

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Monitoring the Implementation of Property Master Plans**

Property: Chippewa Flowage Joint Agency Management Plan

Master Plan Year: 2000

Flowage Area Development and Recreation Management

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Recreational Use and Watercraft Management Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WDNR, LCO, and the FS will develop a comprehensive recreational use and watercraft management plan for the flowage. Key objectives of this plan are to protect the undeveloped character of the flowage, to protect the high quality of recreational experiences, to protect public safety, to ensure the exercise of treaty rights, to prevent wildlife harassment and destruction of their habitat, to prevent the impairment of water quality by accelerated bank erosion and the suspension of bottom sediments caused by watercraft and recreational use, and to prevent the exposure of pre-flowage era Chippewa grave sites on islands due to soil erosion by boat wakes and other causes. Prior to developing this plan recreational use surveys and other studies will be done to identify any existing and potential use problems, user conflicts, and preferred management strategies.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>Although there has been cooperation between the agencies to address watercraft use on the Flowage and encourage enforcement efforts related to watercraft use, a comprehensive recreational use and watercraft plan has not yet been developed. In 2009 a survey was conducted by a student intern in an attempt to identify user trends by campers. In 2009 a comprehensive survey of archaeological sites was initiated by the LCO Tribe through a grant from Xcel Energies Co. and continued into 2010. A comprehensive survey of shoreline erosion was also begun in 2009 and continued through 2010. This information will be used to develop a plan to protect critical shoreline from erosion, concentrating on protecting culturally significant sites first. Water levels returned to more seasonal normals in 2010.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Development Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Manage the islands, mainland shoreline and backlands in a manner that minimizes development and its intrusion on the natural, visual landscape. Structures, facilities and materials used should blend in with the surrounding environment and repeat form, line and color of the (non-winter) landscape as much as possible.
<p style="text-align: center;">Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>This objective is accomplished by each respective agency (DNR, USFS, and LCO) adhering to the covenants on lands managed by them. No structures or facilities were established near shorelines in 2010. DNR Chippewa Flowage Property Manager continues to work closely with Sawyer County Zoning office to enforce covenant restrictions on private properties. Eleven reviews were conducted on private properties prior to receiving a county zoning permit in 2010, with all landowners maintaining compliance with the covenants.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Camping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The WDNR, FS and LCO agree that no more than 18 campsites will be designated and maintained for public use on the flowage, not including those sites designated by LCO for use by tribal members. The campsites will be primitive; facilities will include only a fire ring, picnic table, and an open air pit toilet. One campsite will have a pier and other facilities to provide for access and use by persons with disabilities. ▪ Make designated public campsites available on a first-come, first-served basis until such time as a camping permit system may be established. Provide signs and maps that designate the campsites open to public camping.
<p style="text-align: center;">Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>All objectives have been met. 18 total campsites are maintained for use by the public, including 11 DNR, 6 LCO, and 1 USFS campsites. DNR and Forest Service campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis, except for one established accessible DNR campsite which is available for reservations. LCO campsites are all available by reservation. In 2010 maps, signs, brochures and websites all were updated to show locations of campsites, and rules and instructions for occupying campsites.</i></p>

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Picnic and Beach Area Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No public picnic and beach facilities will be constructed on agency managed lands within the flowage management area, except that limited picnic facilities may be provided at selected boat landing sites.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>No picnic or beach facilities have been established on agency managed lands.</i></p>

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Water Access and Related Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ No additional public boat access or new canoe access to the flowage (shown on Map 3) will be constructed within the flowage management area; however, existing facilities or sites may be relocated to better meet management objectives. ▪ Improve one boat landing to provide access to all users. Provide for adequate access to all users at other landings if they are upgraded. ▪ Provide a fishing pier or other suitable shore fishing facility to accommodate all users at a suitable location on the flowage.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>No additional public boat or canoe landings have been constructed. All DNR boat landings have been upgraded in recent years which allow for use by all persons. Discussions have been held with Town of Hayward, DNR and LCO personnel in addressing high public interest to establish a suitable public landing on the far western side of the Flowage. If a new landing is constructed in the future, an existing Town of Hayward landing will be abandoned. Discussion on shorefishing opportunities continues with Flowage Partners and DNR fisheries personnel.</i></p>

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES	<p>Non-motorized Trail Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pedestrian – cross-country skiing and hiking are allowed. If a need is shown, primarily develop trails on the backland areas. ▪ Horse/Mountain bike trails –horse and mountain bike trails will not be proposed by the managing partners in order to protect aesthetic, cultural, and ecological resources.
Accomplishments 2010	<i>No new trails were established in 2010. Several hiking and skiing trails have been developed in recent years on backland areas of the Chippewa Flowage. These have been established primarily on logging trails after timber sales have been conducted. All trails have been seeded with grass and clover to stabilize the surface and provide food for animals.</i>

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES	<p>Snowmobile Trails and Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The marked snowmobile trail system will be restricted to the existing system, except as otherwise provided herein. Relocation of existing snowmobile trails may occur to correct safety hazards, protect resource values, or reduce user conflicts. All appropriate measures will be taken to protect sensitive flowage resources that may be harmed by the operation of snowmobiles.
Accomplishments 2010	<i>No new snowmobile trails have been established on Flowage lands in recent years. No new trails are planned.</i>

MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES	<p>All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subject to existing laws and regulations, ATV use should be limited to marked trails. Off-trail ATV use will not be encouraged.
Accomplishments 2010	<i>No ATV trails exist on WDNR Chippewa Flowage property.</i>

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Visitor Information Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The WDNR, FS and LCO will coordinate the design, construction and maintenance of informational bulletin boards at the primary access points. These bulletin boards may contain maps, brochures, interpretation and education materials and other visitor information.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>Bulletin boards are in place at all public landings on the Flowage. Brochures and maps are available at kiosks and area commercial establishments and were updated in early 2010. Maps and a variety of information is available on WDNR, Chippewa Flowage Resort Association and Chippewa Flowage Lake Association internet websites.</i></p>

Water Resource Management

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Water Quality Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The WDNR, FS and LCO will work together to establish baseline water quality information, to monitor water quality in the flowage and its watershed and to identify causes of water quality problems. ▪ The WDNR, FS and LCO will urge and cooperate with local governments and organizations to monitor point discharges on a regular basis; the parties agree to coordinate the exercise of their respective jurisdictions over water quality issues. ▪ The agencies will cooperate on studies of the long-term water quality impacts of motor boat use on the flowage, specifically on bank erosion, sediment re-suspension, and their potential as a non-point source of pollution that may adversely affect the flowage; the agencies will take appropriate corrective actions as needed.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>A comprehensive survey of shoreline erosion was initiated in 2009 by a graduate student working for the LCO Tribe, with input from WDNR, LCO and USFS, and a survey of DNR owned property was also initiated by WDNR Flowage personnel and continued in 2010. Results will be compared with the archaeological study being undertaken by LCO, and a plan for erosion control/remediation will be developed with the partner agencies and public.</i></p> <p><i>No additional accomplished towards objectives in 2010.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Aquatic Plant Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Manage native plant species to best maintain natural plant diversity to protect against the invasion of non-native species and to maintain high quality fish, wildlife and aesthetic values. Develop an aquatic plant management plan that . 1) the preserves and enhances wild plant species traditionally used by the Chippewa (especially the re-establishment, preservation and enhancement of wild rice beds); 2) prevents new exotic plant species introduction; and 3) the controls and, where feasible, the eradicates already present exotic plant species. ▪ The WDNR, FS and LCO flowage managers will monitor and map aquatic vegetation for changes over time and will initiate control efforts only to achieve localized and specific resource management objectives.
<p style="text-align: center;">Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>A monitoring program was initiated by the Chippewa Flowage Area Property Owners Association through cooperation with LCO, WDNR and USFS several years ago and continued through 2010. There has been an on-going effort in the past several years by DNR, CFAPOA and LCO to remove active purple loosestrife plants through physical and biological (beetle) control methods. Volunteer lake monitors were utilized at some public landings in 2010.</i></p>

Fishery Management

<p style="text-align: center;">MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Emphasize the maintenance and protection of native species, genetic strains, and their spawning habitat, plus fairly balanced harvest opportunities for tribal and sport fishing needs. The following management actions are to be taken to support this objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue surveys to annually assess the year class strength of walleye, muskellunge, and northern pike in standard index stations. ▪ Strive to estimate the adult walleye population and angler harvest rate at least once every 7-8 years. ▪ Develop indices for determining trends for other key fish species. ▪ Continue to stock muskellunge annually. ▪ Spawning areas for both musky and walleye should be mapped with the quantity and quality of habitat described every 7-8 years. ▪ Enforce state-licensed ice fishing for panfish.
<p style="text-align: center;">Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>Electrofishing surveys are conducted annually by WDNR, LCO and GLIFWC personnel to assess the health of the fish populations. The lack of natural walleye reproduction in the Flowage continues to be a major concern. Attempts to liberalize the season/size structure for the harvest of largemouth bass failed but will continue to be addressed in the future by fisheries personnel with local cooperative input. Ice fishing opportunities were expanded in 2010 to include the panfish season being open year-round.</i></p>

Vegetation and Wildlife Habitat Management

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Management on Islands and the Mainland Shoreline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Manage to maintain or enhance a naturally appearing landscape with emphasis on promoting long-lived tree species, big tree character and mature vegetative communities.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>No cutting has taken place in 2010 on Islands or mainland shoreline which is contrary to this objective. This has been accomplished through protection required in the deed covenant restrictions for WDNR, LCO and USFS properties.</i></p>

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Management on Backlands Visible from the Flowage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Manage to maintain or enhance the naturally appearing landscape with an emphasis on promoting long-lived tree species, big tree character, structurally diverse communities, mature communities, and encouraging a sustainable, resilient, and functioning ecosystem. ▪ Unique and sensitive plants, such as cedar, hemlock and other species negatively impacted by herbivores, will be favored and perpetuated; understory plants gathered by the Chippewa will be given special consideration. ▪ Provide nesting and brood rearing habitat for endangered, threatened, and sensitive wildlife species, including eagles and osprey.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>Efforts to protect the naturally appearing landscape are undertaken by adherence to the deed restrictions and close monitoring by LCO, WDNR and USFS foresters. Thriving populations of both eagle and osprey species are being maintained through close monitoring by WDNR and LCO wildlife personnel and enforcement efforts by each agencies' officers.</i></p>

<p>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</p>	<p>Management on Backlands Not Visible from the Flowage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide habitat for a variety of native wildlife and plant species, with particular regard to understory plants gathered by the Chippewa, and to encourage a healthy, functioning ecosystem. In particular, provide timber of all age classes, provide or perpetuate cedar and hemlock as practicable, and provide nesting and brood rearing habitat for endangered, threatened, sensitive and other species, including eagles, osprey, fisher, bobcat and marten.
<p>Accomplishments 2010</p>	<p><i>Management for diverse communities on Flowage backlands has been conducted on WDNR, USFS, and LCO lands through select harvest timber sales and adherence to best management practices. Four timber sales were conducted on DNR backlands to promote growth of young trees and provide cover habitat for animals and birds.</i></p> <p><i>Thriving populations of both eagle and osprey species are being maintained through close monitoring by WDNR and LCO wildlife personnel and enforcement efforts by each agencies' officers</i></p>