

ABSTRACT

Wisconsin Wood Supply Assessment

The Wisconsin Wood Supply Assessment, part of the Wisconsin Forest Practices Study, will seek to improve understanding of the current and prospective availability of wood fiber in the state. The study will be conducted by a team of researchers from Virginia Tech and the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. At Virginia Tech, Dr. Steve Prisley and Dr. Chad Bolding of the Center for Natural Resources Assessment and Decision Support (CeNRADS) will be providing overall project leadership and conducting a quantitative assessment of the available timber supply in Wisconsin. This assessment will start with current forest inventory data from the US Forest Service, but will take into consideration factors such as parcel size, soils, and population density that are known to constrain forest harvesting. From UWSP, Dr. Joe Conrad and Dr. Melinda Vokoun will be conducting a logging capacity study and a landowner survey. Their efforts will provide current information on harvesting decisions by private landowners and the status of the logging workforce and its capacity to harvest and transport wood fiber to mills. All of these efforts will be integrated to study Wisconsin's wood supply chain and the availability of wood fiber for industry use. Projections of wood supply under a range of scenarios will be conducted using an agent-based simulation model developed at CeNRADS.