

Wisconsin Forestry Council Report  
24 Sept 2010

The Council reviewed the Statewide Forest Strategy Implementation in April. At the June meeting the Council identified seven strategies that are considered priority items for Council involvement in the next few years. This list will be further refined in the next Council meeting scheduled for October. The strategies will be discussed at future meetings to allow suggestions for new goal and strategy development. The comments could then be retained by the DNR Forestry Division for consideration at the end of the next ten-year cycle. Getting any of these strategies off the ground will involve the efforts of multiple stake holders.

Priority items identified in June and are listed below:

- ⇒ Strategy #37 – Ensure that climate policy reflects the potential positive contributions that forest conservation and sustainable management can make to achieving substantial net reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- ⇒ Strategy # 8 – Increase the functional size of forest blocks by encouraging coordination of management of clusters of forest ownerships.
- ⇒ Strategy #43 – Develop collaborations and partnerships to engage all forestry stakeholders.
- ⇒ Strategy # 7 – Strengthen collaborative and large-scale planning at the town, county, state and federal levels.
- ⇒ Strategy #5 – Reduce the rate of ownership parcelization of small forest blocks (i.e. less than 500 acres).
- ⇒ Strategy # 27 – Collect information and develop policy to ensure efficient and sustainable use of our forest resources in regards to energy production.
- ⇒ Strategy # 38 – Invest in forest conservation to contribute to a strong economy and provide clean water and air, wildlife, and other ecosystem services.
- ⇒ Strategies #9 & #10 – Encourage a tax structure that favors well-managed forests (#9), and increase acreage of privately-owned forests managed based on generally accepted forest management practices (#10).
- ⇒ Strategies #18 & #19 – Increase scientific knowledge needed to understand the economic, ecological and social impacts of various deer populations (and associated deer herbivory on forests) (#18), and encourage the forestry community to be engaged in deer management issues with an understanding of the long-term significance of deer impacts on sustainable forestry (#19).

**The Executive Committee should review the list of strategies and determine which ones that SAF could be involved. Comments on the draft strategies are due by 1 Oct.**

<http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/assessment/strategy/strategicDir.htm>

A second draft will be out in November and the final by the end of December.

There is still no word from the Governor on my appointment to the Council. Bob Rogers anticipates the next Governor will make the appointment.

Jim Kerkman-SAF Representative on Wisconsin Council on Forestry (in waiting)