

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 100

Rev. 2/2/2021

100 MISSION STATEMENT 100-2

105 GOAL OF THE COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN 100-2

110 COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN..... 100-3

110.1 MANAGEMENT PLANNING 100-3

110.2 DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN..... 100-3

110.3 APPROVAL OF THE PLAN 100-4

110.4 DISTRIBUTION OF THE PLAN..... 100-4

110.5 UPDATING THE PLAN 100-4

110.6 COORDINATION WITH OTHER PLANNING..... 100-5

115 FOREST RESOURCE PLANNING 100-5

120 COUNTY AUTHORITY 100-6

120.1 ORDINANCES..... 100-6

125 HISTORY 100-7

125.1 STATEWIDE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT..... 100-7

125.2 WISCONSIN COUNTY FORESTS ASSOCIATION 100-9

125.3 TRENDS..... 100-10

125.4 PROTECTING THE PUBLIC RESOURCE..... 100-11

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REV: 2/2/2021

Chapter 200

General Administration

200 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION..... 3

205 ROLES 3

205.1 COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS 4

205.1.2 Vernon County Forest Administrator..... 5

205.2 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES..... 5

205.2.1 Division of Forestry 6

205.2.2 Local Office 6

205.2.2.1 Forest Management 7

210 COOPERATION 8

215 FINANCIAL SUPPORT 8

215.1 REVENUE FROM OPERATIONS..... 8

215.1.1 Timber Sale Revenue..... 9

215.1.2 Parks and Recreation Revenue 9

215.1.3 Other Vernon County Forest Revenue 9

215.2 OUTSIDE SOURCES OF REVENUE..... 10

215.2.1 State Funds..... 10

215.2.2 Federal funds and programs 11

215.2.3 Other Funds..... 11

215.3 COUNTY EXPENDITURES	12
220 COUNTY RECORDS	12
220.1 ACCOUNTS.....	12
220.1.1 State Aid Forestry Account	12
220.1.2 Other County Forest Accounts	13
220.1.3 Account Numbers	13
220.2 TIMBER SALES	14
220.2.1 Active Files	15
220.2.2 Closed Files.....	15
225 PERSONNEL	15
225.1 COUNTY FOREST STAFF	16
225.2 HIRING PERSONNEL	16
225.3 OTHER SOURCES OF LABOR.....	19
225.4 TRAINING	19
230 EQUIPMENT	19
230.1 FACILITIES	20

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REV: 2/2/2021

CHAPTER 300

DESCRIPTION OF FOREST AND MANAGEMENT PLANNING

300 DESCRIPTION OF FOREST	300-2
300.1 COUNTY FOREST OWNERSHIP.....	300-2
300.2 NATURAL FEATURES.....	300-2
300.2.1 Topography.....	300-2
300.2.2 Geography.....	300-2
300.2.3 Geology and Soils.....	300-3
300.2.4 Ecological Landscapes.....	300-3
300.2.4.1 Land Type Associations	300-3
300.2.5 Vegetative Cover Types	300-4
300.2.6 Fish and Wildlife	300-8
300.2.7 Rare and Endangered Resources	300-10
300.2.8 Water.....	300-10
300.3 CULTURAL FACTORS.....	300-11
300.3.2 Education and Research.....	300-12

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REV: 02/02/21

CHAPTER 400
FOREST OWNERSHIP

400	COUNTY FOREST OWNERSHIP.....	400-3
405	LAND OWNERSHIP GOALS	400-3
410	COUNTY FOREST BLOCKING.....	400-4
415	PRIVATE INHOLDINGS	400-4
420	Acquisition of Land Within THE County Forest Blocking Boundary	400-5
425	ACQUISITION OF LAND OUTSIDE THE COUNTY FOREST BLOCKING BOUNDARY.....	400-6
430	Acquisition of Land rights.....	400-6
435	METHODS AND AUTHORIZATION FOR ACQUISITION LAND TITLE OR RIGHTS	400-7
440	FINANCING.....	400-7
445	ENTRY OF LANDS	400-8
445.1	TIME OF ENTRY	400-8
450	WITHDRAWAL OF LANDS FROM COUNTY FOREST LAW	400-8
450.1	WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE	400-9
455	LAND SURVEYING.....	400-10
455.1	LEGAL SURVEYING	400-10
455.2	LOCATION OF LINES BY OTHER THAN LEGAL SURVEY	400-10
455.3	PRESERVATION OF LANDMARKS, MONUMENTS, CORNER POSTS....	400-11
460	TERMS OF LAND SALE OR TRADE	400-12

460.1	VALUES AND ACREAGE OF LAND SALE/TRADES	400-12
460.2	ASSOCIATED COST	400-12
460.3	PUBLIC HUNTING AND FISHING RIGHTS.....	400-13
460.4	MINERAL RIGHTS	400-13
460.5	DEED RESTRICTIONS.....	400-13
460.6	LAND ACQUISITION ACCOUNT	400-14
465	PROPERTY RIGHTS CONVEYANCES.....	400-14
465.1	TERMS OF PROPERTY RIGHTS CONVEYANCES	400-16
465.2	PROCEDURES FOR PROPERTY RIGHTS CONVEYANCE	400-16

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REV: 02/02/21

CHAPTER 500

LAND MANAGEMENT AND USE

500	LAND USE	4
500.1	OBJECTIVES.....	4
505	TIMBER SALES	4
505.1	FIELD PREPARATION OF TIMBER SALES	4
505.2	ADVERTISING FOR BIDS	4
505.3	PROSPECTUS	5
505.4	METHOD OF BIDDING	5
505.5	AWARDING SALES.....	5
505.6	SALE CONTRACTS	6
505.7	TIMBER SALE PERFORMANCE BOND	6
505.8	CONTRACT PROVISIONS.....	6
505.8.1	Contract Number and Contract Name.....	7
505.8.2	Contract Parties.....	7
505.8.3	Duration and Extension of Contracts	7
505.8.4	Termination of Contract by Seller.....	7
505.8.5	Performance Bond, Damages, Future Contracts	8
505.8.6	Title to Timber	8
505.8.7	Payment Schedule.....	8

505.8.8 Utilization Specifications	9
505.8.9 Training Requirement.....	9
505.8.10 BMPs, Roads, Landings	9
505.8.11 Soil Disturbance and Rutting	11
505.8.12 Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance.....	11
505.8.13 Scaling and Conversion Factors	11
505.8.14 Forest Certification	12
505.8.15 Other Contract Conditions.....	12
505.8.16 Attachments to Contract.....	12
505.9 TIMBER SALE RESTRICTIONS.....	12
505.10 TIMBER SALE ROADS	13
505.11 SUPERVISING SALES	13
505.12 FOREST PRODUCTS ACCOUNTABILITY	13
505.12.1 Scaling Merchantability.....	13
505.12.2 Utilization Standards	14
505.12.3 Methods of Accountability	14
505.13 SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCT PERMITS.....	14
510 TIMBER THEFT	14
510.1 TIMBER THEFT INVESTIGATION	15
515 ENCROACHMENTS	15
520 SPECIAL USES	16
520.1 SAND AND GRAVEL	17
520.2 EXPLORATION, PROSPECTING, AND MINING.....	17

520.3 SANITARY LANDFILLS	18
520.4 MILITARY MANEUVERS.....	18
520.5 PUBLIC UTILITYS.....	18
520.6 ACCESS TO PRIVATE LAND	19
520.6.1 Temporary Access	19
520.6.2 Access Agreements.....	20
520.6.3 Prescriptive Easements	20
520.6.4 Other Types of Access.....	21
520.7 PRIVATE UTILITY SERVICE LINES	21
520.8 COMMUNICATION TOWERS	21
520.9 OTHER	22

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Revised 2/02/21

CHAPTER 600

PROTECTION

600 PROTECTION 600-3

605 FIRE CONTROL 600-3

605.1 COOPERATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES 600-3

605.1.1 Personnel 600-3

605.1.2 Equipment 600-4

605.1.3 Fire Detection 600-4

605.1.4 Forest Fire Prevention 600-4

605.2 DEBRIS BURNING 600-4

605.3 CAMPFIRES 600-4

605.4 PRESCRIBED BURNING 600-4

605.5 COUNTY FOREST FIRE HAZARD AREAS 600-5

610 CONTROL OF FOREST PESTS & PATHOGENS 600-5

610.1 DETECTION 600-5

610.2 PEST SURVEYS 600-5

610.3 SPECIFIC PESTS AND PATHOGENS OF CONCERN 600-5

610.3.1 Specific Pests of Interest 610.3.1.1 Gypsy Moth 600-6

610.3.1.3 Oak Wilt 600-6

610.3.1.4 Forest Tent Caterpillar 600-7

610.3.1.5 Two-lined Chestnut Borer 600-7

610.3.1.6 Emerald Ash Borer 600-7

610.3.1.7 HRD.....	600-8
610.3.2 Funding.....	600-9
610.3.4 Special Projects	600-9
610.4 DEER BROWSE	600-9
610.5 INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES	600-10
610.5.1 Funding and Partnerships.....	600-10
610.5.2 Best Management Practices	600-11
610.5.3 Current Plant Invasives	600-11
610.5.3.1 Buckthorn	600-11
610.5.3.2 Garlic Mustard.....	600-12
610.5.3.3 Honeysuckle	600-12
610.5.3.4 Spotted Knapweed	600-13
610.5.3.5 Japanese Barberry.....	600-13
610.5.3.6 Other Invasive Species.....	600-14

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Revised 2/02/21

CHAPTER 700

ROADS AND ACCESS

700	ACCESS CONTROL AND HISTORY.....	700-2
705	CHAPTER OBJECTIVES.....	700-3
710	ROADS.....	700-3
710.1	PERMANENT PRIMARY FOREST ROADS (County Forest Roads).....	700-4
710.2	PERMANENT SECONDARY ROADS.....	700-4
710.3	TEMPORARY ROADS.....	700-5
710.4	STATE, COUNTY, TOWN DRIVEWAY PERMITS.....	700-6
710.4.1	State Highways.....	700-6
710.4.2	County Highways.....	700-6
710.4.3	Town Roads.....	700-6
710.5	UTILITIES.....	700-6
710.6	CULVERTS.....	700-6
715	RESTRICTED ACCESS AREAS.....	700-7
725	ROAD CONSTRUCTION BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR WATER QUALITY.....	700-8
730	SIGNS.....	700-8
730.1	SIGNING STANDARDS.....	700-9

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rev. 02/2/21

CHAPTER 800

INTEGRATED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

800	CHAPTER OBJECTIVES.....	4
810	SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY.....	4
810.1	Tools in Integrated Resource Management	4
810.1.1	Compartment Recon	4
810.1.2	Forest Habitat Classification System	4
810.1.3	Soil Surveys	5
810.1.4	Ecological Landscapes of Wisconsin.....	5
810.1.5	Integrated Pest Management.....	5
810.1.6	Best Management Practices for Water Quality.....	6
810.1.7	Fire Management	6
810.1.7.2	Prescribed Fire	6
810.1.8	Outside Expertise, Studies and Survey	7
810.1.9	Local Silvicultural Field Trials	7
815	MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS TO REDUCE LOSS.....	7
815.1	RISK FACTORS.....	8
815.1.1	Wind.....	8
815.1.2	Flooding.....	8
815.1.3	Fire	8
815.1.4	Climate Change.....	8
815.1.5	Timber markets	8
820	PLANT COMMUNITIES MANAGEMENT.....	8
820.1	SILVICULTURAL PRACTICES/TREATMENTS.....	9
820.1.1	Natural Regeneration	9
820.1.1.1	Clearcutting/Coppice	9
820.1.1.2	Shelterwood / Seed Tree	10
820.1.1.3	All Aged Regeneration Harvests	10
820.1.1.4	Prescribed Burning.....	10
820.1.1.5	Soil Scarification	10
820.1.1.6	Other	11
820.1.2	Artificial Regeneration.....	11
820.1.2.1	Mechanical Site Preparation.....	11
820.1.2.2	Chemical Site Preparation	11
820.1.2.3	Prescribed Burning.....	11
820.1.2.4	Tree Planting / Seeding.....	12

820.1.3	Intermediate Treatments	12
820.1.3.1	Mechanical Release	12
820.1.3.2	Chemical Release.....	12
820.1.3.3	Non-Commercial Thinning (TSI).....	13
820.1.3.4	Thinning / Intermediate Cuts.....	13
820.1.3.5	Pruning.....	13
820.2	SILVICULTURAL PRESCRIPTIONS	13
820.2.1	Even-Aged Management	13
820.2.1.1	Aspen.....	13
820.2.1.2	Oak.....	14
820.2.1.3	Swamp Hardwoods	15
820.2.2	Uneven-Aged Management	15
820.2.2.1	Northern Hardwood.....	16
820.3	LOCALLY UNCOMMON TREES / FOREST TYPES	16
820.3.1	American Elm	17
820.3.2	Butternut	17
820.3.3	Red Cedar.....	17
820.3.4	Hackberry.....	17
820.3.5	Eastern Hemlock.....	17
820.4	FOREST TYPES REQUIRING INTENSIVE EFFORT TO REGENERATE	18
820.4.1	White birch.....	18
820.4.2	Northern red oak	18
820.4.3	White oak.....	18
820.5	INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES OF CONCERN	19
820.6	LEGALLY PROTECTED AND SPECIAL CONCERN PLANT SPECIES	19
820.7	TREE RETENTION GUIDELINES	20
820.8	BIOMASS HARVESTING GUIDELINES	20
825	ANIMAL SPECIES MANAGEMENT	21
825.1	TECHNICAL PLANNING	21
825.2	GUIDELINES	21
825.3	INVENTORY.....	21
825.4	RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR WILDLIFE.....	22
825.4.1	General Management Policies	22
825.5	IMPORTANCE OF HABITATS	22
825.5.1	Non-forested wetlands	22
825.5.2	Aquatic habitats	23
825.5.3	Riparian and other non-managed areas.....	23
825.5.4	Early successional forests	23
825.5.5	Conifers.....	23
825.5.6	Oak management	23
825.5.7	Uneven/all aged management.....	24
825.5.8	Large forest blocks.....	24
825.5.9	Grasslands, openings, upland brush.....	24
825.6	INTENSIVE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS	24
825.6.1	Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan (WWAP) / Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN).....	24

825.7	Fish and Waters Management	25
825.7.1	Technical Planning and Surveys	25
825.7.2	Special Projects	25
825.7.3	Shoreland Zoning	26
825.7.4	Access and development	26
825.7.5	Important Water Resources	26
830	EXCEPTIONAL RESOURCES, UNIQUE AREAS	27
830.2	AREAS RECOGNIZED BY STATE OR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	27
830.2.3	Endangered species habitats,	27
830.2.4	Rare communities	27
830.3	AREAS RECOGNIZED BY COUNTY OR LOCALLY	27
830.4	CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT SITES	27
835	AESTHETICS	27
835.1	AESTHETIC MANAGEMENT	28
835.2	AESTHETIC MANAGEMENT ZONES	28
835.2.1	Aesthetic Management Zone Examples	28
835.2.2	Aesthetic Management Prescriptions/Options	28
840	LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT	28
840.1	CONSERVATION OF Biological Diversity	29
840.2	HABITAT Fragmentation	29

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

REV: 02/2/21

CHAPTER 900

RECREATION

910 AUTHORITY 3

915 ENTRANCE AND USER FEES 3

920 RECREATIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS 4

925 RECREATIONAL USE PERMITS FOR ORGANIZED EVENTS 4

930 UNDESIGNATED RECREATIONAL USE OF THE FOREST 4

930.1 HUNTING..... 4

930.2 FISHING 5

930.3 PICNICKING / DAY USE 5

930.4 CAMPING 5

930.5 MOTORIZED TRAVEL..... 5

930.6 OTHER USES..... 6

935 DESIGNATED RECREATION AREAS/USES 6

935.1 CAMPGROUNDS 6

935.1.1 Esofea Park 6

935.1.2 Sidie Hollow Park 6

935.2 PICNIC / DAY USE AREAS 7

935.3 SWIMMING AREAS / BEACHES 7

935.4 BOAT LANDINGS..... 7

935.4.1 Public Boat Access Sites Maintained by Vernon County Forest..... 7

935.4.2 Undeveloped Water Access Points 8

940 DESIGNATED RECREATION TRAILS 8

940.1 NON-MOTORIZED RECREATION TRAILS 8

940.1.1 Hiking Trails..... 8

940.1.2	Mountain Bike/Fat Tire/Bicycle Trails	9
940.1.3	Equestrian Trails	9
940.1.4	Ski Trails	9
940.1.5	Future non-motorized trail systems	9
940.2	RECREATION TRAIL PERMITS	9
940.2.1	Storm Water Discharge	9
940.2.2	Chapter 30	10
940.2.3	Wetland Fill	10
945	RECREATION PROGRAM FUNDING AND GRANTS	10
945.1	RECREATION AREA FUNDING	10
945.2	RECREATION TRAIL FUNDING	10
945.2.1	Non-motorized trail systems	11
945.2.2	Motorized trail systems	11
950	PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RECREATION PROGRAM	11
950.1	Enforcement Needs	11
950.2	Staff Needs	11
950.3	Campgrounds	11
950.4	Parks	11
950.5	Trails	11

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Revised 02/2/21

CHAPTER 1000

APPENDIX

1000	RESOURCE MAPS AND TABLES	2
1000.1	MAP OF COUNTY FOREST LOCATION.....	2
1000.2	OFFICIAL COUNTY FOREST BOUNDARY MAP.....	6
1005	LAWS AND ORDINANCES.....	9
1005.1	COUNTY FOREST LAW (s. 28.11, Wis. Stats) *	9
1005.2	COUNTY ORDINANCES	18
1005.2.1	County Forestry Ordinance.....	18
1005.2.2	County ATV Ordinance.....	31
1010	PERMITS, USE AGREEMENTS, POLICIES AND CONTRACTS	33
1010.1	TIMBER SALE CONTRACT	33
1010.2	TIMBER SALE EXTENSION / RENEWAL POLICY *	44
1010.3	FIREWOOD PERMIT	45
1010.4	PRIVATE ACCESS – LAND USE PERMIT	45
1010.5	CAMPING POLICY / PERMIT	48
1010.6	TREE STAND POLICY.....	49
1015	FACILITIES AND REPORTS.....	49
1015.1	RECREATIONAL INVENTORY *	49
1015.2	STATEMENT OF COUNTY FOREST LOAN *	50
1020	MISCELLANEOUS MAPS AND BROCHURES.....	50
1020.1	COUNTY SNOWMOBILE MAP.....	51
1020.3	COUNTY NON-MOTORIZED RECREATIONAL TRAILS	52

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rev. 02/2/2021

CHAPTER 2000

PLANNING, REPORTS, BUDGET

2000	NEEDS OBJECTIVE AND FORMAT	2000-2
2005	DETAILED ANNUAL NEEDS FOR FIFTEEN YEARS	2000-2
2010	SUMMARY OF FIFTEEN-YEAR NEEDS	2000-2
2015	WORK PLAN OBJECTIVE AND POLICY	2000-4
2020	ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND BUDGET	2000-4
2025	ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORTS OBJECTIVE AND POLICY	2000-5
2030	ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORTS	2000-5
2035	PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS	2000-5
2035.1	FOREST PRODUCTS.....	2000-5
2035.1.1	Timber	2000-6
2035.2	REFORESTATION	2000-6
2035.3	TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT	2000-7
2035.4	RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS.....	2000-7
2040	MONITORING	2000-7
2040.1	FOREST TYPES.....	2000-8
2040.2	HARVESTING	2000-9
2040.3	RECREATIONAL USE	2000-9
2040.4	ROADS & ACCESS.....	2000-10

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Rev. 02/2/2021

CHAPTER 3000

<u>Section</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page #</u>
3000	Integrated Resource Management Units.....	3000-1

COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Revised 02/2/21

CHAPTER 4000

Section	Description	Page #
	4000 PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS OF 15 YEAR PLAN/FUTURE AMENDMENT LIST.....	4000-1