



Sawyer County

Agenda

Land, Water, & Forest Resources Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 12, 2022 @ 8:30 AM
Assembly Room

Page

1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. To view or participate in the **virtual meeting** from a computer, iPad, or Android device please go to <https://zoom.us/j/99719807086> You can also use the dial in number for listening only at **1-312-626- 6799** with the Webinar ID: 997 1980 7086. If additional assistance is needed please contact the Sawyer County Forestry Office at 715-634-4846 prior to the meeting. This meeting will be recorded and will be available on our website at: <https://sawyercountygov.org>. If you are on a computer, click the "Raise Hand" button and wait to be recognized. If you are on a telephone, dial *9 and wait to be recognized.

2. ROLL CALL

3. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. At this time, members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the Committee on items not on the agenda. Please adhere to the following when addressing the Committee:
 - Comments will be limited to 3 minutes or less per individual.
 - Comments should be directed to the Committee as a whole and not directed to individual Committee members.
 - The Committee cannot respond to your comments during this time.
 - Please sign in and fill out a public comment sheet if you wish to speak on an item.

6. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. [12.8.21 LWFR Minutes DRAFT](#)

7. EVENTS (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

- a. Seeley Big Fat Race - January 22, 2022
- b. Epic Mountain Bike Race -- June 4 & 5, 2022

8. MUNICODE CODIFICATION UPDATE

Link to Final Municode Proof: [Microsoft Word - Sawyer County Word Proofs 12-8-2021 - without markup.docx \(sawyercountygov.org\)](#)

9. SAWYER COUNTY TREASURERS DEPARTMENT (DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION)

- 6 - 8 a. OTC Land Sale Town of Bass Lake #002-109-12-3300
[OTC Sale Town of Bass Lake #002-109-12-3300](#)
- 9 - 11 b. OTC Land Sale Town of Radisson #176-106-04-0800
[OTC Sale Town of Radisson #176-106-04-0800](#)

10. LAND RECORDS AND COUNTY SURVEYOR DEPARTMENT REPORT

11. SAWYER COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

- a. Recreational Trails Report
Motorized-
Non-motorized-
- 12 - 14 b. County Forestry Report
[December 21 Forestry Report](#)
- 15 - 28 c. 2022 Forestry Annual Workplan
[1\) 2021.22 Annual Partnership Meeting Minutes](#)
[2\) Sawyer County Forestry 2022 Annual Workplan \(discussion and possible action\)](#)
- d. DNR Forestry Report

12. ZONING/ CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

- 29 - 30 a. County Report
[Conservation Update Dec 21-Jan 22](#)
- b. USDA report
- c. LCO report

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

14. CORRESPONDENCE, REPORTS FROM CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS, OTHER MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

15. ADJOURNMENT

DISCLAIMER:

A quorum of the County Board of Supervisors or of any of its committees may be present at this meeting to listen and observe. Neither the Board nor any of the committees have established attendance at this meeting as an official function of the Board or committee(s) or otherwise made a determination that attendance at the meeting is necessary to carry out the Board or committee's function. The only purpose for other supervisors attending the meeting is to listen to the information presented. Neither the Board nor any committee (other than the committee providing this notice and agenda) will take any official action with respect to this noticed meeting.

Copy sent via email to: County Clerk and News Media. Note: Any person wishing to attend whom, because of a disability, requires accommodation should call the Sawyer County Clerk's office (715.634.4866) at least 24 hours before the scheduled meeting so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee Mission Statement: "Develop, guide and implement policies that protect and ensure the sustainability of our bio-diverse community."

**Minutes of the December 8th meeting of the Sawyer County
Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members (X) Present:

- ☒ Chair: **Bruce Paulson**
- ☒ Ron Buckholtz – Vice Chair
- ☒ Jesse Boettcher
- ☐ Brian Bisonette - Virtual
- ☒ Marc Helwig
- ☒ Kevin Sheptick

Others Present:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|
| Lynn Fitch | Don Stover - Virtual |
| Mike Coleson | Dianne Ince |
| Jay Kozlowski | Linda Zillmer - Virtual |
| Greg Peterson | Louise Ladenthin - Virtual |
| Don Mrotek | Dan Ploegger |
| Roy Zubrod | |

Call to Order – Chair Bruce Paulson called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call was taken; a quorum was met.

Meeting Agenda –

Public Comments --

Minutes from the previous meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2021, meeting; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion carried without negative vote.

Events –

Sawyer County Treasurer's Department – Ms. Ince presented a request for an over-the-counter land sale in the Town of Edgewater Tax ID #008-937-01-4207. A motion was made by Mr. Buckholtz; second by Mr. Helwig to approve this sale and forward to County Board. Motion carried without negative vote. Ms. Ince thanked the committee for the many years of support during her tenure.

Land Records and County Surveyor Department Report – Mr. Ploeger advised that they have been working on GIS redistricting and updating the website. Kimberly is working on easements, and the survey crew is currently working out of Draper. Tax bills will be going out in the mail soon.

Sawyer County Forestry Department Report – Mr. Mrotek provided an update on motorized trails. Snowmobile trails do not have a static open date, as openings will depend on weather conditions. The Lions Facebook page lists openings as they become available. The statewide snowmobile directors will be having their annual meeting in Hayward in January. Mr. Paulsen presented a verbal report from Ben Popp on the silent sports. The Birkie has 10,000 of its anticipated 13,000 skiers registered for 2022. They are working on a World Cup race hosted here for the 50th anniversary.

County Forestry Report – A written report is provided. Mr. Peterson advised that there are 8 active timber sales in November and sale revenue was over \$200,000. We appear to meet or exceed budget at this time. All six grant projects applied for have been approved; one is a \$35,000 grant to make updates at Hatchery Creek Park.

Carbon Tax Update – Mr. Peterson reported that all the paperwork is submitted and we should get an assessment back in a couple weeks.

DNR Forestry Report – A written report was provided and Mr. Zubrod reviewed several highlights.

Zoning/Conservation Department Report – At 8:42 am a motion was made by Mr. Boettcher; second by Mr. Buckholtz to enter public hearing for the purpose of hearing the proposed decontamination ordinance. Mr. Kozlowski presented an introduction and advised that notice was sent to all municipalities for comment. He has received all positive responses back. Public comment was made by Jane Goetting, Warren Johnson, Donna Carlson, Don Stover and Linda Zillmer in favor of the ordinance; there was no opposing comments. A motion was made at 8:53am by Mr. Boettcher; second by Mr. Buckholtz to come out of public hearing. Motion carried without negative vote. Mr. Buckholtz made a motion to approve the ordinance and forward to County Board for consideration; second by Mr. Helwig. Motion passed without negative vote.

Upper Brunet River Dam Project – Mr. Kozlowski provided an update on the status of fixing the Brunet River Dam. Our options include a performing a complete draw-down for a cost of about \$500,000 or constructing a coffer dam for the additional cost of \$200,000-\$400,000. The lake serves between 60-120 individuals annually. A motion was made by Mr. Boettcher; second by Mr. Helwig to move forward using the coffer dam option if costs can be covered by a grant, and if not to then move forward using the draw-down dam method with the decision point being 30 days from today. Motion carried without negative vote.

Mrs. Sheptick provided an update for USDA advising that a new staff person has been hired for the Ladysmith office and a committee member representing the east side of Sawyer County will be voted on today.

Other Topics for Discussion Only -

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee will be Wednesday, January 12, at 8:30 am in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 am
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk

2021 SAWYER COUNTY LAND SALE

In compliance with section 75.69, Wisconsin Statutes, the Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors will accept bids on the following parcels of county-owned land.

The Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Sawyer County will not accept bids from property owners who owe delinquent taxes at the time of bidding. Parcels (and improvements thereto) are sold "as is" and are subject to any and all reservations, easements, and exceptions of record; and are subject to the provisions of Sawyer County zoning, sanitary code, and subdivision control ordinances and regulations, and to any and all federal, state, and local government laws and regulations. By applying for purchase of parcels included in this list the successful applicant agrees to hold Sawyer County harmless for any and all costs and expenses that might be required for procurement of evidence of title, property boundaries, access rights and/or development of said access, and for the condition of the land and/or improvements thereto. The buyer is responsible for inspection of the property prior to the sale. Sawyer County does not guarantee title, acreage, access rights, location of property boundaries, or condition of the land and/or improvements thereto. Sawyer County will issue only quit claim deeds, conveying only whatever interest Sawyer County has in each parcel, upon sale of the parcels, and will reserve any existing road right-of-way and flowage easements. Acreage amounts listed for each parcel in the tax roll and on the land sale list, and tax parcel map depictions of parcels may not be accurate and are not guaranteed by Sawyer County.

Legacy Parcel Identification Number	Abbreviated Legal Description	Sec/Twn /Range	Approx. Acreage	Minimum Bid \$
TOWN OF BASS LAKE				
The County owns additional lots in the <u>Northwoods Beach Subdivision</u> and will sell at estimated fair market value established for such lots by the town assessor				
19. 002-109-12-3300	Abendpost Beach Subdivision, 2 nd Addition, Lots 33-36, Incl, Blk 12	31.40.8	.275	\$1200
24. 002-157-03-1001	Malar Beach Subdivision, Lots 10-19, Incl, Blk 3 & Lots 29-38, Incl, Blk 3	30.40.8	1.379	\$14,900
29. 002-940-08-4403	Part SE ¼ SE ¼	8.40.9	2.76	\$31,600
TOWN OF ROUND LAKE				
35. 024-741-34-4203	Prt NW ¼ SE ¼, Lot 1, CSM 18/120 #5347	34.41.7	2.01	\$77,700
TOWN OF SPIDER LAKE				
36. 028-642-20-1417	Part SE ¼ NE ¼	20.42.6	.98	\$10,200
TOWN OF WEIRGOR				
37. 030-190-02-1300	Village of Weirgor, Prt Lots 13-15, Blk 2	17.37.7	.469	\$4,000
VILLAGE OF EXELAND				
41. 121-737-21-4305	Part SW ¼ SE ¼	21.37.7	.160	\$25,300
VILLAGE OF RADISSON				
42. 176-106-04-0800	Boncler's Addition, Lot 8, Block 4	22.38.7	.37	\$1,300
43. 176-171-19-0800	Lots 8-11, Block 19, 1st Addition	22.38.7	.32	\$10,500
VILLAGE OF WINTER				
44. 190-142-00-2800	Lot 28 Kinsley's Addition to the Village of Winter	33.39.5	.35	\$5,500
45. 190-190-05-1000	Lot 10, Block 5, Village of Winter, Original Plat	32.39.5	.180	\$26,000
46. 190-539-32-1204	Prt NW ¼ NE ¼, Lot 3, CSM 4/348 #854	32.39.5	.33	\$14,600

12/22/2021 5:20 PM

APPLICATION TO PURCHASE COUNTY-OWNED LAND

SAWYER COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE
10610 MAIN ST, SUITE 16
P.O. BOX 935
HAYWARD, WI 54843-0935
715/634-4868

Joshua Tree Associates LLC

PLEASE PRINT THE FULL NAME(S) AS YOU WANT IT LISTED ON THE DEED

301 Thelma Drive #153

Casper, WY 82609

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

360-448-4300

PHONE NUMBER

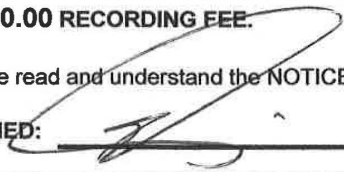
I HEREBY APPLY FOR THE PURCHASE OF ITEM NUMBER 19 INDICATED ON THE SAWYER COUNTY
LAND SALE LIST DATED 2021 DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Abendpost Beach Subdivision, 2nd Addition, Lots 33-36, Incl, Blk 12	31.40.8	0.275
DESCRIPTION	SECTION TWSHP RANGE	ACRES

LEGACY PIN # 002-109-12-3300

I AM SUBMITTING PAYMENT, MADE PAYABLE TO THE SAWYER COUNTY TREASURER, OF \$ 1,200.00
WHICH IS AT LEAST THE AMOUNT OF THE MINIMUM BID AT THE LAST ADVERTISED LAND SALE, PLUS
A \$30.00 RECORDING FEE.

I have read and understand the NOTICE provision as printed below.

SIGNED: 

DATED: 12-9-21

NOTICE

The Land, Water and Forest Resources Committee of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Parcels (and improvements thereto) are sold "as is" and are subject to any and all reservations, easements, and exceptions of record; and are subject to the provisions of Sawyer County zoning, sanitary code, and subdivision control ordinances and regulations, and to any and all federal, state and local government laws and regulations. By applying for purchase of parcels included in this list the successful applicant agrees to hold Sawyer County harmless for any and all costs and expenses that might be required for procurement of evidence of title, property boundaries, access rights and/or development of said access, and for the condition of the land and/or improvements thereto.

The buyer is responsible for inspection of property prior to the sale. Sawyer County does not guarantee title, acreage, access rights, location of property boundaries, or condition of the land and/or improvements thereto. Sawyer County will issue only quit claim deeds, conveying only whatever interest Sawyer County has in each parcel, upon sale of the parcels, and will reserve any existing road right-of-way and flowage easements. Acreage amounts listed for each parcel in the tax roll and on the land sale list, and tax parcel map depictions of parcels may not be accurate and are not guaranteed by Sawyer County.

<http://sawyerqis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=90bef9fa2f764b4bb3e10f8aa5263b66>

Real Estate Sawyer County Property Listing

Today's Date: 12/15/2021

Property Status: Current

Created On: 2/6/2007 7:55:01 AM



Description

Updated: 9/20/2011

Tax ID:	434
PIN:	57-002-2-40-08-31-5 15-175-123300
Legacy PIN:	002109123300
Map ID:	-14.12.33-36
Municipality:	(002) TOWN OF BASS LAKE
STR:	S31 T40N R08W
Description:	ABENDPOST BEACH 2ND ADDN LOTS 33-36 BLK 12
Recorded Acres:	0.275
Calculated Acres:	0.275
Lottery Claims:	0
First Dollar:	No
Zoning:	(C-1) Commercial One
ESN:	447



Tax Districts

Updated: 2/6/2007

1	State of Wisconsin
57	Sawyer County
002	Town of Bass Lake
572478	Hayward Community School District
001700	Technical College



Recorded Documents

Updated: 8/17/2020

IN REM JUDGMENT	
Date Recorded: 7/30/2020	<u>425354</u>
QUIT CLAIM DEED	
Date Recorded: 11/15/1977	<u>162162 288/193</u>



Ownership

Updated: 8/17/2020

SAWYER COUNTY	HAYWARD WI
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Billing Address:	Mailing Address:
SAWYER COUNTY	SAWYER COUNTY
10610 MAIN ST STE 10	10610 MAIN ST STE 10
HAYWARD WI 54843	HAYWARD WI 54843



Site Address * indicates Private Road

N/A



Property Assessment

Updated: 5/12/2021

2021 Assessment Detail			
Code	Acres	Land	Imp.
X3-EXEMPT COUNTY	0.275	0	0

2-Year Comparison			
	2020	2021	Change
Land:	1,200	0	-100.0%
Improved:	0	0	0.0%
Total:	1,200	0	-100.0%



Property History

N/A

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10610 MAIN ST, SUITE 16
P.O. BOX 935
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715/634-4868

Joshua Tree Associates LLC

PLEASE PRINT THE FULL NAME(S) AS YOU WANT IT LISTED ON THE DEED

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Casper, WY 82609

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

360-448-4300

PHONE NUMBER

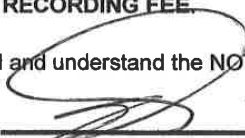
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DESCRIPTION	SECTION TWSHP RANGE	ACRES

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DATED: 12-9-21

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Real Estate Sawyer County Property Listing

Today's Date: 12/15/2021

Property Status: Current

Created On: 2/6/2007 7:56:01 AM



Description

Updated: 6/9/2016

Tax ID:	37050
PIN:	57-176-2-38-07-22-5 15-235-040800
Legacy PIN:	176106040800
Map ID:	-3.4.8
Municipality:	(176) VILLAGE OF RADISSON
STR:	S22 T38N R07W
Description:	VILLAGE OF RADISSON BONCLERS ADDITION LOT 8 BLK 4
Recorded Acres:	0.370
Calculated Acres:	0.389
Lottery Claims:	0
First Dollar:	No
Zoning:	(N/A) No Zoning
ESN:	438



Tax Districts

Updated: 2/6/2007

1	State of Wisconsin
57	Sawyer County
176	Village of Radisson
576615	Winter School District
001700	Technical College



Recorded Documents

Updated: 8/11/2017

JUDGMENT

Date Recorded: 8/8/2017 **408042**

QUIT CLAIM DEED

Date Recorded: 5/1/1996 **254005 576/116**



Ownership

Updated: 8/11/2017

SAWYER COUNTY HAYWARD WI

Billing Address:

SAWYER COUNTY
10610 MAIN ST STE 10
HAYWARD WI 54843

Mailing Address:

SAWYER COUNTY
10610 MAIN ST STE 10
HAYWARD WI 54843



Site Address * Indicates Private Road

N/A



Property Assessment

Updated: 5/31/2018

2021 Assessment Detail

Code	Acres	Land	Imp.
X3-EXEMPT COUNTY	0.370	0	0

2-Year Comparison

	2020	2021	Change
Land:	0	0	0.0%
Improved:	0	0	0.0%
Total:	0	0	0.0%



Property History

N/A

Forestry Report December 2021

Active Sales

9 sales listed as active in month of December

Sale Date	# of Sales	Acres	Bid Value	Received	Est. Remaining
11/4/16	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4/7/17	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11/3/17	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4/6/18	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
11/2/18	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5/3/19	2	171	\$57,842.00	\$50,054.00	\$21,235.00*
11/01/19	2	113	\$40,889.40	\$11,463.76	\$29,425.64
5/5/20	2	134	\$63,410.96	\$24,806.67	\$38,604.29
11/3/20	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5/7/21	2	149	\$112,595.00	\$87,717.50	\$103,877.50
10/22/21	0	0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Totals	9	718	\$317,117.36	\$95,041.93	\$235,522.43

Inactive Sales

Sale Date	# of Sales	Acres	Bid Value	Received	Est. Remaining
11/4/16	1	55	\$23,800.00	\$11,829.91	\$11,970.09
4/7/17	3	292	\$111,410.00	\$73,725.13	\$47,186.79*
11/3/17	4	468	\$250,376.00	\$10,000.00	\$240,376.00
4/6/18	2	196	\$116,228.00	\$115,247.56	\$50,440.00*
11/2/18	4	264	\$116,751.75	\$8,175.80	\$108,575.95
5/3/19	8	756	\$337,035.50	\$124,208.71	\$212,826.79
11/01/19	7	561	\$456,459.74	\$235,567.07	\$231,397.36*
5/5/20	8	556	\$400,924.30	\$15,839.49	\$385,084.81
11/3/20	10	890	\$800,987.90	\$179,790.50	\$621,197.40
5/7/21	19	1545	\$1,322,584.60	\$109,805.21	\$1,212,779.39
10/22/21	14	1139	\$963,604.20	\$0	\$963,604.20
Totals	80	6722	\$4,899,891.99	\$884,189.38	\$4,085,168.78

* Sales having overruns

** Sales having underruns

3 sales closed out in December.

Timber Sale Value (sold contracts-uncut) on file = **\$4,320,691.21**

<u>Timber Sale Revenue</u>	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>
	\$30,780.32	\$2,252,772.53
<u>Christmas Trees/Boughs</u>	\$0	\$90
<u>Performance Bond Cashed</u>	\$0	\$0
<u>Other Revenue</u>		
<u>Camping/Firewood/Access/Hay</u>	\$0	\$1,352.00
<u>Park Reservations</u>	\$0	\$800
		<u>Budget</u>
Gross Timber Sale Revenue	\$2,252,772.53	\$1,850,000
10% Payment to Towns	\$225,286.25	
Net Timber Sale Revenue	\$2,027,576.28	
Total Other Revenue	\$2,242.00	
Timber Sale Revenue Billed Out	\$98,497.56	

Timber Sale Inspections	<u># month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
	21	273

Comments: Goal for timber sale inspections is generally one inspection per week while sale is actively being harvested or wood is being hauled.

Tract Establishment	<u># sales month/ YTD</u>	<u>acres month/YTD</u>	<u>Goal</u>
	0/43	0/3170	3600

Comments: Focus on fieldwork for tract establishment.

Recon Acres Updated	<u>December</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Annual Goal</u>
	147	4447	6,000 acres

Comments: Recon is the assessment of geographic, structure and compositional attributes of forest stands. Field information is stored in the Wisconsin Forest Inventory & Reporting System (WisFIRS). Basic resource information is collected, stored and updated systematically and continuously. Database is used to analyze existing resources, evaluate management alternatives and assist in the development and implementation of management plans.

Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) Hours		
<u>December</u>	<u>FY22 Contract</u>	<u>YTD</u>
11.75	93.75	675
<u>Current Contract:</u>		
Sawyer County – DNR FY22 Stands		
Approximately 575 hours timber sale admin. \$40,046.54.		

Comments: Under the federal Good Neighbor Authority, the USDA Forest Service is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with states to perform forest management activities on national forest lands. WDNR has entered into a GNA agreement with the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF). WDNR is authorized to contract with counties to assist with forest management activities on national forest lands. The focus of the GNA program is to assist in the implementation of the CNNF Forest Plan, which will provide:

- Forest products to the local economy
- Collaboration between federal, state and county forest managers
- Improved health and resiliency of forestlands and watersheds within Wisconsin

Oak Wilt:
Nothing new to report, detection and treatment completed until next year.

Emerald Ash Borer:
Nothing new to report.

Mountain Bike Trails:
Nothing new to report.

Birkie Trail:
Nothing new to report.

ATV/UTV/Snowmobile Trails:
Nothing new to report

Parks:
Hatchery Park: Nothing new to report.

Nelson Lake Park: Nothing new to report.

2021-22 Sawyer County Forest and Wisconsin DNR Annual Partnership Meeting Minutes

Date: September 29th, 2021
Time: 9:30A.M.
Location: 12186 W Highway OO, Samuel C Johnson Family Outdoor Center

Personnel Present:

Greg Peterson, Sawyer County Forest Administrator
Erik Schielke, Forester, Sawyer County
Jeff Steidl, Forester, Sawyer County
Kyle Cummings, Recreational Coordinator/Forester, Sawyer County
James Kujala, DNR Forester
David Todus, DNR Forester
Matt Blaylock, DNR Park Falls Area Supervisor
Patrick Zimmer, DNR Hayward Team Leader
Dan Yankowiak, DNR Trail Liaison
Kyle Marinoff, DNR Parks/Recreation Supervisor
Joshua Spiegel, DNR Wildlife Biologist
Randy Sobralski, DNR Forest Technician
Roy Zubrod, DNR Forester
Paul Cigan, DNR Forest Health Specialist

Agenda Items:

1. Log-a-Load for Kids Event

Discussion by Roy Zubrod. On October 7th & 8th Sawyer County will host log-a-load for kids' event on Thannum Fire Lane. GLTPA will be coordinating the event. DNR will participate by providing education on fire suppression, wildlife and tree identification.

2. Tuscobia State Trail

Discussion by Kyle Marinoff.

- *Beaver Management.* DNR entered into an agreement with APHIS for beaver control work on the entire length of the Tuscobia Trail. Services provided include trapping and dam removal at stream crossings. The status of nuisance beaver is currently in a monitoring stage as problem areas have been brought under control.
- *Trail Maintenance.* Sawyer County ATV/Snowmobile Alliance has performed regular maintenance on trail surfaces and has done a good job.
- *Signage.* DNR currently in the process of upgrading signs identifying Tuscobia State Trail.

- *Winter Depot.* Friends of the Tuscobia currently managing day-to-day operations of the depot. The depot is open to the public 3-4 hours a day.
- *Capital Improvements.* DNR staff currently securing funding sources for future capital improvement projects such as culvert replacements and trail surface upgrades.
- *North Central Forest Planning Process.* Dan Yankowiak mentioned this process will begin in 2022 for state properties including the Tuscobia State Trail.
- *Grant Awards.* Greg Peterson mentioned Sawyer County was awarded two grants from the ORV council for trail surface improvements.

3. Wildlife Management

Discussion by Josh Spiegel.

- *Habitat Work.* Completed three burns this spring for maintenance of existing openings on the Sawyer County Forest totaling 111 acres. Two prescribed burns are scheduled for spring 2022 for opening maintenance. Other plans will focus on re-working existing openings and looking for semi-open grass areas to expand Elk habitat.
- *CDAC.* Discussion took place on deer harvest quotas and impacts of browse damage to forest regeneration. Efforts will be explored to conduct educational outreach and make sure impacts from deer browsing on forest regeneration are as limited as possible.
- *Elk Hunting.* Season starts mid-October. Sawyer County Forest is included for eligible areas to hunt.
- *Snapshot Wisconsin.* Cameras are being used across the state to gather data on wildlife populations. Protocols on what to do if one is found on active timber sales or during timber sale establishment were covered.
- *Grey Wolf Management.* Upcoming season is planned but this could change pending lawsuits.
- *Trail Mowing.* The same trails mowed in the past will be mowed again this year. Funding for this project is coming from Elk program. This practice will also benefit ruffed grouse.
- *Wildlife Population Estimates.* Based on surveys conducted throughout the year, population numbers for turkey, grouse, and woodcock look good.
- *Deer Exclosures.* Wildlife staff would like 4 sites to construct deer exclosure fences to monitor deer browsing impacts on forest regeneration. Candidates discussed included northern hardwood and oak cover types.
- *Wildlife Habitat Grant.* Fund balance is approximately \$11-13,000.00. The balance is below the 3-year allotment.

4. Forest Health Update.

Discussion by Paul Cigan.

- *EAB*. Outbreak present in Douglas County in Highland Township. This location is near the Sawyer County Line. This outbreak was detected in the past but could be more widespread than previously thought.
- *Oak Wilt*. Using information gathered from aerial flight this summer, 6 sites were treated on the county forest. Pilot project with grant funding used on private land to treat oak wilt was discussed. Lessons learned in treatment, those being rapid response single tree treatment vs. pocket treatment were also discussed.
- *Forest Tent Caterpillar*. Minor outbreaks observed this past summer in southern Sawyer County. If dry, warm weather patterns continue, it is possible an outbreak will occur in the future. The last outbreak was in 2001.
- *Linden Looper & Basswood Thrips*. Impacts were observed from the air in the Blue Hills and will continue to monitor in the future.
- *Two-Lined Chestnut Borer*. Present in Sawyer County but impacts are minor.

5. 2021 Forest Certification

Discussion by Roy Zubrod. Talking points derived from the WCFA meeting held in Hayward on September 22nd and 23rd. This year's audit was in Eau Claire, Clark, Chippewa and Polk Counties. Note: a final report has not been released as of this writing.

SFI (No CARS, 1 OFI)

- **OFI BMP Monitoring**. DNR did not post results of 5-year BMP Monitoring for 2.5 years after the studies were completed. **Answer: In the future, DNR will release final report within 1 year of findings being done.**

FSC (3 Minor CARS, 2 OBS)

- **Minor CAR New Pesticide Policy/ESRA**. Pertains to having an Environmental, Social, Risk Assessment done on every/any pesticide application with a specific chemical. Claim was made Clark County did not have one for a specific application and Eau Claire County didn't have any. Clark County did have an ESRA and Eau Claire County did not spray in 2021, therefore no ESRA needed. **Answer: Accept CAR and point out mistakes audit team made. In the future, accept subcommittee recommendation on ESRA's for FSC counties, this is a work-in-progress.**
- **Minor CAR Training and Implementation of ESRA's**. **Answer: WCFA will handle training for CF members and individual counties will handle for their employees.**
- **Minor CAR Annual Reporting of Pesticides**. This was specific to the application of Cellutreat. **Answer: Counties will commit to reporting any pesticide/herbicide applications.**
- **OBS BMP Monitoring**. **Answer: Same as SFI above.**

- **OBS HCVFs.** This has to do with a “future” standard yet to be completed/approved. **Answer: WCFA wants OBS removed. Counties were cited for something not implemented yet.**

Other Matters: WCFA wants to adopt new SFI standard for 2022. Public Forest Lands Specialist needs DNR and WCFA to go in at the same time. Internal discussions at DNR to take place first. FSC standard still being worked on and targeted for completion in 2023-24. Next year’s audit will be in Forest, Florence, Marinette and Oconto counties. The audit is scheduled for the week of August 1-5th.

6. Forest Management

Discussion by Greg Peterson (Points a, b, g, h, l, j), Roy Zubrod (Points c, d, f,) James Kujala (Point e) and David Todus (Point k).

- County forest department budget and accounts.* Revenue target is tentatively set at 1.85 million. May change when county budgets are finalized at year end.
- Timber sale establishment goals.* Harvest goal will remain at approximately 3700 acres.
- DNR Time Standards.* Goal was exceeded by +173.5 hours. Actual was 2362.5 vs standard of 2189. New time standards will be calculated in 2022.
- Dozer hours/projects.* Currently working on 54-acre project in Seeley Hills. Might assign more projects if time allows.
- Prescribed burning.* In addition to the wildlife discussion, one prescribed burn is scheduled for 2022 in an oak shelterwood. This will be approximately 36 acres. Total acres scheduled in 2022 between wildlife and forest management is approximately 102 acres. If time allows, more acres could be scheduled if conditions warrant.
- Reforestation projects.* Discussion on tree planting for an educational project for elementary school kids took place. Site selection, site prep and tree ordering will need to be coordinated to make this happen.
- Recon percentage – acreage update.* Roughly 8,975 acres greater than 20 years, most of this is aspen less than 40 years old. Recon updating will be prioritized on an as needed basis.
- Update on invasive species.* Sawyer County will monitor, and address as needed.
- Discussion on forestry grants.* Sawyer County will pursue Forest Administrator Grant. No other funding sources anticipated.
- Recreation.* Presentation to be given in October to Sawyer County Land, Water & Forest Resources Committee to address concerns brought up by recreational trail users regarding forestry practices along recreational trails.
- Good Neighbor Authority.* All sales established in past work periods were sold (2 county, 2 state). Sawyer County currently has 2 projects in-progress for 2022. Sawyer County will be doing timber sale administration on 4 GNA sales. For fiscal year 2023, the county was presented with one sale establishment project.

7. Other Items Requiring Attention/Discussion

Discussion by Greg Peterson (Points a, b), Roy Zubrod (Points c, d, e).

- a) *15-year Comprehensive Land Use Plan*. Everything done except for appendix. Public comments have been received and will look to wrap things up in October and submit to DNR for final review.
- b) *Carbon Credit Update*. Currently working with Blue Source and proposal should come out before year-end.
- c) *Wood Markets*. Brief discussion on the highlights of the market report published in the ForesTREEorter on September 14th.
- d) *Forest Regeneration Metric*. One stand was revisited and measured during the 2021 field season. Reports will be available sometime in October or November.
- e) *DNR Audit*. Sawyer County is up for internal DNR program review in 2023. Discussion took place regarding changes in frequency from 3 to 5 years, and timber sale sampling changes from 5 to 10%.

Sawyer County Forestry Department



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SAWYER COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT ANNUAL WORK PLAN FOR 2022

Following is the proposed Sawyer County Forest work plan for the year 2022. The plan gives direction and meaning to the proposed County Forest budget. The plan further defines and supplements the Sawyer County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan and emphasizes the current needs of the County Forest and Recreational System.

- **FORESTS**

The Sawyer County Forest (SCF) is 115,197 acres in size.

The following list shows the acreage of productive forested land by various timber types on the SCF:

- **Forest Cover:**

Aspen	40,356
Northern Hardwood	23,988
Oak	10,215
Black Spruce	5,540
White Pine	4,674
Swamp Hardwood	3,805
Red Pine	2,122
Tamarack	1,748
Red Maple	1,172
Cedar	888
White Spruce	576
Hemlock	490
Jack Pine	136
Balsam Fir	52
White Birch	45

Total Productive Forested Acres 95,912

**Non-productive/ Non-forested acreage accounts for 19,285 acres*

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I. TIMBER HARVEST

Timber harvests are not only important for the economic well being of Sawyer County, but also for the health and vigor of the forest. This includes all aspects of the forest including wildlife, watershed protection, air quality, recreation, and many other noncommercial values. Professional implementation of proper forest management and harvest techniques is essential. The timber management goal is to produce sustained yields of forest products by scheduling timber sales to achieve the average annual allowable cut. The long-term goal is to develop a regulated harvest in which the same number of acres or same volume of wood could be harvested each year for perpetuity. A regulated harvest can occur when there is a proper balance in age class distribution and uniform growth rates for each forest type. Compartment reconnaissance information from the Wisconsin Forest Inventory & Reporting System (WisFIRS) will be used to determine where timber harvesting is needed. Sawyer County Forest plans to assess approximately 7500 for harvest. From that acreage, SCF plans to offer for sale approximately 3600 acres of timber in accordance with the 2022 Annual Allowable Cut (excluding salvage operations due to unknown occurrences) in the following timber types in 2022:

	<u>Un-Even Aged Harvest/Thinning</u>	<u>Even-Aged Harvest Harvest/Thinning</u>
Northern Hardwoods	1390	50
Aspen	0	900
Oak	40	515
White Pine	0	255
Red Pine	0	185
Swamp Hardwood	15	60
Tamarack	0	20
Red Maple	30	20
White Spruce	0	45
Black Spruce	0	50
	1475	2100

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II. TIMBER SALE ESTABLISHMENT

- A. Set up and offer for sale approximately forty (40) sales totaling approximately 40,000 cords and 1,000 MBF. Two timber sale bid openings will be conducted in 2022. Each bid opening will offer approximately ½ of the annual allowable cut acres.

III. TIMBER SALE INSPECTIONS

- A. Maintain a continual program of inspections on all of the timber sale contracts for the purpose of checking completion status, contract compliance, and to prevent timber theft. Active timber sales will be visited a minimum of once per week. SCF staff with assistance from the DNR Liaison Forester will be responsible for this work.

IV. FOREST REVENUE

- A. Projected 2022 timber sale revenue \$1,850,000

V. FOREST RECONNAISSANCE

- A. Continue to update and maintain SCF recon data. SCF staff will be responsible for updating recon records on their assigned compartments. The Liaison Forester is responsible for updating recon records on DNR assigned compartments. The target for recon updates for 2022 is 6000 acres to be updated in the SCF recon system.

VI. REFORESTATION

- A. Conduct pre-sale scarification on timber sales for red oak, white pine, and white birch regeneration where conditions are advantageous.
- B. Conduct tree planting with Hayward and Winter School Districts.
- C. Evaluate possible sites for future regeneration projects such as pre- and post-sale scarification, possible planting sites.

VII. TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT

There are no non-commercial TSI projects planned.

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VIII. COUNTY FOREST ROADS

The SCF does not have any officially designated county forest roads and does not receive any county forest road aid.

IX. ROADS AND TRAILS

A. Road and Access Plan.

1. Make maps available to the public for all recreational activities on the county forest.
2. Inform public of changes made to access.
3. Continue to maintain signs on roads and trails in accordance with Road and Access Plan.
4. Review road and access plan with Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee for possible changes in road/trail designation.

B. Continue to plan all roads and access.

C. Continue to berm or gate roads and trails as need arises for erosion control to assure BMP issues are addressed or to protect sensitive areas.

D. Enforce seasonal closure period for forest roads and trails during spring break up.

1. Inform public of road closure.

E. Improve trails for timber sale access and roads open to public motor vehicle access with a priority on those areas where damage is occurring due to high public use, or problem areas identified as part of the GPS classification. Permanent secondary trails should also be given a priority.

X. LAND ACQUISITION

A. Follow direction of 15-Year Plan and as approved by Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee:

1. Evaluate land purchases as presented to Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee for possible County Board approval.
2. Evaluate land trades as presented to Land, Water, and Forest Resources Committee for possible County Board approval.
3. Pursue grant funding sources for any approved acquisition project.

XI. GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)/COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

A. Continue to operate and maintain currency of GIS system including roads and trails, historical timber sales, and other layers for public information.

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XII. SURVEYING

- A. Utilize Trimble GPS unit to locate interior property corners where section corners are available and to establish approximate county forest property boundaries where necessary for tract establishment.
- B. Present to committee problem areas for certified survey or re-monumentation efforts. Surveys generally are needed to prevent timber trespass or to clarify boundaries in order to continue management.

XIII. MISCELLANEOUS FOREST ACTIVITIES

- A. Monitor camping policy on County Forest for possible problems and/or changes to policy that will improve camping opportunities on forest.
- B. Issue and administer firewood, Christmas tree, camping, and bough harvesting permits.
- C. Continue to detect and treat confirmed positive oak wilt sites on County Forest to prevent further spread. Continue to monitor previously detected and treated sites.
- D. Continue to monitor and plan for positive confirmation of Emerald Ash Borer.

XIV. RECREATION TRAILS

- A. Snowmobile Trails
 - 1. Sawyer County will continue to maintain 383.2 miles of state funded snowmobile trails which includes 50.5 miles of Tuscobia State Trail and 68.6 miles of on County Forest. Maintenance is contracted with the Sawyer County Snowmobile/ATV Alliance. Grant funded, \$114,954.00.
 - 2. Apply for grant funding where needed for any trail improvements or bridge repairs/replacement.
- B. ATV/UTV Trails
 - 1. Sawyer County will continue to maintain 150.4 miles of state funded summer ATV/UTV trails which includes 50.5 miles of Tuscobia State Trail and 50 miles of summer ATV/UTV trails on County Forest. Maintenance is contracted with the Sawyer County Snowmobile/ATV Alliance. Grant funded, \$120,320
 - 2. Sawyer County will continue to maintain 149.8 miles of winter state funded ATV trails including 50.5 miles of Tuscobia State Trail and 50 miles of winter ATV trails on the County Forest. Maintenance contracted with the Sawyer County Snowmobile/ATV Alliance. Grant funded \$14,980.

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3. Complete Tuscobia Rehab project, Crawford Road to State Hwy 27. 5.63 miles, grant funded \$122,330.
4. Complete Tuscobia Rehab project, Hofer Road to State Hwy 40, 5.04 miles, grant funded \$109,590.
5. Apply for grant funding where needed for any trail improvements or enhancements.

C. Ski Trails

1. American Birkebeiner Trail
The American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation (ABSF) maintains and grooms the Birkebeiner Trails including the Birkie, Birkie Classic, and "OO" Loop Trails as a skiing and hiking trail for Sawyer County. Maintenance and grooming costs are largely paid by the Foundation itself.
2. Hatchery Creek Park Trails
ABSF maintains and grooms the Fish Hatchery Park ski trail. Continue cooperation with the ABSF
3. Seeley Trails
The Seeley Trails are maintained and groomed primarily by the Seeley Lions Club.

D. Bike Trails

1. Continue to work with Chequamegon Area Mountain Bike Association (CAMBA) to maintain mountain bike trails both the singletrack trail system and two track trails located on forest roads within the SCF.
2. Continue working with bike groups to provide snow/fat bike opportunities within County Forest.

E. Hunter Walking Trails

1. Maintain established trails.
2. Mow approximately twenty percent of existing trails; work in conjunction with DNR Wildlife and local conservation groups.
3. Identify new possible trail locations based on need and habitat considerations

F. Hiking Trails

1. Continue working with Southwest Sawyer County Non-motorized trail group to maintain Green Lake trail, and assist with any further developments of hiking trails.

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G. NoRTAC (Northern Region Trail Advisory Committee)

1. Continue participation in regional trail committee to address trail needs and issues within the region.

XVI. FISH and WILDLIFE

A. Nickel an Acre

County receives \$5,760/year for Wildlife Management related activities on County Forest. A maximum of three years of funding can be accrued.

Approved Funding Activities

1. Prescribed burning and development of oak savanna conversion project located in Town of Winter along Thornapple River.
2. Building of berms/ installation of gates on closed access roads. (In accordance with the Access Management Plan).
3. Scarification work for red oak regeneration.
4. Purchase of grass seed for seeding and stabilizing forest roads after harvest.
5. Construction of access roads to facilitate logging operations in isolated areas.
6. Mowing of hunter walking trails.
7. Wildlife opening maintenance and construction, specifically within the expanded elk range.
8. Purchase of prescribed fire equipment for county staff.

XVII. Parks

A. Hatchery Creek Park

1. Continue maintenance and development of park and pavilion building. Continue cooperation with ABSF, CAMBA, and other community groups with park projects and recreational trails.

B. Eagles Landing

1. Continue maintenance of park.

C. Nelson Lake Boat Landing/Park

1. Continue maintenance and development of park in cooperation with the Town of Lenroot.

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XVIII. Good Neighbor Authority (GNA)

Under the federal Good Neighbor Authority, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with states to perform forest management activities on national forest lands. The WDNR has entered into a GNA agreement with the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF). WDNR is authorized to contract with counties to assist with forest management. The focus of the GNA Program is to assist in the implementation of the CNNF Forest Plan, which will provide:

- Forest products to the local economy
- Collaboration between federal, state and county forest managers
- Improved health and resiliency of forestlands and watersheds within Wisconsin.

A. Continue participation in GNA program.

1. Complete Sawyer County – FY22 Sale Establishment/Administration contract. Approximately 575 hours, \$40,046.54 reimbursable through GNA funding.
2. Prepare, approve and begin next fiscal year program contracts as available.

Hours provided to the GNA program are in addition to Sawyer County normal work hours.

Information about timber sale activities or any other Forestry Department program may be obtained by contacting the Sawyer County Forestry Department, Sawyer County Courthouse, 10610 Main Street, Suite 100, Hayward, WI 54843.
Phone: 715-634-4846 FAX: 715-638-3234.

• REFERENCES:

1. Annual Integrated Planning Meeting held on September 29, 2021.
2. Sawyer County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan 2021-2035.

Conservation Department Update December 2021-January 2022

Prepared by Jay Kozlowski, Zoning & Conservation Administrator

- Plans for Upper Brunet River Dam Replacement with full drawdown have been submitted to the DNR for approval. The addition of a coffer dam even after additional grant funding with submitting a contingency would still cost the County an approximately an additional \$100,000-\$400,000.
- Billy Boy Easement Renewal – this is the 20 year renewal process for the dam easement. This easement is made between Sawyer County and the BIA. The deadline is in 2024 but we are starting the process now. Last time this easement was renewed it did cost the County over \$5,000 to secure said easement.
- Submitted grant to US Forest Service for funding related to terrestrial and aquatic invasive species within the National Forest. This grant funding would be used in conjunction with Taylor County to perform roadside surveys, generate specific mapped areas of known invasive species, and provide additional signage within the National Forest Boundary Areas.
- Speaking and Poster contest will be taking place later this month for youth conservation education.
- Tree Sale is up and running online (Sawyer County Website). Limited stock this season but there are still some varieties available.
- Citation updates: 6 citations were written in 2021 regarding specific conservation aspects and not “zoning” aspects. These include shoreline vegetation removal outside of allowed viewing and access corridor and grading/excavating within 35’ bufferzone area. All but 1 of these citations have been resolved in that citation amounts have been paid and individuals are following up with our office for correction measures. This means that individuals just don’t pay a

fine for the illegal actions but still must complete recommended remediation of specific events.

There are several other pending citations that still need additional information and DNR collaboration. This would mean that certain events trigger cross jurisdiction of potential violations and additional research is still needed prior to submitting citation to The Courts.