

COUNTY FOREST PROJECT LOANS

Authorization: ss. 20.370(5)(bq) and (bs), 28.11(8)(b), 28.11(9), Wis. Stats.; s. NR 47.70, Wis. Admin. Code.

Budget: \$396,000 plus \$700,000 (est.) in project loan severance share funds from the forestry account of the Conservation Fund.

Objective: Provide interest-free loans to counties with lands enrolled under the County Forest Law.

Eligibility: Counties having lands enrolled under the County Forest Law.

Level of Assistance: Determined by the DNR, based on an application and approved county board resolution requesting the loan. Two application periods (August 15 and December 1). After December 2, first come, first served. Individual loans may not exceed 25% of available funds for any one year.

Priorities:

- Land acquisition within the county forest boundary for lands to be entered under the County Forest Law
- Forestry land management activities
- Forestry land information
- Forest capitol improvements

Eligible Types of Projects: Meritorious and economically productive forestry projects in county forests. No wildlife or recreation projects are eligible.

Applications: County board resolution and other application materials outlining the project.

History: The project loans were originally approved in 1978 although there was no funding in 1988 and 1990. The current system of a revolving loan fund was approved in 1992 and has been in existence ever since.

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