

OFFICIAL NOTICE & AGENDA
of a Meeting of the County Forest
Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee of the
Marathon County Board of Supervisors

COUNTY OF MARATHON
Wausau, WI 54403

A meeting of the County Forest Citizens' Advisory Subcommittee will be held at 212 River Drive, **Rm. #5**, Wausau, WI, 54403, at **6:00pm** on **June 5, 2024**.

Members: Mike Lane (chair), Marcell Wieloch (vice-chair), John Burke, Aaron Ruff, Gary Weiland, Susan Haug, Dale Heil, Paul Klocko, Greg Klos, Carmen Engelman, Taylor Dorsey

The meeting site identified above will be open to the public. Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the telephone conference beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number: Phone Number: 1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 2486 588 0735. Please Note: If you are prompted to provide an "Attendee Identification Number" enter the # sign. No other number is required to participate in the telephone conference. When you enter the telephone conference, PLEASE PUT YOUR PHONE ON MUTE!

A G E N D A

- I. Minutes
 - A. Approve Minutes of the March 6, 2024 Meeting

- II. New Business
 - A. September 2024 Subcommittee Appointments
 - B. Scheduled Events for 2024 at Nine Mile Forest Unit
 - C. Spring Timber Bid Summary
 - D. Possible Timber Sale Activity at Nine Mile Through October 31
 - E. Mountain Bike Pass Display Regulations
 - F. Billerud Cancels Plans for Escanaba Mill Upgrade
 - G. Member Items

- III. Old Business
 - A. County Deer Advisory Council 2024 Recommendations
 - B. Spring Brook Road Red Pine History and Revenue
 - C. Spring Brook Road Tree Planting a Success
 - D. Red Bud Road/County Forest Road 707 Culvert Replacement/Closure

- IV. 2024 Remaining Meeting Dates – September 18, and December 18, 2024

- V. Adjourn

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the County Clerk's Office at 261-1500 or e-mail countyclerk@co.marathon.wi.us one business day before the meeting.

ATTN: News Department
Daily Herald and other news media

THIS NOTICE POSTED AT COURTHOUSE

Emailed/Faxed by:	Jodi Luebbe	Date:	
Date:	May 28, 2024	Time:	
Time:	3:00 p.m.	By:	

Members present: Taylor Dorsey-(via webex), Susan Haug, Paul Klocko, Greg Klos, Mike Lane, Aaron Ruff-(via webex), Marcell Wieloch

Members excused: John Burke, Carmen Engleman, Dale Heil, Gary Weiland

Wausau and Marathon County Parks, Rec, and Forestry Dept. staff present: Tom Lovlien-Forest Administrator, Jamie Polley-Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director, Joe Tucker-County Forester

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Lane.

I. Minutes

Motion by Klos to approve the December 13, 2023 minutes. Motion **carried** unanimously 7-0.

II. New Business

A. 2023 County Forest Division Annual Report

Lovlien discussed some of the program highlights including revenue and expenses, certification, timber management, road and trail management, wildlife management, recreation, public outreach, and professional development.

B. 2023 Year in Review and 2024 Parks, Recreation and Forestry Work Plan

Polley highlighted some of the work planned which includes Eastgate Hall renovation, dump station installation at Dells of the Eau Claire Park, Nine Mile septic system replacement, Amco and Marathon Park Campground playgrounds, build skatepark, treating and removing ash trees, planning the Department consolidation, and ice arena feasibility study. Polley discussed upcoming small County and City projects. Some forestry work includes administering timber sales, planting 60,000 red pine trees on 60 acres, and establishing another timber sale at Big Eau Pleine Park. Staff will also be working on the Rib Falls Master Plan, Big Rapids Dam Removal, County CORP Update, AED/Save Station Grant, and Athletic Park Clubhouse Review.

C. Forestry Division Expense/Revenue Reports

Lovlien explained the ten-year period showed over that period revenue from timber stumpage was \$850,968 over expenses and the twenty-year period showed timber stumpage revenues of \$1,153,241 over expenses. The reports don't include recreation programs which are tracked in separate budgets. The forestry program is paying for itself with timber stumpage revenues and helps with tax levy relief.

D. 2024 Spring Timber Sales Being Advertised for Purchase

The spring timber sale package offers 285 acres of timber on five tracts with an estimated volume of 12,065 tons and 343.0 thousand board feet. The sales will be advertised and the bid opening is April 29. There will be a secondary bid opening on May 30 if necessary. Joe Tucker, County Forester discussed all the sales. Questions were answered. Committee had no issues with any of the sales.

E. Parks, Recreation and Forestry Law Enforcement Annual Report

Lovlien reported on law enforcement activity in the forest units and parks. Information included patrols, complaints, citations, warnings, criminal charges, arrests, and tree stand/trail camera enforcement. Also included were the hours spent on Recreation Motor Vehicle Patrols (snowmobile, boat, ATV) which are reimbursed through a DNR grant.

F. Governor Evers Announces Approval of Largest Conservation Effort in State History

Lovlien discussed a press release which announced the approval of an additional conservation easement covering 54,898 acres of the Pelican River Forest which completes one of the largest conservation projects in Wisconsin history. Altogether, over 67,000 acres of the Pelican River Forest will be protected, ensuring the forest will remain open to the public in perpetuity for outdoor recreation activities such as fishing, hunting, skiing, trapping, and hiking.

G. Member Items

Haug has been updating the Bird Club records since 1951 when they started the annual spring migration count and will provide the data to members and staff. Wieloch said the DNR and Conservation Congress will hold their spring hearing in person from 6pm to 9pm on April 8th at DC Everest Middle School on Schofield Avenue.

III. Old Business

A. WCFA Special License Plate Project and Media Plus Marketing Campaign

Lovlien said enough signatures were obtained so the proposal can move forward with the Department of Transportation. Thirty-five designs for the license plate were turned in and will be narrowed down and a winner chosen. Hopefully it will be approved this fall and plates will be available next year. Purchasing the plates will help fund WCFA with different forestry, wildlife, and recreation programs. WCFA is also doing a marketing campaign about what they do.

B. Winter Recreational Program Update

This was a poor weather for winter with hardly any snow and warm temperatures. The tubing hill was able to open and remain open with one hill with manmade snow. The ski, fat tire, snowshoe trails were open between nine and eleven days. The snowmobile trails were not open.

C. County Deer Advisory Council Meeting to Set Antlerless Quotas

Lane said the County Deer Advisory Council meeting will be held on April 29th at 7pm at 900 Pardee Street. This year there will only be one meeting held with public comment and voting taken on the same night. The recommendation from the meeting will go to the deer section of the DNR and then to the Natural Resources Board.

IV. 2024 Remaining Meeting Dates – June 5, September 18, and December 18, 2024.

V. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Wieloch. Motion **carried** unanimously 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Thomas Lovlien - Secretary

September 2023

**MARATHON COUNTY FOREST
CITIZENS' ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE**

Aaron Ruff 223270 Hollywood Rd. Marathon WI 54448 (C) 715-432-4252 Email: aruff06@gmail.com	Mountain Biking 2 year term to 2024 Expires September 1, 2024
John Burke 5907 Old coach Rd. Wausau WI 54401 (H) 715-218-7883 E-mail: johnbethburke@charter.net	Cross-Country Skiing/Snowshoeing 2 year term to 2024 Expires September 1, 2024
Greg Klos 6603 Cavin Dr. Wausau WI 54401 (H) 842-5951 (W) 845-2206 E-mail: gklos@charter.net	Conservation 2 year term to 2024 Expires September 1, 2024
Susan Haug 168305 River Rd. Ringle WI 54471 (H) 446-2775 E-mail: sjhaug@charter.net	Birding 2 year term to 2024 Expires September 1, 2024
Mike Lane 921 Landfried Ave. Mosinee WI 54455 (H) 693-2749 (C) 715-370-3645	Hunting 2 year term to 2024 Expires September 1, 2024
Carmen Engelman 215925 Damian Dr. Mosinee, WI 54455 715-370-2777 E-mail: clengelman@charter.net	Equestrian 2 year term to 2024 Expires September 1, 2024
Paul Klocko 3907 Pat St. Weston WI 54476 (H) 715-241-6940 E-mail: pklocko@dwave.net	General Member 2 year term to 2025 Expires September 1, 2025
Marcell Wieloch 214814 Wieloch Rd. Mosinee WI 54455 (H) 693-4449 (C) 715-571-4474 E-mail: mfwieloch@mtc.net	Conservation Congress 2 year term to 2025 Expires September 1, 2025
Taylor Dorsey 100 Main St. Mosinee, WI 54455 (C) 920-229-6175 taylor.dorsey@ahlstrom.com	Forest Industry 2 year term to 2025 Expires September 1, 2025
Gary Weiland 3799 Redwood St. Fenwood WI 54426 (H) 715-581-2875 gary.weiland@gmail.com	ATV/UTV/Motorized 2 year term to 2025 Expires September 1, 2025
Dale Heil 212590 Karen Ln. Stratford WI 54484 (H) 687-2110 (W) Truck 498-2252 dale.heil@frontier.com	Logging 2 year term to 2025 Expires September 1, 2025

NINE MILE FOREST SCHEDULED EVENTS FOR 2024

- ^1. TREK WORS Race – June 14-16, 2024
- ^2. WEMS Bike Race – June 28-29, 2024
- ^3. Wausau 24 Bike Race – July 26-28, 2024
4. NICA Girls Bike Retreat – August 10, 2024
5. Mosinee Cross Country Race – September 3, 2024
6. Marathon Cross Country Race – September 5, 2024
- ^7. Ragnar Running Race – September 19-21, 2024
8. DC Everest Cross Country Sectional – October 19, 2024
9. IronBull Granite Grinder Bike Race – October 19, 2024

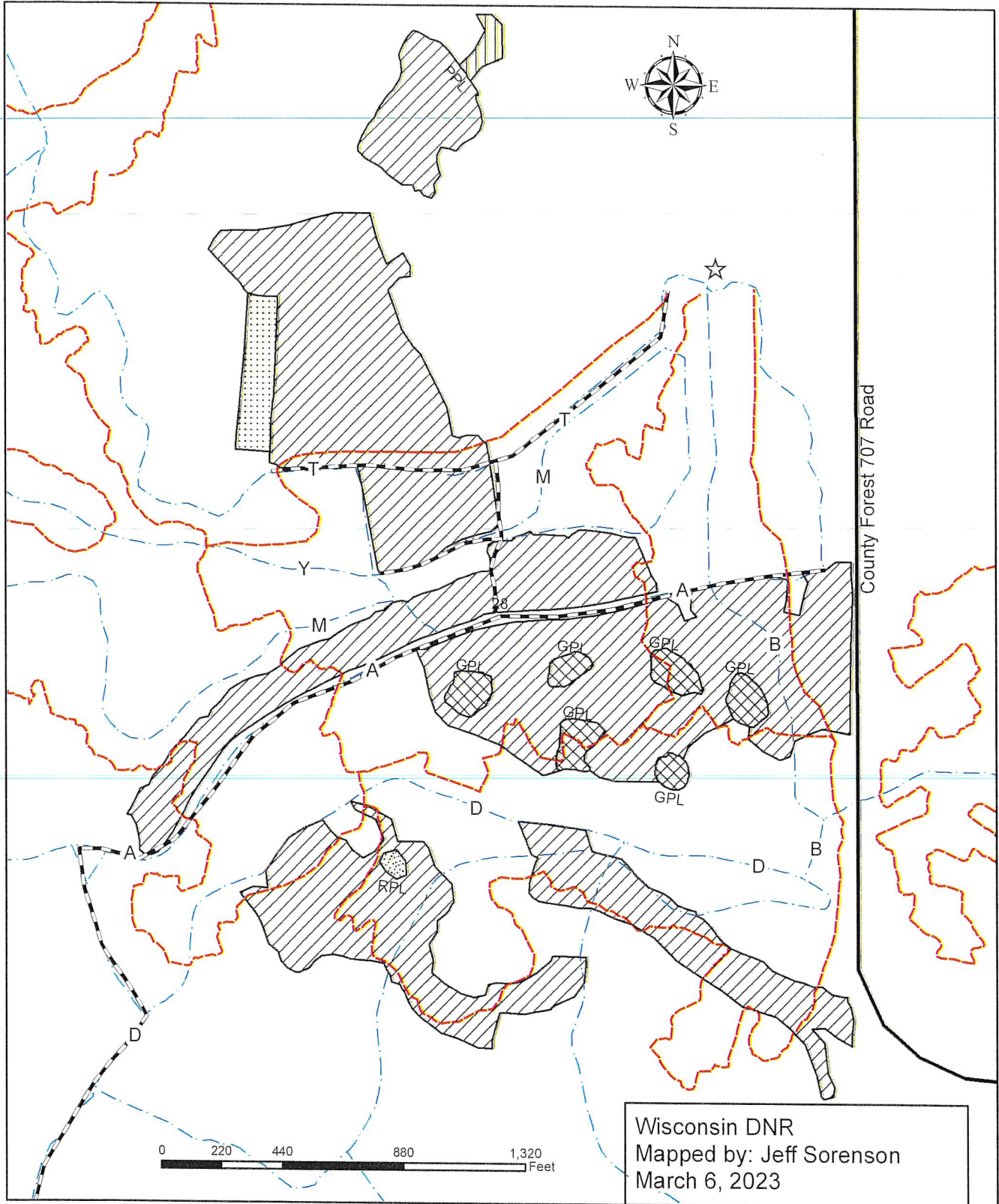
^Nine Mile Trails Closed to Public During Event

MARATHON COUNTY FOREST Spring 2024 BID OPENING RESULTS










SPECIES	TONS	HIGH BID	LOW BID	Weighted Average of All Bids	Weighted Average of High Bids	Wt. Av. High bids Fall 2023	Wt. Av. High Bids Spring 2023	Wt. Av. High Bids Fall 2022
ASPEN	2930	\$19.50	\$1.00	\$6.95	\$14.01	\$6.63	\$6.92	\$11.87
MIXED HWD	2410	\$23.00	\$2.10	\$15.00	\$20.96	\$7.20	\$10.49	\$10.36
OAK	1155	\$14.70	\$2.10	\$8.43	\$13.74	xxxx	\$14.02	\$5.59
BASSWOOD	80	\$6.25	\$1.00	\$3.21	\$6.25	\$4.10	\$8.22	\$2.69
RED PINE	3250	\$34.05	\$8.00	\$21.80	\$29.91	xxxx	\$38.51	xxxx
MBF								
RED OAK	182	\$475.00	\$180.00	\$347.24	\$472.12	xxxx	\$384.90	\$309.75
RED MAPLE	110	\$475.00	\$150.00	\$306.53	\$454.55	\$179.17	\$247.99	\$307.30
ASH	22	\$425.00	\$150.00	\$217.89	\$322.73	\$142.50	\$197.67	\$167.11
MIXED HWD	5	\$475.00	\$150.00	\$240.96	\$460.00	\$170.00	\$350.00	\$200.00
BASSWOOD	4	\$220.00	\$100.00	\$153.33	\$220.00	\$110.00	\$139.72	\$150.00
HARD MAPLE	20	\$500.00	\$160.00	\$343.33	\$500.00	\$180.00	\$190.00	\$198.00
BIOMASS Tons								
All Species	1750	\$0.00	\$0.00	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx	\$0.50
Number of sales sold				5/5				
Acres sold				285				
Value of sales sold				\$351,659.00	\$ 101,793.50	\$ 355,409.70	\$ 242,605.00	
Appraised value of sales				\$210,204.00	\$ 126,441.00	\$ 231,750.00	\$ 181,884.50	
\$ / acre sold				\$1,233.89	\$396.08	\$1,077.00	\$744.19	
Ton eq. sold				11608	14500	16771	17926	
\$ / ton ave.				\$30.29	\$7.02	\$21.19	\$13.53	
Cord eq. sold				4967	6406	7066	7800	
\$ / cord ave.				\$70.80	\$15.89	\$50.30	\$31.10	

This bid opening was for five county forest timber sales.
 Received 31 bids from 14 separate bidders. Five bids were rejected for not submitting a proper bid.
 Four sales were summer/fall chance.

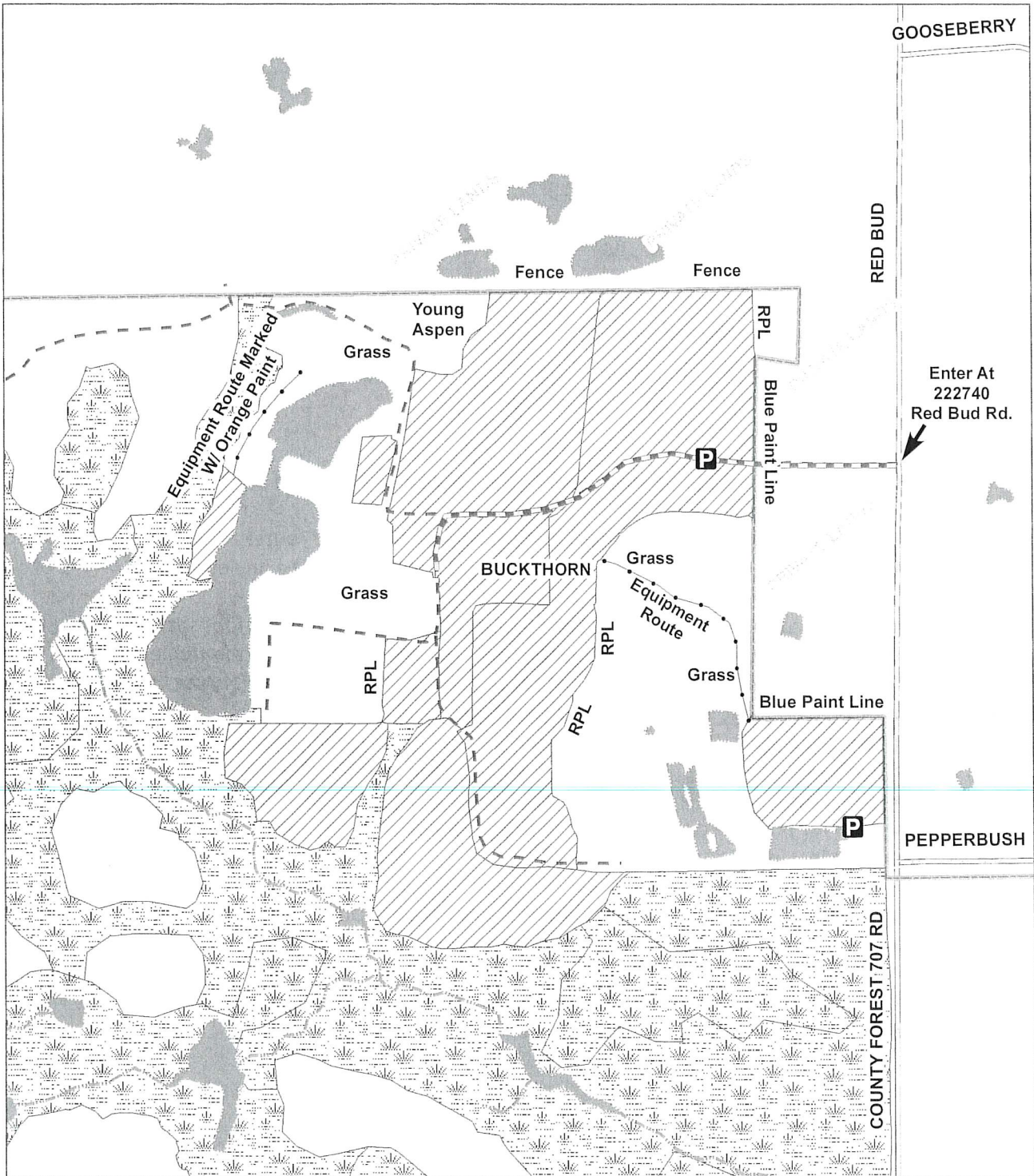
Tract 3-23









Legend

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|
|  | Area 1: Red/White Pine thinning |  | Aspen pocket - out |  | Chalet |
|  | Area 2: Red Pine first thinning |  | Gravel Road |  | Single track trail |
|  | Area 3: White Pine/Oak conversion |  | Ski trail | | |
|  | Area 4: Red pine/Aspen conversion | | | | |
- PPL: purple paint line, GPL: green paint line & RPL: red paint line

Tract 03-24

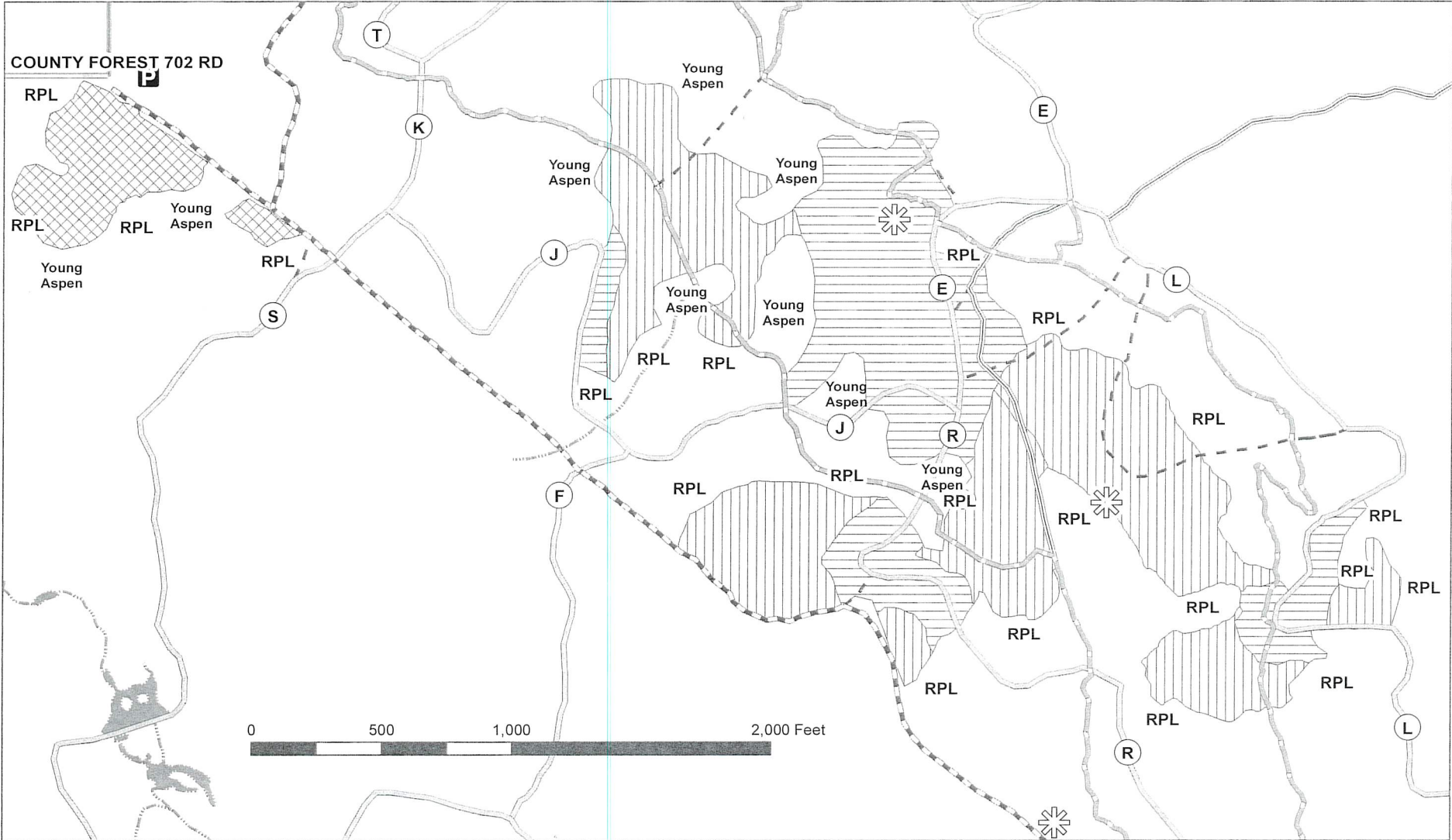


Legend

	Red Pine Thinning		Gravel Trails
	Lakes		Trails
	Streams		Parking Lots
RPL	Red Paint Line		



Tract 4-24



Legend

	Area 1: Oak Shelterwood		Horse Trails		Snowshoe Trails		RPL Red Paint Line
	Area 2: Hardwood Thinning		Single Track Trails		Other Trails		Oak Wilt Salvage
	Area 3: Aspen Coppice		XC Ski Trails		Parking Lots		



BILLERUD CANCELS PLANS FOR ESCANABA MILL UPGRADE

Billerud cancels plans for Escanaba Mill upgrade, Previously Approved State of Michigan Appropriation off the Table

This morning TV6 in Marquette reported that Billerud will no longer be moving forward with their major cartonboard expansion, slated to begin in 2025.

Here is a link to the full article: <https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/2024/05/21/billerud-cancels-plans-escanaba-mill/>

MAKE SURE TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO RECORDING AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ARTICLE. It offers details directly from Billerud President & CEO Ivar Vatne about why Billerud has backed away from this expansion, and where they're headed going forward.

Billerud's planned upgrade was going to be funded in part by a \$200 million appropriation from the State of Michigan. According to Billerud President and CEO Ivar Vatne, "The discussions we've had with the State of Michigan is off the table [now]."

Some of Mr. Vatne's statement includes:

"We've worked long and hard over the past 18 months to find a solution...we've reviewed many different scopes...we looked at different ways we can phase this out. Now the conclusion is pretty clear; the investment level remains a massive challenge. The discussions we've had with the State of Michigan's is off the table [now]..."

The positive news is that Vatne states that Billerud isn't going anywhere. He goes on to say that they will slowly phase into packaging, and they can't imagine a future without their North American assets. However, for the Upper Peninsula's loggers truckers and mills, as well as many in northern Lower Michigan and northern Wisconsin, this news comes as a terrible blow.

Big thanks to TV6 for their excellent reporting.

SPRING BROOK ROAD RED PINE
NINE MILE FOREST UNIT

HIGHLIGHTS:

- 60 Acres Planted in 1940
- 80 Years Old
- Overmature Trees Requiring Clearcut To Capture Economic Value Before Mortality

HARVEST HISTORY:

- 11 Timbersales Completed Beginning In 1970
- 10 Individual Selection Thinnings
- 1 Final Harvest Of All Trees In 2020

REVENUE FROM ALL HARVESTS:

- \$449,670.00 Or \$7,494.50 Per Acre

REFORESTATION COSTS:

- Site Preparation (Disc Trenching And Herbicide)	\$11,102.00
- Seedlings (55,800 Red Pine/930 Trees/Acre)	\$16,182.00
- Planting Contract	\$ 5,308.80
- Delivery/Shipping/Cold Storage (Estimate)	<u>\$ 1,286.20</u>
Total Reforestation Costs	\$33,879.00
	\$564.65 Per Acre

FUTURE HARVESTS:

- First Thinning Expected ≈ 2050
- 5-6 Individual Selection Thinnings Expected
- Final Harvest Of All Trees Remaining ≈ 2104
- County Revenues ???

BENEFITS OF COUNTY OWNED LANDS:

- Economic
- Social
- Environmental
- Recreational
- Wildlife Habitat
- Watershed Protection
- And Much More

Marathon County Forest

Springbrook Road Red Pine Planting Site - 60 Acres
NENE, NWNE, SWNE & SENE, Section 7, T.27N. - R.7E.
Mosinee Township, Marathon County, WI

