

# Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

## Monitoring the Implementation of Property Master Plans

**Property Grouping:** Lower Wolf River Bottomlands Natural Resources Area (LWRBNRA)

**Master Plan Year:** 2012

### Native Community Management Area: Lower Wolf and Embarrass River Corridors

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain and enhance the extent, quality, and connectivity of Floodplain Forest and Southern Hardwood Swamp, and maintain their connections to adjacent open habitats (e.g., marshes, shrub swamps), to benefit common species such as wood duck, raccoon, white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and beaver and uncommon species such as red-shouldered hawk, cerulean warbler, and prothonotary warbler.</li> <li>• Maintain a functioning Floodplain Forest ecosystem that contains many older trees and large-diameter trees, snags, coarse woody debris, patches of younger regenerating forest, habitat for the fullest range of Floodplain Forest species as possible, and minimal populations of invasive exotic species. The desired forest condition in this type of stand-level mosaic may be represented by the following tree size-class distribution (DBH = Diameter at Breast Height):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0-5" DBH: 10% of patches within stands</li> <li>• 5-11" DBH: 15% of patches within stands</li> <li>• 11-15" DBH: 15% of patches within stands</li> <li>• 15-30" DBH: 60% of patches within stands</li> <li>• &gt;30" DBH: at least 1 tree/acre throughout the bottomlands (Note: there are areas of bottomland hardwoods that are not suitable for conducting logging operations. These areas would be allowed to develop and could conceivably reach stand averages of 30" DBH, barring any natural disturbances such as wind storms, major floods or insect outbreaks. Even in the managed areas, 75% of the stand area would always be in a larger-diameter (sawlog) size class.)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Manage non-Floodplain Forest communities to complement the Floodplain Forest objectives and support aquatic habitat management objectives and, secondarily, to support the wildlife habitat management objectives described under Habitat Management Area (p. 15).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2015</b></p>	<p><i>BH stands have been harvested on Navarino WA (Compartment 2) &amp; Niemuth parcel following management guidelines, taking into consideration walleye spawning marshes, cavities for wood ducks</i></p>

	<p><i>and other species that utilize them for nesting, and coarse woody debris recruitment into the river for fish, reptile, and aquatic invertebrate substrate.</i></p> <p><i>Mukwa Wildlife Area: Several timber sales have been established and/or marked towards the objective “maintain a functioning floodplain forest.”</i></p>
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## **Habitat Management Areas: General Habitat Management Objectives**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide maximum wildlife benefits on wetlands, particularly habitat for waterfowl nesting, brood rearing, and migratory stopover.</li> <li>• Provide larger blocks of habitat and a continuum of habitats from lowland to upland; and provide linkages between habitat blocks that create travel corridors for the movement of species over time.</li> <li>• Provide high-quality habitat for forest game and non-game species, with an emphasis on oak, aspen, native white pine, and swamp conifer habitats.</li> <li>• Protect, enhance, and expand turtle nesting opportunities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2015</b></p>	<p><i>A 41.5 acre hardwood thinning and coppice cut of aspen on Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area--Herb Behnke Unit completed.</i></p> <p><i>The primary objective is to regenerate early successional species of trees to benefit ruffed grouse, woodcock, golden-winged warblers, and other young forest dependent species.</i></p> <p><i>Timber harvest in aspen habitat to provide for young forest dependent species—Navarino WA (Compartment 2 &amp; 3). Timber marked on Navarino WA in Compartments 8 &amp; 15.</i></p> <p><i>Compartment 2 on Navarino WA—River Rd timber marking was to reduce shade of the turtle nesting area and increase sunlight for incubation of eggs.</i></p> <p><i>Water level control on all flowages to maximize benefits for wetland dependent species, taking into consideration water quality, quantity, and other aspects of hydrology. Dam safety inspections and designations ongoing.</i></p> <p><i>Mowed tops and sides of dikes for maintenance.</i></p> <p><i>Population monitoring activities included duck banding, bear bait survey, Sandhill crane survey, upland game bird brood survey, summer deer observations, mammal survey, wolf survey, mussel survey and breeding bird, woodcock, and amphibian surveys in conjunction with Navarino Nature Center.</i></p> <p><i>Waterfowl banding totals for Navarino WA, Wolf River Bottoms WA-Herb Behnke Unit, &amp; LWRBNRA-Wilderness Unit were:</i></p>

	Mallards 417 Wood ducks 342 Total 759
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## General Fisheries Management

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Maintain and enhance existing fisheries through habitat management and restoration, enhancement and protection, monitoring, and development of science-based angling rules.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DNR Fisheries staff netted and handled 1,462 lake sturgeon from the Wolf River during 2015 spring spawning assessments.</li> <li>- DNR Fisheries staff conducted walleye electrofishing assessment throughout the Wolf River during 2015. There were 2,752 male and 437 female walleye tagged on the Wolf River.</li> </ul>

## Fisheries Management: Walleye Spawning Marshes

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Restore, enhance, and maintain the functional values of known walleye spawning marshes and establish new walleye spawning marshes where practicable.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- During spring electrofishing assessments, DNR fisheries staff evaluated spawning marsh conditions and assessed the need for maintenance and establishment of new marshes.</li> <li>- New spawning marsh posting signs were put up on the lower Wolf River downstream of Shaw's Landing. No marsh maintenance was conducted in 2015 due to poor winter conditions.</li> </ul>

## Fisheries Management: Sturgeon Populations and Spawning Areas in the Wolf River

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restore, enhance, and protect the functional values of known sturgeon spawning areas on the Wolf River, and establish new quality spawning areas when opportunities allow.</li> <li>• Restore migrant and resident sturgeon spawning populations to the Wolf River above Shawano Paper Mill and Balsam Row dams, including the river on the Menominee Reservation and the Red River above the Shawano Paper Mill dam, without negatively impacting the Winnebago System sturgeon population or recreational fishery. Utilize fish and eggs from sturgeon stock in the lower Wolf River for this effort.</li> <li>• Work cooperatively with the Menominee Tribe to meet cultural sturgeon needs, and to develop and implement a cost-efficient and ecologically sound long-term process for restoring sturgeon to the upper Wolf River. Utilize fish and eggs from sturgeon stock in the lower Wolf River for this effort.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Accomplishments 2015</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No sturgeon spawning habitat work was completed in 2015</li> <li>- 134 lake sturgeon were captured from the lower Wolf River and transferred upstream of the Balsam Row Dam within the Menominee Reservation. These fish were transferred in Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 to comprise the 2015 spawning cohort of lake sturgeon within the upper Wolf River. Sturgeon were observed spawning below Keshena Falls in spring 2015.</li> <li>- An additional 52 fish were transferred upstream of the Balsam Row Dam in November of 2015. These fish will be the first transfer of the 2016 spawning cohort, with the additional fish being transferred in Spring 2016.</li> <li>- DNR staff (Secretary's Office, FERC coordinator, Tribal Liaison, Legal, Fisheries, and Dam Safety) attended numerous meetings and conference calls related to fish passage at the Balsam Row Dam. The design is a natural bypass channel with a sorting facility to prevent AIS from moving upstream.</li> </ul>

## Fisheries Management: Coarse Woody Habitat for Catfish and Other Species

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a sustainable catfish fishery with opportunities for both quality and trophy harvest.</li> <li>• Maintain and/or restore coarse woody habitat for catfish and the multitude of other fish and aquatic species that utilize this type of habitat.</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Accomplishments 2015</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DNR fisheries staff conducted flathead and channel catfish hoop net surveys on the Wolf River. Hoop net surveys conducted in June captured 206 flatheads and 310 channel catfish. A baited hoop net survey was conducted in August to target channel catfish.</li> <li>- Low pulse electrofishing surveys were conducted in August to sample juvenile flathead catfish.</li> <li>- No catfish habitat work was completed in 2015.</li> </ul>

## Fisheries Management: Other Fish Species

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Provide balanced and diverse game, panfish and non-game fish communities.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>See walleye, sturgeon and catfish narratives.</i>

### Fisheries Management: Mussel Habitat

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain abundant and diverse mussel populations in the Wolf River system.</li> <li>• Expand distribution and abundance data for mussels in the Wolf River system.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>No mussel-specific habitat work was done on the main stem of the lower Wolf River in 2015</i></li> <li>- <i>The main stem of the lower Wolf River appears to still support a diverse mussel fauna</i></li> <li>- <i>Qualitative mussel surveys were conducted on 27 different tributaries to the lower Wolf River</i></li> <li>- <i>Qualitative time search protocols were used and general habitat characteristics were recorded at each site</i></li> </ul>

### General Recreation Management

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide high-quality hunting, trapping, and fishing opportunities.</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for high-quality, nature-based, non-hunting-related recreational activities, such as paddling, hiking, cross country skiing, and wildlife viewing, as is compatible with the property's capabilities and the primary objective, above.</li> <li>• To the degree practicable, accommodate compatible incidental open-space recreational uses; for example, nature study and berry picking (incidental uses are uses that are not specifically managed for on the property).</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<p><i>Continued to host "Mussels on the Wolf River" field trip through the Natural Resources Foundation.</i></p> <p><i>Waterfowl closed area boundary inspected and signs replaced on Navarino and Outagamie WA.</i></p> <p><i>PDMD permits for disabled access: 17 Navarino WA &amp; 1 LWRBNRA-Beiffuss parcel.</i></p>



**Property:** Lower Wolf River Bottomlands Natural Resources Area (LWRBNRA) Habitat Areas

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**Habitat Management Area: Institute of Paper Science parcel**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain exotic hybrid larch research stand as a seed orchard for future genetic trials and possible climate change research.</li> <li>• Convert exotic aspen hybrid research stand to a native white pine and oak stand.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

**Habitat Management Area: Wilderness parcel**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives and the Aquatic Habitat Overlay Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restore permanent wetland habitat in the existing impoundment by manipulating water levels.</li> <li>• Develop 3 new flowages to enhance habitat for waterfowl.</li> <li>• Lower the grade of the road crossing the oxbow in the southern portion of the property and maintain as a spillway to allow water flow for walleye spawning.</li> <li>• Maintain the electric pumping station in the northern portion of the property used to manipulate water levels, and assess the need to retain the non-electrified pump on the bank of Wolf River in the northeast corner of the property.</li> <li>• Study potential strategies for managing waterfowl hunting pressure on this and adjacent state properties during traditional peak use times to enhance hunting quality.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Renovated .25 miles of dike on South Pool 3.</i>

### Habitat Management Area: DOT Mitigation Site parcel

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Maintain and enhance wetland habitats for diverse wildlife species, wildlife-related recreation, and floodwater management, in collaboration with the Outagamie Drainage District.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

### Habitat Management Area: Lutz parcel

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives and the Aquatic Habitat Overlay Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restore agricultural lands to native habitats after the sharecropping agreement is completed. Ditches may be plugged and small berms constructed to create basins. Prairie species may be planted to provide permanent nesting habitat. Bottomland hardwood species such as swamp white oak, silver maple, and hackberry may be planted in fields adjacent to existing stands of bottomland hardwoods.</li> <li>• Retain the deer-proof fence as needed to protect planted bottomland hardwoods from deer browse. When no longer needed, request bids for its removal by private contractors.</li> <li>• Work with NRCS to develop and implement a management plan for the existing WRP parcel on this property.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Replaced culvert on Wetland Reserve Program portion of the property with a water control structure to facilitate the manipulation of water levels to enhance wetland habitat. Removed old pump and re-graded dike to maintain integrity of dike system.</i>

### Special Management Area: Wilderness parcel

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Provide areas and facilities to support routine, seasonal, and incidental operations and administration needs.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Facilities maintained and inspected.</i>

## Public Use, Management, and Development: LWRBNRA Habitat Areas

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p>The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.</p>
<p><b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 8 parking areas and 2 boat landings.</li> <li>• Continue working with partners to maintain the viewing platform on the DOT Mitigation Site in Outagamie County.</li> <li>• Provide a designated dispersed camping area (to be utilized by permit) on the Krubsack parcel in Shawano County to serve paddlers making multiple-day trips on the Wolf River.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designate a location for landing canoes and kayaks near the camping area that minimizes erosion, and post as such; maintain as necessary.</li> <li>• Maintain the service road to the camping area for performing maintenance.</li> <li>• No facilities will be provided and visitors will be expected to remove their trash upon leaving. User regulations will be provided with camping permits.</li> <li>• Management of vegetation at the camping area will be minimal, as needed to ensure visitor safety, control invasive exotic plants, and provide open areas for tent placement.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Develop a 3-vehicle parking area on the Larson parcel in Waupaca County.</li> <li>• Evaluate recreational opportunities and parking area needs on an ongoing basis as additional parcels become available through acquisition.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2015</b></p>	<p><i>Established new parking lot on the Conradt parcel.</i></p> <p><i>Access roads maintained on the Niemuth parcel during frozen ground conditions.</i></p>

Property: Navarino Wildlife Area

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**Habitat Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives and the Aquatic Habitat Overlay Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions, Aquatic Habitat Overlay Prescriptions, and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li> <li>• Maintain the open, treeless sandblows within the grasslands east of CTH K for tiger beetles.</li> <li>• Develop 4 new flowages to enhance habitat for waterfowl.</li> <li>• Where stands of white pine 95 years old or older occur on appropriate sites, manage them to biological maturity.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<p><i>Improved 3.5 acres of habitat for tiger beetles.</i></p> <p><i>Spillway on 15-acre Flowage improved.</i></p>

**Native Community Management Area: Navarino Cedar Swamp State Natural Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Protect a functioning white cedar swamp with little disturbance and nearly free of invasive exotic species.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<p><i>Inventoried for invasive species primarily European marsh thistle.</i></p> <p><i>Botanical Club of Wisconsin collected vegetation data that will be used to inform management decisions.</i></p>

**Native Community Management Area: Navarino Sedge Meadow State Natural Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Protect a functioning Northern Sedge Meadow.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

**Native Community Management Area: Highway K Woods State Natural Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Protect a functioning Northern Dry-mesic Forest with little disturbance and nearly free of invasive exotic species.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Japanese knotweed was controlled at the old homestead site. Japanese hedge parsley was identified on the walking path and old homestead site and was controlled.</i>

**Special Management Area: Navarino Nature Center**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide areas and facilities to support operations and administration needs and provide facilities to help deliver public services and educational programming.</li> <li>• Provide educational programs that develop outdoor skills emphasizing appreciative as well as consumptive uses of wildlife resources and other manners of enjoying natural resources and the outdoors.</li> <li>• Provide interpretive and educational services that create an appreciation for wildlife and natural resources conservation and management.</li> <li>• Provide educational programs and demonstration of technology being used at Navarino Nature Center to foster appreciation and interest in renewable energy.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>New accessible boardwalk and connecting trail was constructed over Glenn's Pond by Navarino Nature Center. Trails and boardwalks were maintained by Navarino Nature Center (12 miles). Cross-country ski trails were</i>

	<p><i>also groomed.</i></p> <p><i>Improved website and developed a new recreational opportunities pamphlet.</i></p>
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**Public Use, Management, and Development: Navarino Wildlife Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.</p>
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 57 parking areas and 3 boat landings on the property.</li> <li>• Maintain the 40-acre Class 2 dog training area on Oak Road in cooperation with volunteers.</li> <li>• Maintain wildlife viewing area on Lindsten Road.</li> <li>• Maintain a 1,000-acre closed area at Pikes Peak Flowage as a waterfowl refuge (NR 11.04(4)(a), Wis. Admin. Code).</li> <li>• Continue working with NNC to maintain the observation platform on Pikes Peak Flowage.</li> <li>• Provide additional accessible wildlife viewing opportunities on Pikes Peak Flowage.</li> <li>• Improve the path to an accessible duck-hunting blind on McDonald Flowage.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<p><i>Signage was replaced for those missing/damaged on waterfowl closed area to clearly post it for hunters (approximately 4.7 miles).</i></p> <p><i>The parking lots were mowed, litter removed, and signage inspected.</i></p> <p><i>Dog training area maintained by volunteers.</i></p> <p><i>Stocked 120 pheasants total with two releases. Coordinated with clubs enrolled in the Day-Old-Chick program.</i></p> <p><i>Five sharecrop contracts for a total of 164.74 acres.</i></p> <p><i>Internal roads maintained and mowed to aid access for users. Fire Control assisted to open trails with numerous trees down to facilitate timber marking &amp; logging, and allow access for property users.</i></p> <p><i>Path was improved with fine gravel to the accessible waterfowl blind on McDonald Flowage (Bonduel HS).</i></p>

Property: Wolf River Bottoms State Natural Area

**Native Community Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the site as an old-growth Floodplain Forest preserve, aquatic preserve, wetland protection site, and as an ecological reference area.</li> <li>• Natural processes will largely determine the structure of the forest.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

Property: Deer Creek Wildlife Area

**Habitat Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li> <li>• Remove the water control structure at the outlet of the main ditch and replace with a rock spillway to help maintain the hydrology of the tamarack bog.</li> <li>• Maintain sand prairie openings as potential turtle nesting areas through mowing.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

**Native Community Management Area: Deer Creek Tamarack Bog State Natural Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Protect an existing black spruce-tamarack forest and open bog.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

## Public Use, Management, and Development: Deer Creek Wildlife Area

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 4 parking areas on the property.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected.</i>

Property: Maine Wildlife Area

## Habitat Management Area

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

## Public Use, Management, and Development: Maine Wildlife Area

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 1 parking area on the property.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected.</i>

Property: Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area – Herb Behnke Unit

**Habitat Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li><li>• Develop 2 new flowages to enhance habitat for waterfowl.</li></ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Repaired water control structure on Embarrass Flowage.</i>

**Special Management Area: Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area – Herb Behnke Unit**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Provide areas and facilities to support routine, seasonal, and incidental operations and administration needs.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Facilities maintained and inspected.</i>

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area – Herb Behnke Unit**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p>The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.</p>
<p><b><i>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 3 parking areas on the property.</li> <li>• Develop a Class 2 dog training area in the northeast corner of the property, including a 10-car parking area.</li> <li>• Designate Osprey Flowage in the northwest corner of the property (~740 acres) as a waterfowl closed area with no entry during the open migratory bird seasons except for the regular deer gun and muzzleloader seasons. Legally taken migratory birds may be retrieved by hand or dog while not possessing a firearm in posted waterfowl retrieval zones.</li> <li>• Study potential strategies for managing waterfowl hunting pressure on this and adjacent state properties during traditional peak use times to enhance hunting quality.</li> </ul>
<p><b><i>Accomplishments 2015</i></b></p>	<p><i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected. Osprey flowage designated as a waterfowl closed area. Closure begins in 2016.</i></p>

Property: Outagamie Wildlife Area

**Habitat Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions, Aquatic Habitat Overlay Prescriptions, and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li> <li>• Maintain some shrub cover in the southern grassland unit on the east side of the Wolf River for woodcock habitat.</li> <li>• Maintain the pumping station for flowage management.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Pump channel was dredged to facilitate water flow for the pumping station.</i>

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Outagamie Wildlife Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 4 parking areas on the property.</li> <li>• Open the existing 50-acre closed area to waterfowl hunting in favor of creating a larger closed area as a waterfowl refuge on an adjacent property.</li> <li>• Study potential strategies for managing waterfowl hunting pressure on this and adjacent state properties during traditional peak use times to enhance hunting quality.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected. Closed area will be open to hunting beginning in 2016.</i>

Property: Mack Wildlife Area

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**Habitat Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li> <li>• Consider a coppice cutting or biomass harvest to control the infestation of buckthorn on this property and to reduce competition with aspen.</li> <li>• Manage existing grassland areas as openings within a mosaic of trees and shrubs for woodcock singing and roosting areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Mack Wildlife Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 2 parking areas on the property.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected.</i>

**Property:** Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area – LaSage Unit

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**Habitat Management Area**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<p>Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.</p>
<p><b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions, Aquatic Habitat Overlay Prescriptions, and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li> <li>• Pursue necessary reconstruction and repair of dikes, water control structures, and culverts in order to continue managing water levels in the impoundment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2015</b></p>	

**Native Community Management Area: LaSage Bottoms State Natural Area**

<p><b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a functioning Floodplain Forest ecosystem that contains many older trees and large-diameter trees, snags, coarse woody debris, smaller patches of younger regenerating forest, habitat for the fullest range of Floodplain Forest species as possible, and minimal populations of invasive exotic species.</li> <li>• Utilize natural processes and active management that mimic natural disturbance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accomplishments 2015</b></p>	

**Special Management Area: Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area – LaSage Unit**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Reclaim the site and provide a camping area for paddlers making multiple-day float trips on the Wolf River.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Building sites have been reclaimed and site leveled for camping area.</i>

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Wolf River Bottoms Wildlife Area – LaSage Unit**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 1 parking area on the property</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected.</i>

**Property:** Hortonville Bog State Natural Area

**Native Community Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Maintain the site as a reserve for Northern Wet Forest and Black Spruce Swamp communities, as a wetland protection site, and as an ecological reference area.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

## Public Use, Management, and Development: Hortonville Bog State Natural Area

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the existing parking area in the southwest corner of the property.</li> <li>• Maintain the existing row of trees running in a line east of the parking area to delineate adjacent private land.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Mowed the tree planting to reduce competition for planted trees.</i>

Property: Wolf River Fishery Area

## Native Community Management Area: Lower Wolf and Embarrass River Corridors

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Follow the description, objectives, and prescriptions for this NCMA on pages 12-15. Below are unique prescriptions for habitats not covered by management of the NCMA.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain or enhance the connection of the canal to the Embarrass River to provide at a minimum a seasonal spring influx of fresh water to avoid stagnation of the canal.</li> <li>• Keep the canal relatively clear of downed trees that would block or significantly reduce the flow of water.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

## Public Use, Management, and Development: Wolf River Fishery Area

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to pursue opportunities to improve access and parking</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

Property: Mukwa Wildlife Area

## Native Community Management Area: Mukwa Bottomland Forest State Natural Area

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Maintain the site as an old-growth Floodplain Forest preserve, aquatic preserve, wetland protection site, and as an ecological reference area, primarily through natural processes.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>The north boundary was blue painted to help identify the state natural area from a private landowner timber harvest.</i>

## Public Use, Management, and Development: Mukwa Wildlife Area

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 2 parking areas on the property.</li> <li>• Maintain easement agreement with Waupaca County for management and maintenance of the Sturgeon Trail.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<p><i>Capitol Development project has been submitted to improve parking area on Thompson Rd.</i></p> <p><i>Facilities maintained and inspected.</i></p>

Property: Shaky Lake State Natural Area

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**Native Community Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Maintain this marl-bottomed bog lake and associated Northern Wet Forest and Northern Sedge Meadow communities.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Shaky Lake State Natural Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to pursue opportunities to improve access.</li></ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>The north boundary was posted to identify the state natural area from the adjacent private landowner's timber harvest.</i>

Property: Wolf River Wildlife Area

**Habitat Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives and Aquatic Habitat Overlay Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions, Aquatic Habitat Overlay Prescriptions, and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li> <li>• Marsh hay cutting may be used as a management tool in some areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Wolf River Wildlife Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 2 parking areas on the property, and develop an additional 4-car parking area.</li> <li>• Maintain 180-acre closed area on the Metzsig Marsh segment as a waterfowl refuge (NR 11.03(11)(a), Wis. Admin. Code).</li> <li>• Evaluate the effectiveness of the closed area in retaining waterfowl use on this property for the benefit of waterfowl hunting in the general area. Propose changes to or elimination of the closed area based on this evaluation.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected.</i>

Property: Rat River Wildlife Area

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**Habitat Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Management will be in accordance with the general Habitat Management Area Objectives and Aquatic Habitat Overlay Objectives provided in Section One of this chapter.
<b>Appropriate Management Activities or Prescriptions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow the applicable Habitat Management Area Prescriptions, Aquatic Habitat Overlay Prescriptions, and Management Prescriptions by Cover Type in Section One of this chapter, unless prescribed otherwise in the site-specific prescriptions below.</li> <li>• Marsh hay cutting may be used as a management tool in some areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>100 acres of Marsh Hay was cut.</i>

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Rat River Wildlife Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	<p>The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain 7 parking areas on the property.</li> </ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	<i>Parking lots were maintained and inspected. Three gates installed at the Shady lane parking lots to prevent vandalism and damage to parking lots.</i>

Property: Winchester Meadow State Natural Area

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**Native Community Management Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	Protect the functioning Northern Sedge Meadow and Emergent Marsh communities present.
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	

**Public Use, Management, and Development: Winchester Meadow State Natural Area**

<b>MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVES</b>	The following prescriptions support the general public use objectives presented in the Universal Plan Section at the beginning of this chapter. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to pursue opportunities to improve access.</li></ul>
<b>Accomplishments 2015</b>	