

RESOLUTION #

Resolution offered by Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee.

Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Forest Comprehensive Fifteen-Year Plan requires an annual work plan to be approved by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee has unanimously approved the annual Forestry Work Plan at their regular meeting held on December 4, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors adopted the Forestry Department budget at their budget meeting held on November 12, 2013; so

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors accept the recommendation of the Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee and approve the Oneida County Forestry Department Annual Work Plan for 2014 as set forth in Exhibit # 1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Vote Required: Majority = _____ 2/3 Majority = _____ 3/4 Majority = _____
The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes _____ No _____ as reviewed by the Corporation Counsel, _____, Date: _____

Approved by the Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee this 4th day of December, 2013.

Offered and passage moved by:

Supervisor

Consent Agenda Item: ___ YES ___ NO

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

Supervisor

_____ Ayes

_____ Nays

_____ Absent

_____ Abstain

_____ Adopted

by the County Board of Supervisors this _____ day _____, 2013.

_____ Defeated

Mary Bartelt, County Clerk

Ted Cushing, County Board Chair

Exhibit # 1

2014 WORK PLAN FOR THE ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

In 2014 Oneida County Forestry Department management activities will be accomplished under the following accounts:

Account	Revenue			Expenses			Requested
	New	Appl. Cont. Appropriations	Total	Personnel	Other	Total	
56110 Co. Forest	1,221,440.00-	-0-	1,221,440.00-	264,398.00	95,450.00	359,848.00	861,592.00-
56111 St. Aid For Rds	11,700.00-	13,700.00-	25,400.00-	-0-	25,400.00	25,400.00	-0-
56116 St. Aid Wildl.	4,085.00-	3,915.00-	8,000.00-	-0-	8,000.00	8,000.00	-0-
55210 Co. Parks	57,550.00-	-0-	57,550.00-	175,241.00	57,300.00	232,541.00	174,991.00
55212 Campground	3,250.00-	-0-	3,250.00-	-0-	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,550.00-
55410 St. Aid Snowmo	299,400.00-	-0-	299,400.00-	-0-	299,400.00	299,400.00	-0-
55412 St. Aid ATV	21,210.00-	-0-	21,210.00-	-0-	21,210.00	21,210.00	-0-
Total	1,618,635.00-	17,615.00-	1,636,250.00-	439,639.00	508,460.00	948,099.00	688,151.00-

FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

County Forest Annual Integrated Planning Meeting

The County Forest Annual Integrated Planning Meeting between the Oneida County Forestry Department (OCFD) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was held on July 09, 2013. The purpose of the planning meeting is to provide a forum where both departments can jointly establish and agree upon County Forest Management Goals for the upcoming year.

Individuals present at the 2013-14 County Forest Cooperative Planning Meeting were DNR County Forest Liaison, Manny Oradei; DNR Wildlife Manager, Michele Woodford; DNR Wildlife Technician, Eric Kroening; DNR Team Leader, Tim Friedrich; Oneida County Forest Director, John Bilogan; Oneida County Assistant Forest Director, Paul Fiene, and Oneida County Forester Eric Rady.

Items discussed were County Forest Time Standards, Wildlife Habitat funds, proposed timber sales and harvest acreage goals, reforestation, County Forest Roads, forest health and protection issues, forest reconnaissance, forest blocking, and SFI Forest Certification issues.

Timber Sale Establishment

Approximately 2200 acres of mature timber will be harvested in 25 areas as specified in Section 202 of the WisFirs forest reconnaissance computer printout. This will entail approximately 550 acres of Northern Hardwood thinning and 650 acres of Aspen harvest for regeneration. In addition, approximately 1000 acres of miscellaneous timber types will also be harvested. The sale areas are distributed throughout the three County Forest Blocks (Enterprise, Cassian-Woodboro, and Lynne-Little Rice). The allowable cut for 2014 is 2408 acres. The estimated value of this 2408 acres of timber sales is approximately \$1,300,000.

The labor required to establish the aforementioned timber sale acreage will be provided by the OCFD with assistance from DNR Forestry personnel. In addition, in 2014 the Oneida County Forestry Department will also have assistance from two LTE Foresters. One of the LTE positions will be 1,200 hours in length, and is funded exclusively with levy money. Said position will be limited to work related to timber sale establishment. The second LTE position will be 800 hours in length, and is 100% funded by a Sustainable Forestry Initiative Grant. Said position will be limited to work directly related to updating timber stand reconnaissance that is more than 15 years old.

Timber Sale Administration

It is anticipated that between 35 and 45 timber sale contracts will be active in the year 2014. Department involvement will include contract administration, sale inspection, and fiscal record keeping. A harvest of 35,000 cord equivalents with an equivalent value of approximately \$1,300,000 is anticipated. The haul permit system will continue to be used for pulpwood and wood scaling will be utilized for saw logs. Weekly timber sale inspections by both County and DNR personnel will be conducted on all active sales.

Forest Reconnaissance

Forest Reconnaissance work scheduled for 2014 includes the complete revision of approximately 6,000 acres of outdated forest reconnaissance information that was collected in the 1970's, 1980's and 1990's. The SFI funded LTE, along with a combination of DNR and OCFD employees, will be utilized to perform the above-described work.

Forest Protection

Cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be sought to protect the forest from insects, disease, and forest fires. Cooperation from the DNR will also be sought to assist in the eradication of Glossy Buckthorn and Garlic Mustard. These two non-native invasive plant species were found in the Enterprise Block of the County Forest in 2013. A combination of chemical and mechanical treatment will be used to attempt to eradicate these plants. With the recent discovery of Oak Wilt in the Woodruff area and the Lake Nokomis area, the OCFD will continue to monitor oak stands for any signs of Oak Wilt. If it is found, all attempts will be made to isolate the infection and prevent additional spread. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), will be contracted to help control nuisance beaver damage. Isolated beaver colonies that have been identified as posing a threat to timber productivity, or causing damage to County Forest Roads and Trout Streams will be targeted for capture and removal. Forest insects and diseases in our area, and/or projected to emerge or migrate into our area were discussed.

County Forest Roads

In 2012 the Oneida County Forestry Department identified 29.7 miles of existing Oneida County Forest Road that required widening and/or resurfacing to remain compliant with Wisconsin Department Of Transportation (WDOT) specification standards for County Forest Roads. To address the above-described road deficiencies, the Oneida County Forestry Department developed a 4-Year Road Widening and Resurfacing Plan. 2014 will mark the 2nd year that the road widening and resurfacing plan has been implemented. In 2014, Camp Six Road, which measures 5.76 miles length, and Bowman Road, which measures 2.89 miles length are both scheduled for widening and resurfacing.

The Forestry Department's culvert replacement plan calls for 5 aging and/or otherwise failing culverts to be replaced in 2014. Because the culverts scheduled for replacement in 2014 are relatively small in size, (18-24 inch diameter), they will be installed with Forestry Department equipment and personnel.

In addition to the projects mentioned above, normal road maintenance is scheduled to take place on the balance of County Forest Road System

which includes: grading, signing, wash-out repair, spot graveling, brushing, mowing, and beaver flood control.

Reforestation and Plantation Release

Establishment of small irregularly shaped clear cuts ranging in size from 3-10 acres will be established in scattered areas adjacent to the Washburn Recreational Trail System. Upon completion of the aforementioned harvest, the harvested areas will be planted with fast growing coniferous species to provide evergreen cover along the trail.

The reforestation efforts described above will greatly reduce the visual impact of subsequent timber harvests planned for the area surrounding the Washburn Recreational Trail by providing a natural visual screen. Time permitting, several recently thinned hardwood stands will be chain scarified in order to expose mineral soil and prepare a seed bed for Oak, Maple, Pine, and Birch trees.

No additional conifer planting is anticipated for 2014.

Forest Certification

The Oneida County Forest is certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program. The SFI certification requires periodic random audits of forests that are certified under this program. In 2013 no significant issues were identified as needing attention by Wisconsin County Forest programs certified under SFI. The following is a list of minor items identified by SFI as needing attention, and the action plan developed by the DNR and adopted by the Oneida County Forestry Department to address the areas of concerns.

SFI Corrective Action Requests (CARs)

No new CARs were issued following the 2013 SFI Audit. However, one opportunity for improvement (OFI) was issued. This is:

1. There is an opportunity to improve by more consistently determining and recording the "Habitat Classification Types" on the Timber Sale Notice and Cutting Report (Form 2460-001A).

Oneida County currently records Habitat Classification Types on the Timber Sale Notice and Cutting Report so no action is needed.

Wildlife Management

In cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, wildlife management activity on the County Forest will center around forest openings maintenance, habitat trail mowing, seeding hunter hiking trails, and special timber sales designed to promote both game and non-game wildlife habitat.

In addition to those projects listed above, State Aid Wildlife funds have also been budgeted in 2014 for the following wildlife habitat projects:

- 1) reforestation projects, which includes the purchase and planting of seedlings,
- 2) control encroachment of undesirable vegetation with prescribed burns,
- 3) control damage to forest roads caused by beaver by contracting with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for removal of undesirable beaver colonies, and
- 4) conduct a State mandated inspection of the Spruce Lake Flowage Dam.

Equipment and Facilities

Each year an amortized allotment of funds are budgeted in a non-lapsing account for the replacement of existing department equipment. In 2014 the following equipment has been budgeted for replacement: Trade in an existing 75-PTO HP 4-wheel drive tractor equipped with a side mounted 50-inch rotary disc brush cutter, and replace with a 85-PTO HP 4-wheel drive tractor equipped with a boom mounted 50-inch rotary disc brush cutter.

PARK & RECREATION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

Parks

In addition to the timber and wildlife management programs mentioned above, the Oneida County Forestry Department will also administer and maintain two day-use parks and one campground. Almon Park is the largest and most popular park maintained by the Oneida County Forestry Department. Some of the more popular features offered at Almon Park include; a large swimming beach, 18-hole disc golf course, picnic shelters and several miles of picturesque hiking trails. Perch Lake Park offers a heated shelter building, lakeshore picnic facilities, an ADA compliant fishing

pier, and serves as the main trail head for the Washburn Silent Sports trail system.

The Enterprise Forest campground features 11 oversized campsites, 2 toilet buildings, onsite firewood and water, and is directly connected to the Enterprise ATV Trail System.

Miscellaneous Recreation

Miscellaneous recreational opportunities administered by the Forestry Department in 2014 will include: The maintenance of approximately 35 miles of cross country ski trail, 25 miles of hiking trail, 12 miles of mountain bike trail, 10 miles of snowshoe trail, 395 miles of snowmobile trail, and 30 miles of ATV trail. In addition to those trail systems mentioned above, the Oneida County Forest offers hundreds of miles of unimproved woodland trails open and available to the public for recreational use.

ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND, & RECREATION COMMITTEE

December 4, 2013

Gary Baier, Chairman

Jack Sorensen, Vice-Chair

Jack Martinson, Member

Thomas Rudolph, Member

Jerry Shidell, Member