

## Exhibit # 1

### 2011 WORK PLAN FOR THE ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

In 2011 Oneida County Forest management activities will be accomplished under the following accounts:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Budget Amount</u>
County Forest Account	56110	\$ 850,000.00
Forest Road Account	56111	\$ 11,608.00
State Aid Wildlife Habitat Account	56116	\$ 16,625.00

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#### **FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:**

##### **County Forest Cooperative Planning**

The annual County Forest Cooperative Planning Meeting between the Oneida County Forestry Department (OCFD) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was held on August 5, 2010. The purpose of the planning meeting is to provide a forum where both departments can jointly establish and agree upon County Forest Management Goals for the upcoming year. Individuals present at the 2010 County Forest Cooperative Planning Meeting were: DNR County Forest Liaison, Manny Oradei; DNR Wildlife Manager, Ron Eckstein; DNR Team Leader, Tim Friedrich; DNR Forestry Specialist, Brian Spencer; Oneida County Forest Director, John Bilogan; and Oneida County Assistant Forest Director Paul Fiene. Items discussed were County Conservation Funds, Wildlife Habitat funds, proposed timber sales and harvest acreage goals, reforestation, County Forest Roads, Access Trail Seeding, surveying, forest reconnaissance, forest blocking, time standards, fish and wildlife projects, forest protection, and SFI Forest Certification CARS.

##### **Timber Sale Establishment**

Approximately 1700 acres of mature timber will be harvested in 20 areas as specified in Section 202 of the WisFirs forest reconnaissance computer printout. This will entail approximately 650 acres of Northern Hardwood thinning and 650 acres of Aspen harvest for regeneration. In addition, approximately 400 acres of miscellaneous timber types will also be harvested. The sale areas are distributed throughout the three County Forest Blocks (Enterprise, Cassian-Woodboro, and Lynne-Little Rice). The allowable cut for 2011 is 2118 acres. The county is currently looking into options for the department to increase the acreage of timber sale establishment above that which we

are projecting with existing staff and time constraints. Using a value of \$614/acre (average value/acre of sales sold in 2010), if 1700 acres are established the approximate projected value of this timber is \$1,000,000. If the department is able to establish the 2118 acres of the allowable cut the approximate projected value of this timber is \$1,300,000. The labor required to establish the aforementioned timber sale acreage will be provided by the OCFD with assistance from DNR Forestry personnel.

### **Timber Sale Administration**

It is anticipated that between 30 and 40 timber sale contracts will be active in the year 2011. Department involvement will include contract administration, sale inspection, and fiscal record keeping. A harvest of 25,000 cord equivalents with an equivalent value of approximately \$1,000,000 is anticipated. The haul permit system will continue to be used for pulpwood and wood scaling will be utilized for saw logs. Weekly timber sale inspections by both County and DNR personnel will be conducted on all active sales.

### **Forest Reconnaissance**

Forest Reconnaissance work scheduled for 2011 includes the complete revision of approximately 4,000 acres of outdated forest reconnaissance information that was collected in the 1970's and 80's. In addition, approximately 2,000 acres of forest reconnaissance data (collected in the 1990's) will be updated to reflect recent forest management activities. A combination of DNR and OCFD employees will be utilized to perform the above-described work.

### **Forest Protection**

Cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources will be sought in protecting the forest from insects, disease, and forest fires. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), will be contracted with to help control nuisance beaver damage. Isolated beaver colonies that have been identified as posing a threat to timber productivity, or causing damage to County Forest Roads, and Trout Streams will be targeted for capture and removal.

Declining Aspen stands assessed by the LTE Forester in 2010 will be set up for harvest and subsequent planting of conifers on these sites will occur over the next 2-4 years.

### **County Forest Roads**

Additional gravel has been identified as a key priority for maintaining the high quality of our existing County Forest Road system. Consequently, locating a suitable site for future gravel crushing with low visible impact near the northern edge of the Enterprise County Forest Block will be a priority. Our culvert replacement plan is scheduled to continue in 2011. Each year approximately five to ten culverts that have reached the end of their life expectancy are scheduled for replacement. Because the majority of culverts used on the County Forest Road System are smaller in size (18-24 inch diameter), they can be installed with Forestry Department personnel and equipment. In

addition to the 18-24 inch culverts mentioned above, the installation of one larger 48-inch diameter culvert will be contracted out 2011. The size of this culvert will require the installation services of a contractor with equipment larger than that available to the OCFD. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) has notified the Oneida County Forestry Department that segments of our County Forest road system require widening to remain eligible for DOT maintenance funds. Accordingly, a plan is currently being developed to systematically widen those segments of existing Oneida County Forest road system that have been identified by the DOT as being too narrow. Normal maintenance of the balance of County Forest Roads include grading, signing, wash out repair, spot graveling, brushing, mowing, and beaver flood control. The access management provisions in the current Oneida County Forest Fifteen-Year Plan describe the access policy for the balance of the County Forest.

### **Reforestation and Plantation Release**

Establishment of small irregularly shaped clear cuts ranging in size from 3-10 acres will be established in scattered areas adjacent to the Washburn Recreational Trail System. Upon completion of the aforementioned harvest, the harvested areas will be planted with fast growing coniferous species to provide evergreen cover along the trail. The reforestation efforts described above will greatly reduce the visual impact of subsequent timber harvests planned for the area surrounding the Washburn Recreational Trail by providing a natural visual screen of cover. Time permitting, several recently thinned hardwood stands will be chain scarified in order to expose mineral soil and prepare a seed bed for Oak, Maple, Pine, and Birch trees. Approximately 40 acres will be planted to Jack Pine seedlings. This plantation is in an area where aspen was recently harvested and the aspen stocking was so low that natural aspen regeneration likely will not occur.

### **Forest Certification**

The Oneida County Forest is certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program. The SFI certification requires periodic random audits of forests that are certified under this program. In 2010 several specific issues were identified as needing attention by Wisconsin County Forest programs certified under SFI. The following is a list of items identified by SFI as needing attention, and the action plan developed by the DNR and adopted by the Oneida County Forestry Department to address the areas of concerns.

#### **SFI CARs**

2009.1 Implement and provide training for stand level retention guidelines.

All DNR personnel and County Forest employees managing timber on the Oneida County Forest have attended training for stand level retention. Guidelines for stand level retention are currently being implemented and documented on Oneida County Forest timber sales.

2009.2 BMPs for water Quality must be included as a mandatory item in timber sale contracts.

BMPs for water quality are currently specified in contracts used for harvesting timber on the Oneida County Forest.

2009.3 Post harvest conditions indicate rutting guidelines are not always being implemented on timber sales.

An approved rutting policy and quantitative measurements are currently specified in contracts used for harvesting timber on the Oneida County Forest. It is a current policy of the Oneida County Forestry Department to discuss and the importance of following BMPs and our rutting policy during pre-sale meetings with logging contractors.

### **Wildlife Management**

In cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, wildlife management activity on the County Forest will center around forest openings maintenance, habitat trail mowing, seeding hunter hiking trails, and special timber sale designs to promote both game and non-game wildlife habitat. State Aid Wildlife money may be used for anchor chain scarification to promote regeneration of species beneficial to wildlife. A small allotment of State Aid Wildlife money has also been set aside to establish quality waterfowl nesting cover immediately adjacent to the Spruce Lake Flowage located within the Spruce Lake Waterfowl Management Area.

### **Equipment and Facilities**

In 2011, money has been budgeted to replace an existing heavy equipment trailer. The trailer is primarily used for transporting various pieces of heavy equipment for work associated with the County Forest road system and our network of woodland logging roads and recreational trails. Money has also been budgeted to replace an existing snowmobile used primarily for forest management activities during winter months.

### **ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY, LAND, & OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMITTEE**

*NOVEMBER 3, 2010*

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Gary Baier, Chairman

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Denny Thompson, Vice Chairman

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Thomas Rudolph, Member

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Jack Martinson, Member

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Greg Berard, Member