

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1000

NEEDS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page</u>
1000	OBJECTIVE AND FORMAT	2
1100	DETAILED ANNUAL NEEDS FOR FIFTEEN YEARS	2
1200	SUMMARY OF FIFTEEN YEAR NEEDS	2

1000 OBJECTIVE AND FORMAT

Objectives:

To provide guidelines which define the optimum level of activities that should be undertaken to achieve full potential benefits from the forest.

Format and Policy:

Needs for the county forest shall be listed without regard to budgetary constraints or other limitations. This list shall identify the forest potential in terms of public benefits, investments or opportunities, and financial returns. Silvicultural needs of the county forest are identified in the Forest Compartment Reconnaissance printout. The DNR Public Lands Handbook describes procedures for use of this information. Other needs shall be determined by the Committee and the forest administrator, with technical assistance from the DNR and other interested agencies or individuals qualified to provide such assistance.

1100 DETAILED ANNUAL NEEDS FOR FIFTEEN YEARS

Annual silvicultural needs are identified in the Forest Compartment Reconnaissance printout. The printout, referenced in the plan, is available in the County Forest administrator's office. Printout listings include timber harvests, tree planting, and other silvicultural activities. Other unanticipated needs will be addressed in accordance with procedures outlined in this plan. These items will be identified and plans made for implementation, as part of the annual budget work plan prepared by the administrator and Committee. Annual work plans are approved by the County Board and forwarded to the DNR as required by statute (s. 28.11(5)(b) and s.28.11(5m)(b), Wis. Stats.

1200 SUMMARY OF FIFTEEN YEAR NEEDS

A schedule giving a summary of silvicultural needs and other needs for the period covered by this plan, appear as an inclusion in this chapter.

Marinette County Forest Equipment Replacement Schedule (15 year) Alternative
12-21-05

<u>Year</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Current Condition</u>	<u>Current Miles/hours</u>	<u>Trade \$</u>	<u>Cost New</u>
2006	1988 Ford 655A Backhoe	Fair(transmission?)	3804 hours	8,000.00	29,000.00(used)
2007	1990 JD 644E Loader	Fair	5200 hours	25,000.00	\$170,000.00
2008	2001 Dodge Ram Ex. Cab	Very Good	32000 mi	10,000.00	24,000.00
	*2001 GMC Sanoma	Very Good	41660 mi	7,000.00	19,000.00
	*2003 GMC Sanoma	Excellent	29050 mi	8,000.00	19,000.00
	*2004 Ford Ranger Ex. Cab	Excellent	9860 mi	9,000.00	20,000.00
	*2004 Ford Ranger Ex. Cab	Excellent	18700 mi	9,000.00	20,000.00
	*2004 Ford Ranger Ex. Cab	Excellent	16600 mi	9,000.00	20,000.00
2009	2001 GMC Sanoma(patrol)	Good	33600 mi	4,000.00 (Trade w/2007Midsz)	
	1998 International 10 yd.	Very Good	66826 mi		
	2001 GMC Sierra ½ T	Very Good	47800 mi	7,000.00 (Trade w/2004 Sierra)	
	2004 GMC Sierra ½ T	Excellent	23400 mi	(Trade w/2001 Sierra)	
	2002 Ford ¾ T Crew Cab	Excellent	20200 mi	12,000.00	
2010	2007 Full size Extended Cab Pickup				
	2007 Midsize Pickups	(Convert one to Patrol, purchase 1 new)			
	2004 Ford Expedition	Excellent	15000 mi		
2011	1992 JD 444E Loader	V. Good	3238 hours		
2012	1990 TrailKing lowboy	Good	low maintenance		
	2009 Midsize pickup	(Convert to Patrol)			
	2009 ½ T Reg. Cab. Pickup	(Convert to Patrol, sell 2004 Sierra, purchase new for Foreman)			
	2008 Midsize extended cab pickups (3)				
2013	2002 JD 450H Dozer	Excellent	738 hours		
	2009 Midsize extended cab pickup				
2014	2010 Full size Ex. Cab PU				
	2010 Midsize extended cab pickup				
	1998 International 10-yard dump				
2015	2004 N.H. TM120 Tractor	Excellent	798 hours		
	w/Alamo Boom Brush Cutter				
	2011 Mid size pickups (3)	(Convert one to Patrol, sell 2009 midsize pickup)			
2016	2012 Midsize pickup				
	2012 ½ T Reg. Cab. Pickup	(Convert to Patrol, Sell 2008 ½ T Reg. Cab.)			
	2003 Thomas Pro Screen 400 Gravel Screen				
2017	2005 John Deere 770D Grader				
	2013 Midsize extended cab pickup				
2018	2014 Full size extended cab pickup				

- 2014 Midsize extended cab pickup
 - 2019 2015 Midsize extended cab pickups (3) (convert one to patrol, sell 2013 midsize pickup)
2016 Midsize extended cab pickup
 - 2020 2006 International 10-yard dump
2016 ½ ton regular cab pickup (convert to patrol, sell 2009 reg. Cab)
 - 2021 1996 Volvo Semi-tractor
2017 Midsize extended cab pickup
- * Consider replacing with 4 full-size reg. Cab and 1 full-size extended cab (higher resale value)
- 2000 Sportsman 500 ATV and trailer.
 - 2001 Arctic Cat Snowmobile and trailer

These two pieces of equipment are shared by Forestry, Parks and Land Information Departments used by staff for county business. Replacement is planned for 2011.

Purchase black and white contact print aerial photos from the Department of Natural Resources state wide program, approximately every 7 years.

The local Snowmobile/ATV clubs in the county handle grooming equipment and grooming of ATV & Snowmobile Trails. Costs associated with this program are funded through the State Recreational Trails Grants. The county, based on miles of trails for maintenance money and individual projects for construction money, applies for these grants. The county pays out these funds as projects are accomplished.

Road Maintenance and Construction

Marinette County will maintain on an annual basis over 224 miles of roads officially designated as County Forest Roads. Annual road aids are available to defray the cost of maintenance including biannual grading, improvements (gravel replacement, culvert replacement, brushing), and reconstruction. Additions to the County Forest Road system in the period 2006-2015 include:

1. Extension of County Forest Road 614 to U.S. Hwy 8, .25 mile.
2. Extension of County Forest Road 602 to County Forest Road 202, 3.0 miles.
3. Construction of new County Forest Road to State Land in Section 6, T36N R21E, 1.0 mile.
4. Extension of County Forest Road 403 South to Hardwoods Town Road 2.25 miles.
5. Extension of County Forest Road 1502 East to Camp Nine Town Road 1.75 miles.

Land Acquisition Goals

Continue blocking of lands within the Marinette County Forest Boundaries where possible by land purchase or trade, as described in Chapter 400. Investigate possibilities for acquiring the Lake Superior Land Co. lands in T.36N-R17E Town of Goodman. This is approximately 15,696 acres of high quality Northern Hardwoods, which lies within the Forest Boundary. There should be some effort made to keep this large block of land open to the public.

Marinette County Forest - Harvest Projection Chart 2006-2015

Year	Regeneration Harvest Acres (Even-Aged)	Regeneration Harvest Acres (All-Aged)	Thinning Acres	Total Harvest Acres
2006	3747	2068	1258	7073
2007	3577	1594	1313	6484
2008	3817	1863	1801	7481
2009	4074	1698	1486	7258
2010	4145	1590	1865	7600
2011	4454	1476	1317	7247
2012	4160	1484	1132	6776
2013	4197	1500	226	5923
2014	4035	1691	224	5950
2015	4200	1600	1000	*6800
				*Estimated

“Note: the statutory planning period requirements were changed from ten, to fifteen years, just prior to adoption of this plan. Computer projections of harvests are currently only able to schedule ten years into the future. Consequently, harvest projections for the last five years of the plan will be added to the plan after five years or when upgrades to existing technology provide for it. Harvest activity during the last five years of this plan is not expected to change significantly from the levels depicted for the first ten years of the plan”

Silvicultural Practices Other Than Harvests 2006-2015

Year	Planting Acres	Site Preparation Acres	Release Acres	Total Treatment Acres
2006	116	187	0	303
2007	187	150	40	377
2008	150	195	50	395
2009	195	201	40	436
2010	201	263	40	504
2011	263	197	40	500
2012	197	207	40	444
2013	207	206	40	453
2014	206	198	40	444
2015	198	209	40	447

Site prep. acres are based on jack pine harvest acres two years previous, Planting acres are based on previous years site prep. Release acres based on need divided into annual work load.

Insect and Disease

County personnel will do annual inspections of county parks, plantations and adjacent county forest land to determine need for Gypsy Moth and other insect suppression.

Recreation (annual maintenance)

Local residents and tourists will be provided with quality recreational experiences through a system of Marinette County parks, boat launches, and waysides to enhance county-wide tourism and private business. To accomplish this each year, Marinette County maintains an excellent system of parks, campgrounds, swimming beaches, boat launches, waysides, and trails with annual facilities maintenance. The department ensures annually that a maintained access system into the county forest is provided. Also a system of snowmobile and ATV trails will be coordinated by the department for the enjoyment of residents and tourists and provide economic development for the County.

Additionally the youth of the County and surrounding counties experience quality environmental education and outdoor recreation at the Camp Bird Youth Center located on Marinette County forest land. Each year, 42 cabins are maintained (24 sleeping cabins for youth groups to stay overnight in- others include a Mess Hall Lodge, a recreation building and a nature center). Annual maintenance also includes maintaining a swimming beach, adventure course, mowing 10 acres of lawn, bathrooms with sinks, flush toilets & showers, and a hiking trail that surrounds Sand Lake.

Recreation (new)

To retain this excellent system of parks, campgrounds, boat launches, waysides, and a youth camp there must be planned facilities repair and improvements. Also we will strive to improve our public access system into the county forest by exploring providing new trails & roads. The following is a concise list of planned potential outdoor recreation projects throughout the County Forest:

Camp Bird Youth Center

- Cabin Rehabs- replace wall rot & insulate for winter use (plan to rehab 3 each year)
- Mess Hall Lodge- replace roof (new steel roof & insulate for winter use)
- Arts & Crafts Building- renovate this group activity building

Veteran's Memorial Park

- Shelter- enclosed shelter near the waterfall/picnic area
- Campsites- possible campsite renovation project

McClintock Park

- Shelters- restore the 2 shelters along the Peshtigo River so they are used again
- Trails- develop a hiking trail from McClintock Park to Goodman Park
- Trailhead- create a trailhead area with a park information station/kiosk for the new trail

Goodman Park

- Mower- needs to be replaced
- Tractor- purchase a smaller work tractor with bucket & blade
- Park information station kiosk
- Trails- project to reopen the existing Cross-Country Ski trail

- Trailhead- create a trailhead area with a park information station/kiosk for the Cross-Country Ski/hiking/birding, etc. trail
- Trails- develop a hiking trail from Goodman Park to McClintock Park
- Campsites- possible campsite renovation project

12-Foot Falls Park

- Campsites- possible campsite renovation project
- Shelter- open sided shelter near the waterfalls
- Trails- establish a hiking/walking trail between 12-Foot Falls and 18-Foot Falls

Morgan Park

- Mower- needs to be replaced
- Tractor- purchase a smaller work tractor with bucket & blade
- Campsites- possible Morgan Campground expansion project

Survey

Continue to have property corners and boundaries between county lands and adjacent private property established by a registered surveyor as described in Chapter 400. To encourage the county to continue a program of county wide re-monumentation especially in the county forest.

Fire control

To work in partnership with the DNR as described in Chapter 600.

Wildlife management

Forest Openings

Efforts to GPS all natural and created forest openings on current inventory began in 2005 and should be complete prior to the 2008 field season. Thus far the effort has found a decline in the number and acreage of forest openings based on current inventory; this trend is likely to continue. Upon completion of the current inventory DNR wildlife staff and forestry will develop a course of action for the future of forest openings on the forest. It is likely that a minimum individual forest opening acreage will be determined for continued maintenance. Maintenance of forest openings will continue to be primarily accomplished with herbicides but mowing, hand cutting and prescribed fire will also be implemented.

Barrens Restoration

The Athelstane barrens complex historically was known to encompass over 10,000 acres in the townships of Athelstane and Silver Cliff. Currently the Athelstane Barrens restoration project located in T34N R19E Sec. 4 is two prescribed burn units totaling approximately 120 acres. Restoration and maintenance of this barrens community will continue through the use of prescribed fire; burns will be conducted every 3-7 years dependent on need. Additional acreage within the historical range of the barrens will be sought and managed for barrens habitat with committee approval.

Other barrens restoration opportunities may exist adjacent the state managed Dunbar Barrens State Natural Areas and will be explored. Providing a barrens community habitat corridor from Athelstane to Dunbar Barrens and further north through the Florence county forest to the Spread Eagle Barrens State Natural Area would provide a significant opportunity for barrens community species which are generally rare because of the lack of this habitat.

Efforts to monitor and control invasive species such as spotted knapweed and leafy spurge will take place on lands managed as barrens. Control will be with chemical or biological agents.

Hunter Walking Trails

The three existing hunter walking trails will continue to be maintained as a walking only (no motorized vehicles) system. Maintenance consists of clearing trees from the trail annually, mowing the trail systems every 3-5 years to push back encroaching trees and reseeding portions of the trail to benefit game species every 8-10 years. In 2006 work to clear, mow and reseed all three trails will commence. Mowing is scheduled to take place again in 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018. Reseeding efforts would not be necessary again until 2012 or beyond depending on success of 2006 seeding efforts.

Up to 3 additional hunter walking trails networks will be implemented during the duration of the plan to provide more non-motorized recreation areas on the forest. No known locations exist at this time, the Ruffed Grouse Management Area is a possibility. New walking trail networks locations will be created by closing as few trails as possible, stay away from motorized trail systems and have forest cover that provides good ruffed grouse habitat and hunting opportunities.

Trail Closures

Current policy is to close all new forest trails created during timbersales, redundant trails or trails through environmentally sensitive areas. This policy will continue for duration of the plan. All trail closures will be GPS'd for an updated inventory by 2009. A maintenance schedule of checking the closures for effectiveness will be implemented after the inventory is completed. Closures will be evaluated at least every three years.

Raptor Nest Protection

Upon completion of the current Red-shouldered hawk inventory in 2008 a GPS layer of known nest sites of this species will be available to foresters. In addition, new nest sites will continue to be forwarded to DNR wildlife biologists for examination and possible management recommendations.

Scarification/Seeding

On appropriate sites scarification by anchor chaining or other means for improved regeneration will continue. Sites generally are not a good fit with plantation methods because of size or shape. This is primarily used for jack pine but will also be implemented for white birch, white pine or red oak as needed.

Seeding post-scarification will also be carried out to augment natural regeneration. Again this is primarily used with jack pine but other species may be seeded.

Stand Betterment

Competing residual woody vegetation will be removed post-harvest if it will compromise the goal of aspen regeneration. Most sites are addressed by timbersale contractors however some sites still need this application post-harvest. This is accomplished by hand cutting primarily.

Tag Alder Shearing

Alder shearing last took place in 1994. In 2007 these sites will be evaluated for shearing possibilities in addition to other potential sites. Sites large enough will be sheared to create multiple age classes of alder separated by two years; complete rotation of sites will be 20 years.

Wild Rice Seeding/Establishment

Efforts to establish wild rice on county forest lakes will be attempted. It is currently unknown if the proper conditions/bodies of water exist to be successful and more examination is needed prior to attempting seeding. The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission will be consulted for seeding locations and cost shares rice seed when planted within the ceded territory. Initial seeding efforts are likely to commence by 2009.

Shrine Road Openings

Two state endangered species exist on these sites which encompass over 100 acres in T37N R17E sec. 13 & 24. The largest known population in the state of Dwarf Bilberry and Northern Blue Butterfly exist here. Beginning in 2006 efforts to remove invading woody vegetation, mainly cherry, will occur to maintain the integrity of the openings. This involves hand cutting trees and chemical application to prevent resprouting. The openings will be evaluated every five years there after and maintained as necessary. Some limited prescribed fire maintenance may be implemented here as well.

Red Oak and Aspen Planning

During the duration of the plan the red oak and aspen component of the forest will receive special consideration and management recommendations for future management.

Red Oak, prized for its timber value and importance to wildlife will include efforts to:

- locate stands that can be regenerated
- evaluate previous regeneration success and failure
- recommend future regeneration techniques by stand using all possible options
- continue to monitor new regeneration efforts

The goal is to have initial evaluations completed by 2010 and then to create a management plan and begin implementation.

Near the end of this plan there will be increasingly large blocks of same age aspen coming into rotation age. The planning effort will focus on identifying same age stands of aspen greater than 100 acres and planning harvest schedules to break the age of aspen into several different classes. This effort will be beneficial to game as well as marketing of forest products in the future. The goal is to have evaluations and a management plan completed and ready for implementation by 2015.

Wildlife and Plant Species Inventory

Opportunities to bolster existing inventories of plant and animal species found on the forest will continue. By 2008 a comprehensive inventory of red-shouldered hawk nest sites will be complete.

Other inventory needs identified are:

- small mammals inventory
- inventory species found in Pike and Peshtigo river corridors
- survey plant and animal use of forest openings
- conduct more breeding bird surveys

The inventories will be carried out by interns, DNR wildlife staff or contracted biologists.

Fisheries management: Fisheries Work 2006 – 2021

The water resources within Marinette County owned lands provide for a wide range of fish communities. These resources attract a diverse group of anglers that play a major role in how these waters are managed. Fish populations within County owned lands are managed by the State Department of Natural Resources. There are several main water resources within these lands including cool water lakes, warm water lakes, cold water streams and warm water streams.

Cold water streams comprise the largest amount of water resource found within Marinette County owned lands. The continued protection of these waters is imperative for the brook and brown trout fisheries. Fish passage throughout these cold water systems within County owned land has been impeded by improperly installed culverts at road crossings. The replacement of culverts using the correct size, shape and placement throughout County owned land would improve the trout fisheries and create more area of trout waters.

Fisheries assessments will be carried out periodically on many of the water resources located within County owned lands by the Department of Natural Resources. These studies would determine if habitat work would be needed for stream improvement and if stocking of these waters is required. It is highly likely that some waters within the Counties ownership will need some habitat work and fish stocking over the next several decades.

Continued good public access is required to allow all to enjoy the excellent water resources Marinette County has to offer. The addition and up keep of access for disabled and older anglers is encouraged on all types of waters resources. Continued upkeep of boat launches and parking areas on larger waters is essential for good public access. These allow for a wide variety of fishing opportunity for the public.

Personnel: Forestry & Parks

The Forestry Division has a great need for additional Ordinance Enforcement Personnel. A permanent part time employee along with the two current LTE positions would be of great help. Other forestry staffing seems to be adequate at this time. There is the possibility of adding one additional Forester at some future date if recon data indicates an additional need of 1000 or more acres in silvicultural treatment needs.

The Parks Division permanent staff also seems to be adequate at this time. There is always a need for additional LTE Summer Caretakers if funds are available.

Note: The “Needs” schedule is put together for planning purposes.

The best available information has been used in developing the schedule. It is not intended to be followed without modification. Forests are dynamic and managers must be adaptive to change. Funding and staffing shortfalls may also impact the ability of Marinette Forestry Department to fulfill identified needs. Refer to Chapter 2000 – Annual Work Planning, for reference on progress towards the identified needs in this chapter.