

WISCONSIN COUNTY FORESTS ASSOCIATION

Council on Forestry – September 13, 2022

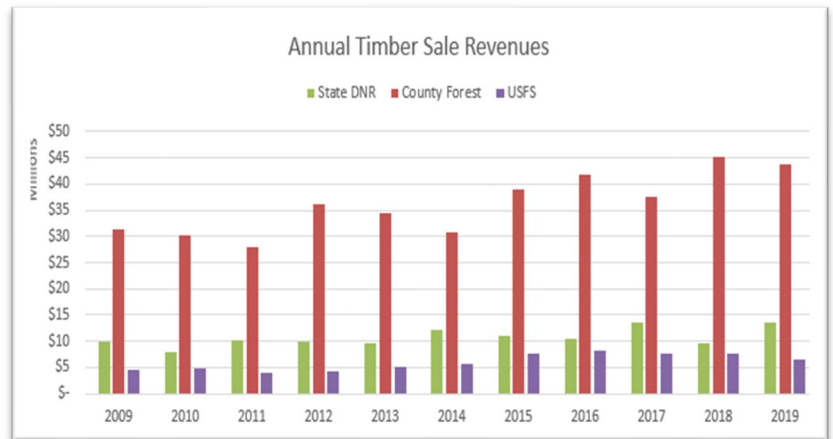
Economic Impact

Timber:

- \$44.6M receipts received in 2021
 - Compared to State Lands - \$11.6M
 - \$4.5M given to Townships
- 938,100 cord equivalents closed out in 2021
 - 664 closed sales for 45,500 acres

Recreation:

- 2,450 miles of silent sport trails
- 1,800 miles of ATV trails (85% of publicly funded trails in the State)
- Over 9,000 miles of snowmobile trails



Forest Certification

- 27 counties became third party certified under the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and/or the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) in 2005.
 - 19 dual, 6 SFI only, 2 FSC only
 - 2.22+ million acres under SFI, 1.78+ million acres under FSC
- Counties are currently evaluating the value of maintaining forest certifications, especially in light of losing Verso and the new standards for both SFI and FSC coming online.

2022 Audit

- Forest, Florence, Oconto and Marinette Counties during the first week of August
- 2 findings
 - 1 FSC Minor Corrective Action Request (CAR) specific only to Oconto County for documentation of an HCV within their 15 Year Comprehensive Land Management Plan.
 - 1 SFI Observation For Improvement (OFI) for all counties to improve definitions, documentation and mapping of "Special Sites" across all counties.

Carbon Credits

- As of May, 6 counties have signed contracts with Bluesource, a carbon credit developer, covering 616,000 acres. Currently going through verification audits and nothing has been sold at this time.

Legislative Priorities

- Increase of DNR County Forest grants
- Increase ATV/UTV trail and law enforcement funding
- Support for Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program – County Forest Subprogram

Wisconsin County Forests Association

- New 5-year strategic plan - <https://wisconsincountyforests.com/wp-content/uploads/WCFA-Strategic-Plan-2022-FINAL.pdf>
- New Scribology video - <https://youtu.be/OWcViBGCH4E>
- New website at www.wisconsincountyforests.com

