Resolution 71-09

Polk County Forest 2010 Annual Work Plan

WHEREAS, an annual work plan for the Polk County Forest must be prepared pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 28.11(5)(b); and

WHEREAS, the attached Polk County Forest 2010 annual work plan has been prepared based upon the County Forest Comprehensive Land-use Plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Polk County Board of Supervisors does hereby approve the Polk County Forest 2010 annual work plan.

Funding Amount NA Funding Source NA

Finance Committee Advised NA Effective Date upon approval

Approved as to form: Jeffrey B. Fuge
Jeffrey B. Fuge, Corporation Counsel

Date Submitted to County Board 10/20/09 County Board Action adopted

SUBMITTED BY:

Larry Jepsen

[illegible] 10/5/09

Michael Larsen

Russell G. Arnold 10-5-09

[illegible]

POLK COUNTY FOREST
ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2010

THE HONORABLE POLK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Following is the annual Polk County Forest work plan for the calendar year 2010. The plan gives direction and meaning to the proposed County Forest budget, and further defines and supplements the County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan and emphasizes the current needs of the County Forest program. This plan is needed to comply with Wis. Statute 28.11(5) and Chapter NR47.75 of the Wisconsin Administrative Rules for the administration of the County Forest Administrator Grant program.

REFERENCES

1. Annual integrated Planning Meeting held on September 8, 2009.
2. Polk County Fifteen Year Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2006-2020)

THE POLK COUNTY FOREST

The Polk County Forest (PCF) is 17,144 acres in size.

The following list shows the acreage of forest land by its type classification:

Forest Cover:	Aspen	3,271
	White Birch	13
	Red Maple	20
	Northern Hardwoods	586
	Oak	3,608
	Scrub Oak	3,821
	Jack Pine	2,989
	Red Pine	1,481
	White Pine	147
	Black Spruce	4
	Swamp Hardwoods	77
	White Spruce	9
	Tamarack	74
Non-forest Cover	Upland Grass	33
	Herbaceous Vegetation	24
	ROW/Roads	215
	Muskeg Bog	31
	Emergent Vegetation	285
	Lowland Grass	18
	Lowland Herbaceous Veg.	92
	Lowland Brush – Alder	125
	Minor Lake/water	126
	Minor stream	32
	Upland Brush	23

ROADS

PCF receives state aid money for the maintenance of 7.81 miles of primary roads. These roads are maintained as needed.

The County Forest has many miles of secondary forest roads that have been built primarily by loggers in conjunction with timber sales. These roads are now serving a wide range of uses including the hauling of forest products, snowmobile trails, and hunting/walking trails. Many of the new logging roads are bermed or gated to restrict motorized use. These roads are either seeded or allowed to naturally re-vegetate

TIMBER SALE ADMINISTRATION

Timber sale administration is an important part of forest management. The Forest administrator is responsible for the selling, contract compliance, and record keeping on all County Forest sales. Most PCF sales are sold as combination mill scale for pulp products and woods scaled for logs.

TIMBER SALE PLANNING AND ESTABLISHMENT

Timber harvests that are properly designed and implemented are vital to maintaining a healthy and vigorous forest. There are many social, environmental, and economic benefits derived from a managed harvest program. Professional implementation of proper forest management and harvest techniques is essential. The timber harvest goal is to produce a sustained yield of forest products using harvest techniques that are suited to regeneration and the growth needs of each forest type. The goal is to develop a regulated harvest in which the same number of acres or same volume of wood could be harvested each year for perpetuity. Compartment reconnaissance information will be used as a guide to determine stands where timber harvests are needed.

The goal for 2010 will be to setup and sell the following number of acres per timber type. These acreage goals are based on the long term average harvest and will vary from year to year. These acreage goals do not include salvage sales that may occur due to unforeseen circumstances.

Cover type:	**Harvest Goal**:
Jack Pine	104 acres
Red Pine	30 acres
Aspen	43 acres
Red Oak	182 acres
Northern Hardwoods	42 acres
Scrub oak	104 acres
Total	505 acres

Information about specific timber sale establishment plans may be obtained by contacting the Polk County Forestry Department, 100 Polk County Plaza suite 40, Balsam Lake, WI 54810 (715) 485-9265

FOREST RECONNAISSANCE

The goal for the PCF is to have all recon less than 20 years old. Forest reconnaissance is done following the completion of a timber sale and when a stand is physically entered and subsequently re-scheduled for a later harvest date. In addition to these on-going up-dates, in 2010 we will work towards entirely updating at least one compartment.

TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT (TSI)

TSI projects for 2010 have not yet been set up. TSI projects that are most likely to happen for 2010 include hand release of naturally regenerated and planted pine in the Town of Sterling. More surveys of potential project areas must be done before any projects will be established.

REFORESTATION

In March, 7 sites comprising 289 acres will be aerially seeded with jack pine seed. These sites have been scarified to expose 50% of the ground to mineral soil to create a favorable seed bed.

In April, 4 sites will be inter-planted to increase the stocking to an acceptable level, for a total of 167 acres. We will be planting about 154,000 red pine on these sites.

Two sites comprising 54 acres have been identified for scarification, to create a proper seed bed for both natural and artificial seeding.

FOREST PROTECTION

We will continue to cooperate with the WI Dept. Of Natural Resources by:

1. Improving and maintaining fire lanes.
2. Continue annual meetings to evaluate Forest operations, facilitated by D.N.R.
3. Support fire suppression efforts when needed.
4. Monitor insect and disease issues with the aid of DNR, and take appropriate action when necessary.

LAND ACQUISITION

Lands within the County Forest boundaries or areas of special or unique values may be recommended to the County Board for acquisition as they become available and upon a determination by the Property, Forestry, and Recreational Committee that ownership of those lands is beneficial to the people of Polk County.

SURVEYING

We will continue our property line maintenance and establishment with the aid of the County Surveyor. Surveys are generally needed to prevent trespass or to clarify boundaries in order to continue management.

WILDLIFE HABITAT PROJECTS

Polk County will continue to develop and implement projects in cooperation with DNR wildlife personnel.

This year we will continue efforts to regenerate jack pine in the Town of Sterling, with the aid of 5 cent an acre grants.

MISCELLANEOUS

A. Issue firewood cutting permits, Issue cabin lease permits. Cabin leases will be eliminated by the year 2011.

B. Respond to public inquiries and issues as they arise.

C. Increase signage on the Forest to identify boundaries, roads, and natural features.

D. Assist in timber sale establishment.

E. Recreation: Most of the recreational development and maintenance of facilities is the responsibility of the Parks and recreation department. I assist where needed. Currently the Forest supports organized ATV, Horse, snowmobile, and Hiking trails.

F. Attend 1-2 Wisconsin County Forest Association meetings and 1-2 training sessions.

G. Forest Certification: Polk County will continue its commitment to be qualified for Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certification.

ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS AND ADMINISTRATORS SALARY

-- REGENERATION:	Jack pine seeding/site prep	$ 9,000
	Tree planting	$18,000
	Pine release	$ 2,000
-- ROAD MAINTENANCE		$ 2,000
-- ADMINISTRATORS FEE FOR SERVICES (no fringe benefits)		$41,921

The current administrator is contracted for 1,248 hours
Per year and uses his own vehicle without mileage stipend

GRANTS AND FUNDING

ADMINISTRATORS GRANT: pays 50% of administrators fee for services.

DIME PER ACRE GRANT: $.5 per County Forest acre used for wildlife habitat development.

COUNTY FOREST ROADS GRANT: $360.00 per mile for road maintenance.

INTEREST FREE LOANS: $.50 per acre variable acreage loan and project loans. These loans are paid back from annual stumpage revenues at 20% of annual revenues. These loans are used to aid in a wide variety of projects on the County Forest and for land purchases.

COUNTY FUNDS: County funds will pay for costs that cannot be paid for by grants and loans. The County's portion of costs for 2010 will be $40,000

STATE OF WISCONSIN)
) SS
COUNTY OF POLK)

I, Carole T. Wondra, County Clerk for Polk County, do hereby certify that the attached is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. 71-09 that was adopted by the Polk County Board of Supervisors on October 20, 2009.

Carole T. Wondra 10-28-09
Carole T. Wondra Date
Polk County Clerk