

# Forest Management on DNR Lands

“Forest Land and Inventory Report”

Highlights

Forested Lands Excluded from Timber Harvest

# Forest Land and Inventory Report

- Wis. Stat. **23.135** requires DNR to (in brief):
  - Identify lands that prohibit timber harvest
  - Assess long term forest health effects, a projection of economic impacts, and public benefits
- Required every **15 years**
- Submitted to:
  - Council on Forestry
  - Legislative committees
- First report: **2010**

# Council on Forestry Role in Division Reports

Statute	Report Name	Timeframe	DNR Role	Council Role
28.025(3)	State Timber Report	Biennially	Develop and submit to CoF	If the harvest falls outside of the 90-110% of goal range, CoF writes a report to G.O. and legislature
23.125	Forest Land Inventory and Report	Every 15 yrs	Develop and submit to CoF and legislature	Receive report; no action required

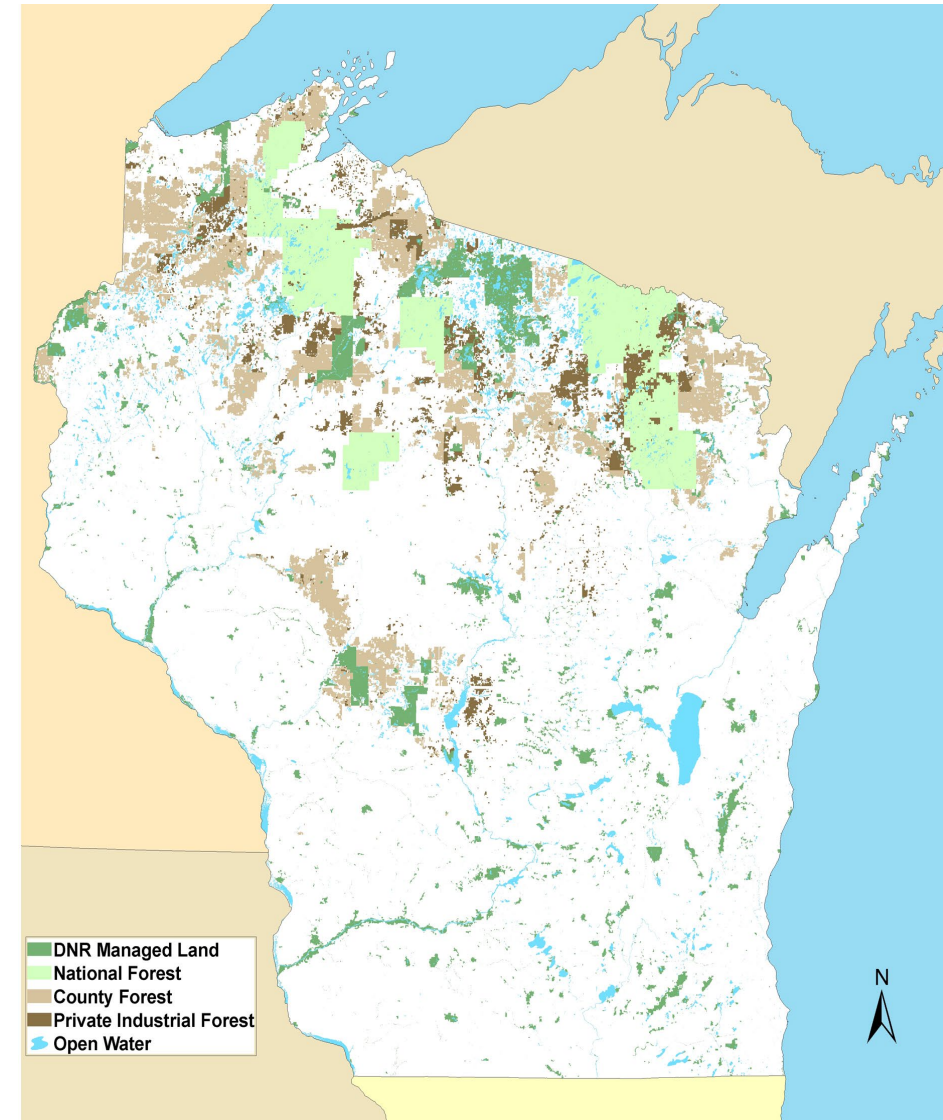
# DNR Lands - Million Forested Acres

WI has 17 million acres of forested lands (~35 mil total)

DNR owns 1.6 million acres  
~1 million is forested (60%)

DNR owns 6% of total WI forest land

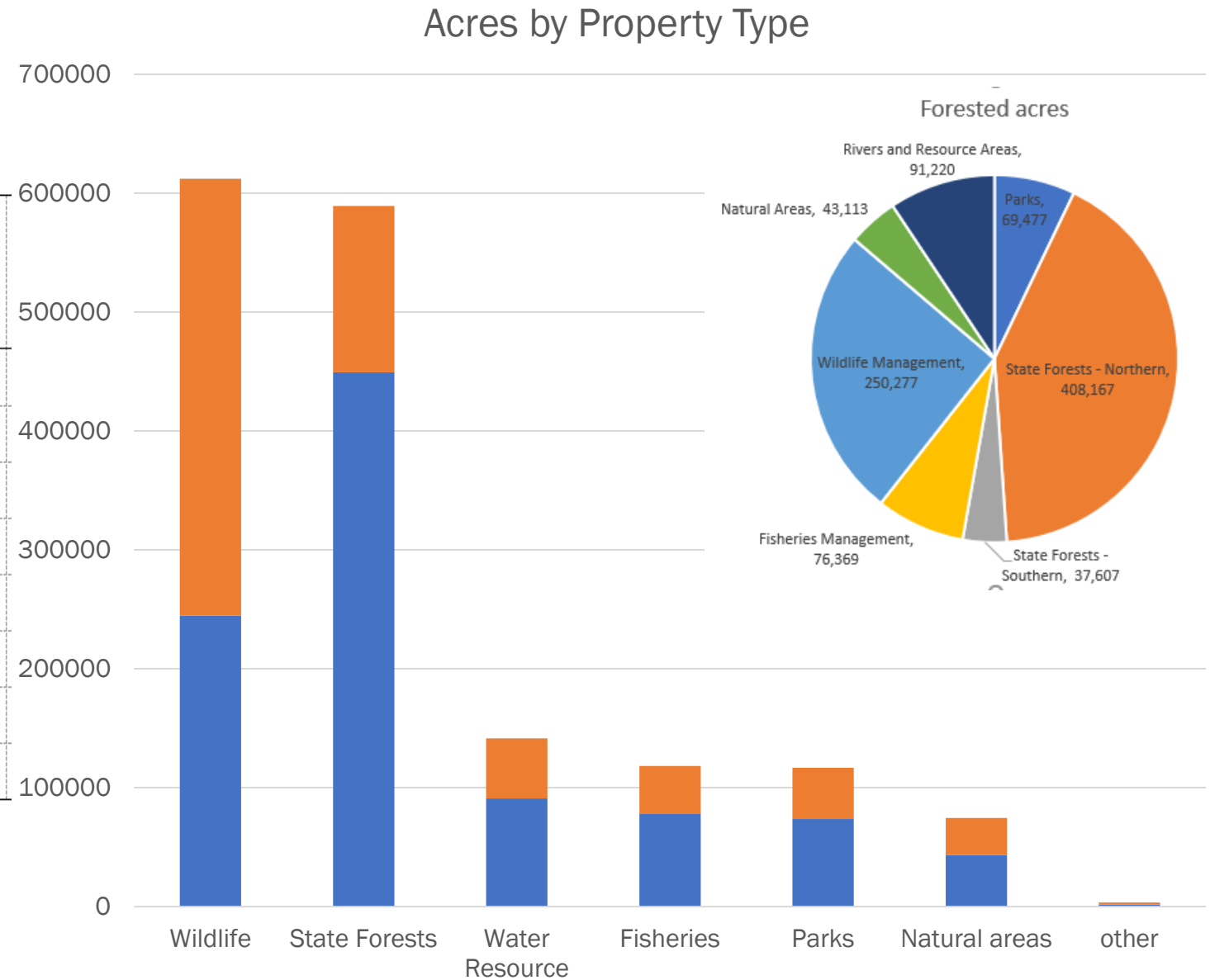
30% of WI forests are publicly owned  
DNR owns 20% of public forests



# 1 Million Acres of Forest

Property Type	Total Acres	Forested Acres
Wildlife	612,135	244,769
Forestry	589,196	449,492
Water resources	141,451	91,017
Fisheries	118,059	78,339
Parks	116,699	73,646
Natural areas	74,653	43,351
Other*	3,417	1,746
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,655,610</b>	<b>982,360</b>

DNR property designation purpose:  
 State Statute, Master Plan.  
 DNR Forestry role



<b>Excluded from Timber Harvest (total acres)</b>	<b>299,215</b>
Designated Wild Rivers Zone	3,901
Designated Wilderness Area	8,701
Property and Management Considerations	286,613

The following rivers, or portions of rivers, are currently designated as Wild Rivers:

- [Pike River](#) — Marinette County
- [Pine and Popple Rivers](#) — Florence and Forest counties
- Martin Hanson Wild River — a portion of the Brunsweler River in Ashland County
- [Totogatic River](#) — Bayfield, Burnett, Sawyer and Washburn counties

The DNR owns land within the Pike, Pine-Popple and Totogatic Wild Rivers. On DNR lands, there is no vegetative control within 150 feet from the bank on either side of the river, walk-in access only, no motorized vehicles, no stream

Appendix C – WISFIRS STAND PREFIX CODES

Code	Description	Code	Description
A	Aesthetic Zone	N	Designated State Natural Area
B	Camping	O	Old Growth
C	Extended Rotation	P	Plantations
D	Deer Yard	Q	Oak Woodland
E	Dog Trial/Training (Class 1)	R	★ Designated Wild River Zone +
F	Food Plot	S	★ Species & Communities of Special Concern
G	Consultation/Deferral Areas*	T	Oak Opening
H	Mgt. Objective Not Yet Determined**	U	County Forest Special Use class lands
I	Dove Field	V	Silvicultural concerns
J	Oak/Pine Barrens	W	Wild Area
K	Wildlife Opening - Treated	X	Non-productive Forest Type (<20 ft <sup>3</sup> /ac./yr.growth)
L	Lake or River Zones	Y	★ Designated Wilderness Area +
M	Wild Rice	Z	★ Other stand to be omitted from mgt. schedule +, ***

+ Designates omission from management schedules

**Wisconsin Field Inventory & Reporting System**

Properties | RECON | Treatments

Compartment | Stands

Property: 2232 - LOWER WISCONSIN ST

# Why Lands Are Excluded from Harvest Schedule

Management Consideration	Acres Excluded
Natural area	71,846
Lake or river zone	42,824
Deferral area	20,518
Non-productive	11,467
Old growth	10,432
Objective not determined	9,095
Aesthetic zone	8,347
Silviculture concerns	5,915
Species and communities of special concern	3,110
Extended rotation	1,622
Wild area	1,220
Plantation	884
Deer yard	712
Special oak concerns	469
Camping	21
Other stand omitted from harvest schedule	98,131
<b>Total</b>	<b>286,613</b>

- Only Forested stands
- Many stands have multiple pre-fixes
- 98,131 ONLY have “Z” pre-fix

# DNR Property Type

Property Type	Total Acres	Forested Acres	Forested Acres Excluded from Harvest	% of Forested Acres Excluded from Harvest
Wildlife	612,135	244,769	76,492	31.3%
Forestry	589,196	449,492	77,350	17.2%
Water resources	141,451	91,017	36,412	40.0%
Fisheries	118,059	78,339	29,947	38.2%
Parks	116,699	73,646	50,198	68.2%
Natural areas	74,653	43,351	27,745	64.0%
Other*	3,417	1,746	1,071	61.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,655,610</b>	<b>982,360</b>	<b>299,215</b>	<b>30.5%</b>

# Impacts

Forest Health

Public Benefits

Economic

**2024 Wisconsin DNR  
Forest Health  
Annual Report**



Recreation and aesthetics, Biodiversity/rare species,  
Water quality protection, Old forest structure/ reference  
areas

# Managed Forests on DNR Lands

Program purpose and property master plans provide objectives and presc.

Forest mgmt. is allowed and prescribed in all Master Plan classifications (except 1)

Management can also include non timber sale work

~15,000 acres are managed each year via timber sale

Revenue ~ 11 million / year  
(6-7 Million State Forests / 4-5 million FWP)

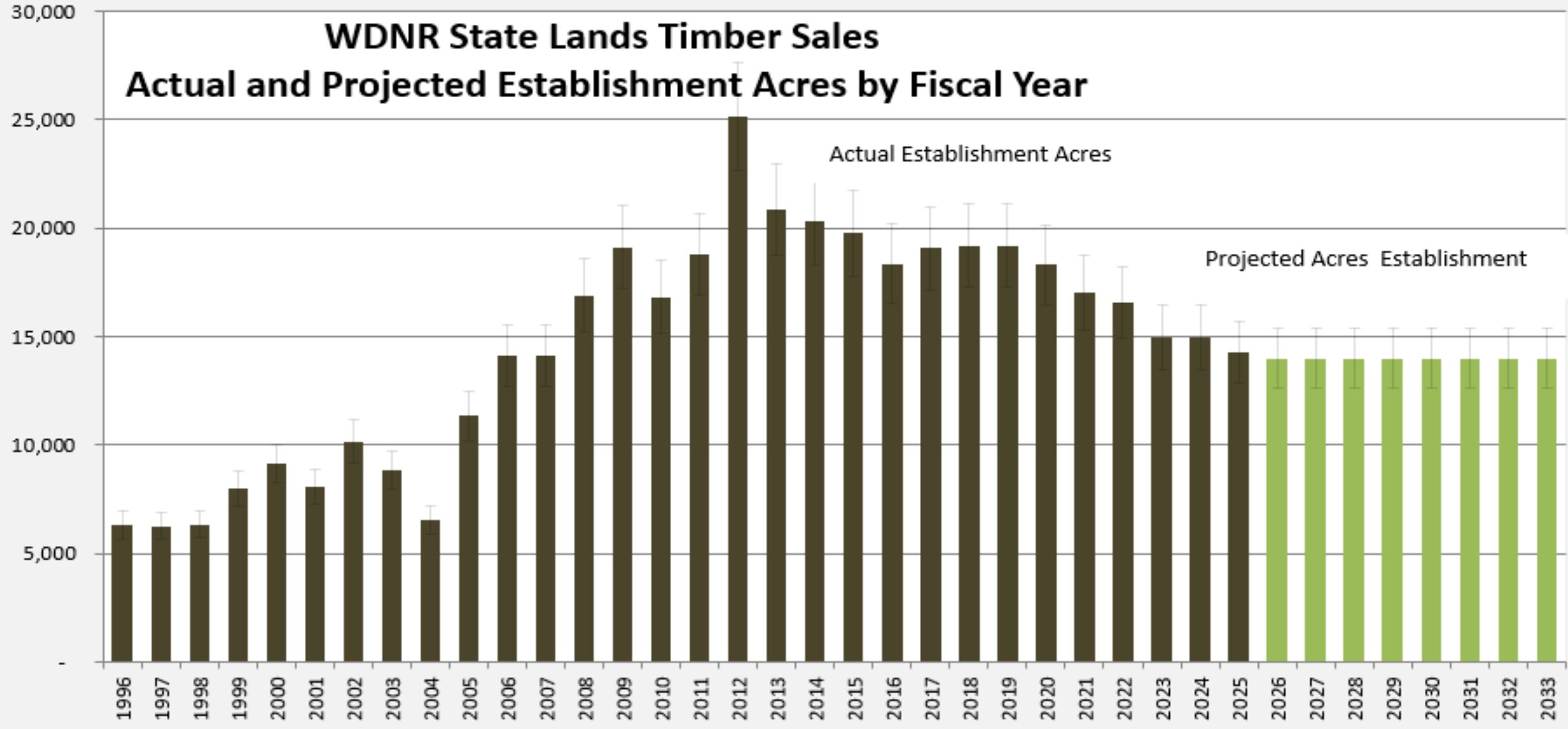


# High-level findings and takeaways:

- 30% of DNR forest land ( $\approx 299,215$  acres) **removed** from timber harvest schedule
- Prohibited versus removed
- Driven by:
  - Statute, Master plans, ecological objectives, forest types, site / operational constraints
- Statewide economic effect is minimal due to small share of WI forest base and many stands just not operable
- Management of DNR lands is high public interest
- WisFIRS continuously updated

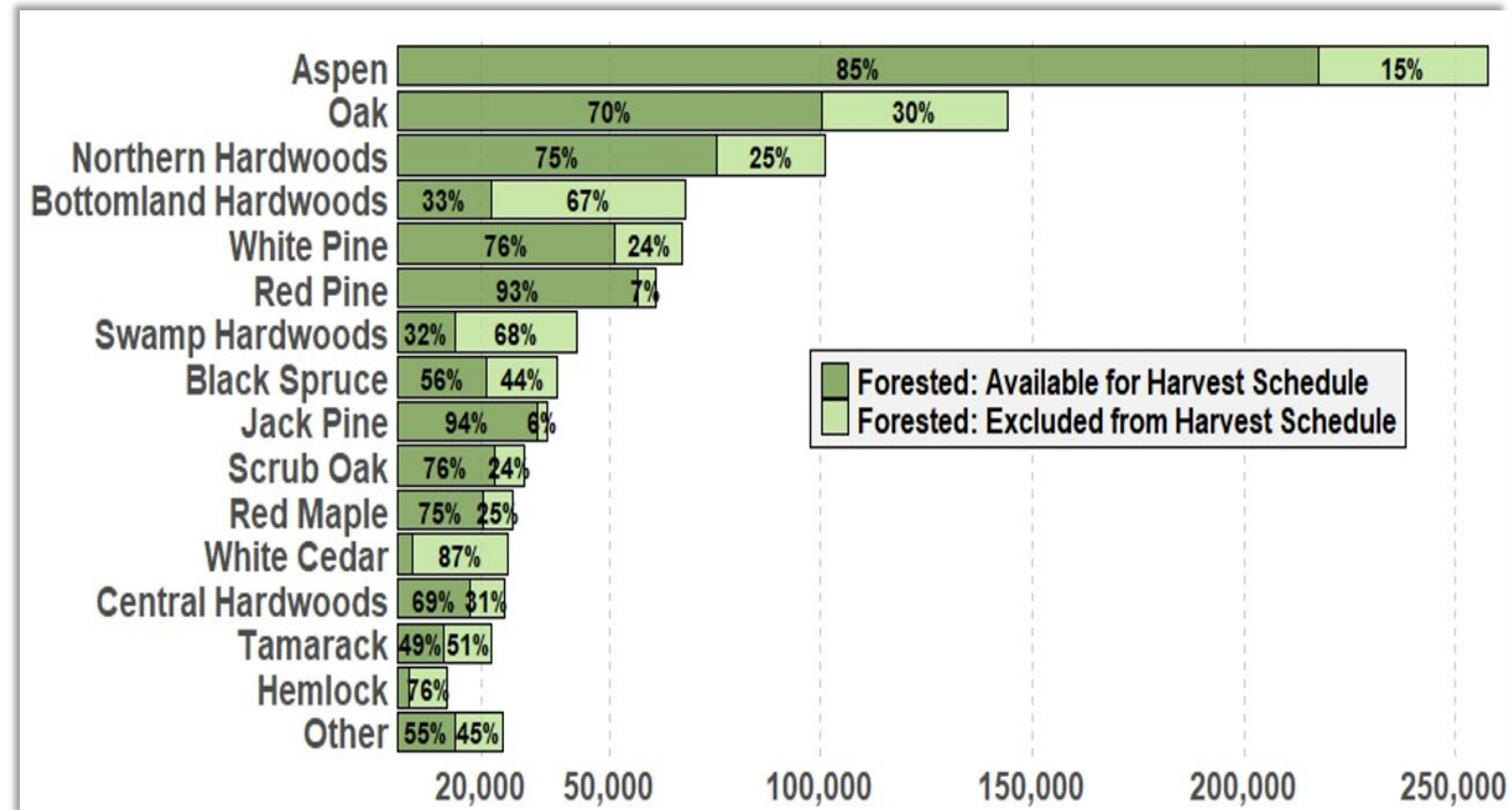
**EXTRA SLIDES IF NEEDED**

# Harvest History



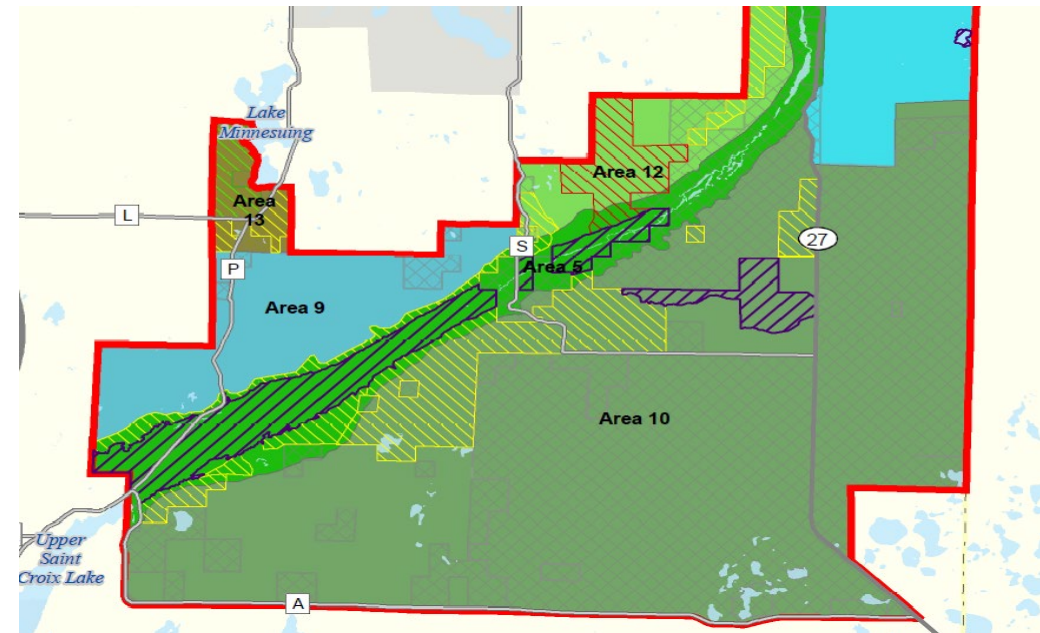
# Exclusions by Forest Cover Type

- Bottomland Hardwoods: 67% excluded
- Swamp Hardwoods: 68%
- Black Spruce: 44%
- Cedar: 87%
- Tamarack: 51%
- Hemlock: 76%



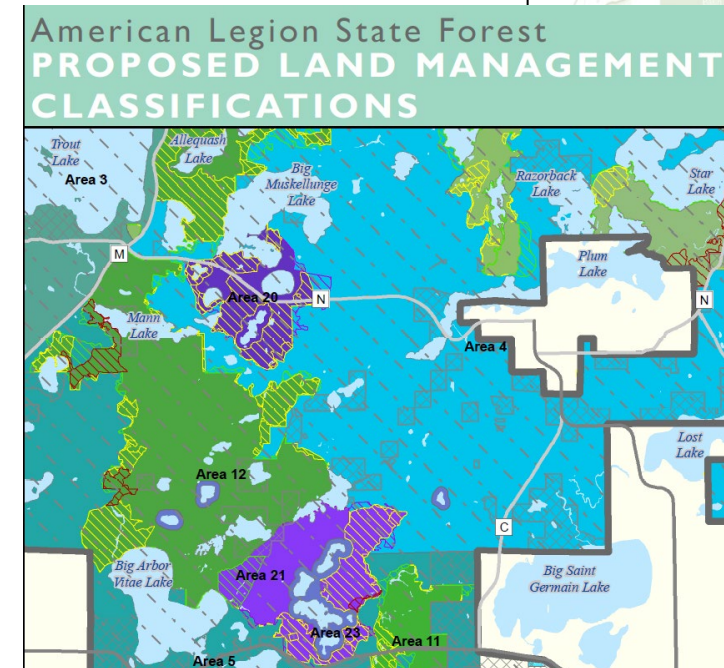
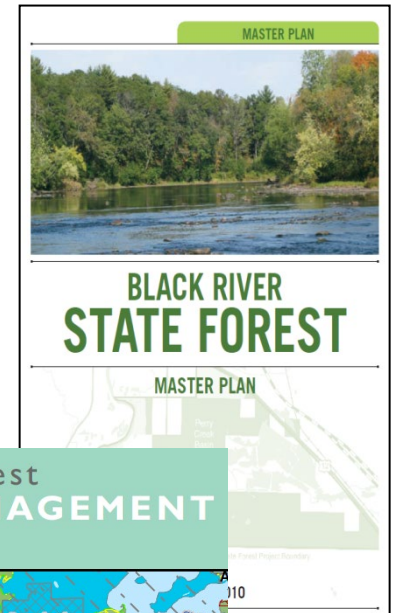
# Northern State Forest Land Management Classification Variance

2015 ACT 358 (1) STATE FOREST PLAN VARIANCE. Before March 1, 2017, the department of natural resources shall propose a variance to the master plans of all state forests except for the southern state forests, as defined in section 27.016 (1) (c) of the statutes, and except for Governor Knowles State Forest so that 75 percent of all the land in those state forests combined is classified as a forest production area as provided in section 28.04 (3) (am) of the statutes.



# Land Management Classification variance

- Implement and the law and Legislative intent
- Follow requirements for NR44 plan change as a variance
- The 75% target is for all NSF combined, not individual forest
- Currently 66% of NSF in Forest Production (does not mean remaining 34% is NOT currently managed)
- Approximately 40,000 acres needed to be re-classified to Forest Production to meet 75%



# Master Planning to Operational Planning

- All actions must be consistent with the Master Plan
- WisFIRS
- Pre-fixes and Scheduled treatments (timber sale)
- Harvest Goals
- Cross-program integration to implementation
- APIM/APIP
- Harvest Plan (2460)

Wisconsin Field Inventory & Reporting System - WisFIRS Public

Properties RECON Treatments Rx Burns Pesticides Timber Sales Planning Dow

Compartments Stands

Property: 2232 - LOWER WISCONSIN STATE RIVERWAY (7925) Last Harvest Schedule run date: 08-Jan-2025 12:56  
Last Harvest Schedule accepted date: 08-Jan-2025 12:56

### Stand Detail

\* Required \* Conditionally Required

Blank Stand Exam Sheet (Form 2400-26) Recon Update Stand Sheet (Report 112) Completed Stand Exam Sheet (Report 113)

Copy Delete Cancel Apply Changes

#### Forest Metrix Data Load

Select Data File: Choose File No file chosen Load

#### Property

WisFIRS Property Name LOWER WISCONSIN STATE RIVERWAY  
Property Type WR - WATER RESOURCES  
WisFIRS Property Code 2232  
DNR Property Code 7925

#### Stand

Map

\* Stand Type FH - Forested

\* Compartment 2

Stand Prefix 1 G - CONSULTATION/DEFERRAL AREAS \*DEFERRAL AREAS ADD "Z" (

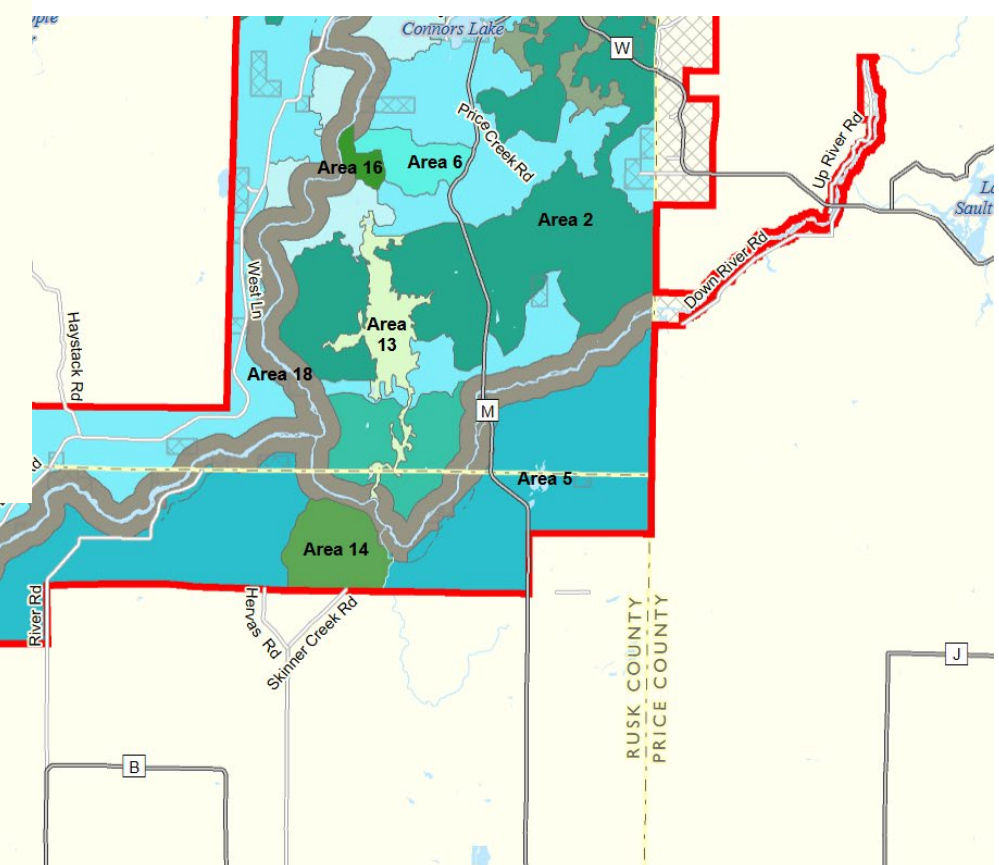
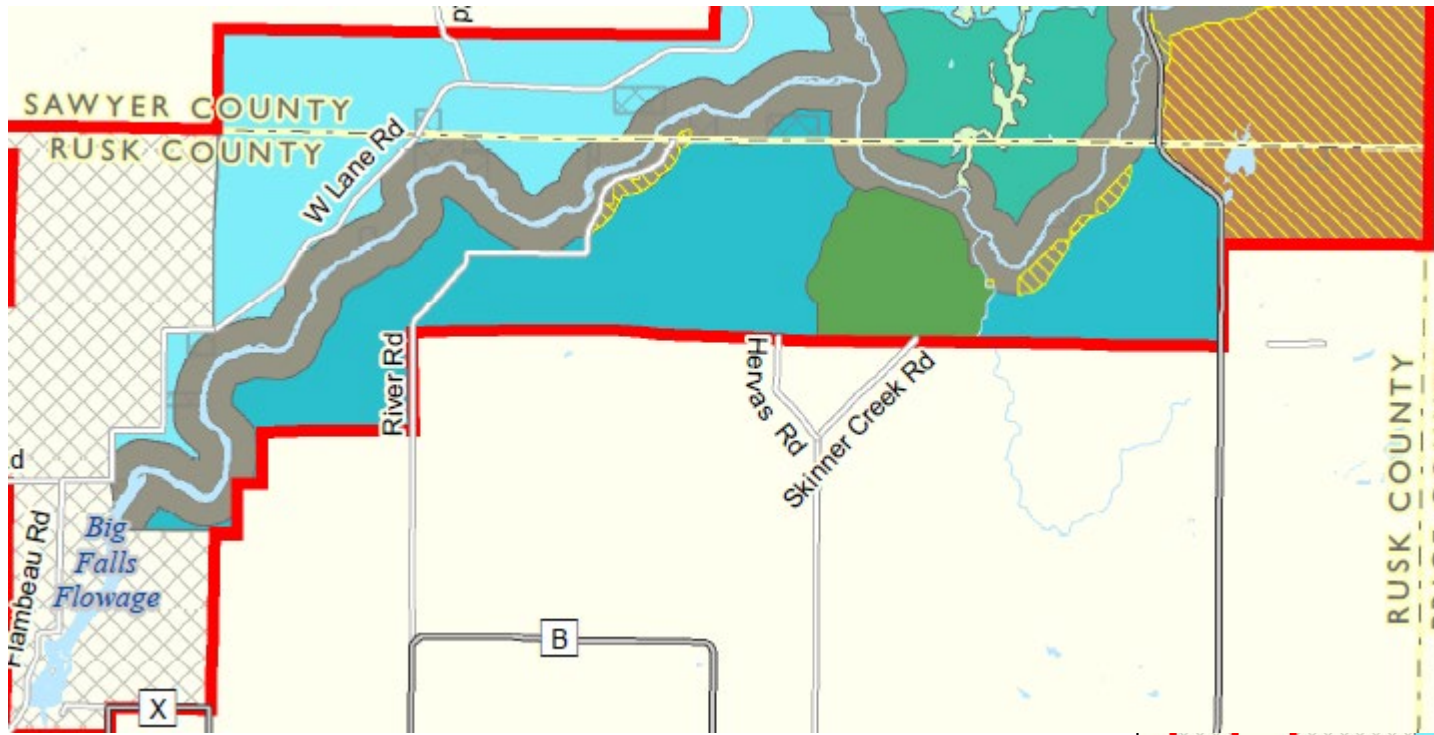
Stand Prefix 2 L - LAKE OR RIVER ZONE

Stand Prefix 3 Z - OTHER STAND OMITTED FROM MGT. SCHEDULE \*\*

Stand Prefix 4

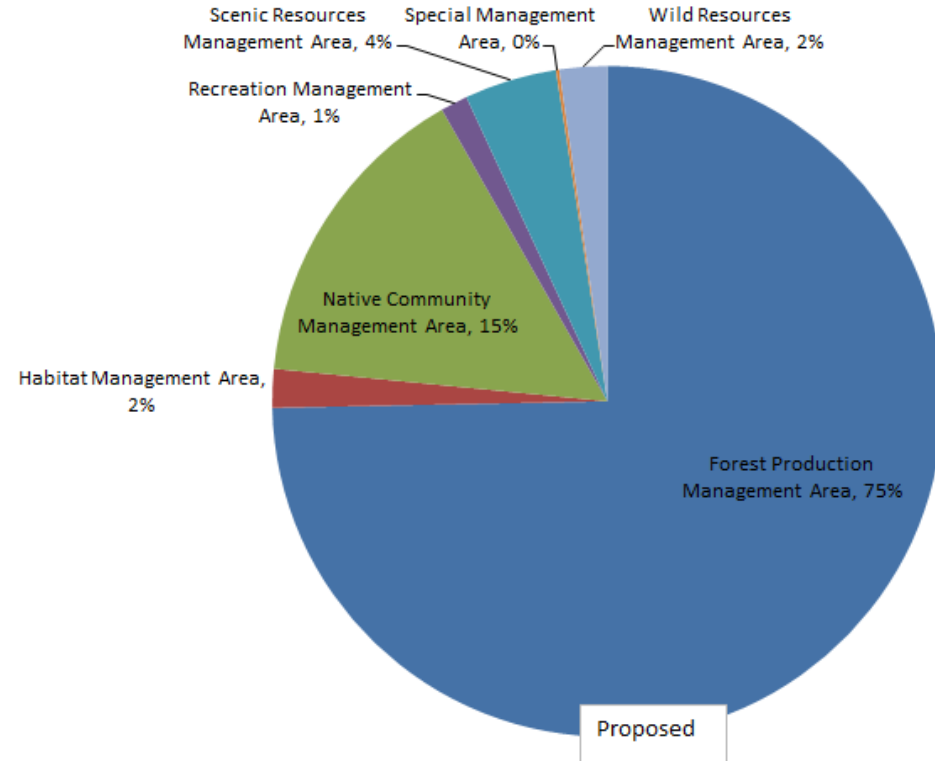
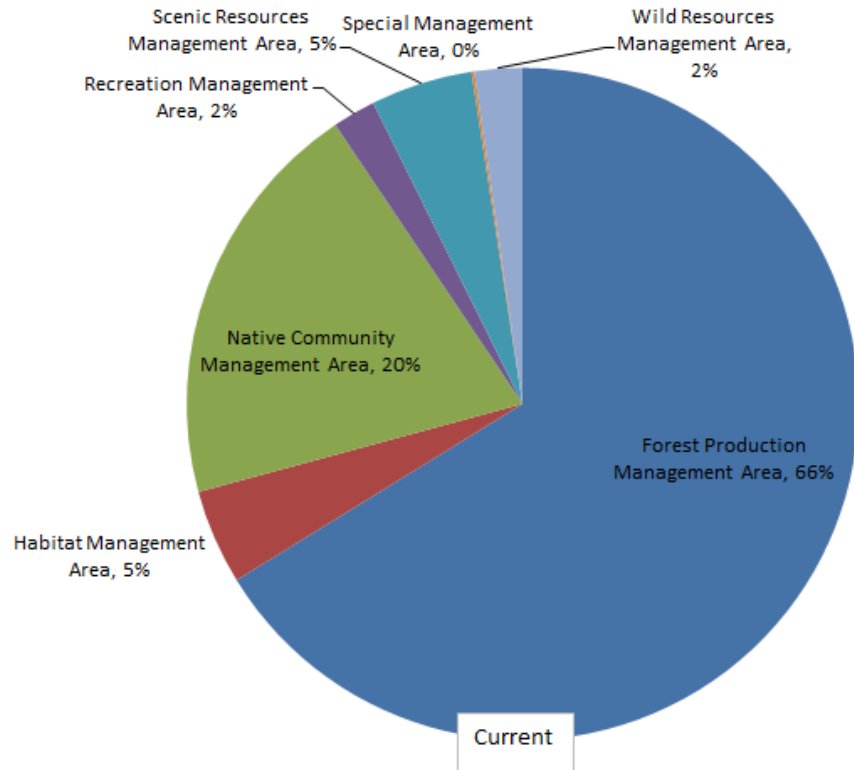
\* Stand Number 1

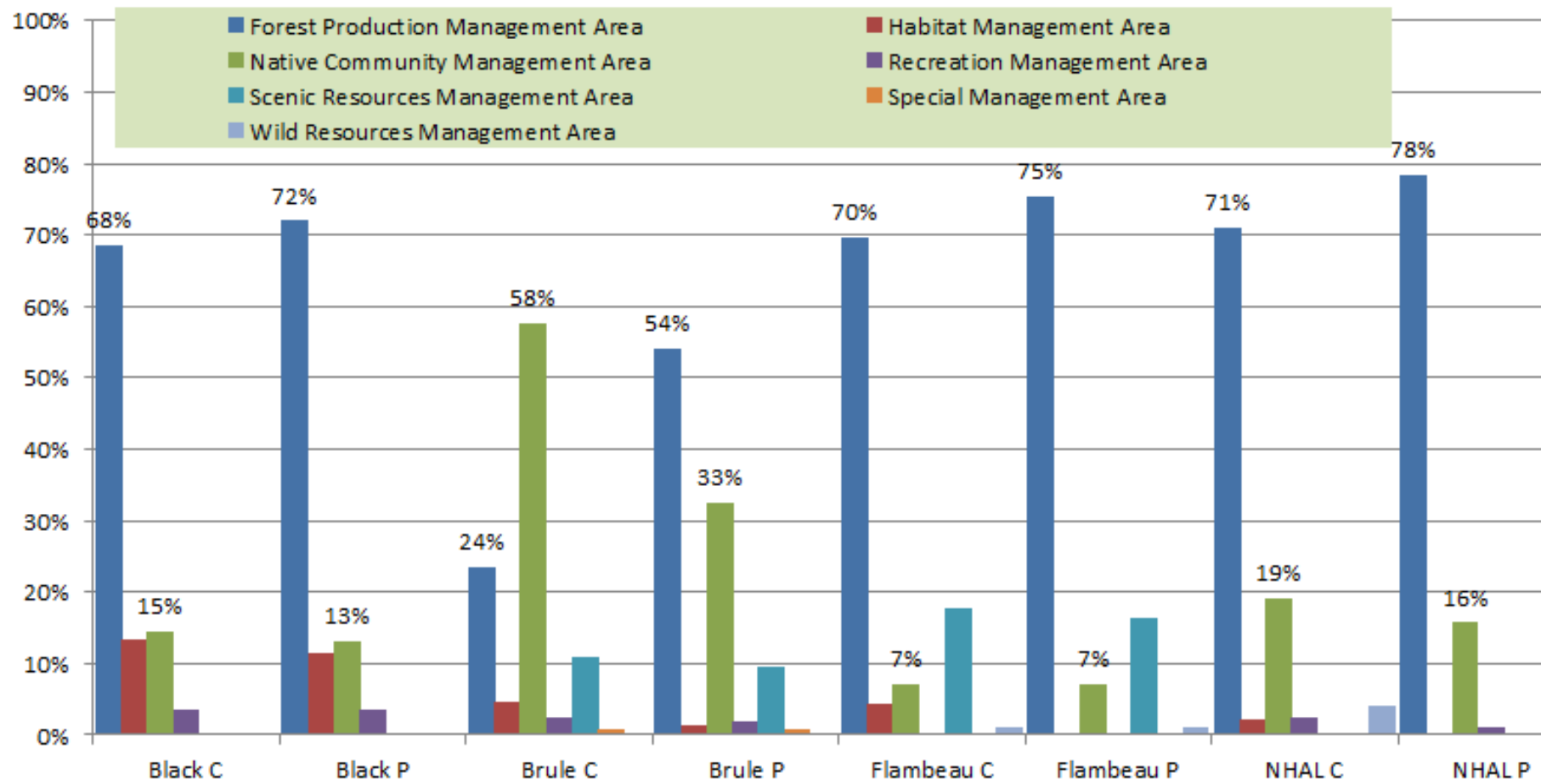
\* Acres (whole numbers) 30





# Current and





C= Current, P=Proposed