

GOALS FOR WISCONSIN'S FORESTS

Sustainable forestry aims to ensure healthy and protected forests, a thriving and diverse forest ecosystem, a productive and stable forest products economy, a strong and broadly-shared conservation and stewardship ethic, and a forest resource that provides a wide variety of recreational opportunities. Through the Wisconsin Statewide Forest Plan, we wish to ensure that:



Forests are healthy and protected.

Wisconsin's forest ecosystems provide a multitude of ecological benefits, including habitat for species, water quality protection, carbon sequestration, and moderation of temperature extremes in cities. To ensure the provision of these functions and their many other values, forests are protected from wildfire, insects and disease, including invasive exotic species. Threats to human safety and property near fire-prone forests are minimized through preventative measures and forest fire suppression capabilities.



Forests provide a *diverse* range of native plant and animal species and their habitats.

Wisconsin's forests contain healthy, viable populations of forest-dependent species. Forest community types representing a range of successional stages are maintained to ensure the availability of diverse habitats for species.



Forests are *productive*, providing raw material for consumers *and economic stability* for local communities.

Wisconsin's forests are kept well stocked with merchantable timber to provide an adequate supply of forest products for Wisconsin consumers. Sustainable forestry practices on both private and public lands maximize residual stand quality and promote abundant regeneration of a range of species. Sound forest management supplies local mills and manufacturers with a range of species for fabrication of diverse wood products. Forest products provide income to landowners and a reliable, enduring source of employment for local communities.

Forests are *conserved* and managed with *sound stewardship* practices.

Forest management is practiced on both public and private lands to ensure the forestland base and associated ecological, social, and economic benefits are maintained for current and future generations. Forest management practices are guided by the most current science and are applied based on the desire to maintain the full range of forest ecosystem values, including habitat for diverse species, clean water, air and soil, recreational opportunities for all user groups, and scenic beauty. The direct and indirect benefits of forests depend on a stable forest land base.



Forests provide multiple *recreational* opportunities.

Wisconsin's forests provide opportunities for diverse forms of recreation. These opportunities are expanded, subject to the limitations imposed by available land and fragile habitats, in response to increasing demand. Conflicts between user groups are managed through community planning.

