

# Department of Natural Resources Impact in Jackson County

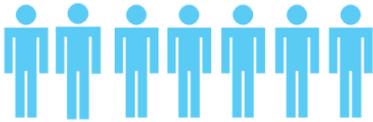
The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



## Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

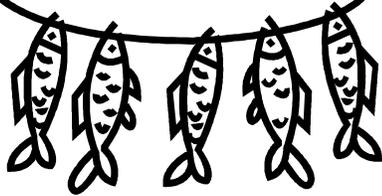
**763,384**



**RESIDENT HUNTERS**

In 2011, fishing in Wisconsin had an economic impact of over

**\$1.4 billion**



In Jackson County, **19,615** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

## Contact Information

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[Facebook.com/widnr/](https://www.facebook.com/widnr/)

## Investments in Recreation

Traveling through Jackson, Eau Claire, Jackson, Trempealeau and Buffalo counties, the Buffalo River State Trail had close to **38,300 visitors** in fiscal year 2014 making an **estimated local impact of \$5,048,000**.

**4,773 extended growth walleye** were stocked in **Black River – Arbutus Canal, Lee Lake, Potter Flowage, Trow Lake and Wazee Lake** under the **Wisconsin Walleye Initiative**. The initiative aims to strengthen Wisconsin walleye waters.

In 2014, DNR stocked **520 pheasants** in Jackson County. Stocking results in increased hunting opportunities, which helps the local economy.

DNR offers a variety of safety classes around the state annually. In 2013, a total of **263 citizens became hunter, ATV, boating and snowmobile certified** in Jackson County.

**Jackson County has over 76,771 acres** of state owned lands open to public hunting and outdoor recreation. DNR has recently invested **\$3,303,830 in state managed properties** in Jackson County, including over \$2.9 million on improvements to the Black River State Forest.

**Black River State Forest** has one of the best ski trail systems in the state. The 24 mile trail system is **supported by the Black River Forest Trail Foundation**, the state forest's official friends group. In this partnership between DNR and the friends group, an annual candlelight ski night is held that attracts over 300 visitors to the forest.

## Community Partnerships

DNR sponsors a lake habitat permit for **Arbutus backwater lakefront** property owners to **install fish habitat devices such as fish cribs and rock piles**.

DNR continues in its planning effort to **reintroduce elk to eastern Jackson County**. This project is a collaborative effort between WDNR, Ho-Chunk Nation, Jackson County Forestry and Parks, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Jackson County Wildlife Fund and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Elk may arrive in Wisconsin in early spring 2015.

## Snapshot of grants in Jackson County

A total of **\$1,358,236** was awarded in Jackson County for **water quality, outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, public health and safety and forestry activities**. A snapshot of projects include: rifle range improvements, ATV and snowmobile trail work and forest improvements and plan developing.

**\*\*Numbers reflect the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 time period.**

## Forestry Activities

Since 2011, Jackson County has received **\$646,700 in Stewardship grants** to purchase over **1,158 acres** to add to their county forest.

Since 2005, **over 177,349 cord equivalents of timber products have been harvested from state-owned land** in Jackson County. The harvests provided more than **\$6.9 million in revenue** to the state and contributed employment opportunities and raw materials to the local economy.

Over the last three fiscal years, **DNR has annually provided .9 full time employee equivalents of DNR staff time as assistance to Jackson County Forest**. This assistance helped the county forest generate an average of **\$1.15 million/year in revenue**, which in turn supports Jackson County's economy and government.

Since June 2010, **DNR has provided over \$26,221 to private forest owners in the county to assist them in protecting and enhancing their forested lands, prairies and waters**.

**DNR granted \$17,872 to local Fire Departments** in Jackson County to purchase equipment and supplies that improve their capability and safety in handling wild land fires.

Jackson County has **9,492 acres of private land open for public access** as a result of the tax law programs. The Tax Law Programs encourage proper management of timber, wildlife, water quality and the environment through written management plans for a landowner's property.

## Environmental Cleanup Efforts

DNR approved **cleanups at 212 contaminated properties** resulting in **five acres** being made available for reuse. DNR staff assures these cleanups provide **long-term protection of public health and environment**.

**DNR responded to 27 spills of hazardous materials** over the past three years. DNR works with local fire departments and regional hazardous materials teams to coordinate response and clean-up activities.

DNR provided **\$120,324 in reimbursements** over the past three years for expenses related to the **investigation and cleanup of petroleum contamination** from product storage systems.

## Deer Management in Jackson County

In 2014, Jackson County established a County Deer Advisory Council. One council per county, they provide input and recommendations to the DNR on deer management.

DNR worked with three landowners who have 260 acres enrolled in the Deer Management Assistance Program to improve wildlife habitat on their property.

In 2013, a total of 7,175 deer were registered in Jackson County with 1,909 harvested during archery deer season and 5,266 harvested during the gun deer season.