

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

Property or Properties: Point Beach State Forest

Year Master Plan was Approved: 2012

**Property-wide**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p> <p>Real Estate Mtg.</p>	<p><b>Recent Park Land Acquisitions / Transactions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquire acreage within the project boundary totaling 4,612 acres..</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2013</b></p>	<p><i>Letters sent to landowners in the boundary expansion area explaining the DNR land acquisition program. Parcels for sale were ranked according to department guidelines.</i></p>

**Recreation**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p> <p>Recreation Mtg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The existing and planned trail system, including the Ice AgeTrail, will traverse approximately 32 shared miles.</li> <li>Provide opportunities for rustic and modern family camping in a quiet, natural setting.</li> <li>Provide opportunities for indoor and outdoor group camping in a setting apart from other uses.</li> <li>Provide opportunities for primitive, walk-in/paddle-in camping</li> <li>Provide indoor accessible camping for people with disabilities</li> <li>Provide high quality opportunities for beach use, swimming, and picnicking at Point Beach State Forest</li> </ul>
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<b>Accomplishments 2013</b>	<p><i>22 of the 24 facility developments and improvements identified in the master plan revision have been entered into the Capital Development Project System and now wait for funding.</i></p> <p><i>Horse Trail project is complete. Volunteers raised funds and did the majority of the labor.</i></p> <p><i>Design and planning for the canoe/kayak campsite nearing completion.</i></p>

**Vegetation Management**

**Lake Nipissing Swamp and Sand Blow**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and maintain this area of swamp hardwoods, cedar, and inland dunes for ecological values and rare species habitat allowing natural succession to continue with little non-natural disturbance driving any changes.</li> <li>• Protect the hydrology to maintain the long-term function and ecological integrity of the area.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for scientific research, education, and ecological interpretation as are compatible with the maintenance and protection of the area.</li> <li>• Provide a permanent ecological reference area.</li> <li>• Protect the site from the impacts of invasive species</li> </ul>
Recreation Mtg.	
<b>Accomplishments 2013</b>	<p><i>Secured \$3000.00 for honeysuckle control</i></p> <p><i>Applied for \$5,000.00 in forestry invasive control funds to continue honeysuckle control..</i></p>

**Old Forest Ridges and Swales**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p> <p>Vegetative Mtg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote long-lived species in areas with high species diversity.</li> <li>• Promote old growth forest characteristics including large diameter, older trees; coarse woody debris; and snags.</li> <li>• Monitor the site and, depending on future site conditions, implement management activities to promote old forest characteristics.</li> <li>• Convert pine plantations to more naturally appearing, diverse forest stands or back to inland dune areas.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for scientific research, education, and ecological interpretation as are compatible with the management of the area.</li> <li>• Protect the area from the impacts of invasive species.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2013</b></p>	<p>.</p>

**Red Pine Loop**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p> <p>Vegetative Mtg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue plantation management with the goal of converting plantations to mixed hardwood stands containing red oak, red maple, aspen, and white birch, while retaining large diameter red and white pine.</li> <li>• Retain large diameter conifers as plantations convert to hardwoods.</li> <li>• Increase the aspen acreage.</li> <li>• Protect the forested and non-forested wetlands.</li> <li>• Maintain aesthetic qualities with respect to the recreational trails.</li> <li>• Reduce or eliminate non-native and invasive species.</li> <li>• Educate visitors about the active, sustainable forest management activities occurring in this area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2013</b></p>	<p><i>Timber sale established and will go out for bids in 2013. This sale primarily harvests mature aspen.</i></p>

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### Recreation Management Area

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p> <p>Recreation Mtg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a largely naturally appearing setting for recreational uses, focusing on old forest characteristics and aesthetic values, primarily through natural succession. Maintain, and increase where possible, the amount of large diameter, long-lived species such as white pine, hemlock, and oak.</li> <li>• Convert plantations to more naturally appearing stands of mixed species.</li> <li>• Reduce the component of non-native Scotch pine.</li> <li>• Favor long-lived, larger diameter tree species such as white and red pine with mixed hardwoods.</li> <li>• Maintain native shrub and tree densities to provide adequate screening between campsites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2013</b></p>	<p><i>The marked sale will eliminate the scotch pine in the recreation management area.</i></p>

### Lake Michigan Beach

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p> <p>Vegetative Mtg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a naturally appearing condition of native beach and dune vegetation along the shore of Lake Michigan. Natural processes shall shape the overall composition of vegetation and its structure in this management area to serve as a visual buffer from the beach to inland perspective.</li> <li>• Periodic invasive species surveys will be conducted and control measures will be implemented to reduce the density of non-native dune vegetation.</li> <li>• Identify and construct new access points or other developments, as necessary, in a sustainable manner to avoid negative impacts to vegetation and dunes habitat and employ design techniques that blend developments visually into the surrounding landscape. Limit new access points to the beach in order to protect sensitive dune habitat.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments</b></p>	<p><i>Continued spotted knapweed control in the sand dunes. Mature plants are pulled in July prior to setting seed. Endangered Resources staff are doing follow up work on lyme grass and phragmites control in the sand dunes.</i></p>

<b>2013</b>	
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**Point Beach Ridges State Natural Area**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p> <p>Vegetative Mtg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect, manage, and enhance the Great Lakes Ridge and Swale, Great Lakes Beach, and Great Lakes Dune natural communities for ecological values and rare species habitat needs.</li> <li>• Allow natural processes such as wind, fluctuating water levels of Lake Michigan, and natural succession to shape, shift, and create new ridge and swale and beach and dune complexes.</li> <li>• Allow old forest and, ultimately, old growth characteristics to develop. Provide a large area of structurally and functionally diverse, older, intact, connected forest comprised of old growth mixed hardwood and conifer species.</li> <li>• Protect the hydrology to maintain the long-term function and ecological integrity, as this area serves as a buffer and recharge area for water quality.</li> <li>• Protect the site from invasive species.</li> <li>• Protect multiple scenic, aesthetic, and recreational qualities of the site.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2013</b></p>	<p><i>.State Wildlife Grant funded a honeysuckle and barberry control project coordinated by Endangered Resources. Approximately 80 acres will be treated.</i></p>