

27-055-2003

MANAGED FOREST LANDS STEWARDSHIP FORESTRY PLAN

Landowner(s) as Shown on Deed:

FRENCH CREEK FOREST PROPERTIES LLC

Name and Address of Contact Person:

FRENCH CREEK FOREST PROPERTIES LLC, ATTN: LARRY LEER

W17388 BUTMAN LN
ETTRICK, WI 54627-7823

Entry Period: 25 years

Starting January 1, 2003 Ending December 31, 2027

Municipality(s): Town of Springfield (Jackson County)

Total Acres: 40.000

Attached map(s) show the location of Managed Forest Lands and the areas open or closed to public access.

Purpose and Expectations of the MFL Program

The purpose of the Managed Forest Land Law is to encourage the management of private forestlands for the production of future forest crops for commercial use through sound forestry practices, recognizing the objectives of individual property owners, compatible recreational uses, watershed protection, and development of wildlife habitat and accessibility of private property to the public for recreational purposes. Landowners who enroll in the MFL program pay a reduced property tax (acreage share tax). Landowners who close lands to public access pay an additional closed acreage fee. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) adjusts acreage share taxes and closed acreage fees every five years.

"*Sound forestry practices*" means timber cutting, transporting and forest cultural methods, recommended or approved by the department for the effective propagation and improvement of the various timber types common to Wisconsin.

"Sound Forestry Practices" also may include, where consistent with landowner objectives and approved by the department, the management of forest resources other than trees including wildlife habitat, watersheds, aesthetics and endangered and threatened plant and animal species. The law prohibits the use of Managed Forest Lands for commercial recreation, industry, human residence, grazing of domestic livestock, or other uses the WDNR deems incompatible with the practice of forestry.

Management Plan

Your management plan identifies important program requirements and management practices prescribed for your property. The plan writer determines management practices based on stand conditions of your timber and site capability of your land. The plan writer prescribes a completion year for each mandatory practice. WDNR enters that year into their computer system and will remind you of mandatory practices one year prior to the completion date. The plan writer also recommends approved practices (non-mandatory), which you may complete at your discretion.

Your management plan is just one component of Wisconsin's strategy to promote, support and monitor sustainable forestry practices on privately owned lands. Other resources are available to provide you with the most current information available on natural resources management. You can access those resources on the WDNR public website using the addresses referenced in this plan. You are encouraged to consult this information regularly.

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Contact your local Tax Law Forest Specialist for information about:

- **Requirements of the Managed Forest Law.**
- **The sale or transfer of Managed Forest Law lands to other owners.**

Management Plan Amendment

Your Tax Law Forestry Specialist will monitor your management plan throughout the MFL entry period to address concerns that are newly present or newly identified since the effective date of your plan. Management plan amendments may be recommended to maintain compliance with the provisions of subch. VI of ch. 77, Stats. and ch. NR 46 and in accordance with sound forestry. Amendments could be needed for a number of reasons, not limited to, changes in tree species, tree stocking, damage from weather (wind, ice, snow), insects and disease, forest fire, flooding, land management goals, new management information (silvicultural science), invasive species, fire management, riparian management zones, or presence of endangered, threatened or high conservation value species or communities. Amendments may include additional management activities or monitoring to ensure successful regeneration after a harvest. Amendments must be mutually agreed upon by you and the WDNR.

Landowner Goals

Your management plan blends your goals with site capabilities and MFL program requirements to guide your land management. You identified the following as your goals:

- Hardwood timber management while improving wildlife habitat for hunting purposes and maintaining water quality in wetland tributaries to a trout stream

Mandatory Practices

Mandatory practices must be completed or in progress by the end of the year listed below. You are encouraged to work with a cooperating forester to establish and administer timber sales. Use the [Forestry Assistance Locator](#) to find a cooperating forester; go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Forest Landowner'.

Mandatory Practices Summary				
YEAR	STAND(S)	ACRES	TIMBER TYPE	PRACTICE
2008	1	40	Oak	CLEARCUT REGENERATION HARVEST

Cutting Notice

A Cutting Notice and Report (Form 2450-032) is required to be submitted to the Tax Law Forestry Specialist at least 30 days before a timber harvest occurs. This notice and report ensures that the harvesting of trees complies with the landowner's forest management plan and is consistent with sound forestry practices that are within the guidelines of the Department of Natural Resources Silviculture Handbook and the Forest Management Guidelines. To read these publications go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search "Forest Management".

Additionally, landowners must file a separate county cutting notice with the county clerk prior to any harvest.

Cutting Report

A Cutting Notice and Report (Form 2450-032) is required to be submitted to the DNR within 30 days of completing a timber harvest.

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Approved (Non-Mandatory) Practices

There are many optional management practices to enhance the growth rate and species composition of your forest; improve wildlife habitat and recreational activities; increase carbon sequestration; reduce fire hazards on your property; to improve access; and to help you meet other goals. Many of these practices may be eligible for cost-share assistance under the Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program (WFLGP). Listed below are practices common to all timber stands:

- Seeding and mowing of trails and openings – Please contact your local WDNR Wildlife Biologist for information about seed mixtures
- Maintaining snags, den trees, and “wolf” trees – Retain trees during timber harvests and improvement cuts
- Controlling invasive species

Summarized in the table below are approved practices that are specific to individual timber stands. To learn more wildlife friendly ideas, go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Wildlife'.

Approved (non-mandatory) Practices Summary for Individual Stands				
YEAR	STAND(S)	ACRES	PRIMARY TYPE	PRACTICE
				No non-mandatory practices are scheduled.

General Description of Areas Identified on Your MFL Property

Foresters combine areas of land with similar vegetative and non-vegetative characteristics for management purposes and call these areas “stands”. The plan describes these stands and you can view the stands on the MFL map(s). Listed below are the descriptions of forest and non-forest areas on your MFL property.

Oak Forest

Oak Forests are composed of over 50% oak. In Wisconsin, red oak, black oak, pin oak, white oak, and bur oak are common types of oak trees. Aspen, red maple, hickory, white pine, white birch, basswood, black cherry, sugar maple, elm, and jack pine commonly grow in oak forests. Oak forests are abundant, occurring throughout the state and growing on most soil types. Composition of oak forests varies depending on their location within Wisconsin and on site quality. On nutrient-poor, dry sites, oak forests might include black oak, white oak, northern pin oak, and bur oak. On dry sites, hickories, black cherry, aspen, red maple, and paper birch commonly grow with oak. In northern Wisconsin, pines may also grow in dry oak forests. Sites with a better nutrient and moisture supply may support mixtures of red and white oak, or may be dominantly red oak. On sites with more nutrients, basswood, hickories, ironwood, black cherry, elms, red maple, or white pine may grow with oak. On the richest sites, sugar maple or white ash might also grow with oak. While oaks are still very common trees in Wisconsin, the abundance of high-quality red and white oaks on nutrient-rich sites has declined considerably due to forest succession and failed regeneration. In general, oaks grow best on well-drained loamy soils. All oaks require drastic disturbance of the forest, both overstory and understory, in order to regenerate. On richer sites, oak forests are particularly difficult to regenerate and competition control is essential. Fire is one tool that facilitates the regeneration and maintenance of oak forests. To regenerate oak, foresters commonly mimic the effects of fire using mechanical tools or chemical application.

Resource Protection and Management

Special records and inventories identify important natural, historical or archeological resources on or near your property. The plan writer designed your management practices to protect these resources from disturbance.

You can go to the WDNR website to find information used to evaluate stand conditions and determine management practices for your property. Go to <http://wi.dnr.gov> and search using the keywords shown.

- To learn about [Ecological Landscapes](#) of Wisconsin, search for 'Landscapes'.
- To learn about [Wildlife Management, Habitat](#) and [Natural Communities](#), search for 'Wildlife' and 'Biodiversity'.
- To see the Wisconsin [Wildlife Action Plan](#), and from there [Explore Species Profiles](#), search for 'ER' or 'Wildlife'.

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Your lands lie within a landscape known as Western Coulees and Ridges. You can find an overview of the landscape, species of greatest conservation need, management opportunities and much more. Go to: <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search [Landscapes](#).

Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern Species and Plant Communities

Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) searches determine if your plan may affect endangered, threatened, or special concern animals, plants or plant communities. To learn about rare plants, animals and natural plant communities in Wisconsin visit <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search for 'NHI'.

The Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) review showed that that there are no known Endangered, Threatened or Special Concerns Species or Natural Communities present on or within the surrounding area.

When implementing management practices, mitigation is recommended to minimize potential legal liability arising out of the management practices, for example:

- Best management practices that protect water quality and habitat for rare or aquatic species
- Harvest limits or restrictions to avoid impacts to nesting birds or NHI Working List species
- Surveys for rare species prior to timber sale establishment

Members of the MFL certified group must follow NHI procedures.

Archeological and Historical Resources

State Historical Society records searches determine if your plan may affect archeological and historical sites. These sites require protection from disturbance, including road building, grading or gravelling. Contact your local Tax Law Forestry Specialist for additional information on archaeological and historical sites.

The Archeological Resources Inventory lists no archeological resources within this MFL property.

The Historical Resources Inventory lists no historical resources within this MFL property.

Invasive Plant Species

Invasive plants may decrease the productivity, regeneration, wildlife habitat, and recreational value of your property. It is essential to identify and control small populations of invasive plants to minimize their spread. The individual stand descriptions list any invasive plant species identified on your property. If you will be conducting a timber harvest on your MFL property, especially one focused on establishing or releasing small seedlings, you may be required to control the invasive plants or other competing vegetation to ensure that desired tree species have room to grow. For more information on invasive plant control, consult the Wisconsin Council on Forestry's website on [Invasive Species Best Management Practices for Forestry](#).

Best Management Practices for Water Quality (BMPs)

To protect the water quality in Wisconsin's lakes, streams and wetlands and to prevent soil erosion, it is recommended that you implement *Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality* during all forest management activities, such as road building or timber harvesting. However, you are required to implement soil erosion controls during all forest management activities. Specific BMPs will be included in detailed practice or harvest plans. You may require water regulations permits to cross wetlands and streams. Please go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Forest Management' to review all [BMPs for water quality](#).

Members of the MFL certified group must follow best management practices for water quality.

Forest Health

Over time, your forest may suffer from insects, disease, windstorm, fire, flooding or drought, etc. These problems may alter your management prescriptions. If you are concerned about forest health, please contact your local Tax Law Forestry Specialist or go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search '[Forest health](#)'.

STAND NUMBER 1

40 Acres

Primary Type:

Oak Forest -- Small Sawtimber

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Secondary Type: Oak Forest -- Poletimber

Stand Information

The most abundant tree species in this stand is Black Oak (61%).

These trees make up an even aged stand that originated about 1912. Tree ages in even-aged stands may vary slightly, but the trees began growing in relatively the same period.

Soil type, moisture and nutrient availability affect site quality, which limits the kind of tree species that will grow on a site, as well as the growth rate and quality of individual trees. Soil productivity also determines the amount of timber harvesting sustainable over time. It also affects other forest attributes, such as wildlife habitat and biodiversity.

This stand has a loamy sand soil. Loamy sand soils are 70% to 85% sand with up to 30% silt plus clay. Loamy sand soils are well-drained and somewhat nutrient poor, but the finer soil particles provide a greater moisture and nutrient supply than pure sands. Trees that are adapted to grow on these soils must be able to tolerate periods of drought.

Your plan writer found the following invasive plant species during the forest inventory process:

- Autumn Olive

Stand Conditions, Special Features or Characteristics

This is a low quality black and white oak sawtimber stand on sandy soil. The hardwoods are mature and showing signs of rot and mortality. The red maple and aspen are a minor component. A partial harvest occurred around 1990. The best trees were cut which left the poorest quality timber. The partial harvest was detrimental to the growing of the new oak stand because new oak from stump sprouts and acorns need full sunlight to reach the forest floor. The partial harvest left shade which will encourage shade tolerant red maple and discourage shade intolerant oak. Very little young oak or cover and browse for wildlife is present. The timber sale currently set up is a for a mix or shelterwood and red maple improvement cutting with clear-cut patches in the aspen and poor quality timber areas.

Management (Silvicultural) System

Manage and regenerate this stand within generally accepted silvicultural guidelines for the primary type according to the following management system.

NATURAL EVEN-AGED REGENERATION OF TIMBER TYPE WITH FUTURE THINNING -- Manage the stand through its rotation (the period between initial regeneration and the stand's final cutting) as a single aged forest. Periodically thin the stand throughout the life of the stand to improve quality and vigor. Regeneration cutting will remove the old stand to provide the necessary open conditions and sunlight to regenerate the stand naturally.

Year Scheduled	Mandatory Practice
2008	<p>CLEARCUT REGENERATION HARVEST. Regenerate this stand by cutting all trees except designated reserved trees. This clearcut regeneration method allows trees to regenerate naturally from seed produced by adjacent timber stands or trees cut in the harvest operation. To improve the regeneration results, time your regeneration and site preparation practices to take advantage of good seed years. Variations of clearcut regeneration include uniform, alternate strip or patch, progressive strip or patch, and without reserve trees.</p> <p>For most Wisconsin forest types, adequate tree reproduction will be established in 3-5 years following the regeneration practice or additional management practices may be required to ensure successful tree reproduction. Some forest stands may need a longer regeneration period, but these situations must be documented and closely monitored to ensure success. Examples of additional management may include hand planting, controlling competing vegetation, or providing tree protection. As the landowner, you should be aware of the need for these potential follow-up actions, and that they may be required in order to complete this mandatory practice.</p>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR MANAGEMENT OF YOUR PROPERTY

Cost Share on Forest Management or Tree Planting

Lands enrolled in the MFL program must be maintained at 400 trees per acre for plantations and 800 trees per acre for natural stands.

Programs are available to help share the cost of implementing certain forest management or tree planting projects. You can find more information about [financial help and cost share programs](#); go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Forest Landowner'.

You can purchase seedlings through the state nursery program. To learn more about tree availability or to create your own tree planting plan visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Tree planting'.

Timber Harvest Contracts

It is very important that you and your logging contractor have a written and signed contract to guide the harvesting process before starting any harvesting. For more information on [writing contracts](#) for timber sales please visit <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Forest Landowner'.

Non-Timber Forest Products

You may harvest non-timber products, including but not limited to mushrooms, berries, ferns, evergreen boughs, cones, nuts, seeds, maple sap, bark, twigs, moss, and edible and/or medicinal plants. Wisconsin statutes may regulate some of these non-timber products, such as ginseng. Others might be threatened or endangered species, and protected by law. Follow all applicable laws when harvesting non-timber products. You must take care to prevent over-harvesting and reducing biological diversity and ecosystem functions. For additional information on how harvesting of non-timber forest products will affect management of your forestland please contact your local Tax Law Forestry Specialist using the [Forestry Assistance Locator](#); go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Forest Landowner'.

Forest Certification

Lands entered into the MFL program may be included in the MFL Certified Group. The MFL program is certified under the American Tree Farm System® (ATFS®) and the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®). Regardless of whether lands are included in the MFL Certified Group, all rules and regulations of the MFL program must be followed.

This certification is voluntary and at no additional cost. You can choose to be included in the MFL Certified Group when enrolling your land in MFL, if you purchase MFL lands, or at any time during your enrollment. If you wish to apply or depart from the MFL Certified Group, you must file the Managed Forest Law Certified Group Application/Departure Request (form [2450-192](#)). Departure from the MFL Certified Group does not affect your MFL designation.

Third party certification is beneficial in many ways, some of which are the ability to sell to the certified marketplace; future ability to participate in carbon markets; and an opportunity to educate the public about the importance of well managed private forests.

Specific group member duties include:

1. Petitioning for MFL designation
2. Agreeing to follow a WDNR-approved forest management plan
3. Conforming to MFL statutes and regulations

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4. Conforming to ATFS® and FSC® certification standards, including any measures that might go beyond those stipulated in MFL statutes or administrative rules or other state, federal or local laws – Some features that are emphasized in the ATFS® or FSC® standards include:
 - a. Allowing access for MFL Group forest certification field audits
 - b. When needed, using pesticides not prohibited by FSC®. You can find a list of FSC® prohibited pesticides on the [MFL Certification](#) page; go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Forest Certification'. Landowners should self-report pesticide use on their lands using the [online form](#) on the same webpage.
 - c. Not planting Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) in the forest
 - d. Keeping forest products harvested from MFL Group land separate from products harvested from non-MFL Group land during commercial harvest operations
 - e. Endeavoring to adhere to Wisconsin Forestry Best Management Practices
 - f. Striving to consider appropriate liability insurance and safety requirements in timber sales and other contracts
 - g. Using the ATFS® and FSC® logos in conformance with their trademark policies
 - h. Resolving disputes with easement holders, lien holders and holders of management rights in an expeditious manner.

For more information about forest certification, please contact your Tax Law Forestry Specialist or visit <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search for '[Forest Certification](#)'

Wildfire Prevention and Planning

Every year in Wisconsin, thousands of wildfires occur, destroying dozens of structures and threatening to burn hundreds more. An increasing number of people living and recreating in Wisconsin's wildland-urban interface is creating a growing need for fire prevention and planning for fires that will inevitably occur.

Because of their proximity to forested lands, there is the potential for homes and property to be at significant risk of damage or destruction in the event of a wildfire. As part of the landscape planning process, it is important to determine the level of danger to properties and learn how to mitigate those dangers.

You can take action to reduce the exposure of your home or property to fire. Use fire resistant building materials, incorporate fuel breaks into the landscape, and know the local burning restrictions.

For more information on [fire danger and burning permit restrictions](#), go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search 'Fire'. For more information on making your home and property more survivable in the event of a wildfire, go to <http://dnr.wi.gov> and search '[Firewise](#)'.

Forest Carbon

Forests are a significant piece of the global carbon cycle because of their ability to absorb and sequester carbon dioxide. Learn how your forest adds to the global carbon balance and be aware of the rules affecting your participation in forest carbon markets. For information, visit the US Forest Service website: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/ecosystemservices/carbon/>.

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Lands Enrolled in the MFL Program

In conjunction with your MFL maps and air photos, this land information helps you to identify your lands enrolled in the MFL program.

Town/Range/Section	Legal Description	Tax Parcel ID No.	Certified Survey Map Information	Enrolled Acreage	
				Open to Public Access	Closed to Public Access
County: Jackson		Municipality: Town of Springfield			
21N-06W-21	SENW	04203220000		0.000	40.000
			Total Acreage:	0.000	40.000

Forester Contact Information

Contact your local Tax Law Forestry Specialist for information about:

- Requirements of the Managed Forest Law.
- The sale or transfer of Managed Forest Law lands to other owners.

Plan Preparer Contact Information

-
-
-
-
-
-

Tax Law Forestry Specialist Contact Information

SCHMITZ, CHRIS
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 400 HEWETT ST RM 106
 NEILLSVILLE, WI 54456-1974
 (715) 937-0160
 CHRIS.SCHMITZ@WISCONSIN.GOV

Owners Acceptance and Agreement to the Management Plan

All owners must read and complete the following

Note: These certifications do not supersede or in any way affect certifications on any application or transfer form associated with this order and signed by the landowner.

I/We have read and understand the management plan I/we are agreeing to follow.

I/We understand and agree that I/we are responsible for and intend to comply with the management plan and all other requirements of the MFL program including: (i) Subchapter VI of Chapter 77, Wis. Stats., (ii) Subchapter III of Chapter NR 46, Wis. Adm. Code.

All Owners must sign, including life estate holders if applicable.

Name (please print)	Signature	Date Signed	Initial and Date for Changes
FRENCH CREEK FOREST PROPERTIES LLC			

ORDER NUMBER		
Co. Code/Seq. No./Yr. of Entry		
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MANAGED FOREST LAW MAP

Form 2450-133 Rev. 12/00

MADISON OFFICE USE ONLY	
Acreage Entered	

Owner's Name (Last, First, Middle Initial, or Company) <i>French Creek Forest Properties LLC</i>		Town or Village Name SPRINGFIELD		County JACKSON	
Street or Route <i>W 17388 Batman LN</i>		Township No. 21	Range 06	<input type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W	Section 21
City, State, Zip Code <i>Elrick WI 54627</i>		Closed Acres 40		Open Acres 0	

LEGEND: Closed Area  Section Diagram 8" = 1 Mile
 Open Area 

↑ N

Prepared By *R. A. KIND*
 Date *4/23/02*



