

WASHBURN COUNTY FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

CHAPTER 500 – LAND USE AND ADMINISTRATION

TABLE OF CONTENTS

500 **TIMBER SALES**..... 500-5

 500.1 **FIELD PREPARATION OF TIMBER SALES**..... 500-5

 500.1.1 **Agency Roles**..... 500-6

 500.1.2 **Timber Sale Establishment Goals**..... 500-6

 500.1.3 **Paint Color Standards**..... 500-6

 500.2 **PROSPECTUS DEVELOPMENT**..... 500-7

 500.3 **DIRECT SALES**..... 500-8

 500.4 **ADVERTISED / COMPETITIVE BID SALES**..... 500-8

 500.4.1 **Method of Bidding**..... 500-9

 500.4.2 **Awarding Sales**..... 500-9

 500.4.3 **Accepting Bids from Contractors with Timber Sale Extensions**..... 500-10

 500.5 **TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS**..... 500-11

 500.5.1 **Contract Provisions**..... 500-11

 500.5.2 **Duration of Contracts**..... 500-12

 500.6 **TIMBER SALE PERFORMANCE DEPOSITS**..... 500-12

 500.6.1 **Blanket Performance Deposits**..... 500-13

 500.7 **TIMBER SALE PAYMENTS**..... 500-14

 500.7.1 **Late Payments**..... 500-15

 500.7.2 **30-Day Payment Terms**..... 500-15

 500.8 **FOREST PRODUCTS ACCOUNTABILITY**..... 500-16

 500.8.1 **Sale Methods**..... 500-16

 500.8.2 **Scaling and Wood Accountability**..... 500-17

 500.8.3 **Utilization Standards**..... 500-18

 500.8.4 **Conversion Factors**..... 500-18

 500.8.5 **Certification and Chain of Custody**..... 500-19

 500.9 **TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION**..... 500-19

500.10	<u>DAMAGES</u>	500-20
500.10.1	<u>Residual Tree Damage</u>	500-20
500.10.2	<u>Rutting Standards</u>	500-21
500.11	<u>TIMBER SALE EXTENSIONS</u>	500-23
500.12	<u>OTHER TIMBER SALE CONTRACT PROVISIONS</u>	500-24
500.12.1	<u>Timber Sale Restrictions</u>	500-24
500.12.2	<u>Slash Disposal</u>	500-24
500.12.3	<u>Timber Sale Roads</u>	500-25
500.12.4	<u>Training Standards</u>	500-26
500.12.5	<u>Biomass Harvesting</u>	500-26
500.12.6	<u>Tree Retention Guidelines</u>	500-27
500.13	<u>CONTRACT VIOLATIONS</u>	500-27
500.14	<u>SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS</u>	500-28
505	<u>SPECIAL USES</u>	500-29
505.1	<u>SAND AND GRAVEL</u>	500-29
505.2	<u>EXPLORATION, PROSPECTING AND MINING</u>	500-30
505.3	<u>SANITARY LANDFILLS</u>	500-30
505.4	<u>MILITARY MANEUVERS</u>	500-30
505.5	<u>PUBLIC UTILITIES</u>	500-30
505.5.1	<u>Major Public Utility Easements & Permits on the Forest</u>	500-32
505.5.2	<u>Maintenance of Existing and Future Utility Corridors</u>	500-31
505.6	<u>PRIVATE UTILITY SERVICE</u>	500-33
505.7	<u>COMMUNICATION TOWERS</u>	500-34
505.8	<u>OTHER</u>	500-34
510	<u>PUBLIC GATHERING OF SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS</u>	500-35
510.1	<u>GATHERING ALLOWED WITHOUT A PERMIT</u>	500-35
510.2	<u>ESTABLISHED PERMITS FOR GATHERING</u>	500-35
510.3	<u>MISCELLANEOUS GATHERING PERMITS</u>	500-35
510.4	<u>LIMITS OF GATHERING FOR PERSONAL USE</u>	500-36
510.5	<u>GATHERING BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES</u>	500-37

515	<u>TREATY RIGHTS: GATHERING MISCELLANEOUS FOREST PRODUCTS</u>	500-37
520	<u>ARTIFACTS, MINERALS, AND OTHER MATERIALS</u>	500-37
520.1	<u>SOIL, ROCK, GRAVEL</u>	500-37
520.2	<u>MINERALS</u>	500-38
520.3	<u>HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS AND SITES</u>	500-38
525	<u>SIGNS ON COUNTY FOREST LANDS</u>	500-38
525.1	<u>INFORMATIONAL SIGNS</u>	500-38
525.2	<u>REGULATORY SIGNS</u>	500-38
525.3	<u>SIGNING STANDARDS</u>	500-39
530	<u>AREAS MANAGED FOR SPECIAL USES</u>	500-39
530.1	<u>TOTOGATIC WILD RIVER ZONE</u>	500-39
530.1.1	<u>Designation</u>	500-39
530.1.2	<u>Legal Protection State</u>	500-40
530.1.3	<u>Criteria for Totogatic Wild River Zone Management</u>	500-40
530.2	<u>NAMEKAGON NATIONAL RIVERWAY ZONE</u>	500-41
530.2.1	<u>Legal Protection Federal</u>	500-41
530.2.2	<u>County Forest Adjacent to Namekagon River</u>	500-42
530.2.3	<u>Criteria for Namekagon Wild and Scenic River Zone Management</u>	500-42
530.2.4	<u>Plan recommendations for the Wild and Scenic River Zone</u>	500-43
530.3	<u>WELSH LAKE GROUSE MANAGEMENT UNIT</u>	500-44
530.4	<u>HARMON LAKE GROUSE MANAGEMENT UNIT</u>	500-44
530.5	<u>SILENT WOOD BENCHMARK UNIT</u>	500-45
530.6	<u>HALLSTROM WOODS</u>	500-46
530.7	<u>STODDARD PINES</u>	500-46
530.8	<u>BOBCAT POND</u>	500-46
530.9	<u>NORTHWOOD SCHOOL FOREST</u>	500-47
530.10	<u>VILLAGE SUB UNIT</u>	500-47
530.11	<u>BIRCHWOOD CANOE AREA</u>	500-47
530.12	<u>TOTOGATIC PARK SUB-UNIT</u>	500-48
530.13	<u>YOUTH CAMP SUB-UNIT</u>	500-48

530.14 [CEDAR CREEK SUB-UNIT](#).....500-48
530.15 [DEROSIER SUB-UNIT](#).....500-49
530.16 [LOG-A-LOAD PROGRAM](#)..... 500-49

Approved by Washburn County Board of Supervisors October 19, 2021

No Revisions

500 TIMBER SALES

Regulated cutting of timber is essential to the goals and objectives of this Plan. Timber harvesting will be conducted to achieve a sustainable harvest level. Harvest areas will be distributed in the forest to accommodate such needs as biodiversity, wildlife, aesthetics, watershed protection and other biological needs. WisFIRS (Wisconsin Field Inventory and Reconnaissance System) and other planning tools will be used for planning timber harvest activities on the Washburn County Forest. All sales will be established and reported in accordance with the DNR Timber Sale Handbook (2461). All sales on the forest are to be advertised for public bidding, with the exception of certain small, or low value, sales and salvage sales as identified in s. 28.11(6)(b), Wis. Stats. These sales may be sold direct without advertising.

500.1 FIELD PREPARATION OF TIMBER SALES

The County and the DNR will cooperate to locate, designate and prepare harvest areas for sale. The Forest Administrator and DNR Liaison Forester shall jointly be responsible to see that field work on timber sales is accomplished. They will also jointly be responsible for ensuring that the proper documentation for each timber sale is executed and routed for signatures.

Each timber sale tract shall be reviewed by no less than the Liaison Forest, Forest Administrator, and Assistant Forest Administrator before the sale is approved for advertising. The following information is required on the sale narrative:

1. Tract number
2. Tract map
3. Legal description
4. Wood to be harvested and estimated volumes
5. Special contract provisions
6. Management considerations
7. Minimum bid value
8. Timber sale access
9. Wetlands and water bodies
10. Recreational uses/issues
11. Any other pertinent issues.

Silvicultural prescriptions and individual management goals for specific units are described in Chapter 800 and within the individual Integrated Resource Management Units of Chapter 3000.

500.1.1 Agency Roles

The Forest Administrator and DNR Liaison Forester will jointly determine timber establishment priorities and goals. Individual foresters from either DNR or County Staff may take the lead role on individual timber sale tracts but they are required to make all reasonable efforts to coordinate work efforts between both agencies. It will be considered a priority of the County and the County Forest Administrator to promote a collaborative relationship between both agencies. Utilizing opportunities to jointly establish timber sales should result in staff that are better trained and more aware of timber sale prescriptions and forestry goals. The continuation of weekly staff meetings is recommended in order to facilitate communication between the agencies.

500.1.2 Timber Establishment Goals

The Forest Administrator and DNR Liaison Forester shall jointly determine an annual allowable harvest goal and document this goal within the Washburn County Forest Annual Work Plan. This goal shall be established utilizing the following criteria:

- WisFIRS short term and long term goals for major forest types
- Analysis of forest reconnaissance that includes parameters longer than the 15 year planning window utilized by the WisFIRS program
- Local management decisions that may result in adjustment of goals
- Criteria needed to “regulate” harvest levels
- Market conditions
- Forest health issues – insects, disease, wind, etc.
- Local research and silvicultural trials that indicate the need for management prescriptions that differ from statewide accepted goals
- Availability of manpower
- The need to establish a timber sale “bank”
- The need to carry over surplus or deficit acreage from prior year(s)

500.1.3 Paint Color Standards

During timber sale establishment, Washburn County will use the following paint color designations on the Forest:

Blue – Property boundaries / external sale boundaries

Red – Sale/prescription boundaries

Orange – Harvest tree marking

Purple, Green, Yellow – Leave tree marking, or other specialty designation

500.2 PROSPECTUS DEVELOPMENT

The Forester responsible for the individual sale shall prepare all necessary data to complete timber sale establishment requirements (2460 form) in the WisFIRS system. The Forester will also draft a timber sale prospectus, map and timber sale narrative form. The prospectus serves to provide information to prospective bidders and shall, at a minimum, contain the following information:

- Species to be harvested and estimated volume
- Maps of sale areas
- Special contract provisions
- Procedures for bidding
- Bid forms
- Timber sale payment schedule
- Performance surety
- Minimum acceptable bid
- Scaling requirements

The timber sale narrative serves both as an internal checklist to assure that all program needs have been met and a notice to interested public of the management prescription and goals. A copy of the timber sale narrative is included in the appendix and shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:

a. General Sale Description

- Ecological landscape
- IRMU considerations
- Soil
- Habitat Type
- Topography
- Silvicultural
- Compartment & Stand data
- Regeneration needs

- Merchantability standards
 - Biomass suitability
 - Roads, access & landings
 - Private boundary line needs
- b. Ecological Considerations
 - Tree retention
 - Invasive species
 - Insect/Disease considerations
 - Wildlife Action Plan
 - NHI data (general)
 - Chemical uses
 - c. Water Quality considerations – streams crossings, wetlands, riparian, etc.
 - d. Aesthetic Considerations
 - e. Wildlife Considerations – snag trees, den trees, mast trees, game openings
 - f. Recreational considerations – trails, campgrounds, parks, etc.
 - g. Resources of special concern – archeological/historical

500.3 DIRECT SALES

All sales on the forest must be advertised for public bidding unless they meet the requirements for direct sale. Sales meeting any of the following criteria may be sold directly, without advertising

1. Sales with an estimated/appraised value of \$3000 or less (or current value established in the DNR Timber Sale handbook).
2. Sales that qualify under a salvage provision (fire, hail, wind, etc.) (S. 28.11(6)(c), Wis. Stats.
3. Sales with an appraised value of over \$3000, remaining unsold after being advertised for a single bid opening (regardless of minimum advertised value) may be sold direct at not less than the advertised value. Direct sales may be offered at any combination of individual product rates provided the minimum full appraised value is met. All rates must be a minimum of \$1.00 per unit
4. Timber sales authorized by the Forestry Committee for the purpose of the Log-A-Load for Kids program are also exempt from advertising. See Section 530.15

500.4 ADVERTISED / COMPETITIVE BID SALES

The Forest Administrator shall prepare a sale prospectus and make it available to interested logging contractors. Timber sale advertisements, at a minimum, will be by classified ad in a newspaper having general circulation in the County (s. 28.11(6)(b), Wis. Stats.). In most cases, this advertisement should be done in the currently designated legal newspaper for Washburn County. Ads shall be run once each week, for two consecutive weeks, the last

being at least one week prior to the bid opening. Sealed bids are generally offered in April and October, or as needed for special circumstances.

500.4.1 Method of Bidding

Bids will be opened and reviewed at a public meeting of the Committee. A sealed envelope showing tract number and marked "sealed bid" shall be submitted on County Forest bid forms for each tract and shall contain:

1. The bid rate per unit for each species offered and the total for each species bid. The total value of the timber sale bid shall be indicated and must meet or exceed the minimum total advertised minimum bid for the sale. (*Bidder is not required to meet a minimum bid per species*). Bid values must be at least \$1.00/unit
2. A minimum of 10% of the bid value of each tract must accompany the bid as a bid deposit, payable to Washburn County. The bid deposit of the successful bidder will be withheld as the performance deposit. Contractors may qualify for an exception to the bid deposit requirement under Section 500.6.1.
3. Bid deposits must be in the form of a security bond, irrevocable letter of credit, certified check, cashier's check, or cash.
4. Bid deposits will be returned to the unsuccessful bidders.

500.4.2 Awarding Sales

1. The high bidder is normally awarded the sale contract. The Committee however, reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and accept the bid offer most advantageous to the County. Given the County's reservation of rights, the following are considered to be reasonable grounds for rejecting bids:
 - a. Non-compliance with prior or current timber sale contract requirements or unresolved contract violations
 - b. Delinquent financial obligations
 - c. Inability to demonstrate financial or professional capability
 - d. Timber sale contracts under extension at the time of bidding. See 505.5.1 for extension policy
 - e. Inability to secure or provide proof of Worker's Compensation Insurance.
 - f. Inability to secure FISTA loggers training certificate(s)
2. In the event of tie bids, an offer will be made to allow the withdrawal of any of the tied bids. If the offer to withdraw is declined, all parties involved in the tie will have

the option to agree to a coin toss. If parties are not agreeable to a coin toss, all bids on the sale will be rejected and the tract re-advertised.

3. Washburn County will open bids in random tract order. Bidders may withdraw bids from any tract prior to the opening of the first sealed bid for that tract. Once any bid is opened for a specific tract, bids may not be withdrawn.
4. Washburn County reserves the right to withhold bid award in order to check references on high bidders who have not previously purchased sales.
5. The Committee will refuse bids from any contractor who has defaulted on a Washburn County timber sale within 2 years prior to the bid opening. This clause may only be waived if the Committee agreed to not enforce this penalty at the time of contract default or under extenuating circumstances.

500.4.3 Accepting Bids from Contractors with Timber Sale Extensions

Effective 2/18/18, the Forestry, Parks and Recreation Committee adopted the following policy relating to accepting bids from contractors with timber sale contracts on extension:

1. Bids submitted by contractors with sales extended beyond 1 year from the original contract expiration will be returned to the bidder unopened.
2. Any bid, performance deposit, letter of credit, insurance, correspondence or other documents submitted as part of the timber sale bid, contract or harvesting process are to be made or submitted solely in the name of the entity or individual listed on the original timber sale bid.
3. Any contractor with a sale extension more than a year beyond the original contract expiration must request a waiver in order to have bids considered by the Committee. This request must be made to the Forest Administrator, in writing, at least 10 business days prior to the bid opening.
4. Requests for waiver may only be approved by the Forest Administrator and only under circumstances as follows:
 - a. Contract extension is needed due to work being done on salvage operations in Washburn County
 - b. Weather conditions prohibited operations on the timber sale contract (at the determination of Washburn County)
 - c. Other extenuating circumstances beyond the contractor's control (at the determination of Washburn County)
 - d. Market conditions will generally not be used as a determining factor for waiver.

5. A denial of waiver may be appealed by making a request to the Forestry, Parks and Recreation Committee prior to opening of timber sale bids.

The Committee may adopt policy to temporarily waive this policy to provide relief to logging contractors during problematic market conditions or other factors.

This policy is included in Chapter 1000.

500.5 TIMBER SALE CONTRACTS

After acceptance of timber sale bids, the Forest Administrator will prepare timber sale contracts in triplicate, with one copy to the contractor, one sent to DNR and the original filed in the Forest Administrators office. Contracts are to be signed and return to the Forest Administrator within 30 days of the date of the Forest Administrator's signature or before any harvesting activities begin, whichever occurs first. Failure to sign the contract within 30 days may result in forfeiture of the bid deposit.

500.5.1 CONTRACT PROVISIONS

All timber sale contracts will be on a standardized form approved by the Committee and all provisions therein shall apply. A copy of the timber sale prospectus and map will be attached and become part of the contract. The following items should be considered as minimum requirements to be included in the timber sale contract:

1. Designation and identification of parties to the contract
2. Contract number, tract number
3. Legal Description
4. Volumes, Products and species along with pricing
5. Cutting instructions / restrictions (generally from prospectus)
6. References to prospectus and County Forest Plan as part of contract
7. Contract dates and expiration
8. Performance deposit and payment requirements
9. Extension procedure or reference to extension policy
10. Utilization standards
11. Damage standards
12. Certification and Chain of Custody
13. Scaling and conversion standards

14. Independent contractor definition and Worker's Compensation
15. Safety and safety training requirements
15. BMP's for water quality

500.5.2 Duration of Contracts

1. All contracts begin on the date of signature of the Forest Administrator
2. Contracts must have a specified end date and are normally executed for a 2 year time period although shorter contracts may be issued in circumstances of small or salvage sales. Contracts may also extend to 3 years for larger sales or sales that are primarily restricted to frozen ground access.
3. Contracts may be considered for extension under the provisions of Section 500.11
4. Contracts are recommended to end on static dates in order to provide consistency and for ease of tracking expiration, extensions and other requirements. As of the drafting of this Plan, timber sales are offered in April and October. Contract and extensions are recommended to end either on April 30 or October 31.

500.6 TIMBER SALE PERFORMANCE DEPOSITS

A performance deposit is required for all timber sales on the Washburn County Forest. Performance deposits will be accepted in the form of cash, irrevocable letter of credit or bond and in accordance with the following:

1. Surety bonds or an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank that is a member of the Federal Reserve System or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation may be used as performance surety on sales. A letter of credit or surety bond must be in effect for at least 30 days beyond the expiration date of the contract. This allows for sufficient time for contract extension requests and for timber sale closeout process.
2. Performance deposits, other than cash, (bonds and irrevocable letters of credit) must be received within ten working days of the bid opening.
3. Cash performance deposits may be transferred to stumpage payments only after all contract provisions have been complied with and the sale cleared for closure by the Forestry Department.
4. Performance deposits may be held in whole or in part for contract violations or failure to complete contract, at the discretion of Committee.
5. Performance deposit shall be in the amount of 10% of the gross timber sale bid value unless otherwise covered by a blanket value as described in Section 500.6.1

500.6.1 Blanket Performance Deposits

The Committee adopted policy, effective February 17, 2010 and revised January 18, 2012, allowing for timber sale contractors to submit a single deposit, bond or Irrevocable Letter of Credit to cover all contract activities, including bidding, on the Washburn County Forest. This policy provides for a performance deposit in total depending on the total estimated gross contract values held by the contractor and includes different rate values for contractors holding Master Logger certificates and for Non-Master Loggers. This policy is included in the appendix.

The policy provides for blanket coverage based on total value of timber sales held as follows:

<u>Gross Contract Values</u>	<u>Master Logger Deposit</u>	<u>Other Logger Deposit</u>
\$0 – 250,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
\$250,000-500,000	\$30,000	\$45,000
\$500,000-750,000	\$40,000	\$65,000
\$750,000-1,000,000	\$50,000	\$85,000
\$1,000,000 +	\$60,000 (max)	\$100,000 (max)

The following stipulations apply:

- Bond or deposit covers all timber sale activity and may be drawn upon at any time by Washburn County.
- Bonds or letters of credit must be issued for a minimum effective time period of 2 years, but may be revised to increase the coverage amount at any time.
- Cancellations or reductions of the performance deposit or bond require a 90-day notice to Washburn County.
- Blanket bonds are voluntary but Washburn County reserves the right to reject or refuse any request to use a blanket bond.
- If it is necessary to draw funds from a letter of credit or a bond, Washburn County will offer the opportunity to make cash payment.

- Unless specifically directed by the Forestry Committee, Washburn County will require contractors to replace the blanket bond with individual 10% bonds on each sale if Washburn County is required to draw from the blanket letter or bond.
- If funds are drawn, the original full value of the bond or deposit shall be restored immediately. Failure to restore the original full value will result in draft of the entire value and revocation of the timber sale contracts.
- For contractors with high numbers of timber sale contracts, Washburn County reserves the right to require additional performance bonds or deposits if, in the opinion of the County Forest Administrator, contract activity is likely to exceed the blanket performance deposit value.

This policy is included in Chapter 1000.

500.7 TIMBER SALE PAYMENTS

The Forest Administrator shall collect stumpage payments according to the following procedure:

1. A payment of 40% of the estimated sale value is required before any cutting begins. Purchaser may elect to make payments in \$10,000 increments in cases where the total estimate sale value exceeds \$25,000.
2. At or near the time that 40% of the estimated sale value is cut, a second 40% payment is due. At no time is any wood to be hauled in excess of the value of advance stumpage paid.
3. The final 20% payment is due at or near the time that 80% of the estimated sale value is cut. The last payment may be adjusted by the Forest Administrator to account for the estimated remaining value left on the sale.
4. Alternate payment schedules may be implemented at the discretion of the Forest Administrator provided wood harvested does not exceed advance payments.
5. Advance payments are due as wood is harvested on site, not based on wood hauled.
6. Payment terms are 10 business days for all billings.

Contractors may qualify for an exemption to the advance stumpage policy under Section 500.7.2

500.7.1 Late Payments

The Committee established a policy on late payments on April 1, 2007, which was amended July 21, 2010, which created penalties for late payments.

1. Payments not received within 10 business days of the date of mailing or request from the Forestry Office are considered delinquent
2. All timber sale activity may be automatically suspended upon delinquency of any payment. Any timber sale activity occurring after suspension is considered breach of contract. Any wood harvested or removed from the timber sale site after suspension is considered as timber theft in accordance with 943.20 of Wis. Statutes.
3. For delinquent payment balances (wood value removed in excess of advance stumpage), an interest rate of .0658% per day (2% per month) will be assessed on the outstanding debt for each day the payment is delinquent. The interest rate will be applied only to negative balances (wood value in excess of payments).
4. Interest accrues daily and compounds monthly. Interest begins to accrue on the 11th business day after billing.
5. Purchasers wishing to continue harvesting operations after delinquencies are made current will be issued lock box tickets in increments that equal advance payments. Ticket numbers will be assigned to that sale. Ticket value will be assigned by dividing the total sale value by the estimated number of truckloads on the sale. Any lock box tickets used not matching those assigned to the sale will be charged at a rate of double stumpage. This provision may also be required at any time, upon the discretion of the Forest Administrator or Forestry Committee.

This policy is included in Chapter 1000

500.7.2 30-day Payment Terms

30-day payment terms on wood removal will be permitted upon replacing the 10% performance deposit with a 40% performance deposit. The Forestry Office will invoice the contractor as wood is removed from the timber sale. Payments are considered delinquent on the 31st day (calendar) after billing. A blanket performance bond, as specified Section 500.6.1, does not qualify the Contractor for 30 day payment terms. An individual performance deposit in the amount of 40% is required for individual sale contracts.

Logging contractors holding Master Logger certificates may request to be billed on 30 day payment terms under the normal 10% performance deposit.

500.8 FOREST PRODUCTS ACCOUNTABILITY

The Forest Administrator shall be responsible for assuring that products cut from timber sales are accounted for and payments due are collected. The Forest Administrator and DNR Liaison Forester are jointly responsible for assuring that volumes are accurately submitted on cutting reports.

500.8.1 Sale Methods

Wood harvested from the sale area must be accounted for and payment made in accordance with existing policy and procedure. One or more of the following may be used on an individual sale:

1. Mill scale / ticket box system – In this system, serialized three-part tickets are issued to the contractor. The first portion of the ticket must be completed with the estimated volume, species, date, time, and destination, and deposited in the lockbox provided on the sale before that load may be hauled. The second portion accompanies the load to the mill and is returned to the Forest Administrator with the sale contract number written on the verified scale slip, or in the case of railroad shipping, the car number is noted and the ticket returned to the Forest Administrator by the contractor. The third portion of the ticket remains with the contractor as his own record. This is the primary process for selling pulpwood products from the forest.

Wood products are sold by the ton on the forest and generally most mills are accounting for and purchasing wood by the same unit. In cases where mills are purchasing by volume, the rates identified in Section 500.8.1 will be used.

2. Woods Scale – Wood is measured on the landing by Forestry staff. In general, all sawlogs as specified in the contract will be scaled on the landing. Woods scale may also be used in cases where the ticket box system has been abused or is not practical.

All sawlogs and boltwood products must be decked with the small ends facing towards the landing or the road. Logs with the large end facing out will be scaled on the large end. The backside of log decks may be inspected by County staff to determine scale deductions.

Sawlog products may not be decked higher than six feet, until the County has scaled them.

3. Lump Sum – contractors pay for wood based on the estimated volumes established by the County. Payment terms can be adjusted in increments in accordance with estimated wood removed or harvest units. While this system is available, it generally is not used by the County.

500.8.2 Scaling and Wood Accountability

1. Sawlogs will be scaled using the Scribner Decimal C Log Rule. A Sawlog is defined as:
 - a. Hardwood logs – 10 inches and larger, inside the bark, on the small end of the log (narrowest diameter) and suitable for sawing. Log grade is irrelevant.
 - b. Softwood logs – 9 inches and larger, inside the bark, on the small end of log (narrowest diameter) and suitable for sawing. Log grade is irrelevant.
 - c. Suitable for sawing includes all products, regardless of grade, destined for a mill that will saw any type of board or lumber product.
 - d. Any product, sorted into a product not destined for a sawmill will be classified as a sawlog if it meets at least a grade #3. A grade #3 log is defined as having 50% clear from defect in 2-foot increments on the second worst face of the log and have no more than 50% cull. This clause will be used, for example, to determine log volumes sorted into a pulpwood deck.
 - e. Sawlogs may have no more than 8 inches of trim. Logs having more than 8 inches of trim will be scaled as the next longer length class (2 foot increments).
 - f. For pieces longer than 8 feet in length, a log is defined as having a minimum of 30 board feet. 10 and 12 foot logs will be a minimum of 9 inches, 14 and 16 foot logs will be a minimum of 8 inches in diameter. Longer products will be evaluated using appropriate volume guides.

2. The standard volume measure for cordwood is 4' x 4' x 8'
3. The standard weight measure for pulpwood will be by the ton.

500.8.3 Utilization Standards

- a. Hardwood pulp merchantability is defined as all trees having at least 1 8 foot stick to a five inch top.
- b. Softwood pulp merchantability is defined as all trees having at least 1 8 foot stick to a four inch top.
- c. Pulpwood will have no more than 4 inches of trim if wood is sold by volume / stick scale
- d. Hardwood sawlogs will be utilized to a 10 inch top, soft wood to a 9 inch top.
- e. Stump height is not to exceed stump diameter and total height is not to exceed 12 inches.

500.8.4 Conversion Factors

- a. Conversion factors between pulpwood volume and weight will be as follows:

Red pine = 2.25 tons/cord	Spruce = 2.00 tons/cord
Ash = 2.30 tons/cord	Jack pine = 2.125 tons/cord
Oak = 2.75 tons/cord	White Oak = 2.925 tons/cord
Balsam = 2.125 tons/cord	Red Maple = 2.275 tons/cord
Aspen = 2.25 tons/cord	Sugar Maple = 2.55 tons/cord
White Birch = 2.40 tons/cord	White pine = 2.10 tons/cord
Tamarack = 2.325 tons/cord	Basswood = 1.925 tons/cord
- b. For mixed hardwood pulp, each timber sale shall include a specific weight conversion rate that is based on percentage of species components from cruise data.
- c. When conversion of cordwood to sawlogs is necessary, the following conversions will be used: 1000 board feet = 2.44 cords for softwood and 1000 board feet = 2.20 cords for hardwood species.
- d. Peeled wood will be converted to a standard cord by adding 12.5% for sap-peeled and 25% machine peeled. A pulpwood tree is considered merchantable if it contains at least 1 8 foot stick with a minimum top diameter as defined in the timber sale contract.
- e. Poles and posts will be measured by conversion to cords or weight whenever feasible and generally sold by cords or weight as well. When it is necessary to account for poles that contain sawlogs, the pole will be measured on the large and small end, rate

of taper calculated and sawlog lengths will be calculated, broken out into even numbered length measurements in feet.

- f. Contractors may elected to use a blended wood formula when pulpwood products of varying bid rates are to be combined into one product sort on the job.
- g. DNR handbooks will be used as a guide for determining any conversion rates not identified within the plan.

500.8.5 Certification and Chain of Custody

All County Forest lands timber sales are certified as sustainable to the standards of Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC® C006090) FSC 100% and Sustainable Forestry Initiative® SFI-01617 SFI 100%. Forest products from these sales are considered 100% or pure certified. Title to forest products remain with Washburn County until they leave county forest property. Any claims relating to chain-of-custody are the responsibility of the contractor or the destination mills.

500.9 TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION

It shall generally be the responsibility of the Assistant Forest Administrator to conduct timber sale inspections. The Forest Administrator may assign other County staff or DNR personnel to inspect sales as needed. Other DNR or County personnel may visit active timber sales, but any and all corrective measures needed or contract violations noted will be routed through the Assistant Forest Administrator for action. In the case of an emergency or extreme contract violation, other county staff or the DNR Liaison Forester may halt harvesting operations and forward the issue to the Forest Administrator.

A pre-sale meeting shall be conducted between the County and the contractor prior to the start of harvesting operations. The presale checklist, as made part of the timber sale inspection form template, will be reviewed to ensure that all contractual requirements have been met, including payments, certificates and other necessary items. All sale visits will be documented on this same form. A notice of intent to start will also be submitted to the Washburn County Forestry office staff containing necessary information regarding advance payment, start date, sale operators and other pertinent information.

Prior to final closing of any active sale, the timber sale closeout checklist will be reviewed to assure compliance with contractual obligations. The timber sale will not be released for final closure, and release of performance deposit until all contractual requirements are met.

The template for this timber sale inspection document is included in the appendix.

500.10 DAMAGES

500.10.1 Residual Tree Damage

Residual tree damage is determined as the removal of bark from a crop tree or other tree not designated for harvest.

Determination

Residual tree damage is determined by the total square inches of bark removed, from the lower 16 feet of the tree, per acre. Bark removal that sums more than 200 square inches per acre will trigger damage assessments. All bark patches, greater than 1 square inch, on trees larger than 5 inches diameter at breast height, are used to determine this sum. The initial assessment for damage will be conducted by measuring basal area plots at an intensity of no less than 1 plot per 5 acres. Damaged trees will be measured and trees per acre calculated. The area of bark removed will be measured on each tree and applied to the total calculated trees per acre.

Determination may be applied to only portions of the sale where damage is apparent and need not be applied to the entire sale acreage. Square inches of total damage will not be averaged with any undamaged portions within the sale.

Penalty Assessment for Excessive Damage

Once a determination of excessive damage has been made, a more intensive inventory will be conducted. Normally, the County will conduct 100% tally of all damaged trees. The County may elect to plot sample damaged trees at an intensity of no less than 1 plot per acre. All trees measuring at least 5 inches diameter breast height, with more than 25 square inches of bark removed will be considered damaged.

All damaged trees will be assessed a penalty of at least double stumpage. In addition, the County may elect to suspend sale operations, revoke timber sale contract and retain the

performance deposit and all monies paid should damage be excessive or determined to be intentional or neglectful. Any sale with damaged areas exceeding 1000 square inches per acre will automatically be considered for revocation and forfeiture of monies.

The County may elect to assess penalties for excessively damaged trees at any time, regardless of total square inches of bark removed per acre, in extenuating circumstances (a small pocket of heavily damaged trees for example).

500.10.2 Rutting Standards

Soil compaction and rutting can reduce the productivity of a site, disrupt surface drainage and infiltration, and contribute to erosion and sedimentation. Compaction occurs over broad areas, but does not necessarily result in visible depressions. Ruts are depressions, such as furrows or trenches, created by breaking through the forest floor.

Guidelines

- Existing road systems will be utilized when environmentally appropriate
- The Forest Administrator will have final approval in designating the location of roads, landings, and skid routes and may consult with other County and DNR staff,
- Wisconsin Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality (BMP's) and this Plan will be followed during all phases of the timber sale to prevent or reduce erosion and sedimentation to surface waters and wetlands.
- Expanding the footprint of roads, landings and skid routes to maneuver around wet or muddy areas that develop during use is prohibited unless authorized by the Forest Administrator.
- It is expected that appropriate measures will be taken to prevent excessive rutting. If excessive rutting occurs, forestry operations will be suspended.
- The Forest Administrator may modify standards in the policy if modifications provide equal or greater soil and water protection. Depending on site conditions, rutting standards may need to be more restrictive or more flexible. Detail of and justifications for modification must be documented in the timber sale narrative and/or timber sale field notes.
- This policy applies to forestry operations. Problems occurring from recreational use or operations shall be handled as prescribed in appropriate handbooks or guidance.

Standards

Forest Roads

- Rutting is prohibited on forest roads within a riparian management zone (RMZ). New forest roads are to be located outside of RMZ's, except at stream crossings.'
- In wetlands, a rut on a forest road may not exceed 50 feet in length with depths of 6 inches or greater.
- In uplands, a rut on a forest road may not result in channelized flow into a wetland or waterbody.
- Other ruts are acceptable provided it is shown that they can, and will be repaired prior to final sale close out.
- Ruts in a forest road are determined by measuring the length of ruts with depth 6 inches or greater.

Landings

- Landings are prohibited in wetlands unless the timber sale is located in a large wetland complex without suitable upland landing sites. Wetland landings may only be used during frozen ground conditions. Details of and justifications for modifications must be documented.
- In uplands, a rut on a landing may not result in channelized flow into a wetland or water body.
- Other ruts are acceptable provided it is shown that they can, and will be repaired prior to final sale closeout.
- Ruts in a landing are determined by measuring the length of ruts with depth 6 inches or greater.

Primary or Established Main Skid Routes

- Ruts with depths of 6 inches or greater may not exceed a total of 25 feet in any 100 feet.
- Total rut length on skid route may not exceed 10% of the total length of skid routes.
- Ruts in a skid route are determined by measuring the total length of ruts and dividing by the total length of skid routes. The length of rut made by each wheel or track is measured separately.

General Harvest Area

- The rutted area for an acre of general harvest may not exceed 5% (six inches or deeper).
- The average rutted area per acre may not exceed 2% of the total harvest area.
- Ruts in general harvest areas are determined by measuring the length and width, in feet, of ruts greater than 6 inches in depth in an acre of harvest area to determine square feet of rutted area. This total is divided by 43560 in order to calculate percent of rutted area versus total sale area.

500.11 TIMBER SALE EXTENSIONS

Timber sales are generally offered under either 2 or 3 year contracts. Shorter lengths may be used under special circumstances. It is the expectation of Washburn County that all timber sales are to be completed during the original contract period. It is not uncommon for contractors to request contract time extensions. The following is the policy on timber sale contract extensions:

1. Sales may be granted one year extensions at a rate of at least 10% stumpage increase on the remaining wood to be harvested for each extension, or an increase in rate to meet the current factored appraisal rates, whichever is greater.
2. Contract extensions may be granted in shorter increments provided the end date is May 1 or November 1. Contracts may be extended for shorter windows that do not coincide with these dates only in cases where contract obligations are minor (an extension to allow remaining wood to be hauled for example).
3. Requests for a first extension may be granted by the Forest Administrator in cases where a majority of the contract has been completed.
4. All other requests for first extension must be brought before the Committee. The Committee may grant the first extension in cases where, in the opinion of the Committee, a significant effort has been made to attempt completion of the sale or other sale contracts held with the County. Exceptions may be made in cases of extenuating circumstances.
5. Requests for second one year extension must be considered by the Committee and may only be granted under extenuating circumstances or in cases where uncompleted contract obligations are minor.
6. All contracts will be terminated two years after the expiration of the original contract.
7. Exceptions to policies 5 and 6 above may be made by the Committee in the event of special justification or where the values involved make this policy unreasonable.

8. If a purchaser does not wish to have a contract extended, the Committee will retain the performance deposit, in whole or in part to cover damages for lost timber growth, administrative time, paint and other materials, and can assess double stumpage penalties for unharvested wood.
9. Extensions must be requested in advance of the expiration date of the contract. Performance deposits may be retained prior to the expiration date of the contract if request for extension are not received by the Forest Administrator in a timely manner.
10. The purchaser may request a contract release due to severe physical or financial disability. The Committee shall determine whether or not a release shall be granted and may withhold all or a portion of the performance deposit.
11. Bids will not be accepted from purchasers holding timber sale contracts that are more than 1 year beyond the original contract expiration date in accordance with Sec. 500.4.3

500.12 OTHER TIMBER SALE CONTRACT PROVISIONS

500.12.1 Timber Sale Restrictions

The County may also implement certain restrictions on timber sales in order to protect the resource. These may include, but are not limited to:

1. Restriction of types of equipment, methods of operations and seasonal times of operations.
2. Special restrictions for aesthetic management.
3. Seasonal restrictions to protect soil productivity, roads, reduce user conflicts, avoid endangered resources, mitigate fire danger, or for other environmental or silvicultural concerns.
4. Restrictions to protect/enhance the National Scenic Riverway zones or State Wild Rivers.

500.12.2 Slash Disposal

Timber sale contracts may have specific slash disposal instructions however the following requirements apply to all timber sales:

1. No trees, tops or limbs will be left leaning or hanging in standing timber.
2. No slash may be deposited in lakes or streams pursuant to s.26.12(6), Wis. Stats.
3. No slash or logging debris will be left on private land.
4. No slash will be deposited in any non-forested wetland.
5. All slash disposal will be conducted in compliance with state and local regulations.

500.12.3 Timber Sale Roads

The following timber sale road related requirements will apply to timber sale contracts and as guidance for timber sale establishment:

1. The contractor will be responsible for securing legal access to sale areas across private ownership in cases where county access is provided but private access may be more convenient. The county will make attempts, prior to advertising the sale, to secure access across private lands in cases where no other county access to the sale exists. The county will also be responsible for securing access across other publicly owned lands.
2. The contractor will be responsible for securing permission to conduct skidding or hauling activities within a town, county or state road right-of-way.
3. The contractor is, in most cases, responsible for constructing timber sale roads. The county may, in certain circumstances, take on road construction duties but these circumstances will be identified as special provisions with the contract.
4. The county may limit the use of existing roads within the timber sale tract for environmental or other concerns.
5. Skidding, decking or other logging activity is not allowed on County Forest Roads, recreation trails, or ditches unless approved by the Forest Administrator. These areas will be kept free from logging debris. All roads will be maintained by the contractor and be left in at least the original condition before closing the sale.
6. The contractor may request permission to close a timber sale access road to the public during harvesting operations. This closure will be done with a gate and can only restrict motor vehicle traffic.
7. The contractor is responsible to replace and restore all gates, berms or other closures. The contractor is also responsible for closing, restoring or reclaiming newly constructed roads as directed by the timber sale contract and/or Forest Administrator.
8. The contractor is also responsible to restore and repair any recreational trail surface on the timber sale to at least its prior condition. This includes replacing/restoring any recreational trail signs, posts, culverts or other improvements.
9. Timber sale road use and construction will follow Wisconsin's Best Management Practices for Water quality. Practices not included in the BMP guidance may be prescribed by the county provided it can be shown that equal or greater water quality protection will occur.

10. Use by the public on active timber sale roads are subject to the Road and Access Plan. Timber sale activity on closed roads is expressly permitted by a timber sale contract and are not open for public travel. Access points into timber sales may be signed indicating restrictions on public motorized use.

500.12.4 Training Standards

Effective for all timber sale purchased after January 1, 2006, the purchaser is responsible for ensuring that the actual logging contractor on site complies with the Wisconsin Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Training Standard as adopted by the Wisconsin SFI Implementation Committee (SIC). The Forest Industry Safety & Training Alliance (FISTA) provides the criteria for the training standard.

Proof of training must be submitted prior to the start of any harvesting operations. Contractors will be allowed to bid without supplying proof of training however all training must be completed prior to the start of the sale. Washburn County requires training for the Contractor and at least one woods operations foreman or supervisor that is on site during harvesting operations. This requirement may be satisfied by one individual if the owner of the logging firm is on site during harvesting operations. In the case of purchasers using contracted logging crews, Washburn County requires proof of training from both the purchaser and the contracted logging crew.

500.12.5 Biomass Harvesting

Timber sale contracts shall address any necessary considerations for biomass harvesting restrictions. In general, biomass/whole tree harvesting is not allowed on nutrient poor soils or in cases where it may have a negative impact on soil productivity.

For timber sales, on non-restricted soils, with an accepted bid under whole tree utilization, contracts shall have contract language that requires 10% of tops and limbs (3” in diameter and smaller) to be left scattered on site. In addition all incidental breakage and all dead/down woody debris is to be left on site as well.

The Biomass Harvesting Guidelines are further described in Section 820.9.

500.12.6 Tree Retention Guidelines

Retaining individual trees, or clumps of trees within even aged management prescriptions, as well as mast trees, den trees, snags, and others on all timber sales is important for wildlife and other ecological values.

Timber sale contracts shall contain provisions requiring compliance with the Tree Retention

Guidelines. The timber sale prospectus and management prescriptions normally contain provisions for retaining certain types of live and/or dead trees.

The Tree Retention Guidelines are further described in Section 820.8.

500.13 CONTRACT VIOLATIONS

Resolution of contract violation issues are generally the responsibility of the Committee. Field enforcement of timber sale contracts will be the responsibility of the Forest Administrator, or designee, employing the following procedure:

Minor Violations:

1. The Forest Administrator, or designee, will attempt to resolve inadvertent, minor violations by verbal contact with the contractor
2. Minor violations may also be resolved by written contact
3. If minor violations cannot be resolved, the issue will be elevated and treated as a major violation

Major Violations:

1. The Forest Administrator, or designee, may immediately suspend harvesting operations when a serious or emergency situation arises.
2. The suspension will be followed by written notice to the contractor stating the nature of the violation and informing them of Committee action taken or pending. The contractor may request an opportunity for a hearing during the next Committee meeting.
3. The Committee, in consultation with legal counsel, may consider, but is not limited to the following remedies:
 - a. Contract termination
 - b. Double stumpage assessment
 - c. Assessment of actual damages
 - d. Suspend contract

- e. Retain performance deposits
 - f. Seize cut forest products
 - g. Refer to legal counsel
 - h. Refer to District Attorney
 - i. Seek civil damages
4. Suspension of operations will remain in effect until receipt of written notice from the Committee or Forest Administrator
 5. At the Committee's direction, failure to comply with timber sale contracts or Committee decision may result in the contractor becoming a non-qualifying and ineligible bidder in the future. At the Committee's discretion, the contractor may be denied further purchase of county timber sales for a period of not more than 4 years.
 6. All deposits may be retained and forest products on the sale areas may be seized and sold by the County.

THEFT

Removal of wood from the sale area without being scaled by County personnel or without correct use of the County lock box system is deemed as harvested without the owner's consent or permission and subjects the contractor to civil and/or criminal penalties provided for under sections 26.03, 26.06 and 943.20, Wis. Stats. Such unauthorized removal of forest products shall cause cancellation of the contract and forfeiture of the performance deposit and all monies paid to the County.

500.14 SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS

Commercial harvest of fuel wood, Christmas trees, boughs, posts and poles, and other special forest products for resale will be handled as a regular timber sale. Commercial harvests of special products are only to be conducted under the following circumstances:

1. The Forest Administrator and DNR Liaison Forester have determined that such a sale is feasible and will not cause adverse effects to the forest or users of the forest.
2. Harvest will require completion of 2460 cutting notice and disposition of revenues as required under a standard timber sale contract.
3. The Committee has approved such sale for special forest products
4. Sale of such products is conducted on a competitive bidding process. Sale of such products must also comply with County bidding policies.

505 SPECIAL USES

Recognizing the vast potential for a variety of special uses on the County Forest by governmental units, businesses, organizations, or individuals, the Committee may designate specified areas for special uses. Specific management methods are to be considered in these areas. The uses, however, must remain consistent with the County Forest Law.

All requests for any special uses of any County Forest lands must be authorized by the Committee or the County Board of Supervisors.

505.1 SAND AND GRAVEL

Sand and gravel pits located on the County Forest may be used only by units of government or contractors performing public works projects. Use of existing pits and opening of new pits by other than the Forestry Department will require Committee approval and a written agreement or permit. Such agreements may include the following provisions:

1. Requiring the area and access roads to be screened from view from any public highway
2. Severing trees from the stump
3. Disposing of brush and dirt spoil by leveling or removing from the site
4. Sloping/minimizing steep banks
5. Filing an annual report with the Forestry Department that itemizes volumes removed.
6. Other conditions may be set at the discretion of the Forest Administrator or the Committee
7. The Committee may establish fees for materials removed.

All active, non-metallic sites greater than one acre in size, including those on the County Forest, are also subject to the provisions of the nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Program, Chapter NR 135, Wis. Adm. Code. The Forestry Department shall work with the Zoning Department in obtaining any necessary permits for non-metallic mining operations.

Sand and gravel operations, under some circumstances, may be leased to private contractors for private use. In these situations, the land must be withdrawn from the County Forest Law until removal and reclamation of the site is completed. Upon completion of the reclamation to the satisfaction of the county and the state, the lands shall be reapplied for entry under the County Forest Law.

505.2 EXPLORATION, PROSPECTING, AND MINING

The Committee may investigate mineral exploration, prospecting and mining requests as they are received. The DNR shall be notified of all requests as they become known, in accordance with s. 28.11(3)(i) and (j) and with DNR Manual Code 2712.1 or other codes which may subsequently be adopted.

The Public Lands Handbook should be referenced for more detailed procedure.

505.3 SANITARY LANDFILLS

The use of County Forest lands for sanitary landfills will not be allowed unless the lands involved are first withdrawn from the County Forest Law.

505.4 MILITARY MANEUVERS

Military maneuvers on County Forest Lands will be considered under a lease or written land use agreement. Upon receipt of a written request from the military, the Committee, other necessary County staff, Military, and the DNR representatives will discuss the issue at a public Committee meeting. After the needs have been outlined, the site shall be field checked, DNR input and consistency with the County Forest Law will be reviewed, and town officials advised. Depending on the scope of the project, a public hearing may also be appropriate. If all aspects and concerns are addressed and agreed to, a legal instrument will be drafted. The matter will then be brought back to a Committee meeting for final input and approval.

505.5 PUBLIC UTILITIES

Easements for public utilities may be considered by the Committee. In most cases, underground installations will be encouraged. In general, it is the understanding of Washburn County that public utility easements should not trigger a need for withdrawal from County Forest, provided that the public still has access to the area for public recreation. This stance is, however, subject to DNR legal review on a case by case basis. The following provisions should be considered as part of any public utility transmission line approval process:

1. Utility may be billed for merchantable forest products and existing timber reproduction.
2. Utility may be billed for land removed from production and losses of future income due to utility clearing.

3. Land removed for utility operations that is no longer suited “primarily for timber production or, that is no longer suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting and fishing, water conservation or multiple use purposes” (s.28.11(4)(c), Wis. Stats.) may need to be withdrawn from County Forest Law designation. The utility shall replace any lands requiring withdrawal from County Forest with other lands suitable for county forest entry that are in the forest blocking. The Committee and County Board may consider replacements at a ratio of greater than 1:1
4. Utility companies will be encouraged to use existing corridors and underground lines to minimize disturbance to the County Forest.
5. Merchantable timber will be removed in a manner approved by Committee.
6. Utility must provide notice of proposed route, including a map, 90 days in advance of proposed construction.
7. Special maintenance, controlled access and signage concerns shall be addressed in any proposal.
8. An appropriate fee shall be charged for easements
9. The Committee may consider sunset clauses or other legal method to allow the terms of the easement to be negotiated.
10. The Committee will also consider recommendations set forth by the Public Service Commission.

505.5.1 Major Public Utility Easements & permits on the Forest

1. An easement was granted to Lake Superior Power District for the construction of a 161kv power line in 1973. This easement crossed sections 3, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26 & 36 T42N-R11W; Section 31 T42N-R10W; sections 6, 7, 8, 17, 20, 21 T41N-R10W; sections 11, 25 T40N-R10W. An easement was granted on this same corridor to the American Transmission Company in 2005 for the construction of a 345 kv powerline.
2. An easement was granted to Dahlberg Light and Power Company for the construction and maintenance of electric transmission lines in 1982. The easement crosses section 1 T42N-R12W; sections 5 & 6 T42N-R11W; Section 4 T42N-R11W. This easement is valid for a 50 year period ending in 2032, at which time the compensation for an additional period may be negotiated.
3. A permit was granted to Lakehead Pipe Line Company for the construction of one or more pipelines for the purpose of transportation of crude petroleum and derivatives. Permit crosses sections 3, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26 & 36 T42N-R11W; Section 31 T42N-

R10W; sections 6, 7, 8, 17, 20, 21 T41N-R10W; sections 11, 25 T40N-R10W.
Permit updates and additional pipes were installed in 1997 and 2006.

505.5.2 Maintenance of Existing and Future Utility Corridors

For all utility easements, land use agreements, permits or other conveyed interests for utilities, the following conditions apply and shall be included in future agreements:

1. For all major utility lines, including but not limited to pipelines and electrical transmission lines greater than 161 KV, the utility company must supply a listing of pertinent points of contacts to the County.
2. Chemical applications must be approved by the County. Proposals to apply chemical must be submitted to the Forestry Department at least 30 days in advance of proposed application. Application requests must include the chemical label and methods of application. The Committee reserves the right to deny or request modification of chemical applications.
3. Aerial application of chemicals are not permitted.
4. Washburn County will be notified at least 30 days in advance of any mechanical vegetation control. Washburn County reserves the right to modify mechanical vegetation control methods and timing.
5. Washburn County will be notified at least 2 weeks in advance of any routing maintenance activities that require motorized access onto the utility corridor. For emergency repair or maintenance that requires motorized access, Washburn County shall be notified no more than 48 hours after entry.
6. Washburn County reserves the right to assess penalties for damages to the County Forest resulting from maintenance or other activities on the utility corridor.
7. The County may require or modify reclamation plans for site disturbing activities.
8. Motorized access across County Forest Lands outside of the utility corridor is not permitted unless it is defined within the easement, permit or land use agreement, or unless the Forest Administrator grants written permission. Any authorization for motorized access outside the corridor must include a reclamation plan. Washburn County reserves the right to require a performance deposit and charge a reasonable fee for any access routes not defined within the easement or agreement.
9. Washburn County reserves the right to require that any machinery moved onto the County Forest be thoroughly cleaned prior to transport to minimize risk of invasive species introduction. The utility will be responsible for eradication of invasives if it

can reasonably be shown that the introduction was a result of utility activities.

Washburn County also reserves the right to bill the utility company for eradication efforts.

10. Motorized access across wetlands will not be allowed except under frozen conditions or in case of emergency. Wetland damage will be mitigated in accordance with State regulation.
11. Access across the utility corridor for County Forest management purposes shall not be hindered. If necessary, crossing points will be installed or maintained at locations requested by the County and at the utility company expense.
12. All roads, trails, lands, gates, berms or other facilities must be restored to at least their original condition or a condition specified by Washburn County.

505.6 PRIVATE UTILITY SERVICE

If a landowner cannot gain utility access across other lands, the Committee may consider a land use agreement for utility access across County Forests. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. These agreements should consider the criteria listed in Section 505.5 as well as:

1. Agreement is non-transferable.
2. The County retains full ownership of the utility corridor, however the County shall not be liable for maintenance, upkeep, or other damages associated with the utility service.
3. The Permittee waives any rights to any declaration of ownership of interest in the utility corridor area.
4. A fee for the agreement may be considered to compensate for any lost timber value or other impacts to the County Forest. The Committee may also consider a periodic payment or rental as an alternative. The County shall be compensated at a rate commensurate with compensation made to other owners with similar land in the area.
5. The Committee may consider sunset clauses on these agreements, allowing for renegotiation of the terms periodically.

505.7 COMMUNICATION TOWERS

The siting of communication towers on the Washburn County Forest will be considered by the Committee on a limited basis. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis subject to the following conditions:

1. It must be demonstrated that the site is the most practical location for such a tower.

2. Land selected for such a tower is no longer suited for continued entry in the County Forest program. According to s.28.11(4), Wis. Stats., any accompanying lands needed for tower support wires that inhibit the practice of forestry are no longer suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting and fishing, water conservation or multiple use purposes may also need to be withdrawn from County Forest Law. Withdrawal is subject to approval by both County Board and DNR.
3. The Committee shall consider requiring replacement lands in cases where the Committee is considering withdrawal from County Forest Law and approval of a communication tower.
4. The County shall consider compensation at a rate commensurate with payment made to other owners with similar land in the region.
5. Towers will not be considered in any unit classified as a primitive area or in areas with sensitive ecological or aesthetic resources.
6. If a tower is approved and property is withdrawn from County Forest Law, lands shall remain in County ownership. A reversionary clause shall be included in the agreement that requires the site be placed back into County Forest Law at such time that the tower is abandoned or removed.
7. The Committee shall consider waiver of compensation or other requirements, other than the condition requiring withdrawal, in cases where the tower is requested by an emergence management agency for the purpose of public safety.

505.8 OTHER

The Committee may consider other types of special uses of the County Forest. These may include, but are not limited to: research, independent study, scientific areas and others. Special uses may not conflict with forest management or public uses and must be compliant with s.28.11, Wis. Stats. Regulations governing these uses will be developed on an individual basis.

510 PUBLIC GATHERING OF SPECIAL PRODUCTS

Washburn County allows the gathering of certain miscellaneous forest products. In general, gathering, and gathering permits, are for products for personal use, not for resale. *This section does not apply to gathering under treaty rights. Refer to section 515.* Gathering must comply with the following:

510.1 GATHERING ALLOWED WITHOUT A PERMIT

In general, any fruits, nuts, berries, or mushrooms, for personal consumption may be gathered without a permit, unless it is specifically identified in Section 510.4. Gathering may also be conducted, without a County permit, for any product for which a general license is available through the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. This does not apply for permits or licenses granted by the DNR for gathering on state lands.

510.2 ESTABLISHED PERMITS FOR GATHERING

There are several permits available for public gathering. Permit fees and conditions are established by the Committee. Permits are for personal use of the special products only. Resale of products gathered under these permits is not permitted. These permits do not allow for motor vehicle use in closed areas or off the surface of any open road.

1. Firewood – a permit is available to harvest dead or downed wood from the County Forest. These permits are valid for any Washburn County Forest lands with the exception of any area actively being harvested or under an open timber sale contract.
2. Boughs – a permit is available to harvest balsam fir boughs from the County Forest. Boughs may be harvested anywhere on county land, but can only be harvested from balsam fir trees and only from the lower third of trees over 12 feet tall.
3. Christmas Trees – a permit is available to harvest a maximum of one tree per household and up to three trees per church, school, or senior citizen center. Trees may be harvested anywhere on the County Forest but must be less than 12 feet tall and not within 60 feet of a County or State highway.

510.3 MISCELLANEOUS GATHERING PERMITS

Washburn County does allow for the gathering of certain miscellaneous forest products under a miscellaneous gathering permit. Permits shall be made available, at the discretion of the Forest Administrator, and may include a costs as deem reasonable by the same. The Forest Administrator will review requests for permits on a case by case basis. Gathering under these permits is for personal use only and not for products for resale.

The following products may be considered for gathering under a miscellaneous permit on certain sites. The Forest Administrator will review requests to gather such products and permits may include a limit on the amount collected.

1. Seed collection for State tree nurseries provided trees are not damaged and collection does not conflict with forest management practices.
2. Bark may be collected from dead or downed trees, however, no products may be gathered on any active timber sale.
3. Twigs and tops from timber sale slash may be gathered, however no products may be gathered while the sale is active.
4. Poles from live willow, tag alder, ironwood, muscle wood, or other stems generally not considered as a commercially viable tree or shrub species, provided such gathering does not conflict with other management.
5. Any dead forest product, not intended for firewood use, will be considered for permits.
6. Other products with a relative abundance that do not conflict with forest management or products where gathering may enhance or improve management goals.

The following products will not be considered for gathering or harvest under a miscellaneous gathering permit:

1. Any white birch twigs, poles or bark, whether live or dead.
2. Any boughs from live trees other than that gathered under a balsam fir bough permit
3. Poles or other products from live, commercially viable tree species.
4. Any plant species considered unique, rare, threatened, endangered or special concern.
5. Miniature Christmas trees / conifer tops
6. Seed collection for resale to other than State tree nurseries.
7. Maple sap or other tree sap.

510.4 LIMITS OF GATHERING FOR PERSONAL USE

The Committee shall determine the limit of personal use. If the Committee deems a gathering to be commercial, the permit may either be denied or revoked, or it may be handled as a special forest products timber sale with corresponding stumpage values paid to the County as identified in Section 500.14

510.5 GATHERING BY OTHER PUBLIC AGENCIES

Other agencies, for the purpose of research, seed collection, or other purposes, may make requests to the Committee to gather products outside of the restrictions listed above. Any such request will be considered on a case by case basis and may be approved only after it is shown that such gathering is for a greater public good.

515 TREATY RIGHTS: GATHERING MISCELLANEOUS FOREST PRODUCTS

The Washburn County Code of Ordinances, adopted by the County Board of Supervisors, directs the Committee to require permits for gathering miscellaneous forest products on County land by Native American treaty rights participants. The Ordinance, Section 50-72 of the County Code adopts language of, and complies with, the Federal District Court decision and states as follows:

1. Any treaty rights participant interested in gathering firewood, tree bark, maple sap, lodge poles, boughs, marsh hay or other miscellaneous forest products (except fruits, seeds, or berries not enumerated in County ordinances) from County lands shall obtain a County gathering permit from the County Forestry office. The County shall respond to the gathering permit request no later than 14 days after receipt of the request. The gathering permit shall indicate the location of the material to be gathered, the volume of material to be gathered, and conditions of the gathering of the material necessary for conservation of the timber and miscellaneous forest products on the County land, or for public health and safety.
 2. The County may not deny a request to gather miscellaneous forest products on County property under this section unless: (a) the gathering is inconsistent with the management plan for the property, (b) the gathering will conflict with pre-existing rights of a permittee or other person possessing an approval to conduct an activity on the property, including a contractor of the County or, (c) is otherwise inconsistent with conservation or public health or safety.
- Subchapter IV, CH.NR13, WI Adm., Code detail the regulations

520 ARTIFACTS, MINERALS AND OTHER MATERIALS

520.1 SOIL, ROCK, GRAVEL

The collection, digging, or removal of soil, rock or gravel from the County Forest for personal use is prohibited unless the Committee approves of the operation under Section 505.1. It is, however, generally permissible to remove individual rocks for personal collections provided the removal is occasional and they can be carried easily by hand.

520.2 MINERALS

Washburn County asserts claim to all mineral rights associated with the County Forest Lands. The digging, collection, mining, or removal of any mineral resources on the forest is not permitted unless the Committee approves the removal under Section 505.2

520.3 HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS AND SITES

Numerous historical sites exist within the County Forest Boundaries. The collection of any historical artifacts or disturbance of any historical site is not permitted. All archeological artifacts are the property of Washburn County. In general, an item or site is considered historic if it is more than 50 years old.

525 SIGNS ON COUNTY FOREST LANDS

Signs on the County Forest will be used discreetly to perform and function with minimal disruption to the multiple uses of the forest. Private signs promoting personal, commercial, or political objectives are not permitted. Signs may be placed by the County or by non-profit recreational trail groups for the following purposes:

525.1 INFORMATIONAL SIGNS

1. Interpretive Signs – to educate the public about forest management practices
2. Public Lands Signs – to identify lands as Washburn County property
3. Trail Markers – to provide direction and safety to trail users.
4. Scientific, Historical or Geological Markers – to identify points of interest
5. Recreational Facility Markers – to identify park entrances, etc.
6. Directional Markers

525.2 REGULATORY SIGNS

Signs may be placed to indicate regulations contained within the Washburn County Municipal Code.

525.3 SIGNING STANDARDS

To assure that signs are consistent and minimize aesthetic impact, the following standards will be maintained:

1. All signs will be mounted on posts, not on trees.
2. Any routed wood signs shall be painted yellow letters on brown background. Fire Lane signs are to be white letters on a red background.
3. Commercially produced metal or plastic signs will be of neat appearance
4. Recreational trail signs must conform to DNR trail signing standards and be approved by the Committee.
5. Forestry staff will remove all unauthorized signs promptly and no compensation will be afforded for loss or damage of signs during removal.

530 AREAS MANAGED FOR SPECIAL USES

There are certain units within the County Forest that are managed for specific goals and managed for specific attributes and/or uses. These areas are listed below and more specific management information may be contained with Chapter 800 and Chapter 3000.

530.1 TOTOGATIC WILD RIVER ZONE

The Totogatic River flows from the outlet of Totogatic Lake in Sawyer County and empties into the Namekagon River in Burnett County. The river crosses the northern edge of Washburn County and lies within Washburn County Forest units # 1, 2, 3, and 4. A majority of the river front along the Totogatic lies with the County Forest.

530.1.1 Designation

Portions of the Totogatic River were established as State Wild River (s. 30.26 Wis. Stats.) in 2009. This designation included the following segments:

- Outlet of Totogatic Lake to Nelson Lake (Sawyer County)
- 500 feet below the dam on Nelson Lake to Colton Flowage (Sawyer, Douglas and Washburn Counties)
- 500 feet below the dam on Colton Flowage to the Minong Flowage (Douglas and Washburn Counties)
- Cty Hwy I, below Minong Flowage, to the Namekagon River (Burnett and Washburn Counties)

530.1.2 Legal Protection – State

The river segments are dedicated under s. 30.26, Wis. Stats. Management along the river is regulated under NR 302, Wis. Adm. Code. That statutory intent is, “to preserve some rivers in a free flowing condition and to protect them from development”. State Administrative Code generally provides requires the following allowable activities on state owned lands along the riverway and Washburn County generally adopts these same guidelines for County Forest lands along the riverway:

- Erosion control measures.
- Restoration activities to restore the natural appearance of areas previously modified by man.
- Fire suppression activities.

- Develop limited walk in access areas.
- No vegetative control is permitted within 150 feet of the bank
- Locate campsites only where well screened by vegetation or topography from the river. Such campsites shall not provide for public motorized access.
- No grading is permitted on the banks.

NR 302(3), Wis. Adm. Code states that “Pursuant to and to the extent possible under s. 28.11, Stats., the comprehensive county forest plan shall designate management practices to assure the preservation, protection and enhancement of the natural beauty, unique recreational and other inherent values in and along wild rivers.” This language gives direct management authority to the County in circumstance where State Wild Rivers intersect County Forest lands. To this end, the following are considered Washburn County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan requirements pertaining to the Totogatic Wild River:

530.1.3 Criteria for Totogatic Wild River Zone Management

This Plan establishes a 400 foot wide zone from the bank of either side of sections of the Totogatic River designated as State Wild River, under s. 30.26 Wis. Stats., on County Forest lands. Management of this zone will be as follows:

1. The first 100 feet from the bank of the river, on either side, is designated as a no management zone. Forestry or vegetative manipulation will not be conducted with this area, with the exception of salvage harvests.
2. The area extending from 100 feet to 400 feet from the bank of the river on either side is designated as an adjusted management zone. Forestry prescriptions are to include provisions to minimize aesthetic impacts along the river.
3. This Plan recommends that no recreational development projects are to be approved within the Totogatic Wild River Zone. This includes campgrounds, campsites, docks, boat landings, or boat launches. This recommendation excludes projects to enhance boat launch access points adjacent to public roadways.
4. This Plan recommends that no recreational trail projects, bridges, or other are to be approved within the Totogatic Wild River Zone.
5. No additional roads are to be constructed and existing roads may be considered for reclamation/restoration.

6. This Plan recommends that the primary management focus of the Totogatic Wild River Zone is to protect the wild and undisturbed character of the shoreline.

Specific management information on Totogatic Wild River Zone management is included in the Integrated Resource Management Units in Chapter 3000.

530.2 Namekagon Wild and Scenic Riverway Zone

The Namekagon River flows from Lake Namekagon in Bayfield County and empties into the St. Croix River in Burnett County. The Namekagon was designated as a Federal Wild and Scenic River in 1968. The river flows generally east to west through the center of Washburn County and bisects 3 Integrated Resource Management Units. More information on the specific management with the Namekagon Wild and Scenic Riverway Zone can be found in Sections 3000.5, 3000.8, and 3000.9.

530.2.1 Legal Protection – Federal

The Namekagon River is protected under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271-1287) and Public Law 90-452. Public Law 90-452 includes a declaration of policy stating, “It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States that certain selected rivers of the Nation, which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present a future generations.”.

While both the State Wild River program and National Wild and Scenic Riverway systems include similar recognition of values, the federal program contained a land acquisition component where extensive areas of river shoreline was acquired by the National Parks Service in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s. The designation of National Wild and Scenic Riverway is presumed to apply only to federally owned properties.

530.2.2 County Forest Lands Adjacent to Namekagon River

The federal government made significant efforts to acquire a majority of lands adjacent to the Namekagon River in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s. This effort included acquisition of County owned lands through outright purchase and trades throughout this

time period and into the 1980's. Even with this intensive effort to acquire lands, there are still significant areas of County Forest frontage on the Namekagon River. To that end, this Plan recommends the continued designation of certain lands as Wild Riverway Zone.

This zone is defined within the Washburn County Code of Ordinances as all lands within 150 feet of the Namekagon River (Sec 50-32(3) Washburn County Code). This Plan also recommends the continued designation of Namekagon Wild and Scenic River Zone on all County Forest lands within 400 feet of the River's edge.

530.2.3 Criteria for Namekagon Wild and Scenic River Zone Management

Washburn County Forest lands within 400 feet of either bank of the Namekagon River are designated within this zone. The purpose of this zone is to provide management that is complimentary to the goals of the National Park Service and done in a manner as to protect and enhance the values that resulted in the federal designation, and to do so without resulting in undue regulation, restriction or workload on the County. This Plan recommends management of this zone as follows:

1. The first 100 feet from the bank of the river, on either side, is designated as a no management zone. Forestry or vegetative manipulation will not be conducted within this area, with the exception of salvage harvests.
2. The area extending from 100 feet to 400 feet from the bank of the river on either side, or whenever ground surface is visible from the river, whichever is less, is designated as an adjusted management zone. Forestry prescriptions are to include provisions to minimize aesthetic impacts along the river.
3. This Plan recommends that no additional recreational projects are to be approved within the zone. This includes campgrounds, campsites, docks, boat landings, or boat launches.
4. This Plan recommends that no recreational trail projects are to be approved within the Zone.
5. No additional roads are to be constructed and existing roads may be considered for reclamation/restoration.
6. This Plan recommends that the primary management focus of the Zone is to protect the wild and undisturbed character of the shoreline.

530.2.4 Plan recommendations for the Wild and Scenic River Zone

Prior County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plans reference certain agreements that either were made, or were intended to be made with the National Parks Service (NPS) that referenced how the County and NPS were to interact relative to management activities. There are no records that indicate that any such agreements exist. This Plan recommends the following:

1. Make efforts to enter into a reciprocal agreement with NPS on riverway related management issues.
2. Identify shared boundaries between the County and NPS.
3. Ensure that NPS gates, barriers and other structures are located either on the boundary or on NPS lands (there are numerous circumstances where NPS has constructed barriers and place signs on county forest lands).
4. Identify road access points across either ownership that are necessary for management purposes, by the other party, and create a reciprocal easement agreement. If this is not agreed to by the National Parks Service, consider closure of all access roads across County Forest that serve as river access for NPS management activities.
5. Locate and inventory all NPS campsites lying on the Forest (there are several). Develop language that permits these to continue. Of note is the Washburn County Code which prohibits open fires in certain units containing campsites.
6. Clarify signage locations and either require all NPS signs to be located on Federal lands or include provisions in an agreement for sign placement on County lands.
7. Consider withdrawal of lands with NPS campsites. Transfer of properties to the NPS may be proposed but under a land trade basis and at no less than a 2:1 replacement ratio to the benefit of the County Forest program.
8. Prior Plans indicated considerations to “deputize” NPS personnel to enforce state and local laws on County portions of the Riverway. Prior Plans also recommended long-term maintenance agreements of county facilities on the Riverway by NPS staff. Both of these recommendations from prior plans are specifically excluded from consideration under this Plan.

530.3 WELSH LAKE GROUSE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Welsh Lake Grouse Management Area includes all of IRMU 15, in the Towns of Barronett and Saron. This unit has a dominance of aspen, especially in the eastern half of the area, making it suitable as a grouse management unit. The management objective on

these lands will be to improve its capacity to support ruffed grouse through forestry prescriptions aimed at creating aspen clearcuts of approximately 20 acres in size that create spatial as well as age class diversity throughout the unit. This type of management also enhances “edge” effect benefits within the forest. Not only does this management enhance grouse habitat, it also benefits a variety of species that rely on early successional/young forest habitats.

This unit is also designated as a primitive unit. Public use of forest roads within this unit will be limited to non-motorized only. Shingle Camp and Thunderbird Firelanes bisect this unit and are gas tax roads open to public motorized uses. More information on specific management of this area is included in Section 3000.15

530.4 HARMON LAKE GROUSE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Harmon Lake Grouse Management Area, also called the Harmon Lake Recreation Trails Area, is managed for ruffed grouse and other wildlife habitat. The unit is approximately 2900 acres, comprised of Forest Compartment #10, which lies in Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18 & 19 T38N-R10W and Section 12 T38N-R11W. The unit lies generally east of Harmon Lake Road and west of the Nordic Ski Trail.

This area has a predominance of aspen, making it well suited to manage for the grouse unit designation. One of the management goals in this unit is creating approximately 20 acres clearcut sizes when harvesting aspen in the unit. Aspen harvests are small but timber sales occur more frequently. These harvests are intentionally spaced throughout the unit to provide for spatial and age class diversity. This type of management enhances edge effects within the unit. This technique provides for grouse habitat as well as benefitting a wide range of species that rely on early successional/young forests.

This unit is managed primarily as non-motorized although the Harmon Lake Loop snowmobile trail crosses the north and south sides. The ATV trail connects across the lower boundary of the unit.

This area is part of the Harmon Integrated Resource Management Unit. More information on this unit can be found in Section 3000.12.

530.5 SILENT WOOD

Silent Wood is 669 acre unit located in sections 1, 2 & 12 of T42N-R10W. It is bounded by Douglas, Bayfield and Sawyer Counties and is part of one of the largest contiguous blocks of public land in Wisconsin.

Internally, this area was known as the “lost compartment”. There are rumors that the forest reconnaissance file for this area had been lost for some time, resulting in the area not having any management or timber sales prescribed. Regardless of the reason, the unit has no evidence of any harvesting in the “second growth” timber. This means that the last harvests here were likely in the late 1800’s during the Pinery era. This unit was entered into the Special Use Category of the County Forest Law (s. 28.11 (4) Wis. Stats.) in 1996 under Washburn County Board Resolution 9-96, and adopted into the 1996-2005 County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan. The original goal was to establish the area as an “Old Growth Reserve Area”. It was designated as, “an ecosystem type devoted to conservation of nature and scientific research. In time it may provide a standard against which the effect of man’s impact on the forest environment can be measured”.

The 2006-2020 Plan removed the “Old Growth” designation and retitled it as the “Silent Wood Benchmark Area”, with the primary intent to “monitor the effects of a set-aside policy on second growth timber on the Forest as well as to provide another unique character to the Totogatic River Corridor.” For the purpose of this Plan, the Silent Wood Unit will remain passively managed. No forestry or other prescriptions for use or development are recommended. More information is available in Section 3000.4

530.6 HALLSTROM WOODS

The Hallstrom Woods property is a 590 acre block in section 15 T41N-R13W, purchased from the Izaak Walton League in 2002. Washburn County secured 50% funding from Land and Water Conservation Grant and 50% funding from a WDNR Lake Protection Grant to fund the acquisition.

Representatives from the Izaak Walton League expressed overwhelming support for continued forest management on the parcel but did include stipulation that a majority of the property have restrictions on public motorized travel. A main access road to Hallstrom Lake was exempted from this restriction. They also stipulated that the unit should remain

designated as Hallstrom Woods. This property is included as part of the McKenzie Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 8) and more information can be found in Section 3000.8

530.7 STODDARD PINES

Stoddard Pines is a 200 acre parcel purchased from the Stoddard family in 2019. Washburn County secured 50% grant funding from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant program. The parcel is located in section 9 T42N-R11W. The property contained two flowages, one of which is being considered for removal at the time of this Plan drafting. The property is well wooded with a majority of the parcel in natural red and white pine. The Sellers included a deed restriction on public motorized travel on the property, except for a main access road into the flowages. This property is part of the Totogatic Integrated Resource Management (Unit 2). More information is available in Section 3000.2

530.8 BOBCAT POND

In 1990, Washburn County entered into a land use agreement, with the Birchwood School District, to manage 80 acres in Section 12 T37N-R10W as an “outdoor classroom”. The area provided an opportunity to manage certain lands with education as a primary objective.

In more recent years, this classroom has seen less use than it had in the 1990’s. This Plan recommends continuing to recognize the land use agreement and also recommends re-building relationships with the Birchwood School to develop forestry curricula centered on this property. If there is interested in the outdoor classroom facility, a new agreement should be entered into with the School. This parcel is part of the Spider Lake Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 14). More information is available in Section 3000.14

530.9 NORTHWOOD SCHOOL FOREST

In 2014, Washburn County entered into an agreement with Northwood School to authorize the designation of a School Forest (s. 26.39(1)(a)) on Washburn County Forest lands. 79 acres of County Forest land, plus acreage owned by the school itself are part of this designation. Lands enrolled are all of the County Forest in the NW ¼ Section 1, lying west of 53, and east of Lakeside Road in T42N-R12W.

The property remains under County Forest Law and all normal management prescriptions for forestry will be applied on the property. All activities will, however, include an effort to

involve students as part of an education program. The School Forest designation allows for grant opportunities to fund outdoor education and should allow for participation with County forestry activities on the parcel. This School Forest is part of the Flowage Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 1). More information can be found in Section 3000.1

530.10 VILLAGE SUB-UNIT

The Village Unit is a 345 acre area just outside the Village of Springbrook. It lies in sections 14 and 15 T40N-R11W. The property is accessible via village streets and a short section of easement on private lands. The property is gated near the property line, on the west side of a bridge over Spring Brook.

The unit is adjacent to 8000 acres of County Forest, on the west side of the Namekagon River that is designated as open to public motorized travel. This area lies on the east side of the river. This unit is designated as primitive and public motorized use is prohibited. This provides some diversity to the large block of County land here and also protects the Namekagon River and the timber hauling bridge over Spring Brook.

The Village Unit is part of the Namekagon Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 9). More information can be found in Section 3000.9

530.11 BIRCHWOOD CANOE SUB-UNIT

The Birchwood Canoe Unit is a 3000 acre block of County Forest in Sections 12, 13, 14, 25, 26 and 35 of T38N-R10W. The area contains a high density of soft water seepage and bog lakes. There are 25 named lakes within this unit, most of which have a sport fishery, and numerous unnamed lakes and ponds. The high density of lakes has allowed the County to develop 2 canoe portage trails within the unit. Sawmill Campground also lies within this unit.

This unit is designated as a primitive area and public motorized travel is restricted in order to help protect water resources within this block. There is a winter use snowmobile trail that is exempt from this restriction.

This Plan recommends continuing to designate this unit as unique and as a primitive area. Forest management activities are to continue within the block but special attention will be

given to using Best Management Practices for Water Quality. This unit is part of the Sawmill Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 13). More information is available in Section 3000.13.

530.12 TOTOGATIC PARK SUB-UNIT

Totogatic Park lies on the northern end of this 215 acre County Forest block, in sections 12 and 13 42N-R13W. This unit is designated as primitive in order to restrict public motorized travel on the Forest, within and adjacent to the park boundaries. There are also special aesthetic management goals for the unit in order to mitigate visual impacts on the park. This area is part of the Flowage Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 1). More information can be found in Section 3000.1.

530.13 YOUTH CAMP SUB-UNIT

The Youth Camp sub-unit is a 460 acre parcel in section 12 T40N-R13W, which contains the County owned and operated Leisure Lake Youth Camp. The unit contains designation of primitive in order to prohibit public motorize travel within and behind the youth camp facility. The area contains special management goals to enhance the aesthetics adjacent to the camp. This sub-unit is part of the McKenzie Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 8). More information is available in Section 3000.8

530.14 CEDAR CREEK SUB-UNIT

Cedar Creek is a 3,165 acre area in sections 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29 & 30 of T42N-R10W and sections 13 & 24 T42N-R11W. Its remote nature provides a unique back-country experience for hunters and other outdoor enthusiasts. The sub-unit includes a primitive area designation which restricts public motorized travel. There is an ATV trail that abuts the southern boundary. The Cedar Creek Sub-Unit is part of the Waggoner Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 3). More information can be found in Section 3000.3

530.15 DEROSIER SUB-UNIT

The DeRosier Sub-Unit is a 700 acre block of County Forest lying between Cty G and Totogatic Road in sections 2 and 3 T42N-R11W. The unit abuts the Totogatic River on the north. This area lies adjacent to a large block of County Forest under the “open” classification, meaning that public motorized travel is permitted on the unit to the west. This unit provides public opportunity to recreate in a non-motorized setting. This block is

classified as a primitive area. The DeRosier Unit is part of the Totogatic Integrated Resource Management Unit (Unit 2). More information is available in Section 3000.2

530.16 LOG-A-LOAD FOR KIDS PROGRAMS

The Log- A-Load for Kids program is an event sponsored by the Great Lakes Timber Professionals and others as a charity program to the Children's Miracle Network and also as an educational program. While this event is not necessarily a permanent special use area on the Forest, the County Forest Law does allow for the direct sale of timber for the purpose of this program. Local loggers volunteer their time on a timber sale established by the County and profits are donated. As part of this event, between several hundred and a thousand school kids visit the Log-A-Load site participate in numerous outdoor education related exhibits on the site.

The program is located on the County Forest every few years. This Plan recommends continued involvement in this program. As part of this, the Plan recommends establishing sales well in advance of the program in order to provide for better event planning.