

Wisconsin DNR State Lands

101 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53703

1Y941

SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules[®] Section 2
Forest Management

Surveillance Audit

Report Date: October 4, 2016

Only those documents viewed through the AESOP system are officially controlled. All other copies, whether viewed through another computer program or a printed version, are not controlled and therefore NSF assumes no responsibility for accuracy of the document

NSF International Forestry Program Audit Report

A. Program Participant's Name

Wisconsin DNR State Lands

NSF Customer Number (FRS)

1Y941

B. Scope of Certification

Forest management operations on the following WI State Lands:

Categories included in the DNR Lands forest certification review include:

- Northern and Southern State Forests
- State Parks
- State Recreation Trails
- State Wildlife Areas (including leased federal lands, Meadow Valley W.A.)
- State Fisheries Areas
- State Natural Areas
- Natural Resource Protection and Management Areas
- Lower Wisconsin Riverway
- State Wild Rivers
- State Owned Islands
- Stewardship Demonstration Forests

The following DNR properties (about 30,477 acres) are excluded from the certification project:

- Agricultural fields (due to potential GMO issue)
- Stream Bank Protection Areas (eased lands not under DNR management)
- Forest Legacy Easements (eased lands not under DNR management)
- States Fish Hatcheries and Rearing Ponds (intensive non-forest use)
- State Forest Nurseries (intensive non-forest use)
- Nonpoint Pollution Control Easements (eased lands not under DNR management)
- Poynette Game Farm and McKenzie Environmental Center (intensive non-forest use)
- Boat Access Sites (intensive non-forest use)
- Fire Tower Sites (intensive non-forest use)
- Radio Tower Sites (intensive non-forest use)
- Ranger Stations (intensive non-forest use)
- Administrative Offices and Storage Buildings (intensive non-forest use)
- State Park Intensively Developed Recreation Areas (intensive non-forest use) e.g. Peninsula State Park golf course, Blue Mound State Park swimming pool
- State Trails Cooperatively Managed by Others (planning and management authority given to others by MOU; primarily counties)

The SFI Standard certification number is NSF-SFIS-1Y941.

Only those documents viewed through the AESOP system are officially controlled. All other copies, whether viewed through another computer program or a printed version, are not controlled and therefore NSF assumes no responsibility for accuracy of the document

C. NSF Audit Team

Norman Boatwright – SFI Lead Auditor, Robert Hrubes - FSC Lead Auditor and Beth Jacqmain - FSC Team Auditor

D. Audit Dates

August 15-18, 2016

E. Reference Documentation (Standards, Guidance, etc.)

SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules®, Section 2

Company Documentation (Program Manual, Procedures, etc.)

Numerous policy and procedure documents.

F. Audit Results: Based on the results of this assessment, the auditor concluded:

- Acceptable with no nonconformities
- The following nonconformities were identified and will require corrective action.
Major: 0 Minor: 0

In addition, 2 opportunities for improvement (OFIs) were identified)

Corrective actions and supporting documentation should be submitted to NSF through the NSF Online Customer Portal. For assistance, please contact your NSF Certification Project Manager.

G. Changes to Operations or to the Standard

Note: Were there any significant changes in operations, procedures, specifications, facility records, etc., from the previous visit?

- Yes (Please explain:
- No

H. Other Issues Reviewed

- Yes No N/A Public report from previous audit(s) is posted on the [SFI/SBP/etc.] website
- Yes No N/A Relevant industry specific logos or labels (SFI, PEFC, etc.) are utilized correctly.
- Yes No N/A Relevant accreditation logos (ANSI or ANAB) are utilized correctly and meet rules specified in AESOP 4876 sections 12-15 and AESOP 14680 section GP-59.
- Yes No N/A Nonconformities from previous audit were reviewed.
No nonconformances were identified during the 2015 audit.

I. Future Audit Schedule

Following the initial registration audit, continued certification requires annual assessments commonly referred to as "Surveillance Audits". Additionally, at the end of the certification period, maintaining certification requires the completion of a recertification or "Reassessment Audit". The next audit is a Surveillance Audit scheduled for the week of August 18, 2017.

J. Appendices

- [Appendix 1:](#) Audit Notification Letter and Audit Schedule
- [Appendix 2:](#) SFI Forest Management Public Summary Report
- [Appendix 3:](#) SFI Forest Management Audit Checklist and Site Visit Notes
- [Appendix 4:](#) Meeting Attendance

Only those documents viewed through the AESOP system are officially controlled. All other copies, whether viewed through another computer program or a printed version, are not controlled and therefore NSF assumes no responsibility for accuracy of the document

Appendix 1
Audit Notification Letter and Audit Schedule

VIA EMAIL

Mark A. Heyde
Forest Certification Coordinator
Public and Private Forestry Section
Bureau of Forest Management
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
phone: (608) 267-0565
cell: (608) 220-9780
Mark.Heyde@wisconsin.gov

August 5, 2016

Re: Confirmation of 2016 SFI Standard Surveillance Audit

Dear Mark,

As we have discussed, I am scheduled to conduct the Surveillance Audit of the WIDNR State Lands Monday-Thursday August 15-18, 2016. This is a partial review of your SFI Program to confirm that it continues to be in conformance with the SFI Standard and that continual improvement is being made.

The audit team will consist of me as SFI Lead Auditor, Robert Hrubes as the FSC Lead Auditor and Beth Jacqmain as the Team Auditor for FSC.

During the audit I will:

1. Review progress on achieving SFI objectives and performance measures and the results of the management review of your SFI Program;
2. Review selected components of your SFI program;
3. Verify effective implementation of any corrective action plans from the previous NSF audit;
4. Review logo and/or label use;
5. Confirm public availability of public reports; and
6. Evaluate the effectiveness of planned activities aimed at continual improvement of your SFI Program.

You will be audited to the 2015-2019 SFI Standards and Rules®, Section 2.

We have worked together to develop the following tentative schedule. The schedule can be adapted either in advance or on-site to accommodate any special circumstances.

I look forward to visiting you and evaluating continual improvement in your SFI Program. If you have any questions regarding this planned audit, please call me at 843.229.1851.

Sincerely yours,

Norman I. Boatwright, III

Norman I. Boatwright, III
Lead Auditor, NSF

Enclosure: Agenda for Surveillance Audit

**Wisconsin DNR 2016 FSC & SFI Forest Certification Audit Schedule
Northeast Wisconsin State Forests and State Lands
August 14 – 18, 2016**

Audit Schedule Summary

August 14th (Sunday)..... Travel Day – Auditors arrive and travel to Boulder Junction.
August 15th (Monday)..... Kick-off meeting from 8 – 10 AM, NHAL Trout Lake Headquarters
Field Audits (3 teams)
August 16th (Tuesday)..... Field Audits (3 teams)
August 17th (Wednesday).... Field Audits (3 teams)
August 18th (Thursday)..... Morning Field Audits (3 teams)
Exit Meeting and Briefing at DNR NED Green Bay Headquarters

Sunday (08/14/2016)

TRAVEL DAY TO BOULDER JUNCTION, WI

11:28 AM Auditor Norman Boatwright arrives at Madison airport (Delta #2617)
o Mark Heyde will pick up from airport and transport to overnight lodging in Minocqua.

5:30 PM Auditor Robert Hrubes arrives at Madison airport
o Teague Prichard will pick up from airport and transport to overnight lodging in Minocqua.

ETA Unknown Auditor Beth Jacqmain will drive her personal vehicle to overnight lodging in Minocqua.
o We will need to know the plan for Beth’s personal vehicle during the week.

Overnight Lodging: Quality Inn - 8729 US Hwy 51 North, Minocqua, WI 54548, 715.358.2588
(located at intersection of Hwys 51 and 70W, next to Burger King) - Check in after 3 pm.

Reservations For: 3 Auditor Rooms – Boatwright , Hrubes, and Jacqmain (Confirmation #476 323 132)
2 DNR Rooms – Mark Heyde, Teague Prichard (Confirmation #476 322 873)
\$94.50/night for auditors, State rate for Teague and Mark

Reservations By: Jeff Olsen



Monday (08/15/2016)

CERTIFICATION MEETING AND AUDIT SITES ON NHAL

7:30 AM Depart overnight lodging and travel to Trout Lake

- Teague and Mark will transport the auditors from overnight lodging to the DNR NHAL Trout Lake Forestry Headquarters.

8:00 – 10:00 AM Certification Kick-Off and CAR Report Review

DNR Trout Lake Forestry Headquarters – 2nd Floor Conference Room
4125 County Highway M, Boulder Junction

Attending in Person: Auditors Boatwright, Hrubes, Jacqmain
Mark Heyde, Kate Lenz, Jeff Olsen, Teague Prichard, Curt Wilson
NEED CONFIRMED NAMES OF THOSE ATTENDING TO GET A HEAD COUNT
FICIT reps, Optional: Program BD's, Program Area Ids, FR Staff

Materials Provided: Department Overview of Significant Changes
2015 FSC and SFI CAR Progress Report
Audit Schedule and Travel Maps
ALL DOCUMENT TO BE PROVIDED BY MARK IN ADVANCE

Conference Call: 1 (855) 947-8255, Passcode: 9332 390#
GEF 2 Room 613 reserved from 8-10 AM

10:00 - 11:45 AM NHAL Field Audit Joint Sites

- All auditors complete 1-2 joint site visits
- Optional: Norman Boatwright completes desk audit

10:05 – 10:45 AM **Northern Highland State Forest (Required Site)**

Completed Timber Sale #1085H, Tract #6476-38-14 – NE Trout Lake Sale (NWSE-Sec 32-T42N-R7E)

Meeting Location: CTH M north of North Creek Rd
Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake
DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Todd Anderson, Trout Lake

Travel to Next Site: *CTH M to Dairyman's Rd to Airport Road*

10:50 – 11:15 AM **Northern Highland State Forest (Required Site)**

Completed Timber Sale #1080H, Tact #6476-32-14 – Airport Road Norway Sale (NW ¼-Sec 8-T42N-R7E)

Meeting Location: Airport Rd
Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake
DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Todd Anderson, Trout Lake

11:15 AM – 11:25 AM **Northern Highland State Forest**

Herbicide Site – Boulder Junction Airport (NESW-Sec 8-T42N-R7E)
Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake
DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Paul Schultz, Woodruff

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM Lunch

Location: Boulder Junction Community Center
 Logistics Contact: Jeff Olsen, Marci Jahns, Steve Petersen
 Attending: Auditors: Boatwright, Hrubes, Jacquain
 DNR: Anderson, Christopherson, Dalton, Heyde, Jahns, Lenz, Olsen, Petersen, Prichard, Schultz, Stearns, Wallace, Wetterau, Wilson

12:15- 4:30 NHAL Field Audits (3 Separate Audit Teams)

- Auditors will separate into 3 different routes for the remainder of the audit.

Monday PM (8/15/2016) – NHAL Audit Route 1 (North Route)

Auditor: Robert Hrubes

DNR Guide: Craig Williams

ICIT Team Member: Mark Heyde

Logistics: Brian Spencer, Rhineland

12:20 – 1:05 PM Northern Highland State Forest (Active Timber Sale)

Completed Timber Sale #1121H, Tract #6476-30-15 – West Star Lake Sale (Sec 16,21-T41N-R8E)

Meeting Location: Gresham Lake Rd

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Jim Wetterau, Woodruff

1:25 – 2:15 PM Northern Highland State Forest (Required Site)

Completed Timber Sale #1074H, Tract #6496-15-14– Border Creek Springs Sale (Sec 26,27,34,35,36-T40N-R7E)

Meeting Location: Hwy 70 at Blue Island Road

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Craig Dalton, Woodruff

2:25 – 3:10 PM American Legion State Forest

Timber Sale #1007A, Tract #4475-?-? – Horse Trail Pine Sale (Sec 1,11,12-T39N-R8E) - Sale number isn't on list?

Meeting Location: Hwy 70 and CTH O

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Craig Dalton, Woodruff

3:20 – 4:30 PM Miscellaneous State Lands – Vilas County (Required Site)

Completed Timber Sale #968, Tract #6401-968-15– River Road Pine Direct Sale (SESE-Sec 35-T40N-R9E)

Meeting Location: Cloverland Dr off Hwy 70

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Jamie Remme, Eagle River

4:30 – 5:30 PM Travel to Florence for overnight lodging

o Brian Spencer to transport auditor to Florence lodging.

Overnight Lodging: Nicolet Lodge – Corner of US Hwy 2 and Hwy 70/101, Florence, 715.528.5996
<http://www.nicoletlodge.com/>

Reservations For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmation: Room #5 or 6, key will be in the door; Craig 715-360-7004)

Reservation By: Brian Spencer

Monday PM (8/15/2016) – NHAL Audit Route 2(Central Route)

Auditor: Beth Jacqmain

DNR Guide: Jeff Olsen

ICIT Team Member: ?

Logistics: Ken Hayes, Woodruff

12:25 – 1:10 PM **Northern Highland State Forest (Required Site)**

Sold Timber Sale #1076H, Tract #6476-2-14 – South Turtle Lake III Sale (Sec 18,20-T43N-R5E)

Meeting Location: Turtle Lake Rd

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Paul Stearns, Trout Lake

1:20 – 2:05 PM **Northern Highland State Forest (Required Site)**

Sold Timber Sale #1109H, Tract #6476-17-15 – Turtle River Pine Sale (SESW-Sec 7-T43N-R5E)

Meeting Location: Turtle Lake Rd

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Adam Wallace, Trout Lake

2:15 – 3:00 PM **Northern Highland State Forest Turtle River South Sale #1117H**

Sold Timber Sale #1117H, Tract #6476-25-15 – Turtle River South Sale (Sec 13,24-T43N-R4E; Sec 7,18,19-T43N-R5E)

Meeting Location: Circle Lily Rd and CTH J

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Adam Wallace, Trout Lake

3:20 – 4:00 PM **Northern Highland State Forest (Required Site)**

Sold Timber Sale #1099H, Tract #6476-03-15 – Birch Hill Pine Sale (SENE-Sec 15-T42N-R5E)

Meeting Location: Hwy 51 and Birch Hill Rd

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Chase Christopherson, Trout Lake

4:15 – 4:30 PM Northern Highland State

Forest Planting Site – Rice Creek Culvert (NESE-Sec

4-T42N-R6E) Meeting Location: Keego Road and

CTH K

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Paul Schultz, Woodruff

4:30 – 5:00 PM Travel to Overnight Lodging in Minocqua
 ○ ??? will transport auditor to overnight lodging

Overnight Lodging: AmericInn Minocqua, 700 Hwy 51 North, Minocqua, 715.356.3730
<https://www.americinn.com/hotels/wi/minocqua>

Reservation For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmation # 890914)

Reservation By: Ken Hayes

Monday PM (8/15/2016) – NHAL Audit Route 3 (South Route)

Auditor: Norman Boatwright

DNR Guide: Ken Hayes

ICIT Team Member: ?

Logistics: Kate Lenz, Peshtigo

12:15 – 12:45 PM **Northern Highland State Forest**
 Tree Planting Site – North Creek Springs PJ Site (SESW-Sec 25-T42N-R6E)
 Meeting Location: off CTH M, west on North Creek Road
 Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Paul Schultz, Woodruff

1:00 – 1:45 PM **Northern Highland State Forest (Active Timber Sale)**
 Sold Timber Sale #1090H, Tract #6476-44-14 – Gresham Red Pine Sale (SWSW-Sec 16-T41N-R6E)
 Meeting Location: Gresham Lake Rd
 Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Jim Wetterau, Woodruff

2:00 – 2:45 PM **American Legion State Forest**
 Sold Timber Sale #1106A, Tract #4475-13-15 – Minocqua Thoroughfare Sale (Sec 17,18-T39N-R7E)
 Meeting Location: Hwy 47 and Timberland Dr
 Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Craig Dalton, Woodruff
 Forester Ken Hayes, Woodruff

2:55 – 3:40 PM **American Legion State Forest**
 Clear Lake Campground Visit – Campground Site on NHAL SF – (SW ¼-Sec 17-T39R-R7E)
 Meeting Location: Woodruff Rd just north of Hwy 4 intersection
 DNR Staff to Attend: NHAL State Forest Superintendent Steve Petersen, Woodruff
 NHAL Recreation Supervisor Joe Fieweger
 NHAL Law Enforcement Team Leader Sara Pearson, Woodruff

3:55 – 4:30 PM **American Legion State Forest**
 Sold Timber Sale #1115A, Tract #4475-23-15– Bear Road Oak Sale (E ½-Sec 11-T38N-R7E)
 Meeting Location: Hwy 47 and Bear Lake Rd

Property Manager: NHAL Forestry Team Supervisor Jeff Olsen, Trout Lake
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Ken Hayes, Eagle River

4:30 PM Travel to Wittenberg for overnight lodging
 ○ Kate Lenz will transport auditor to overnight lodging unless an ICIT member is available to do so.

Overnight Lodging: Best Western Wittenberg – W17267 Red Oak Lane, Wittenberg, 715.253.3755
<http://bestwesternwisconsin.com/hotels/best-western-wittenberg-inn>

Reservation For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmation # 3747)
 Reservation By: Kate Lenz

Tuesday (8/16/2016) – North Route (Florence, Marinette, Oconto Counties)

Auditor: Robert Hrubes
DNR Guide: Forestry Team Leader Craig Williams, Crandon
ICIT Team Member: Mark Heyde
Logistics: Brian Spencer, Rhinelander

7:30 AM Depart overnight lodging at Nicolet Lodge - Florence, WI

7:45 – 8:00 AM Introductions and Logistics of the Day
 Location: DNR Florence Service Center, 5631 Forestry Drive, Florence
 Attending: Forester Henry Sullivan, Forester Tyler Wood
 Materials: Itinerary and map, timber sale maps with 2460/narrative

8:00 – 8:15 AM Travel to field

8:15 – 9:00 AM **Spread Eagle Barrens SNA (Required Site)**
 Sold Timber Sale #12, Tract #1975-1-15 – Two North Sale (SWSW-Sec 3-T39N-R19E)
 Meeting Location: US Hwy 2, 3/10 miles west of intersection of Hwy 2 and North Lake Rd
 Property Manager: Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin, Rhinelander
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Henry Sullivan
 Forester Tyler Wood
 Forester Liz Wood
 Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund
 Area Lands Supervisor Jeff Pennucci
 Wildlife Biologist Jason Cotter

Travel Route to Next Site:

9:15 – 10:00 AM **Spread Eagle Barrens SNA (Required Site)**
 Sold Timber Sale #11, Tract #1975-1-14 – Bodelin Sale (SENE-Sec 9-T39N-R19E)
 Meeting Location: Intersection Lake Ellwood Rd & East Shore Rd near Spring Lake
 Property Manager: Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin, Rhinelander
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Henry Sullivan
 Forester Tyler Wood
 Forester Liz Wood
 Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund

Area Lands Supervisor Jeff Pennucci
Wildlife Biologist Jason Cotter

Travel Route to Next Site:

10:30 – 11:15 AM Pine-Popple Wild Rivers Property (Required Site)

Completed Timber Sale #58, Tract #1976-2-14 – North Power Dam Sale (Sec 28-T39N-R18E)

Meeting Location: End of Pine River Road
Property Manager: Area Supervisor Jeff Pennucci, Rhinelander (Interim Due to Vacancy)
DNR Staff to Attend: Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin, Rhinelander
Forester Henry Sullivan
Forester Tyler Wood
Forester Liz Wood
Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund
Wildlife Biologist Jason Cotter

Travel Route to Next Site:

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM Pine-Popple Wild Rivers Property

Sold Timber Sale #63, Tract #1976-01-15 – North Power Dam Bow Out Timber Sale (Sec 27-T39N-R18E)

Meeting Location: Hwy N and Pine River Oxbow
Property Manager: Area Supervisor Jeff Pennucci, Rhinelander (Interim Due to Vacancy)
DNR Staff to Attend: Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin, Rhinelander
Forester Henry Sullivan
Forester Tyler Wood
Forester Liz Wood
Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund
Wildlife Biologist Jason Cotter

12:15 – 1:00 PM Lunch

Location: Field lunch near Hwy N & Pine River Oxbow. In case of inclement weather, return to Florence DNR office.

Attending Lunch: Auditor, Craig Williams, Henry Sullivan, Tyler Wood, Heather Berklund, Liz Wood, Brian Spencer, Carly Lapin, Jeff Pennucci, Jason Cotter

Lunch Logistics: Brian Spencer – Lunch provided by Florence County Forestry Assistance Mary Podnar, 715.528.4400 ext. 104

Travel Route to Next Site:

1:15 – 2:00 PM Pine-Popple Wild Rivers Property

Established Timber Sale Tract #1976-02-15 – YMCA Sale (Sec 11-T39N-R17E)

Meeting Location: End of South Shore Drive
Property Manager: Area Supervisor Jeff Pennucci, Rhinelander (Interim Due to Vacancy)
DNR Staff to Attend: Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin, Rhinelander
Forester Henry Sullivan
Forester Tyler Wood



Forester Liz Wood
 Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund
 Wildlife Biologist Jason Cotter

Travel Route to Next Site:

2:30 – 4:30 PM **Pine-Popple Wild Rivers Property**

Sold Timber Sale #62, Tract #1976-04-14 – LaSalle North Sale (Sec 30-T39N-R18E)

Meeting Location: End of Ironwood Drive
 Property Manager: Area Supervisor Jeff Pennucci, Rhinelander (Interim Due to Vacancy)
 DNR Staff to Attend: Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin, Rhinelander
 Forester Henry Sullivan
 Forester Tyler Wood
 Forester Liz Wood
 Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund
 Wildlife Biologist Jason Cotter

4:30 – 5:30 PM **Auditor Travel to Overnight Lodging**

o Brian Spencer to transport auditor to overnight lodging
 Overnight Lodging: Grand Motel, Corner of U.S. Hwy 8 and 141, Pembine
 715-324-5417
 Reservations For: 1 Auditor (Confirmation # Email Confirmation_Spencer)
 Reservation Made By: Brian Spencer
 Dinner and Breakfast Available at:
 Dinner: Paris Supper Club, N18727 Sauld St, Pembine, WI 54156 Ph: (715) 324-6732
 Open 2:00pm-9:00pm
 Dinner & Breakfast: Patti's Place, N17480 US-141, Pembine, WI 54156 Ph: (715) 324-5545
 Restaurant is located 2 miles south of the hotel on Hwy 141 in Beecher.
 Open 5:00am-8:00pm

Tuesday (8/16/2016) – Central Route (Langlade, Lincoln Counties)

Auditor: Beth Jacqumain

DNR Guide: Forester Tom Shockley, Woodruff

ICIT Representative: ?

Logistics: Ken Hayes, Woodruff

7:00 – 8:00 AM **Travel from overnight lodging at AmericInn, Minocqua to field**

- o Tom Shockley will pick up and transport the auditor.

Travel Route: *South on Hwy 51 to Cedar Falls Rd to Cedar Falls Campground, north on Cedar Falls Fire Lane*

8:00 – 9:15 AM **Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area**

Sold Timber Sale #4, Tract #4403-04-14 – North Willow Aspen Sale (Sec 21,22-T38N-R5E)

Meeting Location: Cedar Falls Campground
 Property Manager: Forester Tom Shockley, Woodruff
 DNR Staff to Attend: Wildlife Biologist Michelle Woodford



Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin
NHAL Supervisor Steve Petersen

Travel Route to Next Site: *East ½ mile*

9:45 – 10:30 AM **Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area**
Sold Timber Sale #2, Tract #4403-02-14 – Cedar Falls Firelane Sale (Sec 15,22-T38N-R5E)
Meeting Location: Cedar Falls Campground
Property Manager: Forester Tom Shockley, Woodruff
DNR Staff to Attend: Wildlife Biologist Michelle Woodford
Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin
NHAL Supervisor Steve Petersen

Travel Route to Next Site: *Cedar Falls Rd south to Willow Dam Rd to HWY Y to Iron Gate Rd west*

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM **Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area**
○ not on selection list, but may be active logging with recreation sites
Sold Timber Sale Tract #4403-948-12 – Back Bay Sale (Sec 17,18,19,20-T37N-R5E)
Meeting Location: Iron Gate Rd and Hwy Y
Property Manager: Forester Tom Shockley, Woodruff
DNR Staff to Attend: Wildlife Biologist Michelle Woodford
Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin
NHAL Supervisor Steve Petersen

Travel Route to Next Site: *Travel back east on Iron Gate Rd*

12:00 – 12:30 PM Lunch
○ Ken Hayes will order subs from Minocqua to have at or between sites

12:30 – 1:45 PM **Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area**
Sold Timber Sale #9, Tract #4403-09-15 – ATV Trail Pine Sale (Sec 22,23,26-T37N-R5E)
Meeting Location: Hwy Y and Iron Gate Rd
Property Manager: Forester Tom Shockley, Woodruff
DNR Staff to Attend: Wildlife Biologist Michelle Woodford
Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin
NHAL Supervisor Steve Petersen

Travel Route to Next Site: *Hwy Y to Swamp Lake Rd to north on Wood Rd*

2:30 – 3:30 PM **Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area (Required Site)**
Sold Timber Sale #6, Tract #4403-06-15 – Wood Road Timber Sale (Sec 33,34-T37N-R6E)
Meeting Location: Wood Rd and Swamp Lake Rd
Property Manager: Forester Tom Shockley, Woodruff
DNR Staff to Attend: Wildlife Biologist Michelle Woodford
Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin
NHAL Supervisor Steve Petersen

Travel Route to Next Site: *Swamp Lake Rd to Hwy K to Trails End Rd*

4:00 – 4:45 PM **Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area (Required Site)**
 Closed Timber Sale #964, Tract #4405-964-14 – Trails End Aspen Sale (Sec 1-T36N-R6E)
 Meeting Location: Hwy K and trails End Rd
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jeremy Holtz, Rhinelander
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Jon Leith
 Wildlife Biologist Michelle Woodford
 Conservation Biologist Carly Lapin
 Forestry Team Leader John Gillen

Travel Route to Overnight Lodging: *Hwy 51 south to Merrill*
 Shockley or Gillen to transport auditor to overnight lodging

4:45 – 5:30 PM Auditor Travel to Overnight Lodging
 Overnight Lodging: AmericInn Merrill, 3300 E Main St, Merrill, 715.536.7979
 <https://www.americinn.com/hotels/wi/merrill>
 Reservations For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmation #996277)
 Reservation Made By: Ken Hayes

Tuesday (8/16/2016) – South Route (Waupaca, Shawano, Outagamie Counties)

Depart Best Western Wittenberg at 7:30 AM

Auditor: Norman Boatwright

DNR Guide: Forestry Team Leader Lucas Schmidt, Waupaca

ICIT Team Rep: ???

Logistics: Kate Lenz, Peshtigo

7:45 – 8:45 AM **Statewide Habitat Areas (Shawano County)**
 Sold Timber Sale #1, Tract #5904-01-14 – Welder Timber Sale (Sec 2-T27N R11E)
 Meeting Location: N side towards end of Birch Lane (E of Robin Road) by gate
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas, Shawano
 DNR Staff to Attend: DNR Forester Zach Hylinski, Bowler
 DNR Forest Technician Dave Marquette, Bowler

Travel to Next Site: *Travel back to Hwy 45 south through Tigerton to CTH SS south (Split Rock), to Hunting Road south, to CTH G west*

9:15 – 9:45 AM **Little Wolf Fishery Area - Waupaca County (Required Site)**
 Completed Timber Sale #513, Tract #6912-05-13 – Spaulding Creek Timber Sale (Sec 24-T25N-R12E)
 Meeting Location: Landing/decking area off CTH G, approximately ¼ mile west of Peterson Rd south
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca
 DNR Staff to Attend: DNR Forester Mike Schuessler, Waupaca

Travel to Next Site: *Travel west on CTH G, @ corner where G continues south, continue straight west on Kitzman Road*

9:55 – 10:30 AM Whitcomb Creek Fishery Area - Waupaca County

Completed Timber Sale #213, Tract #6901-02-13 – Kitzman Pine Timber Sale (Sec 29-T25N R12E)

Meeting Location: Haul road to landing off Kitzman Road

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca

DNR Staff to Attend: DNR Forester Mike Schuessler, Waupaca

Travel to Next Site: *Travel west on Kitzman Road, turn north on W Hill Rd, travel west on CYTH C, turn right on Wolf River Road*

10:45 – 11:15 AM Little Wolf Fishery Area - Waupaca County

Established Timber Sale Tract #6912-13-16 – Schwaab Pine Timber Sale (Sec 26-T25N R11E) Meeting

Location: Landing/decking area off Wolf River Rd, approximately 1 mile NW off CTH C

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca

DNR Staff to Attend: DNR Forester Mike Schuessler, Waupaca

Travel to Next Site: *Travel back to CYH C southwest to CTH J south, west on N Lake Rd, to Anderson Rd south, to Roosevelt Rd west*

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM REM Leer and Griffen Creek

Established Timber Sale Tract #6904-15-16 – Leer Creek Timber Sale (Sec 9-T24N R11E)

Meeting Location: Access on south side of Roosevelt Road? Is the Anderson Rd access better for parking?

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca

DNR Staff to Attend: DNR Forester Ben Baumgart, Waupaca

12:00 – 12:30 PM Lunch on the road to Hartman Creek SP

- If ahead of schedule, lunch can be saved to eat at Hartman Creek upon arrival

Travel to Next Site: *Travel back to Anderson Rd, take Anderson Rd south to Hwy 49, through Iola and Scandinavia, to CTH Q south, to Hwy 54 west, to Hartman Creek State Park*

12:30 – 1:30 PM Hartman Creek State Park (Required Site)

Established Timber Sale Tract #6964-12-16 – Crossroads Timber Sale

(Sec 31-T22N-R11E; Sec 5,6-T21N-R11E; Sec 1-T21N-R10E)

Meeting Location: Field off intersection of Rural Road and Edminster Road?

Property Manager: Property Supervisor Michael Bergum, Hartman Creek State Park

DNR Staff to Attend: DNR Forester Joe Tucker, Waupaca

Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca

1:30 – 2:30 PM Hartman Creek State Park

Established Timber Sale Tract #6964-10-15 – Swan Song Timber Sale

(Sec 36-T22N-R10E; Sec 31-T22N-R11E; Sec 6-T21N-R11E)

Meeting Location: Parking lot in sale off Hartman Creek Road?

Property Manager: Property Supervisor Michael Bergum, Hartman Creek State Park

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Joe Tucker, Waupaca

Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca
Planned Departure: 2:30 PM

Travel to Next Site: *Depart HCSP on Hartman Creek Road, travel east on Rural Rd to Hwy 22 south, turn east on Stratton Lake Road*

2:45 – 3:30 PM **Radley Creek Fishery Area**
Established Timber Sale Tract #6908-11-15 – Weller DNR Line Timber Sale (Sec 10-T21N-R11E)
Meeting Location: Landing off Stratton Lake Road? Can we drive into the sale?
Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca
DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Joe Tucker, Waupaca?

Travel to Next Site: *Travel Stratton Lake Road to West, travel north on CTH K to Hwy 22, travel Hwy 22 to US 10 eastbound, exit at 49/110 and travel on 110 east through Fremont to CTH H north, then to CTH HH, Ernst Road, Weiland Road*

4:00 – 4:30 PM **REM – Wolf River – Colic Slough**
Established Timber Sale Tract #6913-04-13 – Weiland Road Timber Sale (Sec 6-T21N R14E)
Meeting Location: Landing off Weiland Road
Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca
DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Mike Schuessler, Waupaca
4:30 Travel to Overnight Lodging in New London:

o Lucas Schmidt or Kate Lenz to transport to overnight lodging
Travel to Lodging: *Weiland Road to Robe Road to Cut-Off Road to CTH W to New London*

Overnight Lodging: AmericInn New London, 1404 N Shawano St, New London, 920-982-5700,
<https://www.americinn.com/hotels/wi/newlondon>

Reservation Made For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmations #920 051-phone and #100724916-email)
Reservation By: Kate Lenz

Wednesday (8/17/2016) – North Route (Florence, Marinette, Oconto Counties)

Auditor: Robert Hrubes

DNR Guide: Forestry Team Leader Cole Couvillion, Wausaukee AM
Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson, Oconto Falls PM

ICIT Team Rep: Mark Heyde

Logistics: Brian Spencer, Rhinelander

7:15 AM Pick Up auditor from Pembine lodging
o Cole Couvillion to pick up

7:30 – 7:45 AM Introductions, Overview, and Logistics
Location: Pembine Ranger Station, N18225 US Hwy 141, Pembine – west side of highway south of town
Materials: Itinerary and map, timber sale maps with 2460/narrative

Travel Route to Field Site: *6.5 miles south on Hwy 141 to Old 38 Rd; 2 miles to Dow Dam Rd; ¼ mile to intersection with Rocky Lane. Sale located on end of Rocky Lane.*

8:00 – 8:30 AM Pike Wild River Property

Sold Timber Sale #99, Tract #3819-02-14– Amberg North Branch Sale (SWSW- Sec 9-T35N-R20E)

Meeting Location: End of Rocky Lane

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo (Interim due to Vacancy)

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Chad Gottbeheit, Wausaukee
Forestry Team Leader Cole Couvillion, Wausaukee
Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson, Oconto Falls

Travel Route to Next Site: *Co Hwy V to Co Hwy C west through Athelstane; Hwy CA south; C west to Parkway Rd. south on Parkway Rd. about 2.5 miles*

9:00 – 9:45 AM Peshtigo River State Forest

Sold Timber Sale #23, Tract #3810-02-14 – Parkway Pine Sale (Sec 3,4-T33N-R18E)

Meeting Location: Intersection of Parkway Rd and Boat Landing 9 Rd

Property Manager: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson (Interim due to Vacancy)

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Derek Nellis, Crivitz
Forestry Team Leader Cole Couvillion, Wausaukee
Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

Travel Route to Next Site:

9:50 – 10:30 AM Peshtigo River State Forest (Required Site)

Completed Timber Sale #24, Tract #3810-03-14 – Boat Landing 8 Sale (Sec 11-T33N-R18E)

Meeting Location: Intersection of Parkway Rd and Boat Landing 8 Rd

Property Manager: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson (Interim due to Vacancy)

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Derek Nellis, Crivitz
Forestry Team Leader Cole Couvillion, Wausaukee
Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

Travel Route to Next Site: ?

10:40 – 11:00 AM Peshtigo River State Forest

Site Visit of campground on the State Forest

Property Manager: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson (Interim due to Vacancy)

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Derek Nellis, Crivitz
State Forest Ranger Josh Jarvis, Crivitz
Forestry Team Leader Cole Couvillion, Wausaukee
Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

11:00 - 11:45 AM Peshtigo River State Forest

Sold Timber Sale #32, Tract #3810-05-15 – Old Veteran’s Lake Campground Sale (NWSW-Sec 12-, T33N R18E)

- Part of sale lies within the High Falls Native Community.

Sold Timber Sale #26, Tract #3810-01-14 – Black Bear Sale (NESW-Sec 12-T33N-R18E)

Meeting Location: Parking lot of Old Veteran’s Lake Campground

Property Manager: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson (Interim due to Vacancy)

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Derek Nellis, Crivitz
Forestry Team Leader Cole Couvillion, Wausaukee

Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

Travel Route to Lunch: ?

12:00 – 12:45 PM Lunch

Location: Woods Lake picnic shelter in Governor Thompson State Park
 Contact/Confirm for Lunch: Catered by “Country Inn” – Brian Spencer is contact
 Persons Attending Lunch: Auditor, Nellis, Severson, Couvillion, Halfmann, Jarvis, Kailhofer, Spencer

During lunch, visit with Governor Thompson State Park Superintendent Maggie Kailhofer to discuss state park and recreation.

Travel Route to Next Site: ?

1:00 – 1:30 PM **Peshtigo River State Forest**

Sold Timber Sale #33, Tract #3810-06-15 – Potato Farm Sale (Sec 7,8-T32N-R19E)
 Meeting Location: Johnson Falls Rd and Bushman Rd intersection
 Property Manager: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson (Interim due to Vacancy)
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Derek Nellis, Crivitz
 State Forest Ranger Josh Jarvis, Crivitz
 Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

Travel to Next Site: ?

1:45 – 2:30 PM **Peshtigo River State Forest (Required Site)**

Sold Timber Sale #30, Tract #3810-03-15 – Johnson Dam Sale (Sec 6-T32N-R19E)
 Meeting Location: Intersection of Dutch Lane and Highs Falls Rd
 Property Manager: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson (Interim due to Vacancy)
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Derek Nellis, Crivitz
 Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

Travel to Next Site: *Travel route from Johnson Dam TS is Parkway to Hwy W to Hwy 32 to Highway 64*
On travel route south, stop at the following for recreation, plantation, herbicide sites:

Peshtigo River State Forest

Parkway Plantation (SNW-Sec 7-T32N-R19E)
 - Plantation site, herbicide release, and ATV trail adjacent
 Property Manager: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson (Interim due to Vacancy)
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Derek Nellis, Crivitz
 Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

3:15 – 4:30 PM **Peshtigo Brook Wildlife Area (Active logging)**

Sold Timber Sale #1, Tract #4354-01-15 – One and Done Sale (Sec 5, T30N R18E)
 Meeting Location: Intersection of Pipeline Rd and Hwy 64
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Rich Lietz, Lakewood
 Forestry Team Leader John Lubbers, Green Bay
 Conservation Biologist Joe Henry, Green Bay

4:30 – 5:30 PM Travel to Overnight Lodging in Marinette
 ○ Halfmann or Huff to transport to Marinette
 Overnight Lodging: Country Inn & Suites, 2020 Old Peshtigo Court, Marinette, WI, 715.732.3400
 (off Hwy 41, next to Menards and Railhouse Brewpub)
 Reservation For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmation #33177206 under Brian Spencer, company hold)
 Reservation By: Brian Spencer

Wednesday (8/17/2016) – Central Route (Langlade, Lincoln Counties)

Auditor: Beth Jacquain

DNR Guide: Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk

ICIT Team Member: ??

Logistics: Ken Hayes, Woodruff

7:00 AM Leave overnight lodging in Merrill for field audit
 ○ Mike Lietz will pick up auditor and travel to DNR Merrill Ranger Station.
 ○ Will need to get lunch for the day now or after first site visit.

Travel Route to Field Site: *Hwy 64 west to Greiner Rd south to Silver Fox Rd*

7:45 – 8:45 AM **Big Rib River Fishery Area (Required Site)**
 Completed Timber Sale #13002, Tract #3524-02-13 – County Line Hardwood Sale (Sec 2-T31N-R4E)
 Meeting Location: Silver Fox Rd and County Line Rd parking lot
 Property Manager: Park & Recreation Specialist Gary Bartz, Merrill
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Rich Lavalley, Merrill
 Wildlife Biologist Janet Brehm, Merrill
 Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk

May be Inaccessible **Big Rib River Fishery Area**
 ○ If inaccessible, substitute with Grundy Rd site later in morning
 Established Timber Sale #16001, Tract #3524-01-16 – Tri-County Hardwood Timber Sale (Sec 31,33-T31N-R4E)
 Meeting Location: Silver Fox Rd and County Line Rd parking lot
 Property Manager: Park & Recreation Specialist Gary Bartz, Merrill
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Rich Lavalley, Merrill
 Wildlife Biologist Janet Brehm, Merrill
 Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk

Travel Route to Next Site: *Hwy 64 east to Hwy 17 north to Norwegian Rd to Deer Trail*

9:00 – 10:00 AM **Statewide Habitat Areas – Lincoln County**
 Established Timber Sale Tract #3599-01-16 – Deer Trail Timber Sale (Sec 29-T32N-R7E)
 Meeting Location: Deer Trail Rd
 Property Manager: Park & Recreation Specialist Gary Bartz, Merrill
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Rich Lavalley, Merrill
 Wildlife Biologist Janet Brehm, Merrill
 Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk



Travel Route to Next Site: *Deer Trail to Norwegian Rd to CTH C west to CTH K north to CTH H to CTH J east to Grundy*

10:45 – 11:45 AM **Statewide Habitat Areas - Lincoln County (Optional Site)**

- Not on list, but optional due to water on earlier site

Timber Sale Tract #3599-01-13 – Grundy Road Timber Sale (Sec 2,11-T33N-R7E)

Meeting Location: Grundy Rd and Hwy J

Property Manager: Park & Recreation Specialist Gary Bartz, Merrill

DNR Staff to Attend: DNR Forester Rich Lavalley, Merrill
Wildlife Biologist Janet Brehm, Merrill

Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk

Travel Route to Next Site: *CTH J east to CTH B south to CTH C east to CTH A*

12:00 – 12:45 PM **Field Lunch**

- At or between sites
- Ken Hayes to pick up food in Merrill in morning

12:45 – 1:45 PM **Peters Marsh Wildlife Area (Required Site)**

Completed Timber Sale #315, Tract #3423-01-14 – Name? Timber Sale (Sec 1-T32N-R11E)

Meeting Location: Hwy A and Rocky Rd

Property Manager: Wildlife Technician Eric Borchert, Antigo

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Josh Waukau, Antigo
Forester Sam Blake, Antigo
Forester Andy Neveln, Antigo
Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk
Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund, Woodruff

2:00 – 3:00 PM **Peters Marsh Wildlife Area**

Sold Timber Sale #415, Tract #3423-04-15 – Name? Timber Sale (Sec 6-T32N-R12E)

Meeting Location: Hwy A and Rocky Rd

Property Manager: Wildlife Technician Eric Borchert, Antigo

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Josh Waukau, Antigo
Forester Sam Blake, Antigo
Forester Andy Neveln, Antigo
Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk
Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund,

Woodruff Travel Route to Next Site: *Hwy A north to CTH TT north to*

CTH T west

3:30 – 4:30 PM **Upper Wolf River Fishery Area**

Sold Timber Sale #215, Tract #3410-02-15 – Name? Timber Sale (Sec 36-T34N R11E))

Meeting Location: Hwy T and Hwy U

Property Manager: Park & Recreation Specialist Gary Bartz, Merrill

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Josh Waukau, Antigo

Forester Sam Blake, Antigo
 Forester Andy Neveln, Antigo
 Forestry Team Leader Mike Lietz, Tomahawk
 Area Forestry Leader Heather Berklund, Woodruff

4:30 – 5:00 PM Travel to Overnight Lodging in Lakewood
 Overnight Lodging: Waubee Lodge, 18398 Waubee Park Lane, Lakewood, 715.276.6091
 <http://www.waubeelodge.com/>
 Reservation For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmation # Suit L05)
 Reservation By: Ken Hayes

Wednesday (8/17/2016) – South Route (Waupaca, Shawano, Outagamie Counties)

Auditor: Norman Boatwright
DNR Guide: Forestry Team Leader Lucas Schmidt, Waupaca
ICIT Team Rep: ???
Logistics: Kate Lenz

7:45 AM Depart overnight lodging at AmericInn New London
 Travel to Site: *Leave hotel and travel west on Hwy 54, south on Broadway St to CTH X to Driftwood Rd south*

8:00 – 9:00 AM **Mukwa Wildlife Area**
 Established Timber Sale Tract #6948-14-16 – Driftwood Timber Sale (Sec 10-T22N-R14E)
 Meeting Location: Hwy X
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries, Waupaca
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Mike Schuessler, Waupaca

Travel to Next Site: *Travel Stratton Lake Road to West, travel north on CTH K to Hwy 22, travel Hwy 22 to US 10 eastbound, exit at 49/110 and travel on 110 east through Fremont to CTH H north, then to CTH HH, Ernst Road, Weiland Road*

9:15 – 10:30 AM **Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area**
 Sold Timber Sale #6, Tract #4553-01-15 – LaSage Timber Sale (Sec 7,18-T22N-R16E)
 Meeting Location: Parking lot ¼- ½ mile west of bridge over the Wolf River. Access road is through the sale, and is excellent for the south part of the sale but difficult for the north part of the sale.
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Bryan Woodbury, Appleton
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Steve Kaufman, Green Bay

Travel to Next Site: *Travel CTH S east to Hwy 76 north, east on CYH A, to Herman Road north*

10:45 – 11:30 AM **Mack Wildlife Area**
 Sold Timber Sale #45602, Tract #4560-01-14 – Herman Road Timber Sale (Sec 13,14,23,24-T23N-R16E)
 Meeting Location: Parking lot on east side of Herman Road on north side of sale
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Bryan Woodbury, Appleton
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Steve Kaufman, Green Bay

Travel to Next Site: *Travel N on Herman Road, travel Hwy 54 west to Hwy 76 north, turn north on CTH M Kate will pick up lunch in Shiocton and bring to the next site*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM Lower Wolf River Bottomlands Nat. Res. Area – Outagamie County (Required Site)

Sold Timber Sale#3, Tract #4509-01-14 – Wilderness Timber Sale (Sec 28,29-T24N-R16E)

Meeting Location: Sturgeon Camp, N7851 CTH M, Shiocton
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Bryan Woodbury, Appleton
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Steve Kaufman, Green Bay
 Forester Bill Ruff, Sturgeon Bay

12:15 – 12: 45 PM Lunch at site (dike clearing area or en route to next site)

- Kate Lenz will get lunches to the field

Travel to Next Site: *Travel CTH M north which turns into CTH I, to CTH Y north, east on Hwy 156, north on Old County Rd CC, Nature Road to east to Zeuske Road to north*

1:00 – 2:00 PM Lower Wolf River Bottomlands Nat. Res. Area – Waupaca County (Required Site)

Sold Timber Sale Tract #6909-01-15 – ?NAME? Sale (Sec 14-T25N-R15E)

Meeting Location: South end of Zeuske Road in the turn around.
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas, Shawano
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Eric Roers or Steve Kaufman

Next Site on Navarino is by this sale

2:00 – 4:30 PM Navarino Wildlife Area (1st Site is Required)

Sold Timber Sale #115, Tract #5950-01-15 – Navarino Complex Timber Sale (Sec 28,29-T24N- R16E)

- Additional sites include cultural site and turtle nesting area.

Meeting Location: Start at Zeuske Road unit back to Hwy K and Oak Road units
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas, Shawano
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Steve Kaufman, Green Bay

Established Timber Sale #214, Tract #5950-02-14 – Compartment #3 Timber Sale (Sec 17,18-T25N-R16E)
 (across road from middle of previous sale)

Meeting Location: Parking lot off CTH K – south lot.
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas, Shawano
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Eric Roers, Shawano
 Forester Steve Kaufman, Green Bay

Established Timber Sale #314,Tract #5950-03-14 – Oxbow Timber Sale (Sec 6,7-T25N-R16E)

Meeting Location: Off Stueck Road
 Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas, Shawano
 DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Steve Kaufman, Green Bay
 Forester Chris Plzak, Sturgeon Bay

4:30 – 5:00 PM Travel to overnight lodging in Shawano

Overnight Lodging: Quality Inn and Suites – 104 Airport Road, Shawano, 715.526.2044
<https://www.choicehotels.com/wisconsin/shawano/quality-inn-hotels/wi263>
 Reservation For: 1 Auditor Room (Confirmation #476 766 802)
 Reservation By: Kate Lenz

Thursday (8/18/2016) – North Route (Florence, Marinette, Oconto Counties)

Auditor: Robert Hrubes

DNR Guide: Forestry Team Leader John Lubbers, Green Bay

ICIT Team Member: Teague Prichard

Logistics: Brian Spencer, Rhinelander

7:15 - 7:45 AM Auditor Picked Up and Travel to Field Site

- Auditor picked up by John Lubbers

Travel Route: *US Hwy 41 S, To Business 41 (Peshtigo), French St. cross bridge over Peshtigo River, First Left (South) West Front St., turns into Hale Road, 1.6 miles to Harbor Rd., 2.8 miles on Harbor Rd to timber sale.*

7:45 – 8:45 AM **Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area**

Sold Timber Sale #26, Tract #3801-01-15 – Yellow Barn Oak Sale (Sec 9-T29N-R23E)

Meeting Location: Harbor Road – parking lot by bat house where old yellow barn was

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

DNR Staff to Attend: Forest Technician Derrick McGee, Peshtigo

Forestry Team Leader Cole Couvillion, Wausaukee

Travel Route to Next Site: *Harbor Rd (North), Hale Rd Left (South), Bay Rd (West), County Hwy “Y” Left (West and South along bay), Red Cedar Rd Right (west), North Park Avenue Rd, (Left South), timber sale ¼ north of intersection of North Park Ave Rd and County Hwy “S”*

9:00-9:45 AM **Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area**

Established Timber Sale Tract #4329-01-16 – N Park Ave Sale (Sec 8-T28N-R22E)

Meeting Location: North Park Avenue Road, ¼ mile north of intersection with County Hwy “S”

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Chris Duncan

Travel Route to Next Site: *North Park Avenue Rd South to County Hwy “S”, go through Pensaukee crossing the river (intersection of “SS” and “S”), 1.5 miles on Hwy “S” to timber sale on right (west)*

10:00-10:45 AM **Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area (Required Site)**

Established Timber Sale Tract #4329-01-15 – Pensaukee Sale (Sec 23-T27N-R21E)

Meeting Location: Parking lot on County Road S, approx. 6.5 miles south of Oconto

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Dave Halfmann, Peshtigo

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Chris Duncan

10:45 – 11:15 AM Travel to DNR Northeast District Headquarters for Close-Out Meeting

- John Lubbers transports the auditor to Green Bay

Thursday (8/18/2016) – Central Route (Langlade, Lincoln Counties)

Auditor: Beth Jacqmain

DNR Guide: Area Forestry Leader Ryan Severson, Oconto Falls

ICIT Team Member: ?

Logistics: Ken Hayes, Woodruff

7:30 Depart from Waubee Lodge for Field

- Ryan Severson transports the auditor

Travel Route to Field Site: *CTH F to Lake John Road to*

Hatchery Ln

8:00 – 8:45 AM **Lakewood Rearing Station**

Sold Timber Sale #4317, Tract #4317-01-14 – Lakewood Rearing Station Sale (Sec 21-T33N-R16E)

Meeting Location: Lakewood Rearing Station

Property Manager: Fisheries Operations Supervisor Jesse Landwehr, Crivitz

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Rich Lietz

Area Wildlife Supervisor John Huff

Travel Route to Next Site: *CTH F to Hwy 32 south to Town of Breed, then west of CTH AA to Becker Rd*

9:30 – 10:15 AM **South Branch Oconto River Fishery Area**

Completed Timber Sale Tract #4316-01-14 – Sandy Road Sale (Sec 30-T30N-R17E)

Meeting Location: Town of Breed and CTH AA

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Dave Hallfmann, Peshtigo

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Rich Lietz

Area Wildlife Supervisor John Huff

If time allows, also visit:

South Branch Oconto River Fishery Area

Sold Timber Sale Tract #4316-02-14 - NAME? Sale (Sec 4-T29N-R17E)

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Dave Hallfmann, Peshtigo

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Rich Lietz

Area Wildlife Supervisor John Huff

10:15 – 11:15AM Travel to DNR Northeast District Headquarters for Close-Out Meeting

- Severson to transport auditor to Green Bay



Thursday (8/18/2016) – South Route (Waupaca, Shawano, Outagamie Counties)

Auditor: Norman Boatwright

DNR Guide: Kate Lenz, Peshtigo

ICIT Team Rep: Mark Heyde

Logistics: Kate Lenz, Peshtigo

7:30 AM Depart overnight lodging at Shawano Quality Inn and Suites

- Kate Lenz will pick up and transport the auditor from lodging to field.

Travel to Field Site:

7:45 – 9:30

Further review of sales from Wednesday on Navarino

- Kate is still working on modification to the Wednesday afternoon schedule.

9:30 – 10:15 AM

Lower Wolf River Bottomlands Natural Resource Area – Shawano County

Established Timber Sale Tract #5909-01-14 – Double C Sale (Sec 8-T26N-R16E)

Meeting Location: Access of CTY CC – gate on timber sale map

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas, Shawano

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Zach Hylinski, Bowler

Travel to Next Site: *South on CTH CC, east on CTH CCC, east on CTH T to Sunrise Rd east to Valley Rd south to Wildlife Rd west*

10:15 - 10:45 AM

Navarino Wildlife Area

Sold Timber Sale #114, Tract #5950-01-14 – ? Sale (Sec 36-T26N-R16E)

Meeting Location: Access off of Wildlife Road

Property Manager: Wildlife Biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas, Shawano

DNR Staff to Attend: Forester Zach Hylinski, Bowler

Forester Steve Kaufman, Green Bay

Travel to Next Site: ?

10:45 - 11:30 AM

Travel to Green Bay for Close-Out Meeting

- Kate Lenz to transport auditor to Green Bay

Thursday (8/18/2016) – Audit Close Out

11:45 AM – 2:00 PM Auditor Meeting – working lunch

Location: DNR Northeast Regional Headquarters – Lake Michigan
Conference Room 2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay

○ Kate Lenz will arrange lunch for 3 auditors; other DNR staff have lunch on their own

2:00 – 4:00 PM WDNR State Lands Forest Certification Exit Report (Leadership

Briefing) Location: DNR Northeast Regional Headquarters – Lake Michigan
Conference Room

Attending: 2984 Shawano Avenue, Green Bay
Auditors Boatwright, Hrubes,
Jacqmain Mark Heyde, Teague
Prichard, Curt Wilson

Conference Call: 1 (855) 947-8255, Passcode: 9332 390#
Room 613 reserved in Madison from 1:30 – 4:30PM

4:15 PM Transport Auditor Robert Hrubes to Green Bay airport by 5:00 PM
Transport Auditor Norman Boatwright to Fairfield Inn near the Green Bay airport

- Transportation to airport by Teague or Mark?
- Boatwright is flying out early Friday morning, - hotel provides an airport shuttle

Appendix 2
SFI Forest Management Public Summary Report

Wisconsin DNR State Lands

2016 SFI Public Summary Surveillance Audit Report

Introduction

The SFI Program of the Wisconsin DNR has achieved continuing conformance with the SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules[®], Section 2, according to the NSF SFIS Certification Audit Process. This report describes the 2016 Surveillance Audit designed to consider portions of the program and requirements, including any changes in operations, the management review system, and efforts at continuous improvement.

The Wisconsin State Forests have been certified to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative[®] (SFI) Standard since May 5, 2004 (SFI certificate #NSF-SFIS-1Y941). In 2009 the scope of the Wisconsin SFI Program was expanded, and the program was recertified including programs for management of several categories of state lands beyond state forests, including parks, wildlife lands, and other categories of generally forested lands. DNR land included in the project includes approximately 1,551,440 acres. Excised acreage includes predominantly special purpose lands (such as fish hatcheries, tree nurseries, communications towers, and administrative sites) and land under easement where DNR does not have land management authority. The program was recertified to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard in 2012 and recertified to the SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules[®], Section 2 in 2015.

An Overview of Forest Management on Wisconsin State Forests

Wisconsin DNR lands are managed for multiple-use objectives. Along with non-timber objectives, the DNR lands are used to demonstrate various forest practices to the public, while meeting a variety of habitat objectives. Resource managers within the Department of Natural Resources use these objectives in conjunction with other demands to manage each state forest as a healthy ecosystem. In recent years the average annual harvest has been budgeted at 18,000 acres. This is a very conservative number and is based on area regulation. A majority of the harvests occur on State Forests (which constitute 1/3 of the DNR land base). Reflecting a greater focus on non-timber objectives, other DNR land such as wildlife areas and state parks (with 2/3 of the land base) produce 1/3 of the average annual harvest acreage.

Of the area harvested a majority of the management prescriptions are thinnings, which reduce the density of stems to accelerate growth of the remaining trees and vertical structural diversity within the stand harvested. The remaining stands that are actively managed are harvested using regeneration techniques. After harvest these stands are either replanted or regenerate naturally and will continue to grow and produce forests and wood products for future generations. These regenerating forests also provide important habitat for species associated with young forests such as the snowshoe hare and woodcock.

Harvested stands are either regenerated naturally or are planted with seedlings. The determination of which method to use is based on the ability of the site to regenerate naturally and the ability of the desired species to regenerate on a particular site. For example, if a site experiences hot and dry conditions planting may be the best alternative. This is most common for the pine species, especially jack pine.

Even-aged and uneven-aged management schemes are the harvest systems employed on Wisconsin DNR's land. Even-aged management includes clearcuts, clearcuts with reserves, seed tree methods, shelterwood cuttings, and intermediate thinnings. Uneven-aged management includes both individual and group selection techniques. Each of these systems and techniques are designed in conjunction with a particular tree species or community of trees. For example, uneven-aged single tree and group selection techniques are used in northern hardwoods, hemlock-hardwood, and swamp hardwood stands. In contrast, even-aged clearcuts are used in pine (red, white, and jack), paper birch, aspen, oak, northern hardwoods, scrub oak, aspen, fir-spruce, and black spruce stands. The selection of a management system and specific technique depends on many factors including tree composition, age of the stand, location, accessibility, and most importantly the long-term objectives for the stand under consideration."

An Overview of Forest Management on Wisconsin State Park Lands

Source: Managing Forests on Wisconsin State Park Lands 2010

Background

Wisconsin's forested lands are some of our state's most valuable resources, prized by visitors and citizens alike. People come to these special places for moments of quiet reflection or simply to be in the great outdoors. They pursue recreational opportunities ranging from biking and hiking to camping, wildlife watching, and cross country skiing.

Scenic beauty — or “visual quality” — is one of the primary reasons people choose to spend their recreation and vacation time in or near forested areas and within Wisconsin State Park System (WSPS) properties. They are also attracted by the serenity and solitude of the outdoors. Forested landscapes inspire spiritual and emotional connections resulting in deeply personal experiences for many people.

Protecting and enhancing this sensory experience is a priority for those entrusted with managing WSPS properties. In addition, management must work to sustain healthy communities that provide economic, social, and ecological benefits, now and for future generations. This careful oversight of our natural resources is a cornerstone of the WSPS mission.

Overall Management Priorities

Sustaining healthy forests is a vital role of WSPS properties, and the key to sustaining healthy forests is pro-active management. To ensure that management practices are consistent with the goals and objectives of the WSPS, several management priorities have been established but may vary depending on site characteristics:

- **Aesthetics:** Protect scenic views and allow forest cover to provide settings for solitude and privacy.
- **Recreation:** Sustain large canopy cover and shade in picnic areas, campgrounds, along nature trails, and high use areas.
- **Habitat:** Provide habitat for a wide variety of wildlife and plants, including endangered and threatened species.
- **Forest Health:** Allow for regeneration of the forest through quality forest management and seek opportunities that enhance or maintain the overall health and vigor of the forest ecosystem.
- **Pest management:** Manage invasive plant and animal species, pests, diseases, and nuisance wildlife through prevention, control, and eradication activities.
- **Education and research:** Provide opportunities for interpretation, education, and scientific research.
- **Water quality:** Sustain and enhance local watersheds and water resources including erosion control along waterways, trails, and other property features.”

An Overview of Forest Management on Wisconsin Wildlife Areas

Since 1876, the State of Wisconsin has been acquiring land to meet conservation and recreation needs. Public lands managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provide many opportunities and public spaces for people to hunt, fish, trap, hike, canoe, or watch or photograph wildlife. All Wildlife Areas are managed to sustain the wildlife and natural communities found on the properties and to provide a full range of traditional outdoor recreational uses.

All wildlife areas are managed to sustain the wildlife and natural communities found on the properties and to provide a full range of traditional outdoor recreational uses. These include hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking and nature study. Edible fruits, edible nuts, wild mushrooms, wild asparagus and watercress may be removed by hand without a permit for the purpose of personal consumption by the collector. Dog training or trialing (hunting dog competitions) may be allowed by permit. A limited number of properties allow additional outdoor recreation at designated locations; like camping, bicycling, horseback riding and snowmobiling.

The forest resources on state wildlife areas can be broadly characterized as Oak and Pine Barrens, Southern Forests, Oak Savanna, and Northern Forests.

Oak and Pine Barrens

Less than 1% of the pre-settlement oak and pine barren habitat remains. The long term sustainability of this habitat and the organisms that it supports will require that we protect and connect the existing scattered sites. The composition, structure, and ecological function of these communities depend on periodic fires as a management tool but may be mimicked with appropriately applied timber management strategies and aggressive post-sale treatment applied as a shifting mosaic across the appropriate ecological landscapes.

Southern Forests

Although the southern forest type is common, large, high-quality, unbroken tracts are becoming rare. Oak regeneration continues to be a problem on dry-mesic and mesic sites. With lack of fire or other disturbance, oak forests are continuing to convert to more

mesic forest species. Oak wilt and competition from invasive shrubs continue to be a problem in some areas. Appropriately applied timber management strategies are critical to maintaining the oak resource.

Oak Savanna

In the absence of active management, the future of oak savanna looks very bleak in Wisconsin and throughout its entire range. The increasing abandonment of lightly to moderately grazed wooded pastures and the accelerating succession of oak woodlots toward heavy shade producing trees and shrubs will lead to the decline and possible loss of much of what remains of the savanna flora and fauna, including eventual decline of the oaks themselves. In a few ecological landscapes the recovery potential exists with active management.

Northern Forest

Overall stand age has decreased and tree species relative abundance has changed. Generalist species have increased and specialist species have declined. Invasive species have continued to degrade northern forests. Second growth northern hardwood forests lack species diversity. However, there is still great potential for maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in the northern forest. Identification of “high conservation value” forests via planning processes will increase the likelihood that we’ll sustain ecologically important forests. Maintaining a full spectrum of forest ecosystems in the appropriate ecological landscapes with a range of successional stages, patch sizes, ages, geographic distribution, and connectivity is an important timber management goal.

Surveillance Audit Process

The Surveillance Audit was performed by NSF on August 15-18, 2016 by an audit team headed by Norman Boatwright, SFI Lead Auditor. The audit was conducted in conjunction with an FSC FM audit and the FSC audit team members included Beth Jacqumain, FSC Team Auditor and Robert Hrubes, FSC Lead Auditor. Audit team members fulfill the qualification criteria for conducting SFIS Certification Audits found in Section 9 – SFI 2015-2019 Audit Procedures and Auditor Qualifications contained in Requirements for the SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules. The Wisconsin DNR’s management representative is Mark Heyde, Forest Certification Coordinator, Wisconsin DNR - Division of Forestry.

The objective of the audit was to assess conformance of the firm’s SFI Program to the requirements of the SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules, Section 2. The audit served to assess conformance with a portion of the standard to determine conformity. The audit was conducted in conjunction with an FSC audit covering the same lands and organization and by the same audit team. The two processes (SFI and FSC) shared teams and reviewed much of the same evidence, but each program had a different team leader and audit objectives. This report is intended to describe the SFI portion of the evaluation only (more information about the FSC portion of the evaluation is available from WDNR).

The Indicators and Performance Measures of the SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules[®], Section 2 were utilized without modification or substitution.

The audit was governed by an audit plan and by NSF audit protocols designed to enable the audit team determine conformance with the applicable SFI requirements. The process included the assembly and review of audit evidence consisting of documents, interviews, and on-site inspections of ongoing or completed forest practices. Documents describing these activities and lists of management activities were provided to the auditors in advance, and a sample of the available field sites was designated by the lead auditor for review. Approximately twenty percent (20%) of the sites visited were randomly selected. The remaining field sites were selected based on the risk of environmental impact, special features, and other criteria outlined in the NSF-SFI-SOP.

During the audit the audit team reviewed a sample of the available written documentation as objective evidence of SFIS Conformance. The lead auditor also selected and interviewed stakeholders such as contract loggers, landowners and other interested parties, and interviewed employees within the organization to confirm that the SFI Standard was understood and actively implemented.

The possible findings for specific SFI requirements included Full Conformance, Major Non-conformance, Minor Non-conformance, Opportunities for Improvement, and Practices that exceeded the Basic Requirements of the SFIS.

2015 Audit Findings

No new non-conformances or opportunities for improvement were observed.

The following list describes areas where the Wisconsin DNR’s practices exceed the SFI Standard requirements:

CI 2.4.3: *Participation in, and support of, fire and pest prevention and control programs.* The Department has an exemplary program across Bureaus to manage, control and eradicate invasive species.

CI 4.1.1: Program to incorporate the conservation of native biological diversity, including species, wildlife habitats and ecological community types at stand and landscape levels. The Department has an exemplary program across Bureaus to maintain and improve native biological diversity including prairie and grassland establishment and management.

CI 4.1.5: *Program to address conservation of known sites with viable occurrences of significant species of concern.* Wetland habitat restoration activities including the installation of water control structures on the Rowan Creek Fishery Area and French Creek Wildlife Area. Also, during the timber sale recon for of the sales on the Rowan Creek Fishery Area, a blue heron rookery was identified, a significant buffer installed and the area denoted in the GIS database.

CI 4.1.7: *Participation in programs and demonstration of activities as appropriate to limit the introduction, spread and impact of invasive exotic plants and animals that directly threaten or are likely to threaten native plant and animal communities.* DNR has a comprehensive program for identifying, controlling, and monitoring the occurrence of invasive exotic plants and animals that threaten the ecological integrity of the state's ecosystems.

CI 5.4.1: *Provide recreational opportunities for the public, where consistent with forest management objectives.* Recreation opportunities are implicit to DNR's mission. State Parks, Wildlife Areas, State Forests, fisheries properties and many other types of state owned forest lands are developed for a variety of developed and primitive recreation experiences. The Natural Resources Board has emphasized opening lands suitable for motorized access and the department is updating its road and trail inventory to identify additional opportunities for motorized public access.

CI 10.1.1: *Financial or in-kind support of research to address questions of relevance in the region of operations. Examples could include, but are not limited to, areas of forest productivity, water quality, biodiversity, community issues, or similar areas which build broader understanding of the benefits and impacts of forest management.* DNR funds research (internal and external) on a broad range of issues: forest health, chemical efficiency, water quality, wildlife management, conservation, social issues, energy efficiency, forest operations, etc. The Department develops a forestry research agenda with the Wisconsin Council on Forestry and partners.

PM: 13.1.1: *Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall participate in the development of public land planning and management processes.* Public input opportunities during master planning are superb including: Local outreach to stakeholders at the community level: annual stakeholder meetings, listening sessions, newsletters, integrated property management meetings. Outreach is scaled to the public's level of interest and relative risk.

2016 Audit Findings

No new non-conformances and 2 opportunities for improvement were observed:

PM 1.1: *Program Participants shall ensure that forest management plans include long-term harvest levels that are sustainable and consistent with appropriate growth-and-yield models.* There is an opportunity to improve the master planning process to ensure the plans are completed as scheduled.

CI 2.4.1: Program to protect forests from damaging agents. There is an opportunity to improve the process of protecting forests from damaging agents such as invasives

The next audit will be scheduled during the week of August 15, 2017. This will be a Surveillance audit, covering a portion of the SFI 2015-2019 Standard.

General Description of Evidence of Conformity

NSF's audit team used a variety of evidence to determine conformance. A general description of this evidence is provided below, organized by SFI Objective.

Objective 1. Forest Management Planning - To ensure forest management plans include long-term sustainable harvest levels and measures to avoid forest conversion.

Summary of Evidence – *Property master plans serve as management plans for the larger (Tier 1 and Tier 2) parcels. The smaller parcels are covered by agency-specific planning guidance documents, with parcel specific objectives found on-line. The entire ownership is covered by detailed forestry protocols and manuals as well as associated inventory data and WisFIRS inventory analysis*

and harvest scheduling software. Inventory data was up-to-date. Planning approaches vary depending on property size and intended use.

Objective 2. Forest Productivity - To ensure long-term forest productivity, carbon storage and conservation of forest resources through prompt reforestation, afforestation, minimized chemical use, soil conservation, and protecting forests from damaging agents.

Summary of Evidence – Field observations and records associated with each timber harvest (2460 form and associated narratives) were used to confirm practices. Wisconsin DNR has programs for reforestation, for protection against insects, diseases, and wildfire, and for careful management of activities which could potentially impact soil and long-term productivity.

Objective 3. Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources - To protect the water quality of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands and other water bodies through meeting or exceeding best management practices.

Summary of Evidence – Field observations of a range of sites were the key evidence. Auditors visited the portions of many field sites that were close to water resources, based on a field sample that was oriented heavily towards such sites.

Objective 4. Conservation of Biological Diversity including Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value - To manage the quality and distribution of wildlife habitats and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity by developing and implementing stand- and landscape-level measures that promote a diversity of types of habitat and successional stages, and the conservation of forest plants and animals, including aquatic species, as well as threatened and endangered species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, old-growth forests and ecologically important sites.

Summary of Evidence – Field observations, written plans and policies, use of college-trained field biologists, availability of specialists, and regular staff involvement in conferences and workshops that cover scientific advances were the evidence used to assess the requirements involved biodiversity conservation. The close support and cooperation of various agencies, including those responsible for wildlife, fisheries, recreation, and endangered resources, were another key factor in the assessment.

Objective 5. Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits - To manage the visual impact of forest operations and provide recreational opportunities for the public.

Summary of Evidence – Field observations of completed operations and policies/procedures for visual quality were assessed during the evaluation. Further maps of recreation sites, combined with field visits, helped confirm a strong recreation program. Recreational use and esthetics were priority concerns where appropriate.

Objective 6. Protection of Special Sites - To manage lands that are ecologically, geologically, or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.

Summary of Evidence – Field observations of completed operations, records of special sites, training records, and written protection plans were all assessed during the evaluation. The strong program of Scientific Natural Areas contributed to the conclusions.

Objective 7. Efficient Use of Forest Resources - To minimize waste and ensure the efficient use of fiber resources.

Summary of Evidence – Field observations of completed operations, contract clauses, harvest inspection reports, and discussions with supervising field foresters and with loggers provided the key evidence. On those sites where harvests had been completed the indicator was being met through reasonable utilization, harvest inspections, and lump-sum sales.

Objective 8 - Recognize and Respect Indigenous Peoples' Rights - To recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional knowledge.

Summary of Evidence: The Company's attempts to solicit input from Indigenous Peoples provided the key evidence

Objective 9. Legal and Regulatory Compliance - To comply with applicable federal, provincial, state and local laws and regulations.

Summary of Evidence – Field reviews of ongoing and completed operations were the most critical evidence. Most of the requirements were not edited this year, but the ready availability of BMP manuals and access to laws were factors in finding conformance.

Objective 10. Forestry Research, Science, and Technology - To invest in forestry research, science and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based and broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.

Summary of Evidence – Financial records were confirmed, and some field research sites were visited.

Objective 11. Training and Education - To improve the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs.

Summary of Evidence – Training records of selected personnel, records associated with harvest sites audited, and logger and stakeholder interviews were the key evidence for this objective.

Objective 12. Community Involvement in the Practice of Sustainable Forestry - To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through public outreach, education, and involvement, and to support the efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.

Summary of Evidence – Wisconsin DNR has an extensive program of outreach and landowner education, including a website and is active in the WI SIC.

Objective 13: Public Land Management Responsibilities - To participate and implement sustainable forest management on public lands.

Summary of Evidence – Interviews and review of documents were used to confirm the requirements. Interviewees included members of “friends” groups for state parks. Wisconsin DNR answers to the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board, providing regular opportunities for citizen input and a long-term and very knowledgeable governing board of citizens as well.

Objective 14. Communications and Public Reporting - To increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance with the SFI Forest Management Standard.

Summary of Evidence – Reports filed with SFI Inc. and the SFI Inc. website provided the key evidence.

Objective 15. Management Review and Continual Improvement - To promote continual improvement in the practice of sustainable forestry by conducting a management review and monitoring performance.

Summary of Evidence – Records of program reviews, agendas and notes from management review meetings, and interviews with personnel from all involved levels in the organization were assessed. The Forest Leadership Team of the Forestry Division and the Land Leadership Team of the Lands Division are the critical components of management review; minutes of meetings supplemented by interviews served to confirm compliance.

Relevance of Forestry Certification

Third-party certification provides assurance that forests are being managed under the principles of sustainable forestry, which are described in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard as:

1. Sustainable Forestry

To practice sustainable forestry to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by practicing a land stewardship ethic that integrates reforestation and the managing, growing, nurturing and harvesting of trees for useful products and ecosystem services such as the conservation of soil, air and water quality, carbon, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitats, recreation, and aesthetics.

2. Forest Productivity and Health

To provide for regeneration after harvest and maintain the productive capacity of the forest land base, and to protect and maintain long-term forest and soil productivity. In addition, to protect forests from economically or environmentally undesirable levels of wildfire, pests, diseases, invasive exotic plants and animals and other damaging agents and thus maintain and improve long-term forest health and productivity.

3. Protection of Water Resources

To protect water bodies and riparian zones, and to conform with best management practices to protect water quality.

4. Protection of Biological Diversity

To manage forests in ways that protect and promote biological diversity, including animal and plant species, wildlife habitats, and ecological or natural community types.

5. Aesthetics and Recreation

To manage the visual impacts of forest operations, and to provide recreational opportunities for the public.

6. Protection of Special Sites

To manage forests and lands of special significance (ecologically, geologically or culturally important) in a manner that protects their integrity and takes into account their unique qualities.

7. Responsible Fiber Sourcing Practices in North America

To use and promote among other forest landowners sustainable forestry practices that are both scientifically credible and economically, environmentally and socially responsible.

8. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Illegal Logging in Offshore Fiber Sourcing

To avoid wood fiber from illegally logged forests when procuring fiber outside of North America, and to avoid sourcing fiber from countries without effective social laws.

9. Legal Compliance

To comply with applicable federal, provincial, state, and local forestry and related environmental laws, statutes, and regulations.

10. Research

To support advances in sustainable forest management through forestry research, science and technology.

11. Training and Education

To improve the practice of sustainable forestry through training and education programs.

12. Public Involvement

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry on public lands through community involvement.

13. Transparency

To broaden the understanding of forest certification to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard by documenting certification audits and making the findings publicly available.

14. Continual Improvement

To continually improve the practice of forest management, and to monitor, measure and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.

Source: Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Standard, 2010-2014 Edition

For Additional Information Contact:

Norman Boatwright
Forestry Program Manager, NSF
P.O. Box 4021
Florence, SC 29502
843-229-1851
nboatwright12@gmail.com

Mark Heyde
Bureau of Forest Management
Forest Certification Coordinator
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
608-267-0565
mark.heyde@wisconsin.gov

Appendix 3
SFI Forest Management Audit Checklist and Site Notes

NSF International Forestry Program

SFI 2015-2019, Section 2: Forest Management Standard Audit Checklist

FRS #1Y941: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources – DNR State Lands

Date of audit: August 15-18, 2016

Auditor: Norman Boatwright

Criteria highlighted in yellow were audited in 2016.

1.2 Additional Requirements

SFI Program Participants with fiber sourcing programs (acquisition of roundwood and field-manufactured or primary-mill residual chips, pulp and veneer to support a forest products facility), must also conform to the *SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard*.

Use of the *SFI* on-product labels and claims shall follow Section 5 - Rules for Use of *SFI* On-Product Labels and Off-Product Marks as well as ISO 14020:2000.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes: FM only.

Objective 1 Forest Management Planning

To ensure forest management plans include *long-term* sustainable harvest levels and measures to avoid forest conversion.

Performance Measure 1.1

Program Participants shall ensure that forest management plans include *long-term* harvest levels that are sustainable and consistent with appropriate *growth-and-yield models*.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes: Management Plans for selected tracts visited in 2016 were reviewed. All tracts with active or recently-completed timber sales (sold after March 15, 2012) are covered by Master Plans or Interim Forest Management Plans (IFMP); this is consistent with policy.

The Fish, Wildlife and Parks Division is working through a backlog of Master Plans. The three bureaus involved (Fisheries, Parks, Wildlife) are increasing the priority placed on planning. Interim Forest Management Plans are developed for properties too small to have master plans, or where management actions are needed but the master plan has not been completed. The audit team reviewed several Interim Forest Management Plans, These plans included the required elements needed to supplement wider scale plans.

Progress since the 2015 audit includes new plans on 33 properties, 3 amendments and 1 revision.

Master Planning Metrics - June 2016			
% of acres under an NRB-approved master plan per NR44 requirements			
Fiscal Year	Acres w/ NR44 approved plan	% under approved NR44 MP	Target % under approved MP
13	645,815	45.9	
14	663,027	47.1	
15	672,893	47.8	50
16	754,306	53.6	55
17	844044		60
18	914381		65
19	984718		70
20	1055055		75
21	1125392		80
22	1195729		85
23	1266066		90
24	1336403		95
25	1406740		100
based on 1,406,740 acres of Tier 1 and 2 properties			

Harvest levels across various types of ownership are managed through the WisFIRs system to ensure sustainable harvest levels. Harvesting decisions are driven by stand-level analysis and prescriptions adjusted to meet property-specific goals and agency mandates and guidance. State forest planning is complete and up-to-date. Planning for the properties administered within the Lands Division is not as complete, but harvest levels have been below growth and consistent with the broader range of objectives.

OFI: *There is an opportunity to improve the master planning process to ensure the plans are completed as scheduled.*

- 1.1.1.** Forest management planning at a level appropriate to the size and scale of the operation, including:
- a. a *long-term* resources analysis;
 - b. a periodic or ongoing *forest inventory*;
 - c. a land classification system;
 - d. biodiversity at *landscape* scales;
 - e. soils inventory and maps, where available;
 - f. access to *growth-and-yield modeling* capabilities;
 - g. up-to-date maps or a geographic information system (GIS);
 - h. recommended sustainable harvest levels for areas available for harvest; and
 - i. a review of non-timber issues (e.g., recreation, tourism, pilot projects and economic incentive *programs* to promote water *protection*, carbon storage, *bioenergy feedstock* production, or *biological diversity conservation*, or to address climate-induced ecosystem change).

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The WisFIRS system (Wisconsin Forest Inventory and Reporting System) is developed and maintained to house forest inventory from all state lands. All state forests have an approved Master Plan.

Statewide:

- Division of Forestry Five-Year Strategic Plan
- 2011-2016 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Wisconsin Land Legacy Report: An inventory of places to meet Wisconsin’s future conservation and recreation needs; 2006.
- Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan (six-year plan, to be updated by Natural Heritage Conservation).

Property Master Planning (property-level planning approach, process outlined in state law and in administrative code NR-44, data-driven):

- See the table above.
- Tier 1 and Tier 2 properties require an NR-44 Master Plan.
- Tier 3 properties don’t have as detailed plans.
- Supported by county, sub-county, or multi-county “Integrated Meetings”.
- Master Plans can be updated through targeted variances.

Harvest-Level Planning

- WisFIRs (Wisconsin Forest Information Reporting System) database provides stand-level information used to determine which areas are likely ready to be treated
- Forester and property manager discuss, obtain context
- Field review by foresters may or may not include robust re-inventory (age of data often determines) or a quick few plots
- Field foresters set up sale, with 3 major sources of guidance (and many other directives and guidance):
1. Silvicultural Manual; 2. Public Lands Handbook; 3. Timber Sale Handbook
- Other sources of information: Natural Heritage Database and the State’s Historic and Archeological Database
- Timber Sale Notices and Cutting Reports, including Narrative Report; accompanied by sale map
- Reviewed and approved by the property manager and forestry supervisor
- Sales valued over \$3,000 must be sold by public bid; must be advertised in local papers

The required items a through g are included in forest management plans and associated supporting documentation such as the Annual Work Plans, Annual Accomplishment Reports, Manuals, and associated guidance documents for the programs. Maps and inventory data are stored and used in the GIS/database system known as WisFIRs.

Management Plans for the tracts visited in 2016 were reviewed to determine that they, in conjunction with other guidance documents and assessments, comprise a long-term resource analysis. In WisFIRs – Use of an “H” code as the objective when this is unknown for the stand and/or overall property, such as in the absence of an up-to-date master plan. Foresters inventory a portion of each forest annually using the RECON system. FIA data provide broad growth determinations.

Some harvests are targeted at ecological restoration (e.g. savannas); ecological reference area harvests may not be consistent with growth and yield models because timber is not the primary objective.

Non-timber issues are a major part of the planning process and include recreation and research.

1.1.2. Documented current harvest trends fall within long-term sustainable levels identified in the forest management plan.

- N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

1.1.3. A forest inventory system and a method to calculate growth and yield.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

1.1.4. Periodic updates of *forest inventory* and recalculation of planned harvests to account for changes in growth due to *productivity* increases or decreases, including but not limited to: improved data, *long-term* drought, fertilization, *climate change*, changes in forest land ownership and tenure, or *forest health*.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

1.1.5. Documentation of forest practices (e.g., *planting*, fertilization and thinning) consistent with assumptions in harvest plans.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 1.2

Program Participants shall not convert one *forest cover type* to another *forest cover type*, unless in justified circumstances.

1.2.1. *Program Participants* shall not convert one *forest cover type* to another *forest cover type*, unless the conversion:

- a. Is in compliance with relevant national and regional *policy* and legislation related to land use and forest management; and
- b. Would not convert *native* forest types that are rare and ecologically significant at the *landscape* level or put any *native* forest types at risk of becoming rare; and
- c. Does not create significant long-term adverse impacts on Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, old-growth forests, forests critical to threatened and endangered species, and special sites.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

1.2.2. Where a *Program Participant* intends to convert another *forest cover type*, an assessment considers:

- a. *Productivity* and *stand* quality conditions and impacts which may include social and economic values;
- b. Specific ecosystem issues related to the site such as invasive species, insect or disease issues, riparian *protection* needs and others as appropriate to site including regeneration challenges; and
- c. Ecological impacts of the conversion including a review at the site and *landscape* scale as well as consideration for any appropriate mitigation measures.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 1.3

Program Participants shall not have within the scope of their certification to this *SFI Standard*, forest lands that have been converted to non-forest land use. Indicator:

1.3.1. Forest lands converted to other land uses shall not be certified to this *SFI Standard*. This does not apply to forest lands used for forest and *wildlife* management such as *wildlife* food plots or infrastructure such as forest roads, log processing areas, trails etc.

N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Objective 2 Forest Health and Productivity

To ensure *long-term* forest *productivity*, carbon storage and *conservation* of forest resources through prompt *reforestation*, *afforestation*, *minimized* chemical use, *soil conservation*, and protecting forests from damaging agents.

Performance Measure 2.1

Program Participants shall promptly reforest after final harvest. Indicators:

- 2.1.1. Documented *reforestation* plans, including designation of all harvest areas for either natural, planted or direct seeded regeneration and prompt *reforestation*, unless delayed for site-specific environmental or *forest health* considerations or legal requirements, through *planting* within two years or two *planting* seasons, or by planned *natural regeneration* methods within five years.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WisFIRS System is maintained for foresters to schedule reforestation; sites are promptly reforested.

Regional ecological impacts of reforestation or afforestation are discussed as part of the master planning or Interim Forest Management Plan (IFMP) process.

Ecological plans for reforestation are bounded by the master plans; reforestation projects are discussed at annual integrated property meetings to assure that proposed reforestation meets property objectives.

Foresters and property managers carefully review every harvest with respect to invasive plants and possible regeneration concerns. In some cases, such as when this option is within silvicultural guidelines, regeneration treatments are delayed due in part to the widespread extent of invasives in the southern portion of the state. However when regeneration is needed the Wisconsin DNR expends the resources necessary to achieve regeneration, sometimes at great cost.

- 2.1.2. Clear criteria to judge adequate regeneration and appropriate actions to correct understocked areas and achieve acceptable species composition and stocking rates for *planting*, *direct seeding* and *natural regeneration*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Regeneration guidelines are species specific and are outlined in the Silviculture Handbook. DNR Foresters are instructed to code the stand and flag it for re-visit if they believe that natural regeneration may not be successful.

- 2.1.3. Plantings of exotic tree species should minimize risk to native ecosystems.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: None planted.

- 2.1.4. *Protection* of desirable or planned advanced *natural regeneration* during harvest.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed by field observations. Much of the harvesting is done by experienced loggers using mechanized harvesting equipment. Felling of selected timber is mostly by processors, although hand-felling is not uncommon for the largest trees. Workers doing hand felling have chain saw training which includes directional felling techniques. In some cases sales are set up with requirements for fixed-head processors, allowing the trees to be moved away from the advanced natural regeneration before they are allowed to fall to the ground. Yarding (forwarding) trails are planned, well-spaced, and reasonably narrow, further limiting damage to regeneration. Some sales contract restricts pole skidding or have winter-only restrictions to help protect natural regeneration from yarding damage.

- 2.1.5. *Afforestation programs* that consider potential ecological impacts of the selection and *planting* of tree species in non-forested *landscapes*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Afforestation is done on old fields and local species are used.

Performance Measure 2.2

Program Participants shall minimize chemical use required to achieve management objectives while protecting employees, neighbors, the public and the environment, including wildlife and aquatic habitats. Indicators:

2.2.1. *Minimized chemical use required to achieve management objectives.*

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Pesticide 2015_FSC spreadsheet indicates chemicals used and application rates. Review of the list did not identify any issues.

2.22. Use of least-toxic and narrowest-spectrum pesticides necessary to achieve management objectives.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Pesticide 2015_FSC spreadsheet indicates chemicals used and application rates. Review of the list did not identify any issues.

2.2.3. Use of pesticides registered for the intended use and applied in accordance with label requirements.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Pesticide 2015_FSC spreadsheet indicates chemicals used and application rates. Review of the list did not identify any issues.

The Department has extensive guidance in Manual codes and handbooks for chemical use and reporting. The Department has a Pesticide Use Team to address issues with approval, reporting and training. DNR has an intranet site to guide DNR staff in the proper use of chemicals. Review of all chemical use for compliance (pesticide use reporting system) annually with follow-up as warranted. The Pesticide Use Team continues to address the improvement of the systems for pesticide approval, use, and reporting including training for staff and supervisors. Site visits did not identify any herbicide application issues.

2.2.4. The World Health Organization (WHO) type 1A and 1B pesticides shall be prohibited, except where no other viable alternative is available.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WIDNR's guidance document, FSC Highly Hazardous Pesticides and SFI Prohibited Pesticides prohibits the use of these type pesticides and specifically name this requirement.

2.2.5. Use of pesticides banned under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001) shall be prohibited.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WIDNR's guidance document, FSC Highly Hazardous Pesticides and SFI Prohibited Pesticides prohibits the use of these type pesticides and specifically name this requirement.

2.2.6. Use of *integrated pest management* where feasible.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WIDNR has pest management plans for the gypsy moth, emerald ash borer, beech bark disease.

IPM is the approach taken in this program, as documented in the plans: "Integrated pest management for the purpose of this Plan, is defined as follows: The maintenance of destructive agents, including insects, at tolerable levels, by the planned use of a variety of preventive, suppressive, or regulatory tactics and strategies that are ecologically and economically efficient and socially acceptable."

Stands are regularly assessed formally (RECON) and informally for presence of insects or diseases, and treatments are applied in a timely manner before outbreaks widen. The initial treatment approach is commonly salvage or sanitation.

Conventional forest management, through stocking control and use of moderately short rotations, is designed to maintain healthy stands so as to minimize the need for chemical treatments. Stands visited were generally healthy and vigorous. Chemicals are only applied to address problems that can't be resolved in other ways. For example release using brush saws is considered before chemical release is prescribed.

For projects which include elements of site restoration and/or invasive control the practices employed also include blends of mechanical, fire, and chemical approaches. Through interviews it was apparent that managers are seeking approaches that minimize chemical use, but more work remains in many cases to find cost-effective and minimal-chemical approaches.

Extent and rates of applications as documented in written records reviewed were consistent with an integrated approach, in that the use is modest when the nature and extent of the certified land base is considered.

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

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: DNR personnel interviewed involved in chemical applications provided evidence for how this requirement is met, including documentation of certification (cards) and use of certified contractors in all cases for restricted use chemicals, and use of certified applicators supervising employees who are not certified in some cases. Many work units report that all employees applying even general use pesticides have certification.

2.2.8. Use of management practices appropriate to the situation, for example:

- a. notification of adjoining landowners or nearby residents concerning applications and chemicals used;
- b. appropriate multilingual signs or oral warnings;
- c. control of public road access during and immediately after applications;
- d. designation of streamside and other needed buffer strips;
- e. use of positive shutoff and minimal-drift spray valves;
- f. aerial application of forest chemicals parallel to buffer zones to *minimize* drift;
- g. monitoring of water quality or safeguards to ensure proper equipment use and *protection* of streams, lakes and other water bodies;
- h. appropriate transportation and storage of chemicals;
- i. filing of required state or provincial reports; and/or
- j. use of methods to ensure *protection of threatened and endangered* species.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Many of these techniques are required by law or regulation, and/or are specified in contracts for treatment. Shops were reviewed for chemical storage. Handout /training aid: "Posting Requirement for Pesticide Applications" featured guidelines and examples, as well as sources for signs. In describing chemical applications field personnel often mentioned several of the listed chemical BMPs without prompting by auditors. In other cases auditors interviewed field personnel specifically about procedures and methods; in all such cases the responses indicated proper techniques.

Performance Measure 2.3

Program Participants shall implement forest management practices to protect and maintain forest and soil *productivity*. Indicators:

2.3.1. Process to identify soils vulnerable to compaction, and use of appropriate methods, including the use of soil maps where available, to avoid excessive soil disturbance.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Soil maps are contained in the WisFIRS system and are used in planning timber sales and other treatments. Foresters, biologists, and ecologists demonstrated strong knowledge of the soils, landforms, and bio-physical characteristics of lands in their units. Soils information is included in the sale narratives.

2.3.2. Use of erosion control measures to *minimize* the loss of soil and site *productivity*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Training in BMPs for water quality for field staff. BMP monitoring on state lands was performed during the fall of

2013. BMP implementation monitoring addresses road construction and soil protection. Foresters, often supported by property managers from other disciplines, use soil and topographic maps, habitat type classifications, and/or field reviews as appropriate to identify soils vulnerable to compaction and use a variety of methods to avoid excessive soil disturbance, including designation of harvesting only with frozen ground or very dry conditions for all or a portion of a harvest area. Review of logging contracts, sale narratives, prospectuses, etc. document these measures. Confirmed by field observations the use of appropriate methods to avoid excessive soil disturbance, as soils in post-harvest stands showed quite limited and reasonable levels of soil compaction and disturbance.

Foresters are trained in equipment impacts on soils and skid road layout.

2.3.3. Post-harvest conditions conducive to maintaining site *productivity* (e.g., limited rutting, retained down woody debris, minimized skid trails).

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed by field observations. Volumes of post-harvest woody debris were consistent with soil protection and productivity; no harvests which included removal of tops and small branches for biomass were observed.

Biomass harvesting guidelines address sensitive soils issues. Revised biomass BMPs were published by the department in 2014.

2.3.4. Retention of vigorous trees during partial harvesting, consistent with scientific silvicultural standards for the area.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Silviculture handbook documents guidelines for tree retention in the various harvesting systems; site preparation is also addressed.

Field observations confirmed the retention of vigorous trees and the appropriate application of silviculture guidelines for removal of least vigorous and poorest quality trees and retention of the trees best adapted to the site.

For conventional silviculture, foresters consistently emphasized the retention of the most vigorous trees when marking stands; results of partial harvests were very good. For restoration-oriented harvests the retained trees met the ecological and biological goals (as appropriate), even if some of these trees were decidedly of poor form and vigor.

2.3.5. Criteria that address harvesting and site preparation to protect soil *productivity*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Wisconsin State BMPs for Water Quality (avoid excessive rutting) and Wisconsin DNR and/or individual county policies (defining excessive rutting) provide these criteria. Confirmed that “excessive rutting” definitions are in the many recent timber sale contracts that were reviewed.

2.3.6. Road construction and skidding layout to *minimize* impacts to soil *productivity*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: There is little construction of new permanent roads in the units visited. Loading decks, skid roads and trails on sales observed were planned in advance, with efforts to locate the main trails in the most appropriate locations and to space secondary trails widely to minimize impacts to soils and to maintain maximum practical distances from wetlands and watercourses to allow for natural filtering for any erosion that might occur.

The impacts on recreation trails by skid roads and trails are clearly a consideration during sale planning and implementation.

Foresters are trained in equipment impacts on soils and skid road layout.

Performance Measure 2.4

Program Participants shall manage so as to protect forests from damaging agents, such as environmentally or economically undesirable wildfire, pests, diseases and *invasive exotic plants and animals*, to maintain and improve *long-term forest health, productivity and economic viability*. Indicators:

2.4.1. Program to protect forests from damaging agents.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WIDNR website has a section on damaging agents that describes the agent’s life span and how to treat them. Invasive exotic plants inventory and management systems are being developed to implement new invasive exotic species laws (NR40). Revisions to the NR40 list were adopted in 2015. A statewide invasive species strategic plan was approved in 2013. The Department has an invasive species team that is working to implement NR40.

Wisconsin DNR employs forest health specialists and makes their services readily available to the field units. Pest updates are published quarterly.

Invasive non-native plant species, such as the spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*), are commonly present and generally expanding in their presence throughout the Wisconsin state forest system. While the task of limiting their continuing spread, let alone eliminating their presence, is a challenging one, there remains opportunities for DNR field personnel and managers to place greater emphasis on and effort at monitoring and limiting the ongoing spread of invasive non-native plant species across the state forests.

OFI: *There is an opportunity to improve the process of protecting forests from damaging agents such as invasives.*

2.4.2. Management to promote healthy and productive forest conditions to minimize susceptibility to damaging agents.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WIDNR website has a section on damaging agents that includes silvicultural guidelines.

For conventional forest management goals, rotations are set short enough to prevent many pest problems (for example Jack Pine rotations of 50 years or Aspen rotations between 40 and 50 years). Forest management, through stocking control and use of moderately short rotations, is designed to maintaining healthy stands. Planting and partial harvest systems consider soil/site conditions before making decisions as to which species to plant or to favor in partial harvests.

2.4.3. Participation in, and support of, fire and pest prevention and control programs.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The DNR works with other agencies to educate the public about pest prevention and continually conducts pest surveys. WI Dept. Ag, USDA Aphis and Forest Service, County park and forest programs and extension programs.

The DNR has a full service fire prevention program including wildfire equipment and trained personnel. It also works with local fire departments as cooperators.

The DNR issues prescribed burning permits throughout the state.

Performance Measure 2.5

Program Participants that deploy improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings, shall use best scientific methods. Indicator:

2.5.1. Program for appropriate research, testing, evaluation and deployment of improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WIDNR has a seed orchard that uses improved planting stock and doesn’t use varietal seedlings; only local species are grown.

The department’s Tree Improvement Specialist position has been vacant for several years, however tree improvement program responsibilities have been covered through collaboration between nursery managers and the UW-Madison experts. The department has resized its nursery program from three to one state nursery to match demand for planting stock.

Objective 3 Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources

To protect the water quality of rivers, streams, lakes, *wetlands* and other water bodies through meeting or exceeding *best management practices*.

Performance Measure 3.1

Program Participants shall meet or exceed all applicable federal, provincial, state and local water quality laws, and meet or exceed *best management practices* developed under Canadian or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency–approved water quality *programs*.

Indicators:

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

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Division of Forestry maintains a BMPs for Water Quality program, which includes training and monitoring. State lands BMPs monitoring field monitoring was performed during the fall of 2013.

A variety of forms and systems are used to manage the harvesting process from planning through final inspection and sale closeout, including pre-harvest contractor meetings and interim inspection forms. BMPs are covered within many of these documents and are required by the logging contract. All jobs are planned and supervised by trained, professional foresters, and operated by trained loggers.

3.1.2. Contract provisions that specify conformance to *best management practices*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Provisions that specify conformance to best management practices were found in the timber sale contracts.

3.1.3. Monitoring of overall *best management practices* implementation.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Division of Forestry maintains a BMPs for Water Quality program, which includes training and monitoring.

- State lands BMPs monitoring field monitoring was performed during the fall of 2013.
- Timber sale contracts contain provisions for conformance to BMPs and no BMP related issues were identified on any of the harvest sites visited.

Performance Measure 3.2

Program Participants shall implement water, *wetland* and *riparian protection* measures based on soil type, terrain, vegetation, ecological function, harvesting system, state *best management practices (BMPs)*, provincial guidelines and other applicable factors.

Indicators:

3.2.1. *Program* addressing management and *protection* of rivers, streams, lakes, *wetlands*, other water bodies and *riparian areas* during all phases of management, including the layout and construction of roads and *skid trails* to maintain water reach, flow and quality.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Division of Forestry maintains a BMPs for Water Quality program, which includes training and monitoring. State lands BMPs field monitoring was performed during the fall of 2013.

A variety of forms and systems are used to manage the harvesting process from planning through final inspection and sale closeout, including pre-harvest contractor meetings and interim inspection forms. BMPs are covered within many of these documents and are required by the logging contract. All jobs are planned and supervised by trained, professional foresters, and operated by trained loggers.

3.2.2. Mapping of rivers, streams, lakes, *wetlands* and other water bodies as specified in state or provincial *best management practices* and, where appropriate, identification on the ground.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Streams, lakes and other water bodies and riparian zones are mapped in the GIS and are marked on the ground (red paint on trees) near harvests as appropriate.

3.2.3. Document and implement plans to manage and protect rivers, streams, lakes, *wetlands*, other water bodies and *riparian areas*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Pre-planning and ongoing harvest inspections and documentation. The Timber Sale and Cutting Report has water quality and ecological consideration.

Site visits did not identify any issues.

3.2.4. Plans that address wet-weather events in order to maintain water quality (e.g., *forest inventory* systems, wet-weather tracts, definitions of acceptable operating conditions).

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Sensitive soils are mapped in the GIS. Soils and wet weather restrictions are addressed in timber sale planning, contracting, and sale administration.

Objective 4 Conservation of Biological Diversity

To manage the quality and distribution of *wildlife habitats* and contribute to the *conservation of biological diversity* by developing and implementing *stand-* and *landscape-*level measures that promote a diversity of types of *habitat* and successional stages, and the *conservation* of forest plants and animals, including *aquatic species*, *as well as threatened and endangered species*, *Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value*, *old-growth forests* and ecologically important sites.

Performance Measure 4.1

Program Participants shall conserve biological diversity. Indicators:

4.1.1. Program to incorporate the *conservation of native biological diversity*, including species, *wildlife habitats* and ecological community types at *stand* and *landscape* levels.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.1.2. Development of criteria and implementation of practices, as guided by regionally based *best scientific information*, to retain *stand-level wildlife habitat* elements such as snags, stumps, mast trees, down woody debris, den trees and nest trees.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.1.3. Document diversity of *forest cover types* and age or size classes at the individual ownership or forest tenure level, and where credible data are available, at the *landscape* scale. Working individually or collaboratively to support diversity of *native forest cover types* and age or size classes that enhance *biological diversity* at the *landscape* scale.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.1.4. Program Participants shall participate in or incorporate the results of state, provincial, or regional *conservation* planning and priority-setting efforts to conserve biological diversity and consider these efforts in forest management planning. Examples of credible priority-setting efforts include state *wildlife* action plans, state forest action plans, relevant *habitat conservation* plans or provincial *wildlife* recovery plans.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.1.5. Program to address *conservation* of known sites with viable occurrences of significant species of concern.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.1.6. Identification and *protection of non-forested wetlands*, including bogs, fens and marshes, and *vernal pools* of ecological significance.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.1.7. Participation in *programs* and demonstration of activities as appropriate to limit the introduction, spread and impact of *invasive exotic plants and animals* that directly threaten or are likely to threaten *native* plant and animal communities.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.1.8. Consider the role of natural disturbances, including the use of prescribed or natural fire where appropriate, and *forest health* threats in relation to *biological diversity* when developing forest management plans.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 4.2

Program Participants shall protect threatened and endangered species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Values (FECV) and old-growth forests. Indicators:

4.2.1. Program to protect threatened and endangered species.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The Department has an exemplary program across Bureaus to maintain and improve native biological diversity including prairie and grassland establishment and management.

DNR maintains a comprehensive program to conserve native biological diversity that includes inventory of stand and landscape level biodiversity features by trained professionals, biodiversity-related research by staff and in collaboration with academic institutions and other partners, a statewide Wildlife Action Plan that includes plans to manage species of greatest conservation need, and conservation of important areas of biological diversity through a system of parks, state forests, and natural areas.

4.2.2. Program to locate and protect known sites flora and fauna associated with viable occurrences of *critically imperiled* and *imperiled* species and communities also known as *Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value*. Plans for *protection* may be developed independently or collaboratively, and may include *Program Participant* management, cooperation with other stakeholders, or use of easements, *conservation* land sales, exchanges, or other *conservation* strategies.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Silviculture handbook and retention requirements.

Retention of stand-level wildlife habitat elements is guided by several documents that include specific criteria and practices for foresters to follow. Chapter 3 of the Wisconsin Forest Management Guidelines (PUB-FR-226 2011), for example, contains specific guidelines for retaining trees and snags, coarse woody debris, conifers in hardwood-dominated landscapes, mast, and ephemeral pools. WDNR's Silvicultural Handbook also includes specific criteria for conserving stand-level wildlife elements. The Public Forest Lands Handbook includes guidelines for implementing the Forest Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program, which includes specific stand-level projects such as identification, selection, and management of snag, den, nest, or rendezvous sites. As a final example, the WDNR's Old-growth and Old Forests Handbook contains criteria and implementation practices for retaining wildlife habitat elements specifically associated with late successional and old growth forests. All of these documents are prepared by WDNR professionals with input from academic experts and professionals from partnering organizations. Criteria and implementation practices are kept current and represent the best available scientific information for the region. Foresters, biologists, and ecologists collaborate closely and demonstrate familiarity with these documents and field sites document adherence to the criteria and practices that they contain.

4.2.3. Support of and participation in plans or *programs* for the *conservation* of *old-growth forests* in the region of ownership or forest tenure.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Master plans and IFMP address diversity at the landscape level. The SW Grassland NW sands sharp tailed grouse habitat, central grasslands and prairie chicken. FHCV.

DNR's Ecosystem Management Planning Team developed an Ecological Landscapes Handbook (ELH) that guides a program for documenting the diversity of forest types and natural communities at the stand, regional, and landscape levels. The state has been divided into 16 ecological landscapes, or ecoregions, with similar ecology and management opportunities. The ELH contains an assessment of current conditions for the entire state, and for each ecoregion, broken down by dominant natural community type. In addition, the ELH includes an assessment of trends in ecological conditions, including those related to anticipated trends associated with climate change. The ELH also provides a framework for preparing documents for specific ecological landscapes (e.g., Chapter 15, Northern Lake Michigan Coastal Ecological Landscape). These documents contain regionally-specific descriptions of forest types and natural communities that include assessments for current age and size class distributions. Property Master Plans include site-specific information regarding current stand types and natural communities and specific forest management plans describe stand-level size and age class characteristics. Using the

information contained in these, and other, documents, WDNR develops specific plans for conserving the full range of age and size classes for the forest types and natural communities native to Wisconsin. In addition, specific programs have been developed for retaining late successional and old growth stands as well as maintaining a component of the landscape in an early successional condition. All of WDNR's programs include partnerships with academic institutions as well as collaboration with partnering organizations, such as The Nature Conservancy.

Performance Measure 4.3

Program Participants shall manage ecologically important sites in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities. Indicators:

4.3.1. Use of information such as existing natural heritage data or expert advice in identifying or selecting ecologically important sites for *protection*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Ecologically-important sites are identified by WDNR staff (e.g., NHI), often with collaboration with academic experts and experts from regional conservation organizations and members of the public. The NHI maintains a comprehensive database documenting the occurrence of ecologically important sites and this information is available to WDNR ecologists, biologists, and foresters, who receive training in use of the software system.

4.3.2. Appropriate mapping, cataloging and management of identified ecologically important sites.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: FHCV are not specifically mapped out but are classified as state natural areas, native community areas, wild resource areas and wild wilderness lakes.

Ecologically important sites are mapped (using GPS) and cataloged (in a GIS) by WDNR staff with quality control and assurance by NHI staff at the regional and Madison levels. This information is used to develop management and conservation programs at the statewide, regional (i.e., landscape), property, and stand levels. Planning documents are developed through interdisciplinary programs and transparent public processes. Coordination between ecologists, biologists, and foresters has been enhanced through the recent addition of 8 regionally-based ecologists.

318,828 acres are identified as FHCV.

Performance Measure 4.4

Program Participants shall apply knowledge gained through research, science, technology and field experience to manage *wildlife habitat* and contribute to the *conservation of biological diversity*. Indicators:

4.4.1. Collection of information on *Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value* and other *biodiversity*-related data through *forest inventory* processes, mapping or participation in external *programs*, such as NatureServe, state or provincial heritage *programs*, or other credible systems. Such participation may include providing non-proprietary scientific information, time and assistance by staff, or in-kind or direct financial support.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

4.4.2. A methodology to incorporate research results and field applications of *biodiversity* and ecosystem research into forest management decisions.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Objective 5 Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits

To manage the visual impact of forest operations and provide recreational opportunities for the public.

Performance Measure 5.1

Program Participants shall manage the impact of harvesting on *visual quality*. Indicators:

5.1.1. Program to address visual quality management.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

5.1.2. Incorporation of aesthetic considerations in harvesting, road, landing design and management, and other management activities where visual impacts are a concern.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 5.2

Program Participants shall manage the size, shape and placement of clearcut harvests. Indicators:

5.2.1. Average size of clearcut harvest areas does not exceed 120 acres (50 hectares), except when necessary to meet regulatory requirements, achieve ecological *objectives* or to respond to *forest health* emergencies or other natural catastrophes.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

5.2.2. Documentation through internal records of clearcut size and the process for calculating average size.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 5.3

Program Participants shall adopt a *green-up requirement* or alternative methods that provide for *visual quality*. Indicators:

5.3.1. *Program* implementing the *green-up requirement* or alternative methods.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

5.3.2. Harvest area tracking system to demonstrate conformance with the *green-up requirement* or alternative methods.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

5.3.3. Trees in clearcut harvest areas are at least 3 years old or 5 feet (1.5 meters) high at the desired level of stocking before adjacent areas are clearcut, or as appropriate to address operational and economic considerations, alternative methods to reach the *performance measure* are utilized by the *Program Participant*.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 5.4

Program Participants shall support and promote recreational opportunities for the public. Indicator:

5.4.1. Provide recreational opportunities for the public, where consistent with forest management *objectives*.

- N/A
 Conformance
 Exceeds
 O.F.I.
 Major NC
 Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Objective 6 **Protection of Special Sites**

To manage lands that are geologically or *culturally important* in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.

Performance Measure 6.1

Program Participants shall identify *special sites* and manage them in a manner appropriate for their unique features. Indicators:

6.1.1. Use of information such as existing natural heritage data, expert advice or stakeholder consultation in identifying or selecting *special sites* for *protection*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: NHI and archaeological sites are identified and systems are in place for protection.

DNR has an archaeologist on staff. DNR collaborates closely with the State Historical Society to identify and protect sensitive cultural resources, consults with Wisconsin Indian tribes about information related to tribal historic and cultural sites and has vegetation management guidelines for burial mounds.

6.1.2. Appropriate mapping, cataloging and management of identified *special sites*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: See 6.1.1. Data bases for cultural and biotic special sites are maintained and updated periodically. Staff often report new locations of T/E species to NHI. Appropriate management practices are employed to protect these sites, but for many sites, the exact location is not revealed. This is especially done for endangered resources and special sites that have cultural significance.

Objective 7 Efficient Use of Fiber Resources

To *minimize* waste and ensure the efficient use of fiber resources.

Performance Measure 7.1

Program Participants shall employ appropriate forest harvesting technology and in-woods manufacturing processes and practices to *minimize* waste and ensure efficient utilization of harvested trees, where consistent with other *SFI Standard objectives*. Indicator:

7.1.1. *Program* or monitoring system to ensure efficient utilization, which may include provisions to ensure:

- a. management of harvest residue (e.g., slash, limbs, tops) considers economic, social and environmental factors (e.g., organic and nutrient value to future forests and the potential of increased fuels build-up) and other utilization needs;
- b. training or incentives to encourage loggers to enhance utilization;
- c. exploration of markets for underutilized species and low-grade wood and alternative markets (e.g., bioenergy markets); or
- d. periodic inspections and reports noting utilization and product separation.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Objective 8 Recognize and Respect *Indigenous Peoples'* Rights

To recognize and respect *Indigenous Peoples'* rights and traditional knowledge.

Performance Measure 8.1

Program Participants shall recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights. Indicator:

8.1.1. *Program Participants* will provide a written *policy* acknowledging a commitment to recognize and respect the rights of *Indigenous Peoples*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Executive Order #39 directs all state agencies to recognize and consult with Indian Tribes located in Wisconsin on a government to government basis.

Policy signed in 2005 was established by the DNR directing staff on consultation with Wisconsin's Indian Tribes. This policy recognizes the unique relationship between both governments, and is meant to respect each government.

Performance Measure 8.2

Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall confer with affected *Indigenous Peoples* with respect to sustainable forest management practices. Indicator:

8.2.1. *Program* that includes communicating with affected *Indigenous Peoples* to enable *Program Participants* to:

- a. understand and respect traditional forest-related knowledge;
- b. identify and protect spiritually, historically, or culturally important sites;
- c. address the use of non-timber forest products of value to Indigenous Peoples in areas where Program Participants have management responsibilities on public lands; and
- d. respond to Indigenous Peoples' inquiries and concerns received.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: DNR has 11 tribes with interests (non-forest products and hunting and fishing) in State Lands and has created the Tribal Liaison position in Madison and has assigned local foresters to each tribe.

In early 2016, DNR developed a policy of notifying tribes about pending new IFMPs in order to give them the opportunity to comment.

Performance Measure 8.3

Program Participants are encouraged to communicate with and shall respond to local *Indigenous Peoples* with respect to sustainable forest management practices on their private lands. Indicators:

8.3.1. *Program Participants* are aware of *traditional forest-related knowledge*, such as known cultural heritage sites, the use of wood in traditional buildings and crafts, and flora that may be used in cultural practices for food, ceremonies or medicine.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The department also has a system of individual forestry division tribal liaisons to develop strong communication channels and discuss issues related to forest management including traditional knowledge, important sites, and non-timber forest products on state lands and to respond to tribal inquiries and concerns.

8.3.2. Respond to *Indigenous Peoples'* inquiries and concerns received.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The agency tribal liaison also has consistent and continual communication established between the tribal leadership and the department.

Objective 9 Legal and Regulatory Compliance

To comply with applicable federal, provincial, state and local laws and regulations.

Performance Measure 9.1

Program Participants shall comply with applicable federal, provincial, state and local *forestry* and related social and environmental laws and regulations. Indicators:

9.1.1. Access to relevant laws and regulations in appropriate locations.

- N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Staff has access to relevant laws, including state statutes and administrative codes using the internet.
The Department maintains an intranet that houses manual codes and handbooks for all Department programs.

9.1.2. System to achieve compliance with applicable federal, provincial, state, or local laws and regulations.

- N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Wisconsin DNR employs an attorney to review key aspects of all programs and major actions.
Professional foresters plan all projects, often with review by specialists from other disciplines. Regulations and laws are part of the professional training of these planners/reviewers.
Experienced foresters employed by WDNR review and approve most projects, and legal/regulatory compliance is part of these reviews.
All harvests are planned and supervised by trained foresters, and operated by trained loggers.

9.1.3. Demonstration of commitment to legal compliance through *available regulatory action information*.

- N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Senior managers for the Division of Lands and for the Division of Forestry report no regulatory compliance issues over the past several years.
In 2015 a new department manual code, MC1755.1, was developed to help assure that DNR projects utilize the same application, review, and approval process as external projects for actions requiring self-permitting.

Performance Measure 9.2

Program Participants shall take appropriate steps to comply with all applicable social laws at the federal, provincial, state and local levels in the country in which the *Program Participant* operates. Indicators:

9.2.1. Written *policy* demonstrating commitment to comply with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures, workers' compensation, *Indigenous Peoples'* rights, workers' and communities' right to know, prevailing wages, workers' right to organize, and occupational health and safety.

- N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed by review of the employee webpage that DNR is committed.

9.2.2. *Forestry enterprises* will respect the rights of workers and labor representatives in a manner that encompasses the intent of the International Labor Organization (ILO) core conventions.

- N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: State of Wisconsin labor laws respect the intent of the International Labor Organization (ILO) core conventions (see Office of State Employee Relations). No ILO-related complaints received by state lands.

Objective 10 Forestry Research, Science and Technology

To invest in *forestry* research, science and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based and broaden the awareness of *climate change* impacts on forests, *wildlife* and *biological diversity*.

Performance Measure 10.1

Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving *SFI Implementation Committees*, associations or other partners provide in-kind support or funding for forest research to improve *forest health*, *productivity* and sustainable management of forest resources, and the environmental benefits and performance of forest products. Indicators:

10.1.1. Financial or in-kind support of research to address questions of relevance in the region of operations. Examples could include, but are not limited to, areas of forest *productivity*, water quality, biodiversity, community issues, or similar areas which build broader understanding of the benefits and impacts of forest management.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

10.1.2. Research on genetically engineered trees via *forest tree biotechnology* shall adhere to all applicable federal, state, and provincial regulations and international protocols ratified by the United States and/or Canada depending on jurisdiction of management.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 10.2

Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving *SFI Implementation Committees*, associations or other partners develop or use state, provincial or regional analyses in support of their *sustainable forestry programs*. Indicator:

10.2.1. Participation, individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving *SFI Implementation Committees* and/or associations at the national, state, provincial or regional level, in the development or use of some of the following:

- a. regeneration assessments;
- b. growth and drain assessments;
- c. *best management practices* implementation and conformance;
- d. *biodiversity conservation* information for family forest owners; and
- e. social, cultural or economic benefit assessments.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 10.3

Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving *SFI Implementation Committees*, associations or other partners broaden the awareness of *climate change* impacts on forests, *wildlife* and *biological diversity*. Indicators:

10.3.1. Where available, monitor information generated from regional climate models on *long-term forest health*, *productivity* and *economic viability*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

10.3.2. *Program Participants* are knowledgeable about *climate change* impacts on *wildlife*, *wildlife habitats* and *conservation of biological diversity* through international, national, regional or local *programs*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Objective 11 Training and Education

To improve the implementation of *sustainable forestry* practices through appropriate training and education *programs*.

Performance Measure 11.1

Program Participants shall require appropriate training of personnel and contractors so that they are competent to fulfill their responsibilities under the *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard*. Indicators:

11.1.1. Written statement of commitment to the *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard* communicated throughout the organization, particularly to facility and woodland managers, and field foresters.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

11.1.2. Assignment and understanding of roles and responsibilities for achieving *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard objectives*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

11.1.3. Staff education and training sufficient to their roles and responsibilities.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

11.1.4. Contractor education and training sufficient to their roles and responsibilities.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

11.1.5. *Program Participants* shall have written agreements for the use of *qualified logging professionals* and/or *certified logging professionals* (where available) and/or *wood producers* that have completed training *programs* and are recognized as *qualified logging professionals*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 11.2

Program Participants shall work individually and/or with *SFI Implementation Committees*, logging or forestry associations, or appropriate agencies or others in the *forestry* community to foster improvement in the professionalism of *wood producers*.

Indicators:

11.2.1. Participation in or support of *SFI Implementation Committees* to establish criteria and identify delivery mechanisms for *wood producer* training courses and periodic continuing education that address:

- a. awareness of sustainable forestry principles and the SFI program;
- b. best management practices, including streamside management and road construction, maintenance and retirement;
- c. reforestation, invasive exotic plants and animals, forest resource conservation, aesthetics and special sites;
- d. awareness of responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Canadian Species at Risk Act, and other measures to protect wildlife habitat (e.g., Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value);
- e. awareness of rare forested natural communities as identified by provincial or state agencies, or by credible organizations such as NatureServe, The Nature Conservancy, etc.
- f. logging safety;

- g. U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) regulations, wage and hour rules, and other provincial, state and local employment laws;
- h. transportation issues;
- i. business management;
- j. public policy and outreach; and
- k. awareness of emerging technologies.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed considerable involvement in the Wisconsin SFI Implementation Committee, including DNR researchers conducting research on biomass harvesting to develop a visual handbook, a grant for the Master Logger program in July 2014 and by Mark's participation in the WI SIC. WIDNR foresters also instruct FISTA training programs.

Confirmed Mark Heyde attended all of the meetings since the last audit.

11.2.2. The SIC-approved *wood producer training programs* shall have a continuing education component with coursework that supports the current training *programs*, safety and the *principles of sustainable forestry*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The FISTA training has a 4 hour annual training requirement.

11.2.3. Participation in or support of *SFI Implementation Committees* to establish criteria for recognition of logger certification *programs*, where they exist, that include:

- a. completion of *SFI Implementation Committee* recognized logger training *programs* and meeting continuing education requirements of the training *program*;
- b. independent in-the-forest verification of conformance with the logger certification *program* standards;
- c. compliance with all applicable laws and regulations including responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Canadian Species at Risk Act and other measures to protect *wildlife habitat*;
- d. use of *best management practices* to protect water quality;
- e. logging safety;
- f. compliance with acceptable *silviculture* and utilization standards;
- g. aesthetic management techniques employed where applicable; and
- h. adherence to a management or harvest plan that is site specific and agreed to by the forest landowner.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WI has a Master Logger program which the DNR supports via its participation in the SIC.

Objective 12 Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach

To broaden the practice of *sustainable forestry* through public outreach, education, and involvement, and to support the efforts of *SFI Implementation Committees*.

Performance Measure 12.1

Program Participants shall support and promote efforts by consulting foresters, state, provincial and federal agencies, state or local groups, professional societies, *conservation* organizations, *Indigenous Peoples* and governments, community groups, sporting organizations, labor, universities, extension agencies, the *American Tree Farm System*[®] and/or other landowner cooperative *programs* to apply *principles* of sustainable forest management. Indicators:

12.1.1. Support, including financial, for efforts of *SFI Implementation Committees*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed considerable involvement in the Wisconsin SFI Implementation Committee, including DNR researchers conducting research on biomass harvesting to develop to develop a visual handbook, a grant for the Master Logger program in July 2014 and by Mark's participation in the WI SIC. WIDNR foresters also instruct FISTA training programs.

Confirmed Mark Heyde attended all of the meetings since the last audit.

12.1.2. Support, individually or collaboratively, education and outreach to forest landowners describing the importance and providing implementation guidance on:

- a. best management practices;
- b. reforestation and afforestation;
- c. visual quality management;
- d. conservation objectives, such as critical wildlife habitat elements, biodiversity, threatened and endangered species, and Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value;
- e. management of harvest residue (e.g., slash, limbs, tops) considers economic, social, environmental factors (e.g., organic and nutrient value to future forests) and other utilization needs;
- f. control of invasive exotic plants and animals;
- g. characteristics of *special sites*; and
- h. reduction of wildfire risk.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed considerable involvement in the Wisconsin SFI Implementation Committee, including DNR researchers conducting research on biomass harvesting to develop to develop a visual handbook and by Mark's participation in the WI SIC. WIDNR foresters also instruct FISTA training programs.

Confirmed Mark Heyde attended all of the meetings since the last audit.

12.1.3. Participation in efforts to support or promote *conservation* of managed forests through voluntary market-based incentive *programs* such as current-use taxation *programs*, *Forest Legacy Program* or *conservation* easements.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Wisconsin DNR has an active program to purchase conservation easements on working forests and riparian zones, or to buy fee forestland to support working forestry.

There are 1 ½ positions in the Forestry Program for easement acquisition.

Wisconsin DNR Managed Forest Law Program (MFL) is certified under American Tree Farm; which provides current use tax breaks.

Performance Measure 12.2

Program Participants shall support and promote, at the state, provincial or other appropriate levels, mechanisms for public outreach, education and involvement related to sustainable forest management. Indicator:

- 12.2.1. Periodic educational opportunities promoting *sustainable forestry*, such as
- a. field tours, seminars, websites, webinars or workshops;
 - b. educational trips;
 - c. self-guided forest management trails;
 - d. publication of articles, educational pamphlets or newsletters; or
 - e. support for state, provincial, and local *forestry* organizations and soil and water *conservation* districts.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Performance Measure 12.3

Program Participants shall establish, at the state, provincial, or other appropriate levels, procedures to address concerns raised by loggers, consulting foresters, employees, unions, the public or other *Program Participants* regarding practices that appear inconsistent with the *SFI Standard principles* and *objectives*. Indicators:

- 12.3.1. Support for *SFI Implementation Committees* (e.g., toll-free numbers and other efforts) to address concerns about apparent nonconforming practices.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

- 12.3.2. Process to receive and respond to public inquiries. *SFI Implementation Committees* shall submit data annually to *SFI Inc.* regarding concerns received and responses.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes:

Objective 13 Public Land Management Responsibilities

To participate and implement sustainable forest management on *public lands*.

Performance Measure 13.1

Program Participants with *forest management responsibilities on public lands* shall participate in the development of *public land* planning and management processes. Indicators:

13.1.1. Involvement in *public land* planning and management activities with appropriate governmental entities and the public.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Public input opportunities during master planning are superb including: Local outreach to stakeholders and the community level: annual stakeholder meetings, listening sessions, newsletters, integrated property management meetings; outreach is scaled to the public's level of interest and relative risk.

Web information is listed by property.

Interim forest management plan (IFMP) development is offered for public review.

13.1.2. Appropriate contact with local stakeholders over forest management issues through state, provincial, federal or independent collaboration.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: See 13.1.1 above. Local stakeholders are asked to comment on Master and Interim Forest plans, all internal guidance formulated by WIDNR and contacts with local governments and landowners.

Objective 14 Communications and Public Reporting

To increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance with the *SFI Forest Management Standard*.

Performance Measure 14.1

A *Program Participant* shall provide a summary audit report, prepared by the *certification body*, to *SFI Inc.* after the successful completion of a certification, recertification or surveillance audit to the *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard*. Indicator:

- 14.1.1. The summary audit report submitted by the *Program Participant* (one copy must be in English), shall include, at a minimum,
- a. a description of the audit process, *objectives* and scope;
 - b. a description of substitute *indicators*, if any, used in the audit and a rationale for each;
 - c. the name of *Program Participant* that was audited, including its *SFI* representative;
 - d. a general description of the *Program Participant's* forestland included in the audit;
 - e. the name of the *certification body* and *lead auditor* (names of the *audit team* members, including *technical experts* may be included at the discretion of the *audit team* and *Program Participant*);
 - f. the dates the audit was conducted and completed;
 - g. a summary of the findings, including general descriptions of evidence of conformity and any nonconformities and corrective action plans to address them, opportunities for improvement, and exceptional practices; and
 - h. the certification decision.

The summary audit report will be posted on the *SFI Inc.* website (www.sfiprogram.org) for public review.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed by review of the SFI Inc. website that the 2015 report is present.

Performance Measure 14.2

Program Participants shall report annually to SFI Inc. on their conformance with the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard. Indicators:

14.2.1. Prompt response to the *SFI* annual progress report survey.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Confirmed by review of email from Rachel that the report was submitted on time

14.2.2. Record keeping for all the categories of information needed for *SFI* annual progress report surveys.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: WisFIRs system tracks all harvests; other systems are used to track contributions, etc.

The review of documents associated with selected field sites helped audit team assess recordkeeping. All records requested were provided quickly.

Confirmed by review of Annual Progress Report.

14.2.3. Maintenance of copies of past survey reports to document progress and improvements to demonstrate conformance to the *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Past reports maintained by Mark Heyde as hard copies were reviewed in the file.

Objective 15 Management Review and Continual Improvement

To promote continual improvement in the practice of *sustainable forestry* by conducting a management review and monitoring performance.

Performance Measure 15.1

Program Participants shall establish a management review system to examine findings and progress in implementing the *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard*, to make appropriate improvements in *programs*, and to inform their employees of changes.

Indicators:

15.1.1 System to review commitments, *programs* and procedures to evaluate effectiveness.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The department maintains an Integrated Certification Implementation Team (ICIT)

A primary role of ICIT is the review of commitments, programs and procedures to evaluate the effectiveness of SFI standards implementation and reporting to management.

The results of the department's response to CAR requests as well as the result of internal monitoring are discussed with senior management at the annual review.

The DNR's Integrated Certification Implementation Team (ICIT) includes a representative from each DNR program. The team meets regularly, as confirmed by ICIT Meeting Minutes from May 6, 2013. "In August 2012 the Forestry and Land Division administrators confirmed that the charge of the Integrated Certification Implementation Team includes:

- a. Coordination of annual certification audits.
- b. Coordinated response to Corrective Action Requests, Observations, and Opportunities for Improvement.
- c. Internal monitoring of DNR policies and procedures related to forest certification.
- d. Annual certification review with senior management."

Team leaders and Area Foresters and other supervisors work closely with field personnel to ensure that actions meet program guidance, manual codes, scientific principles, and legal requirements, all of which are consistent with the SFI requirements. Most projects require review and sign-off by at least one such supervisory personnel. Interviews confirmed that such managers conduct regular field reviews as well.

15.1.2 System for collecting, reviewing, and reporting information to management regarding progress in achieving *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard objectives and performance measures*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: The system includes an internal audit process. The ICIT Team meets annually to audit the central office functionality as well as field related issues. DNR also periodically conducts BMP audits.

Confirmed the 2016 internal audit was completed August 8, 2015 and an FSC related CAR for pesticide use and 2 observations were issued.

15.1.3 Annual review of progress by management and determination of changes and improvements necessary to continually improve conformance to the *SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management Standard*.

N/A Conformance Exceeds O.F.I. Major NC Minor NC

Audit Notes: Agenda and memo for DNR's annual senior management review, August 1, 2016, and the supporting documentation for this management review were the key evidence of conformance with this requirement. The review was structured to focus on issues related to the third-party audit findings from the 2015 audit as well as the 2016 internal audit CAR.

(End)

Site Notes 2016

Wisconsin DNR State Lands

Date: Monday, 15 August 2016	
FMU / Location / sites visited	Activities / notes
All Auditors, Itinerary, Day 1	NHAL Field Sites
Site 1: Northern Highland State Forest Tract 6476-38-14, Timber Sale 1085H, Trout Lake Sale	Forester: Todd Anderson, Chase Christopherson. Two stands were visited in this stop. 62 acre sale with several treatments were implemented including aspen regen cut, oak release cut, jack and scotch pine removal with a red and white pine thin, white pine regen cut and a aspen, birch removal and oak thin. No issues were identified. RJH: An onsite discussion was held regarding DNR's efforts to address the spread of invasive exotic plant species.
Site 2: Northern Highland State Forest Tract 6476-32-14, Timber Sale 1080H, Airport Road Sale	Forester: Todd Anderson, Chase Christopherson 106 acre sale with Norway spruce harvest/ removal followed by restoration planting to jack pine as well as allowing for natural aspen regen. No issues.
Site 3: Northern Highland State Forest NESW-S8-T42N-R7E	Forester: Todd Anderson, Chase Christopherson 34 acre chemical site prep using 2 quarts Accord and 1 ounce Oust/acre.
12:00-4:30 PM NHAL Field Sites	Auditors split into 3 teams with various WDNR administrative and field staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hrubes, North Route with Craig Williams • Jacqmain, Central Route with Jeff Olsen • Boatwright, South Route with Ken Hayes
Hrubes Itinerary Day 1: North Route	Northern Highland State Forest Sites and other State Lands in Vilas County
Stop 1: Star Lake West Timber Sale #1121H, Tract #6476-30-15	DNR Forester: Jaime Remme. An active timber sale. Interviewed the sale purchaser, Harry Baldrige and Son (Clayton, age 16), dba Country Forest Products. Mechanized logging—harvester and forwarder (operated by Son). Field operations were being conducted competently with little in the way of residual stand damage or avoidable soil disturbance. Both machines were well maintained. Son has been working in the woods with his father for several years (summers and school vacations) for several years. No hard hats in the machine cabs or near the harvest site.
Stop 2: Timber Sale #1102H, Tract #6476-30-15	DNR Forester: Craig Dalton. The portion of the sale visited during the audit has been completed. The mark was designed to retain most red pine, white pine and spruce while removing aspen, white birch, maple, jack pine and balsam fir. The retention mark effectively implemented the stated objective of the operation. Residual stand damage well within reasonable limits. Overall, a competent operation.
Stop 3: Timber Sale #1074H,	DNR Forester: Craig Dalton. A completed timber sale—primarily, an aspen

Tract #6496-14-15	regeneration harvest with removal of some white pine, red pine and mixed hardwood pulpwood. No issues observed.
Jacqmain Itinerary Day 1: Central Route	Northern Highland State Forest sites led by Jeff Olsen with other field staff attending.
Site 1: Northern Highland State Forest Tract 6476-2-14, Timber Sale 1076H	<p>Forester: Paul Stearns. Two stands were visited in this stop. 1) The first stand was a 58 acre thinning in an even-aged, northern hardwood stand using a combination of crop tree release, thinning, and canopy gap creation. Pioneer hardwood, non-desirable conifers and orange marked trees were designated for cut. Gaps were created in 38 pre-determined locations averaging 50 feet in diameter. Within gaps all stems >2" diameter were cut. Gap placement were located where there was existing regeneration of desired species; to encourage regeneration of desired species such as yellow birch and hemlock; patches with significant die-back; and spots of poor stem quality. Abundant regeneration of more shade tolerant species were present throughout and harvests were designed to maintain species and structural diversity in the stand.</p> <p>A second stand, a 12 acre section, set up but not yet cut was along a pond area where a 15 foot buffer strip was established. A coppice method will be used with retention of desired species to promote structural and species diversity.</p> <p>Discussions and forms at this stop included the management candidate lists, pre-site assessments timber sale notice and cutting reports (2460-01), timber sale administration, Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) databases, and procedures for areas and species of special concern. Foresters and conservation biologist described RTE collaboration process to identify and form plan adjustments for potential features.</p>
Site 2: Northern Highland State Forest Tract 6476-17-15, Timber Sale #1109H	<p>Forester: Adam Wallace. This was a 2nd thinning in 36 year old red pine of 33 acres that had been set up, the harvest was initiated, and changes in site conditions necessitated harvest stoppage after one week. Concerns with rutting following a heavy rain led to a call by the forester after mutual decision with the logger to stop harvest in this 2 year permit that is held with a 15% bond. Harvest objective is an improvement thinning of marked trees and to cut all merchantable aspen, maple, balsam fir, and paper birch within 15 feet of residual pine. Extensive porcupine damage also determine some stem selection. No damage was observed to residual stems in areas that were harvested prior to stoppage.</p> <p>Discussions at this site included timber sale prospectus, pre-harvest meetings, timber sale administration, Wisconsin BMPs for Water Quality, whole tree utilization and biomass harvesting, tree length skidding, habitat typing, red pine rotations, and red pine forest products markets.</p>
Site 3: Northern Highland State Forest Tract 6476-25-15, Timber Sale 1117H	<p>Forester: Paul Stearns, Turtle South 117H</p> <p>The first stop at this site was a 40 acre aspen/balsam fir regeneration cut prepared, sold, and not yet harvested. The NW portion of the sale runs along the Turtle River. The Riparian Area buffer was set by the forester using red paint and followed a high ridge that exceeded BMP requirements for Water Quality.</p>

	<p>The second stop was a 180 northern hardwood improvement thinning cutting pioneer species, undesired conifers, and forester marked trees. This sale was also set up but not yet cut. Basal area retention requirements, no equipment zones for the Turtle River were included in the Timber Sale Notice and Cutting Report (2460-01a). Additionally, wetlands protection measures; frozen/dry ground requirements for crossing wetlands; and slash deposition requirements were included.</p> <p>Discussions at this site were primary focused on BMP's for water quality. The site also had a historical/archaeological occurrence in the site assessment (old logging camp). The forester described the review process for this.</p>
Site 4: Northern Highland State Forest Tract 6476-03-15, Timber Sale 1099H	Forester: Chase Christopherson, Birch Hill Pine Sale. This was a 28 acre red pine cutting only marked trees using a heavy low thinning, to improve the overall health and vigor of the stand. Additionally, the goal is to improve overall oak regeneration, which was already present. This sale included aesthetic diversity retention along a road visual corridor. Discussion of stocking charts, rotation ages, red pine pocket decline, collaboration with I&D specialists.
Site 5: Northern Highland State Forest Planting Site NESE-S4-T42N-R6E	Forester: Paul Schultz. This was a 35 acre failed aspen regeneration site. Post-harvest stocking surveys measured poor stocking of aspen, per stocking charts. Aspen is not lacking in the surrounding landscape and given the site conditions and habitat type are suitable it was decided to shift the site to red pine. The site was herbicide sprayed and scarified to establish 2-0, bare root red pine seedlings. The herbicide prescription and planting maps were provided. Also provided were copies of the tree planting and mechanical scarification/herbicide application contract.
Boatwright Itinerary Day 1: Southern Route	Northern Highland State Forest and American Legion State Forest sites led by Ken Hayes with other field staff attending.
Tree Planting Site – North Creek Springs PJ Site (SESW-Sec 25-T42N-R6E)	Forester Paul Schultz. 30 acre jack pine planting. Area was site prepped using herbicide and ripped. Review of stocking tally sheets indicate initial stocking was 1075 trees/acre and first year survival was 925 trees/acre.
Sold Timber Sale #1090H, Tract #6476-44-14 – Gresham Red Pine Sale (SWSW-Sec 16-T41N-R6E)	Forester Jim Wetterau. 156 acre active sale including several different types of red pine thinning. Interview logger Jaker Flannery who is FISTA trained, wore PPE and had a spill kit on the processor. Good stocking with little damage to residuals. Observed a vernal pool in the harvest area that wasn't impacted and a large painted buffer along the Trout River.
Sold Timber Sale #1106A, Tract #4475-13-15 – Minocqua Thoroughfare Sale (Sec 17,18-T39N-R7E)	rs Craig Dalton and Ken Hayes. 143 acre sale consisting predominately of a red/w n. Objective was to create an Old Forest on an Extended Rotation. Good logging j od stocking and little damage to residuals. Buffer along a major highway.
Clear Lake Campground Visit – Campground Site on NHAL SF – (SW ¼-Sec 17-T39R-R7E)	NHAL State Forest Superintendent Steve Petersen and NHAL Recreation Supervisor Joe Fieweger. Nice campground along the 1,000 acre Clear Lake with 102 primitive sites with toilets and showers. Tables and fire pit at beach.
Sold Timber Sale #1115A, Tract #4475-23-15– Bear Road Oak Sale (E ½-Sec 11-T38N-R7E)	Forester Ken Hayes. 95 acre partially complete sale. Mainly white/red pine thin and intermediate cut. Nice buffer along highway. Observed a red painted no cut line around a vernal pool.

Date: Tuesday, 16 August 2016	
FMU/Location/Sites Visited	Activities/Notes
Hrubes Itinerary Day 2: North Route	Sites in Florence, Marinette, and Oconto Counties led by Craig Williams.
Site 1: Completed timber sale in Spread Eagle Barrens SNA	DNR Foresters: Henry Sullivan, Tyler Wood, Liz Wood. This site was a completed aspen clearcut; focus on maintaining forest cover and maintaining mature forest remnants where present. No issues or concerns arose during the walk-through of the harvest area. Visually, the site looks good.
Site 2: Active timber sale #12, Tract #1975-1-15, Spread Eagle Barrens SNA	DNR Foresters: Henry Sullivan, Tyler Wood, Liz Wood. A large, active timber harvesting operation. Contractor: Mimerick Logging. Mechanized operation—harvester and forwarder. Another father and son operation. Interviewed Lance Glime. Spill kits found to be present in the machines' cabs; 1 st aid kit said to be in pick-up. Harvester has auto-pump mechanism for limiting release of hydraulic fluid in the event of a line break. Marking of harvest boundaries and leave trees were clear and effective and augmented by smartphone-app GPS mapping software used by both the foresters and the equipment operators. Effective operation driven in part by oak wilt. Overall, a well-executed harvesting operation was observed; no evidence of non-conformities
Site 3: Completed Timber Sale #58, Tract #1976-2-14 – North Power Dam Sale, Pine-Popple Wild River Property	DNR Foresters: Henry Sullivan, Tyler Wood. DNR Biologist: Carly Lapin. A completed timber sale. Within the timber sale units are multiple harvest units with different cutting prescriptions. The sale was sold twice, the second being a direct sale after default by the first buyer. Final buyer: Sheyman Brothers, based in the UP of MI. Unable to interview loggers as the operation was completed some time ago. Visual corridor considerations were part of the design of the harvest. Some clearcuts with retention and some selection areas within the sale boundaries. Overall, the operation looks to have been laid out and executed in an effective manner; no issues observed. Additionally, a discussion of the status of the Interim Forest Management Plan was held, both for Pine-Popple but Department-wide, as well. The Pine-Popple Master Plan that has not been formally replaced by a newer plan, was issued in 1981; the Interim Plan was issued in 2012.
Site 4: Established Timber Sale "YMCA", Tract #1976-02-15	DNR Foresters: Henry Sullivan, Tyler Wood, Liz Wood; DNR Biologists: Carly Lapin, Jason Cotter. Aspen regeneration harvest; no issues observed. Positive note of retention of standing dead trees as well as red and white pine green trees.
Site 5: Sold Timber Sale #62, Tract #1976-04-14 ("LaSalle North")	DNR Foresters: Henry Sullivan, Tyler Wood, Liz Wood; DNR Biologists: Carly Lapin, Jason Cotter. First block: Single tree selection harvest of northern hardwoods, primarily sugar maple and basswood. Not yet operated. Second block: 49 acre aspen clear cut (already completed). A discussion was held about view shed considerations near a designated wild river. Overall, no issues of concern relative to the certification standard were observed.
Jacqmain Itinerary Day 2: Central Route	Sites in Langlade, Lincoln, and Oconto Counties led by Tom Shockley with Curt Wilson and other field staff attending.
Site 1: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area Tract 4403-004-14,	Forester: Tom Shockley. The goals for the over 21,000 acre area are to establish and maintain a forest community of diverse forest types and age

<p>Timber Sale 4</p>	<p>classes for the sustainable production of a variety of forest products. This stop evaluated a 37 acre aspen regeneration harvest cutting all aspen, birch, maple, balsam fir (>1" diameter), and marked trees in the stand completed in 2014. Scattered spruce were retained for wildlife and seed trees. Small pockets of red pine were thinned but retained to improve tree health and vigor. Residual trees were also considered as part of the visual management in a high use recreation area.</p> <p>Discussions included Annual Allowable Cut goals; and Natural Heritage Inventory for RTE with forestry field staff, Wildlife Biologist, Natural Heritage Field Operations Manager, and the NHAL Supervisor.</p>
<p>Site 2: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area Tract 4403-02-14, Timber Sale 2W</p>	<p>Forester: Tom Shockley. This as a 151 acre aspen regeneration harvest and pine thinning treatment area. The aspen portions harvested mature overstory to regenerate and maintain aspen. Scattered spruce, red and white pine trees were retained for stand tree composition diversity, wildlife use, and future snags. An improvement thin for the 90 year old red pine removing the "worst-first" to reduce stocking and improve tree health and vigor. The stand history was reviewed.</p> <p>NHI for this site identified occurrences in the area (avian, mammalian, and amphibian). The plan was adapted to minimize impacts to amphibians by placing a seasonal restriction on the site. An avian aerial survey for the identified species was conducted and none were found during sale establishment. Sale was determined to not impact the Tomahawk River or wetlands or the identified species on the NHI list. Portions of the sale were along small wetland kegs and along the sale boundary. Protective measures for riparian/aquatic resources included no equipment operation in wetlands, and no felling of trees or placing logging debris in wetland areas. Visual considerations required slash to be within 2 feet of ground level.</p> <p>Recreational snowmobile trail adjacency prompted use of warning signs during the sale and communications with the local club.</p> <p>Discussion included exotic/invasives; training and areas of consistency among staff foresters; procedures for adjacent landowner communications; logger training (FISTA).</p>
<p>Site 3: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area Tract 4403-948-12, ACTIVE Timber Sale</p>	<p>Forester: Tom Shockley. This was an unscheduled stop to view a proposed new recreational trail location highlighting Master Plan goals that were direct response to public requests during the stakeholder input process to increase the mileage of hunter walking trails. Collaboration is being done with the local hunter walking club and the State Forest program. The Master [Forest Management] Plan for Willow Flowage Scenic Waters area may be found here, www.dnr.wi.gov/master_planning/willowflowage.</p>
<p>Site 4: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area Tract 4403-09-15, Timber Sale 9</p>	<p>Forester: Tom Shockley, Wildlife Biologist: Jim Woodford. This stop was to review a wood turtle (<i>Glyptemys insculpta</i>) habitat improvement project designed to: improve turtle nesting success, reduce adult turtle mortality, improve habitat along river and stream corridors, and assess the effectiveness of conservation efforts through monitoring.</p> <p>The WDNR Incidental Take Permit/Authorization for Common Activities related to wood turtle was reviewed and discussions included Species Documents and guidance for wood turtles. Also discussed are turtle biology,</p>

	<p>ecology and conservation as related to habitat and forest management. Species Guidance documents may be available through the WDNR website. When foresters search the NHI database, when occurrences are identified, links are provided to existing guidance documents. When those documents are not available wildlife biologists and ecologists are consulted by foresters. The link for the wood turtle may be found here, http://dnr.wi.gov/files/PDF/pubs/er/ER0684.pdf.</p>
Site 5: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area Tract 4403-06-15, Timber Sale 6	Forester: Tom Shockley. A harvest was completed to regenerate an aspen stand in 2012 and a connected red pine stand was thinned to reduce overstocking from 185- to 110 square feet per acre of basal area. In 2016 a windstorm blew down a portion of the stand and staff discussed process for permitting and adjustments to sales. A portion of the sale is adjacent to a stream and wetland prompting a painted, 50 foot no-equipment riparian management zone. Wetland kegs were protected using measures described for a Willow Flowage site earlier in this report.
Site 6: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area Tract 4403-009-15, Timber Sale 009-15	This was a 52 acre red pine stand, 50 years old, thinned by removing pioneer and undesired hardwood species and marked trees on frozen ground only completed in spring 2015. Discussion included green tree retention and coarse woody debris (CWD). A legacy tree was observed retained on the site. Discussed were CWD and green tree retention in WDNR BMPs;
Site 7: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area, Culvert stop	This was an unscheduled stop adjacent to Site 6. A culvert was examined that provided protection for the "Unnamed Tributary" (per Forest Hydrologist) during heavy rain flow and as part of management and protection of the road. Discussed were aquatic protection; road classification and planning; and the Land Management System (LMS) where roads are recorded.
Site 8: Willow Flowage Scenic Waters Area Tract 4403-006-15	Forester: Tom Shockley. Current blowdown salvage. Wood turtle adjustments to timber sale. Another turtle research study location done in cooperation with forestry adjacent to 60 ft ² basal area riparian area (RMZ) along the Tomahawk River.
Site 9: Woodboro Lakes Wildlife Area Tract 4405-964-14, Timber Sale 964	Wildlife Biologist: Jeremy Holtz, Forester: Jon Leith. Two cutting units, oak regeneration harvest, red pine first thinning. Recreational considerations as Ice Age trail runs through harvest area. Discussed accommodations for trail, work with local trail clubs. Unit is close to the Mecan River, but the sale boundaries were sufficiently removed from the banks that separate buffers were not required. Green tree retention clumps in the regeneration unit.
Boatwright Itinerary Day 2: Southern Route	Sites in Waupaca, Shawano, and Outagamie Counties led by Lucas Schmidt with other field staff attending.
Sold Timber Sale #1, Tract #5904-01-14 – Welder Timber Sale (Sec 2-T27N R11E)	DNR Forester Zach Hylinski and DNR Forest Technician Dave Marquette and wildlife biologist Kay Brockman-Medaras. 82 acre sale consisting of 6 stands. Sale is sold but not cut. Visited stand 46 which consists of northern hardwood and has been designated as an extended rotation stand. The harvest goal is to initiate conversion to an un-even aged stand leaving 90 sq. ft. BA/acre and removing large and small gaps. Deer are a serious threat to regeneration in this area and the DNR has fenced

	and planted 2 old fields.
Completed Timber Sale #513, Tract #6912-05-13 – Spaulding Creek Timber Sale (Sec 24-T25N-R12E)	DNR Forester Mike Schuessler. 6 acre sale of red maple/white pine with declining white birch. Intermediate cut with birch removal. Residual stocking is good with little damage. Good red painted RMZ along a wetland.
Completed Timber Sale #213, Tract #6901-02-13 – Kitzman Pine Timber Sale (Sec 29-T25N R12E)	DNR Forester Mike Schuessler. 1 acres red pine 1 st thin with good stocking, no damage to residuals and no issues.
Established Timber Sale Tract #6912-13-16 – Schwaab Pine Timber Sale (Sec 26-T25N R11E)	DNR Forester Ben Baumgart. 9 acre red pine marked 1 st thin. Dropping BA from 310 to 170. Marked a small clearcut area along road for a deck and future parking.
Established Timber Sale Tract #6904-15-16 – Schwaab Pine Timber Sale (Sec 9-T24N R11E)	DNR Forester Ben Baumgart. 38 acre sale including northern hardwood intermediate and aspen regen cuts with no issues.
Established Timber Sale Tract #6964-12-16 – Crossroads Timber Sale (Sec 31-T22N-R11E; Sec 5,6-T21N-R11E;Sec 1-T21N-R10E)	DNR Forester Joe Tucker, Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries and Michael Bergam Park Supervisor. 45 acre sale consisting of 6 stands involving red pine thinnings and 2 salvage areas. Hartman Creek State Park contains 1,500 acres with 101 primitive campsites and 2 large group campsites. The Park has a beach along Hartman Lake and 2 State Natural Areas.
Established Timber Sale Tract #6964-10-15 – Swan Song Timber Sale (Sec 36-T22N-R10E;Sec 31-T22N-R11E;Sec 6-T21N-R11E)	Forester Joe Tucker and Wildlife Biologist Jacob Fries. 43 acre red/white pine intermediate cut with no issues.
Established Timber Sale Tract #6908-11-15 – Weller DNR Line Timber Sale (Sec 10-T21N-R11E)	Forester Joe Tucker. 2 acre oak regen cut with no issues.
Established Timber Sale Tract #6913-04-13 – Weiland Road Timber Sale (Sec 6-T21N R14E)	Forester Mike Schuessler. 4 acre aspen regen cut leaving oaks and scattered aspen retention. Harvesting was restricted to frozen ground conditions due to the presence a patch of karner blue.
Date: Wednesday , 17 August 2016	
FMU/Location/Sites Visited	Activities/Notes
Hrubes Itinerary Day 3: North Route	Sites in Florence, Marinette, and Oconto Counties led by Cole Couvillion, Ryan Severson with Teague Prichard and other field staff attending.
Pike Wild River State Property: Sold Timber Sale #99, Tract #3819-02-14– Amberg North Branch Sale	DNR Forester: Chad Gottbeheit. DNR Biologist: Dave Halfmann The operation inspected was a red pine thin on a small parcel adjacent to private landholdings. The focus of the discussion with DNR personnel was primarily the manner in which personnel interacted with the adjacent landowners and, in particular, the use of line use agreements for the purpose of avoiding encroachment issues. Overall, the auditor was impressed with the successful manner in which DNR was able to undertake needed forestry operations on small parcels adjacent to private lands.

<p>Peshtigo River State Forest, Completed Timber Sale #24, Tract #3810-03-14 – Boat Landing 8 Sale</p>	<p>DNR Forester: Derek Nellis. DNR Wildlife Biologist: Dave Halfmann</p> <p>Inspection of a selection harvest operation (red oak thinning) and aspen clearcut/regen harvest units. The harvest area is near a recreational facility (boat landing). The design and execution of the harvest was done in a manner that did not detract from the visual quality of the boat landing area. Bottom line: no issues arose relative to the certification standard.</p>
<p>Jacqmain Itinerary Day 3: Central Route</p>	<p>Sites in Langlade, Lincoln, and Oconto Counties led by Mike Lietz with Curt Wilson, Heather Berklund, and other field staff attending.</p>
<p>Site 1: Big Rib River Fisheries Area, Tract 3524-02-13, Timber Sale 13002</p>	<p>Forester Rich Lavalley, Property Manager Gary Bartz.</p> <p>Northern hardwood Shelterwood harvest completed in 2015. Sale areas parallel the Big Rib River for a corridor total of about 131 acres. Under advise, direction, support and guidance by with a number of entities the sale layout exceeded BMP requirements for riparian areas and included from 100 foot to greater than 300 foot no cut zones. Additional 35 foot no cut zones were place along intermittent stream. Integrated Property Management meeting review, WDNR Forest Hydrologist, biological surveys, Rapid Ecosystem Assessment, Wildlife Biologists, neighbor notifications, and other stakeholder input were all used in assessing, designing and implementing this harvest.</p> <p>Detailed discussions were held regarding the overall timber planning process, Master and Interim forest management Plans, WisFIRS, riparian best management practices, and distinctions among the different land divisions within the WDNR.</p>
<p>Site 2: Statewide Habitat Areas, Timber Sale 3599-01-16</p>	<p>Forester: Rich Lavalley</p> <p>A 51 acre white pine restoration area was examined. Approximately 6 acres was thinned in 2011 for tornado damage salvage. Sale is set up and not yet cut. The entire area was mechanically site prepped using “Fee-Con” labor to encourage natural regeneration from overstory white pine. Timber harvest is intended to remove undesirable species and reduce competition for natural white pine regeneration. Routine Natural Heritage review included a wood turtle occurrence which was appropriately pursued following procedures outlined in earlier sections of this report, no harvest March 15-September 15, and no skidding allowed during wet soils. Sale included access during dry or frozen conditions-only as determined by administering forester. An aggressive root rot (Heterobasidion Root Disease or HRD) was discovered in neighboring counties triggering protective measures to be used in the timber sale including use of approved fungicide to all fresh cut stumps as well as additional protective measures reviewed at the site. An Interim Forest Management Plan for the area was provided.</p> <p>Discussions at this site included training provided to natural resources staff. Consistency among foresters, wildlife biologists, fisheries specialists, and others indicate a robust and responsive training program in addition to an effectively integrated disciplinary approach to management among forestry, wildlife, recreation, fisheries, and ecological disciplines in forest management planning and activities.</p>

<p>Site 3: Tract 3599-01-13, Timber Sale 13001</p>	<p>Active timber sale harvest stop for operator interview. The foreman was interviewed in privacy. All WDNR staff and harvest operators (processor and skidder) wore appropriate PPE. Auditor verified spill kits, first aid kits, sale map and contract specifications, training qualifications (which were extensive in this case) that included regular SFI and FISTA logger trainings and specialized equipment and maintenance trainings provided by the operator's company. Operator had also attended state-provided northern hardwood management trainings which he positively reviewed and stated he would attend more forestry management trainings if they were offered. The Ponse processor had no apparent fluid leaks and was visibly well-maintained. A detailed interview was completed. Following the interview the forester administering the sale was present and had copies of the timber sale specifications, timber sale contract, all requisite insurance and liability certifications for the logging company, operator training records (covering 18 years), and provided the documentation of 2-3 times per week contact and sale inspections. This was a 44 acre aspen and balsam fir harvest leaving all hardwood, spruce, hemlock, white pine, and cedar. Both the logger and sale administrator independently and clearly demonstrated positive communications and familiarity with operational specifications of the sale.</p>
<p>Site 4: Peters Marsh Wildlife Area, Tract 3423-01-14, Timber Sale 315</p>	<p>Foresters: Keith Lindner, Sam Blake</p> <p>A mixture of aspen regeneration cuts with green tree retention were viewed on about 73 acres completed in August 2015. Young aspen forests were the objective citing habitat production for wildlife species including woodcock and golden winged warbler. Several open small areas (< ½ acre) were maintained in this wildlife management zone using mowing.</p> <p>Discussion at this site included green tree retention and coarse woody debris and WDNR BMP trainings.</p>
<p>Site 5: Upper Wolf River Fishery Area, Tract 3410-02-15, Timber Sale 215</p>	<p>Foresters: Keith Lindner, Sam Blake</p> <p>Red pine thinning, 25 years old, every 3rd row, with rows marked covering 31 acres. Discussions included Annosum root rot (i.e. Heterobasidion Root Disease) and red pine rotation ages.</p>
<p>Boatwright Itinerary Day 3: Southern Route</p>	<p>Sites in Waupaca, Shawano, and Outagamie Counties led by Lucas Schmidt with other field staff attending.</p>
<p>Established Timber Sale Tract #6948-14-16 – Driftwood Timber Sale (Sec 10-T22N-R14E)</p>	<p>Forester Mike Schuessler. 104 acre sale involving bottomland hardwood shelterwood and intermediate cuts, bottomland hardwood crop tree release and an aspen regen cut. Marking appeared appropriate with an adequate red painted RMZ along waterways. Part of the Lower Wolf River Bottoms Natural Resource Area.</p> <p>Equipment restrictions were placed possible archeological areas.</p>
<p>Sold Timber Sale #6, Tract #4553-01-15 – LaSage Timber Sale (Sec 7,18-T22N-R16E)</p>	<p>Forester Steve Kaufman and Wildlife Biologist Bryan Woodbury. 98 acre sale involving a bottomland hardwood intermediate cut, aspen regen and dike clearing. Marking appeared appropriate with an adequate red painted RMZ along the Wolf River and other waterbodies.</p> <p>Frozen ground harvest requirement.</p>

Sold Timber Sale #45602, Tract #4560-01-14 – Herman Road Timber Sale (Sec 13,14,23,24-T23N-R16E)	Forester Steve Kaufman and Wildlife Biologist Bryan Woodbury. 46 acre aspen regen cut leaving oak, cherry, maple and marked aspen. Good single tree retention. Frozen ground harvest requirement.
Sold Timber Sale#3, Tract #4509-01-14 – Wilderness Timber Sale (Sec 28,29-T24N-R16E)	Foresters Steve Kaufman and Bill Ruff. 151 acre sale involving bottomland hardwood intermediate thinning and single tree selection. 35' buffer along the Wolf River and other wetlands. Frozen ground harvest requirement.
Established Timber Sale #314 Tract #5950-03-14 – Oxbow Sale (Sec 6,7-T25N-R16E)	Foresters Steve Kaufman and Chris Plzak. 95 acre bottomland hardwood intermediate cut with small areas of aspen regen cut and swamp white oak release.
Sold Timber Sale #115, Tract #5950-01-15 – Navarino Complex Timber Sale (Sec 28,29-T24N- R16E)	Forester Steve Kaufman. 112 acre bottomland hardwood intermediate cut, white pine seed tree, aspen regen and red pine thin. Good RMZ along the Wolf River and other wetlands. Indian site and turtle nesting area protected by frozen ground harvest restriction.
Sold Timber Sale#5950-01-2012, Tract #112 – Hwy K Sale (Sec 5-7-T25N-R16E)	Added Site. Forester Steve Kaufman. 185 acre partially cut sale involving bottomland hardwood intermediate cut, Swamp chestnut oak shelterwood cut and aspen regen cuts. Good oak retention in a completed aspen. No issues.
Date: Thursday, 18 August 2016	
FMU/Location/Sites Visited	Activities/Notes
8:00 AM – 11:15 AM	
Hrubes Itinerary Day 4: North Route	Sites in Florence, Marinette, and Oconto Counties led by John Lubbers with other staff attending.
Peshtigo Harbor Unit of Green Bay West Shore Wildlife Area Sold timber sale #26; Tract #3801-01-15	DNR Area Wildlife Manager: John Huff. DNR Forestry Tech: Derek McGee; Area Wildlife Supervisor: John Huff; Forestry Supervisor: John Lubbers Focus of this field stop was a marked but not yet operated selection harvest. The focus of the harvest is intended to be oak and mixed hardwoods with a regeneration harvest (shelterwood, overstory removal). The timber sale, located in the Oconto Marsh Unit, was sold with the buyer subsequently defaulting. Discussion focused on markets and economics of timber management in marginal sites (low elevation, subject to very wet site conditions). Additional discussion of species of special concern management (e.g., bats). Positive note was made of the two no-cut retention areas, totaling 8 acres
Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area Established timber sale—Tract #4329-01-06 Offered by not sold	DNR Forester: Chris Duncan; Area Wildlife Supervisor: John Huff Forest management objective: bottomland hardwood group selection regeneration harvest. This sale was offered but did not sell. The harvest site was toured; discussion focused on challenges of implementing forest management objectives in marginal areas (relative to markets) and marginal sites (subject to very wet conditions, requiring winter season harvesting). The harvest unit was very well marked, assuring that the operator (assuming

	<p>it gets operated) will properly implement the intended harvest. The overriding issue is the lack of a robust market in this part of the state and on such sites.</p>
<p>Green Bay West Shores Wildlife Area</p> <p>Established sale; Tract #4329-01-05 "Pensaukee Sale—Unit B"</p>	<p>DNR Forester: Chris Duncan; Area Wildlife Supervisor: John Huff; Joe Henry, DNR Ecologist; Forestry Supervisor: John Lubbers</p> <p>Intended harvest—aspens coppice regen harvest and a swamp hardwood intermediate thin.</p> <p>This sale was offered twice but did not sell in either offering.</p> <p>Discussion focused on collaboration/coordination between different divisions within the DNR via mechanisms such as Annual Integrated Property Management Meetings.</p>
<p>Established sale; Tract #4329-01-05 "Pensaukee Sale—Unit A"</p>	<p>DNR Forester: Chris Duncan; Area Wildlife Supervisor: John Huff; Joe Henry, DNR Ecologist; Forestry Supervisor: John Lubbers</p> <p>Intended harvest: oak shelterwood seed and prep cuts (different areas within unit)</p> <p>This unit is a designated HCV area; the auditor engaged in a discussion about HCV management on DNR-managed lands: most HCV areas are also designated as state natural areas.</p> <p>This area is within the Great Lakes Barren Remnant zone.</p> <p>While the timber sale has not sold, the auditor concluded that the intended operations would be clearly compatible with the designated status of the area.</p>
<p>Jacqmain Itinerary Day 4: Central Route</p>	<p>Sites in Langlade, Lincoln, and Oconto Counties led by Ryan Severson with Curt Wilson and other staff attending.</p>
<p>Site 1: Peshtigo Brook Wildlife Area, Tract 4354-01-15, Timber Sale 1</p>	<p>Forester Rich Lietz</p> <p>Primary objective in these pine-oak type harvest area of 102 acres is to maintain current cover types as wildlife habitat, producing quality mast trees, forest health, and quality forest products. For this state natural area an additional focus is to maintain current structure and diversity emulating those found in oak and pine barrens habitat. Oak wilt and Annosum root rot (i.e. Heterobasidion Root Disease) in pines were a concern and preventive treatments for both were established. Oak wilt sanitation cuts in oak wilt pockets were marked for harvest to minimize and contain the spread of oak wilt among oak trees across the forest stands in the area. About 30% of oak trees were already standing dead. Oak wilt management included pre-sale girdling by herbicide followed by current harvest. Red pine Annosum (i.e. HRD) conditions were also included in timber sale design and prospectus. Exotic/invasives spread prevention included equipment cleaning prior- and after-harvest before leaving harvest area.</p>

	<p>Additionally, conducted an interview with harvest company's foreman on-site. Harvest operations, including use of PPE were in conformance with the standards.</p>
<p>Site 2: South Branch Oconto River Fish Area, Timber Sale 4316-01-14</p>	<p>Forester Rich Lietz</p> <p>Aspen regeneration harvest area of 9 acres retaining all white pine, red pine, hemlock, and oaks for wildlife and green tree retention with a target residual basal area of 16 ft² per acre. Oak wilt disease a concern and spread conditions applied to sale. There were three NHI occurrences with adjacency to the sale with only one species evaluated as potential impact by the sale, wood turtle resulting in application of seasonal restrictions appropriate to the species. The stand was split to provide a riparian management zone between the sale area and South Branch Oconto River.</p>
<p>Boatwright Itinerary Day 4: Southern Route</p>	<p>Sites in Waupaca, Shawano, and Outagamie Counties led by Kate Lenz with other staff attending.</p>
<p>Sold Timber Sale #5950-01-2012, Tract #112 – Hwy K Sale (Sec 5-7-T25N-R16E)</p>	<p>Added Site. Foresters Steve Kaufman and Eric Roers and wildlife biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas. 185 acre partially cut sale involving bottomland hardwood intermediate cut, swamp chestnut oak shelterwood cut and aspen regen cuts. Good oak retention in a completed aspen. Frozen ground harvest restrictions in the bottomland. No issues.</p>
<p>Completed Timber Sale #04-13, Tract #04-13 – Log Jam Sale (Sec 23-T25N-R15E)</p>	<p>Added Site. Foresters Steve Kaufman and Eric Roers and wildlife biologist Kay Brockman-Medegas. 223 acre intermediate bottomland hardwood cut favoring swamp white oak. Good residual stocking with little damage from the harvesting operation. Frozen ground harvest restriction.</p>
<p>11:30 AM – 2:30 PM</p>	<p>Auditor meeting for deliberations.</p>
<p>2:30 PM - 4:00 PM</p>	<p>Closing meeting: review of CAR/OBS closings, new OBS</p>

Appendix 4
Meeting Attendance

NSF Audit Attendance Sheet

Company Name: WI DNR

Location (Plant # and/or City & State): NE District

Type of Audit: SFI and FSC FM Surveillance Audits

Opening Meeting Date: August 15, 2016 Closing Meeting Date: August 18, 2016

NAME (Printed)	TITLE/POSITION	OPENING MEETING (Initials)	CLOSING MEETING (Initials)
Both Jacquelin	SCS Cert Forester	BJ	BJ
Robert J. Hrabos	SFI Lead Auditor	RJH	RJH
Brian Spencer	DNR Forestry Staff Sp	BDS	
Mark Heyde	WI DNR - Forest Cert Coord	MAH	MAH
Katherine Henz	WI DNR - Area Forestry Specialist	KAH	KAH
Marty Calvert	Missouri Dept Conservation Forest Certification Mgr	MRC	MRC
Chase Christopherson	WI DNR Forester NHA	CC	
Heather Berklund	WI DNR Wood Area Ldr	HAB	HB
Ken Hayes	WI DNR Wood AFSS -	KH	
Carmen Hardin	WI DNR FM Bureau Director	CRH	
Teague Prichard	WI DNR Forestry NHA	TDP	TDP
Steve Peterson	NHA Superintendent	SP	
Jeff Olsen	NHA Forestry Supervisor	JFO	
Curt Wilson	NE District Forestry Leader	CW	CW
Steve Kaufman	WI DNR Forester	SK	SK
Jeff Pritzel	DNR District Wildlife Sup.	J	J
John Lubbers	Green Bay Team Leader		JEL

over →

2016 Annual Surveillance Audit

State Lands Opening Meeting

- Jim Lizotte - Wildlife Mgmt.
- Jeff Prey - Parks
- Qaran Buckholz - ~~Fish~~ Fish, Wild, Parks Div
- Kate Fitzgerald - Facilities & Lands
- Darrell Zastrow - Forestry Division ^{Deputy Admin}
- Paul Cunningham - Fisheries
- Jim Warren - Public & Private Lands
- Dave Sample - Natural Heritage Conservation
- Ryan Severson - Peshigo Area Forestry Leader

3/13/16

Closing Meetings

- Kate Lentz - Forestry
- Heather Burkland - Forestry
- Curt Wilson - Forestry
- John Lubbers - Forestry
- Jeff Pritzl - wildlife
- Mark Heyde - Forestry
- Teague Prichard - Forestry
- Steve Kaufman - Forestry
- Tim Lizotte - WM
- Darrell Zastrow - FR
- Dave Sample - NHC
- Frank Treha - WM
- Jeff Prey - Parks
- Paul DeLong - Forestry

Closing mtg

John Lobbers - Forestry
Jeff Pritzi - wildlife
Tim Lizotte - wildlife
Darrell Zastrow - Forestry
Dave Sample - NHC
Frank Trcka - wildlife
Jeff Prey - Parks
Paul DeLong - Forestry
Tom Hauge - wildlife
Aaron Buckholz - FWP
Paul Cunningham - Fisheries
Ryan Severson - Forestry