

SUBJECT: Approval of the Point Beach State Forest Master Plan

FOR: JANUARY 2012 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Dan Schuller & Jeff Prey, Bureau of Parks and Recreation

SUMMARY:

Point Beach State Forest was established in 1937 and has 370,000 visitors a year. This update of the 1981 master plan sets the guiding principals and development for the property.

The State Forest will: 1. Preserve, protect, manage, and enhance forest and plant communities, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species on a regional level. 2. Provide a range of low impact, nature-based land and water recreation activities in environmentally suitable locations. 3. Provide trail access from adjoining neighborhoods while maintaining and enhancing connections to federal land and water trail networks.

Several additional camping opportunities are proposed, including a modern campground loop, more indoor group camping and a walk-in/paddle-in campsite.

The Forest has been divided into six land management areas that will include the creation of a new State Natural Area (SNA) and the expansion of another one.

The plan recommends an expansion to the project boundary of 1,583 acres that provides additional ecological protection and recreation opportunities for the property.

There has been an extensive public involvement process, including two public open houses and two comment periods.

RECOMMENDATION: Board Approval per NR 44.04(3) Master development, adoption and public involvement. Plan Approval.

The Point Beach State Forest Draft Master Plan can be found on-line at:

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

http://dnr.wi.gov/master_planning/PointBeach/

No Fiscal Estimate Required

Yes Attached

No Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required

Yes Attached

No Background Memo

Yes Attached

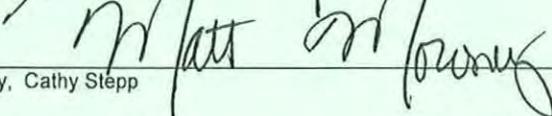
APPROVED:


Bureau Director, Dan Schuller

11-17-11
Date


Administrator, Kurt Thiede

11-18-11
Date


Secretary, Cathy Stepp

12-22-11
Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

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Kristin Lambert - FR/4

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