

State of Wisconsin  
Department of Natural Resources

Section 11.02(3), Wis. Stats.  
Form 2450-132 Rev. 1-92

## Managed Forest Lands STEWARDSHIP FORESTRY PLAN

Name(s) and Address of Landowner(s):

**Prather, Kent, D. and Haas, Julie, A.**  
**811273 Paulus Rd.**  
**Spring Green, WI 53588**

Order # 57-031-2004

County: Sauk

Town Name: Franklin

Town: 9N, Range 3E, Section(s) 24

Town: N, Range, Section(s)

Total Plan Acreage: 17.06

Contract Length: 25 Years

Starting January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2028

Attached maps show the location of Managed Forest Lands and the areas open or closed to public access.

The purpose of the Managed Forest Land Law is to encourage the growth of future commercial crops through sound forestry practices which consider the objectives of individual property owners, forest aesthetics, wildlife habitat, erosion control, protection of endangered or threatened plants and animals, and compatible recreational activities. Forestry under the law "means managing forest lands and their related resources, including trees and other plants, animals, soil, water and air." To guide the Department in fulfilling this stewardship objective, statements of the owner's forest management objectives are required in the plans. The following statement has been provided either by the landowner or developed with the assistance of the Department. By signing this plan, the landowner(s) agree to comply with it. (The law specifically prohibits use of Managed Forest Lands for commercial recreation, industry, human residence, grazing of domestic livestock or other uses the Department deems incompatible with the practice of forestry.)

Landowner Objectives for Management of the Enrolled Lands:

### Short Range Objectives:

- Utilize the land for recreational activities including hunting, hiking, wildlife observation.
- Control undesirable vegetation with a combination of prescribed fire, herbicides, cutting and mowing activities.

### Long Range Objectives:

- Restore the forest and grassland vegetation to pre-European settlement conditions, which were likely an oak dominated forest and an adjacent short-grass prairie.
- Maintain and improve forest ecosystem health and diversity.
- Maintain and improve wildlife habitat for game and non-game species.
- Improve timber health, productivity and quality.

The following pages include descriptions of vegetative or physical areas called "stands." Mandatory forestry practices that must be completed by the landowner(s) during the contract period are listed. Optional forestry activities may also be provided. Regarding mandatory practices, failure to complete them by the end of the specified year may result in withdrawal from the program and payment of a substantial withdrawal tax. The plan may be revised only with consent of both the landowner and the Department. If timber is to be harvested, a cutting notice on Department forms is required at least 30 days prior to cutting. Cutting under the notice may be commenced within one year of the date approved by the Department. Details concerning harvests, taxes, transfers, and other terms of the Managed Forest Law can be found under Chapter 77, subchapter IV, Wis.

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### Key to Forest Cover Type Symbols

#### Productive

A	Aspen
BH	Bottomland Hardwoods
BW	White Birch
C	Cedar
CH	Central hardwoods, locust
FS	Fir-spruce, white spruce
HH	Hemlock-Hardwood
NH	Northern Hardwoods
O	Oak
OX	Scrub Oak
PJ	Jack Pine
PR	Red Pine, Scotch Pine
PW	White Pine
SB	Black Spruce
SC	Swamp Conifer
SH	Swamp Hardwood
T	Tamarack
W	Wooded (one or more types)

#### Non-Productive or non-forest

AX	Off-site Aspen	LB	Lowland Brush
F	Farmland/crop land	LBA	Tag Alder
FG	Grazed Pasture	LBB	Bog Birch
G	Grass	LBD	Dogwood
GH	Herbaceous vegetation	LBW	Shrub Willow
GLS	Low growing shrubs	LM	Minor Lake
I	Residential or commercial	LMS	Minor Stream
IA	Parking Area	QI	Other Ownership
ICG	Caneground	P	Pasture
K	Kegmarsh	ROW	Right of Way
KB	Making bog	SX	Noncommercial Swamp
KEV	Emergent Vegetation	SXC	Noncommercial Cedar
KG	Noncommercial lowland grass	SXSB	Noncommercial Bl. Spruce
KH	Noncommercial Herbaceous vegetation	SXT	Noncommercial Tamarack
L	Lake	UB	Upland Brush
		Z	Rock Outcrop

#### Key to Size Classes (DBH) - Diameter in inches at Breast Height:

0-5.....Seedlings and Saplings	9-15/1-15.....Small Sawtimber (Conifers/Hardwoods)
5-9/5-11.....Pole timber (Conifers/Hardwoods)	15+.....Large Sawtimber

#### Key to Stocking Levels (shown by superscripts after the size class):

Symbol	Density	Volume (Cords or Board Feet / Acre)	Small Sawlogs	Large Sawlogs	Seedlings	Saplings
0		Pole timber 0 cords	0 board feet	0 board feet	0 per acre	0 per acre
1	Poor	1-7	1-1,000	1-2,500	1-300	1-300
2	Medium	8-13	1,001-2,500	2,501-5,000	301-1500	301-900
3	Good	14-20	2,501-4,000	5,001-8,000	1501+	901+
4	Very Good	21-30	4,001-6,000	8,001-10,000		
5	Excellent	31+	6,001+	10,001+		

#### County Cutting Notice (Section 26.03, Wis. Stats.):

A written declaration must be filed with the County Clerk prior to cutting any forest products. Note this is a separate notice from that filed with the Department as required under the Managed Forest Law (see below).

#### Forest Management Assistance:

Your DNR Forester, as well as Cooperating Consultant Foresters, are available to assist in the implementation or establishment of all forest stewardship practices outlined in your Plan. It is highly recommended that landowners seek the assistance of a professional Forester before cutting any harvestable timber, both to assure that the timber is cut within sound management guidelines and to protect the landowners financial interests.

### Managed Forest Law Reference

#### Transfer of Ownership:

Only an entire parcel or a complete quarter-quarter section, government lot or fractional lot can be transferred, or withdrawal penalties will be applied. Complete DNR form 2450-159 within 30 days of purchase.

#### Public Access:

If designated open, then public hunting, fishing, sightseeing, hiking, and cross country skiing must be allowed. The MFL map indicates the area designated open or closed.

#### Acreage Payment:

"Open" = \$.83/acre/year. "Closed" = \$.83 + \$1.12/acre/year = \$1.95/acre/year. Adjusted in 2003 and every 5th year thereafter.

#### Cutting Notice:

DNR Cutting Notice form 2450-136 must be completed 30 days prior to cutting. Cutting must be in accordance with the approved Management Plan. Within 30 days after completion of cutting, or within one year of the Cutting Notice, a Cutting Report must be submitted. Landowners are billed for 5% of the value of merchantable timber cut based on DNR stumpage rates in effect (excludes firewood for personal home consumption).

#### Forest Management Guidelines:

These guidelines are intended to provide a general framework for forest management and should be considered a part of this Plan.

**Managed Forest Lands  
STEWARDSHIP FORESTRY PLAN****ORDER # 67-031-2004****GENERAL LANDSCAPE FEATURES, HISTORY, AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

**General Land Features:** Sauk County has several significant land features that together create a diverse landscape. The eastern one-fifth of the county was impacted by the last glacier resulting in outwash soils, fairly gentle hills, and lowland areas. Near the Dells, glaciation resulted in the formation of a huge lake that extended north covering much of Juneau and Adams counties and touched into Monroe, Jackson and Wood counties. Currently, this lake plain is characterized by droughty, infertile soils along with areas of high water table occupied by lowland trees and plants.

The Baraboo Hills are a unique land feature characterized by the largest, nearly unbroken tract of forest in southern Wisconsin. Its oval-shape extends for nearly 25 miles. The Hills were formed by the buckling of compressed sand deposits at the bottom of a Precambrian sea to form a quartzite mountain range over a billion years ago. Eroded over time, this range was submerged again by a sea some 500 million years ago then, later exposed. Currently the landscape is comprised of rolling wooded hills, deep valleys and draws and steep rocky bluffs and outcrops. Forests, dry prairies, wetlands and rare plant communities are found throughout the Hills. Approximately 55,000 acres of nearly contiguous forest comprises the south range of the Baraboo Hills. It is an important refuge of hundreds of common and uncommon plant and animal species and serves as critical habitat for migrating songbirds that need deep forests in which to live and breed. About 75% of the Hills are privately owned. Devils Lake State Park comprises about 10,000 acres.

The balance of the county is located within a non-glaciated or "Driftless Area" of the state. Steep sandstone based hills, rocky dolomite ridges, fertile valley soils, creeks and intermittent streams with associated wetlands and drainages characterize the geology and topography of this area. Two significant prairie areas existed in this area. One was near Spring Green and the other near Sauk City. Other plant community types present in the county included floodplain forest, occasional pine and tamarack forest, and wet prairie, marsh and sedge habitats.

**Human Influences:** The forests of this region are a result of the interactions of the soils, climate, vegetation, animals, and past and current land use. Oak savanna and forest dominated the pre-settlement vegetation on the dry sites. The moist, more fertile sites supported maple and basswood forests. Fire was common for many centuries before settlement and was an important component of the oak and prairie ecology, and a management tool for native people.

European settlement greatly affected vegetation in Sauk County and beyond. As land use changed to agriculture, fire suppression by settlers altered the processes that maintained the oak and grass communities. Controlling fire allowed the establishment of oak forests in savanna and prairie areas. In existing forests, fire suppression paved the way for less fire resistant species such as maple and some woody shrubs. Settlers also introduced domestic grazing animals that affected developing woodlots. Grazing limited tree and brush development and regeneration. Most grazing of woodlots by cattle has stopped, though browsing by the large deer herd restricts tree regeneration in some present-day woodlots.

Some agriculture and landscape practices have created another significant impact to our forests and grasslands. The introduction of non-native plants such as multiflora rose, garlic mustard, honeysuckle and buckthorn have rapidly become established and can dominate and displace native plants. This results in a reduction of species diversity.

**Forest Management:** Generally, the current trend of Sauk County's forest is a transition from sun-loving, even-aged oak toward shade tolerant, all-aged species such as a central hardwood mix of red maple, black cherry, hickory, white and green ash, or a northern hardwood mix of sugar maple, ash and basswood. Several factors favor reproduction of these non-oak species including increased shade, large seed crop production, and some timber harvest practices.

<b>ORDER NUMBER</b>		State of Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources		<b>MADISON OFFICE USE ONLY</b>	
Co. Code/Seq. No./Yr. of Entry		<b>MANAGED FOREST LAW MAP</b>		Acreage Entered	
57-031-2004		Form 2450-133 Rev. 11/02			
Owner's Name			Town or Village Name		County
PRATHER, KENT D. & HARRIS, JULIE A.			FRANKLIN		SANE
Township #	Range #	Section	Open Acres	Closed Acres	
9	3 East West	24	0	17.06	

LEGEND: Closed Area  Open Area 



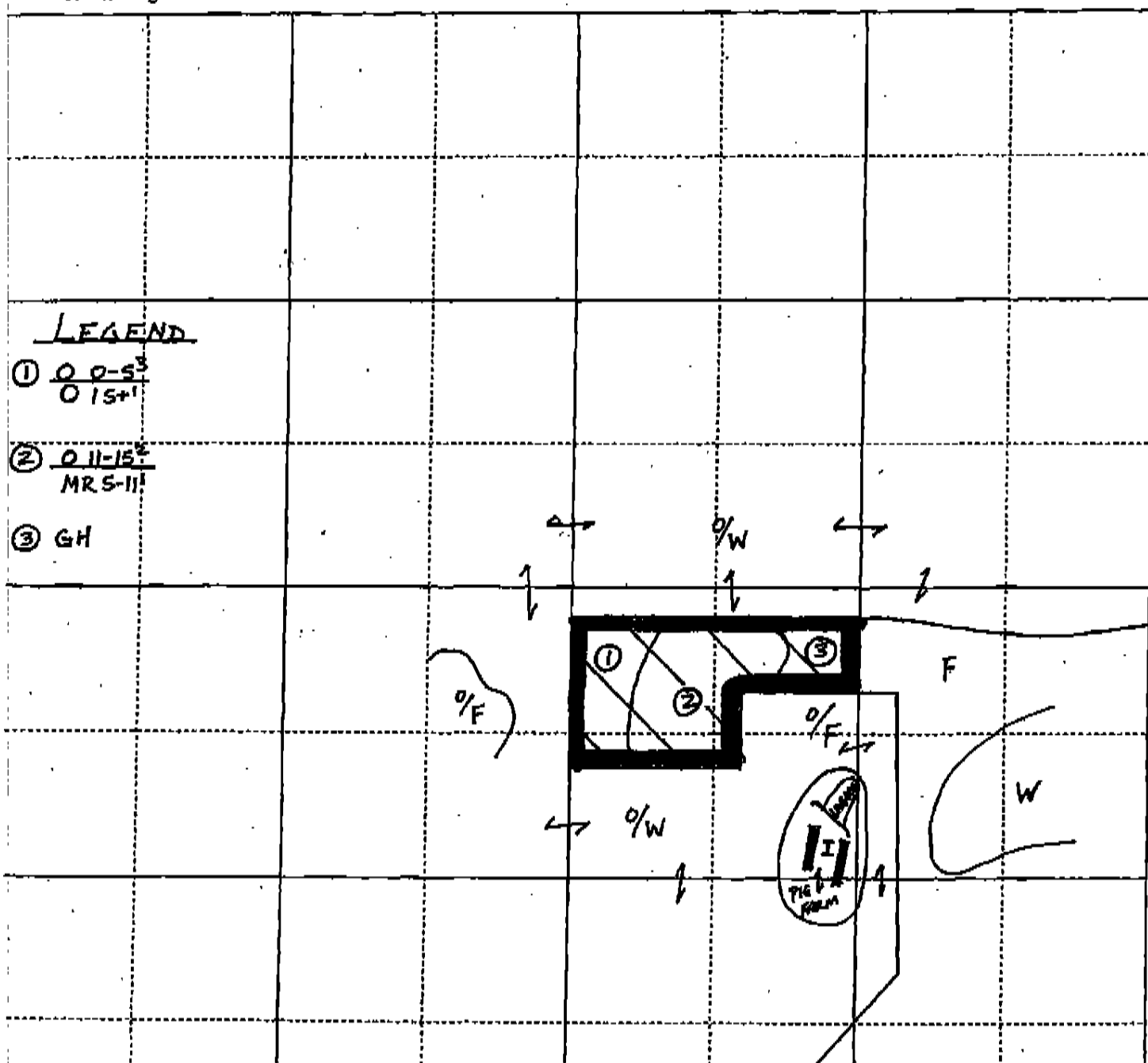
Prepared By:

Date:

R. LIVINGSTON

7-03

Section Diagram 8" = 1 Mile



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The major forestry activity landowners undertake is a timber harvest. Through harvesting and follow-up activities it is possible to create conditions that favor certain species of plants, vegetative communities and forest structure. Wildlife habitats can also be impacted, creating conditions favorable to some species and possibly less favorable to others.

Certain harvesting techniques can favor even-aged or all-aged forest types. Even-aged forest management can encourage shade intolerant and mid tolerant species such as oak, aspen, cherry, white pine, birch, walnut, and elm. It includes the clear-cut, shelterwood, group selection and seed tree harvest techniques. All-aged management tends to encourage the more shade tolerant northern and central hardwood timber types. All-aged management generally utilizes the selection harvest technique. The selection harvest technique can also incorporate small canopy gaps or group selection to improve forest structure and species diversity.

Vegetative management should be planned to create conditions necessary for the plant community or habitat type desired. The MFL plan should be written to accomplish the land use goals identified by you on the MFL application and in discussions with the forester, assuming the goals are feasible and meet the intent of the law.

**A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS MFL ENTRY**

This 17.06 entry is located within the Driftless Area of Wisconsin in the southwest part of Sauk County. It is about 3-miles southwest of the village of Plain and about 5-miles north of the Wisconsin River. It is part of the Prather/Haas 182-acre ownership.

The forested portion of this entry is situated on moderate to very steep slopes containing Norden and Eleva loam and sandy loam soils. These sandstone-based soils are well drained and moderately fertile on north and east slopes while the south and west slopes are less fertile and more droughty. The eastern portion of this entry is grassland on moderately fertile LaFarge silt loam soil.

According to Mr. Prather, this parcel was a cattle pasture from about 1874 to 1974. Prior to that it was likely prairie or oak savanna. The forest was logged in 1974 and in 1993. Currently it is a mix of oak, red maple, elm, aspen and cherry. Oak reproduction is excellent on the west slope. The past owner used the small field on the east slope for spreading pig manure. It is currently comprised of undesirable weeds and reed canary grass.

Mr. Prather has been actively managing this entry to favor oak and prairie establishment. He has done timber stand improvement on about 5-acres in 2002 and has conducted a prescribed burn over most of this acreage in 2003. He was an active member of the now defunct Sustainable Woods Cooperative and is currently assisting to organize a "neighbor helping neighbor" association of local landowners to accomplish land management activities.

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**STAND DESCRIPTIONS AND MANAGEMENT**

(Refer to the attached map for stand locations)

STAND	DESCRIPTION	VOLUME/ACRE	LOCALITY	AGE
O 0-5 <sup>3</sup> O 15+ <sup>1</sup>	Oak seedlings/saplings Oak sawtimber	1,900 boardfeet	Poletimber - 3 Sawtimber - 33 Live cull - 7  Total = 43	5

**DESCRIPTION:** This stand is located on a steep west slope containing shallow sandy loam soils. Most of this area was heavily harvested in 1993. Fortunately, the southern portion is fully stocked with white and red oak (O) seedlings and saplings (0-5 inches diameter) numbering approximately 14,000 per acre. A low stocking of mainly poor quality white oak sawtimber (15+ inches diameter) are scattered through this area. Oak seedling and sapling numbers decrease toward the north end of this stand, and prickly ash dominates. Some TSI (timber stand improvement) was done in 2002 to release the young oak. A prescribed fire has setback the prickly ash, but it is currently resprouting.

**OBJECTIVES:** Maintain and encourage oak as a major component with associated central hardwood species for quality future wood products, forest diversity, and wildlife values.

**MANDATORY PRACTICES:** None.

**RECOMMENDED PRACTICES:** Timber stand improvement (TSI) can be done in 2014. TSI is a practice that will continue to benefit the composition, vigor and future quality of this stand. It involves cutting some trees and vines to release desirable seedlings and saplings or to favor desirable future crop trees. Wildlife will also benefit from this practice as young trees and other woody and herbaceous plants advance and create additional cover and food values.

A forester should mark or otherwise designate the trees to be cut. Trees marked for TSI can be either felled or girdled. Girdled trees will die over time but remain standing and can serve as snag or den trees for wildlife. Refer to the handout, Critter Condos. Some girdled trees can pose a safety hazard. Cut trees can be piled for wildlife cover, left as coarse woody debris for small mammals, amphibians, and insects, used for firewood, or simply left to decay and build soil.

There may be state or federal cost sharing assistance for TSI. Contact the DNR forester for further information prior to starting this activity.

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STAND	DESCRIPTION	VOLUME/ACRES	BASE AREA	AGE
O 11-15 <sup>2</sup> MR 5-11 <sup>1</sup>	Oak/central hardwood small sawtimber Red maple/central hardwood poletimber	1,800 boardfeet 6 cords	Saplings – 3 Poletimber – 35 Sawtimber – 25  Total = 63	9

**DESCRIPTION:** This stand is located on a ridge and east slope. Past harvesting and grazing have left this area with a low stocking of poor to average quality white and black oak and central hardwood small sawtimber (11-15 inches diameter). The central hardwood mix includes red maple, American elm and black cherry. Red maple (MR) dominates the poletimber (5-11 inches diameter) size class and is associated with aspen, American elm and black oak. A medium stocking of seedlings and saplings include American elm, bitternut hickory, red maple and a small amount of oak. Part of this area received TSI in 2002 and a prescribed fire in 2003. Additional TSI is planned in the next 1-2 years.

**OBJECTIVES:** Manage toward an all-aged forest structure and enhance tree species diversity and wildlife habitat. Favor desirable and better quality trees for future wood products. Encourage establishment and advancement of desirable hardwood seedlings and saplings. Maintain an oak component for wildlife benefits.

**MANDATORY PRACTICES:** None.

**RECOMMENDED PRACTICES:** Timber stand improvement (TSI) can be done by 2005 as planned, and in 2018. The TSI should focus on release and weeding of hardwood seedlings and saplings; and crop tree release of hardwood poletimber and small sawtimber where appropriate. There may be state or federal cost sharing assistance for TSI. Contact the DNR forester for further information prior to starting this activity.

STAND	DESCRIPTION	VOLUME/ACRES	BASE AREA	AGE
GH	Grass and other herbaceous plants			3

**DESCRIPTION:** This small field is located on a moderately steep east slope. The past owner used it for spreading pig manure. It is mainly comprised of undesirable weeds and reed canary grass. Mr. Prather conducted a prescribed burn in 2003 as an attempt to reduce the undesirable vegetation and begin a conversion to prairie.

**OBJECTIVES:** Either continue to convert this area to prairie, or plant it to a hardwood and conifer stand of trees. Either practice will favor wildlife and aesthetic diversity for this area. Information about reed canary grass and its control is enclosed.

**MANDATORY PRACTICES:** None.

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**RECOMMENDED PRACTICES:** Conversion to prairie or trees can be done by 2009. This area will hold about 2,000 hardwood and conifer seedlings. Appropriate species include white and red oak, shagbark hickory, white ash, sugar maple, white pine, red pine and white spruce. The trees would be handplanted at an 8-10 feet spacing. Grass/weed control would be needed at planting and as follow-up treatments as needed. This could be accomplished by mulching or chemical measures. Information about tree planting and grassland establishment is enclosed.

**OTHER GENERAL INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Following the MFL plan prescriptions will improve forest health and help prevent tree mortality from gypsy moth caterpillar attack. See the enclosed, Forest Management Strategies to Minimize the Impact of the Gypsy Moth.
- To help prevent oak wilt disease, do not cut or damage oak from April 15 to August 15.
- Identification and control of invasive, exotic plant species is greatly encouraged to prevent their spread and displacement of native species. Common exotic invasive species in this area are Garlic mustard, Buckthorn, Wild parsnip, Multiflora rose, Honeysuckle, Canadian thistle and Spotted Knapweed. See the enclosed publication, Plants Out of Place.
- Trails should be constructed or improved by following the guidelines in Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices Field Manual. Information on obtaining this free field manual is enclosed.
- Selling trees as logs, pulpwood, firewood, Christmas trees or other commercial products requires filing an MFL Cutting Notice through the DNR Forester. A county cutting notice is also required through the county clerk. Both permits are free.
- Burning permits are required for outdoor fires (other than cooking or warming fires) from January 1 to June 1, when there is no snow cover. Burning permits are free and available from local Emergency Fire Wardens.
- There are many additional publications concerning forestry and wildlife that can be obtained through the Wisconsin DNR website at: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/>. A listing of other forestry related websites is enclosed.
- If you haven't already, consider joining the Woodland Owners Association and/or the American Tree Farm Program. Information is enclosed.



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**SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT PRACTICES**  
*(Practices in bold print are required)*

Year	Number of Acres	Practice
2005	2	TSI (Timber Stand Improvement)
2009	3	Conversion to prairie or trees
2014	1	TSI
2018	2	TSI

Prepared by: Rick Livingston - DNR Forester  
505 Broadway, Rm. 202  
Baraboo, WI 53913  
(608) 355-4475

The owner hereby agrees to comply with the terms of this forest stewardship management plan and the conditions of subch. VI, Ch. 77, Wis. Stats., and Ch. NR 48, Wis. Adm. Code. The landowner further agrees to amendment of the Petition for Designation to conform to the landowner objectives and map as included in this plan.

To be signed by the President and Secretary of a corporation or by the individual landowners (or legal agent, if any) as listed on the deed or other instrument of title.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

(Attach additional signature pages, if needed.)

Approved for the Department of Natural Resources by:

Signature of DNR Forester \_\_\_\_\_

Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_