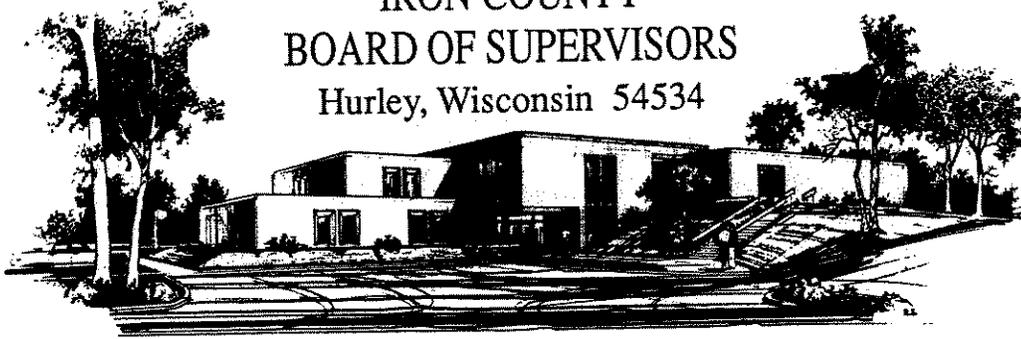


IRON COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Hurley, Wisconsin 54534



Budget Testimony

Re: Department of Tourism

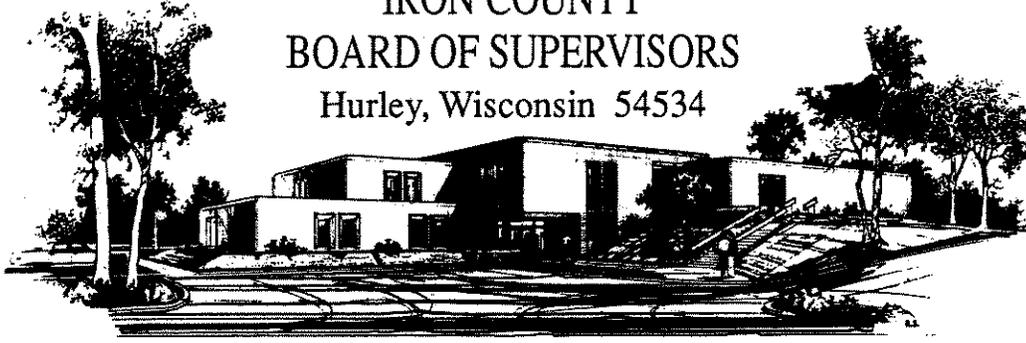
We support the ability of the Department of Tourism to amend the Heritage Tourism Grant Program to issue the existing grant funds to already designated Wisconsin Heritage Tourism Areas.

Reasoning: There are now 12 Heritage Tourism Areas. To maximize the investment made in these areas, a cooperative marketing grant program would be a cooperative effort that would continue to keep Wisconsin a leader in Heritage Tourism development. This is the market niche in tourism today that Wisconsin has positioned itself well for. To continue to designate more and more Heritage Areas versus support the investment we have already made, would dilute the quality of the program.

We also oppose cutting the Department of Tourism budget.

Reasoning: Tourism is a major industry for our area of the State. It is necessary to a vital economy for our region. Without the revenues from tourism, we would face traumatic reduction in services for our residents. It is through revenues generated from out of state visitors that compliment and support local Wisconsin economies. Without that economic influx, we would be more reliant on State assistance programs. Tourism contributed a return on investment of \$9.97 Billion to the State of Wisconsin's economy.

IRON COUNTY
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Hurley, Wisconsin 54534



Budget Testimony

Re: Wisconsin Conservation Corps

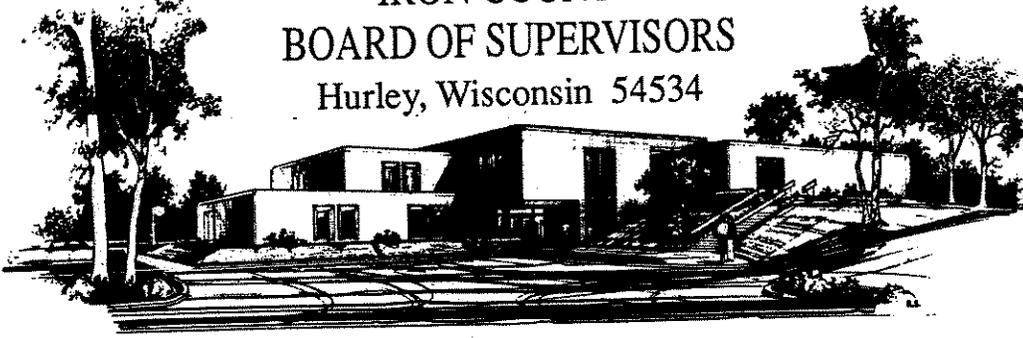
We oppose the reduction of Wisconsin Conservation Crews.

Reasoning: The Wisconsin Conservation Crews assist young adults to find focus in career planning by providing a variety of skill building opportunities through work for local municipalities and non-profit agencies. Young adults who desire work in the field of natural resources can acquire a resume that will qualify them for positions in the field.

Talking Points for Crews at Jnt Finance Committee Hearings:

- 1) WCC assists young adults to find focus in career planning by providing a variety of skill building opportunities through work for local municipalities and non-profit agencies.
- 2) Young adults with learning disabilities are given an opportunity to learn job skills through hands on training.
- 3) Adults of all ages can qualify for crew leader positions and further their education and training in supervisory skills through the educational programs provided by educators from UW Stevens Pt and technical college throughout the state.
- 4) Young adults who desire to work in the natural resources field can acquire a resume that will qualify them for positions in this field.
- 5) Emphasis through education at the crew site and tuition vouchers from the State of Wisconsin and AmeriCorps encourage further education.
- 6) Young adults who leave high school without a goal can work with WCC to develop a career plan and earn money for post-secondary education.
- 7) For those who drop out of high school, the WCC program provides to obtain the GED/HSED through the agency's education program.
- 8) For those who lack work ethic, are uncertain about their future, WCC provides direction and guidance to acquire the skills to enter our workforce.
- 9) The structure of WCC is based on team-building, work ethic, and the development of self esteem.
- 10) WCC's education program provides skills for the today's economy through job-site computer literacy training.
- 11) Corps members are given job training and have access to working professionals while they work at their crew sites.
- 12) Corps members are trained in their communities and not displaced to other communities.
- 13) Corps members learn to work through a structured work week in their home areas.
- 14) What other program provides income and direction to develop the future to young adults without skills and focus?
- 15) Youth from all walks of life work together as a team on a crew. This provides mainstreaming for corps members with learning or physical disabilities.
- 16) WCC provides education and work-place skills without any capital investment.
- 17) WCC's mission is to take unskilled young adults and provide skill training and educational benefits to removes barriers to higher paying jobs that allow them to be financially independent.
- 18)

IRON COUNTY
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Budget Testimony

Re: Forestry

We oppose any reduction in DNR foresters, and strongly support increasing the number of DNR Foresters.

Reasoning: Iron County has a tremendous amount of County Forest Land that generates much needed revenues to assist with property tax relief and support of services in Iron County. In addition the State of Wisconsin receives revenues from the timber sales in the Iron County Forest. Iron County needs the assistance of DNR Foresters to prepare these timber sales for harvesting.

IRON COUNTY
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Budget Testimony

Re: Snowmobile Budget

We support the following snowmobile budget changes:

Increasing the Registration Fees as follows:

Resident from \$20 to \$30 (2 years)

Non-Resident from \$13 to \$18 (1 year)

Increasing Trail Aids

2000 Base Funding \$6,473,200

Proposed FY 01-02 \$8,213,800 (Increase of \$1,740,600)

Proposed FY 02-03 \$8,522,300 (Increase of \$1,740,600)

Source: Higher Registration fees and re-estimated fuel usage figures.

Increasing Snowmobile County Law Enforcement Grants

Current Funding \$200,000

Proposed FY 01-02 & 02-03 \$500,000 (increase of \$300,00 annually)

Source: \$100,000 from Tribal Gaming Revenues; \$200,000 Seg. Snowmobile Account

State Snowmobile Education and Enforcement

Provision converts three warden positions from General Purpose Revenue funding to the Snowmobile Account.

Cost to Snowmobile Account: \$155,700 Annually

State Snowmobile Enforcement Administration Aid and Training

Proposed Funding FY 01-02 \$108,900

Proposed Funding FY 02-03 \$91,800

Source: Seg. Snowmobile Account

IRON COUNTY
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Budget Testimony

Re: New Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Restrictions Recommended by the Governor's Working Group

Development corporations and organizations have been very active over the past 34 years in promoting economic growth and development in Iron County. The City of Hurley and the Iron County Resource Development Association (ICRDA) is in the process of constructing approximately \$1.4 million in sanitary sewer, water, and roadway improvements in the Hurley Industrial Park. Upon its completion, this project will provide an additional 35 acres for industrial development. Funding for this project was made possible through the development of an Industrial TIF District. If it were not for this economic development financing tool, it is doubtful that this project would have occurred.

In addition, ICRDA has future plans for the development of approximately 270 acres on the north side of STH 77 in the City of Hurley. It is anticipated that this development will also utilize TIF as a financing tool.

The use of Industrial TIF Districts in the City of Hurley has been very successful in the development of economic growth over the years and is anticipated to play a major role in future development as well. That is why Iron County feels compelled to send you this correspondence stating our objections.

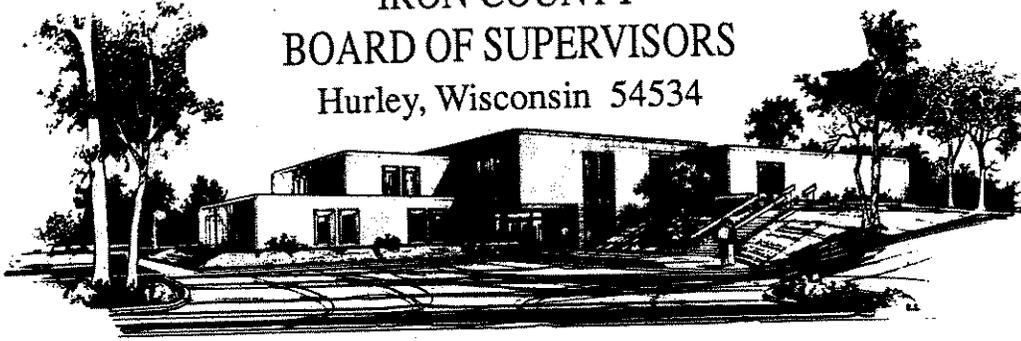
In reviewing the new TIF restrictions that were recommended by the "Governor's Working Group on TIF" on August 24, 2000, we would like to identify three specific recommendations that would severely inhibit industrial development initiatives in many communities in Wisconsin, including the City of Hurley. The three recommendations that should be eliminated are as follows:

1. No Industrial TIF could be created on any land outside the municipality's boundaries unless either the area proposed to be included is either in an area covered by a border agreement with the adjacent Town or unless 3 years had passed since the annexation of the land.
2. Industrial TID's must demonstrate that they will pay off in 15 years instead of the 23 year period now allowed under the law.
3. Industrial TID's will no longer be allowed to include any residential property in their increment and will also not be allowed to include any value for property in which more than 10% of the increment is devoted to retail operations.

It is the opinion of Iron County that these three recommendations would serve to severely hamper efforts of non-metro communities to promote and attract industrial development. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that when this matter is on the floor for action that you consider the impact that these recommendations will have on industrial development in non-metro communities in Wisconsin and that you vote to eliminate these three recommendations before the new restrictions are made into laws.

Your time and support regarding this matter is greatly appreciated.

IRON COUNTY
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Budget Testimony

Re: Technology Zones

We strongly support the legislation creating Technology Zones in the State of Wisconsin, with the following amendments:

1. Through an application process (insert Section 3713. 560.96(2)(a) p. 1610, line 23), the department shall designate as technology zones.....
2. 50% of the Zones designated each year shall be awarded to areas demonstrating economic distress (insert Section 3713. 560.96(2)(a) p. 1610, line 25).
3. Preference for zone designation shall be given for collaborative efforts. (insert Section 3713. 560.96(2)(a) p. 1610, line 25).
4. However, additional credits shall be available for multi-county collaborative efforts. (insert Section 3713. 560.96(2)(b) p.1611, line 5).
5. If the tax credit exceeds the tax liability, businesses located in Technology Zones designated as distressed, shall be refunded the amount of the credit exceeding the liability (inserted in all sections titled Technology Zones Credit).

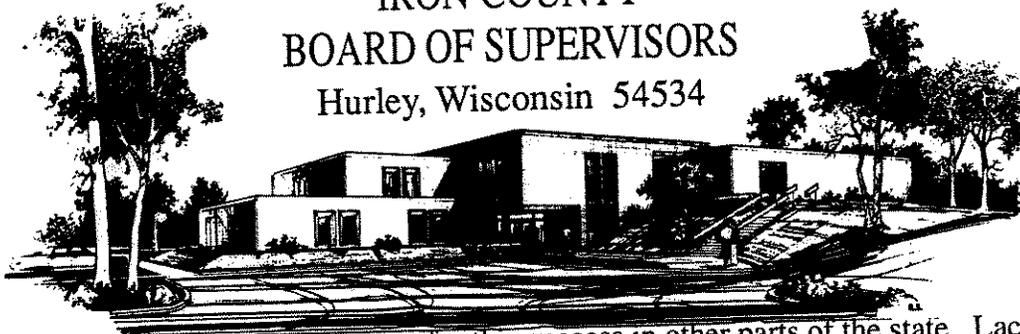
Further, as part of the Superior Days Economic Development Initiative, we support a collaborative multi-county Technology Zone designation for Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron and Washburn Counties.

Reasoning:

As was recently pointed out in Bridge to the New Economy, prepared by the Chequamegon Group, there is a demand for locations which can meet the needs of business in the new economy. New technology allows the development of knowledge based businesses in any rural location with the necessary broad band telecommunications infrastructure. Since these new technology businesses trade in information, they do not require traditional heavy infrastructure usually concentrated in urban areas; and they are easy on the environment. The six northern counties of Wisconsin near Lake Superior have an extremely high quality of life that includes exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities, a low cost of living, vibrant local cultural arts, and fresh, clean air and water. These elements, along with the available infrastructure that supports technology businesses, would enable the area to attract and keep knowledge based entrepreneurs and workers.

Northwest Wisconsin, as well as other predominantly rural regions of the state, have not shared in the tremendous economic growth enjoyed in other portions of the state during the past decade. Location, critical mass of infrastructure, proximity to markets, educational centers, and the

IRON COUNTY
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availability of capital are primary reasons for this success in other parts of the state. Lack of many of these resources is a primary reason limiting growth in northwestern Wisconsin.

These northern counties of Wisconsin have persistently had among the highest unemployment rates in the state and region, the lowest per-capita incomes, and underemployment of over 30% of the workforce. Employment in manufacturing as a percentage of the local economy is much less than in metropolitan areas in both Wisconsin and Minnesota. The northern counties also lag behind other regions of the state in the formation of new small business and expansions of local manufacturing.

For example, the communities located along the Interstate Highway 94 corridor from Hudson to Eau Claire struggle to keep pace with the demands of natural economic growth resulting from commerce flowing between Chicago and the Twin Cities. Meanwhile, northwestern Wisconsin communities struggle to finance basic community infrastructure due to inadequate tax base and the low level of economic activity.

To add to the regional economic disparity, areas of the state experiencing high levels of economic growth generate the most demand and receive substantially higher levels of economic development support from the state. Much of this assistance both revolves into future deals and helps to grow local tax bases, thereby stimulating additional growth.

Conversely, rural or isolated communities in the six northern counties lose out on this financial capacity building due to fewer deals.

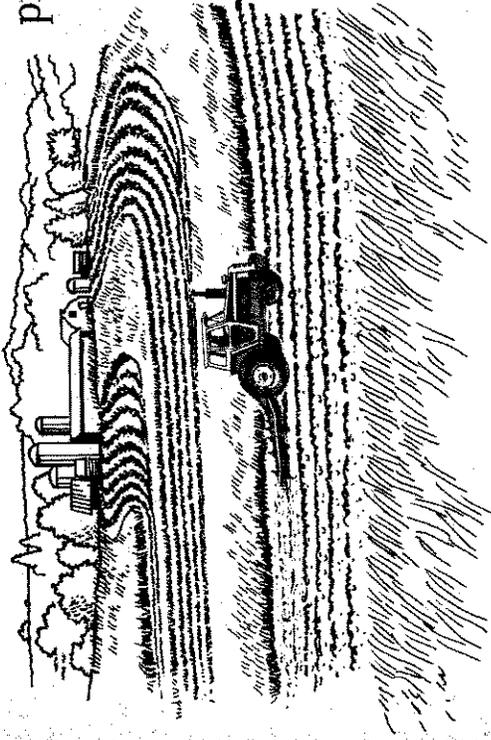
The challenge is to turn around long standing economic trends in northwestern Wisconsin and create a vibrant, growing economy that creates high skill-high wage jobs, new businesses and a growing tax base. This can be accomplished with a state initiative to ensure that the new high technology railroad does not miss northwestern Wisconsin.

South Fork Hay River Watershed Project Presents:

The Pollution Reduction Incentive Program.

A new conservation program designed by local citizens with you in mind.

Look inside to check out the options we have in mind. Contact the office listed below:



St. Croix County

Land Conservation Department

Ag Center
P.O. Box 95
1960 8th Ave.
Baldwin, WI 54002
(715) 684-2874 ext. 132

Dunn County

Land Conservation Department

Ag Center, Suite C
390 Red Cedar St.
Menomonie, WI 54751
(715) 232-5983

Now Available:
Incentive Payments
for Cleaner Water!

Funding is Available

Starting right now, there are incentive and cost-sharing funds available through your Priority Watershed Project.

As an eligible landowner, you not only get financial assistance to install water quality practices, you also get technical assistance to make sure your conservation plan fits your needs and management style.



The Priority Watershed Project is ready to provide financial incentives for your practices. Funding is limited, so sign-up will be by a first-come, first-serve basis.

Talk to one of your watershed employees to find out more about this new incentive program.

Practices & Rates for Incentive Payments & Cost-Sharing

Steps to Cleaner Water

SOUTH FORK HAY RIVER PRIORITY WATERSHED POLLUTION REDUCTION INCENTIVE PROGRAM (PRIP)

Cropland
Farm plan to "T" and 590 Nutrient Management Plan
Annual Payment: \$6.00/acre for NHEL fields \$8.00/acre for HEL fields

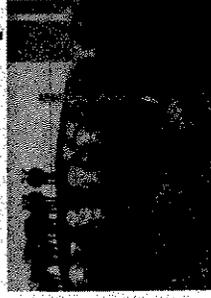
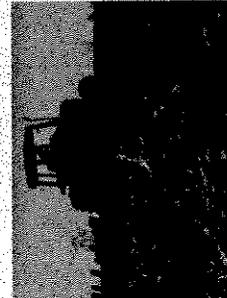
Barnyard
Cropland plans have to be implemented prior to receiving barnyard incentive.
Payment Scale (one-time payment):
20% reduction receives \$10/lb 70% reduction receives \$50/lb
30% reduction receives \$20/lb 80% reduction receives \$55/lb
40% reduction receives \$30/lb 90% reduction receives \$60/lb
50% reduction receives \$40/lb 100% reduction receives \$70/lb
60% reduction receives \$45/lb

Stream Corridor Management
Management Plan required
Annual Payment is \$2.00/acre
One-time Payment \$0.25/ft of streambank

Woodland
Annual Payment is \$2.00/acre for exclusion

Cost-Shared Best Management Practices:

Agricultural Sediment basins	70%
Critical Area Stabilization	70%
Grade Stabilization Structures	70%
Grassed Waterways	70%
Land Acquisition	50% ²
Manure Storage Facilities	70% and 50% ³
Manure Storage Facility Abandonment	70%
Milking Center Waste Control	70%
Pesticide Handling Spill Control Basin	70%
Shoreline and Streambank Protection	70%
Structural Urban BMPs	70%
Well Abandonment	70%
Wetland Restoration	70%

¹ Easements may be entered into in conjunction with these BMPs.
² Cost-sharing is available to acquire land for the construction of an urban structural practice or to acquire land which is contributing or will contribute nonpoint source pollution.
³ Cost share at 70% for first \$20,000 of cost and at 50% for remaining cost, not to exceed \$35,000.

Landowners are contacted
This is where we are now.
Project staff are contacting landowners to explain how the program works.

An agreement is drafted
If you decide to participate in the program, then you work with the county staff to develop conservation and nutrient management plan designed specifically for your farm. From there, other practices can be discussed to see what fits into your farm management plan.

An agreement is signed
Signing an agreement is an important step. With it, you agree to carry out and maintain the practices which you have selected. The agreement outlines what will be done, estimated costs and completion dates.

COUNTY	EXPENDITURES \$		EMPLOYMENT *		RESIDENT INCOME \$		STATE REVENUE \$		LOCAL REVENUE \$						
	1999	1998 REV.	%CHG	1999	1998 REV.	%CHG	1999	1998 REV.	1999	%CHG					
ADAMS	81,914,509	76,882,354	6.55%	2,370	2,242	5.71%	45,386,638	42,460,310	6.89%	7,319,770	6,879,045	6.41%	5,331,080	4,977,699	7.10%
ASHLAND	42,919,305	42,235,600	1.62%	1,249	1,232	1.38%	23,924,740	23,336,965	2.52%	3,858,484	3,780,849	2.05%	2,810,181	2,735,834	2.72%
BARRON	72,556,173	67,773,478	7.06%	2,094	1,986	5.44%	40,109,122	37,598,443	6.68%	6,468,634	6,091,369	6.19%	4,711,187	4,407,734	6.88%
BAYFIELD	72,834,324	74,186,461	-1.82%	2,114	2,174	-2.76%	40,460,956	41,163,812	-1.71%	6,525,376	6,668,999	-2.15%	4,752,513	4,825,708	-1.52%
BROWN	357,961,668	316,447,874	13.12%	9,762	8,630	13.12%	187,510,000	165,784,000	13.12%	36,354,000	32,138,000	13.12%	19,807,000	17,510,000	13.12%
BUFFALO	15,319,976	13,793,159	11.07%	442	411	7.54%	8,444,026	7,778,989	8.55%	1,361,818	1,260,283	8.06%	981,828	911,945	8.76%
BURNETT	32,233,427	28,419,371	13.42%	937	821	14.13%	17,943,554	15,557,977	15.33%	2,893,862	2,520,567	14.81%	2,107,636	1,823,889	15.56%
CALUMET	20,421,418	19,581,031	4.29%	588	565	4.07%	11,258,701	10,696,109	5.26%	1,815,757	1,732,889	4.78%	1,322,439	1,253,925	5.46%
CHIPPewa	62,572,427	60,073,940	4.16%	1,820	1,763	3.23%	34,831,605	33,384,824	4.33%	5,617,497	5,408,716	3.86%	4,091,294	3,913,762	4.54%
CLARK	23,356,604	22,846,534	2.23%	680	667	1.95%	13,017,873	12,640,857	2.98%	2,099,469	2,047,960	2.52%	1,529,070	1,481,910	3.18%
COLUMBIA	127,607,197	121,664,940	4.88%	3,693	3,560	3.74%	70,718,714	67,417,896	4.90%	11,405,222	10,922,455	4.42%	8,306,567	7,903,521	5.10%
CRAWFORD	30,142,663	25,322,533	19.03%	881	753	17.00%	16,888,052	14,261,478	18.42%	2,723,636	2,310,520	17.88%	1,983,658	1,671,898	18.65%
DANE	751,563,114	722,383,876	4.04%	21,793	21,137	3.10%	417,275,598	400,293,758	4.24%	67,296,486	64,852,073	3.77%	49,012,874	46,927,160	4.44%
DODGE	52,041,759	50,241,817	3.58%	1,507	1,472	2.38%	28,850,420	27,874,707	3.50%	4,652,876	4,516,015	3.03%	3,388,748	3,267,802	3.70%
DOOR	314,344,276	277,587,316	13.24%	9,115	8,112	12.36%	174,509,863	153,635,014	13.59%	28,144,231	24,890,593	13.07%	20,497,766	18,010,911	13.81%
DOUGLAS	86,904,764	85,875,322	1.20%	2,517	2,515	0.08%	48,201,313	47,646,302	1.16%	7,773,709	7,719,234	0.71%	5,661,689	5,585,663	1.36%
DUNN	40,110,648	37,300,791	7.53%	1,158	1,095	5.75%	22,165,568	20,743,969	6.85%	3,574,772	3,360,755	6.37%	2,603,551	2,431,853	7.06%
EAU CLAIRE	147,387,336	134,149,800	9.87%	4,262	3,919	8.75%	81,625,581	74,224,511	9.97%	13,164,237	12,025,202	9.47%	9,587,678	8,701,474	10.18%
FLORENCE	6,474,352	6,474,536	0.00%	184	171	7.60%	3,518,344	3,241,245	8.55%	567,424	525,119	8.06%	413,261	379,976	8.76%
FOND DU LAC	120,260,067	113,247,216	6.19%	3,491	3,303	5.69%	66,848,535	62,556,029	6.86%	10,781,055	10,134,777	6.38%	7,851,978	7,333,556	7.07%
FOREST	13,854,175	13,056,093	6.11%	387	376	2.93%	7,388,523	7,130,739	3.62%	1,191,591	1,155,259	3.14%	867,851	835,950	3.82%
GRANT	49,696,653	45,049,647	10.32%	1,452	1,300	11.69%	27,794,918	24,633,463	12.83%	4,482,650	3,990,897	12.32%	3,264,770	2,887,826	13.05%
GREEN	33,688,899	33,434,467	0.76%	974	993	-1.91%	18,647,223	18,799,221	-0.81%	3,007,347	3,045,684	-1.26%	2,190,289	2,203,867	-0.62%
GREEN LAKE	44,516,112	40,701,753	9.37%	1,304	1,180	10.51%	24,980,243	22,364,591	11.70%	4,028,711	3,623,314	11.19%	2,934,161	2,621,841	11.91%
IOWA	40,986,764	35,196,075	16.45%	1,194	1,044	14.37%	22,869,237	19,771,595	15.67%	3,688,257	3,203,220	15.14%	2,686,203	2,317,860	15.89%
IRON	50,253,345	51,133,299	-1.72%	1,470	1,507	-2.46%	28,146,752	28,522,957	-1.32%	4,539,392	4,621,038	-1.77%	3,306,097	3,343,798	-1.13%
JACKSON	52,227,998	44,634,010	17.01%	1,506	1,284	17.29%	28,850,421	24,309,337	18.68%	4,652,877	3,938,385	18.14%	3,388,748	2,849,828	18.91%
JEFFERSON	83,292,082	74,821,830	11.32%	2,425	2,191	10.68%	46,442,141	41,487,936	11.94%	7,489,997	6,721,511	11.43%	5,455,058	4,863,705	12.16%
JUNEAU	80,964,349	69,542,303	16.42%	2,334	2,037	14.58%	44,662,970	38,570,816	15.85%	7,206,286	6,248,904	15.32%	5,248,428	4,521,727	16.07%
KENOSHA	141,452,733	137,516,073	2.86%	3,325	3,232	2.88%	55,754,000	54,202,000	2.86%	13,031,000	12,688,000	2.87%	7,099,000	6,901,000	2.87%
KEWAUNEE	32,244,851	29,487,899	9.35%	918	873	5.15%	17,591,720	16,530,350	6.42%	2,837,120	2,678,101	5.94%	2,066,310	1,937,883	6.63%
LA CROSSE	204,709,560	166,913,401	22.64%	5,917	4,878	21.30%	113,290,677	92,375,483	22.64%	18,271,053	14,965,863	22.08%	13,307,036	10,829,344	22.88%
LAFAYETTE	13,616,086	13,291,930	2.44%	405	393	3.05%	7,740,358	7,454,864	3.83%	1,248,334	1,207,771	3.36%	909,177	873,948	4.03%
LANGLADE	30,604,987	28,321,342	8.06%	882	838	5.25%	16,888,052	15,882,101	6.33%	2,723,636	2,573,079	5.85%	1,983,657	1,861,887	6.54%
LINCOLN	39,693,620	40,176,112	-1.20%	1,158	1,164	-0.52%	22,165,568	22,040,466	0.57%	3,574,772	3,570,803	0.11%	2,603,550	2,583,843	0.76%
MANITOWOC	99,857,989	86,781,568	15.07%	2,885	2,533	13.90%	55,238,000	47,970,427	15.15%	8,908,556	7,771,747	14.63%	6,488,213	5,623,659	15.37%
MARATHON	161,282,010	142,566,287	13.13%	4,667	4,176	11.76%	89,385,937	79,086,378	13.00%	14,412,569	12,812,880	12.49%	10,496,855	9,271,438	13.22%

County by County Tourism

TOTAL IMPACT

COUNTY	EXPENDITURES \$			EMPLOYMENT*			RESIDENT INCOME \$			STATE REVENUE \$			LOCAL REVENUE \$		
	1999	1998 REV.	%CHG	1999	1998 REV.	%CHG	1999	1998 REV.	%CHG	1999	1998 REV.	%CHG	1999	1998 REV.	%CHG
	MARINETTE	66,047,181	61,990,523	6.54%	1,930	1,797	7.40%	36,942,612	34,033,074	8.55%	5,957,952	5,513,740	8.06%	4,339,251	3,989,759
MARQUETTE	35,051,414	33,753,213	3.85%	1,011	975	3.69%	19,350,892	18,475,097	4.74%	3,120,832	2,993,172	4.27%	2,272,941	2,165,889	4.94%
MENOMINEE	7,446,863	7,762,750	-4.07%	203	222	-8.56%	3,870,179	4,213,619	-8.15%	624,167	682,653	-8.57%	454,589	493,971	-7.97%
MILWAUKEE	1,264,984,725	1,204,495,948	5.02%	34,448	33,043	4.25%	719,422,177	683,909,021	5.19%	136,189,090	129,601,388	5.08%	81,115,743	77,191,200	5.08%
MONROE	95,258,204	84,994,375	12.08%	2,756	2,482	11.04%	52,775,159	46,998,053	12.29%	8,511,359	7,614,211	11.78%	6,198,930	5,509,666	12.51%
OCONTO	43,605,094	40,955,925	6.47%	1,268	1,198	5.84%	24,276,574	22,688,715	7.00%	3,915,226	3,675,826	6.51%	2,851,508	2,659,839	7.21%
ONEIDA	149,383,431	140,427,732	6.38%	4,319	4,124	4.73%	82,581,084	78,114,005	5.85%	13,334,464	12,655,344	5.37%	9,711,657	9,157,446	6.05%
OUTAGAMIE	246,476,162	241,543,679	2.00%	7,148	7,051	1.38%	136,863,582	133,539,294	2.49%	22,072,794	21,634,862	2.02%	16,075,892	15,655,052	2.69%
OZAUKEE	66,705,147	65,167,170	2.36%	1,810	1,790	1.12%	37,819,342	37,047,610	2.08%	7,159,331	7,020,556	1.98%	4,264,178	4,181,477	1.98%
PIERCE	7,726,377	7,069,931	9.29%	205	205	7.32%	4,222,012	3,889,493	8.55%	680,908	630,141	8.06%	495,915	455,972	8.76%
POLK	23,511,388	22,669,656	3.71%	679	667	1.80%	13,017,873	12,640,856	2.98%	2,099,469	2,047,960	2.52%	1,529,069	1,481,910	3.18%
PORTAGE	40,075,094	39,898,511	0.44%	1,158	1,181	-1.95%	22,165,567	22,364,592	-0.89%	3,574,771	3,623,315	-1.34%	2,603,551	2,621,842	-0.70%
PRICE	122,888,458	99,379,581	23.66%	3,565	2,910	22.51%	68,255,874	55,101,165	23.87%	11,008,026	8,927,006	23.31%	8,017,283	6,459,609	24.11%
RACINE	29,129,474	26,147,669	11.40%	688	618	11.33%	10,631,000	9,543,000	11.40%	2,787,000	2,502,000	11.39%	1,518,000	1,363,000	11.37%
RICHLAND	191,656,604	183,995,507	4.16%	5,549	5,391	2.93%	106,253,989	102,099,218	4.07%	17,136,205	16,541,217	3.60%	12,480,512	11,969,276	4.27%
ROCK	19,661,654	13,984,128	40.60%	570	411	38.69%	10,906,667	7,778,989	40.21%	1,759,015	1,260,284	39.57%	1,281,111	911,945	40.48%
RUSK	199,774,024	187,821,310	6.36%	5,789	5,511	5.04%	110,827,835	104,368,090	6.19%	17,873,855	16,908,800	5.71%	13,017,753	12,235,259	6.40%
SAINTE CROIX	27,233,531	23,290,096	16.93%	789	684	15.35%	15,128,880	12,964,981	16.69%	2,439,924	2,100,472	16.16%	1,777,027	1,519,908	16.92%
SAAK	69,365,306	62,553,567	10.89%	2,003	1,831	9.39%	38,349,949	34,681,322	10.58%	6,184,921	5,618,763	10.08%	4,504,555	4,065,754	10.79%
SAWYER	624,945,698	583,276,160	7.14%	18,095	17,069	6.01%	346,556,877	323,152,091	7.24%	55,891,257	52,354,260	6.76%	40,706,304	37,883,701	7.45%
SHAWANO	88,356,246	84,478,244	4.59%	2,573	2,464	4.42%	49,256,816	46,673,929	5.53%	7,943,936	7,561,699	5.05%	5,785,669	5,471,669	5.74%
SHEBOYGAN	55,904,358	52,412,611	6.66%	1,635	1,541	6.10%	31,313,262	29,171,206	7.34%	5,050,074	4,726,062	6.86%	3,678,032	3,419,793	7.55%
TAYLOR	169,266,906	128,814,230	31.40%	4,925	3,783	30.19%	94,291,619	71,631,515	31.63%	15,206,963	11,605,108	31.04%	11,075,422	8,397,492	31.89%
TREMPEALEA	13,341,104	12,513,980	6.61%	386	360	7.22%	7,388,523	6,806,616	8.55%	1,191,591	1,102,748	8.06%	867,850	797,952	8.76%
VERNON	28,534,200	22,895,796	24.63%	827	667	23.99%	15,832,548	12,640,856	25.25%	2,553,408	2,047,960	24.68%	1,859,679	1,481,911	25.49%
VILAS	27,362,568	26,959,204	1.50%	809	787	2.80%	15,480,713	14,909,728	3.83%	2,496,665	2,415,543	3.36%	1,818,353	1,747,895	4.03%
WALWORTH	178,530,272	165,942,636	7.59%	5,164	4,861	6.23%	98,865,466	92,051,359	7.40%	15,944,614	14,913,351	6.92%	11,612,662	10,791,347	7.61%
WASHBURN	261,528,414	227,566,168	14.92%	7,570	6,658	13.70%	144,955,773	126,084,432	14.97%	23,377,869	20,427,090	14.45%	17,026,394	14,781,105	15.19%
WASHINGTON	34,470,078	32,904,641	4.76%	992	958	3.55%	18,999,057	18,150,972	4.67%	3,084,089	2,940,661	4.20%	2,231,615	2,127,871	4.88%
WAUKESHA	95,192,840	89,270,494	6.63%	2,594	2,452	5.79%	54,164,989	50,750,150	6.73%	10,253,619	9,617,200	6.62%	6,107,171	5,728,051	6.62%
WAUPACA	452,165,403	428,352,224	5.56%	12,303	11,754	4.67%	256,936,492	243,296,219	5.61%	46,104,856	46,143,881	0.67%	4,504,555	2,460,272	5.50%
WAUSHARA	68,810,269	68,095,840	1.05%	2,003	2,002	0.05%	38,349,949	37,922,567	1.13%	6,184,921	6,143,881	0.67%	4,445,731	4,445,731	0.00%
WINNEBAGO	37,157,970	34,059,491	9.10%	1,085	992	9.38%	20,758,230	18,799,221	10.42%	3,947,802	3,045,685	9.92%	2,438,245	2,203,866	10.63%
WOOD	173,837,987	173,361,287	0.27%	5,035	5,066	-0.61%	95,402,626	95,940,853	0.48%	15,543,493	15,543,493	0.03%	11,323,379	11,247,320	0.68%
TOTALS	8,747,834,904	8,117,722,825	7.76%	248,681	232,667	6.88%	4,940,582,000	4,485,757,000	7.91%	821,837,000	764,770,000	7.46%	582,143,000	520,312,000	8.04%

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TRAVELER EXPENDITURES

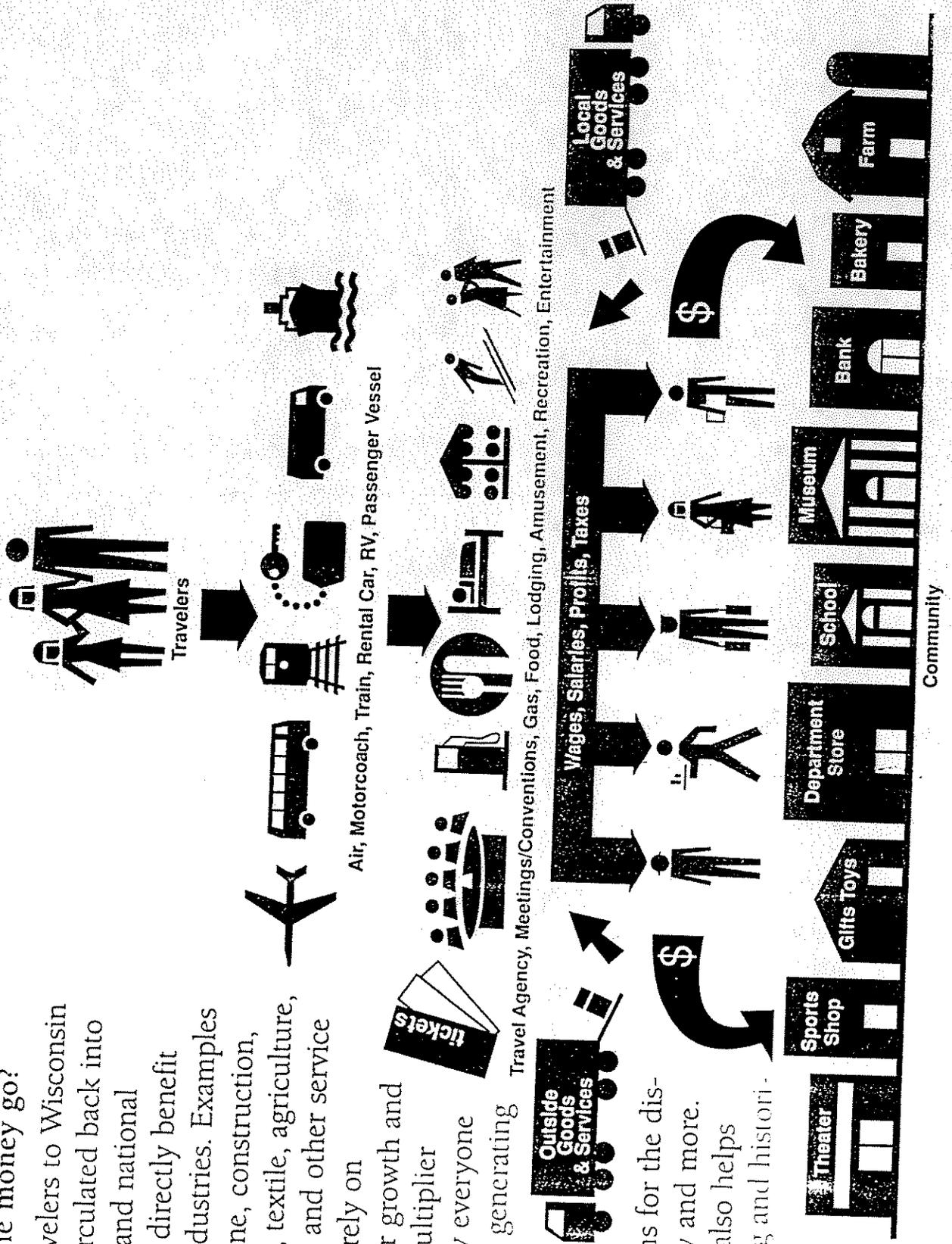
Where does the money go?

The dollars travelers to Wisconsin spend are re-circulated back into the local, state and national economies and directly benefit other related industries. Examples include telephone, construction, computer, steel, textile, agriculture, food processing and other service industries who rely on

tourism for their growth and stability. This multiplier benefits virtually everyone in Wisconsin by generating tax revenues,

which help pay for our roads, schools, programs for the disabled and elderly and more.

Travel spending also helps support shopping and historical areas, art galleries, museums and many cultural and community events



WCC not a program to cut back on

In his ongoing effort to trim the state budget, Gov. Scott McCallum is proposing reducing the Wisconsin Conservation Corps by \$1.4 million, resulting in reducing the number of work crews in the state from 55 to 45. He is also proposing eliminating the volunteer board that oversees the agency.

While the state would see an extra million stay in its coffers — this is an example of a cut that could cost in the long run.

WCC crew members, ages 18 to 25, earn \$5.50 an hour working on projects that benefit communities — locally, crews have repaired the local animal shelter, built a board walk at the Great Lakes Visitors Center, maintained trails in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, helped build the Bayfield Pavilion and worked on campgrounds in the Chequamegon National Forest. They've built shelters in town parks, worked for counties and list goes on and on.

WCC benefits young people and the communities in which they are working

benefit communities — locally, crews have repaired the local animal shelter, built a board walk at the Great Lakes Visitors Center, maintained trails in the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, helped build the Bayfield

Pavilion and worked on campgrounds in the Chequamegon National Forest. They've built shelters in town parks, worked for counties and list goes on and on.

Sponsoring agencies pay for materials, the corps pays the wages and valuable projects become reality.

Bayfield Mayor Larry MacDonald said "his heart sank" when he learned of potential cuts in the program. And not just because of the good work the crews do, but because of the great things WCC does for young adults.

Bayfield County Tourism Director Pat Thornton echoes MacDonald's thoughts. She points to the young man who was on probation when he joined a Bayfield County WCC crew and is now completing his training to become a law enforcement officer. Or the young man whose experience building WCC projects inspired him to become an engineer.

Both the city of Bayfield and Bayfield County are passing resolutions encouraging the state to keep WCC intact and maintain current funding levels.

Because in the end, WCC is about education.

Thirty percent of the young adults entering the WCC still need a high school diploma — most of them have it by the time they're done, as well as a \$2,800 WCC tuition voucher and a \$4,735 Americorps tuition voucher to further their education. WCC also reaches at-risk high school seniors who may simply have given up without the direction provided in the program.

While those arguing for the cuts say the job market is tight in Wisconsin and these young people could find jobs elsewhere, that is not as true in the north, where unskilled and uneducated workers are not likely to find work.

Thornton said she "can't believe someone would take away a program this valuable to the north."

And valuable to all of Wisconsin, as the state ends up with workers who have learned job skills and earned tuition vouchers enabling them to continue and advance in the workforce by getting further education.

Those workers fuel the economy.

This is another case where money saved now will only cost later.

To support maintaining funds for the Wisconsin Conservation Corps, call the Legislative hotline at 1-800-362-9472, or contact your legislators directly:

Sen. Bob Jauch, (800) 469-6562; Rm. 303, 100 N. Hamilton St., P.O. Box 7882, Madison, WI 53707-7882; e-mail: Sen.Jauch@legis.state.wi.us

Rep. Gary Sherman, (888) 534-0074; 323 West, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8953, Madison, 53708; e-mail Rep.Sherman@legis.state.wi.us

WCC Resolution

- WHEREAS,** Bayfield County has sponsored twelve consecutive Wisconsin Conservation Corps [WCC] Crews that have performed meaningful projects which have enhanced and or protected the natural resources of Bayfield County; and
- WHEREAS,** through meaningful work experiences and daily training, the Wisconsin Conservation Corps has helped young adults develop job training skills including computer readiness, discipline, and an appreciation and better understanding of the world they are part of; and
- WHEREAS,** crew members are afforded the opportunity to further their education with tuition vouchers offered by the WCC [\$2,800 tuition voucher] and the Americorps [\$4,735 tuition voucher]; and
- WHEREAS,** because of the Wisconsin Conservation Corps training program, many members have completed GED high school equivalency test, gone on to further schooling and have become productive members of our society;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

that the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors supports the continuation of the present program levels with 55 crews statewide;

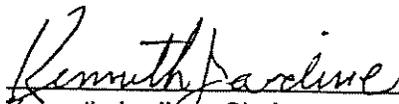
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

that the agency remain a separate agency under the direction of an Executive Director to effectively administer the program under the WCC guidelines.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

that sufficient funds are placed in the budget to continue the Wisconsin Conservation Corps at its present degree.

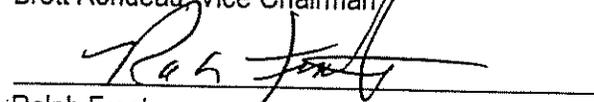
TOURISM & RECREATION COMMITTEE


Kenneth Jardine, Chairman


James Beeksma


Thomas Frizzell


Brett Rondeau, Vice Chairman


Ralph Frostman

Wisconsin Snowmobile Facts

	2000	2001	Proposed 2002
Number of Wisconsin Registered Snowmobiles	214,331	232,320	**232,320
Registration Amount	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 35.00
Total Dollars	\$ 4,286,620.00	\$ 4,646,400.00	\$ 8,131,200.00

	2000	2001	Proposed 2002
Number of Non-Resident Trail Passes	43,537	*44,004	**44,004
Registration Amount	\$ 13.00	\$ 13.00	\$ 18.00
Administration Dollars	\$ 130,611.00	\$ 132,012.00	\$ 132,012.00
Trail Dollars	\$ 435,370.00	\$ 440,040.00	\$ 660,060.00

* Numbers from computerized agents only - final tally in June 2001

** Using 2001 Figures

(Minnesota Non-Resident Trail Passes are \$16.00 each)

END



END

Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation 2000 Accomplishments

The Ice Age Trail is one of only eight National Scenic Trails in the country and is also Wisconsin's only officially designated State Scenic Trail. Despite its state and federal status it is a project implemented largely by volunteers. In 2000 alone, over 4,882 volunteers provided an "in kind" match of 60,323 hours spent in support of the trail. The Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation is the only non-profit organization representing the thousands of volunteers who work to build, maintain and acquire a permanent corridor for the Ice Age Trail.

In 1999 the State Legislature included a \$75,000 annual grant in the state budget to be matched with \$25,000 of private funds for the purpose of establishing, maintaining and promoting the Ice Age National and State Scenic Trail. The Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation was delighted to be the recipient of that grant.

The state grant has allowed the Foundation to:

- Support the work of volunteers who develop, maintain and promote the Ice Age Trail.
- Build partnerships for the Ice Age Trail area with local governmental units and nonprofit organizations.
- Promote the protection of a corridor for the Ice Age Trail by providing information about acquiring land, or an interest in land in the corridor.
- Strengthen community support for the Ice Age Trail area by recruiting and training volunteers and by coordinating the activities of interest groups.
- Promote tourism in the Ice Age Trail area.

The following highlights our accomplishments in these areas.

Support the work of volunteers who develop, maintain and promote the Ice Age Trail.

In 2000, 4,882 volunteers provided 60,323 hours of service to the Ice Age Trail. These volunteers are responsible for construction of new trail, maintenance of existing trail – including on most state and federal lands – and organizing local promotional events. Volunteers also play a key role in securing additional private landowner agreements and in sustaining existing landowner relationships.

- ✓ Our volunteers have made repeated requests over the years for a locally based field person to assist and support their work. In 2000, we were finally able to deliver by establishing two field offices. The eastern field office is based in West Bend and supports volunteers in Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Washington and Waukesha counties. The north central field office, based

in Wautoma, serves volunteers in Columbia, Marquette, Waushara, Portage, Waupaca, Marathon, Langlade and Lincoln counties. Each office is staffed with one field coordinator who:

- Supports the chapters in trail maintenance and development by providing technical assistance; securing grant funds for tools, equipment and materials; seeking permits for bridges and trailheads; and organizing training for volunteers.
- Assists chapters with landowner contacts and relations, and assists with land protection efforts.
- Assists chapters with IAPTF land management, including development of management plans, restoration of pre-settlement vegetation and invasive species control.
- Facilitates close working relationships between IAPTF, DNR, NPS and local units of government and other non-profits.
- Works closely with NPS, DNR and contractors on completion of the Corridor Planning Process and on other partner initiatives such as end to end marking of the trail.

Build partnerships for the Ice Age Trail area with local units of government and nonprofit organizations.

The protection, development and management of the Ice Age Trail is dependent on partnerships. The following new partnerships were established in 2000:

- ✓ **Families First** – Manitowoc County Chapter volunteers and IAPTF Eastern Field Coordinator Kevin Thusius are working with this organization on trail projects for kids and their parents.
- ✓ **Mishicot Main Street Program** – IAPTF and National Park Service staff are participating in the development of a downtown revitalization plan for Mishicot that features the Ice Age Trail.
- ✓ **City of Sturgeon Bay** – IAPTF staff, in conjunction with Door / Kewaunee Chapter volunteers, is coordinating efforts to sign the Ice Age Trail route through downtown Sturgeon Bay. City officials are enthusiastic about this project and hope to certify their segment as Ice Age National Scenic Trail in 2001.
- ✓ **Door County Historical Society** – IAPTF is partnering with the society to place a historical marker at the eastern terminus of the trail in Potawatomi State Park.
- ✓ **Wisconsin Arts Board** – IAPTF and the arts board jointly applied and have received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to provide training to IAPTF volunteers on documentation of cultural history along the trail. We're also working with the arts board on cataloging and interpreting barns along the trail.
- ✓ **Wisconsin Family Forests** – This brand new group in Waushara County has incorporated into its mission the goal of establishing and protecting Ice Age Trail, while protecting and properly managing private forest lands.

- ✓ **Mid-Kettle Moraine Partnership Group** – From the Kettle Moraine Task Force came the partnership group. Chaired by Betty Jo Nelson and Paul Hayes, and composed of Waukesha and Washington county local government representatives, DNR staff, and directors of local land trusts including IAPTF, the group meets regularly to discuss land acquisition priorities and the best partners for the job.
- ✓ **Ozaukee-Washington County Land Trust** – In addition to sharing office space with our Eastern Field Coordinator, the land trust has helped set up a landowner registry program for Washington County. IAPTF and the land trust are presently discussing land protection partnership opportunities.
- ✓ **Portage Canal Society** – In 2000, the Heritage Trail Chapter of northern Columbia County partnered with the canal society to upgrade an existing section of Ice Age Trail in the City of Portage. Together, they surfaced the trail with limestone to allow wheelchair access; they constructed a major trailhead with parking and picnic facilities off Hwy 33, and they widened and leveled the underpass under Hwy 33 to make it more user-friendly.
- ✓ **Portage Area Trails and Heritage System** – IAPTF is an active member of this group, whose goal is to create a system of trails in Portage using the Ice Age Trail as the backbone.
- ✓ **Town of West Point, Town of Lodi and City of Lodi** – these three local government partners have been instrumental in the expansion of the trail between the Lodi Marsh State Wildlife Area and the Merrimac Ferry. Officials from the towns and the city actively participated in the recently completed IAT corridor planning process, and have personally made landowner contacts on behalf of the trail.
- ✓ **Friends of Scenic Lodi Valley** – this citizens organization has taken the development of the IAT on as their major focus. They build and maintain trail in the Lodi Valley, and have secured several new landowner agreements. In addition, they also promote the trail by operating an IAT visitor center out of a historic building that was donated to IAPTF located on Main Street in Lodi.
- ✓ **Village of Hartland, Hartland Women's Club, Hartland Arrowhead High School, Kettle Moraine High School** – this partnership has been critical to the Ice Age Trail in Hartland. In 2000, IAPTF opened the Hartland Ice Age Wetland Preserve, a 2 mile segment of the Ice Age Trail plus 3 miles of loop trails in Waukesha County. Adjacent to parkland owned by the Village of Hartland, this urban open space protection project provides a valuable classroom for local school groups who have been busy removing honeysuckle, buckthorn and purple loosestrife. Thanks to students and teachers from Hartland Arrowhead High School and Kettle Moraine High School, restored prairie, oak savanna and wetland ecosystems are the healthiest anyone has seen here in over a generation. The Preserve also features interpretive overlooks named for Aldo Leopold and John Muir. The trail to the top of the Leopold Overlook, as well as the benches at the top, was constructed as part of an Eagle Scout project. A quarter mile of handicapped accessible trail has also been constructed. For more information see attached article from the Fall 2000 edition of IAPTF's quarterly newsletter, *Mammoth Tales*.

- ✓ **Waushara County Parks** – Waushara County Parks Director has been actively involved in the corridor planning process for the Ice Age Trail in Waushara County.

Promote the protection of a corridor for the Ice Age Trail by providing information about acquiring land, or an interest in land in the corridor.

- ✓ **Assisted DNR real estate staff with set up of an acquisition program for the Ice Age Trail as a State Scenic Trail project:** The state received \$2 million dollars in Land and Water Conservation money in 2000 from the National Park Service for Ice Age Trail land acquisition to be matched with state funds. Launching this program required determining the partnership's (DNR, IAPTF and NPS) land acquisition priorities, hosting multiple meetings between DNR central office, regional land acquisition staff and IAPTF local volunteers. These meetings were held to discuss how we might work together to make the best use of the strong relationships IAPTF volunteers have with local landowners, and to coordinate the landowner contact process.
- ✓ **Designed IAPTF Landowner Registry Program:** Private landowners play a critical role in the success of the Ice Age Trail. Of the over 500 mile of trail open to the public, 115 miles exist through the generosity of private landowners who allow the IAT to be constructed across their property. The registry program is an official listing of private landowner partners along the Ice Age Trail. It is entirely voluntary – only willing landowners participate. Land registration is a non-binding, non-regulatory informal agreement that can be canceled at any time. The landowner agrees to allow the Ice Age Trail on their property and to inform IAPTF of planned land use changes that might affect the Trail, or plans to sell the property. The program builds and maintains good will through consistent message and regular communication. In addition, the Chapter's work "lives on" through personnel changes and learning curves and adds a greater likelihood of protection. We initiated the program in 2000, and provide training to chapter volunteers on its implementation. We expect that the program will be fully functioning by the end of 2001.

IAPTF also completed several key acquisitions for the trail last year:

- ✓ Acquired the 77-acre Martin Ellefsen easement for the Ice Age Trail in Marathon County. This easement also permanently protects 1/2 mile of frontage on both sides of the scenic Eau Claire River.
- ✓ Acquired the 1-acre Hans Ellefsen easement for the Trail in Marathon County, ensuring that a 3-mile, permanently protected route exists for the Trail into the heart of Eau Claire Dells County Park.
- ✓ Acquired the 110-acre Riverland Conservancy / Alliant Utility easement in Sauk County. With the completion of this easement, the Ice Age Trail now has a permanently protected route for its first 3 ½ miles southward from Devils Lake State Park.

- ✓ Partnered with Dane County Parks Department to acquire the 78.5 acre Liebetrau property for the Ice Age Trail. The property provides outstanding views to both Blue Mounds and the Baraboo Range. IAPTF applied for and received the Stewardship grant, closed on the property, and deeded it to Dane County for management.

Strengthen community support for the Ice Age Trail area by recruiting and training volunteers and by coordinating the activities of interest groups.

- ✓ **Spring Annual Meeting and Volunteer Training:** In April, 2000, over 75 Ice Age Trail volunteers assembled at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station for a weekend long conference hosted by IAPTF. Workshops were held on the design and implementation of an Ice Age Trail landowner registry program, Trail signage standards and techniques, and on holding successful Trail promotion events. Volunteers were also treated to a guided hike on the New Hope Segment of the IAT and to field trips to historic homes along the IAT and to the Farmington Drumlins.
- ✓ **Ice Age Rendezvous:** Over 50 Ice Age Trail volunteers from around the state gathered together last October at the Merrill School Forest for a weekend of fun and friendship organized by IAPTF field coordinator Jean Potter. Volunteers participated in workshops on chainsaw safety, trail photography, and local archeology. The weekend also featured hikes on the Grandfather Falls Segment along the Wisconsin River and on the future route of the Ice Age Trail through the Great Addition. One of the highlights of the weekend was late night wolf howling in the New Wood Wildlife Area, inspired by a presentation on wolves by a DNR naturalist. This weekend long gathering proved to be such so beneficial for building camaraderie between IAPTF chapters that plans for this year's event are already in the works.

Promote tourism in the Ice Age Trail area.

- ✓ **Inn to Inn Hike:** For the first time in 2000, IAPTF organized a hike that demonstrated a way to enjoy a multiple day experience on the Ice Age Trail when camping is either not an option or a choice. Our goal was to walk from the northern tip of the South Kettle Moraine State Forest to the southern end of the North Kettle Moraine State Forest, a distance of roughly 75 miles by trail and connecting roads. Participants carried light packs, walked between 7 and 14 miles each day, stayed at small inns close to the trail and ate well at *slow-food* restaurants. Our official mission was three-fold: to raise the awareness of the Ice Age Trail in the Mid Kettle Moraine; to highlight the need for protecting Wisconsin's most unique and endangered landscape; and to demonstrate that a walking trail could be an economic benefit to local communities. The hike was a huge success.

- ✓ **National Trails Day Events:** Every year on the first Saturday in June, IAPTF volunteers celebrate Trails by hosting a variety of events. This year, the Waukesha and Washington County Chapters hosted an event called "Meet Me in Monches". Participants chose either the Monches Segment in Waukesha County or the Loew Lake Segment in Washington County, and then walked toward one another to Monches at the County Line. Several hundred people participated and the event was highly publicized by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.
- ✓ **Chapter Events:** each of IAPTF's 21 chapters hosts regular hikes, work parties, field trips guided by glacial geologists, family scavenger hunts, and other special events such as the Waushara County Chapter's candlelight ski and snowshoe event which draws over 100 people every year. Chapters also host the annual Parade of Color Fall Hikes, held on Saturdays in fall starting mid-September and running through mid-October. Some chapters also hold Winter Trails Day events, with snowshoe demonstrations and rentals by local outfitters. These events are publicized in Mammoth Tales, on line at the IAPTF website and in local newspapers.

Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation Goals for 2001

- ➔ **Additional Volunteer Support:** Already this year we've opened two more field offices, one in the south central region (Walworth, Jefferson, Rock, Green, Dane, Sauk southern Columbia, Juneau and Adams counties) and one in the northwestern region (Taylor, Price, Chippewa, Rusk, Barron, Burnett, Washburn and Polk counties). Complete coverage of all volunteer chapters has been achieved.
- ➔ **Volunteer Training and Networking:** In April we will hold a two day conference for volunteers from around the state on designing trails for handicapped accessibility, constructing trails and trail facilities using barrier-free construction techniques, and on implementation of the newly completed Ice Age Trail Standards Handbook. A presentation will also be made by the American Hiking Society on the status of ADA trail standards.

This September, in conjunction with the National Park Service and the Student Conservation Service, we plan to host a weeklong training for volunteers on advanced trail construction techniques and on crew leadership. Representatives from the Appalachian Trail Conference will be brought in to share their expertise.

- ➔ **Step up IAT Land Acquisition:** Working with DNR real estate staff, IAPTF hopes to increase the rate at which we're protecting parcels for the Trail. It is our mutual goal to have at least 15 parcels in process at all times.
- ➔ **Partnership with the Bed and Breakfast Association:** We believe the Wisconsin Bed and Breakfast Association could be a perfect Trail partner, based

on their appeal to a demographic that is adventurous, likes to travel and is ready for new experiences. The success of the 2000 Mid-Kettle Moraine Inn to Inn hike sponsored by IAPTF on the Ice Age Trail last year speaks to the popularity of the experiences that could be developed for guests. We have submitted a proposal to the WBBA outlining the mutual benefits of a partnership between our organizations.

- **Inn to Inn Hikes:** This year we are planning to host at least one other Inn to Inn hike on the Ice Age Trail, this time between the Lodi Marsh State Wildlife Area and Baraboo. We're also looking for B&Bs that would like to participate in this kind of event on the Indianhead area segments of the Ice Age Trail.

- **Completion of New IAPTF Web Page:** We were the fortunate recipients of a major grant from the Bob and Dee Leggett Foundation in 2000 to design a state of the art Web page. The new page will include information on volunteer opportunities, trail conditions, online membership and merchandise, trail maps, and IAPTF mission and history. Look for the new site mid-2001.

Ice Age Trail Volunteer Support Grant 2000

2000 Income & Expense

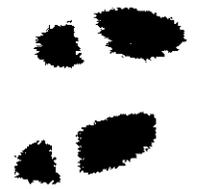
Grant	75,000.00
* Wages	(48,204.55)
* Benefits	(6,210.52)
* Travel	(3,155.91)
* Conferences & Training	(824.50)
* Dues & Membership	(13.98)
** Equipment	(4,915.26)
** Postage	(776.00)
** Printing	(914.37)
** Supplies	(1,756.83)
** Rent	(3,122.00)
** Telephone	(2,538.77)
Interest	<u>1,697.57</u>
Total Carryover	4,264.88

* For Field Coordinators

** For Operation of Field Offices



MAMMOTH files



A quarterly publication about the Ice Age Trail from the Ice Age Park & Trail Foundation, Inc.

Vol. IX, No. 3

Fall, 2000

Restoring an Oak Savanna Thanks to a Little Help From Our Teens

by Marlin Johnson

Stem by stem buckthorn and honeysuckle are cut to the ground to make way for prairie wildflowers, grasses and oak trees. More than 70 enthusiastic volunteers are taking the first step in restoring an oak savanna community on a

get 53 young, healthy, enthusiastic teenagers to give up an afternoon for a couple of weekends to cut and pile brush. Extra curricular activities like this do not just happen; it takes charismatic leaders to rally the troops. Teachers, John Rhude

the property as an outdoor classroom for laboratory exercises, tours, research projects and long-term studies. Students have already constructed and positioned bluebird and wood duck houses, raised and released hundreds of beetles used as a biological control for purple loosestrife (a wetland weed), conducted a frog survey and plugged a drainage ditch.

What a pleasure it was to stand back and see the groups work — one person cut the stems, while six or more people hauled and piled trunks and branches. Beavers could not have been more efficient! In a matter of hours what was a solid dark wall of buckthorn and honeysuckle became a sunny opening. One could actually see the marsh from the middle of the island! It was a sight not seen for the past 30 years. (The oldest buckthorn was aged at 35 years and probably germinated about the time grazing ceased on the island.) The large sprawling bur and white oak trees stood stark in the open landscape just as their parents had in the oak savanna of presettlement days. A few savanna wildflowers somehow survived a hundred years of grazing and thirty years of brush competition. This spring, several hundred shooting stars seemed to come out of nowhere. They apparently have been lying in wait for the sunshine that finally came. As the summer progresses we hope to see more native plants appear. Flower by flower the oak savanna SHALL return...thanks to a little help from our teens! 

(Arrowhead, Biology) and Cathy Chybowski and Karen DeBoer (Kettle Moraine, Environmental Science and Biology) are the super heroes in this endeavor.

Cathy and Karen's group of Advance Placement Environmental Science and Biology students are old hands at this type of activity. For several years they

have been cutting brush, building bluebird houses, pulling garlic mustard and planting and gathering prairie seed at Lapham Peak State Park and the Nature Conservancy's land around Lulu Lake.

John's crew of Advance Placement Biology students are just beginning to become active in outdoor projects. Since Arrowhead High School is only one and a half miles from the marsh he expects to do many more activities there. To him the marsh is a major new resource for the school. Science courses anticipate using

Photo by Marlin Johnson



Kettle Moraine High School students with Cathy Chybowski.

1.4 acre island in the Hartland Ice Age Wetland in Waukesha County. The island is in a 185 acre marsh along the Bark River owned by the IAPTF and the Village of Hartland.

The mammoth share of the 400 volunteer hours put into the project so far comes from students attending Arrowhead High School in Hartland and Kettle Moraine High School in Wales. Volunteers also came from the local Ice Age Chapter and from the Village of Hartland. It was more than pure luck to

RESOLUTION REQUESTING A CONTINUATION OF THE SOUTH FORK OF THE HAY RIVER NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION REDUCTION PROGRAM

RESOLUTION NO. 44 (2000)
ST. CROIX COUNTY, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Abatement Program was created in 1978 to address extensive water quality threats and problems in Wisconsin's lakes, streams, and groundwater; and

WHEREAS, the Nonpoint Source Program operates on a project basis where the project area is a watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources designated the South Fork of the Hay River as a special four-year pilot project rather than the traditional 10 to 12 year project, and

WHEREAS, the South Fork of the Hay River watershed project has demonstrated its feasibility by exceeding its participation goals, and

WHEREAS, the project's Citizen Advisory Committee endorses a continuation of the pilot project for an additional four years.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the St. Croix County Board of Supervisors requests continuation of state funding for an additional four years for the South Fork of the Hay River Non-Point Source Pollution Reduction Program.

Dated this 12th day of ~~October~~^{December}, 2000.

Offered by: LAND & WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE
Negative

Affirmative

Art Jensen
Chris Bethke
Luis Burri
Ann Cady
Tom Bureschot

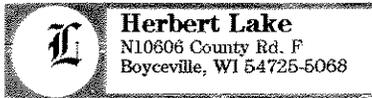
ADOPTED ON: 12-12-00

ATTEST: Sue E. Nelson
Sue E. Nelson
County Clerk

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF ST. CROIX

I, Sue E. Nelson, St. Croix County Clerk, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution 44 (2000) adopted by the County Board of Supervisors at their meeting held Dec. 12, 2000

Sue E. Nelson



Whom:

I own land on both sides of both the north and south forks of Hay River and they join on my land.

Since the water shed went into affect I see cleaner water with less brown foam and less run off.

I keep land by the rivers in timber with more hay as a buffer. Without tax help ~~it~~ would change my farming practices with more row crops and much more runoff from spray and fertilizer. Without clean air and water we have nothing. Thank you

Herb Lake - Hay River

01/20/2020

To the members of the Joint Finance Committee

I am a landowner in the Town of Tiffany, Gunn County. Through the South Fork Day River Priority Watershed program, I have become aware about the importance of nutrient mgmt. not only on my farmland but also on the surrounding farmland area.

The tax credits we have received for the last two years has been an incentive for me to follow the plan that has been worked out for my lands.

I strongly urge the Finance Comm. to continue funding for this soil conservation and nutrient management project.

Sincerely

Dewayne W. Hedlund
1149 Cooney Rd. N.
Boysville, Wis.
54725

March 24, 2001

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

We own land on both sides of the South Fork, Hay River.

Since the Watershed project went into effect I have noticed positive changes for the river.

With the help of the Menomonie Ag Services, we have made a difference in the river. But there are still many more things that need to be addressed.

Also, the tax relief helps out since we don't have to farm that extra inch next to the river. Plus, the extra knowledge about nutrient management plan helps to make sure we are not putting on too much fertilizer for what we are growing. So let's continue the Watershed program. Because working hard to get our water clean and keeping it that way will help all of us.

Thank you.

Jeff Lake

The Lakes

Jeff, Kelley, April, Jake

632-2467

N 10458
County Hwy F
Bayceville Wis
54725

March 26, 2001

Re: Budget proposals and concerns....(Open Forum, Superior Wisconsin)

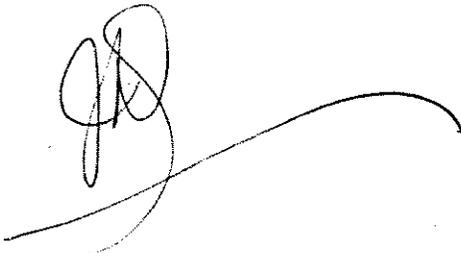
The current situation regarding budget cuts goes far beyond the top shelf of the needs for Wisconsin citizens. My concern is for the Friends of the State Parks, particularly Amnicon Falls State Park and Pattison State Park. These Parks are the crown jewels of Wisconsin and the Friends of the Amnicon Falls and Pattison State Parks have worked very hard to assist the Rangers and personnel in the Parks with activities for the visitors, tourists and local residents. Improvements for user friendly Parks is an advantage. The Parks are some of the finest Natural exhibits in the Nation and we are proud to be part of maintaining and volunteering to keep control and expand the activities of the Park Personnel.

We appreciate the support of the administration in supporting these efforts in the past. The year 2000 celebrated the centennial of the State Parks. Many organizations such as the Rural Electric Cooperatives sponsored these events as they know how important tourism and entertainment and education is to the general public that has the opportunity to listen, learn and enjoy the fundamental geology, biology and natural beauty. The State Parks Group has been instrumental in offering assistance and leadership to the expert management at the State Parks.

Ideas, hard work and perseverance has established, improved and looked to future generations continuation of this process. Please continue your support for the State Friends Group for ongoing education and assistance to our State Parks.

Sincerely

*Janet Dalbec, Secretary (Amnicon Falls and Pattison State Parks Friends)
4277 E. County Road B, Superior WI 54880 715-399-8551*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JD', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the bottom of the signature.



SOUTH FORK HAY RIVER PRIORITY WATERSHED

Ag Center, Suite C • 390 Rd Cedar Street • Menmonie, WI 54751 • (715) 232-5983

In cooperation with the

Dunn, St. Croix, Barron & Polk County Land Conservation Departments

MEMORANDUM

March 27, 2001

To: Joint Committee on Finance

From: Mike Kinney, Project Manager, South Fork Hay River Priority Watershed

Subj: CONTINUATION OF PROJECT

The South Fork Hay River Priority Watershed was authorized to be a pilot project as noted under section 281.65(11) of the 1997-98 Wisconsin State Statutes through an amendment to the 1997-99 budget bill by the Joint Committee on Finance. This action by the Committee at that time allowed the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) for this project to proceed with their Pollution Reduction Incentive Program using existing watershed funding.

The initial request to the legislature was for eight years (typical watershed projects have a minimum life span of 10 years). The final result, however, was a four-year "pilot" project, which would allow the DNR and local conservation staff the opportunity to evaluate the project.

In short, the project has achieved twice the level of farmer participation for one-third the cost in just one-third the time. Before planting season of this year, 106 farmers comprising almost 50% of the available cropland in the watershed will have completed their first nutrient management plans through the watershed project. Over 90% of them have updated or developed new conservation plans to meet program guidelines. This includes 16 farmers who have adopted or increased reduced tillage or no-till practices.

Of the 12 barnyards that had previously qualified as critical sites, 9 have already been resolved with 2 more on track to be completed this spring. These and other barnyard runoff reductions already made will result in a 50% reduction of the TOTAL phosphorus load from barnyard sources. This 50% reduction represents 100% of the watershed's goal for an eight-year period. Most importantly, by using low-cost practices, the total cost for these reductions will be less than \$25,000 in incentive payments – less than the cost of 1 typical concrete barnyard project.

Due to the agencies' fiscal constraints, the implementation period for this project was actually delayed until July 1, 1998. Yet, in only three years, the incentive program has achieved these results.



SOUTH FORK HAY RIVER PRIORITY WATERSHED

Ag Center, Suite C • 390 Rd Cedar Street • Menomonie, WI 54751 • (715) 232-5983

In cooperation with the

Dunn, St. Croix, Barron & Polk County Land Conservation Departments

FACT SHEET SUMMARY SOUTH FORK HAY RIVER PRIORITY WATERSHED

- Cropland constitutes about 48% of the landscape (57,000 acres out of a total of 117,700 acres)
- Over 7,500 acres of cropland are in CRP and ineligible for incentive payments.
- Cropland contributes 85% of sediment load and 92% of phosphorus load – thus the heavy focus on nutrient management and soil conservation in this project.
- Barnyards contribute only 6% of phosphorus load in SFH (yet, on a statewide basis, more NPS dollars are spent on barnyard projects than all cropland practices combined).
- Very active Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) - they have met over 30 times since January 1995.
- CAC and other landowners wanted a voluntary program.
- 106 farmers have or are in progress of completing nutrient management plans for a total of just over 24,000 acres.
- 96 farmers are currently in the program and comprise just over 21,500 acres (of the other 10, 6 have quit farming, 2 did not sign up a second time, 1 has died, and 1 became ineligible due to soil loss issues).
- 12 out of 194 barnyards were inventoried above 150# of annual phosphorus runoff – these would have been designated as critical sites.
- 50% of the total phosphorus runoff from barnyards is expected to be achieved by June 30, 2001 (this would equal 100% of the reduction objective for barnyard runoff).
- Projected TOTAL cost for all barnyard runoff reduction achieved - \$25,000.
- Total projected cost for all staff, information and education, incentive payments, and cost-sharing practices over 8 years is expected to be approximately \$2.5 million.
- Total project cost using the traditional watershed approach was \$6.5 million for the same period.
- Almost 100% of incentive dollars go into the hands of the farmers rather than contractors and crop consultants. These dollars provide property tax relief to farmers who achieve nutrient management and soil conservation goals.
- Wisconsin currently has a property tax incentive program to encourage good stewardship – it's called Managed Forest Law.

Presentation before the: Wisconsin Legislature's Joint Finance Public Hearing
Superior WI March 27, 2001

By: Willard Kiefer
7784 S County Rd S
Lake Nebagamon, WI 54849
Douglas County

I am a member of the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, a retired DNR Forester, and for the past 7 years a part time forestry consultant in Douglas and Bayfield Counties.

I am here to speak on behalf of the following two items in budget process for increased funding:

1. Private Forestry Initiative.
2. DNR Service Foresters.

I. The Segregated Forestry Fund has had a surplus for years and is able to fully fund the requested forestry initiatives and not be used to fund other non-forestry initiatives.

II. I urge the full funding of the 21 service forester positions requested to assist private forester landowners who own 9.1 million acres(57%) of Wisconsin forest land.

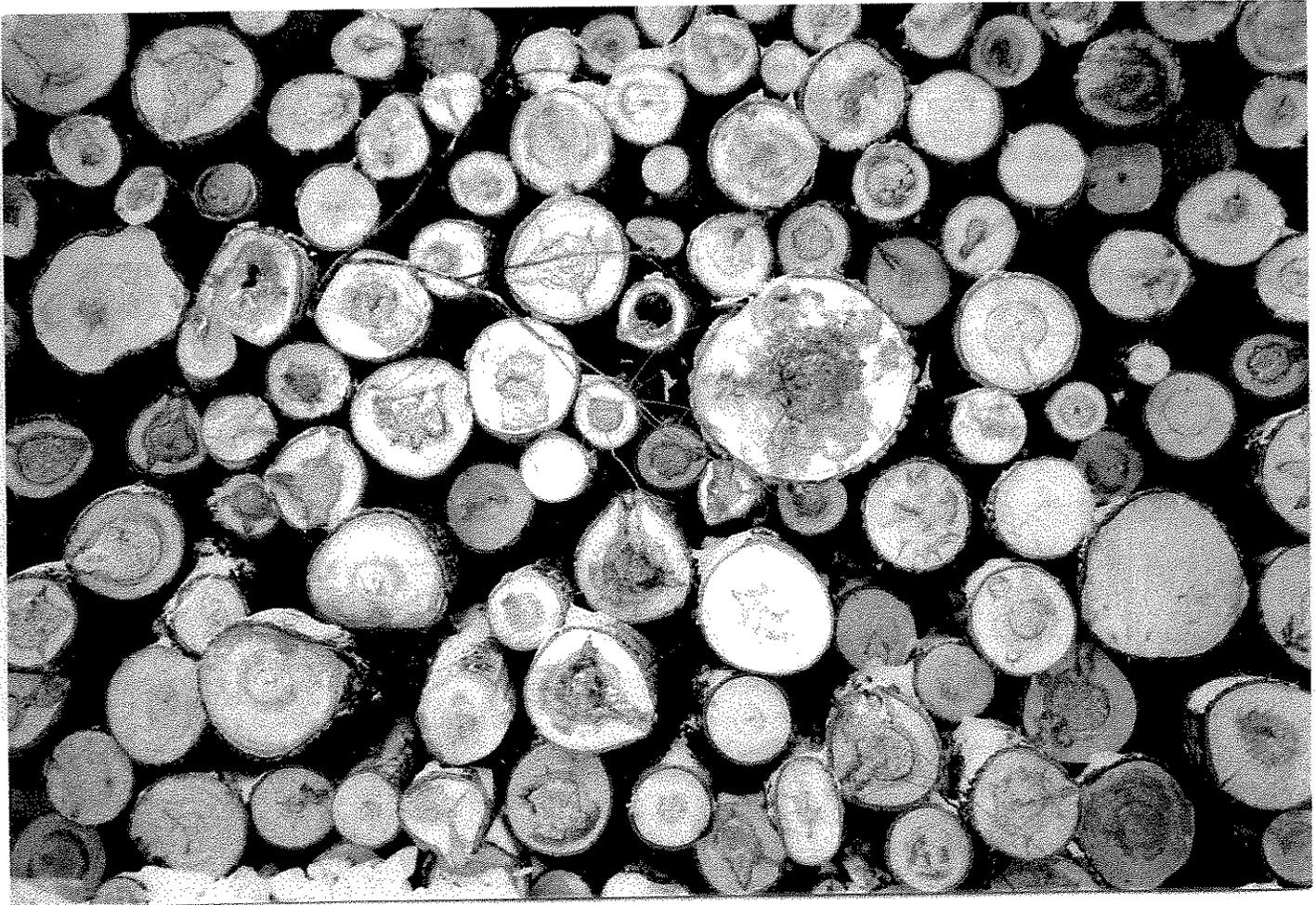
III. Managed Forest Law workload is increasing. Assessed valuation of our forestland has increased tremendously and has and will result in increased workload for entry into and the administration of the Managed Forest Law.

IV. Professional and technical forestry assistance urgently needed to properly manage our timber resource. Please see page 2, a picture of over-aged aspen in our private forests. Latest data indicates only about 20% of private forest landowners seek appropriate forestry assistance.

V. A quote from the highlights, page 2: WISCONSIN FOREST STATISTICS, 1966
USDA Forest Service
North Central Forest Experiment Station
Resource Bulletin NC-183

- **The future of the forest lies in the hands of individual private landowners, who own almost 60 percent of the total area of timberland in Wisconsin.**

VI. My final statement- we have sufficient funds available in the Forestry Fund to support these increased initiatives for private forest landowners without requiring any increase of taxes. To assist in providing sustainable forestry on private land and to insure a continuing future supply of quality forest products to our forest products industry, I urge this Joint Finance Committee to support these forestry initiatives for increased private forestry assistance.



Typical over age aspen harvested from private land. Notice the high degree of rot in these pulpwood bolts. In about ten years these will not be merchantable, and most aspen trees will be on the ground from deterioration and/or blown down by wind and the appropriate management opportunity missed.

Project Review

Great Lakes Forestry Museum Rice Lake, Wisconsin

March 27, 2001

1. Museum to be built on a five and one half acre parcel of land with 1200 feet of Lake Frontage in downtown Rice Lake.
2. The museum's historic site was the location of the Knapp-Stout pinery in the 1860's.
3. The Great Lakes Forestry Museum is a 501(c)(3) corporation.
4. The Overall Goals of the Great Lakes Forestry Museum :
 - Retain the rich history of forestry
 - Project a positive image of the forestry industry
 - Create an awareness of forest products
 - Project career opportunities
 - Provide educational opportunities
 - Collect, preserve and display artifacts
 - Explore environmental agendas
 - Provide demonstrations and hands-on activities
 - Facilitate forestry research
 - Bring visitors to Northwestern Wisconsin
5. A main focus is to develop a museum that will be the "Crossroads of Education and Entertainment".
6. The museum will be a weather resistant major attraction for northwestern Wisconsin that will attract over 40,000 visitors annually.
7. Source of funds for the three million dollar project are one third local Barron County community, one third forest products industry and one third State of Wisconsin.
8. When in operation, the museum intends to establish the National Lumbering Hall of Fame which will induct and honor those individual who have had a significant positive impact on the industry.
9. There are several forestry museums in the region, the Great Lakes Forestry Museum will be unique because it will be operated year-round and will include present day technology and research as well as historic exhibits.
10. Each exhibit will be evaluated for its ability to:
 1. Attract visitors
 2. Enhance the Museum's public image
 3. Exhibit the Museum's collection
 4. Teach the public about subjects that concern the Forestry industry
 5. Bring school groups for educational programs

-over-

11. Exhibits will use modern technology with interactive video and many hands-on opportunities.
12. The Great Lakes Forestry Museum is presently working with a UW Stevens Point graduate student who has received a State of Wisconsin Forestry grant to write a curriculum for 4th grade students.
13. The museum intends to be a source of forestry industry educational programs targeted to the general public.
14. Revolving outdoor historic and modern equipment exhibits will be augmented with performances and competitions as well as a Staged Growth Forest Walking tour.
15. Museum representatives have conferred with the following groups:
 - Wisconsin-Michigan Timber Producers Association
 - Wisconsin DNR Forestry Division
 - Wisconsin Governors Council on Forestry Members
 - Wisconsin Paper Council
 - Forestry History Society
 - Lake States Forestry Alliance
 - St. Croix Tribal Public Relations
 - Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc.
16. The Great Lakes Forestry Museum project was presented to all Wisconsin State Legislators as one of the selected projects for Superior Days XVI on February 28, 2001. As part of that presentation it was established that the Museum is seeking one million dollars of State support.
17. Today the forestry and forest products industries employ over 100,000 people and represent over 17% of the total manufacturing jobs in the state. .
18. The museum will open with three full time staff consisting of Director, Assistant Director and Program Coordinator that will be augmented with six or seven part time workers.
19. Professionals retained by the Great Lakes Forestry Museum include:
 1. Patrick Gallagher and Associates - Washington D.C. / Exhibit Design
 2. Mark Davy and Associates - Minneapolis, MN / Fundraising
 3. Northwoods Architectural Associates - Rice Lake / Building Design
 4. Jim Van Matre Tourism & Sports Marketing - Green Bay / Project Manager

Jim Stoll, Campaign Co-Chairman
922 Terrace Drive
Rice Lake, WI 54868
Phone: 715-234-9716

I am Jack Edson and I am a small private woodland owner. I wish to speak regarding some of the forestry issues in the proposed budget, particularly as they relate to private forestry. I speak on behalf of the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, a group of over 2100 private owners working to be good stewards of their woodlands. Each quarter you receive a copy of our magazine, WOODLAND MANAGEMENT, and I am sure that you read each issue thoroughly in your copious free time (?). Our goal is to educate ourselves and others regarding sustainable forestry, good wildlife habitat development, protection of good water quality and provision of the various recreational opportunities that woodlands afford. I have served a number of years on this Organization's Board and as its state President for two years. I mention the latter not to try to certify some sort of pedigree but to indicate that this service has given me the opportunity to become familiar with the interests and concerns of small woodland owners.

Forests are very important in Wisconsin, as you know. The wood products industry is reported to be the second largest manufacturing sector in this State. What you may not be familiar with is the fact that 57% of our forested land is owned by private woodland owners. Perhaps more important from the budget standpoint is the fact that something like two-thirds of the State's timber and other wood products come not from public or industrial forests, but from private, non-industrial sector. As the demand for wood products continues to rise and harvesting from public lands continues to fall, more and more of our wood supplies will inevitably have to come from these smaller, private sources.

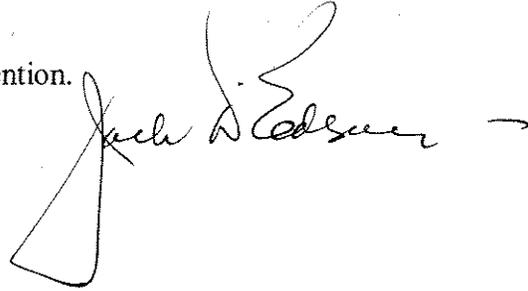
We small owners have the woodlands, the interest and the motivation to manage our woodlands carefully for both our present and future needs. But we are neither foresters nor wildlife experts and, thus, we critically need education and assistance. We depend heavily upon the forestry, wildlife and other folks from the Department of Natural Resources and they have been of great help and service to us in many ways, to the extent that they have had the personnel and time. But between 1985 and 1998, the DNR has lost 65 forestry positions through budget cuts and reorganization. The service foresters that are available – and some counties have none – are increasingly inundated with tax law work, much of it paper work, especially now with the soaring number of Managed Forest Law applications. It has become harder and harder for us to get even the limited consultation and guidance that the DNR could formerly provide. After considerable study, in which some of us were involved, it was determined that at least 21 new forester positions would be necessary to begin to cope with this severe shortage. The Governor's budget requests but six – this in spite of the fact that the number of small woodland owners has about doubled since 1960. Additionally, at a time when we are striving to increase awareness of the serious need to develop and properly manage the State's woodland resources, the Governor's budget allowance for forestry awareness and education is zero dollars – nothing!

What makes this particularly ironic is the fact that the money is available. We have a state Forestry Account, derived from the mil tax, whose purpose it is to provide funds to adequately care for our forest resources. Yet year after year many important forestry initiatives are not funded or funded in very inadequate ways. At the same time, the Fund is periodically

raided for purposes other than those intended by law. I understand that there presently is a bill to take \$2.3 million from that Fund for a Kickapoo Valley Visitors Center. This is, as far as we can determine, a clear violation of the intent of the mill tax law. Why can we not use these funds for the purposes intended where they are very badly needed?

In closing, let me remind you of a key point – woodlands are renewable. We live in a basically quite greedy and extravagant society. We consume our resources as if there were no tomorrow. But when oil is gone, it is gone. When iron ore and coal are gone, they are gone. And so on. If, however, we develop and manage our woodlands properly, we will have plenty of wood products for today and tomorrow and yet still have woodlands for wilderness, good water quality, wildlife and recreation. We private woodland owners are more than willing to do our parts. But we need adequate support and guidance. To this end, we sincerely ask you to rectify these items in the Governor's budget and support the DNR's forestry program and, in turn, the forests of Wisconsin, private, industrial and public. If we do not take care of them, they too may be gone.

Thank you very much for your time and attention.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack D. Edsall", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Presentation to the Joint Finance Committee
By: Marv Meier, Pres. Elect WWOA
4/4/2001

I am Marv Meier, a semi-retired forester, President-Elect of Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (WWOA) and owner of 620 acres of woodlands. About 50 years ago foresters from the then Conservation Department helped my dad set up our first improvement cuts. I own that land now and it shows the value of decades of thoughtful management. I am concerned that nowadays the DNR foresters just don't have the time to give the advice and counsel my father needed just to get started. That is why I strongly support funding the Division of Forestry request for 21 Private Forestry positions.

I am speaking on behalf of WWOA, an Association of about 2200 individual owners of forest lands. WWOA's primary goal is to educate ourselves and other in sound sustainable forest management. We do this through our quarterly magazine, WOODLAND MANAGEMENT, (which each of you receives), land owner conferences, work shops and field days.

Collectively individuals own and manage nearly 60% of Wisconsin's forested land base. **Ecologically sound care and management (Sustainability) of that 60 per cent of Wisconsin's forest lands is extremely important both to the owners and to society.** Forest landowners should be held responsible for how they care for their lands but they should have available to them professionals to help them get started down the right paths. Following devastation of our forests Wisconsin became a leader in good forest conservation and has a history of providing the professionals to help forest landowners get started. Unfortunately this history is on the ropes. The number of foresters as been decreasing at the same time the need is increasing! The DNR lost 65 forestry positions between 1985 and 1998. I cite this only to emphasize where we are starting from. Over the same period the need for foresters has increased. The need has increased because we have many more individual owners each year. The number of owners has nearly doubled since 1960. The rise in property taxes has led to large increase in Managed Forested Law applications. The number of applications went up 40% last year alone.

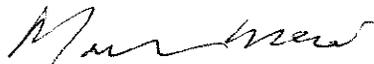
The Managed Forest Law is an important part of forestry in Wisconsin today. Still the value all Wisconsin citizens receive through the tax law program are not often articulated. The law is often looked at as a subsidy for forest land owners. That view ignores the values in 'nonmarket goods' these lands provide to the citizens of the state. Many of society's wants/needs are very compatible with forest landowners objectives and are in fact provided by small private woodlands. These lands provide wood products, habitat for game and non-game birds and animals. Our summer neotropical migrant birds are provided acres and acres of nesting and feeding habitat. The water that flows from the individually owned small woodlands waters many a trout stream and provides freshwater habitat for many fish and aquatic species. The scenic value of the of these lands is important as well. Then there are the threatened and endangered species. Many forest land owners are personally interested in providing an opportunity for these species to regain their viability. My point is that managed forests provide value across a broad spectrum. Foresters are needed to help individuals do what needs to be done.

There is a role and workload for DNR foresters, industrial foresters and consulting foresters. Each should play a role in helping individuals manage properly and receive the value their lands can provide. I/We are not suggesting that DNR foresters should take on roles more appropriately provided consultants or industrial foresters. We are strongly advocating that the 21 private forestry positions requested by the Division of Forestry be funded. The Governor's budget proposes just 6. Even the 21 would only began to address the backlog of work!

The Forestry Account has been running a surplus for years. Including the 21 private forestry positions would not create a budget problem. The Forestry Account, derived from the mil tax, is designed to provide funds for just this sort of purpose. However, year after year forestry needs go begging and the Fund is tapped for purposes not covered by the enabling legislation.

Well managed private forest lands provide high returns to all Wisconsin citizens. Owners will do many of the 'right' things if they know what those things are. Being able to receive advice from DNR foresters is important. Please approve the 21 private forestry positions

Thank You.



Marv Meier
4901 Blackberry Dr, Wausau, WI 54401 (715 355-9034)

April 4, 2001

Senators and Representatives:

My name is William R. Cary and since my youth I have been interested in woodlands. While in high school I wrote a paper about taking Soil Bank land and reforesting that land. Ironical that today we are converting CRP land into woodland.

I own or have interests in Managed Forest Law (MFL) properties in both Richland and Rusk counties. So I appear today as a private woodland owner who is an active member of the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association and the Walnut Council to seek support for the budget requests of the Division of Forestry.

Five years ago I planted 6.5 acres in Richland county with oak, ash, black walnut, spruce, cedar, pine, and hazel. The planting plan was developed by Division of Forestry personnel. The seedlings were purchased from the Division of Forestry in Boscobel. Since the planting I have obtained immense pleasure in maintaining this planting. Spraying, mowing, pruning, protecting the young trees from deer and rabbits have provided exercise and much satisfaction for me, my friends, and my daughter. In addition neighbors have commented on how nice it is to see trees on our hillside.

Last Fall I had 3.5 acres direct seeded with red oak, white oak, and burr oak. The seeding plan was developed and supervised by our local DNR Forester. This month under the direction of the DNR Forester the seeding will be sprayed with herbicide. I am extremely excited about this project because I hope in time to have a more natural stand of woods than what I have from planting seedlings. In addition, direct seeding is a new concept and if we can learn from my experiences I will be very happy.

I am not a professional forester and could not have undertaken the planting or direct seeding without the guidance of Division of Forestry personnel. I am retired and cannot afford to hire a private consultant.

The support and guidance I have received from the Division of Forestry has been timely and delivered in a very supportive manner. I am wondering if this timely and supportive work will be able to continue in the future considering the huge cutbacks in Governor McCallum's proposed budget.

My only experiences with local DNR Foresters is limited to Richland and Rusk counties. The large workload that these people deal with is increasing every single year. The number of MFL applications increases each and every year. It appears that this year the number of MFL applications will exceed the processing capacity of both our DNR Foresters and the consulting foresters. Yet there seems to be no sympathy in the Governor's office for the workload these Foresters have. Twenty-one new positions have been requested and I believe there is money in the Forestry Account to fund these positions. Yet the proposed budget allows for only six

positions. It is my understanding that monies in the Forestry Account are frequently diverted to fund non-forestry projects. I strongly urge you to use the Forestry Account monies to support Division of Forestry initiatives.

As the workloads of the Foresters increase how are they supposed to do their jobs when the monies for base operations has been significantly cut in the proposed budget? Our Foresters are expected to do more and more with less and less. This is an impossible situation! Please restore the monies for base operations as requested by the Division of Forestry.

I have received training, in another state, in BMP monitoring and have asked to be involved with BMP monitoring here in Wisconsin. For a State that takes great pride in the high quality of its water and goes to great lengths to protect its ground water supplies, how can it be possible that in the proposed budget, funding for Private Forestry Assistance - landowner education is significantly reduced. BMP training for landowners is included in this section of the proposed budget. Best Management Practices (BMP) help significantly to insure that logging practices are done in a manner that protects our wetlands, lakes, and streams. It is extremely important for landowners to have a good understanding of BMP's in order that they insist that BMP's are followed when they have a timber sale.

I have worked in the Tourism industry here in Wisconsin at my parents resort in Wisconsin Dells and as a manager of a hotel in the Dells. I know, from first hand experience with tourists, the importance of our forests and woodlands to the tourist industry. These forests and woodlands are being grabbed up by developers parcel after parcel and removed from our forests and woodlands. Support for us woodland owners from undue taxation will allow us to continue managing our precious woods in a sustainable fashion and not have to sell our woods to pay our taxes. If our rural areas become extensions of our urban areas then the States Tourism industry will be finished.

Supporting the Division of Forestry with adequate funding for its initiatives not only benefits woodland owners but the entire State by maintaining our woods and forests as an important part of our biodiversity and as a tourist attraction.

Thank you.


William R. Carey
20742 Buckle Hill Rd
Richland Center

I grew-up in Milwaukee, on North 40th Street. My first contact with a Wisconsin DNR forester was in 1985 after buying 80 acres of woodland in Eau Claire County, primarily for Wisconsin's traditional....GREAT ANNUAL DEER HUNT. My husband Gary & I grew up in Milwaukee/like other city people, we wanted to preserve our beautiful personal forest.

We called the Eau Claire County DNR forester, and made an appointment to walk through our woods. To evaluate and learn more about it's potential. We were horrified to hear her advise, "Your oaks are overmature, if you don't harvest your trees, all you'll have is 80 acres of firewood, they'll blowdown with the next big wind storm".

We learned about the MANAGED FOREST LAW, we needed a forest management plan, to qualify for the MFL tax break.

Another DNR forester informed us that our ASPEN stand was "over mature/hollow", we had almost waited too long to harvest and use "natural regeneration" from root suckers to rapidly grow a healthy new productive ASPEN forest. We have had several harvests since our initial DNR forester contact, and we've paid the MFL required severance tax.

The DNR forester also told us about a group of landowners in the *WISCONSIN WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION*, with a mission to promote forest education, to keep their members informed on woodland issues, learning the benefits of Best Management Practices, and what's important to WISCONSIN'S FORESTS.

Our Jackson County DNR forester was unable to help with a recent MFL application. We had our consulting foresters write up our new management plan. *How would we have known where to go for forest management help without ever having had our first contact with our DNR forester?*

WISCONSIN HAS A LONG HISTORY OF FOREST LEADERSHIP. *WHO WILL WOODLAND OWNERS GO TO WITH THEIR FIRST MANAGEMENT QUESTIONS IN THE FUTURE?* Since 1985 we've lost 65 forester positions in the division of forestry 270,000 WOODLAND OWNERS, OWN 60% of the states forest land, that's only 4% of our population. *How much of that forest land is being managed to benefit our state? How can we afford the continuing fragmentation? HOW DO YOU REACH OUT TO US TO ENCOURAGE PRODUCTIVE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT?*

Our DNR foresters are currently overwhelmed with 3100 MFL applications, forest management plans. *IF DNR FORESTERS ARE CURRENTLY OVERBURDENED, WHO IS SUPPOSED TO OVERSEE THE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES REQUIRED BY MFL/LAW?* Is the state of Wisconsin currently in breach of contract with woodland owners currently enrolled in MFL?

WISCONSIN FOREST MANAGEMENT PROMOTES: the economy, investments that stay instate, forest industry, more forest related equipment businesses/products, high & low tech jobs, long-term management plans, aesthetics, tourism, wildlife, land-use ethic, hunting / recreation, cleans our water and air, enhances the quality of life. IN URBAN AREAS, WE'VE NOTICED THAT OUR "OLD GROWTH" PUBLIC LANDS HAVE DYING FORESTS, with Buckthorn and Honeysuckle shrub under growth. The waterways are choked with purple loosetrife. Developers fill wetlands, complain about flooded dying forests, and blames the DNR. *DO WE PLAN TO HAVE FORESTS IN OUR URBAN FUTURE?*

We need your help. We are asking that FORESTRY DOLLARS go back into forest management / education.

WE PROMISE TO RETURN IT WITH FOREST PRODUCTS & INTEREST. "DEADWOOD" RESULTS MEANS WE DIDN'T PLAN AHEAD.

Ann Hockerman is Past-President of WISCONSIN WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION, Life members of WWOA TREE FARM members. Ann & Gary Hockerman 4335 N. 163 Street, Brookfield, 53005, 262 781-9485

Thank you, Ann Hockerman



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Lilith Fowler

MENOMONEE VALLEY PARTNERS, INC., a Wisconsin nonstock, nonprofit corporation

April 20, 2001

Members of the Joint Finance Committee,

The 1,200-acre Menomonee Valley represents tremendous economic development potential for southeastern Wisconsin. Located in the heart of Milwaukee, close to downtown and workforce, the Valley could be home to 5,000 new family-supporting jobs.

Redevelopment will require new infrastructure and assistance to redevelop brownfields parcels. Governor McCallum's budget proposal includes funding for both of those crucial needs:

1. CANAL STREET

MVP supports the State's funding proposal for Canal Street and commends the Governor for committing \$10 million to this crucial project. The extension of Canal Street through the western end of the Menomonee Valley will open up over 100 acres for development. At the eastern end of the Menomonee Valley, reconstruction of the roadway will enhance access and allow for high-quality redevelopment. Extension of Canal Street would also offer a mitigation route during reconstruction of the Marquette Interchange.

The City of Milwaukee has already committed to raising a \$10 million local match for the project, as specified in the proposed State budget. The proposed budget also requires a \$5 million match from local ICE funds. We understand that these funds have been previously committed to other projects through an agreement among the City, State, and County. MVP therefore recommends that the proposed language requiring a match from local ICE funds be removed from the budget.

2. BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT FUNDING

Governor McCallum has indicated funding of \$2 million to be used by Menomonee Valley Partners and the Milwaukee Economic Development Corporation for redevelopment of contaminated parcels.

This funding will enable us to continue to attract strong companies to the Valley - companies like Allen Edmonds, who (thanks to public funding for environmental remediation) is planning a new plant and 200 jobs in the Menomonee Valley.

MVP and MEDC are forging a partnership that will leverage the resources of both groups to ensure that funds are used to greatest effect. Flexibility to use these funds for pre-development work is essential.

We urge your support for these two projects.

Sincerely,

Lilith Fowler
Executive Director

TO PROMOTE REVITALIZATION OF THE MENOMONEE VALLEY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ENTIRE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY