

# State of Wisconsin



1995 Assembly Bill 575

Date of enactment: April 22, 1996

Date of publication\*: May 6, 1996

## 1995 WISCONSIN ACT 257

AN ACT to amend 23.09 (2) (d) 1.; and to repeal and recreate 28.04 of the statutes; relating to: the management of state forests.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

**SECTION 1.** 23.09 (2) (d) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

23.09 (2) (d) 1. For state forests for the purpose of growing timber, demonstrating forestry methods, protecting watersheds or providing public recreation.

**SECTION 2.** 28.04 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

**28.04 Management of state forests. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this section:

(a) "Biological diversity" means the variety and abundance of species, their genetic composition, and the communities, ecosystems and landscapes in which they occur. "Biological diversity" also refers to the variety of ecological structures, functions and processes at any of these levels.

(b) "Community" means an assemblage of species living together in a particular area, time and habitat.

(c) "Ecological capability" means the potential of an area to support or develop one or more communities through management, with the potential being dependent on the area's abiotic attributes, its flora and fauna, its ecological processes and disturbances within and upon the area.

(d) "Native" means indigenous to the area or region.

(e) "Sustainable forestry" means the practice of managing dynamic forest ecosystems to provide ecological, economic, social and cultural benefits for present and future generations.

**(2) PURPOSES AND BENEFITS OF STATE FORESTS.** (a) The department shall manage the state forests to benefit the present and future generations of residents of this state, recognizing that the state forests contribute to local and statewide economies and to a healthy natural environment. The department shall assure the practice of sustainable forestry and use it to assure that state forests can provide a full range of benefits for present and future generations. The department shall also assure that the management of state forests is consistent with the ecological capability of the state forest land and with the long-term maintenance of sustainable forest communities and ecosystems. These benefits include soil protection, public hunting, protection of water quality, production of recurring forest products, outdoor recreation, native biological diversity, aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, and aesthetics. The range of benefits provided by the department in each state forest shall reflect its unique character and position in the regional landscape.

(b) In managing the state forests, the department shall recognize that not all benefits under par. (a) can or should be provided in every area of a state forest.

\* Section 991.11, WISCONSIN STATUTES 1993-94: Effective date of acts. "Every act and every portion of an act enacted by the legislature over the governor's partial veto which does not expressly prescribe the time when it takes effect shall take effect on the day after its date of publication as designated" by the secretary of state [the date of publication may not be more than 10 working days after the date of enactment].

(c) In managing the state forests, the department shall recognize that management may consist of both active and passive techniques.

(3) STATE FOREST PLANS. (a) The department shall prepare a plan for each state forest that describes how the state forest will be managed. The department shall work with the public to identify property goals and objectives that are consistent with the purposes under sub. (2). The department shall identify in each plan the objectives of management for distinct areas of the state forest.

(b) The department shall establish procedures for the preparation and modification of these plans, including

procedures for public participation. In preparing and modifying plans under this subsection, the department shall use the best available information regarding the purposes and benefits of the state forests that the department acquires through inventories, evaluations, monitoring and research. In evaluating such information, the department shall consider both regional and local scales, including the impact on local economies. As new information becomes available, the department shall adapt its management of the state forest and, if necessary, the plan for the state forest.

**SECTION 3. Cross-reference changes.** In the sections of the statutes listed in Column A, the cross-references shown in Column B are changed to the cross-references shown in column C:

(1) MANAGEMENT OF STATE FORESTS.

A Statute Sections	B Old Cross-Reference	C New Cross-Reference
25.29 (7) (a)	28.04 (1)	28.04 (2)
25.29 (7) (b)	28.04 (1)	28.04 (2)

