

A meeting of the County Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee will be held at 212 River Drive, **Rm. #2**, Wausau, WI, 54403, at **6:00pm** on **September 18, 2019.**

Members: Mike Lane (chair), Marcell Wieloch (vice-chair), John Burke, Mark Chickering, Gary Weiland, Susan Haug, Dale Heil, Paul Klocko, Greg Klos, Ryan Schleifer, Susan Stomieroski

A G E N D A

- I. Minutes
 - A. Approve Minutes of the June 5, 2019 Meeting
- II. New Business
 - A. Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee Appointments
 - B. Review Revisions to the Marathon County Forest Comprehensive Plan Chapters 100 - 300
 - C. Review 2019 Timber Sale Package
 - D. Results of the 2019 County Forest Certification Audit
 - E. Results of the Cross Country Skiing Survey from the 2018-19 Season
 - F. Oak Wilt Confirmed at Nine Mile and Planned Treatment
 - G. Marathon County Forest Timeline and Public Participation Process
 - H. Wisconsin Endurance Mountain Bike Participation and Revenue
 - I. Good Neighbor Authority in Wisconsin
 - J. County Forest Tour – October 10, 2019
 - K. Member Items
- III. Old Business
 - A. Revised Nine Mile Event and Use Policy
 - B. Update on the Proposal to Add Snowmaking at Nine Mile Forest - Burke
 - C. Status of the County Forest Land Acquisitions
 - D. Ragnar Trail Relay Running Race September 20, 21, 2019
- IV. Remaining 2019 Meeting Dates – December 18, 2019 at 6:00pm.
- V. Adjourn

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk's Office at 261-1500 or e-mail infomarathon@mail.co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting.

ATTN: News Department

THIS NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE

Daily Herald, City Pages, Marshfield News, Midwest Radio Group &

Faxed by: /s/ Jodi Luebbe

Date:

Date: September 10, 2019

Time:

Time: 10:30 a.m.

By:

Marathon County Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee**Page 1**

Members present: John Burke, Mark Chickering, Susan Haug, Dale Heil, Greg Klos, Mike Lane, Susan Stomioski, Marcell Wieloch

Excused: Paul Klocko, Ryan Schleifer, Gary Weiland

Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Rec, and Forestry Department staff present: Tom Lovlien-Forest Administrator, Jamie Polley-Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Lane

I. Minutes

Motion by Wieloch to approve the March 13, 2019 minutes. Motion **carried**.

III. New Business**A. 2019 Anticipated Timber Harvest Activity at Nine Mile Forest**

Lovlien said the red pine harvest around the chalet and parking lot could happen as early as the end of June. Notices will be sent to the mountain bike and ski groups when it occurs. It will have a major impact on some trails near the chalet which will be closed and opened as the loggers complete sections. One other sale just south of the snowmobile trail in Nine Mile could potentially happen this fall and will have impact on a portion of the ski trail and the snowmobile/horse trail. The snowmobile and horse trail will still be passable during the harvest. Questions were answered.

B. September 2019 Subcommittee Appointments – Lovlien reported that Paul Klocko, Marcell Wieloch, Ryan Schleifer, Gary Weiland and Dale Heil terms expire on September 1st, 2019. Members should let Lovlien know by July 15th if they would like to remain on the Committee.

C. 2019 Scheduled Nine Mile Events – Lovlien discussed the events at Nine Mile. Lane expressed considerable concerns of the increased amount of races and because the IronBull bike race which was permitted October 19th after the October 15th bike closing deadline and it didn't come through this Committee for a recommendation to the Forestry/Recreation Committee. He felt the all the races occurring tie up Nine Mile from the residents of Marathon County. Lovlien said that IronBull's request originally wanted to go through numerous forestry units during the hunting season. They pared down their request to the snowmobile trail at Nine Mile on October 19, 2019. Because IronBull wanted to get established and only affects one Saturday afternoon utilizing the snowmobile trail and not the single track mountain bike trails staff and the Forestry Committee supported the event. The route and time that the racers are going through Nine Mile was made with the thought of what would be the least impact to other users. Lovlien agreed that the request did get fast tracked but for IronBull to move forward on their race they had to have an answer immediately from the Forestry Committee. The Forestry Committee agreed to it on a one year trial basis.

Polley mentioned that IronBull had been previously discussed in regards to the winter triathlon. CWOCC and the Wausau Nordic Ski Club worked together and the one day event includes fat tire mountain biking/snowshoeing/skiing was approved in January. Lovlien discussed each of the upcoming races at Nine Mile and said that most do not involve closures to the public. He said the Department is getting pressure to have more races at Nine Mile. The 15-year plan is going to be revised and could be a good time for people to voice support or concerns. Lane reiterated that the races take away opportunities for the Marathon County residents and the IronBull race should have been brought to this Committee first. Lovlien said all of the IronBull events were planned for 2020 so there would have been time to bring it to this Committee but the organizers decided on some races in 2019 so they could build upon them in 2020. Their request came on short notice so it went directly to the Forestry Committee.

Haug said their user group tries to avoid hunters who utilize Nine Mile from September 1st to the end of January and she thinks that is a lot of time. Stomioski also said that she doesn't go to Nine Mile in the spring because the trail is too wet and by the time she goes there she has to be aware of what hunting season it is so that really inhibits her riding. Lovlien noted that the County forests must allow hunting, trapping, and hiking year round.

Polley explained that County administration has been supporting the Chamber of Commerce's new strategic plan of trying to market Marathon County as an outdoor recreation mecca. Outdoor recreation includes all user groups so this is a good Committee to have because all get a voice. The County, Chamber, and CVB are looking to rebrand the area and the State is trying to market outdoor recreation. Nine Mile Forest is one of the top features the County has to offer in terms of amenities.

It's an area that is required to be managed for timber along with recreation and the Department will continue to get more recreational requests. Lovlien said staff didn't intentionally go around this Committee, this Committee has been very valuable to the Department in working through issues. Polley mentioned that IronBull has a joint agreement with the Parks Foundation to receive a percentage of gate and merchandise fees. The Parks Foundation highly supports the parks and forests. Lane felt that means that money has a lot to do with it and that's how it got fast tracked. Polley didn't agree that money was a factor and said IronBull's timing was the reason it got fast tracked. Registration for the fall 2019 race has to be open now. Also the Department has no idea if IronBull is even going to be successful. The number and kinds of races being held at Nine Mile were discussed. Lovlien said they are trying to get races scheduled outside of hunting season that starts early September but hunting season seems to be starting earlier and ending later. This is an issue that has to continue to be monitored and solutions found that limit user conflicts.

D. 2019 Spring Timber Sale Summary

Lovlien said the spring bid opening received twenty six-bids from thirteen different contractors. The County had a record bid opening, most of which came from an eighty five year old red pine stand at Nine Mile. Questions were answered.

E. County Forest Tour – September 12, 2019

The Forestry Committee requested a County forest tour which will be September 12th from 10am to 3pm. The tour will include viewing invasive species, timber sales and different recreational activities. The County Board, Forestry Committee, this Committee, and administrative staff will be invited. If any members are interested they should let him know. He will email the Subcommittee the agenda when it's available.

F. Wausau Bird Club Restoring Barker Stewart Island – Haug reported that their Bird-a-thon funds were used to restore native species on Barker-Stewart Island. Three trees and some native shrubs were planted. She also mentioned that the Bird Club is also helping to restore the shoreline there. She mentioned that a member of their club donated \$500.00 toward restoring bird habitat.

G. Wisconsin Tourism Industry Generates 21.6 Billion - Lovlien commented that 2018 visitor spending rose five percent to \$13.3 billion and most of the growth was tied to recreational activities. The different events promoted through the Department will help the local area. Marathon County tourism has also been increasing the last several years.

H. Report Says Wisconsin Forestry on the Upswing - Lovlien commented that the forestry employment sector increased nearly five percent and the value of timber sales increased by nearly ten percent. Consumption of pulpwood has decreased because some of the pulpwood mills have been closed but because the forests are aging more high quality wood is being shipped.

I. Electronic Assist Bikes – E-Bike Articles – Polley said the concept had previously been brought to Forestry Committee and Park Commission and eventually will come back whether or not to allow the electronic assist bikes on the County's mountain bike trails. Currently, electronic assist bikes are allowed on the Mountain Bay Trail. The articles discuss the pros and cons of these bikes and the new legislation being brought forward for them. Polley said the only electronic assist bikes the Marathon County Pedestrian and Bike Committee are discussing are the Class 1 pedal assist bikes and not the other classes that are throttle only. The bike has levels of assistance and needs to be pedaled in order for it to move. These bikes are becoming more popular among older cyclists. Chickering personally felt there could initially be problems at Sylvan Hill as these bikes would make it a lot easier to ride back up the hill. He didn't believe they would be that much fun on the single track trails at Nine Mile. He hopes everyone keeps an open mind.

J. Member Items – Haug reported that Wausau's application to once again be a Bird City was approved. Their high-flyer status remains even though the City has a trap, neuter, release policy for cats. Haug thanked Polley and staff for assistance on the application. Lovlien mentioned that Jon Daniels the Chief Ranger/Motorized Recreation Administrator will be retiring this fall. He said the State is in its third year of a three year trial to allow tree stands to remain in the woods and attached to the trees so depending on that outcome the County may be looking at revising its tree stand ordinances. Burke mentioned that Gary Zimbric is the new Wausau Nordic Ski Club president. Burke has stepped aside but will still be active and involved with the club.

II. Old Business

A. Update on the County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan – Polley said an online survey had been taken by 1200 people. An open house was also held with about 35 people in attendance. Staff is in the process of inventorying every park and forest unit's infrastructure. Staff will give the information to the consultant who will compile everything. They will provide a working document which will be reviewed by various committees.

B. Update on the Potential Land Acquisitions in the Town of Hewitt – Lovlien discussed the two parcels the County is looking to acquire. One of them he has a signed offer for the appraised value. Because the request is for more than \$250,000 from the Knowles Nelson Stewardship Grant there is a passive review process with the Joint Finance Committee that will be undertaken starting June 15th. The other parcel will have a second appraisal done on it because of issues with the first appraisal. The County will order the appraisal and work with the appraiser but the seller is responsible for all costs.

C. 2021 – 2035 County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan Revision

Lovlien said a small group of DNR and County staff are developing a template for the plan. He would like to bring the chapters to Committee so there may be an extra one or two meetings. He is envisioning a kick-off and a public input meeting but is undecided on having a survey yet. This plan is for the next fifteen years so it's important to get input from all the users. All input will be considered however not everything that user groups request will be feasible on the forests. The plan will go through committees, County Board and to the DNR for approval and it can be amended in the future.

D. IronBull Events at Nine Mile Forest Approved

IronBull events include the winter triathlon in January, the Rib Mountain Adventure Challenge which rotates parks and lands every year, the October bike race, and their signature event which is an extreme triathlon. This extreme triathlon consists of kayaking, mountain biking and running. Staff didn't know whether it will include Nine Mile or not.

E. Final Antlerless Deer Quotas Approved by Natural Resources Board

Lane reported that the final recommendation was approved. The Natural Resources Board did have a couple counties that were asking for antlerless only seasons which the Board didn't approve. Wieloch felt the Board was trying to use it as a wake-up call so that people would be aware that they can't make hunters shoot antlerless deer. Heil felt the problem was the privatization of the lands and hunters are the ones managing the deer herd.

F. Update on Proposal to Add Snowmaking at Nine Mile Forest – Burke reported they are in the process of setting up some site visits to look at operations in Minnesota and he also has to check into the status of the water study.

IV. Remaining 2019 Meeting Dates – September 18 and December 18, 2019 at 6:00 pm.**V. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Klos. Motion **carried**. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Thomas Lovlien
Secretary

July 2019

**MARATHON COUNTY FOREST
CITIZENS' ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mark Chickering 2918 Pine Ridge Blvd. Wausau WI 54401 (H) 715-574-4610 Email: markchickering@gmail.com	Mountain Biking 2 year term to 2020 Expires September 1, 2020
John Burke 5907 Old coach Rd. Wausau WI 54401 (H) 715-218-7883 E-mail: johnbethburke@charter.net	Cross-Country Skiing 2 year term to 2020 Expires September 1, 2020
Greg Klos 6603 Cavin Dr. Wausau WI 54401 (H) 842-5951 (W) 845-2206 E-mail: gklos@charter.net	Conservation 2 year term to 2020 Expires September 1, 2020
Susan Haug 168305 River Rd. Ringle WI 54471 (H) 446-2775 E-mail: sjhaug@charter.net	Birding 2 year term to 2020 Expires September 1, 2020
Mike Lane 921 Landfried Ave. Mosinee WI 54455 (H) 693-2749 (C) 715-370-3645	Hunting 2 year term to 2020 Expires September 1, 2020
Susan Stomieroski 6310 Setter Rd Weston, WI 54476 (H) 715-355-7769 E-mail: susan@stomieroski.com	Equestrian 2 year term to 2020 Expires September 1, 2020
Paul Klocko 3907 Pat St. Weston WI 54476 (H) 715-241-6940 E-mail: pklocko@dwave.net	General Member 2 year term to 2021 Expires September 1, 2021
Marcell Wieloch 214814 Wieloch Rd. Mosinee WI 54455 (H) 693-4449 (C) 715-571-4474 E-mail: mfwieloch@mtc.net	Conservation Congress 2 year term to 2021 Expires September 1, 2021
Ryan Schleifer 511 Bob's Drive Plover WI 54467 (W) 715-213-5541 E-mail: ryan.schleifer@versoco.com	Forest Industry 2 year term to 2021 Expires September 1, 2021
Gary Weiland 3799 Redwood St. Fenwood WI 54426 (H) 715-581-2875 gary.weiland@gmail.com	ATV/Motorized 2 year term to 2021 Expires September 1, 2021
Dale Heil 212590 Karen Ln. Stratford WI 54484 (H) 687-2110 (W) Truck 498-2252 dale.heil@frontier.com	Logging 2 year term to 2021 Expires September 1, 2021

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS ON FOREST CITIZENS ADVISORY
SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS – JULY 2, 2019

1. Paul Klocko – General Member – Expiring Sept. 1, 2021
2. Gary Weiland – ATV/Motorized – Expiring Sept. 1, 2021
3. Marcell Wieloch – Conservation Congress – Expiring Sept. 1, 2021
4. Dale Heil – Logging – Expiring Sept. 1, 2021
5. Ryan Schleifer – Forest Industry – Expiring Sept. 1, 2021

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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CHAPTER 100

BACKGROUND

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100 MISSION STATEMENT

The Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department mission is to adaptively manage our park and forest lands for natural resource sustainability while providing healthy recreational opportunities and unique experiences making Marathon County the perfect place to live, work and play. The mission of the Marathon County Forest is to manage, conserve and protect natural resources on a sustainable basis for present and future generations. These resources, such as those provided by the County Forest, are the base for addressing the ecological and socioeconomic needs of society.

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

105 GOAL OF THE COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN (Hereafter referred to as the “Plan”)

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

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

110 COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

MARATHON COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN POLICY

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

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

110.1 MANAGEMENT PLANNING OBJECTIVES

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

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

110.2 DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN

Section 28.11, Wis. Stats., places the responsibility for the plan development on the Committee with technical assistance from the Department and other agencies. The County Forest Administrator will take the lead at the committee’s request. During development of the plan public participation should be utilized to provide for public participation throughout the planning process. Public participation and inputs into the plan should consider s. 28.11, Wis. Stats., which governs the County Forest program and provides the sideboards to which this plan must adhere.

Marathon County’s public participation process includes the following:

MARATHON COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN 2021 - 2035
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

<u>STAGE OF PROCESS</u>	<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>TOOLS/TECHNIQUES</u>
Identification of Issues	Consult	On-Line/Mailed General Survey
Draft Development	Inform	Website
All Draft Chapters	Involve/ Collaborate	Forest Citizens’ Advisory Subcommittee Forestry/Recreation Committee Environmental Resources Committee Park Commission (Chapter 900 only)
Preliminary Draft Completion	Inform/Consult	Open House – Public Meeting
Final Draft	Inform	Forest Citizens’ Advisory Subcommittee Website/E-Mail to Plan Holders

110.3 APPROVAL OF THE PLAN

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

110.4 DISTRIBUTION OF THE PLAN

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

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

1. Department of Natural Resources - Liaison and County Forest Specialist.
2. Executive Director- Wisconsin County Forests Association.

110.5 UPDATING THE PLAN

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

110.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER PLANNING

The development of this plan and any future amendments to this plan will include considerations, and if warranted, participation in other local and regional planning efforts. It is expected these other plans will also consider and mesh their efforts with the County forest plan. Coordination between the County Strategic, Comprehensive and County Outdoor Recreation (CORP) and other is essential for effective land management.

115 FOREST RESOURCE PLANNING

The Committee will utilize procedure as set forth in the Department of Natural Resources Public

Forest Lands Handbook no. 2460.5. Silviculture Guidance, supported by Wisconsin's forestry community and Silvicultural Guidance Team may be referenced in forest management activities. WisFIRS will be utilized as the primary tool for forest management planning decisions. Additional resources such as forest habitat type classification, soil surveys, and DNR's Best Management Practices for Water Quality guidelines may be utilized in management decisions.

115.1 FOREST CERTIFICATION GROUP ADMINISTRATION

As the certification group manager, the Department of Natural Resources will be responsible for overall administration of third-party certification efforts. The DNR County Forest Specialist will work in close cooperation with the Wisconsin County Forests Association in coordinating this effort. The group manager's responsibilities will include:

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

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

115.2 FOREST CERTIFICATION COMMITMENT

Marathon County's Commitment to Sustainable Forestry

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

Marathon County's Commitment

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

All forestland owners have a responsibility to provide sound forest stewardship. Marathon County will work in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and other

natural resources groups / agencies in providing sustainable forestry information to those landowners and individuals impacting forest sustainability in Wisconsin. We will support research efforts to improve the health, productivity, and management of forestlands both internally and through cooperative efforts. In managing the Marathon County Forest a spectrum of forestry practices will be employed to achieve our sustainable forestry objective. Both intensive and more extensive forest management techniques will be used to provide for wildlife, forest products, recreation, aesthetics, water quality, aesthetics and ecosystem maintenance. In keeping with this responsibility Marathon County is committed to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program.

120 COUNTY AUTHORITY

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

120.1 ORDINANCES

The county ordinances that apply to the administration and management of the Marathon County Forest can be found in Chapter 1005.1. In addition, the following will be considered in planning process.

- County Forestry ordinance (General Code Chapter 16)
- Park and Recreation ordinance (General Code Chapter 19)
- Shoreland, Shoreland wetland and floodplain (General Code Chapter 22)
- All Terrain Vehicles (General Code Chapter 7)
- Non-Metallic Mining ordinance (General Code, Chapter 21)
- Snowmobile ordinance (General Code Chapter 7)
- Marathon County Comprehensive Plan (General Code Chapter 26)
- Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee (General Code Chapter 16)

125 HISTORY

125.1 STATEWIDE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

In 1927, the State Legislature passed the Forest Crop Law, authorizing counties to create county forests. An opinion of the Attorney General with reference to the Forest Crop Law stated that the counties would be exempt from the owner's share of annual tax. In 1929 the law was amended to create the County Forest Reserve Law. In 1963, several major revisions were made, creating the

County Forest Law s. 28.11. The most notable change was the creation of a permanent program of forests that would be managed in accordance with a 10 Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan developed by the county, with the assistance of the Department of Natural Resources. Several grants and loans were created and remain available to counties to compensate for public uses of these county forest lands as stipulated in s. 28.11. To fulfill additional statutory obligations acreage share payments to towns are currently \$.30/acre, and towns with county forest land receive a minimum of 10% of the stumpage revenue from their respective County Forest each year.

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

125.2 MARATHON COUNTY FOREST PROGRAM HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

At one time, Marathon County was covered with magnificent stands of pine, hemlock, and hardwoods on the highlands, and cedar, spruce, and balsam on its lowlands. These forests provided raw material for a thriving lumbering industry from 1860 to about 1910. As a result of the clamor to conquer the wilderness, supply lumber for housing and factories, and without proper forest management, the forests were nearly completely destroyed. The logging slash was ideal for wildfires which essentially culminated with the Peshtigo fire in 1871, but fires continued into the 1930's. Immigrants rushed to these newly cleared lands hungry for a place to farm and build their lives. But in just a few years, the soils gave out and these people left to seek their fortunes elsewhere, leaving the land increasingly barren and tax delinquent. The Marathon County Forest originated with the taking of these tax delinquent lands.

Marathon County hired a Forest Ranger, Ralph Gunzel, to begin a management program with 160 acres of County Forest Land and nearly 20,000 acres of tax delinquent lands in 1946. Ranger Gunzel established a tree nursery, planted trees on County lands, gave conservation programs in the schools and communities countywide, organized fire crews and fought wild fires, expanded the amount of County Forest Lands, appraised and sold tax delinquent land, developed food patches for game animals, developed forest trails, encouraged responsible public use, checked hunting and fishing licenses, established commercial timber sales, and advocated sound management on County Forest Lands for sustainable production of forest crops including recreation, game, and timber.

By 1956, there were 24,477 acres of County Forests under management. During the first 10 years, 800,000 trees were planted on County lands, and 17 miles of fire lanes were built to protect these plantings from fire.

In 1956 alone, 280 acres were added to the County's forest program. Also in 1956, 2,100 acres of tax delinquent land were sold leaving 6,329 acres of delinquent lands on the tax rolls. By 1961, the last spruce and pine from the County nursery were planted on County Forest Land.

The Marathon County Board approved entry of County Forest Lands under the Forest Crop Law in 1967 and made an initial entry of 21,840 acres. As of June 30, 2020 there are 30,195 acres in the County Forest. Marathon County's Forest was the twenty-eighth County Forest to be entered under the County Forest Crop Law. Today there are 29 County Forests. Previous to entry, County Forest Lands had no comprehensive forest plan.

125.3 WISCONSIN COUNTY FORESTS ASSOCIATION

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

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

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

125.4 TRENDS

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

- Wisconsin's forests are naturally changing due to forest succession. Most of the County Forest acreage statewide is a result of regeneration or planting from the early to mid 1900's. Mid to late successional northern hardwood forests are replacing the early successional

aspen-birch, oak and jack pine forests of the 1940's through the 1970's. The aspen cover type is key habitat for many of the state's premier game species including deer, ruffed grouse, snowshoe hare and woodcock. The county forest system currently has 15% of the State's public land base and 24% of the aspen resource.

- Conflict over timber management practices will likely continue to increase as more individuals and groups demand greater involvement in forestry decisions. Practices such as clearcutting and even-aged management will continue to be controversial. Efforts to educate the public on the merits of these sound forest management techniques will continue.
- Marathon County may experience funding problems as municipalities are being required to provide more services with less money. Potential losses of revenue from decreased shared revenues and resistance to tax increases may make county timber revenues increasingly important to the finances of county governments. This is complicated by increasing public pressure to reduce timber harvests on county forests.
- Increasing knowledge about a wider variety of species and their habitat needs is leading to a growing list of threatened and endangered species. This could lead to improvements in managing the forest and mitigating impacts to these species. Mitigating measures have the potential to impede recreational and forest management activities. Refer to Chapter 800 (840) for specifics on this subject.
- Invasive exotic species pose an ever-increasing threat to the County Forest. Gypsy moth, Asian long-horned beetle, garlic mustard, buckthorn, honeysuckle have all gained a foothold in Wisconsin's forests. Refer to Chapter 600 (610) for specifics on this subject.
- The Forest is considered to be an outdoor classroom serving all age groups. It consists of diverse communities with a large variety of plant and animal life giving ample opportunity for study and observation.
- Greater demands are being placed on the County Forest by people using it to fulfill their recreational pursuits. The popularity of trails for various uses has lead to competition for available resources especially at Nine Mile Forest. Balancing competing uses will require the user groups to compromise and share trails to prevent conflicts.
- Lands open to public use continue to decline in Marathon County. Industrial Forest Crop Law Lands once open to public hunting are slowly being sold and subdivided, most often no longer available to the public. When considering the Managed Forest Law, most private landowners elect to enter their lands as "closed to the public" which does not provide for public recreational use. Acquisition of lands to increase County Forest ownership will be important to replace these lands that were once open to the public.

125.4 PROTECTING THE PUBLIC RESOURCE

As stated in State Statute 28.11(1), the county forest program enables and encourages “the planned development and management of the county forests for optimum production of forest products together with recreational opportunities, wildlife, watershed protection and stabilization of stream flow, giving full recognition to the concept of multiple-use to assure maximum public benefits to protect the public rights, interests and investments in such lands; and to compensate the counties for the public uses, benefits and privileges these lands provide; all in a manner which will provide a reasonable revenue to the towns in which such lands lie.”

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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CHAPTER 200

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

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200 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Objectives

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

205 ROLES

Marathon County's administrative structure was established in 1980. The County Administrator serves as an agent of the County Board. The Administrator establishes goals and time tables consistent with the objectives and directives of the County Board. The Administrator maintains close working relationships with all department heads to ensure that County goals and department objectives are met consistent with those of other departments and the County's Strategic Plan.

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

205.1 COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

- Annual Budget and Work Plan
- Grants/Loans
- Land acquisitions

The Marathon County Forestry Ordinance, adopted in 1968, prescribes rules and regulations for the administration of County powers and duties as provided in Chapter 26, 27, 28, 29, and 59 of the Wisconsin Statutes, under which the Marathon County Board of Supervisors is granted specific

powers relative to the establishment, development, management, and protection of the County Forest to provide sustained yield of forest products for commercial use and the associated benefits of soil and water conservation, scenic and recreational values, and fish and wildlife resources; all in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

205.1.1 Environmental Resources Committee (ERC)

The Environmental Resources Committee shall have the responsibility for outcome monitoring and annual reporting, as well as overseeing the implementation of all policies related to the environmental resources of the County. The Environmental Resources Committee shall have the primary responsibility for conferring with and providing policy guidance to the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.

Duties of the Environmental Resources Committee include:

1. Promote the implementation of the County's Comprehensive and Strategic Plans relative to environmental protection, waste management, public recreation, forestry and land use.
2. Identify and recommend to the County Board, policies and long-range plans related to environmental and community resources of the County including land use, forests, soil and water, and outdoor recreation.
3. Review new programs and associated budget requirements, prior to their being considered for inclusion in the County's budget.
4. Facilitate broad based discussion of issues and policies by encouraging involvement and communications with the public and with other standing Committees.
5. Serve as the initial contact point for individuals and/or organizations who wish to influence County Board policy regarding County environmental and community resources.
6. Delegate operational procedures and practices to appropriate program committees, boards and commissions which include Forestry and Recreation, Solid Waste, and Park Commission. Provide policy guidance and oversight to the Conservation, Planning and Zoning; Parks, and Recreation and Forestry Departments.
7. Encourage soil and water conservation research and educational information and public service programs.
8. Assist in development and administration of the annual and long-range plans and annual reports for the following program activities:

- a. Land and Water Resource Management.
 - b. Lake Management.
 - c. Parks and Recreation.
 - d. County Forestry.
 - e. Public Transportation.
 - f. Farmland Preservation.
 - g. Solid Waste Management and Recycling.
9. Administer the wildlife damage and abatement program including approving the annual budget, claims, and fence contracts.
 10. Distribute and allocate federal, state, and county funds made available to the committee for cost-sharing programs and other incentive programs for improvements and practices relating to soil and water conservation on private or public lands, and within the limits permitted under these programs, and determine the methods of allocating these funds.
 11. Additional duties as assigned by the County Board Chairperson.

205.1.2 Forestry/Recreation Committee

The Board of Supervisors assigns the administration of the County Forest to the Forestry/Recreation Committee as detailed in Chapter 16 of the Marathon County Code of Ordinances including:

1. Oversee the County forests program according to Chapters 26, 28, 29, 59 and 77, Wis. Stats.
2. Implement the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, prepare amendments and update as required.
3. Implement the forestry sections contained within the County Comprehensive Plan.
4. Recommend policy for the management of the County forests.
5. Negotiate and recommend the acquisition of land within County forests acquisition zones by purchase, gift or bequest or by exchange of County owned lands outside such areas.
6. Review and recommend for approval to County Board the annual forestry division work plan and budget for the ensuing calendar year.
7. Review, approve, and close timber sales of the County forests.
8. Review and/or recommend to the Environmental Resources Standing Committee of the County Board all proposed CIP projects of the County forests.
9. Make rules and recommend ordinances for the regulation and use of County forests.

10. Direct the monitoring and protection of the County forests from fire, insects, disease, trespass, invasive species, or from damage by animals or persons, or from other causes, in cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources.
11. Support the creation and maintenance of valuable habitat types to sustain a variety of wildlife species.
12. Cooperate with the Department of Natural Resources on all matters pertaining to natural resource management of the County forests.
13. Direct the preparation and present an annual report of activities to the Environmental Resources Standing committee and the County Board.
14. Additional duties as assigned by the Environmental Resources Committee.

205.1.3 Marathon County Park Commission

The Board of Supervisors assigns the administration of developed recreation (snowmobiling, ATVing, cross-country skiing, mountain biking, snowshoeing, and horseback riding, Shooting Range, and other developed recreation facilities and activities) within the County Forests to the Marathon County Park Commission, hereinafter referred to as Commission, subject to review and approval by the Committee in meeting overall forest management goals and objectives.

205.1.4 Forest Citizens Advisory Subcommittee

The purpose of the subcommittee is to assist the Committee in formulating long-range plans for the County Forest and advising the Committee regarding conflicting recreational use issues, the budget for Forestry and the annual work plans. The subcommittee will also advise the Park Commission on developed recreation in County Forests. Duties of the subcommittee include:

1. To give advice and counsel the Committee regarding long-range forest and outdoor recreation plans for the County Forest.
2. To provide recommendations to the Committee on priorities for development of the Forestry Division annual budget and work plan.
3. To operate as a focus group on specific problems or questions posed by the Committee or Commission.
4. To attend tours of County Forest recreation, forestry, and wildlife projects.
5. To prepare an annual report for the Committee of activities and issues the subcommittee addressed the prior year and goals and activities anticipated in the current year.

Chapter 900 contains the ordinance creating the County Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee.

205.1.5 Director

1. The Director reports to the County Administrator.
2. The Director will serve as the Director of the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department with the primary role of providing leadership and vision and working with the County Board, committees, and commissions to develop and implement policies for the overall management of County Forests.
3. The Director will provide general administrative direction to the Forest Division primarily reviewing work in terms of program results and review of reports.
4. The Director will be present at all Forestry/Recreation Committee meetings.
5. The Director will act as an advisory member of the Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee.

205.1.6 Forest Administrator

1. The Forest Administrator will act as the agent of the committee and will carry out its orders as well as execute assignments outlined in the comprehensive plan and annual plan, all within the framework outlined in s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.
2. The Forest Administrator will prepare an agenda for and will be present at all Committee and Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee meetings.
3. The Forest Administrator or designee will record minutes of each meeting and distribute as appropriate, as well as maintain a permanent minutes record.
4. The Forest Administrator will serve as the division head in coordinating the Forest Division programs, staff, and other matters as directed by the Director and the Committee.
5. The Forest Administrator will supervise the timber sale program, tree planting, site preparation, timber stand improvement, road and firebreak construction and maintenance, land acquisition, entry and withdrawal of County Forest Lands, trespass investigations, and long- and short-term planning, all within the restrictions of s. 28.11, Wis. Stats.
6. The Forest Administrator will promote and support research and educational opportunities.

7. The Forest Administrator will be responsible for maintaining and protecting the integrity of the County Forest.

205.2 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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

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

205.2.1 Central Office – Madison/Rhinelanders

It is the function of this Division to:

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

205.2.2 Local Office

Field representatives of the Department are available to provide technical advice and assistance to

the county in natural resources management. This assistance includes, but is not limited to the following:

205.2.2.1 Forest Management

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

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

205.2.2.2 Other DNR Program Functions

1. Fire Management - Maintain a system of communications, equipment, and trained personnel to prevent and suppress forest fires, assist with prescribed burns: and enforce forest fire related laws.
2. Forest Pest Control - Provide technical services for prevention, detection and suppression of forest pests in the district.
3. Wildlife Management - Conduct surveys of wildlife populations, habitat, and public use. Wildlife personnel use this information when providing technical assistance on long term ecosystem planning as well as wildlife habitat management, habitat improvement and wildlife health. Attend committee meetings as requested.
4. Fisheries Management - Maintain the quality of the fishery resource in the waters of the Forest to produce a balanced return to the angler, consistent with sound management principles.

5. Law Enforcement - Enforce state natural resource laws and regulations and assist in the enforcement of county and federal natural resource laws and ordinances.
6. Environmental Protection - Enforce and provide technical assistance in matters related to water and shore land management, pollution detection and waste disposal.
7. Endangered Resources - Provide technical expertise on rare, threatened or endangered species and natural community surveys, identification and management. Assist other DNR functions and the county in identifying local and landscape level issues.

210 COOPERATION

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

215 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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

215.1 REVENUE FROM OPERATIONS

215.1.1 General Fund

The following procedure will apply in crediting income from the County Forest:

All monies received from the sale of timber stumpage, cut forest products, fees and use permits, sale of surplus materials and equipment, and fire or other damage collections shall be deposited in the Marathon County General Fund except that revenue specified in Sections 3.24 or 16.04 of the County General Code or income generated from trail and trail facilities use and fees or other aid, such as public grants or private donations, shall be deposited into the appropriate account. All severance taxes incurred as a result of timber sales shall be segregated into a separate account from timber sales income and paid as required by statute.

215.1.2 County Park and Forest Fund

Funds based on the annual work plan are budgeted and deposited in the County Park and Forest budget accounts by the County Board annually.

215.2 OUTSIDE SOURCES OF REVENUE

215.2.1 State Funds

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

1. Variable Acreage Share Loan (s. 28.11(8)(b)1., Wis. Stats.). The county may apply for variable acreage share loans in the amount of up to fifty cents per acre of regular entry County Forest land by December 31. Payment is made to the county on or before March 31st of each year and deposited in the State Forest Aid fund. Application is made by County Board Resolution.
2. Project loans (s. 28.11(8)(b)2., Wis. Stats.) are available to undertake acquisition and development projects of an "economically productive nature". Fish and game projects or recreation projects do not qualify. Application is made by County Board Resolution.
3. County Forest Administration Grant Program (s. 28.11(5m) Wis. Stats). Annual grants are available to fund up to 50% of the salary and fringe benefits of a professional forester in the position of county forest administrator or assistant county forest administrator. Benefits may not exceed 40% of salary. Application is made by County Board resolution with payment by April 15th of each year.
4. Sustainable County Forest Grants Annual grants made for short-term unanticipated projects that promote sustainable forestry. Details are contained in NR 47.75, Wisconsin Administrative Code.
5. County Fish And Game Projects (s. 23.09(12), Wis. Stats.).
6. Wildlife Habitat Development Grant (s. 23.09(17m), Wis.Stats).
7. County Forest Road Aids funds are available for each designated mile of County Forest road. The certification is done on an annual basis.
8. Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program Grants available to assist County's in purchasing additional lands to add to the County Forest land base usually 50% of the purchase price.

215.2.2 Federal funds and programs

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

1. Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LAWCON). This fund provides up to 50% matching grants for the acquisition, development and renovation of local parks.

2. Resource Conservation and Development (Technical Services).
3. Pittman-Robertson fund. This fund provides for wildlife management and habitat improvement.
4. Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson) fund. This fund provides financing for fish management projects administered by DNR.
5. Federal Endangered Species fund. This fund provides cost sharing and grants for surveys, monitoring and management programs that conserve a threatened or endangered species. Contact the DNR Natural Heritage Conservation for information.

215.2.3 Other Funds

Other potential funding sources are groups such as Ducks Unlimited, Ruffed Grouse Society, Trout Unlimited, Whitetails Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, Wausau Nordic Ski Club, Central Wisconsin Off Road Cycling Coalition, local sportsman's clubs, service organizations, youth groups, etc.

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

215.3 COUNTY EXPENDITURES

All purchases and expenditures shall comply with County purchasing policy, Marathon County Code of Ordinances Chapter 3 and state statutes.

220 COUNTY RECORDS

The County Forest administrator will keep concise and orderly records and accounts of all revenue received, expenditures incurred and accomplishments resulting from the operations of the Forestry Division. A job description, time and expense report, and training record will be kept on each employee.

220.1 ACCOUNTS, SEGREGATED – NON-LAPSING

220.1.1 State Aid Forestry Account

Variable acreage share loans (s. 28.11(8)(b)1., Wis. Stats.), project loan funds (s. 28.11(8)(b)(2.)Wis. Stats.), and sustainable forestry grants (s. 28.11(5r), Wis. Stats., and NR 47.75, Wis. Adm. Code) that are distributed by the DNR are deposited in this account. Expenditures of variable acreage share

funds from this account are restricted to the purchase, development, preservation and maintenance of the county forest. Expenditure of project loan funds are governed by the conditions of project approval. Sustainable Forestry grants from this account must be spent specific to the approved project. Revenue received from the sale of equipment purchased with State Aid Account money must be redeposited in the State Aid Account.

220.1.2 Segregated Land Purchase

An appropriation of the available funds for the appraisal, purchase, and closing costs of County Forest land acquisitions approved by the Committee and the County Board. Revenue from the sale of excess identified Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department land holdings, land rent, part of the annual Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aid payment, and accrued interest are credited to this account.

220.1.3 Cross Country Ski/Bike/Snowshoe Trails

An appropriation of the available funds for the development and maintenance of County Forest ski, bike and snowshoe trails, and Nine Mile Forest based recreation. Revenue from trail fees, vendors, rental of Nine Mile Forest facilities, donations, and accrued interest are credited to this account.

220.1.4 Debt Service – State Severance

An appropriation of 20 percent of gross timber sale receipts payable to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources upon reporting timber volume and value removed.

220.1.5 Debt Service – Town Severance

An appropriation of 10 percent of gross timber sale receipts. The Finance Department pays a prorated share to the towns based on the number of County Forest acres in the town.

220.2 ACCOUNTS, GENERAL FUND - LAPSING

220.2.1 County Forest Program

The County Board approves an annual appropriation for salaries, supplies, maintenance, and capital expenditures for the implementation of the Forestry Division's annual plan of work. Budgeted funds unexpended on December 31 lapse to the general fund. Revenues from the sale of forest products and use other than recreation trails are credited to this account.

220.2.2 Motorized Recreational Coordinator

This annual appropriation supports the coordinator position and pays for snowmobile and ATV trail program administration. Eligible expenses are reimbursed through the State snowmobile or ATV trail grant program.

220.3 ACCOUNTS, GRANT FUNDS – NON-LAPSING

220.3.1 County Forest Road Aids

An annual appropriation of projected State aid payments for the maintenance of certified County Forest roads. Revenues and interest from annual aid payments by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and reimbursement for other road related expenses such as flood damage aid are credited to this account.

220.3.2 County Conservation Program

The County Board approves an annual appropriation to match available grant monies 1:1 on a project basis. Reimbursement by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is made for 50 percent of approved project expenditures. Project advances, reimbursements, and interest are credited to this account.

220.3.3 Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program

An annual appropriation of 5¢ per acre from the Department of Natural Resources to implement wildlife related projects identified in the County's Annual Plan of Work. The primary emphasis is on forest wildlife habitat improvement, inventories, and wildlife education. Additional revenue to this account may come from organizations such as Wisconsin Waterfowlers Association, Ruffed Grouse Society, or other wildlife habitat funding sources.

220.3.4 Snowmobile and All-Terrain-Vehicle (ATV) and Utility Vehicle (UTV) Trail Aids

An annual appropriation for the projected aid available to maintain funded snowmobile, ATV, and UTV trails in Marathon County. Advances, reimbursements, supplemental funding, and interest are credited to this account.

220.3.5 National Recreation Trails Act

An annual appropriation for approved projects to develop and maintain motorized and non-motorized trails in Marathon County. Reimbursement (up to 100 percent) for approved project expenditures and interest is credited to this account.

220.3.6 Sustainable Forestry Grant

An annual appropriation for approved projects that promote sustainable forestry on the County Forest that is consistent with the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Reimbursement (up to 00 percent) for approved project expenditures and interest are credited to this account (NR 47.75 Wis. Admin. Code).

220.3.7 County Forest Administrator Grant Program

An annual appropriation that funds 50 percent of the actual salary and up to 50 percent of the fringe benefit costs of County employed professional forester in the position of County Forest Administrator or Assistant County Forest Administrator. Fringe benefit costs shall not exceed 40 percent of the annual salary. To be eligible, the County must submit an annual Committee and County Board approved County Forest Work Plan. Advance and reimbursements must be deposited in the State Aid Forestry Account (s. 28.11(5)(m), Wis. Stats).

220.4 ACCOUNT NUMBERS

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Revenues</u>
101-692	Snowmobile/ATV Coordinator	91110-95140	82463-88110
	General Fund		
101-710	County Forest General Fund	91110-98290	85192-89900
153-778	Segregated Land	92190-98210	86212-89900
154-690	Nine Mile Trails	91110-95930	85862-88420
171-758	Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant	98210	82466
174-759	FEMA Cattail Removal	92190	82457-89900
254-751	County Conservation Aids	92990	81110-89900
255-752	County Forest Road Aids	92360	82433-89900
257-755	Forestry State Aid	92190-98210	88110-89900
258-756	Wildlife Habitat Management	92190	82473-89900
404-760	Sustainable Forestry Grant	92190	82462
441-731	Pittman-Robertson Grant	92190	82474
482-757	County Forest Administrator Grant	91110	82467

220.5 TIMBER SALES

220.5.1 Active Files

Active timber sale files (hardcopy or e-copy), at a minimum, should contain or reference the following items:

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

220.5.2 Closed Files

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

1. Timber sale notice and cutting report
2. Contract and addendums
3. Timber sale map
4. Pertinent correspondence
5. Financial ledger/summary

225 PERSONNEL

Under direction of the Committee, the Director shall have authorization to organize the workload of the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department employees and arrange for additional services as needed. Personnel of the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department will be governed by the work policies of Marathon County.

225.1 PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY STAFF

The budgeted positions of the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry

Department at this time are: Director, Senior Park and Recreation Manager, County Forest Administrator, Park and Recreation Manager, Maintenance Manager, Administrative Manager, Assistant Park and Recreation Manager (4), Park Forester, County Forester, Administrative Coordinator, Accounting Specialist, Administrative Specialist, Purchasing Specialist, Urban Forestry Specialist (6), Senior Maintenance Specialist (2), Maintenance Specialist (7), Maintenance Technician (13)

There are numerous seasonal employees utilized by the department. Other labor is hired on a part-time basis or for training positions as needed.

225.2 HIRING PERSONNEL

All hiring of permanent personnel will be approved by the Committee and Commission, having been accounted for in the annual work plan and budget. The actual hiring of permanent personnel will follow County personnel policy. Seasonal and short-term labor for special projects will be recruited and hired by the Forest Administrator. Preference for seasonal help will be given to individuals from Marathon County who are enrolled in courses of natural resources in colleges, universities, or vocational training programs.

225.3 OTHER SOURCES OF LABOR

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

225.4 SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL

Projects requiring expenditures for specialized skills and/or operation of specialized equipment are handled on a contract basis by the Committee if such skills and equipment are not available from the County.

225.5 TRAINING

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

230 EQUIPMENT

The Forest Administrator is the designated purchasing agent for the Forestry Division. The Forest Administrator will follow Marathon County's procurement ordinance (General Code Chapter 3) for the procurement of supplies, services, and construction as well as the disposal of supplies, materials, and equipment. The Forest Administrator or designee is responsible for maintaining an inventory of Forest Division fixed assets to be updated annually. Forest Division employees may purchase equipment and supplies when they have prior approval of the Forest Administrator. Items exceeding \$30,000 shall be purchased by competitive bidding (General Code 3.05). Professional services will be procured using the request for proposals (RFP) process.

230.1 FACILITIES

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

1. Office space – Provided at 212 River Drive, Suite 2, Wausau, WI 54403.
2. Parks and Forestry shop building – Located at the Nine Mile Forest trailhead on Red Bud Road in the Town of Rib Mountain. A storage garage is used to store vehicles and equipment used in operation of the park and forest program.
3. Nine Mile Chalet – A year-round recreational building for trail based recreation and rentals.
4. Trailheads – Facilities such as the Burma Road ATV/UTV trailhead and snowmobile trailheads some of which have toilets.
5. Bitzke Birdwalk – Facilities at the Birdwalk trailhead include pit toilets and gravel parking area.
6. Operations Shop – Located at 900 Pardee Street, Wausau, WI 54401. The shop is used for construction, maintenance, and repair of County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry equipment and facilities.

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

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CHAPTER 300

DESCRIPTION OF FOREST AND MANAGEMENT PLANNING

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300 DESCRIPTION OF FOREST

300.1 COUNTY FOREST OWNERSHIP

The County Forest is composed of 10 management compartments ranging in size from 80 acres to nearly 9,434 acres. Within the county forest boundaries approximately 65 percent of the land is county owned with most of the remaining 35 percent in small private holdings. A map of these compartments can be found in the Appendix.

300.2 NATURAL FEATURES

300.2.1 Topography

Within Marathon County there are four major areas with distinct physiographic characteristics resulting primarily from glaciation and the influence of underlying bedrock. The far northern and western parts of the county are broad, nearly level to sloping ground moraines. Harrison-Hewitt, Wisconsin River, and Bern Forest Units have these characteristics. The central part, except for the Wisconsin River Valley, is a mixed area of ground moraines and uplands underlain by bedrock at a depth of two to twenty feet. This area is nearly level to steep. The steeper areas generally are next to major drainage ways. Burma Road and Nine Mile Forest Units fall within this category. The Wisconsin River Valley is composed of nearly level to very steep outwash terraces and nearly level and gently sloping floodplains. The southeastern part of the county consists mainly of nearly level to steep outwash plains and stream terraces and undulating to very hilly moraines and drumlins. Leather Camp, Kronenwetter, and Elderon Forest Units have these characteristics.

The topography of Marathon County is largely controlled by the glacial features and the bedrock. The highest elevation in the county, on top of Rib Mountain, is 1,941 feet. The lowest elevation, at the point where the Wisconsin River flows out of the county, is about 1,100 feet. Most of the elevations in the county range from 1,200 to 1,450 feet. Local elevation differences are generally less than 100 feet. The greatest local elevation difference, about 750 feet, is between the top of Rib Mountain and a nearby terrace in the Wisconsin River Valley.

Most of Marathon County is within the Wisconsin River drainage basin. The western part of the county is drained mainly by the Little Rib, Big Rib, Black, Big Eau Pleine, and Little Eau Pleine Rivers and their tributaries.

The Trappe, Big Sandy, Eau Claire, Bull Junior, Little Eau Claire, and Plover Rivers and their tributaries drain the eastern part of Marathon County. The southeastern part of the county is

within the Wolf River drainage basin.

300.2.2 Geography

Marathon County, the largest county in the state, is located in the north-central portion of Wisconsin and almost entirely in the watershed of the Wisconsin River. There are 1,008,921 acres in the county of which 32,055 acres is made up of water. Approximately 37 percent of the land is classified as forest land. The County Forest, which contains approximately 30,195 acres is the 22nd largest County Forest in the state. A note of interest is that the geographic center of the western half of the northern hemisphere (i.e. the intersection of the 90th longitude and the 45th latitude) lies in the northwest portion of the county. At this point, the county is halfway between the equator and the North Pole and halfway between the prime meridian (Greenwich, England) and the 180th meridian, which makes up most of the International Date Line. Appendix 1000 contains maps showing the location of the forest.

300.2.3 Geology and Soils

The bedrock geology of the county is quite uniform and consists of granite and undifferentiated igneous and metamorphic rocks with scattered quartzite, slate, and iron formations. “Rotten granite” is quite prevalent in the western half of the county. It is used for road topping, base course, and shoulder material for highways. Southward from Wausau lies a 20- to 30-mile wide band along the Wisconsin River which is unglaciated. Its sandy soils were formed by material washed away from the glaciers’ edge. West of this so-called driftless area lays a region covered by earlier ice advances where the glacial ridges and hills have been worn down to gentle slopes. Heavy silt loams cover nearly all of this western part of the county. Lakes and swamps have disappeared. Adjoining the outwash plain on the east is the Wisconsin Terminal Moraine. Silt loam and sandy loam soils predominate in this youthful, hilly sector. Peat and water-filled, kettle-like depressions are scattered between hills. Drainage patterns are poorly defined. A generalized soil map is found in the appendix. Detailed soil information is available from the USDA Web Soil Survey. (websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov).

300.2.4 Biological Communities

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

The Marathon County Forest lies within the Forest Transition Ecological Landscape.

Forest Transition Landscape – The soils are moderately well drained sandy loams derived from glacial till, but there is considerable diversity in the range of soil attributes including sandy, organic and loam and silt loam soils. Land cover is highly variable with aspen, birch, hardwoods and pine along with many areas cleared dominated by agriculture.

300.2.4.1 Land Type Associations

Land type associations are units of the National Hierarchical Framework of Ecological Units (NHFEU) classification system. They are much smaller than Ecological Landscapes and are generally based on glacial features. They can be useful for planning at finer scales within a landscape. The following Land Type Associations are present within the Ecological Landscapes of the Marathon County Forest. More information is available at: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/landscapes/index.asp?mode=detail&Landscape=11>

Landtype Associations (LTA's) within the subsections include: 212 Qc 01 Abbotsford Moraines, 212 Qd 01 Ackley Plains, 212 Qd 02 Marathon Uplands, 212 Qd 04 Rib Mountain, 212 Qd 05 Dubay Plains, 212 Qd 07 Peplin Uplands, 212 TA 03 Hatley Moraines, and 212 TA 04 Upper Plover River Moraines. LTA's having common ecological characteristics allow land managers to better plan for future vegetative communities, wildlife species to feature, and compatible recreation uses.

300.2.5 Vegetative Cover Types

Approximately 76 percent of the Marathon County Forest Land base is forested. Forested uplands are comprised of primarily aspen, northern hardwoods, red pine, oak, white birch, balsam fir, spruce, and jack pine, while bottomland hardwoods, tamarack, black spruce, and cedar occupy the forested lowlands. The remainder is classified as non-forested; including types such as wetlands, lowland shrubs, upland shrubs, bogs, minor lakes, streams, grassy openings, trails, roads, rock outcroppings, utility rights-of-way, and developed recreation facilities. The County Forest is composed of nearly 30,195 acres, with 22,665 acres classified as commercial forest. The aspen type alone composes approximately 66 percent of the total commercial forest acreage. The different cover types present on the Marathon County Forest are detailed in the appendix.

The great majority of the forest (78%) is located in the eastern one-half of the county. The remaining blocks, Nine Mile, Burma Road, and Bern Forest Units (22%) are located in the western half of the

county. Maps showing the location of the County Forest are in the appendix.

FORESTED COMMUNITIES

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

Forest cover types associated with the County Forest are:

<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Aspen	14,892
Northern Hardwood	1,616
Red Maple	1,889
Red Pine	911
Oak	2,606
White Birch	19
Fir – Spruce	227
Swamp Hardwoods	172
Jack Pine	14
White Pine	153
Swamp Conifer	<u>166</u>
Total Commercial	22,665

NON-FORESTED COMMUNITIES

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

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

Non-Forest Cover Types

<u>Non-Commercial</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Alder	5,547
Willows	69
Minor lakes, streams & flowages	384
Lowland grass	353
Upland grass	351
Upland brush	58
Rock outcrop	1
Farm land	56
Marsh or muskeg	53
Right of Ways	102

Parking Areas	31
Nature or Hiking Trails	68
Motorized Vehicle Trails	<u>127</u>
Total Non-Commercial	7,200

Upland Non-Forest

Upland non-forest areas of the County Forest include:

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

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

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

Rock outcrops - include rocky talus and bedrock.

See Chapter 830 for detailed discussion on Biological Community Types.

Wetlands

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

Aquatic bed - plants growing entirely on or in a water body no deeper than 6 feet. Plants may include pondweed, duckweed, lotus and water-lilies.

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

Sedge or “wet” meadows - these wetlands more often than not have saturated soils rather than standing water. Sedges, grasses and reeds dominant, but may also have blue flag iris, marsh milkweed, sneezeweed, mint and several species of goldenrod and aster.

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

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

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

300.2.6 Fish and Wildlife

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

While the Marathon County Forest provides for a wide range of fish and wildlife species, current management strategies or programs have emphasized the following species and/or communities:

Bern Wetland Management

Marathon County purchased the 269-acre Bern Wetland to develop a waterfowl flowage (impoundment). The DNR is responsible for managing the flowage and maintaining the dam.

Forest stands next to the flowage will be managed for a natural appearance. Forest stands will also be managed to develop old trees and especially maintain trees with cavities for birds and mammals.

Bitzke Waterfowl Refuge Management

The Bitzke Refuge is an area of about 300 acres with flowages (impoundments) developed for waterfowl production and protection as a cooperative project between Marathon County and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources with funding from Ducks Unlimited, Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, Marathon County, and DNR. The Wisconsin Conservation Corps assisted with nature trail development.

The refuge will be maintained in a condition which will promote the development of a complete wetland ecosystem featuring waterfowl. Interpretive signs, boardwalks, benches, an observation tower, and flowage structures were developed to enhance the use of the area by the public.

The visual horizon (from the top of the observation tower) will be maintained in as naturally appearing condition as possible. The DNR may use artificial nesting platforms and boxes or other wildlife management techniques within the refuge.

Ruffed Grouse Area Management

Marathon County in cooperation with the Ruffed Grouse Society and the Department of Natural Resources has developed a special ruffed grouse management area in the Leather Camp Forest Unit north of the Little Eau Claire River (approximately 3,163 acres). The primary intent of this project is to maintain intolerant forest types, primarily aspen, in stand sizes less than 20 acres when feasible, with a variety of size and age classes to promote ruffed grouse, American woodcock, and other species associated with the aspen forest.

Marathon County has developed and will maintain a trail system to allow the harvest of small areas. These trails will remain closed to motorized use except for approved snowmobile or ATV trails in winter and by permit for persons with disabilities, or other contract or permit (timber management, beaver control, etc.).

Although aspen management will dominate this area, appropriate aesthetic management practices will be used to reduce negative visual impacts from aspen regeneration harvests.

300.2.7 Rare and Endangered Resources

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

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

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

300.2.8 Water

Marathon County also has no streams which are classified as Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters.

Marathon County has 32,055 acres of water, involving 18 lakes, 6 major flowages, and 643 miles of streams. Within the boundaries of the Forest, there are few fishery resources.

There are 18 small wildlife flowages within the County Forest boundaries which are managed for waterfowl. In addition, the County owns frontage on the Wisconsin River, and Four Mile Creek and Black Creek, which are named trout streams, and several unnamed feeder streams. A complete inventory of the surface water resources in Marathon County can be found in the appendix.

Marathon County has no streams which are classified as Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters. Note: An entire listing of the outstanding and exceptional resource waters can be found in Wisconsin Admin. Code NR102.10 and 102.11.

300.3 CULTURAL FACTORS

300.3.1 Economy

The importance of the County Forests to Wisconsin's economic health continues to rise. County

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

In addition, the lands managed by these 29 counties provide an important recreation resource to complement our state's valuable tourism industry. Tourists spend valuable money at local businesses. By providing 2.4 million acres of public recreation land, we bring tourists to our state. As population increases and public access to privately owned forestland decreases, the need for accessible lands unquestionably will assume an ever more important role. More information on the economic impact of the County Forest program can be found at

<https://www.wisconsincountyforests.com/>

Production of forest products and spin-off industries derived from the recreational opportunities on the Forest and the forest products it produces are vitally important to Marathon County's economic well-being. Forest industry is the #2 ranked employer in the County. Recreation is ranked # _____.

This information can be found at the following link:

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestbusinesses/factsheets.html>.

300.3.2 Education and Research

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

300.4 OTHER PUBLIC LANDS OWNERSHIP

Marathon County Forest doesn't share any common boundaries with other public lands within the County. The Harrison-Hewitt Forest Unit abuts the Langlade County Forest Ackley Wildlife area. Some trails are connected providing users to move from one forest to another. Marathon County will continue to seek additional opportunities with Langlade County in the best interests of the public.



FALL 2019 TIMBER SALE INVITATION FOR BID

Here is our fall timber sale prospectus.

Please submit bids after reviewing the prospectus, sale areas, and timber sale contract including:

- Purchasers are allowed to submit a personal or business check as a bid security in the amount of 10% of the total bid.
- All pulpwood will be bid by the ton to a top diameter of 4". There is also an option to bid on tops/biomass.
- Stick scaled cord volume will be converted to tons using published WDNR handbook weights. The Marathon County mixed hardwood pulp weight is 4800 pounds per cord. (See table on back of this sheet)
- **NEW - A secondary bid opening for any tracts not sold in the first bid opening shall be held at 2:30 pm Monday, November 4, 2019, Conference Room 3, 212 River Drive, Wausau, WI 54403.**
- **CONTRACT EXTENSIONS:**
Please read and understand contract extensions as we will be following our policy.

To submit a bid:

1. Use the enclosed bid form or a photocopy.
2. Bid a price per **ton** or **MBF** for each species, including tracts designated as lump sum.
3. Complete the Logger's Statement of Qualifications.
4. Sign your bid.
5. Enclose a bid bond, cashier's, personal or business check, letter of credit, or money order for 10% of the total bid.
6. Seal each signed bid in a separate envelope marked: "Timber Sale Bid - Tract No. _____".
7. **Submit your signed bid(s) by 2:30pm, Monday September 30, 2019,** to the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department, 212 River Drive, Ste. 2, Wausau, WI 54403-5476. Actual receipt is required. Deposit in the mail, facsimile, or e-mail is not sufficient.

I invite you to attend the bid opening at 2:30pm, **Monday, September 30, 2019**, Conference Room 3, 212 River Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin, 54403.

Thomas G. Lovlien
Forest Administrator

c: Forestry/Recreation Committee
County Administrator
Corporation Counsel
Chad Keranen, DNR Liaison Forester

All pulpwood will now be bid and sold by the ton. State of Wisconsin weight conversion pounds per cord will be used (see chart below). Mixed hardwood will include all hardwood species unless listed separately on the sale map. The Marathon County mixed hardwood pulp weight is established at 4,800 pounds per cord.

**CORDWOOD WEIGHT CONVERSION FACTORS
POUNDS PER CORD**

Species	Weight
Hemlock	4800
Tamarack	4650
Red Pine	4500
Jack Pine	4250
Balsam	4250
White Pine	4200
Spruce	4000
Cedar	3150
White Oak	5850
Red Oak	5500
Hickory	5400
Yellow Birch	5350
Hard Maple	5100
Beech	5050
Elm	5000
Balsam Poplar	4900
White Birch	4800
Cottonwood	4650
Ash	4600
Soft Maple	4550
Aspen	4500
Basswood	3850
Mixed Hardwood	4800

Marathon County reserves the right to scale any wood products piled in the woods for longer than 30 days.

FALL 2019 TIMBER SALE SUMMARY – MARATHON COUNTY FOREST & PARKS

TRACT NO.	SPECIES	4" VOLUME	FOREST UNIT AND TRACT DESCRIPTION
6-19	Aspen Mixed Hardwood Tops/Biomass	3100 Tons 230 Tons 650 Tons	<u>Harrison-Hewitt Forest Unit</u> – PROTEGE (65 Acres) Frozen ground only Access to Sawmill Road. Ticket sale. Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.
7-19	Mixed Hardwood Aspen Red Maple Logs Mixed Hwd. Logs Tops/Biomass	2350 Tons 85 Tons 65.0 MBF 3.0 MBF 480 Tons	<u>Leather Camp Forest Unit</u> – FROZEN STIFF (68 Acres) Very dry Summer/Fall or Winter logging. Access to State Highway 153. Ticket Sale. Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.
8-19	Mixed Hardwood Red Oak Basswood Red Maple Logs Red Oak Logs Ash Logs Basswood Logs Hard Maple Logs Tops/Biomass	1650 Tons 575 Tons 100 Tons 80.0 MBF 50.0 MBF 30.0 MBF 15.0 MBF 4.0 MBF 450 Tons	<u>Harrison-Hewitt Forest Unit</u> – TANAGER (58 Acres) Very dry Summer/Fall or Winter logging. Access to Rocky Road. Ticket sale. Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.
9-19	Mixed Hardwood Aspen Basswood Red Oak Red Maple Logs Basswood Logs Ash Logs Red Oak Logs Hard Maple Logs Tops/Biomass	1850 Tons 925 Tons 400 Tons 60 Tons 70.0 MBF 65.0 MBF 40.0 MBF 8.0 MBF 6.0 MBF 650 Tons	<u>Ringle Forest Unit</u> – HAPPY HUNT (85 Acres) Winter logging only. Access to Big Wound Road. Ticket Sale. Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.
10-19	Mixed Hardwood Aspen Red Maple Logs Ash Logs Tops/Biomass	820 Tons 120 Tons 40.0 MBF 4.0 MBF 200 Tons	<u>Leather Camp Forest Unit</u> – OBNOXIOUS FROG (28 Acres) Winter logging only. Access to Forest Road. Ticket Sale. Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.
11-19	Red Pine White Spruce White Pine Aspen Tops/Biomass	600 Tons 75 Tons 70 Tons 30 Tons Not Offered	<u>Mission Lake Park</u> – RAVENOUS CHIPMUNK (23 Acres) Late Summer/Fall/Winter/Early Spring logging. Access to Mission Lake Road. Ticket Sale. Contract must be completed by December 31, 2021.

INVITATION FOR BIDS MARATHON COUNTY FOREST TIMBER STUMPAGE

Marathon County is offering 327 acres of timber on Tracts 06-19, 07-19, 08-19, 09-19, 10-19 and 11-19. These tracts have an estimated 15,470 tons and 480.0 thousand board feet of:

Mixed Hwd Pulp	6900 Tons	Red (Soft) Maple Logs	255.0 MBF
Aspen Pulp	4260 Tons	Basswood Logs	80.0 MBF
Red Oak Pulp	635 Tons	Ash Logs	74.0 MBF
Red Pine Pulp	600 Tons	Red Oak Logs	58.0 MBF
Basswood Pulp	500 Tons	Hard Maple Logs	10.0 MBF
White Spruce Pulp	75 Tons	Mixed Hwd Logs	3.0 MBF
White Pine Pulp	70 Tons		
Biomass	2430 Tons		

Specific information is available from the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department, 715/261-1550.

Submit bids by 2:30 PM, Monday, September 30, 2019, to the Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department, 212 River Drive, Suite 2, Wausau, WI, 54403-5476. Bids will be publicly read at that time in Conference Room 3. Actual receipt is required. Deposit in the mail, facsimile, or e-mail is not sufficient.

Bids may not be withdrawn for a period of 30 days.

Evaluation criteria will be price and documented ability to satisfactorily complete the contract including: proposed equipment and operation; references; proof of financial stability; past performance; FISTA training; and BMP training. Award of the contract to the successful bidder shall be based upon the bid determined most advantageous to the County or made to the highest responsible and responsive bidder.

The County reserves the right to accept or reject, in whole or in part, any or all bids, to waive technical deficiencies in the bids, and to award a contract deemed in the best interests of the County. This solicitation may also be canceled if determined to be in the best interests of the County.

A secondary bid opening for any tracts not sold in the first bid opening shall be held at 2:30 PM, Monday, November 4, 2019. Conference Room 3, 212 River Drive, Wausau, WI 54403.

The General Code of the County of Marathon contains various procurement policies which are applicable to this proposed procurement. These include prohibitions against gratuities and kickbacks.

County of Marathon
By: Jamie Polley, Director
Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department



Wausau & Marathon County
**Parks, Recreation
& Forestry**

TIMBER SALE BID

I submit the following bid on Tract No. _____

All bids, including Lump Sum, must be itemized by species on a per ton or per Thousand Board Foot (MBF) basis.

SPECIES	ESTIMATED VOLUME	PRICE BID PER TON OR MBF	TOTAL
GRAND TOTAL			\$

Logger's Statement of Qualifications:

1. Logging firm's name, address, and phone:

2. How many years have you been engaged in the logging business under the present firm name?

3. List the major equipment that will be used to complete the work on this tract and describe your operation:

(Please fill out and sign reverse side)

4. List at least three references for past performance on logging contracts with the name and phone number of a contact person:

5. FISTA trained Yes No Date _____

Other safety training (please describe)

_____ Date _____

_____ Date _____

6. BMP training Yes No Date _____

The undersigned, having familiarized himself with the conditions affecting the cost of the work, having read completely the specifications, hereby proposes to perform everything required and to provide and furnish labor, materials, equipment, tools, and all other services and supplies necessary to complete in a workmanlike manner all of the work described in the specifications relating to this timber tract.

A bid security equal to at least ten percent (10%) of the total bid, in the form of a bond, money order, Letter of Credit, cashier's, personal or business check, has been submitted as part of this bid.

I have carefully examined the specifications, contract documents, and site where the work is to be done and have no agreements to prevent the completion of said work.

If this bid is the successful bid, I will finalize and execute a contract as set forth in the contract documents under all the terms, conditions, and requirements as set forth in the contract documents, and, unless this contract is executed within 15 days after the date of being notified that this bid is the successful bid, I will forfeit the 10% bid security in its entirety. Failure to forfeit the 10% penalty will result in being considered ineligible to bid on any County timbersales for a two-year duration. This bid proposal will become part of the contract upon the awarding of the contract.

Date

Name (Please Print)

Signature

MARATHON COUNTY TIMBER SALE CONTRACT

Contract No. _____ Scaled or Ticket System

Tract No. _____ Tree Measurement (Lump Sum)

AGREEMENT entered into between Marathon County, Wisconsin, a municipal body corporate, hereinafter referred to as "County" and _____, hereinafter referred to as "Purchaser". The term "Purchaser" shall include all workers, employees, agents, subcontractors, and independent contractors that may be employed by the "Purchaser". For purposes of implementing this contract, the "County Representative" shall be the County Forest Administrator or his designee. The term "County" shall include Marathon County, the Marathon County Board of Supervisors and any committee thereof, and all Marathon County officers, officials, employees, agents, and assigns. Further, this contract constitutes the entire agreement by and between the undersigned parties. No other terms or conditions may be implied or inferred. The County and Purchaser, in consideration of the covenants hereinafter set forth, mutually agree as follows:

Purchaser shall cut and remove all timber marked or designated by County agents on the following described lands hereinafter referred to as the "sale area": _____

Operating Specifications and a map outlining the boundaries of the sale area are attached and made a part of this contract as if fully stated herein.

Both parties agree that the estimates regarding the amount of timber included in any contract are estimates only and are offered as a guide to the proposed Purchaser for the purpose of bidding.

Purchaser shall be responsible for keeping within the boundaries of the sale area and shall be liable for all trespasses committed by Purchaser outside of such boundaries.

TIMBER TO BE REMOVED

Species/ Product	Estimated Volume	Bid Per Unit	Total Bid	Species/ Product	Estimated Volume	Bid Per Unit	Total Bid

TOTALS: _____

All volumes based on unpeeled measure. Unless otherwise specified, a cord is 4' x 4' x 100".

GENERAL TERMS

- 1. **CONTRACT PERIOD.** Purchaser will completely perform his obligations under this contract by the _____
- 2. **CONTRACT EXTENSIONS.** If extensions of this contract are deemed reasonable by the County, the stumpage price agreed upon herein shall be adjusted as follows:
 - A. First one-year extension
 - 1. 3 year contract.....25%
 - 2. 2.5 year contract.....20%
 - 3. 2 year contract.....15%
 - B. Additional one-year extensions.....10%
 - C. Other applicable charges or fees: NONE

The maximum time duration of a timber sale contract, including extensions, will be four years. Extension beyond this period of time will be considered by the County only in the event of special justification. Special stumpage rate adjustments may be made.

- 3. **CHANGE ORDERS.** The scope of the services to be performed under this contract may be amended or supplemented by mutual written agreement between the parties to the contract.
- 4. **PERFORMANCE; PERFORMANCE BOND; LIQUIDATED OR ACTUAL DAMAGES; FUTURE CONTRACTS.**
 - A. Notice to Begin. Purchaser shall contact the County representative in writing both prior to commencing logging operations from contract site and upon final completion of the Timber Sale Contract. The Purchaser must also contact the County representative in writing if work is to cease at the contract site for more than one month. At the end of this period of time, the Purchaser must then inform the County representative in writing that work is to begin again.
 - B. Contract Oversight. Cutting and removal of timber purchased under this contract shall be conducted in conformance with this contract and in a good and workmanlike manner with reasonable diligence to assure completion of all performance within the contract period specified in par. 1.
 - C. Performance Bond. A performance bond in Marathon County's favor in the amount of \$ _____ in cash, by surety bond, or in other form accepted by the County, shall be submitted by the Purchaser no later than _____ to be retained by the County to assure full and complete performance of the contract by the Purchaser to the County's satisfaction. Failure to submit the bond will be considered a breach of this contract and subject the Purchaser to liability for damages. The Purchaser agrees that the bond shall be forfeited to the County as liquidated damages upon the County's determination a condition or term of this contract has been breached by the Purchaser, unless the County chooses and can reasonably determine the actual damages suffered as a result of the breach of the contract. Damages assessed under this contract are the responsibility of the Purchaser and may be deducted from this performance bond and otherwise collected by the County.
 - D. The Purchaser agrees that the performance bond may be retained by the County until all performance under this contract has been completed to the County's satisfaction and the County determines the performance has been so completed. In the event the Purchaser provided written notice of sale completion to the County, the County shall have sixty (60) days to determine that performance has been completed as required under this contract.
 - E. If timber or other forest products not specifically described in this contract or designated by the County for cutting are cut, damaged or removed by the Purchaser, the County may pursue any and all remedies for the unlawful use of the County's property and the cutting, damage or removal of property without consent, including the seeking of criminal or civil charges for theft, timber theft or criminal damage to property in addition to its contract remedies for breach.

F. The County may, when it deems it reasonable and in the best interest of the County, allow the Purchaser to continue performance under the contract and the Purchaser shall pay as liquidated damages double the mill value as determined by the County for the timber or other forest products cut, removed or damaged without authorization under or in violation of this contract. The County's permission to continue cutting shall not be considered a waiver of breach nor prevent it from considering such breach for purposes of asserting any other remedies available to it. It is agreed that the double mill scale sum is a reasonable estimate of the probable damages suffered by the County and shall not be construed as or held to be in the nature of a penalty.

G. The Purchaser agrees that if the timber identified in this contract for cutting is to be resold due to a breach of this contract, as determined by the County, the County is not obligated to give oral or written notice to the Purchaser of the resale.

H. The County's damages upon the Purchaser's failure to perform this contract include, but are not limited to:

- (1) The Purchaser's bid value of timber not cut and removed under this contract.
- (2) Double the mill value, as determined by the County, for timber cut, removed or damaged without authorization under or in violation of this contract.
- (3) All costs of sale area cleanup, restoration or completion of performance not completed by the Purchaser.
- (4) All costs of resale of timber not cut and removed as required under this contract.
- (5) If the County seeks damages for breach of this contract through court proceedings, and if the County prevails in such proceedings, in whole or in part, then the Purchaser agrees to pay all of the County's actual and reasonable expenses, including attorney's and expert witness fees.

The County may agree to mitigate the damages for breach by offering the timber for resale on no more than two (2) occasions if it determines the timber is salable based upon its volume or quality.

- (6) A minimum of 10% of the original sale price to the County (same amount as the original bid bond) as an administrative fee for the costs of readvertising and reestablishing the sale or pay the difference between the new sale price and the original price, but not less than 10% if the new sale price is less than the original price.
 - (7) If the sale is not resold after two separate bid openings, the Purchaser is liable for liquidated damages including the total performance bond.
- I. A Purchaser deemed by the County to be in breach of this contract may also be considered an irresponsible bidder and be refused the opportunity to bid upon or obtain future timber sales of the County for a period not to exceed two (2) years from the date of determination of the breach.

5. NON-COMPLIANCE-WRITTEN NOTICE. A. Upon written notice by a County representative that Purchaser is not in compliance with one or more conditions of the contract, occupancy of and operations on the Contract Site shall be suspended. Any continued occupancy or use of the contract site shall be deemed a trespass. Said written notice shall be sent by Certified Mail to the mailing address listed on the first page of this document or may be personally served by a representative of the County.

B. If subsequent to receiving a written authorization from the County representative to recommence work, Purchaser fails to comply with the terms and conditions of this contract, a County representative shall again give written notice that work and occupancy at the site are to cease.

C. Occupancy and operations may be resumed only with written authorization of the County representative. Said authorization may contain special conditions to insure continued compliance with the terms of this contract.

6. **FORESTRY COMMITTEE.** The Forestry/Recreation Committee (hereinafter called FR Committee) shall then make a determination of whether the Timber Sale Contract and/or Performance Bond described in Paragraph 4 shall be forfeited. Purchaser shall have notice of the FR Committee meeting and an opportunity to be heard. Notification of the FR Committee's decision shall be sent to the Purchaser by certified mail at the address specified on the first page of this contract. The decision of the FR Committee, acting on the advice of its agents as to whether Purchaser is in compliance with the terms of this contract, shall be final subject to Purchaser's rights to appeal pursuant to Chapter 24 of the General Code of Ordinances for Marathon County.
7. **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CONTRACT - FORFEITURE.** Should the Purchaser enter into more than one timber sale contract, all of the timber sale contracts entered into by and between the Purchaser and the County shall be considered as one general contract consisting of subunits relating to different sites. A notice of non-compliance with respect to any one site shall constitute notice as to all sites, and the Purchaser shall forthwith cease operations at all sites until Purchaser receives written authorization to resume operations in accordance with the procedures set forth herein.
8. **NON-DISCRIMINATION.** In connection with performance of work under this contract, the Purchaser agrees not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, religion, color, national origin, or disabilities.
9. **TITLE TO PRODUCTS AND STUMPAGE.** Title to all cut forest products shall remain with the County until paid for by Purchaser. Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of all damage or loss of all forest products resulting from fire, flood, theft caused by his own fault during the contractual term. Forest products and stumps remaining on the sale area at the expiration of the contract or upon breach, revert to the ownership of the County without any refund of monies paid.
10. **AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE INFORMATION.** Purchaser authorizes any individual, business, or mill receiving wood from this contract to release mill scale slips and any other information to the County regarding amount, date received, and other relevant information.
11. **RESIDENCE.** No residence shall be established on the contract area.
12. **TRAINING REQUIREMENT.** The Purchaser is responsible for ensuring that the actual logging contractor engaged in performance of this contract complies with the Wisconsin SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) Training Standard as adopted by the Wisconsin SFI Implementation Committee (SIC). Criteria for the standard can be found at the website http://www.fistausa.org/sfi_standards.html or by contacting the Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance (FISTA). Purchaser agrees to provide documentation to Seller that training has been attained prior to initiating sale.
13. **ASSIGNMENT.** The Purchaser is precluded from assigning payment and contract oversight, duties or other performance requirements of this contract to another. The Purchaser's direction to or contracting with another to complete performance required under this contract does not relieve the Purchaser from the responsibility for performance required under this contract or for liability for breach. **(Purchaser shall not subcontract any portion of this contract without prior written approval from the County, said approval will not be unreasonably withheld.)**
14. **INSPECTION.** The County retains for itself the right of ingress and egress to and on the sale area and may inspect the sale area and trucks hauling forest products from or traveling on the sale area at any time. If the inspection reveals any violations of this contract, the Purchaser shall promptly take measures to remedy the violation. The County may terminate the Purchaser's operations upon oral notice to the Purchaser. Upon receipt of the notice, the Purchaser shall cease operations until the County approves resumption of them.

15. **PAYMENT.** A. All payments will be in cash, cashiers check, personal or business check, or money order unless other arrangements are made in writing with the County.
- B. Scaled or ticket-system stumpage payments shall be made prior to wood being hauled. Purchasers in good standing with Marathon County will be allowed up to three business days to submit payment. Marathon County reserves the right to determine which purchasers are in good standing. Payments due and owing to the County will be based upon actual scaling.
- C. Lump sum sale contracts must be paid in full prior to beginning any operations. If cutting units are designated, the Purchaser must pay for and satisfactorily complete a unit as determined by a County representative prior to beginning operations in another unit.
16. **REMOVAL WITHOUT PAYMENT.** Timber or other forest products may not be removed from the sale area until paid for as provided in this contract or other guarantees for payment have been made with and to the satisfaction of the County. Upon removal of timber or other forest products in violation of this paragraph, the Purchaser agrees to pay as liquidated damages double the mill value of the timber removed, and in addition to pursuing its remedies for breach of contract, the County may seek charges against the Purchaser for Timber Theft under s. 26.05, Wis. Stats., or a violation of ch. NR 45, Wis. Adm. Code, consider it a breach of contract and pursue all remedies provided in this contract.
17. **ROADS, LANDINGS, MILL SITES, CAMPSITES, EROSION CONTROL, BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPs).** A. When not otherwise designated by the County, the location of roads, landings, mill sites and campsites on County's property is subject to advance approval and under the conditions established by the County. All restoration, cleanup or repair of roads, landings, mill sites and campsites, or the cost of the cleanup, if not completed by the Purchaser to the satisfaction of the County, is the responsibility of the Purchaser.
- B. All logging debris accumulated at landing areas, including bark, tops and slash, shall be scattered within the sale area to the satisfaction of the County.
- C. Berms constructed on the County's property shall be leveled to restore the area to the County's satisfaction unless they are constructed at the direction of the County under par. d.
- D. Roads and landings shall be graded or closed upon the request of and to the County's satisfaction upon completion or termination of this contract.
- E. Other restoration requirements (e.g., seeding, gravel, rutting, culvert removal, etc.): NONE
- F. Erosion control and Best Management Practices (BMPs) requirements:
- (1) The Purchaser shall comply with all recommended BMP guidelines as described in "*Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality*" published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, publication Pub-FR-093, unless specifically provided otherwise below. A copy of this publication is available upon request to the County if not possessed by the Purchaser. Purchaser's certification in Wisconsin BMP training through a FISTA coordinated BMP workshop is also required.
- (2) The Purchaser shall make every attempt to comply with Forestry BMPs for Invasive Species as described in "Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Invasive Species" published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, publication Pub-FR-444-09 unless specifically provided otherwise below. In particular, the purchaser agrees to work cooperatively with the administering forester and any subcontractors to address the considerations in BMPs 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5 and 9.1. A copy of this publication is available upon request to the Seller if not possessed by the Purchaser. The publication can also be found at the Council on Forestry website at: <http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives/forestry>.

(3) The Purchaser shall comply with all General Guidelines as described in “Wisconsin’s Forestland Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidelines” published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, publication Pub-FR-435-09, unless specifically provided otherwise below. A copy of this publication is available upon request to the County if not possessed by the Purchaser. The publication can also be found at the Council on Forestry website at: <http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/biomass/>

(4) Other: None.

18. SOIL DISTURBANCE AND RUTTING A. The Purchaser agrees to take all steps and precautions to avoid and minimize soil disturbances, such as soil compaction and rutting. If soil disturbances occur, the Purchaser agrees to work cooperatively to mitigate and repair any and all instances of soil disturbance.

B. Excessive soil disturbance (as defined in Table 1) shall not be permitted. Purchaser agrees to contact Seller in the event of an excessive soil disturbance.

Table 1. Thresholds for soil disturbances.

<u>Timber Sale Infrastructure</u>	<u>Soil disturbances are excessive if:</u>
<u>Roads, Landings, Skid Trails, and General Harvest Area</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>A gully or rut is 6 inches deep or more and is resulting in channelized flow to a wetland, stream, or lake.</u>
<u>Roads, Landings, and Primary Skid Trails</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>In a riparian management zone (RMZ) or wetland, a gully or rut is 6 inches deep or more and 100 feet long or more.</u> ▪ <u>In an upland area (outside of RMZ), a gully or rut is 10 inches deep or more and 66 feet long or more.</u>
<u>Secondary Skid Trails and General Harvest Area</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>A gully or rut is 6 inches deep or more and 100 feet long or more.</u>

Note: The depth is to be measured from the original soil surface to the bottom of the depression. If individual lug depressions are visible, the depth would be measured to the lesser of the two depths (the “top” of the lug). The length is measured from the start of the “too deep” section to the end of the “too deep” section. Measurements are not cumulative.

Note: In high use forest recreation areas such as the Nine Mile Unit and County park lands we will require the purchaser to follow a lower threshold for soil disturbance (than defined in Table 1). The lower threshold will be communicated to the Purchaser during the pre-logging meeting and documented on the pre-logging form.

C. The County may temporarily suspend operations under this contract due to excessive soil disturbances (as defined in Table 1).

D. Prior to sale completion the Purchaser shall mitigate and repair soil disturbances to the Seller’s satisfaction.

E. Other restoration requirements (e.g. repair of soil disturbance or rutting on recreational trails used for skidding):

(1) NONE

(2)

19. **DIGGERS HOTLINE.** The Purchaser is responsible to contact the Diggers Hotline, or other informational sources performing similar services, prior to digging or conducting other activities on the property which may result in contact with utility or service lines or facilities.
20. **OTHER APPROVALS.** Logging roads that intersect town, county or state roads or highways must have the intersections approved by the proper authorities prior to construction and cleared of all unsightly debris at the time of construction. The Purchaser agrees to apply for and obtain all approvals. The Purchaser also agrees to fully comply with all terms and conditions of intersection approvals.
21. **UNCUT TREES AND WASTED TIMBER.** Should marked or designated trees be left uncut or unremoved, the Purchaser shall be liable to the County for damages in the amount said wood would have been valued for payment at the mill site as of the date all work to be performed pursuant to this contract was to have been completed. Young growth trees bent or held down by felled trees must be properly released or Purchaser shall be liable for damages in the amount of replacement costs. The Purchaser shall be liable for damages at double the stumpage rate specified for timber wasted in tops and stumps.
22. **STUMP HEIGHT, TOPS.** The maximum stump height may not exceed the stump diameter; except for stumps of a diameter of less than 10 inches, the height of the stump may not exceed 10 inches. Additionally, clumps of stumps shall be treated as individual stumps and maximum height may not exceed each individual stump diameter. Title to tops shall remain in the owner and may not be utilized by the Purchaser, or at the Purchaser's direction, unless otherwise specified in this contract.
23. **ZONE COMPLETION.** The Purchaser agrees to complete all operations on each portion of the sale area or each zone as designated on the sale area map, or other attachments or in the cutting requirements before beginning cutting in the next portion or zone, unless agreed to otherwise by the County.
24. **SLASH.** Slash as defined in s. 26.12, Wis. Stats., shall be disposed of as follows:
 - A. Slash falling in any lake or stream, in a right-of-way or on land of an adjoining landowner shall be immediately removed from the waters, right-of-way or adjoining land. Tops from felled trees may not be left hanging in standing trees. All trees shall be completely felled and not left leaning or hanging in other trees.
 - B. Other: None.
25. **FOREST FIRE PREVENTION.** The Purchaser agrees to take reasonable precautions to prevent the starting and spreading of fires. Those precautions include, but are not limited to:
 - A. A minimum of one fully charged 5 pound or larger ABC fire extinguisher with a flexible spout shall be carried on each off-road logging vehicle.
 - B. All chainsaws and all non-turbocharged off-road logging equipment used in the operation shall be equipped with spark arrestors which have been approved by the U.S. Forest Service. Such arrestors may not be altered in any manner or removed and shall be properly maintained. (Information on approved arrestors may be obtained from the Seller.)
 - C. If a fire occurs, the Purchaser agrees to promptly cooperate in the control and suppression of the fire.
 - D. The Purchaser shall comply with requests regarding forest fire prevention and suppression made by the Seller and take all reasonable precautions to prevent, suppress and report forest fires. Those requests may include ceasing or modifying operations.
 - E. The Purchaser shall be responsible for damage and forest fire suppression costs, including that provided in ss.26.14 and 26.21, Wis. Stats., caused by their operation under this Contract.
 - F. Other: NONE

26. **SURVEY MONUMENTS.** The Purchaser agrees to pay for the cost of repair or replacement of any land survey monuments or accessories which are removed or destroyed or made inaccessible. In the event that the performance bond is insufficient to cover such cost, the provisions of Statute 59.74, Perpetuation of Landmarks, shall be enforced.
27. **CLEANUP AND USE OF SALE AREA.** A. The Purchaser shall remove, to the satisfaction of the seller, all equipment, tools, solid waste, oil filters, grease cartridges, trash and debris remaining on the sale area or Seller's property upon completion of performance under this Contract, termination of this Contract due to breach by the Purchaser or when requested by the County.
- B. No residence, dwelling, permanent structure, or improvement may be established or constructed on the sale area or other property of the County.
- C. The Purchaser agrees to properly use and dispose of all petroleum products, including but not limited to oil, hydraulic fuel and diesel fuel. Any on-site spillage must be properly removed and cleaned up by the Purchaser to the satisfaction of the County.
28. **INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR.** The Purchaser is an independent contractor for all purposes, including worker's compensation, and not an employee or agent of the County. The County agrees that the undersigned Purchaser shall have the sole control of the method, hours worked, time and manner of any timber cutting to be performed hereunder and takes no responsibility for supervision or direction of the performance of any of the harvesting to be performed by the undersigned Purchaser or of its employees. The County further agrees that it will exercise no control over the selection and dismissal of the Purchaser's employees.
29. **HOLD HARMLESS.** Purchaser hereby agrees to release, indemnify, defend, and hold harmless Marathon County, their officials, officers, employees and agents from and against all judgments, damages, penalties, losses, costs, claims, expenses, suits, demands, debts, actions and/or causes of action of any type or nature whatsoever, including actual and reasonable attorney's fees, which may be sustained or to which they may be exposed, directly or indirectly, by reason of personal injury, death, property damage, or other liability, alleged or proven, resulting from or arising out of the performance of contractor, its officers, officials, employees, agent or assigns. Marathon County does not waive, and specifically reserves, its right to assert any and all affirmative defenses and limitations of liability as specifically set forth in Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 893 and related statutes.
30. **FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL REGULATIONS COMPLIANCE.** Purchaser agrees to comply with all applicable OSHA or other federal, state, and local laws or regulations in connection with the performance of this contract.
- OSHA Compliance, Danger trees. The Purchaser is responsible to comply with, and assure compliance by all employees or subcontractors with, all Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) requirements for the health and safety of Purchaser's employees, including provisions relating to danger trees. In addition, the Purchaser agrees to notify, and obtain agreement from, the County if the Purchaser intends to modify performance required under this contract for the purpose of compliance with OSHA requirements.
31. **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT COMPLIANCE.** In connection with the performance of work under this contract, Purchaser agrees that no qualified individual with a disability, as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, shall, by reason of such disability, be excluded from participation and the benefits of services, programs, or activities, including employment, or be subjected to discrimination. The Purchaser is specifically notified that it is subject to all employment requirements listed under Title I of the Americans with Disabilities Act by virtue of its contract with Marathon County, a public entity. The Purchaser is specifically notified that it is subject to federal requirements to assure participation and access to public facilities, programs, and activities under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act by virtue of its contract with Marathon County, a public entity. These requirements mandate separate or special programs or reasonable modification of existing programs, services, and activities without surcharge to disabled individuals as long as safety is not compromised. The Purchaser shall provide a similar notice to all its subcontractors.

32. **FOREST CERTIFICATION.** The area encompassed by this timber sale is certified to the standards of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® NSF-SFI-FM-1Y943 SFI 100%. Forest products from this sale may be delivered to the mills “SFI 100%” so long as the contractor hauling the forest products is chain-of-custody (COC) certified or covered under a COC certificate from the destination mill. The purchaser is responsible for maintaining COC after leaving the sale area.

REQUIRED INSURANCE

The Purchaser shall not commence work under this contract until all insurance required under this paragraph is obtained, and such insurance has been approved by the County, nor shall the Purchaser allow any subcontractor to commence work on their subcontract until all similar insurance requirements have been obtained and approved.

33. **WORKERS COMPENSATION.** The Purchaser shall obtain and maintain throughout the duration of this contract statutory Workers' Compensation Insurance for all of its employees employed at the site or while working on this project. In case any work is sublet, the Purchaser shall require the subcontractor similarly to provide statutory Workers' Compensation Insurance for all of the latter's employees, unless such employees are covered by the protection afforded by the Purchaser. Purchaser's (Owners and Sole proprietors) electing exemption from coverage pursuant to WIS STAT 102.075 SHALL provide a signed copy of the endorsement showing non-election of coverage.
34. **GENERAL LIABILITY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE INSURANCE.** Purchaser shall secure and maintain in force throughout the duration of this contract such General Liability and Property Damage Insurance as shall protect him/her and any subcontractor performing work covered by this contract from claims for damages for personal injuries including accidental death, as well as from claims for property damage, which may arise from operations under this contract, whether such operations be by Purchaser, or by any subcontractor or by anyone directly or indirectly employed by either of them; and the amount of such insurance shall be as follows:
- Comprehensive General Liability \$1,000,000 per occurrence and in aggregate for bodily injury and property damage.
 - Automobile Liability \$1,000,000 per occurrence and in aggregate for bodily injury and property damage.
35. **PROOF OF INSURANCE.** The Purchaser shall furnish the County with a Certificate of Insurance countersigned by a Wisconsin Resident Agent or Authorized Representative of the insurer indicating that the Purchaser meets the insurance requirements identified above. The Certificates of Insurance shall include a provision prohibiting cancellation of said policies except upon 30 days prior written notice to the County and specify the name of the contract or project covered. A copy of the Certificate of Insurance shall be delivered to the Risk Management Division for approval prior to the execution of this contract. Upon renewal of the required insurance and annually thereafter, the County shall receive a new Certificate of Insurance for three years after completion of the project. The Certificates shall describe the contract by name and or identification number in the "Description of Operations" section of the form and list Marathon County as “additional insured in respect to this agreement”.
36. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** If a dispute related to this agreement arises, all parties shall attempt to resolve the dispute through direct discussions and negotiations. If the dispute cannot be resolved by the parties, and if all parties agree, it may be submitted to either mediation or arbitration. If the matter is arbitrated, the procedures of Chapter 788 of the Wisconsin Statutes or any successor statute shall be followed. If the parties cannot agree to either mediation or arbitration, any party may commence an action in any court of competent jurisdiction. If a lawsuit is commenced, the parties agree that the dispute shall be submitted to alternate dispute resolution pursuant to §802.12, Wis. Stats., or any successor statute.

Unless otherwise provided in this contract, the parties shall continue to perform according to the terms and conditions of the contract during the pendency of any litigation or other dispute resolution proceeding.

The parties further agree that all parties necessary to the resolution of a dispute (as the concept of necessary parties is contained in Chapter 803, Wisconsin Statutes, or its successor chapter) shall be joined in the same litigation or other dispute resolution proceeding. This language relating to dispute resolution shall be included in all contracts pertaining to this project so as to provide for expedient dispute resolution.

37. **NON-DEBARMENT CLAUSE.** Purchaser hereby certifies that neither it nor any of its principal officers or officials have ever been suspended or debarred, for any reason whatsoever, from doing business or entering into contractual relationships with any governmental entity. Purchaser further agrees and certifies that this clause shall be included in any subcontract of this contract.
38. **GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS.** It shall be unethical for any person to offer, give, or agree to give any elected official, employee or former employee, or for any elected official, employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept, or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer for employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation or any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the contents of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceedings or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore. It shall be unethical for any payment, gratuity, or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor or a higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith, an inducement for the award of a subcontract, or order.

SCALING REQUIREMENTS AND CONVERSION FACTORS

39. **PRODUCT REMOVAL.** No forest products shall be removed until scaled or marked by a County representative unless prior arrangements have been made with the County.
40. **SAWLOGS.** A. All sawlogs must be separated from pulpwood when piled.
- B. Purchaser will mark the length of all logs on the small end with a lumber crayon to facilitate scaling.
- C. Purchaser will pile all logs with the small end facing the road to facilitate scaling.
- D. All logs must be scaled with the Scribner Decimal C Log Rule.
41. **PULPWOOD.** All pulpwood must be piled for scaling. Piles must be level and square with at least five cords or 20 tons per pile.
42. **CONVERSION FACTORS.** Conversion of MBF (thousand board feet) to cords or cords to MBF will be 2.44 cords per MBF for softwoods and 2.20 cords per MBF for hardwoods.
43. **PEELED CORDWOOD.** When peeled cordwood is measured, it is stipulated that 12.5% will be added to hand-peeled or stroke delimeter processor peeled volume and 16% to ring debarked volume to compute equivalent unpeeled volume.
44. **WEIGHT CONVERSIONS.** County will accept mill weight conversion (Mill Scale) unless that conversion results in less volume than those conversions set forth in Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Handbook 2461.

PULPWOOD TICKET SYSTEM

45. **TICKET BOOKS.** A. Ticket books shall be purchased periodically as needed.
- B. Ticket books are issued for the contract specified on the cover of the ticket book and shall not be used for any other contract.

C. Purchaser must account for all tickets. Unused tickets shall be returned to the County representative upon completion or termination of the contract.

D. All lost or damaged tickets will have the value of \$1.00 per ticket number assessed against the performance bond.

46. TICKET USE. A. Tickets shall be used in sequence.

B. Copy one, the top (white) part of the ticket, shall be completely filled out and deposited in the lock box. Tickets must be completely inserted in the box. Hung tickets will be considered the same as failure to deposit tickets.

C. Copy two, the middle (yellow) part of the ticket, shall be in the possession of the person transporting timber from the sale area. County representatives may check scale and inspect haul permit tickets at any time.

D. Copy three, the bottom (hard) part of the ticket will remain in the ticket book for the Purchaser's records.

47. FAILURE TO DEPOSIT TICKETS. Failure by either the Purchaser or Purchaser's employee, officer, official, agent, or designee to deposit a ticket in the lock box each time a load of wood products leaves the sale area will be considered a violation of the State Statutes 26.05 on unauthorized timber removal.

48. LOCK BOXES. Lock boxes will be placed on the premises at points convenient to the Purchaser and County.

49. WOOD DESTINATIONS. The Purchaser shall provide the County representative with a list of all destinations of wood to be removed from the premises. Changes in wood destination shall be reported before hauling to the new destination.

50. FIREWOOD. When wood products such as firewood are delivered to buyers not providing a mill scale slip, the wood must be handscaled by a County representative and payment shall be made prior to wood being hauled.

TREE MEASUREMENT (LUMP SUM)

51. CONSIDERATION. Volume to be cut is estimated, not guaranteed. All timber designated for cutting must be cut and removed by the Purchaser even if volume of timber exceeds the estimate. If there is less timber than estimated, the County has no obligation to make-up the deficiency nor refund any or all monies paid.

52. CONFLICTING SALES. The Purchaser may not haul forest products on the same day from both this sale and a scaled or ticket system timber sale located on land owned by the County without authorization from the County.

53. ATTACHMENTS: Any and all attachments to this contract shall be made a part of this contract and be fully complied with, including: A. prospectus maps(s) or diagram(s) of sale area;

B. Other: NONE

54. OTHER CONDITIONS: The Purchaser shall enter this harvest with equipment clean of soil from the previous harvest. If previous job(s) included entering a stand that was confirmed with Heterobasidion Root Disease, make sure to clean logging equipment (tires, cutting head, etc.) with pressured water prior to entering this harvest.

Heterobasidion Root Disease (HRD) – Prevention Treatment

The Purchaser shall purchase and apply an approved fungicide (Rotstop C or Cellu-Treat) to all cut pine stumps and horizontal wound surfaces as follows:

1. Pesticide applicators must be certified/licensed by DATCP for this treatment.
2. All stumps shall be treated by the end of each day of cutting from April 1 – November 30. Treatment may be required from December 1 – March 31 if abnormally warm for an extended period of time to be determined by County Forest Representative.
3. All stumps shall be left clear of logging slash to allow for the application and inspection of the approved fungicide.

4. A marker dye shall be added to the solution to monitor application coverage.
5. Extra care must be done to minimize damage to residual trees.
6. If Heterobasidion Root Disease (HRD) is discovered prior to the completion of this harvest, a harvest protocol of infected area(s) shall be established and all harvesting equipment must be cleaned of soil prior to leaving this harvest.

Table 2. Approved Heterobasidion Root Disease Fungicides

Label Name	Active Ingredient	Distributor
Rotstop® C	Phlebiopsis gigantea (P.gigantea)	BioForest Technologies Inc. 59 Industrial Park Crescent Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6B 5P3 Phone: 1-888-236-7378 Order Desk: order@bioforest.ca Technical Support: support@bioforest.ca
Cellu-Treat	disodium octaborate tetrahydrate	Crop Production Services N5853 5 th Ave Plainfield, WI 54966 715-335-4900 Website: www.uap.com OR Nisus Corp. at 800-264-0870 Website: www.nisuscop.com

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2019

I acknowledge that I am not an employee of Marathon County, as to this contract or any action arising out of it.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the provisions of this document.

PURCHASER'S FEDERAL TAX I.D. NO.:

PURCHASER:

(Signature)

(Date)

WAUSAU AND MARATHON COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

By: _____

(Forest Administrator)

(Date)

MARATHON COUNTY TIMBER SALE
 Harrison-Hewitt Forest Unit – September 2019

Tract # 06-19 "PROTEGE SALE"

Estimated Volumes:

Ticket Sale	<u>Species:</u>	<u>4" Top</u>
	Aspen	3100 Tons
	Mixed Hardwood	230 Tons (Includes all hardwood)
	Tops/Biomass (optional)	650 Tons

Location: Section 1, T.30N.-R.9E. (Town of Hewitt)

Seasonal Time Frame: Frozen ground only

Cutting Area: 65 Acres

Cutting Regulations:

Area 1 – Aspen Clear-Cut (52 Acres in 3 blocks): Cut all trees 1" and greater, except conifer, trees marked with green paint, and trees marked within green paint lines.

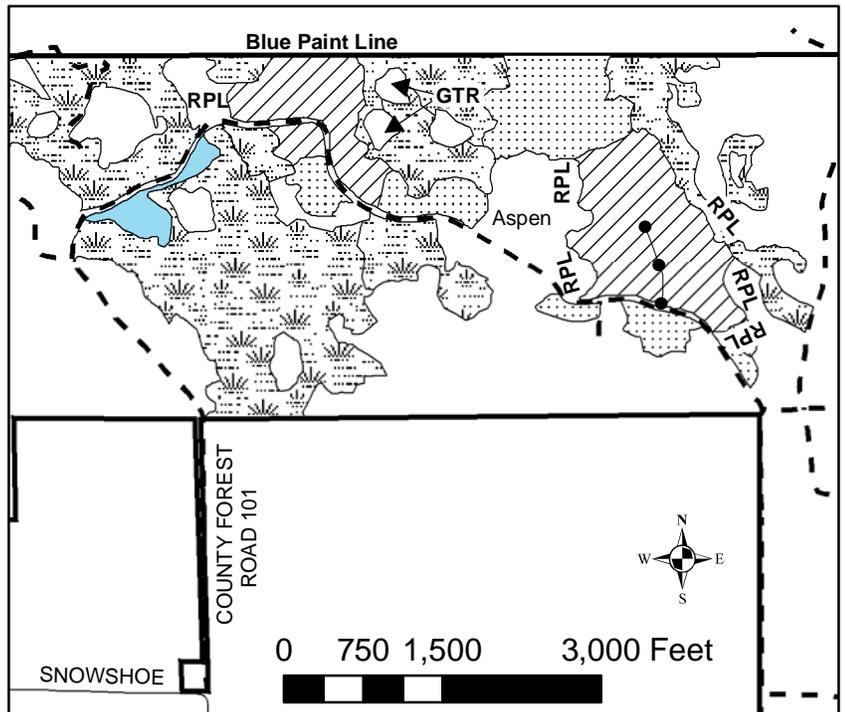
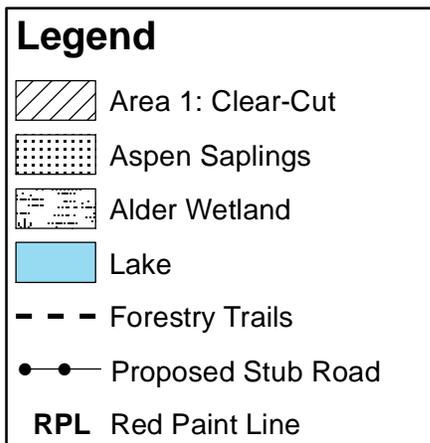
Roads/Trails/Decking Areas: Forestry Division will approve skid routes and decking areas.

Slash/Wildlife/Other: All tops shall be lopped and scattered to lie within 24 inches of the ground. Stump height shall not exceed stump diameter, except for stumps less than 10," which shall not exceed 10." Do not cut snags unless they are within 100 feet of trails or pose a risk to harvesting operations.

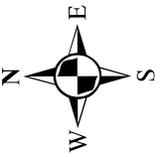
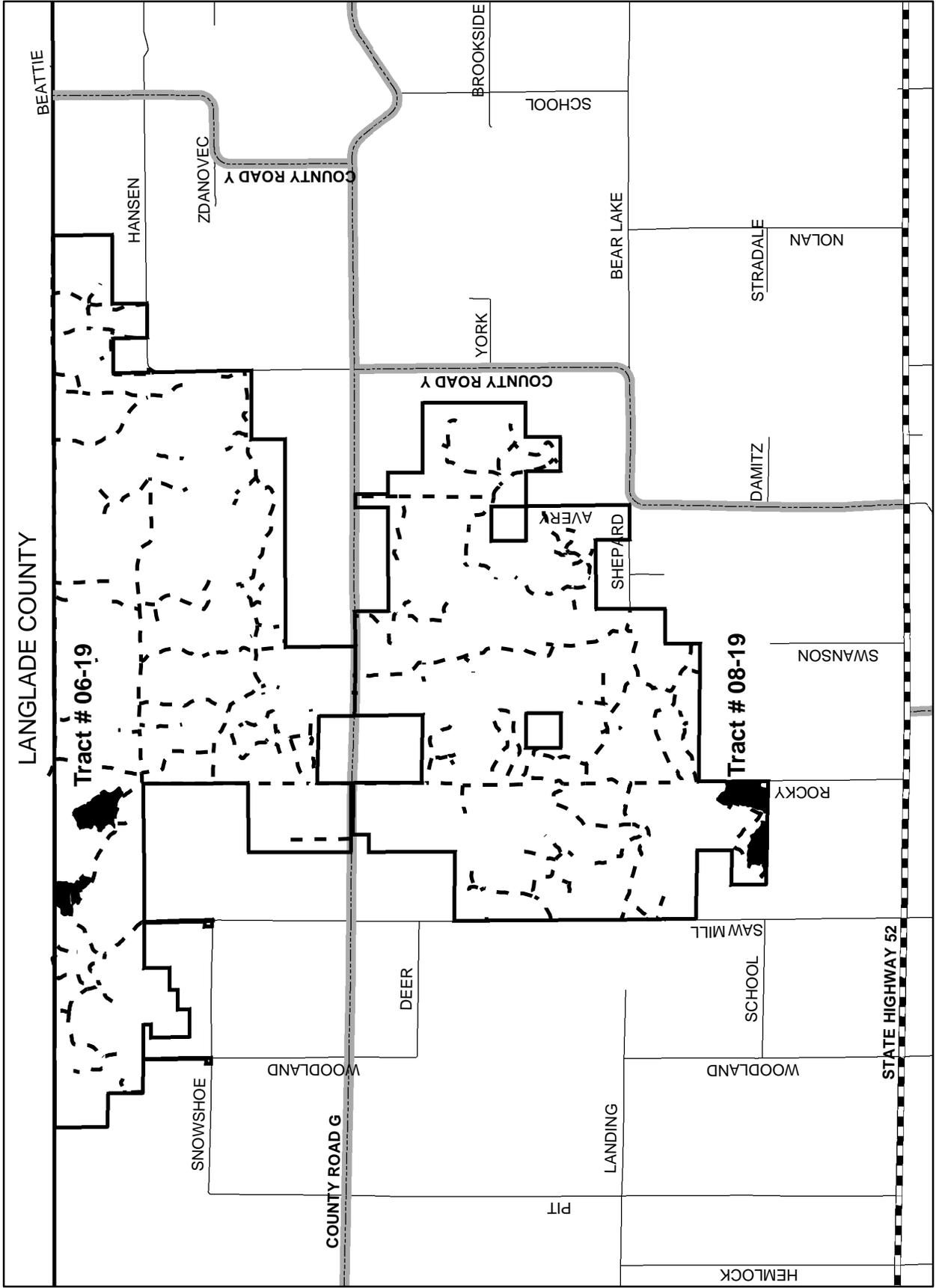
Utilization: Sawlogs – 10 inch or larger diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end, at least 50% sound
 Pulpwood – One or more sticks to a 4 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end
 Tops/Biomass – Minimum utilization to a 2 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end

The bidder must sign and return our contract and performance bond of at least 25% of the contract value with 15 days of being awarded the bid or the bidder will forfeit the bid bond in its entirety.

Contract Length: Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.



Harrison-Hewitt Forest Unit



MARATHON COUNTY TIMBER SALE
Leather Camp Forest Unit – September 2019

Tract # 07-19 FROZEN STIFF SALE

Ticket Sale	<u>Estimated Volumes</u>	
	<u>Species</u>	<u>4" Top</u>
	Mixed Hardwood	2350 Tons (approx. 95% Red Maple, 5% all other hardwood)
	Aspen	85 Tons
	Red Maple Logs	65.0 MBF (incl. <1.0 MBF Red Oak)
	Mixed Hardwood Logs	3.0 MBF (approx. 60% Ash, 30% Basswood, 10% all other hardwood)

Option to Bid Tops/Biomass 480 Tons

Location: Section 2, T.26N.-R.08E. (Town of Guenther) Size: 68 Acres
Section 35, T.27N.-R.8E. (Village of Kronenwetter)

Seasonal Time Frame: July 16-March 30 (need very dry or frozen ground conditions)

Cutting Regulations:

Area 1 – Red Maple Designate Cut A (47 acres in 8 Blocks) – Cut all merchantable trees, except oak (unless marked with orange paint). **Minimize damage to regeneration with minimal paths of travel. Trees shall be fallen, processed, and skidded within the path of travel.**

Area 2 – Red Maple Designate Cut B (21 acres in 8 Blocks) – Cut all trees 1 inch and greater, except oak (unless marked with orange paint) AND Aspen/Birch saplings.

A Purple Paint Line separates cutting areas

Roads/Trails/Decking Areas: Forestry Division must approve skid routes and decking areas. If hauling on the snowmobile trail when “open,” a 3 inch snowbase shall be left.

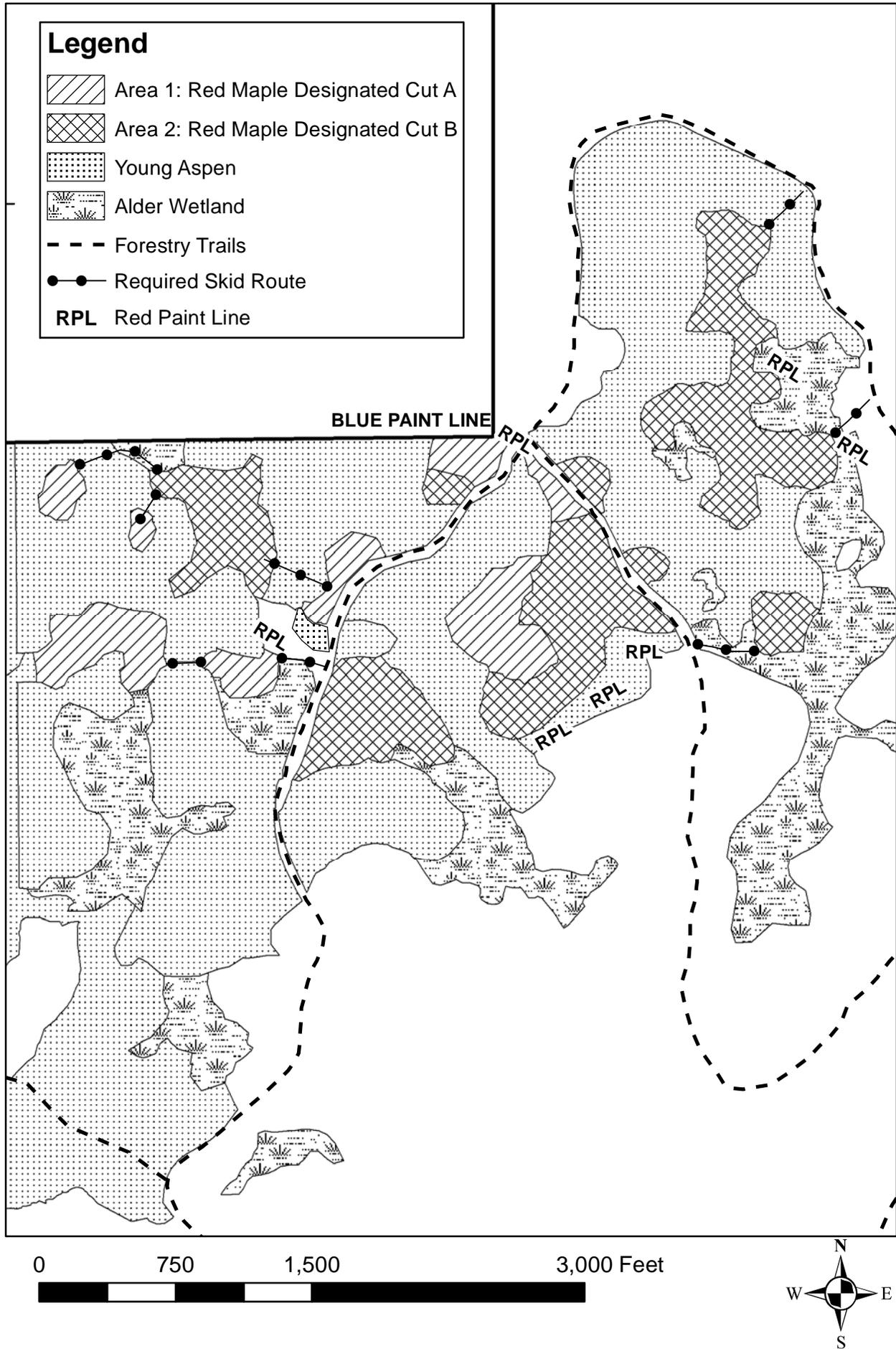
Slash/Wildlife/Other: 16’8” maximum forest product length. All tops shall be lopped and scattered to lie within 24 inches of the ground. Maximum stump height shall not exceed the stump diameter, except for stumps less than 10,” which shall not exceed 10.” Do not cut snags, unless they pose a safety risk to harvesting operations or are within 100’ of gravel trail. Pull all merchantable and unmerchantable Ironwood out of ground or cause root damage. Access to State Highway 153.

Utilization: Sawlogs - 10 inch or larger diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end, at least 50% sound
Pulpwood - One or more sticks to a 4 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end
Tops/Biomass - Minimum utilization to a 2 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end

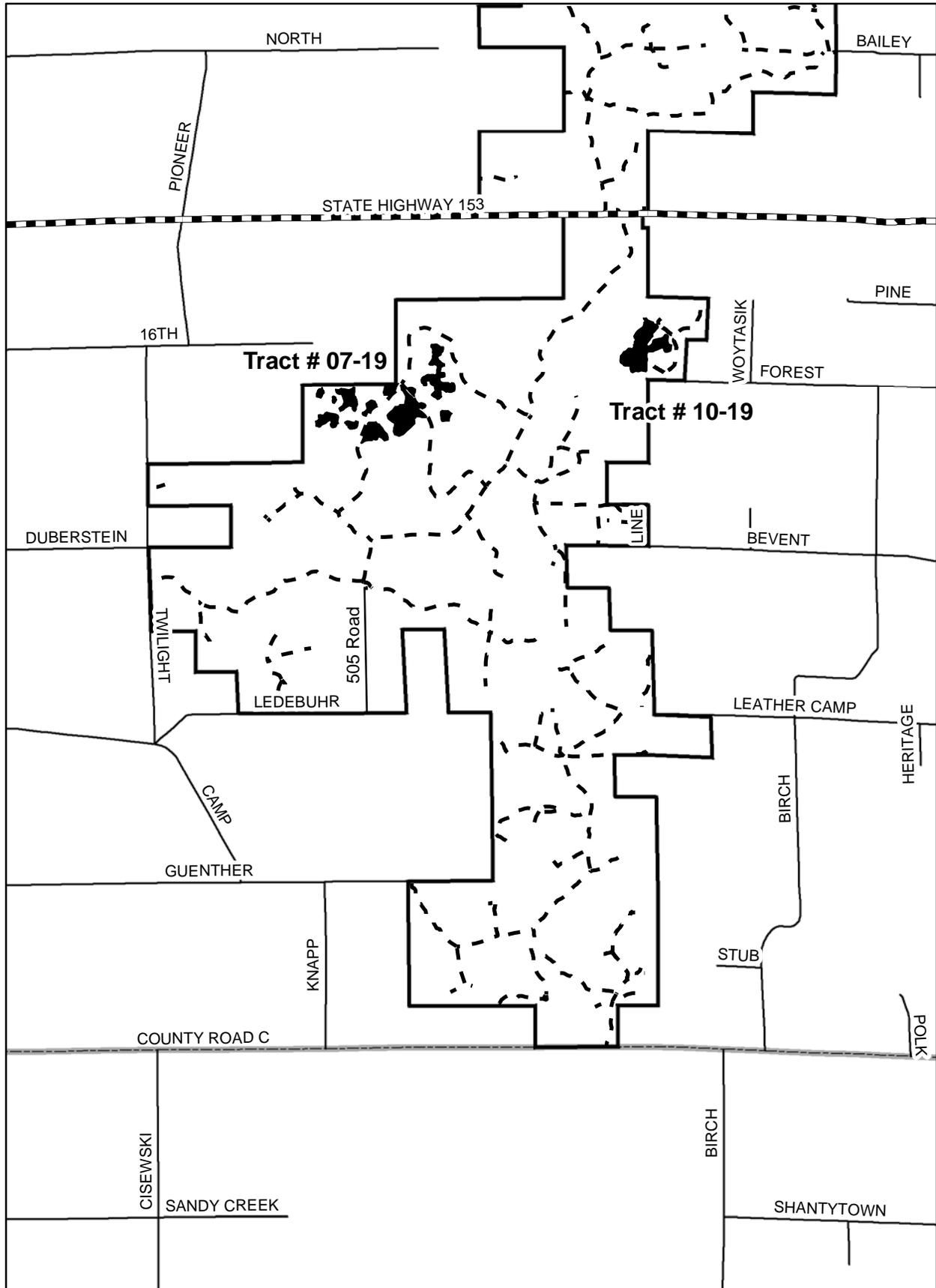
The bidder must sign and return our contract and a performance bond of at least 25% of the contract value within 15 days of being awarded the bid or the bidder will forfeit the bid bond in its entirety.

Contract Length: Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.

Tract 07-19 "Frozen Stiff Sale"



Leather Camp Forest Unit



MARATHON COUNTY TIMBER SALE
Harrison-Hewitt Forest Unit – September 2019

Tract # 08-19 TANAGER SALE

Ticket Sale	Estimated Volumes			
	Species	4" Top		
	Mixed Hardwood	1650 Tons (approx. 61% Red Maple, 30% Ash, 9% all other hardwood)	Ash Logs	30.0 MBF (incl. approx. <1.0 MBF all other logs)
	Red Oak	575 Tons (incl. <10 tons Hickory)	Basswood Logs	15.0 MBF
	Basswood	100 Tons	Hard Maple Logs	4.0 MBF
	Red Maple Logs	80.0 MBF		
	Red Oak Logs	50.0 MBF		
Option to Bid	Tops/Biomass	450 Tons		

Location: Section 25, T.30N.-R.09E. (Town of Hewitt)

Size: 58 Acres

A purple paint line separates cutting areas

Seasonal Time Frame: July 16-March 30 (need very dry or frozen ground conditions)

Cutting Regulations:

Area 1 – Hardwood Designate Cut A (47 acres in 2 Blocks) – Cut all merchantable trees, except conifer and green marked trees. **Minimize damage to regeneration with minimal paths of travel. Trees shall be fallen, processed, and skidded within the path of travel.**

Area 2 – Hardwood Designate Cut B (6 acres in 2 Blocks) – Cut all merchantable trees, except: oak/birch poletimber, conifer and green marked trees. **Minimize damage to regeneration with minimal paths of travel. Trees shall be fallen, processed, and skidded within the path of travel.**

Area 3 – Red Maple/Oak Leave Tree (5 acres in 1 Block) – Cut all trees 1 inch and greater, except green marked trees.

Roads/Trails/Decking Areas: Forestry Division must approve skid routes and decking areas.

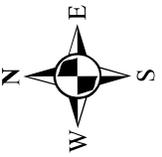
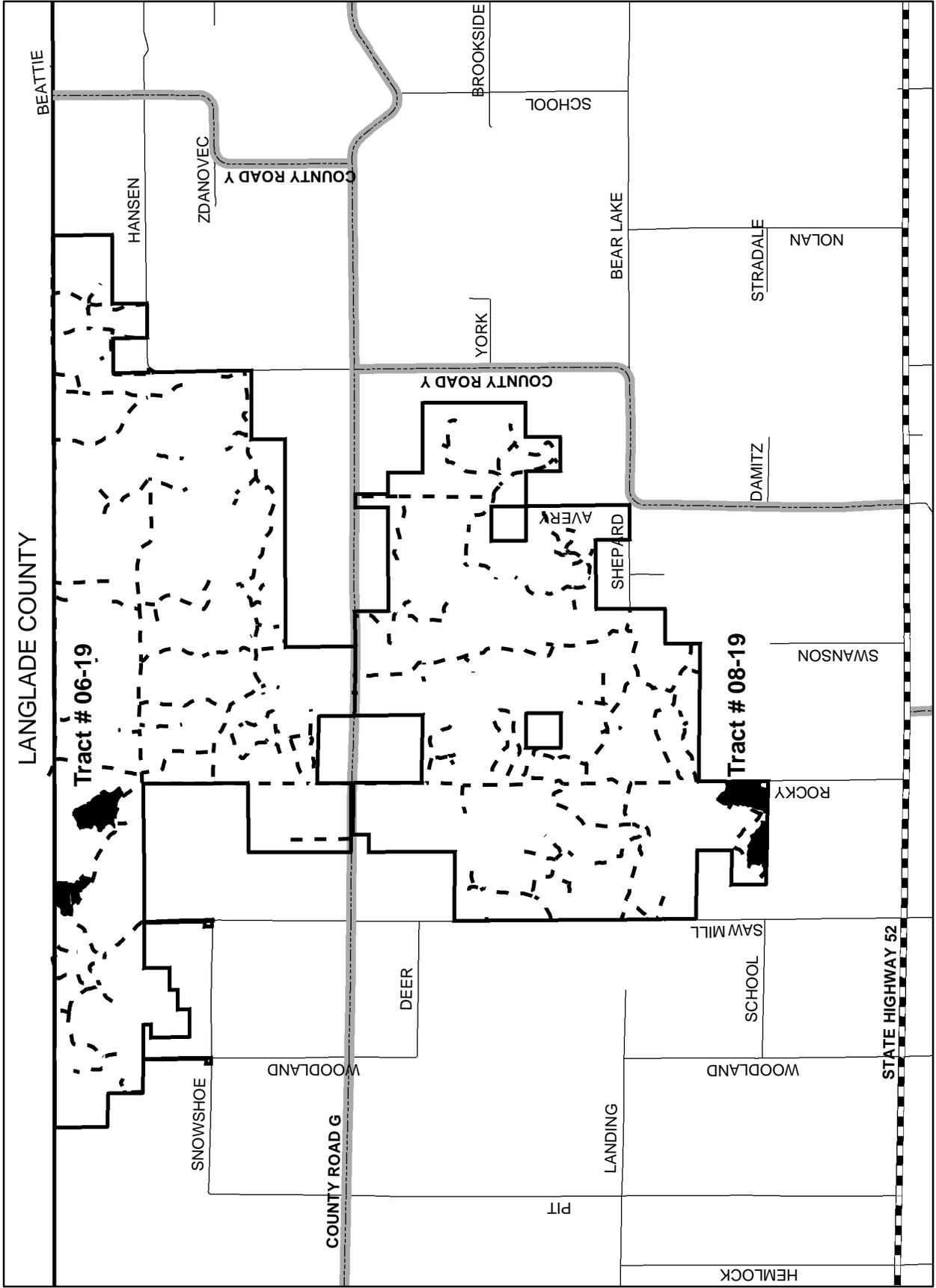
Slash/Wildlife/Other: 16'8" maximum forest product length. All tops shall be lopped and scattered to lie within 24 inches of the ground. Maximum stump height shall not exceed the stump diameter, except for stumps less than 10," which shall not exceed 10." Do not cut snags, unless they pose a safety risk to harvesting operations. Pull all merchantable and non-merchantable Ironwood out of ground or cause root damage.

Utilization: Sawlogs - 10 inch or larger diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end, at least 50% sound
Pulpwood - One or more sticks to a 4 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end
Tops/Biomass - Minimum utilization to a 2 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end

The bidder must sign and return our contract and a performance bond of at least 25% of the contract value within 15 days of being awarded the bid or the bidder will forfeit the bid bond in its entirety.

Contract Length: Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.

Harrison-Hewitt Forest Unit



MARATHON COUNTY TIMBER SALE
Ringle Forest Unit – September 2019

Tract # 09-19 HAPPY HUNT SALE

Ticket Sale	Estimated Volumes			
	Species	4" Top		
	Mixed Hardwood	1850 Tons (approx. 70% Red Maple, 20% Ash, 10% all other hardwood)	Basswood Logs	65.0 MBF
	Aspen	925 Tons	Ash Logs	40.0 MBF (incl. approx. <1.0 MBF all other logs)
	Basswood	400 Tons	Red Oak Logs	8.0 MBF
	Red Oak	60 Tons (incl. approx. 10 tons Hickory)	Hard Maple Logs	6.0 MBF
	Red Maple Logs	70.0 MBF		
Option to Bid	Tops/Biomass	650 Tons		

Location: Section 30, T.28N.-R.09E. (Town of Ringle)

Size: 85 Acres

A purple paint line separates cutting areas

Seasonal Time Frame: Frozen Ground Only

Cutting Regulations:

Area 1 – Red Maple Clear-Cut (34 acres in 2 blocks) – Cut all trees one inch and greater, except oak and green marked trees.

Area 2 – Aspen Clear-Cut (29 acres in 2 blocks) – Cut all trees one inch and greater, except green marked trees and within green paint lines.

Area 3 – Hardwood Select Cut (22 acres in 2 blocks) – Cut all orange marked trees. Do not cut trees marked with an orange “W.”

Roads/Trails/Decking Areas: Forestry Division must approve skid routes and decking areas.

Slash/Wildlife/Other: 16’8” maximum forest product length. All tops shall be lopped and scattered to lie within 24 inches of the ground. Maximum stump height shall not exceed the stump diameter, except for stumps less than 10,” which shall not exceed 10.” Do not cut snags, unless they pose a safety risk to harvesting operations. Pull all merchantable and non-merchantable Ironwood out of ground or cause root damage.

Utilization: Sawlogs - 10 inch or larger diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end, at least 50% sound
Pulpwood - One or more sticks to a 4 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end
Tops/Biomass - Minimum utilization to a 2 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end

The bidder must sign and return our contract and a performance bond of at least 25% of the contract value within 15 days of being awarded the bid or the bidder will forfeit the bid bond in its entirety.

Contract Length: Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.

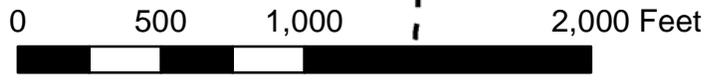
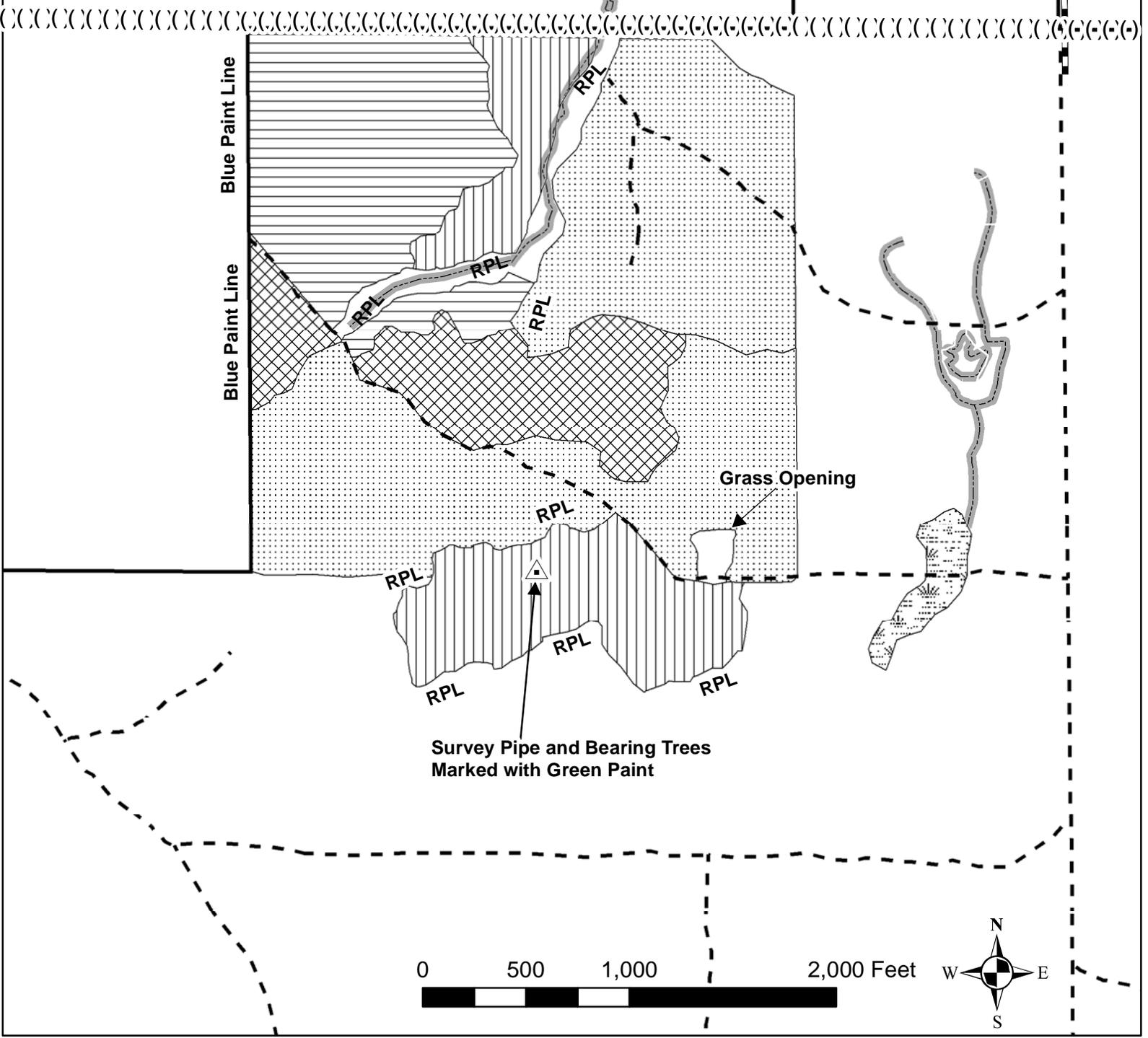
Tract '09-19

WESTON

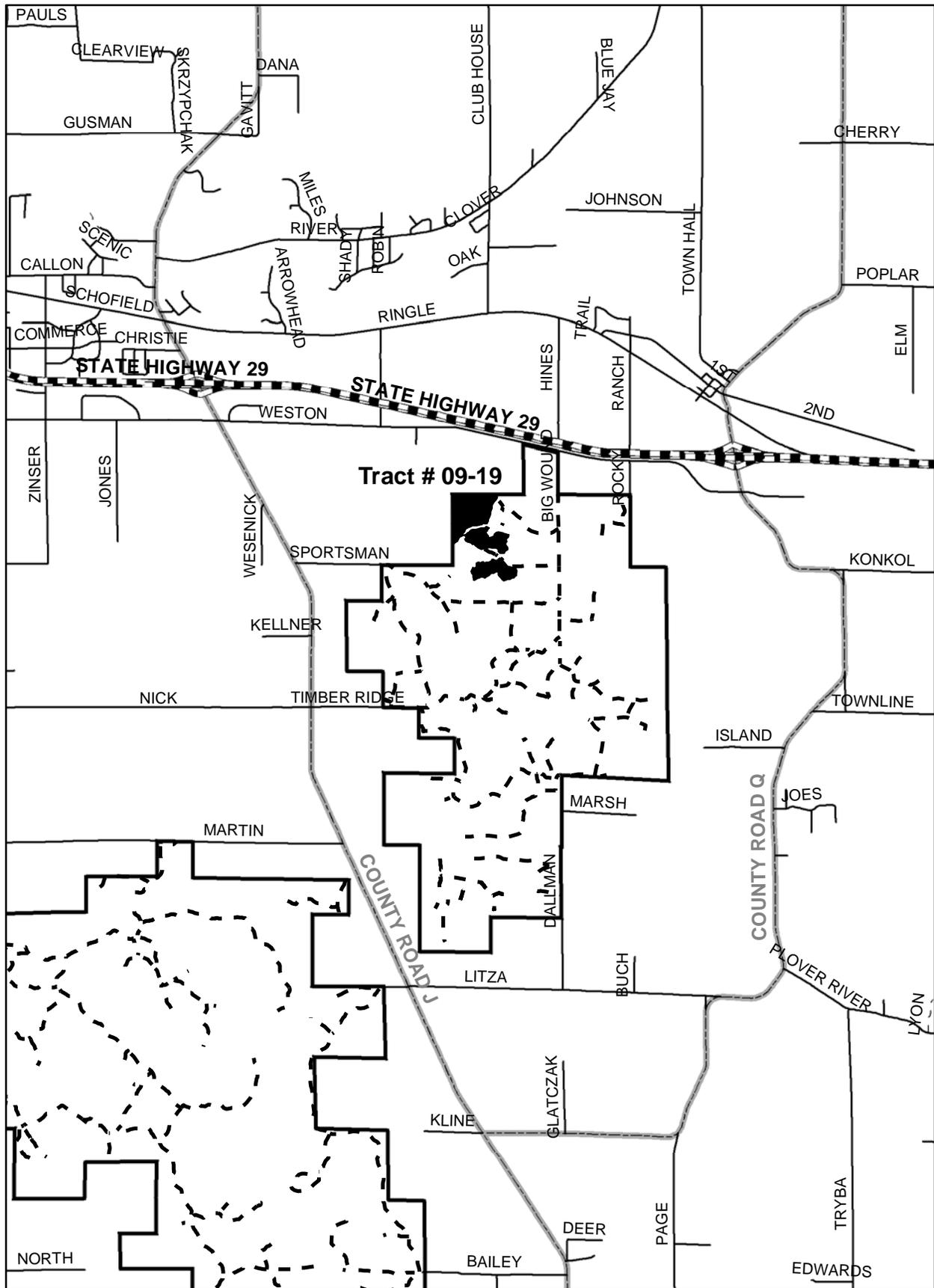
BIG WOUND

Legend

- Area 1: Red Maple Clear-Cut
- Area 2: Aspen Clear-Cut
- Area 3: Select Cut
- Aspen Poletimber
- Alder Wetland
- Forestry Trails
- Streams
- (X)(X) Powerline ROW
- RPL Red Paint Line



Ringle Forest Unit



MARATHON COUNTY TIMBER SALE
Leathercamp Forest Unit - September 2019

Tract # 10-19 OBNOXIOUS FROG SALE

Estimated Volumes

Ticket Sale	Species	4" Top
	Mixed Hardwood	820 Tons
	Aspen	120 Tons (incl. one cord red oak)
	Red Maple Logs	40.0 MBF
	White Ash Logs	4.0 MBF (incl. 400' red oak)
Option to Bid	Tops/Biomass	200 Tons

Location: Village of Kronenwetter T27N-R8E Section 36, Town of Reid T27N-R9E Section 31

Seasonal Time Frame: Frozen ground

Cutting Area: 28 acres

Cutting Regulations:

Area 1 – Designate Cut (22 Acres in 1 Block) – Cut all merchantable trees except green marked reserve trees. Significant amount of aspen regeneration in understory. Minimize damage to aspen sprouts.

Area 2 – Clearcut (6 Acres in 1 Block) – Cut all trees one inch and greater except green marked reserve trees.

Entire sale boundary is marked with red paint. Majority of sale boundary is young aspen and tag alder. Interior sale line separating Area 1 and 2 is marked with purple paint.

Roads, Trails, and Deck Areas: Forestry Division must approve skid routes and decking areas.

Slash/Wildlife/Other: 16'8" maximum forest product length. Lop and scatter all tops to lie within 24 inches of the ground. Pull all merchantable and unmerchantable ironwood out of ground or cause root damage.

Maximum stump height shall not exceed stump diameter, except for stumps less than 10", which shall not exceed 10."

Utilization:

Pulpwood - One or more sticks to a 4-inch top diameter inside bark.

Sawlogs - 10-inch or larger diameter inside bark, at least 50% sound.

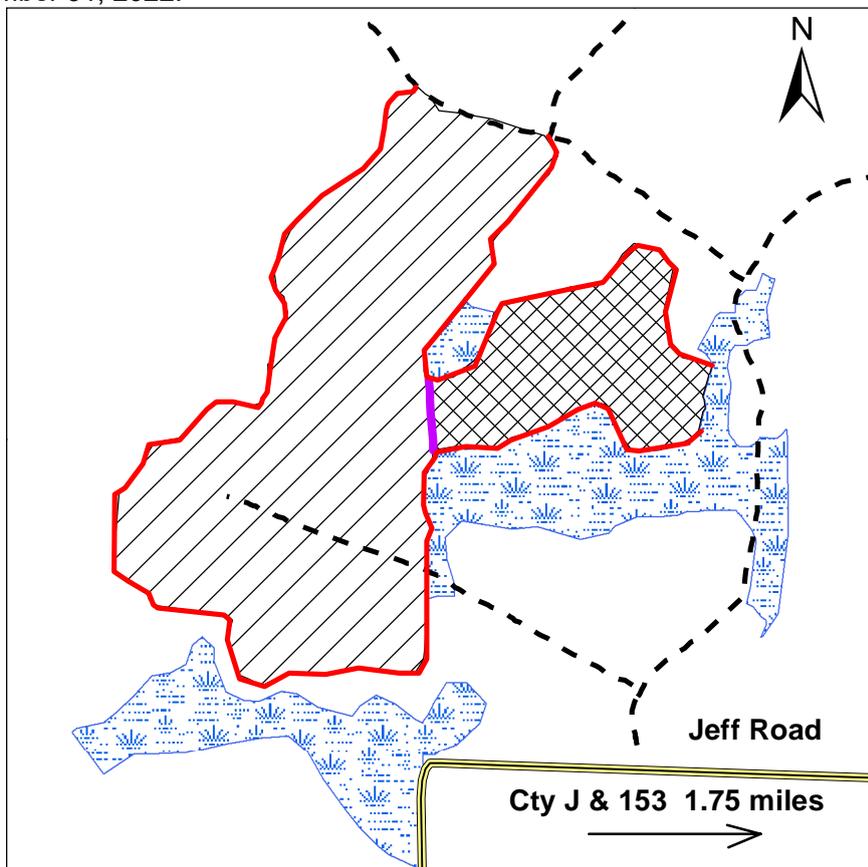
Tops/Biomass - Minimum utilization down to 2" diameter inside bark. W

The bidder must sign and return our contract and a performance bond of at least 25% of the contract value within 15 days of being awarded the bid or the bidder will forfeit the bid bond in its entirety.

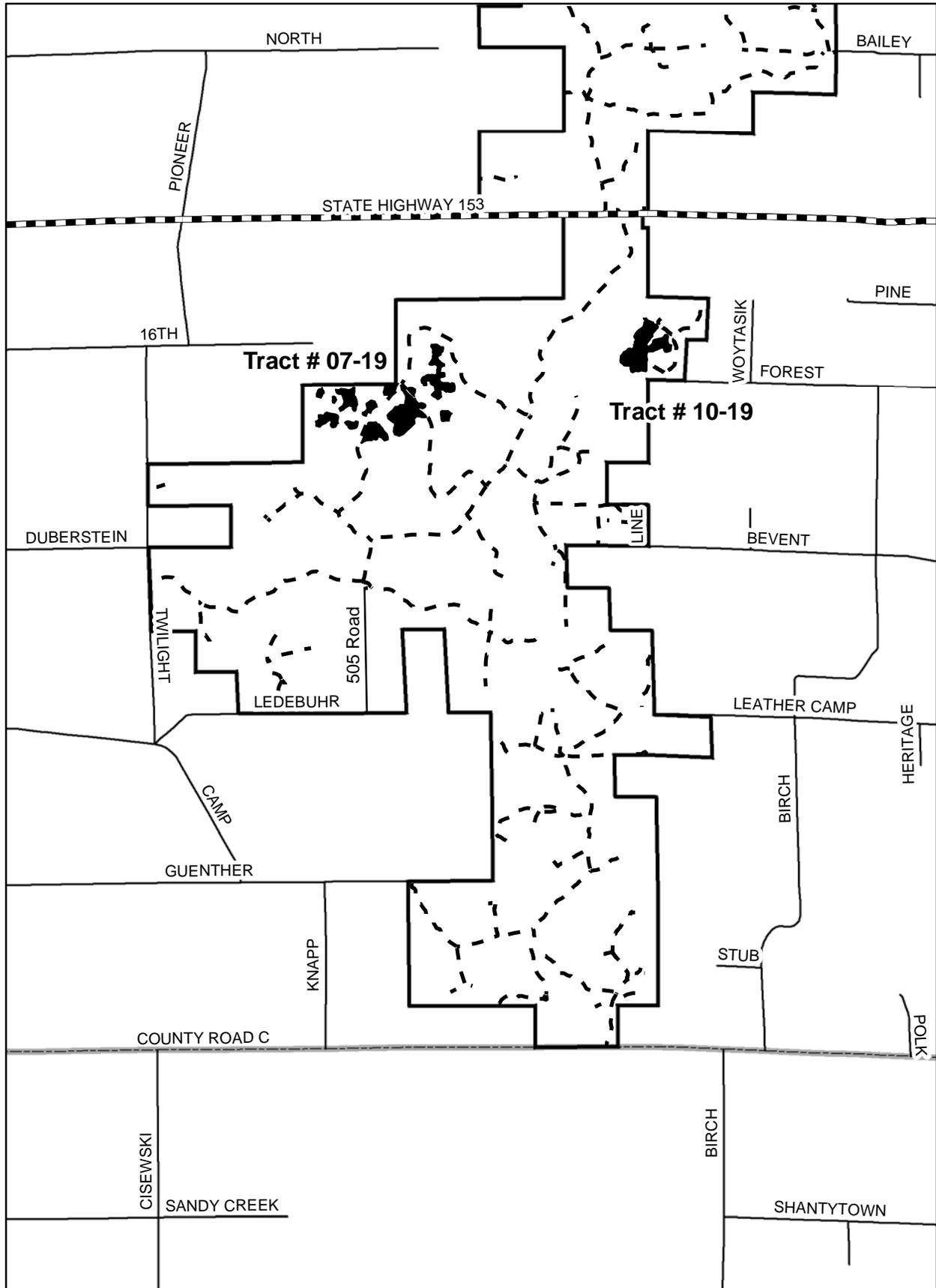
Contract Length: Contract must be completed by December 31, 2022.

Legend

- Area 1 - Designate Cut
- Area 2 - Clearcut
- trails
- tag alder



Leather Camp Forest Unit



MARATHON COUNTY TIMBER SALE
Mission Lake Park – September 2019

Tract # 11-19 RAVENOUS CHIPMUNK

Ticket Sale	<u>Estimated Volumes</u>			
	<u>Species</u>	<u>4" Top</u>		
	Red Pine	600 Tons	White Pine	70 Tons
	White Spruce	75 Tons	Aspen	30 Tons (Incl. approx. 5 tons MXHWD)
Option to Bid	Tops/Biomass	Not Offered		

Location: Section 36, T.27N.-R.09E. (Town of Reid)

Size: 23 Acres

Seasonal Time Frame: After Labor Day until the Thursday before Memorial Day weekend.

Cutting Regulations:

Area 1 – Red Pine 1st thinning (23 acres in 3 blocks) – Cut all trees in rows designated with green paint & cut all orange marked trees between rows.

Area 2 – Aspen Regeneration Cut (<1 acre in 1 block) – Cut all trees 1 inch and greater.

Roads/Trails/Decking Areas: Forestry Division must approve skid routes and decking areas.

Slash/Wildlife/Other: 16'8" maximum forest product length in Area 1. All tops shall be lopped and scattered to lie within 24 inches of the ground. Maximum stump height shall not exceed the stump diameter, except for stumps less than 10", which shall not exceed 10". Annosum treatment required: If using Cellu-Treat, 100% of stump cross-section must be treated (NO EXCEPTIONS). If using Rot-Stop, at least 85% of stump cross-section must be treated.

Not SFI/FSC certified lands. Cannot access field off of Mission Road, must use woods roads.

Utilization: Sawlogs - 10 inch or larger diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end, at least 50% sound

Pulpwood - One or more sticks to a 4 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end

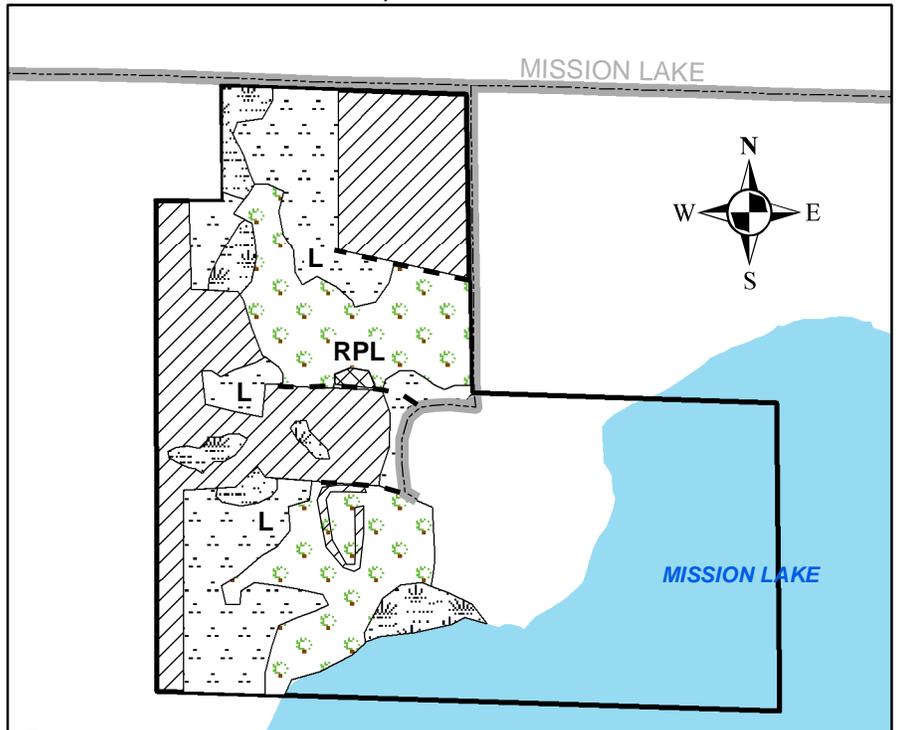
Tops/Biomass - Minimum utilization to a 2 inch diameter inside bark (DIB) on the small end

The bidder must sign and return our contract and a performance bond of at least 25% of the contract value within 15 days of being awarded the bid or the bidder will forfeit the bid bond in its entirety.

Contract Length: Contract must be completed by December 31, 2021.

Legend

- Woods Road
-  Grass w/ Scattered White Pine
-  White Pine Forest
-  Wetland
-  Area 1: Red Pine Select Cut
-  Area 2: Aspen Regeneration Cut
- RPL** Red Paint Line
- L** Landing



COUNTY FOREST CERTIFICATION CARs/OFI/OBSs

***For Review in 2019/20 County Forest audits
and for discussion at Partnership Meetings**

8/13/19 Rev.

*To Liaisons, CF Administrators, Team Leaders, and County Forest Internal Audit Teams – Listed below are selected CARS and Opportunities for Improvement that have application to individual counties. **ALL** of the CARS listed below have been closed, but it is our (DNR) responsibility as the group manager to confirm follow through by the group members on corrective actions. This is based on **DRAFT** findings from the 2019 CFL SFI and FSC **Full Recertification** audits, as well as previous audit findings. Both DNR and the Counties also have responsibilities to comply with ALL aspects of the standards and a checklist of the entire standard is now part of the 3 yr. audit reviews. **The partnership meetings and County Forest 3-year audits remain a very important part of the group monitoring effort.**

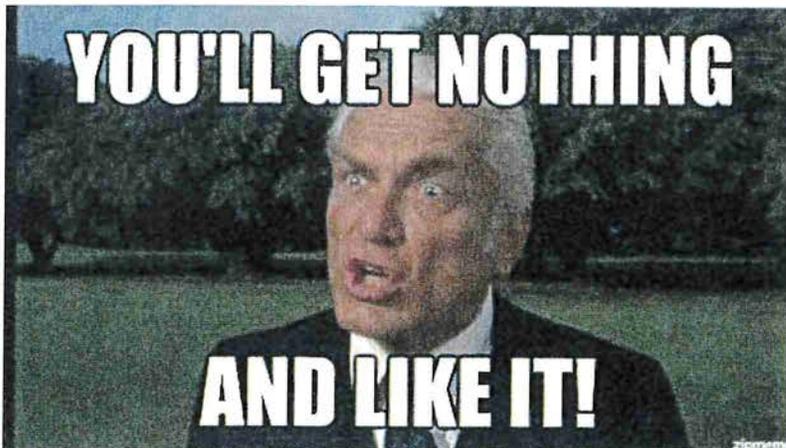
Partnership meetings – It is very important to document a county’s conformance or progress towards conformance on each and every item identified as a **current (2019)** CAR, OBS, or OFI in the partnership meeting minutes. **Do NOT** simply put “discussed certification CARS”. The section of this document titled “CARS & OFI/Observations (both SFI & FSC) from prior audits that may require attention and other potential issues” should be discussed if the issues are still relevant in the particular county and please document if any additional actions have been taken for these items, if relevant.

DO NOT INCLUDE the italicized questions directly as a part of your audit report or partnership minutes. They are included as prompts for generating discussion.

**Findings are based on the preliminary SFI and FSC audit reports – as of 8/13/2019.

2019- SFI/FSC

No CARS, NO OFIs/OBS, no nothing. Clean Audit



SFI – 2018

NO CARS

Opportunities for Improvements (OFI)

OFI 2018-01: There is an opportunity to improve road maintenance to comply with Wisconsin BMPs.

SFI Indicator 3.1.1: Program to implement federal, state or provincial water quality best management practices during all phases of management activities.

The Wisconsin BMPs for active roads (page 60) include:

- “Inspect the road system at regular intervals, especially after heavy rainfall, to detect problems and schedule repairs;
- Keep traffic to a minimum during wet periods and spring breakup to reduce maintenance needs.
- Shape road surfaces periodically to maintain proper surface drainage. Fill in ruts and holes with gravel or compacted fill as soon as possible to reduce erosion potential.”

A County Forest Road (gas tax road), has extensive sections with many parallel, shallow (1 to 2 inch deep) ruts which are not causing erosion or movement of sediment off of the road. There were no water quality impacts observed. The road surface is fine-textured native material, with no crown, so the ruts hold rainwater which impairs the ability of the road surface to sustain use without further rutting.

OFI 2018-02: There is an opportunity to improve in the timeliness of training for forest chemical applications regarding state-certified applicators.

SFI Indicator 2.2.7: Supervision of forest chemical applications by state- or provincial-trained or certified applicators.

On two occasions, a county forester applied herbicide after the expiration of his Wisconsin Pesticide Applicator's certification. His license expired on 3/31/18, and applications occurred on 6/18/18 (0.5 Gal of Garlon Ultra) and 7/3/18 (0.1 Gal of Garlon Ultra). The forester has signed up for the required training to reinstate his certification. Documentation confirming that the training will occur on 9/19/18 was reviewed.

FSC – 2018

NO CARS

Observations (OBS)

FSC Indicator 6.5.B - *Forest operations meet or exceed Best Management Practices (BMPs) that address components of the Criterion where the operation takes place.* Two sites were mentioned. The first was an improperly constructed water bar that was perpendicular to the anticipated flow of water. Some soil movement was evident. The second site was the county forest gas tax road. (Same as SFI finding)

FSC Indicator 6.6.D- *Whenever chemicals are used, a written prescription is prepared that describes the site-specific hazards and environmental risks, and the precautions that workers will employ to avoid or minimize those hazards and risks, and includes a map of the treatment area.* There was evidence that a forester whose applicator's license had lapsed was applying herbicides in at least two instances. (Same as SFI finding)

CARS & OFI/OBS (both SFI & FSC) from prior audits that may require attention and other potential issues

*These items do not all necessarily need to be covered, but are included here because they are issues that will likely continue to be a focus of audits. Please address as needed, if applicable, and please document if any additional actions have been taken for these items, if relevant.

Initial Report

2018-2019 Nine Mile Winter Use Survey

July 5, 2019 2:30 PM CDT

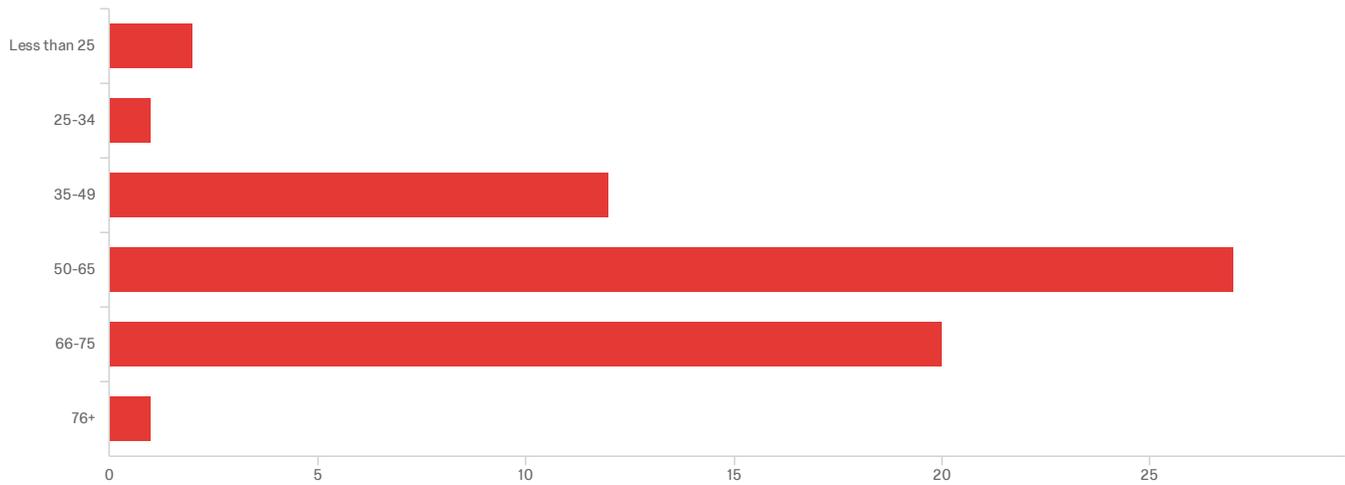
Q1 - How often do you ski/snowshoe at Nine Mile?

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Once a season	3
2	2 - 7 times per season	14
3	8 - 15 times per season	14
4	16+ times per season	31
		62

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How often do you ski/snowshoe at Nine Mile?	1.00	5.00	3.13	1.14	1.31	62

Q2 - What is your age category?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	What is your age category?	1.00	6.00	4.03	0.96	0.92	63

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Less than 25	3.17% 2
2	25-34	1.59% 1
3	35-49	19.05% 12
4	50-65	42.86% 27
5	66-75	31.75% 20
6	76+	1.59% 1

63

Showing rows 1 - 7 of 7

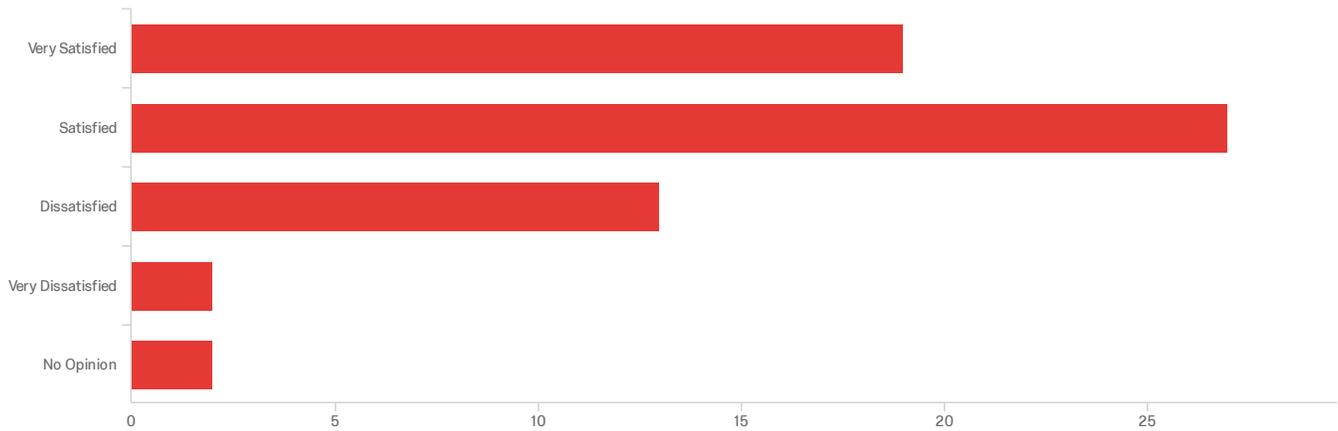
Q3 - Overall how satisfied were you with your skiing/snowshoeing experience?

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Very Satisfied	22
2	Satisfied	29
3	Dissatisfied	10
4	Very Dissatisfied	1
5	No Opinion	1
		63

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Overall how satisfied were you with your skiing/snowshoeing experience?	1.00	5.00	1.89	0.84	0.70	63

Q4 - How would you rate the quality of trail grooming at Nine Mile?

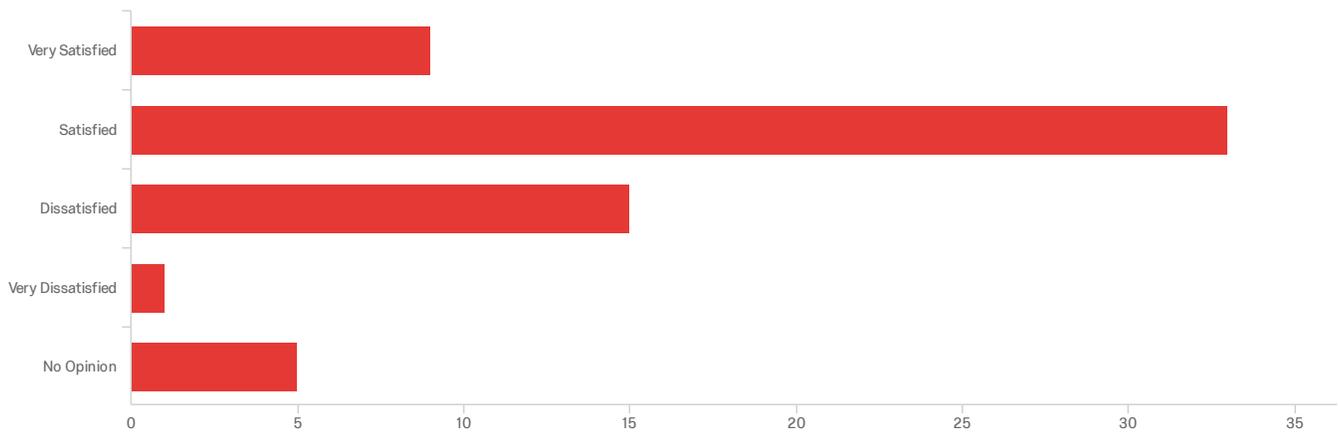


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How would you rate the quality of trail grooming at Nine Mile?	1.00	5.00	2.06	0.96	0.92	63

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Very Satisfied	30.16% 19
2	Satisfied	42.86% 27
3	Dissatisfied	20.63% 13
4	Very Dissatisfied	3.17% 2
5	No Opinion	3.17% 2
		63

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

Q5 - How would you rate the amount and quality of communication on trail conditions?

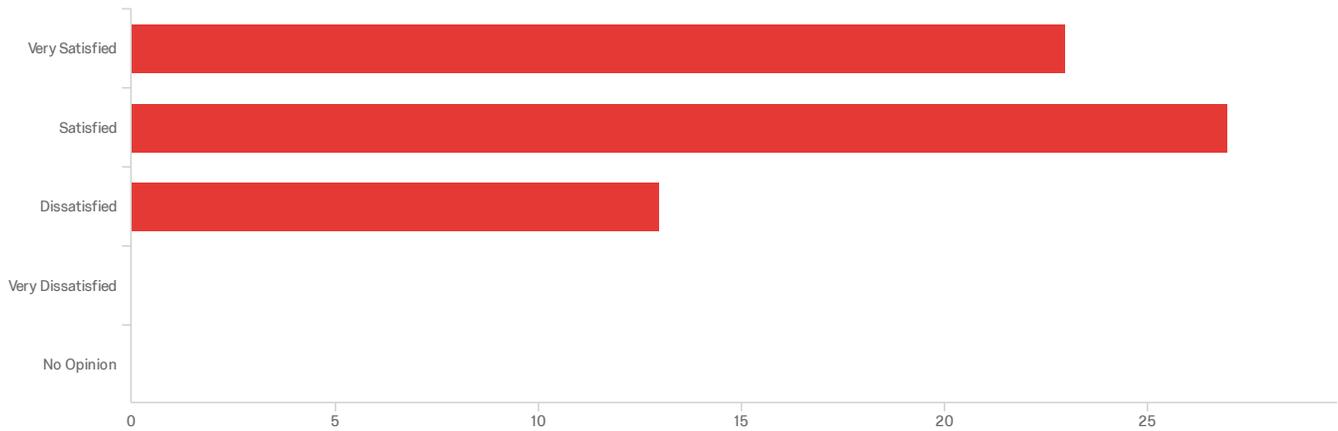


#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How would you rate the amount and quality of communication on trail conditions?	1.00	5.00	2.37	1.01	1.03	63

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Very Satisfied	14.29% 9
2	Satisfied	52.38% 33
3	Dissatisfied	23.81% 15
4	Very Dissatisfied	1.59% 1
5	No Opinion	7.94% 5
		63

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

Q6 - How would you rate the quality of the trail maps and signage?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How would you rate the quality of the trail maps and signage?	1.00	3.00	1.84	0.74	0.55	63

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Very Satisfied	36.51% 23
2	Satisfied	42.86% 27
3	Dissatisfied	20.63% 13
4	Very Dissatisfied	0.00% 0
5	No Opinion	0.00% 0
		63

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

Q7 - How satisfied were you with your interactions with the Chalet Staff?

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Very Satisfied	36
2	Satisfied	22
3	Dissatisfied	2
4	Very Dissatisfied	0
5	No Opinion	2
		62

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How satisfied were you with your interactions with the Chalet Staff?	1.00	5.00	1.55	0.84	0.70	62

Q8 - How satisfied were you with the conditions of the Chalet and Restrooms?

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Very Satisfied	32
2	Satisfied	24
3	Dissatisfied	5
4	Very Dissatisfied	0
5	No Opinion	1
		62

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	How satisfied were you with the conditions of the Chalet and Restrooms?	1.00	5.00	1.61	0.77	0.59	62

Q9 - Do you feel that the fees charged for skiing/snowshoeing are appropriate?

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Too High	9
2	About Right	51
3	Too Low	2
4	No Opinion	1
		63

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Do you feel that the fees charged for skiing/snowshoeing are appropriate?	1.00	4.00	2.70	0.73	0.53	63

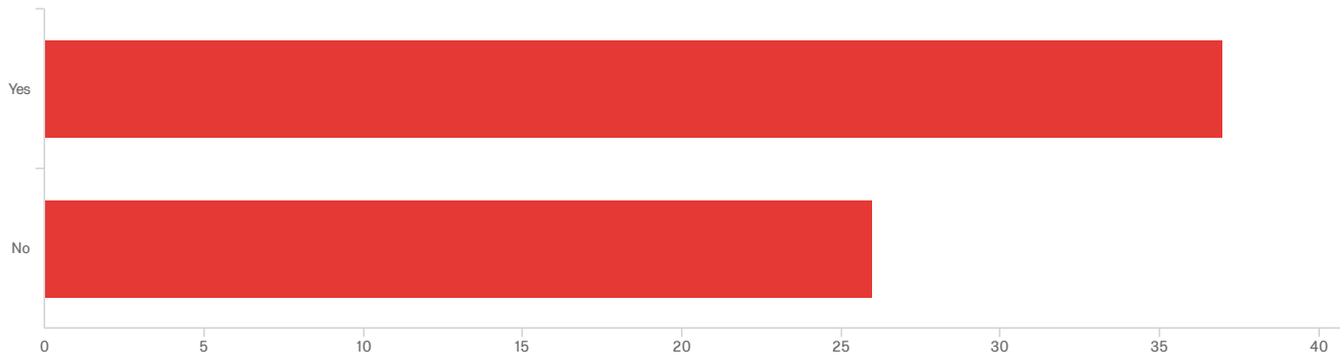
Q10 - Would you recommend Nine Mile Winter Recreation Area to a friend or relative?

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	58
2	No	2
3	No Opinion	2
		62

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Would you recommend Nine Mile Winter Recreation Area to a friend or relative?	1.00	3.00	1.10	0.39	0.15	62

Q11 - Are you a member of the Wausau Nordic Ski Club?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Are you a member of the Wausau Nordic Ski Club?	1.00	2.00	1.41	0.49	0.24	63

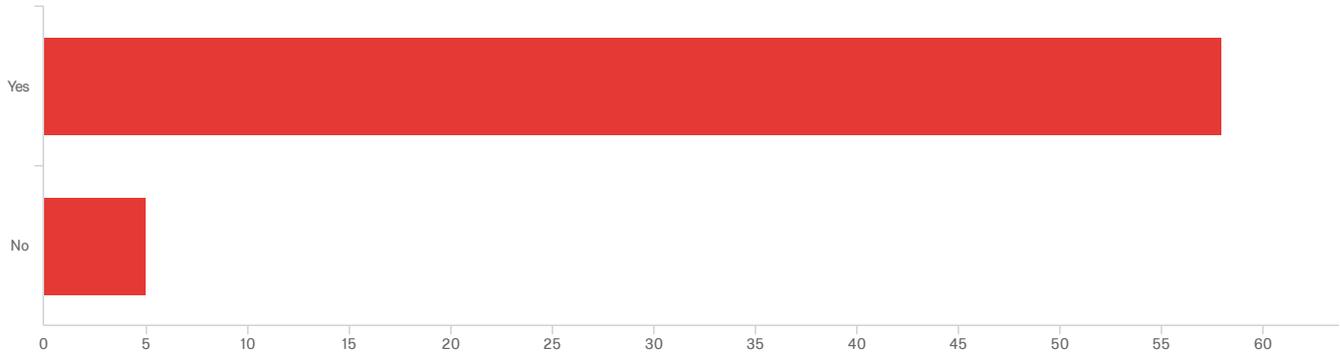
#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	58.73% 37
2	No	41.27% 26

63

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3

Q12 - Are you aware of all the Nordic Ski development programs that the Wausau Nordic

Ski Club runs?



#	Field	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std Deviation	Variance	Count
1	Are you aware of all the Nordic Ski development programs that the Wausau Nordic Ski Club runs?	1.00	2.00	1.08	0.27	0.07	63

#	Field	Choice Count
1	Yes	92.06% 58
2	No	7.94% 5

63

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3

Q13 - Comments

Comments

Love to ski at 9-mile, but it is hard to get a season's pass worth if skiing when snow comes so late in the season. Maybe next year.

Although you can't control for weather (ie. lack of snow), 9 Mile Recreation Area is great with good seasonal snow. Pre-paying for a season pass is becoming questionable. The date should be extended for the season pass option when the weather is objectionable for skiing (ie. late snow fall/pack for skiing). Thanks!

Our family really enjoys the kids nordic ski lessons provided by the ski club

Some trails did not open in a timely fashion after the snow fell and was deep enough to ski on because grooming happened days later- that was a little disappointing. Also, while all the trails are well marked, the names of letters are not memorable, and I found it easy to get lost or not follow directions on which trail to go to. That was a bigger problem when I was with a group meeting up somewhere.

Really liked the in the chalet white board on trail conditions, but wish I could get the same information on line before coming out to gauge which style of skiing Classical vs. Skate would be best with that days grooming.

Relative to privately owned nordic ski areas the amount of grooming done is definitely less per day after a snowfall and comes later in the day leaving less trail available to ski on. The county could do a lot better job posting current trail conditions on the county website.

While the grooming was better after there was plenty of snow, the groomers continue to struggle to adapt their approach when snow is limited. It is clear that they are focused on the skate lanes and frequently appear to spend their entire day on the skate lanes, leaving the classic tracks icy and unskiable for anyone who is not an expert waxer. Leaves in the tracks are not addressed by regrooming, and the groomers use the PB way more often than appropriate. Most of the chalet attendants are friendly and welcoming, but at least one is generally gruff and disinterested in working with novice skiers to help them have a good experience. Overall, the reputation of Nine Mile has gone down hill significantly in the last few years, and the decreasing numbers when we finally got snow shows that both local and out of town skiers are either not skiing or finding alternatives. There is a lot of work to do regain the trust of these lost patrons.

No complaints Time has come to comprehensively redesign the wayfinding system for the forest. Uniform symbols, color coding and numbering. Uniform and consistent signing at trail heads and intersections. Maps: for all applications, paper, electronic, signs: On Trails: larger, print on weatherproof sign board, no you-are-here markers that block the trail lines detail at intersections On Maps: add the length numbers of every segment on the trail system - both for an entire lettered trail (total) and for each and every segment in between each intersection for the entire system (so a user can plan/customize their outing by distance and time available) Explore funding for this effort with the community foundation, parks foundation, county board and donations from friends/users of 9 Mile Thank you

How about adding signs that point to "the quickest way to chalet" at intersections for those of us who get confused or tired especially in the dark?

I likes the buttons better than the cards for the annual passes. My pass this year broke right away. I would recommend going back to the buttons or even better get ones like they have for the birkie trail annual pass

I think the public/private relationship between Wausau Nordic Ski Club and Marathon County is excellent and mutually beneficial. I'd like to see Marathon County Parks, Recreation and Forestry remain vigilant in keeping the 9 mile & all other county forest units open for all the public to recreate. Specifically hunters and trappers. Sometimes the financial benefit Marathon County receives from private/public relationships could have influence in creation county ordinances that are lobbied by the private entity. On the surface these ordinances may seem to have very limited restrictions on the hunters and trappers but they can be cumulative and a slippery slope. The lobbying affects are one sided because the private groups are organized clubs that present issues with non-club county forest users and want it solved with county ordinances. The non-club county forest users are large number of non-organized users that don't have the lobby strength/voice of the private clubs. I feel Marathon County does a good job with this public/private relationship. I write specifically about 9 mile because of it s proximity to Wausau & Rib Mt, the primary population base of Marathon County. It gets a tremendous amount of use by non-hunters and trappers & I don't want to see pressure from that demographic to get priority on public land use.

The adult free lessons and the children's programs are excellent.

Comments

I really like skiing at 9 Mile, trails are great but I don't think Marathon County supports new skiers enough. Learning to ski programs should be less expensive because the beginner skier can only ski an hour or 2, not the whole day or 20km. Encourage schools to have school related ski programs. More publicity would be good.

Good question about mapping. I do think that it could be better - I've only been skiing out there for about five seasons, but I still can't read those little maps! They don't make much sense to me! Also, I do wish that the chalet was bigger, especially considering Sneekveik and Badger State. A bigger wax shack would be more than appreciated, especially for as many kids/families out there who need wax training.

Need to have more reliable grooming done mid morning and especially on weekends in order for out of towners. To many time this season once the snow came that trail conditions were not at all like other ski centers.

The grooming of the trails over the past 2 winters has been poor. The grooming has not been timely. Certain trails go ungroomed for several days. Some trails are not groomed as wide as they could be. Classic tracks are not being set; I skied in classic tracks that had not been re-set in 8 days. I overheard and talked with several (more than 10) out of towners that complained about the very poor trail conditions and terrible grooming. Many of these people stated they would not return. I try to be an Ambassador for Nine Mile helping new people with directions, trail recommendations, and giving impromptu ski lessons. Not only did the poor grooming hurt my ski training, forcing me to drive more than one hour to other ski trails, it is embarrassing to hear out of towners trash talk Nine Mile.

I would like to have the option of family passes rates for snowshoeing only. Would like to increase number of trails mapped for snowshoeing. Yin, Yang, and Stone Soup come to mind. Most of the single track that are not used for skiing could also be mapped for snowshoe. Overall the 9-mile area is one of our go-to spots for snowshoeing and summer trail running.

A staff member should take on the responsibility to post snow conditions on Skinnyski more regularly. Otherwise, 9-Mile is a great place to ski.

Grooming is a skill and requires input from experienced skiers. Grooming needs to be done between snowfalls as well as following snowfalls. Our ski area is a highly appreciated resource locally and draws many skiers from outside the area. It is important to maintain our reputation.

Need to have a vending machine and hot food available. Chalet needs to be jazzed up.

Enjoyed the opportunity to cross country ski, overall nice experience, chalet staff are not always friendly.

I never skied this season because of snow conditions. Didn't know if Nine Mile was open.

Don't make snow if you are going to charge more for season tickets.

I ski there often and the trails are always in the best condition the weather allows. We always buy annual passes even in bad snow years because the facility still needs to be maintained. Nine Mile is a fantastic resource for the area. Keep up the good work and the close relationship with the ski club.

Would appreciate if the signage on the newest/North trail were improved. Extra "trails" were confusing as someone had run a snowmobile around so that the intended snowshoe trail could not be distinguished.

The unpredictable natural snow conditions have limited my skiing opportunities the last two years along with my wife's and my snowbird vacation plans. It seems whenever we leave, the heavy snow falls. Not much you can do about that other than pursuing the snowmaking capability currently underway. When cold temperatures arrive in November the machines could be setting a base to lengthen the cross country skiing season. Hunting in the immediate area would need to be restrained during this time period, however there are more areas to hunt than ski.

Very poor classic tracks. With the amount snow we had, the tracks could have been changed/regroomed more often. Grooming is a process, not a race - seems like they just want to get done & don't care about the quality of their work.

Grooming was inconsistent. While we realize that the snow conditions were challenging due to amounts, seemed as if the equipment wasn't ready or was not operational when it was really needed. While it was good that more loops were groomed this year, it would have been nice to have the order of the loops varied so it wasn't always first lighted loop, then 6 K etc. It seemed to take forever to get R and other sections that are further out groomed this year. We are not sure there is a good solution to this, but due to timing of grooming, the skate deck in particular had no chance to set-up before skiing and was often very soft. It would be helpful to have trail condition information on a website so skiers can check what may or may not be groomed before heading out to 9 Mile.

My only comment concerns the setting of tracks. At intersections and on some hills the groomer lifts the track setters. It's ok to set the track through intersections and up all hills. We understand the tracks will be somewhat erased at intersections by skaters and erased on hills by wishbone technique that ok as enough track will be left for classic skiers use. It was a tough winter due to the lack of snow followed by an abundance of snow and in all other regards I felt the grooming was terrific. See ya in December, I hope.

Please use the Piston Bully as much as possible when grooming; please groom as frequently as possible to cover up the high amount of oak leaves that fall on the ski trails. Please have grooming done as early as possible in the morning even before the chalet opens if possible for skiers who want to ski early in the morning. Thank you to the grooming staff for the job they do. But grooming is the number one critical aspect of either being satisfied or not satisfied with a ski venue and a skiing experience.

Question 1) Poor Condition/Late Arriving Winter - Typically visit ski 16+ times/winter Question 3) See Question #4 Question 4) When snow finally did arrive in Feb., skiing was fantastic - Your investment in the Piston Bully/Ginzu equipment elevates the level to a first-rate ski area. However in March, when nighttime freezing allows for grooming that significantly increases the quality and season length, little attention seemed to be given. March can be the best skiing of the season for enthusiasts and families. I understand that the PB was being repaired but also understand it was quick. This just happens to be one recent incident but is consistent through recent seasons where timing/frequency of grooming is lacking in attention. This ski area has the makings of and growing reputation to be the benchmark of Midwestern Nordic skiing and grooming plays a primary role, especially when nature doesn't cooperate. Question 5) SkinnySki.com is the place for the most up-to-date condition reporting within the Nordic community. Co. Website is secondary, but has a poor user-interface and experience. Question 6) Nordic trail signage pales in comparison to the CWOCC signage. That's the area benchmark and user expectation. Many winter users are confused between the two. Perhaps a unified effort to combine may eventually be necessary. I do not use any signage personally. Question 7) Chalet Staff has always been friendly and helpful - the new location of the desk works/flows well. Kids love the Cookie Trail reward. Question 8) I know it's tough. Bathrooms (mens) typically seem humid and smell not-so-fresh. Question 10) This is a great place to introduce newcomers to the sport. Nordic Ski Club does a fantastic job with kids programs as well as adult learning opportunities.

Snow conditions and short duration ski season make me second guess the value of a season pass. I train for the Birke and have to go elsewhere, (Minocqua, Rib Lake, Timms Hill, Hurley and Underdown) for snow from December to February just to ski.

I always love Nine Mile and the experience out there. I am dissatisfied with the grooming quality this year. I recognize that we had snow late in the season and can appreciate that. However, when we did have snow, the grooming was rushed, sloppy, and it took over a month once we had adequate snow for all of the trails to see some grooming. I am specifically referencing the 20k loop and a section known as the alps which is very important to area skiers to have the chance to train on those because they prepare the racing population for races around the state. They are the only big hills really at Nine Mile. I appreciate the space to give input. I have heard a number of skiers note that they would be willing to run the groomer if that were an option in order to get a higher quality grooming experience. Thank you.

Of course, this was a horrible year for conditions and a very short XC season. Toward the end of the season - mid-march - there was A LOT of debris on the trail. Usually I skate so this isn't a problem but I had out-of-town friends and we did classic - I am seriously looking at 'skins' so as to not repeat the nasty fall when a leaf tripped me up on my waxed skis. The daily pass in my opinion is a bit high, and it would be nice to have a discount for a 2-day pass. The trail grooming / conditions on the white board is a good idea. The new season passes are crap - bring back the buttons - I really don't need a piece of cardboard flapping on my chest. I enthusiastically recommend 9-Mile to everyone; the terrain & grooming can't be beat. Kris Ullmer, Merrill

There is too much logging and it ruins the trails, especially when snowfall is minimal. Don't do any logging within 50 yards of any of the trails and everything will be fine. This could be the 3rd best trail system in Wisconsin. Logging should be done some place else in Marathon County, not on the 3rd. most important trail system in the whole State. There are a lot of trails that are much more scenic because you don't have to look at the war zone left by the loggers. When you can look straight through the woods and see 50 yards away you then know that they took too many trees. Grooming was very spotty this year. It took many days for the groomer to get around to the Alps when we finally did get snow.

Trails are not groomed at the standard of other trails such as Iola or Minocqua Trails often not groomed early enough in the day Trails not groomed at cut-off/alternate course areas Trails often not groomed for weekend guests Information board not filled out accurately Chalet not open for marginal skiing when other chalet are (Iola or Minocqua) much lost revenue

Comments

Nine Mile is awesome.

The classic ski trails are not groomed often enough. While the skate ski trails are groomed almost daily. In the years past after a new snow fall, almost all the trails were groomed at one time. Whereas this past year only several trails were groomed at a time.

Please give a nudge to the snowmaking project. It is really needed in seasons like 2018/19 demonstrated. That is why I only used Nine Mile one time this past winter ... I was in Florida during all the snow in February and early March.

The county needs groomers who ski.....not heavy equipment operators who don't have a clue.

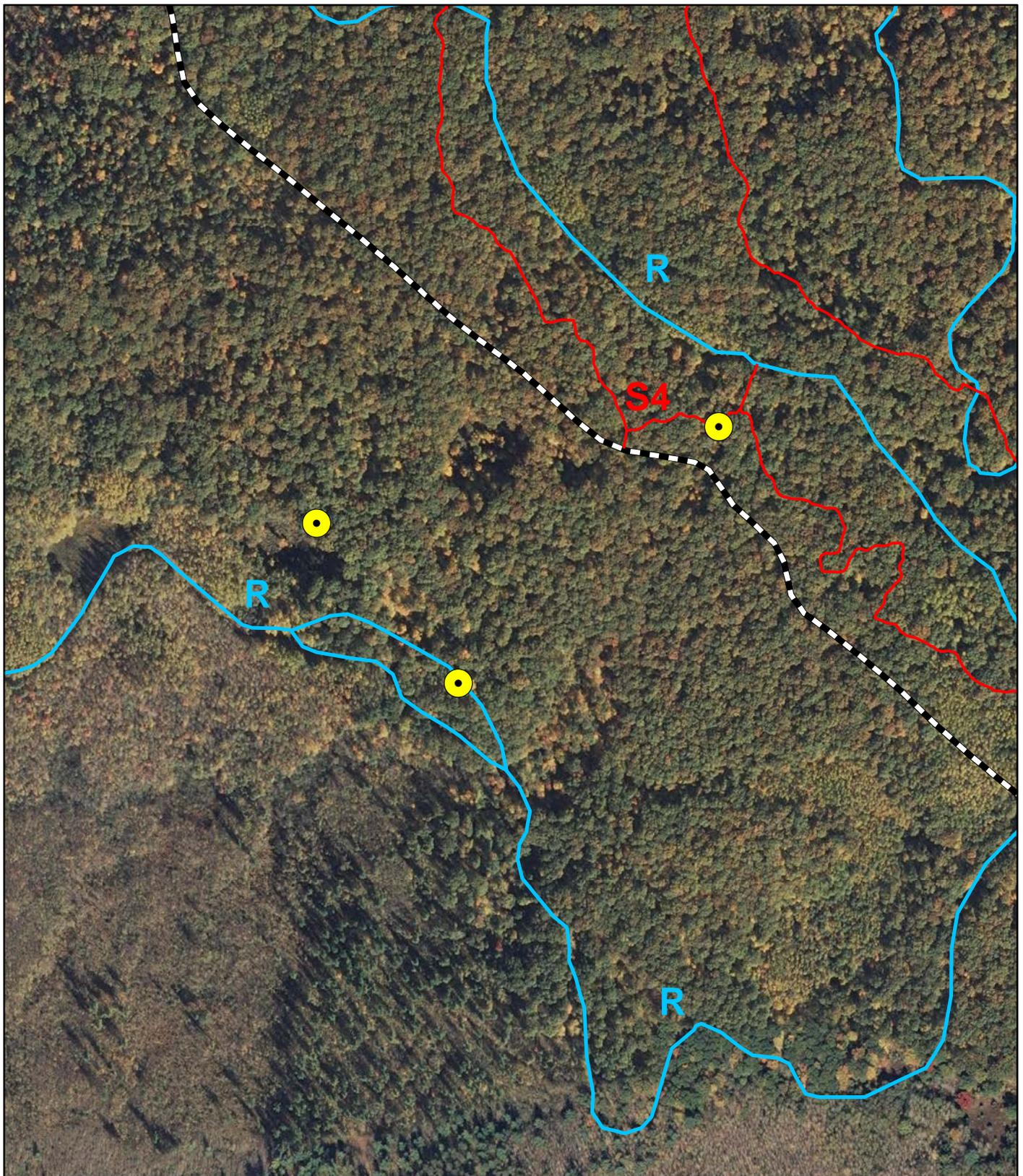
I enjoyed having an annual pass this year, but was only able to get out on the trails once due to my schedule. Of course I had hoped for more snow earlier in the season. Better luck for us next year, I hope!

1) The present 2 County groomers just don't seem to put their hearts into the job. It seems like this is what they do and go home when the shift is over, whether done with the trail system or not. There is definite room for improvement. Maybe this is just something that practice will cure. Or maybe not. Both of them collectively couldn't hold a candle to Andy Hoppe, who could easily groom a heavy frost. 2) There needs to be direct, up to date verbal communication daily, heck, hourly, between the groomers and the counter staff at the Chalet. One of the most common questions asked of the counter staff is how are conditions. The most overwhelming common response was a shrug and an answer of, well, they're grooming right now. Not good enough since a lot of skiers will plan the routes according to grooming conditions. I couldn't count the number of times I took off only to find myself on some pristine, un-groomed trail way back in the park. Sure, the whiteboard is nice, but it isn't current enough. Constant communication between counter staff and grooming will take care of this issue.

Very good facilityalways very clean in the chalet, helpful staff, great trail groomers !! The trail grooming is excellent throughout the season..
Wonderful ski trails and shoe shoe trails

End of Report

Nine Mile Forest Unit: 2019 Oak Wilt Sites



Legend

	2019 Oak Wilt Sites		Ski Trails
	Single Track		Snowmobile Trail



Project Schedule:

The Following is a Draft Timeline for Completion of the Plan and Approval Process. This Schedule is Subject to Change.

<u>MARATHON COUNTY FOREST PLANNING TIME LINE → 2021 - 2035</u>	
August 1, 2019	1. Environmental Resources Committee Reviews and Considers Approving Draft Public Participation Process and Timeline.
August 6, 2019	2. Marathon County Forestry/Recreation Committee Review and Considers Approving Public Participation Process and Timeline
August/September 2019 August 19 – Sept. 25, 2019 August 28, 2019 September 3, 2019 September 3, 2019 September 5, 2019 *September 18, 2019 CAC Committee Meeting	3. Identify Issues to Address With Plan Revisions a. List Potential Issues (E-Mail/Mail Letter to Public/Local Organizations With Response Sheet) b. List Potential Issues (Staff) c. List Potential Issues (Forestry/Recreation Committee) d. List Potential Issues (Park Commission) e. List Potential Issues (Environmental Resources Committee) f. List Potential Issues (Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee) g. Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee and Staff Review Current Plan and Recommends Revisions on Chapters 100 – 300.
October 2019	4. Forestry/Recreation Committee Review Recommendations to Chapters 100 – 300 a. Changes Back to Staff 5. Environmental Resources Committee Quarterly Update
October – December 2019 *December 18 CAC Committee Meeting	6. Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee and Staff Review Current Plan and Recommends Revisions on Chapters 400 – 600.
January 2020	7. Forestry/Recreation Committee Review Recommendations to Chapters 400 – 600 a. Changes Back to Staff 8. Environmental Resources Committee Quarterly Update

January 2020 – March 2020 *March 18, CAC Committee Meeting	9. Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee and Staff Review Current Plan and Recommends Revisions on Chapters 700 – 800.
April 7, 2020	10. Forestry/Recreation Committee Review Recommendations to Chapters 700 – 800. a. Changes Back to Staff 11. Environmental Resources Committee Quarterly Update
April 2020 – June 2020 *June 24 CAC Committee Meeting	12. Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee, Park Commission, and Staff Review Current Plan and Recommends Revisions to Chapter 900.
July 2020	13. Forestry/Recreation Committee Review Recommendations to Chapter 900. a. Changes Back to Staff 14. Environmental Resources Committee Quarterly Update
July 14, 2020	15. Open House/Public Meeting (30 Day Comment Period) July 14 – August 17
September 2020	16. Forestry/Recreation Committee and Environmental Resources Committee Approves Revised Plan and Sends to DNR for 30 Day Review. (September 15 – October 15, 2020)
November 12, 2020	17. Marathon County Board Adopts Revised 15 Year Plan and Submits to DNR for Final Approval
December 2020	18. DNR Approves Marathon County Forest 15 Year Plan

MARATHON COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN 2021 - 2035

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

<u>STAGE OF PROCESS</u>	<u>OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>TOOLS/TECHNIQUES</u>
Identification of Issues	Consult	On-Line/Mailed General Survey
Draft Development	Inform	Website
All Draft Chapters	Involve/ Collaborate	Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee Forestry/Recreation Committee Environmental Resources Committee Park Commission (Chapter 900 only)
Preliminary Draft Completion	Inform/Consult	Open House – Public Meeting
Final Draft	Inform	Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee Website/E-Mail to Plan Holders

Jodi Luebbe

From: Tom Lovlien
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2019 9:39 AM
To: Jodi Luebbe
Subject: FW: WEMS race numbers

Here it is.

Thomas Lovlien
Marathon County Forest Administrator



212 River Drive, Suite 2
Wausau, WI 54403
(715)261-1584 Office
(715)573-2265 Cell
(715)261-4163 Fax
Tom.lovlien@co.marathon.wi.us

From: Cynthia Hassel
Sent: Thursday, June 20, 2019 9:50 AM
To: Dan Fiorenza <Dan.Fiorenza@co.marathon.wi.us>; Tom Lovlien <Tom.Lovlien@co.marathon.wi.us>
Subject: WEMS race numbers

6/7/19 - 6/9/19
WEMS race

79 participants @ \$5.25 = \$414.75

57 trail passes @ \$4.00 = \$228.00

The Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) in Wisconsin

The 2014 Farm Bill and the 2014 FY federal Appropriations Act authorizes the USDA Forest Service to enter into cooperative agreements with States to perform watershed restoration and forest management services on National Forest System lands without cumbersome contracting mechanisms and requirements to use federal processes and procedures.

GNA GOAL

The GNA provides an opportunity for the state and others in the forestry community to work with the Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest (CNNF) to help increase the level of accomplishments on the national forest and see the benefits of increased forest management.

HOW DOES GNA WORK?

States and national forests sign Master Agreements and Supplemental Project Agreements that detail the work to be done. Wisconsin signed a Master Agreement and Supplemental Project Agreement in fall 2015. The plan for Wisconsin is to engage in this work long term and continue to renew master agreements every ten years. Annually, the WI DNR and States act as agents for the USDA Forest Service (FS). In Wisconsin, we do the work ourselves, sub-contract with consultants, and sub-award to counties. Timber sale revenue pays for the work we and our partners do. We've agreed to work on roughly 25 mmbf each year. All of the projects have gone through the federal NEPA process. Projects shift across the CNNF districts each year; sales include a variety of timber products.

A portion of the timber revenue generated must be returned to the FS to fund specific FS accounts (e.g. reforestation, local aids). Once sufficient timber revenue is generated (aka program income), this money will be spent back on the CNNF on a variety of projects. Projects could include those that fund restoration programs for streams, support the timber program to continue reaching goals such as cultural resource surveys and stand exams, or additional programs that add value to the forest and those that use it.

PARTNERSHIPS

The DNR prefers to work in partnership to accomplish GNA projects; we depend on counties and private consultants to share the workload. Seven counties (Sawyer, Bayfield, Forest, Oconto, Langlade, Taylor, and Florence) have signed agreements with the state and are contracting on timber sale establishment and administration. Private forestry consultants have contracted with us as well for timber marking, cruising, and establishment.

The GNA partnership is shedding light on how forest management is accomplished – partners see how each other practices forestry and this can inform new practices, techniques, or policies and procedures (e.g. scaled wood sale pilot being developed on CNNF due to GNA example).



(updated September 2018)

The Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) in Wisconsin

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Wisconsin is the first state in the country to have a GNA agreement, and the first state to have established and sold timber as part of the agreement.

GNA is getting wood to market faster, which supports the local and state economy. Harvested forest products go to area mills; harvesting employs loggers, truckers, suppliers and their families. CNNF was the number one timber producing national forest in the country in 2016 due to the assistance provided by GNA

GNA is getting forest management done on the CNNF, implementing their management plan, which results in improved wildlife habitat and watershed health.

Total of all Wisconsin GNA sales sold to date, in round numbers, is over 122,000 cords equivalents, includes sawlog and pulpwood products, an estimated market value of \$6.2 million. In addition to the \$6.2 million of stumpage revenues, there is an additional \$4.6 million dollars in revenue generated in other sectors of the Wisconsin economy.¹

GNA timber sales to date (September 2018):

Number of sales	65 sales
Total acreage sold	10,701 acres
Volume sold	134,000 cord equivalents
Bid value	\$7,285,780
Minimum advertised value	\$5,001,880
Average value sold/acre \$	\$680/acre

For more information:

USDA FS:

<https://www.fs.fed.us/managing-land/farm-bill/gna>

WI DNR:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TimberSales/GNAGeneralInfo.html>



¹ The economic multipliers for the forest products industry include indirect and induced impacts and there are multipliers for employment and output. Output is the value of the industry in the local economy. In the forest products industry in Wisconsin, every dollar of output creates 73 cents in other sectors of the economy. The dollar of output is the direct impact of the forest products industry and the 73 cents generated in other sectors is a combination of the indirect and induced impacts. Indirect output is inter-industry spending (for example a logger purchasing fuel for his equipment or a paper mill purchasing chemicals to make paper) while induced output is household spending (for example a logger buying groceries for their family).
(updated September 2018)

1. Sustainable timber management (timber harvests) will continue following the approved County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan and the County Forest Law(28.11 Wis. Stats). Some trails may be periodically closed to allow harvesting due to the following:
 - It has become increasingly difficult to manage the timber resource with insect and disease restrictions that prohibit harvesting during specific time periods.
 - Cross country skiing has reduced harvesting in the winter within the core ski trail area.
 - In upland areas of Nine Mile harvesting may only occur between August 10 and November 15 in certain timber stands due to threatened and endangered species guidance. The Department of Natural Resources continues to draft new species guidance each year making timber harvesting from May 1-August 31 more challenging.
 - There are few areas that harvests may occur in year round.
 - Attempts will be made to minimize conflicts on recreational trail activities.
2. Dispersed recreation such as hunting, trapping, fishing, bird watching, hiking, backpacking and berry picking will continue to occur on all County Forest Lands according to the County Forest Law and Department of Natural Resources seasons and regulations.
3. Mountain biking and horseback riding season at Nine Mile County Forest begins May 1 to May 15, depending on trail conditions, to October 15 each year. If trail conditions allow opening during the first three weeks of May, mountain biking and horseback riding will be allowed after 12:00pm daily to accommodate spring turkey hunters.
4. County ordinance prohibits the use of bicycles or riding horses on any designated trail seasonally closed.
5. Snow biking is prohibited on cross country ski or snowshoe trails due to user conflicts and the biking season being closed. Exception: One winter triathlon event is approved utilizing fat tire bikes. (Approved by Forestry/Recreation Committee May 2019.)
6. Electric mountain bikes (eMTB) falls under the definition of a self-propelled motor bicycle and are prohibited by ordinance.
7. Cross country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling are allowed on designated trails when there is sufficient snow cover as determined by the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.
8. Cross country skiing and snowshoeing are allowed at any time off the designated trails according to County Forest Law.
9. Up to four high school cross country running races may be allowed at Nine Mile on or before October 15 each year.

10. Organizers may apply to hold a special event by completing a Facility Use Agreement form available at the Park office. All events or trail based activities will be considered if the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department receives an application no more than one year prior(365 days) to the year of the event and will receive priority. Any applications received less than six months prior to the event will be considered but may be rejected. If some events or trail based activities are not approved, Parks, Recreation and Forestry staff will assist in finding a different venue appropriate to be held if possible.

Applications will be evaluated using the criteria below:

- Resource Protection
- Safety
- Potential for User Conflicts
- Number of Events Already Scheduled (cap on events)
- Benefits to the Community
- Revenue Generation
- Date of Requested Event
- Community Support
- Evaluation of Event Plan
- Necessity to close down portions of the facility to the public
- Previously held Events

A maximum of six(6) weekend trail based special events can be held from May through October 15th. And of those six(6), only two(2) will be allowed between September 1st and October 15th to accommodate fall hunting seasons. Exception: An Ironbull bike gravel race is approved located on the Snowmobile trail only may occur the Saturday following October 15 each year. (Approved by Forestry/Recreation Committee May 2019.)

11. The Park Commission has jurisdiction over the event or program if there is a conflict of use or multiple applications for events on the same date.
12. The Forestry/Recreation Committee has jurisdiction over all land use on the County forest. Any future changes or additions to these regulations will be presented to the Forest Citizen's Advisory Subcommittee for a recommendation to the Forestry/Recreation Committee. The decision of the Forestry/Recreation Committee will be final.