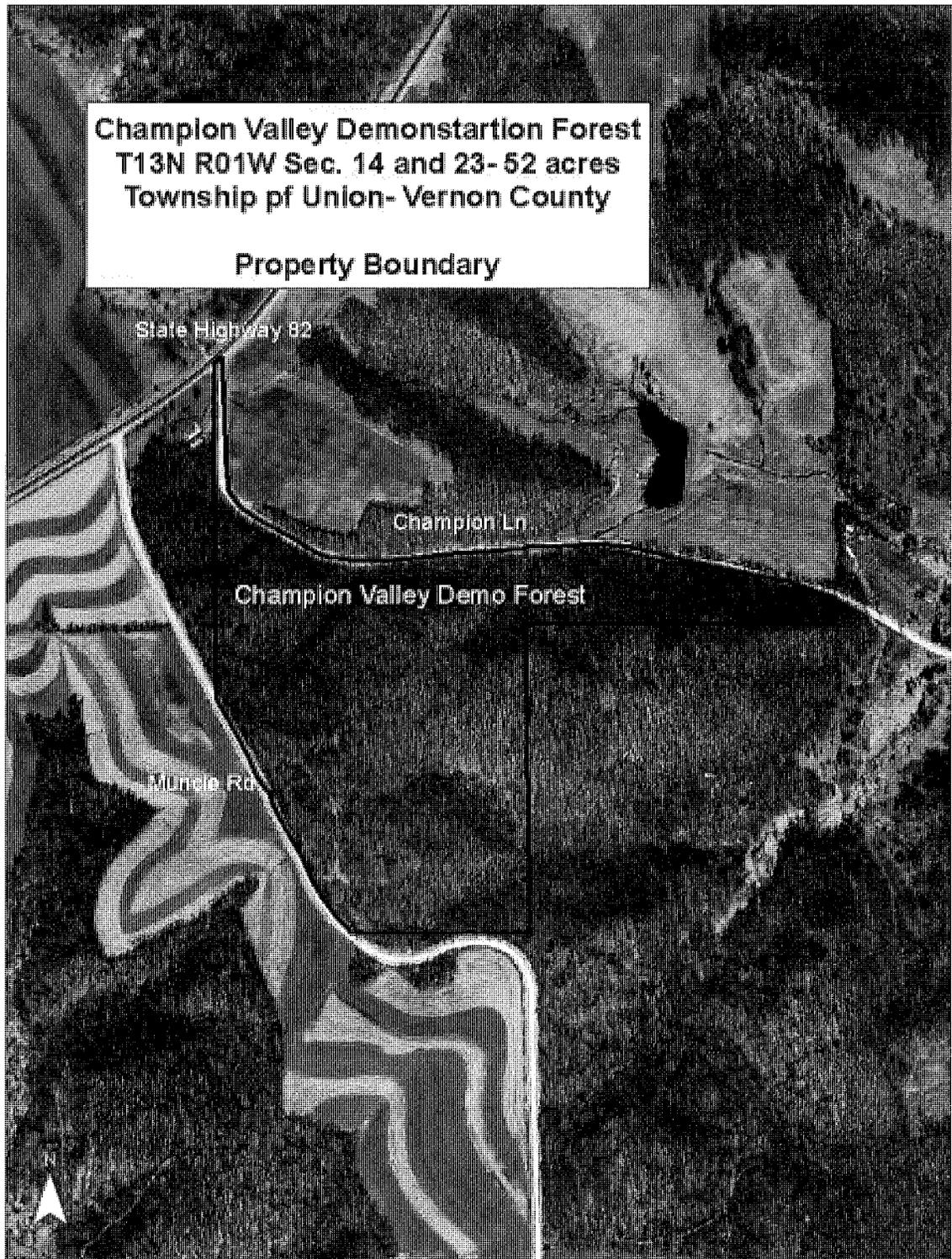
Crawford

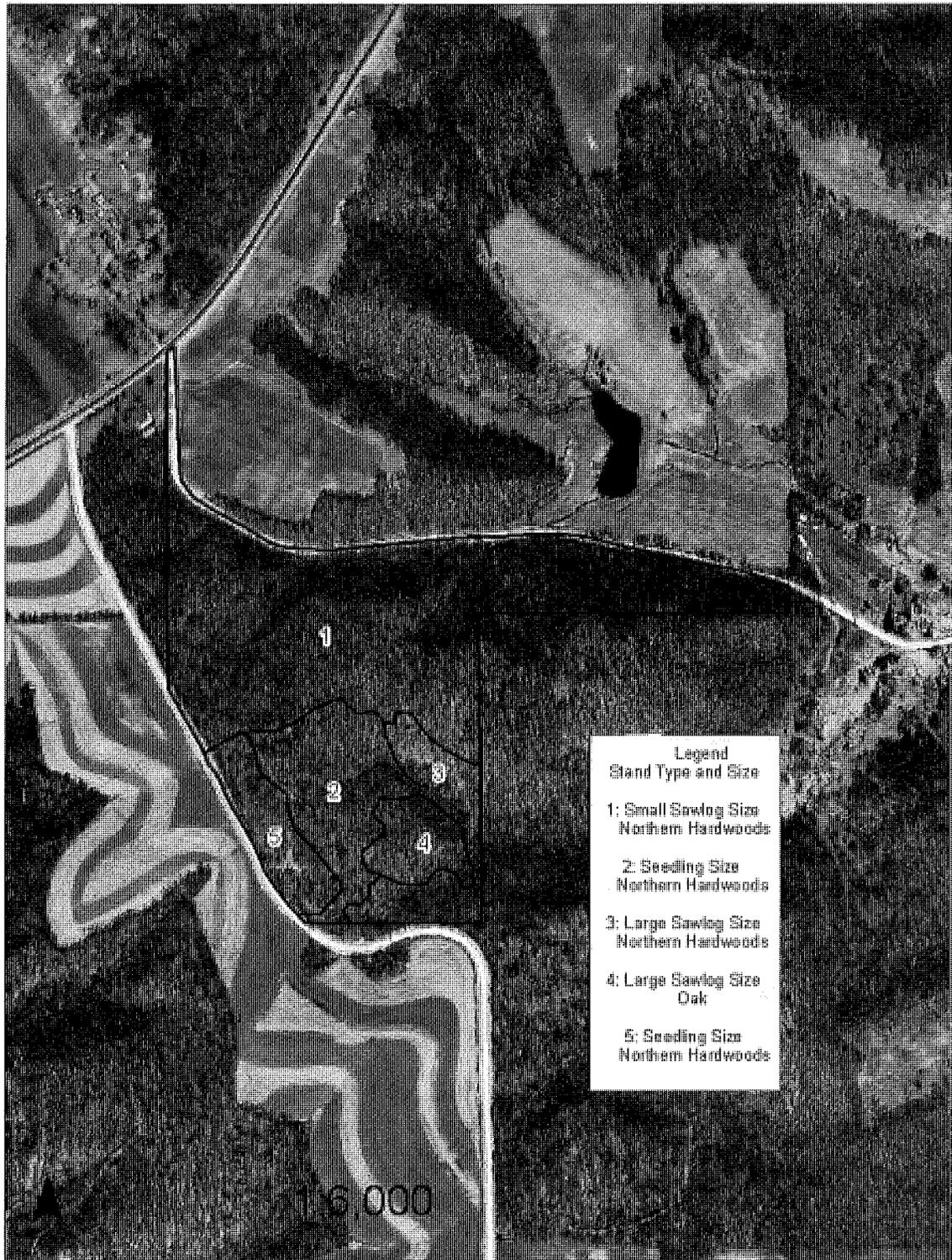


1 in = 4 miles

**Champion Valley Demonstartion Forest
T13N R01W Sec. 14 and 23- 52 acres
Township pf Union- Vernon County**

Property Boundary







**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Tier 3 Management Plan**

Property Name: Hardies Creek Stewardship Demonstration Forest

Property Designation or Type: Demonstration Forest

DNR Property Code Number: 6209

Property Location-County: Trempealeau

Real Estate:

Fee acres owned: **57**

Easement acres owned: **1**

NRB approved acreage goal (land records):

Maps *(can be few or many)*

1. Ownership, State Locator, Facilities
 2. Property Boundary and Cover Types
 3. Roads and Access
-

Property Manager: Scott Laurie

Address 1: PO Box 645

Address 2:

City, State, Zip: Whitehall, WI 54773

Office Phone: 715 538-4480

Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: _____

A. Regional and Property Assessment

1. Landscape and Regional Context

Hardies Creek Demonstration Forest is part of the Western Coulee and Ridges Ecological Landscape and more specifically, the property lies within the Trempealeau Sandstone Hills Landtype Association. Additionally, the property is located within the Continentally Significant 'Coulee Forest' Conservation Opportunity Area as identified within the Wildlife Action Plan's implementation document for the Western Coulees and Ridges Ecological Landscape: http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WildlifeHabitat/documents/WAP_Implementation.pdf This COA was primarily identified for its' large block forest opportunities and the property contains one Priority Natural Community type identified within the plan; southern dry-mesic forest.

2. Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses

Adjacent surrounding land use is privately owned and primarily agricultural. Woodlands dominate the ridges and slopes where farming is not practiced. Private homes and hunting cabins are found throughout the general area.

3. General Property Description and Management History and Use

The property is located approximately 6 miles west of Galesville, Wisconsin. The wooded parcel was purchased by the Wisconsin Conservation Department in 1949 and consists of 57 acres. Prior to state ownership the parcel had a continuous history of grazing. No serious fires or timber harvesting had occurred prior to state ownership. The forest lies within the unglaciated or 'driftless' area of southwest Wisconsin. The property is situated on predominantly east to northeast aspects with slopes ranging from 20 to 45%. The soil is Hixton Loam, a Typic Hapludalf, formed in loamy sandstone residuum, underlain by sandstone bedrock.

Early researchers divided the forest into 8 compartments and established research plots. Over the past 60 years 7 of the compartments have undergone different types of harvests to help predict successful techniques to regenerate red oak. One compartment of mature timber has been left as a control to understand the biological lifespan of red oak.

4. Land Management Cover Types

The forest originated about 1868 – the uncut control compartment is the last representation of this age class. The forest stands are generally dominated by red oak. Black oak and white oak are more prevalent on some upper slopes. In the lower tree canopy, shagbark hickory and black cherry are common species. Other subordinate tree species include American elm, box elder, pin cherry, and serviceberry. Understory species include gray dogwood, American hazel, common blackberry, lady fern and interrupted fern.

Size classes of the timber varies by compartment due to the staggered harvest regime the

property has experienced. All size classes (sapling to sawtimber) are represented. Tree age varies from 18 to 146 years.

5. Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need

There are no endangered, threatened or special concern species within the forest and no surveys have yet taken place to identify such species. Negative impacts to rare species will be avoided by following DNR's Species Guidance Documents:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/EndangeredResources/guidance.asp>. In cases where species guidance documents haven't been developed, avoidance to rare species will occur via practices such as time of year restrictions, modified harvest boundaries, and/or consultation with rare species experts.

The forest is considered a Southern Dry-mesic Forest Community type which is a priority type identified within the Conservation Opportunity Area the property falls within.

Priority Species of Greatest Conservation Need for the Western Coulees and Ridges Ecological Landscape associated with the southern dry-mesic forest included: Four-toed Salamander, Acadian Flycatcher, Cerulean Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Veery, Wood Thrush, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Northern Long-eared Bat, Woodland Vole, Hickory Hairstreak, Blue-winged Warbler, and Whip-poor-will. Although the majority of these species will benefit from large block old forest management, a few (primarily the latter species listed) will benefit from the development of quality "feathered" edge habitat along field edges and other open habitats.

6. Invasive Species

Exotic honeysuckle is scattered throughout the property.

7. Cultural and Archaeological Features

No cultural or archaeological concerns are noted for the property.

8. Public Uses and Infrastructure

Hunting is the most common use of the property. Deer season brings in the most visitation; lesser numbers of hunters use the forest for turkey hunting. Other associated uses include hiking, bird-watching, and nature photography. Other than a small grass parking area there are no public facilities or buildings on the forest. A county maintained hard-surface road provides access to the parking area. A series of trails provides walking access for the public.

3

Motorized equipment is not allowed.

9. Refuges and other Closed Areas

None

10. Administrative Facilities

None

Significant Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:

Littering continues to be an issue on the property – especially in the parking area.

Property boundaries are becoming more difficult to identify as the existing boundary fence falls into disrepair.

ATV's have not impacted the property yet but the potential for such exists. Barriers or gates on the trail head(s) may be a need in the future.

B. Property Purpose and Goals **Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. Property Purpose and Goals

The original intent of the property was to investigate different timber harvest techniques that would successfully regenerate red oak. Compartments were established and received different harvest techniques. All of the compartments have been successfully regenerated – some have more red oak than others. The current goal of the property is to manage the existing timber resource while providing recreational and educational opportunities for the general public.

2. Current and Planned Land Management Objectives and Prescriptions

4

Retain red oak as the dominant cover type through commercial and non-commercial thinnings
 Retain the control (uncut) compartment as a reserve area
 Thin, commercially if possible, the pole and small sawtimber oak stands to release the better quality trees
 Conduct non-commercial crop tree release in the younger age-class compartments
 Maintain the existing trail system for hiking, hunting and timber management access
 Control invasive bush honeysuckle population
 Maintain narrative trail signs for educational purposes
 Patrol parking area for litter
 Repair and/or replace established property fence lines

Current and Planned Facilities or Infrastructure

Type of Facility	Total (number/length)	Management Activities	Management Issues and Constraints
Roads - public	1 / ½ mile	County maintained	none
Parking lots	1 (grass opening)	Periodic mowing	littering
Managed, non-designated trails	5 / ¾ mile	Periodic mowing	access

Other On-going Management Activities (add additional items as necessary)

	Current Management Actions	Management Issues and Constraints
Project Boundary Modification	Identification and repair of existing fence lines.	none
Invasive exotic species	Bush Honeysuckle control	none
Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and Wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need	See paragraph 5 (page 3)	none
Cultural and Archeological Resources	None identified for the parcel	none

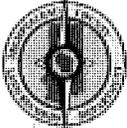
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Hardies Creek Demonstration Forest



- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| — Interstate | ▭ Parcels |
| — US Hwy | ▭ City |
| — State Rd | ▭ Town |
| — County Rd | ▭ Village/Vicinity |
| — Town Rd | ▭ Lake/Forest |
| — City St | |

Map prepared by the Oregon Department of Forestry, Forest Management Division, in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Forest Management Division, and the Oregon Department of Transportation, Forest Management Division. This map is for informational purposes only and should not be used for any other purpose. The Oregon Department of Forestry is not responsible for any errors or omissions on this map. The Oregon Department of Forestry is not responsible for any damages or liabilities arising from the use of this map.