WOOD COUNTY, WI FOREST COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN TABLE OF CONTENTS CHAPTER 500 LAND MANAGEMENT AND USE

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500 LAND USE

500.1 Objectives

- 1. To identify policies and procedures employed to effectively manage, utilize and sustain the resources of the County Forest.
- 2. To identify regulated management activities, land uses and special resource areas.
- 3. To layout proper permits needed for certain activities on the County Forest

505 TIMBER SALES

Regulated cutting of timber is essential to the goals and objectives of this plan. Timber harvesting will be conducted to achieve a sustainable harvest level. Harvest areas will be distributed in the forest to accommodate such needs as biodiversity, wildlife, aesthetics, watershed protection and other biological needs. WisFIRS will be used for planning all timber harvest activities on the County Forest. All sales will be established, administered and reported in accordance with the DNR Timber Sale Handbook (2461). All sales on the forest are to be

advertised for public bidding, with the exception of small sales with an estimated value of \$3000 or less or sales that would qualify under a salvage provision (s. 28.11(6)(c), Wis. Stats.). These sales may be sold direct without advertising.

505.1 Field Preparation of Timber Sales

The County and the DNR will cooperate to locate, designate and prepare harvest areas for sale. The Forest administrator and DNR liaison forester shall jointly be responsible to see that the fieldwork on sales is accomplished. Administrator and Liaison will also jointly be responsible for ensuring that all proper documentation for each timber sale is properly filled out and routed for signatures.

505.2 Advertising for Bids

After fieldwork is completed and necessary reports receive DNR approval, the administrator shall prepare a sale prospectus and make it available to interested loggers. Under s.28.11(6)(b) Wis. Stats, timber sale advertisements, at a minimum, will be by classified ad in a newspaper having general circulation in the county (e.g. Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune, Marshfield News Herald). Ads shall be run once each week for two consecutive weeks, the last being at least one week prior to the bid opening. A longer advance time will be given when feasible. Sealed bid sales will generally be offered in the spring and fall, or as needed.

505.3 Prospectus

The following minimum information will be made available to prospective bidders:

- 1. Species to be harvested and estimated volume
- 2. Maps of sale areas
- 3. Special contract provisions
- 4. Procedures for bidding
- 5. Bid forms
- 6. Timber sales bond and advance stumpage schedule

505.4 Method of Bidding

Bids will be reviewed at a meeting of the committee. A sealed envelope showing tract number and marked "sealed bid" shall be submitted on County Forest bid forms by the bidder for each tract bid on, and shall contain:

- (1) The bid price per unit of species product. The total value of the timber sale bid shall be indicated on both scaled and lump sum bids. The total bid value must meet or exceed the advertised sale minimum acceptable bid value, as documented in form 2460.
- (2) A minimum of 20% of the bid value of each tract must accompany the bid as a bid bond, payable to Wood County.

505.5 Awarding Sales

- 1. The high bidder is normally awarded the sale contract; however, the committee reserves the right to reject any or all bids and accept the bid offer most advantageous to the county. Grounds for rejecting bids may include without limit:
 - A. Non-compliance with County Forest contract requirements.

- B. Delinquent financial obligations.
- C. Unsatisfactory past performances.
- D. Inability to demonstrate financial or professional capability. Evaluation criteria on timber sales will be price and documented ability to satisfactorily complete the contract. Factors to be assessed may include proposed equipment and operation, references, proof of financial stability, past performance and documented training completed. The award of contract to the successful bidder shall be based upon the bid determined most advantageous to the County.
- 2. Tie bids may be settled by toss of a coin if both parties are agreeable; otherwise, the bids on that tract will be rejected and the sale re-advertised.
- 3. Sales remaining unsold after being advertised for one bid opening may be rebid or sold direct. Direct sales may be sold at the minimum advertised value or appraised value, whichever is less. (See DNR <u>Timber Sale Handbook</u>).

505.6 Sale Contracts

- 1. Contracts will be prepared with copies provided to the logger with the original filed in the administrator's office.
- 2. Contracts are to be signed by the successful bidder within 30 days following Committee approval of the sale with payment being made according to the county timber sale bond and/or advance stumpage payment schedule. Failure to sign the contract within 30 days may result in forfeiture of bid bond.

505.7 Timber Sale Performance Bond

- 1. Surety bonds or an irrevocable letter of credit issued by a bank, which is a member of the Federal Reserve System or insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, may be used in lieu of cash as a performance bond on sales. The letter of credit or surety bond must be in effect for 6 months beyond the contract length or until released by the County Forest Administrator. If the contract is extended beyond this time, the contractor must provide an extension to the letter of credit or surety bond for a period equal to the term of the contract extension, plus 6 months.
- 2. The bid bond may be transferred to the performance bond.

505.8 Contract Provisions

All timber sale contracts will be on the form approved by the committee and all provisions therein shall apply. A copy of the timber sale map will be attached and become a part of the contract. A copy of the timber sale contract can be found in the appendix. The following items are essential contract provisions that should be covered in each contract.

505.8.1 Contract Number and Contract Name

Every contract shall have a unique numerical number and depending on county policies/procedures shall have a unique name.

505.8.2 Contract Parties

Contracts must have Name, Address, and other contact information of the Purchaser.

505.8.3 Duration and Extension of Contracts

- a) All contracts will be issued for not less than six months nor more than 3 years, unless otherwise stated on advertisement and/or contracts. Contracts will be dated to expire on the anniversary of the sale. Exceptions may be made in cases of extenuating circumstances.
- b) Contract extensions may be granted by the Committee. See the contract extension policy that is found at the end of the timber sale contract, which is located in the appendix.
- c) Special stumpage rate adjustments may be made according to the previously mentioned contract extension policy.
- d) If purchasers do not wish to have contracts renewed or extended the county may charge double stumpage for any timber left, cut or uncut, within the sale area. The contractor may request a contract release due to severe physical or financial disability. The committee shall determine whether or not a release shall be granted and may withhold all or a portion of the bond deposit for damages.

505.8.4 Termination of Contract by Seller:

See Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.5 Performance Bond, Damages, Future Contracts: See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.6 Title to Timber:

See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.7 Payment Schedule:

See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.8 Utilization Specifications:

See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix. Certain contracts may have additional special products and specifications on a case-by-case basis, and will be listed in those particular contracts.

505.8.9 Training Requirement

Logging contractor and sale operators are to be compliant with the Wisconsin SFI Training Standard as adopted by the Wisconsin SFI Implementation Committee. Valid documentation of compliance with the Forest Industry Safety and Training Alliance training standards must be on file with the County before cutting operations begin and during all operations. See Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.10 BMPs, Roads, Landings:

See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.11 Soil Disturbance and Rutting:

As a requirement of certification, all contracts must have a rutting policy in the contract. See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.12 Liability and Workers Compensation Insurance:

See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.13 Scaling and Conversion Factors:

See the Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.14 Forest Certification:

Wood County will comply with all current forest certification requirements as related to timber sale contract and other sale documentation. See Chapter 100 and Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix.

505.8.15 Other Contract Conditions:

See Timber Sale Contract in the Appendix for the following:

- A. Waste
- B. Stump heights
- C. Zone/Unit completion
- D. Slash requirements
- E. Cleanup of sale area
- F. Forest fire prevention
- G. Survey monument restriction
- H. Indemnification
- I. Independent contractor
- J. Assignment (sub-contracting)
- K. Right of inspection by seller
- L. Applicable law
- M. Other conditions

505.8.16 Attachments to Contract:

A Timber Sale Map and associated cutting specifications will be attached and made part of each Timber Sale Contract.

505.9 Timber Sale Restrictions

- 1. To minimize resource damage, the types of logging equipment, methods, and times of operation used on sale areas may be restricted by the county.
- 2. Special restrictions may be required in accordance with county aesthetic policy, if applicable.
- 3. Seasonal restrictions may be applied to protect roads, minimize recreation use conflicts, benefit wildlife management, avoid endangered resources concerns, minimize insect and disease problems, or to assist in fire protection.

505.10 Timber Sale Roads

1. The contractor will be responsible for securing legal access to sale areas across private or other non-county ownership.

- 2. The contractor will be responsible for securing permission to conduct logging activities within town, county or state road rights-of-way (e.g. decking, skidding)
- 3. Forestry personnel will approve the layout of all roads and make other necessary special provisions within the sale contract.
- 4. Skidding, decking, or other logging activity is not allowed on County Forest roads or ditches unless approved by the County Forest Administrator. These areas will be kept free from logging debris. County Forest access roads will be maintained by the logger and be left in good as original condition at the close of the sale. County personnel to ensure minimal resource damage will inspect roads.
- 5. A timber sale purchaser may request permission to gate a timber sale access road. The administrator may grant a gate permit to prohibit only motorized traffic.

505.11 Supervising Sales

County and / or DNR Forestry personnel, as requested, with corresponding notations in the sales record will perform Sale inspections periodically.

505.11.1 Contract Violations

Field enforcement of timber sale contracts will be the responsibility of the administrator employing the following procedure:

- (a) The administrator, or designee, will attempt to resolve inadvertent or minor violations by verbal contact with the contractor.
- (b) The administrator, or designee, may immediately suspend logging operations when a serious or emergency situation arises.
- (c) The suspension will be followed by written notice to the contractor, stating the nature of the violation and informing them of committee action taken or pending.
- (d) The Committee, in consultation with legal counsel, may consider, but is not limited to the following remedies:
 - (1) Charge double stumpage
 - (2) Charge for actual damages
 - (3) Suspend contract
 - (4) Retain all deposits
 - (5) Foreclose on cut forest products on sale
 - (6) Refer to District Attorney for prosecution
 - (7) Seek civil damages in addition to the performance bond.
- (e) Suspension of operation will remain in effect until receipt of written notice from the county.
- (f) Failure of the contractor to comply with the committee decision may result in the contractor becoming a non-qualifying and ineligible bidder in the future. At the committee's discretion, the contractor may be banned from future purchase of county timber sales for a period to be determined by the Committee on a case-by-case basis. All deposits may be retained and forest products on sale areas may be seized and sold by the county.

505.12 Forest Products Accountability

505.12.1 Scaling Merchantability

(1) Sawlogs will be scaled by the Scribner Decimal C. log rule. A log is defined

as:

- 9" diameter or larger inside bark (d.i.b.) at 8' in length (plus trim) for softwood.
- 11" diameter or larger inside bark (d.i.b.) small end at 8' in length for hardwood.
- Minimum net scale of 50% of the gross scale of the log.
- (2) The standard unit of measure for cordwood is measuring 4' x 4' x 8' of unpeeled wood. Peeled wood will be converted to the standard cord by adding 12.5% for sap-peeled and adding 25% for machine-peeled wood to the gross volume measured. A pulpwood tree contains at least one (1) 8' stick, to a minimum top diameter as defined in the contract.
- (3) The DNR <u>Timber Sale Handbook</u> will be used as a guide in determining the conversion rates for posts, poles, bolts, chips, weight- scaled wood or other types of forest products.

505.12.2 Utilization Standards

Utilization standards will be specified on individual contracts to provide maximum utilization of all merchantable timber and will be based on the scaling standards noted above.

505.12.3 Methods of Accountability

Wood harvested from the sale area must be accounted for and payment made in accordance with existing policy and procedure.

One or more of the following may be used on an individual sale:

- The ticket system utilizes serialized three-part tickets. Advance payment for tickets is generally not required. See contract (in appendix) for exceptions under "Mill Scale Ticket System". One ticket must accompany each load of wood to the mill. Mill scale will be accepted for volume determination.
- (2) Wood may also be scaled on the landing. This method is generally used for sawlogs and may be used for pulpwood. Payment for wood products scaled is normally due within 14 days of billing.
- (3) Lump sum sales may be utilized and divided into cutting units when practical. Payment for a cutting unit must be received in full before any cutting begins in that unit.

505.13 Special Forest Product Permits

- (1) A written permit for making fuelwood for personal use must be purchased for areas designated under the permit. Designated firewood cutting areas are periodically developed and/or closed. Current maps and cutting directions are available in the Park and Forestry Department. See Appendix for Sample Firewood Cutting Permit.
- (2) Written permits may be issued for other special forest products for community or personal use, on a case-by-case basis, with fees established by the committee or the

Forest Administrator.

510 TIMBER THEFT

All cases of alleged timber theft on the county forest shall be investigated and resolved promptly. An allegation of theft by cutting and /or removing timber from the county forest does not alleviate the county from payment under s. 28.11 (9) Wis. Stats. The county will collect damages pursuant to s. 26.05 Wis. Stats. In addition, may pursue criminal charges under s. 943.20 Wis. Stats. And/or seek civil damages.

510.1 Timber Theft Investigation

The following procedure should be used in all cases of alleged timber theft:

- 1. Determination of Theft
 - A. Gathering facts The County, through its sheriff's department and along with assistance of the DNR liaison, rangers and wardens, will ascertain the facts pertinent to the alleged theft, including determination of the damages to the county. Legal counsel representing the county should be involved in all aspects of investigation. Property involved in the alleged theft may be seized pursuant to s. 26.064 Wis. Stats. for use as evidence.
 - B. Boundary determination If property boundaries are involved, the county shall conduct a legal survey of the boundary in question.

515 ENCROACHMENTS

The county will actively investigate all suspected cases of encroachments on the County Forest. To insure the integrity and continuity of the County Forest land, all cases will be dealt with promptly and in a consistent manner. The following procedures will be used in all cases of suspected encroachments:

- (1) The county will establish property boundaries; if necessary, a legal survey will be conducted.
- (2) The county will gather all facts.
- (3) The Committee, in consultation with the forest administrator, county legal counsel, and the DNR, will make a decision as to the disposition of the case.
 - (a) All above ground encroachments that are movable will be removed from county property.
 - (b) Permanent type facilities, such as homes, garages, and septic systems shall be addressed individually and commonly be removed, but may be handled by a land use agreement in rare situations. For example, when the encroachment will be removed within a short defined time period (e.g. septic system needs replacing, dilapidated structure needs to be rebuilt and relocated). Sale or transfer of the encroachment should remain an option depending on the circumstances involved and the viability of an adverse possession claim (s. 893.29 Wis. Stats.).
 - (c) Provisions in the land use agreement, if that option is pursued, may include granting the encroacher permission to encroach on the County Forest lands with the following stipulations: no other encroachments will be allowed; the permit is nontransferable; the county must be notified once encroachment is terminated; county continues full ownership and control of property; permittee agrees to waive any rights to any future declaration of ownership or interest in the encroached county property; county reserves the right to cancel the permit and the permit is to be filed in the office of the Wood County Park and Forestry Department and all fees related to the land use permit shall be paid by the permittee.

- (d) In instances involving encroachments that are the result of updated surveys, relocation of survey markers, property line changes as a result of previously mentioned survey activity; and the net impact to the County Forest is three acres or less; Wood County may choose to sell the property if this action is deemed to be in the best interest of the citizens of county. See the Wood County Park & Forest Land Transaction Policy and Procedures located in the Appendix for more information.
- (e) A sample copy of the Land Use Agreement can be found in the Appendix.

520 SPECIAL USES

- 1. Recognizing the vast potential for a variety of special uses of the County Forest by governmental units, businesses, organizations or individuals, the committee may designate specified areas for special uses. Specific management methods are to be considered on these areas. Uses must be consistent with the intent and purposes of the County Forest Law.
- 2. All requests for specialized uses of any County Forest lands will require a permit authorized by the Committee.
- 3. A list of existing special use areas can be found the Appendix.

520.1 Sand and Gravel

Only units of government or contractors performing public works may use Sand and gravel pits located on the County Forest. Use of existing pits and the opening of new pits by other than the County Parks and Forestry Department will require Committee approval and be authorized by permit only. The condition of such permits may include, but are not be limited to:

any

- 1. Requiring the pit and its access road to be screened from view from public highway
- 2. Severing trees from the stump
- 3. Disposition of brush and dirt spoil by leveling or hauling away
- 4. Sloping to prevent steep banks
- 5. Filing with the forestry office an annual written report of gravel and sand removed.

Other conditions may be set at the discretion of the Committee or County Forest Administrator. The Committee may set fees for materials removed. Other non-metalliferous materials will be dealt with on an individual basis.

All active, nonmetallic sites greater than one acre in size, including those on the County Forest, are also subject to the provisions of the Nonmetallic Mining Reclamation Program, Chapter NR 135, Wis. Adm. Code. The County Parks and Forestry Department shall work with the local permit coordinator (often county or local zoning office) in obtaining the necessary permits for nonmetallic mining operations.

Sand and gravel may, under some circumstances, be leased to private contractors for private use. In these situations, the land must be withdrawn from the County Forest Law until sand/gravel removal and reclamation of the site is completed. Upon completion of reclamation to the satisfaction of the county and the state, the lands shall be reapplied for entry under the County Forest Law.

520.2 Exploration, Prospecting and Mining

- 1. The Committee may investigate all mineral exploration, prospecting and mining requests as they are received.
- 2. The DNR shall be notified of all requests as they become known in accordance with s. 28.11(3) (i)

and (j) and with DNR Manual Code 2712.1 or other codes which may be subsequently adopted.

The <u>Public Lands Handbook</u> should be referenced for procedure that is more detailed.

520.3 Sanitary Landfills

The use of County Forest lands for sanitary landfills will not be allowed unless the lands involved are withdrawn from the County Forest Law.

520.4 Military Maneuvers

Military maneuvers on County Forest lands will be considered under a lease or written land use agreement. Upon receipt of a written request from the military the Committee, other necessary County staff, Military, and DNR representatives will discuss the issue at a public Committee meeting. After the needs have been outlined, the site shall be field checked, DNR input and consistency with the County Forest Law sought, and town officials advised. Depending on the scope of the project, a public hearing may be appropriate. If all aspects and concerns are addressed and agreed to, a legal instrument will be drafted. The matter will then be brought back to a Committee meeting for final input and approval. The <u>Public Forest Lands Handbook</u> will be used for further direction in this matter.

520.5 Public Utilities

The Committee may consider easements for public utilities. Underground installations will be encouraged. The following main provisions shall be included in any County Board resolution granting permission for construction of any utility transmission line:

- 1. Utility may be billed for merchantable forest products and existing timber reproduction.
- 2. Utility may be billed for land removed from production due to right-of-way clearing for losses of future income and multiple use benefits.
- 3. Land removed for utility operations that is no longer suited "primarily for timber production or, that is no longer suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting & fishing, water conservation or multiple use purposes" (s. 28.11(4) (c) Wis. Stats) may need to be withdrawn from county forest law designation. The utility shall replace any lands requiring withdrawal from county forest with other lands suitable for county forest entry that are in the forest blocking of the County Forest.
- 4. Utility companies will be encouraged to use existing corridors and underground lines to minimize disturbance to the county forest and native plants and animals.
- 5. Merchantable timber will be removed in a manner approved by the Committee. Timber cut must be reported to the DNR on form 2460-1.
- 6. Utility must provide notice of proposed route, including a map of not less than 1 inch /mile scale, 90 days in advance of proposed construction.
- 7. Special maintenance, controlled access and signage concerns shall be addressed in any proposal.
- 8. An appropriate fee shall be charged for easements.

520.6 Access to Private Lands

The Department has determined that granting a private easement across county forestlands is not consistent with the County Forest Law program. This determination is based on an Attorney General opinion (*OAG-08-10*). Easement grants to individuals are generally determined to be an exclusive right on a publicly owned asset. Counties are generally restricted from granting easements unless the

easement helps to achieve the purposes of the County Forest Law program.

Applications by private parties to build or improve access roads through County Forest land will be handled according to the Land Transaction Policy (See Appendix) and be considered by the Committee on a case-by-case basis. The following stipulations will generally be adhered to as they apply to each situation before an "Access Permit" is granted. Additional stipulations may also be included depending on each specific situation.

- 1. The applicant as the route of last resort must demonstrate access across County Forest lands. The applicant must document proposed uses.
- 2. No legal easement will be granted, just permission to cross county lands.
- 3. The permit is non-transferable. New landowners must apply to continue the land use agreement.
- 4. Road improvements and upgrading must be approved and will be supervised by the Park and Forestry Department staff. Prior notification of three (3) days is required before work starts.
- 5. All wood that is cut is the property of Wood County.
- 6. Roadway must be opened to the public through county land. No gate may be erected on county land unless authorized by the Forest Administrator.
- 7. The County continues full ownership of the improved roadway; however, it shall not be liable for maintenance or upkeep of the road.
- 8. Permittee waives any rights to any declaration of ownership or interest in the road on county land for administrative costs because of this "Access Permit". The access permit is granted upon the signature and any fees being received by the Wood County Park and Forestry Department.

520.6.1 Temporary Access

Requests for temporary access across County Forest Lands will be reviewed for any potential conflicts with management activities or public access. If impacts are minimal, access for short term needs will be permitted through the use of access agreements or permits, and will be handled according to the Land Transaction Policy (see Appendix) Temporary access is generally for activities such as access to maintain utilities (rail, powerline, etc.) or for logging access on private lands. The recipient of temporary access is required to restore the roadway to at least its prior condition and to expand coverage of any performance deposits or liability insurance to cover the use of the County road.

520.6.2 Access Agreements

Requests for access to private lands may be made by private parties to build or improve access roads through the County Forest. Access agreements will be considered on a case-by-case basis and with the understanding that the County is not legally obligated to provide access to private lands.

A fee of \$25.00 minimum will be assessed by the Committee for access permits. Fees may be greater depending on length of access, timber impacted, etc. The Committee may elect to waive these fees in cases of agreement renewals or in cases of existing roads or driveways.

The applicant as the route of last resort, including evidence of an offer of fair compensation for access across other private lands, must demonstrate access across County Forest lands. The following

stipulations will be included in access agreements:

- 1. Permits are made by and between the County and the property owner. The permits are not transferrable and subsequent property owners must secure their own agreement.
- 2. Permits are not to exceed 10 years.
- 3. Gates, signs, or other articles of the permittee are not permitted on County lands.
- 4. Other county specific stipulations.

Requests for access to private lands may be made by private parties to build or improve access roads through the County Forest. Applications will be handled according to the Land Transaction Policy (See Appendix) and be considered by the Committee on a case-by-case basis. The following stipulations will generally be adhered to as they apply to each situation before an "Access Permit" is granted. Additional stipulations may also be included depending on each specific situation.

- 1. The applicant as the route of last resort must demonstrate access across County Forestlands. The applicant must document proposed uses.
- 2. No legal easement will be granted, just permission to cross county lands.
- 3. The permit is non-transferable. New landowners must apply to continue the land use agreement.
- 4. Road improvements and upgrading must be approved and will be supervised by the Forestry Department staff. Prior notification of three (3) days is required before work starts.
- 5. All wood that is cut is the property of Wood County.
- 6. Roadway must be opened to the public through county land. No gate may be erected on county land unless authorized by the Forest Administrator.
- 7. The County continues full ownership of the improved roadway; however, it shall not be liable for maintenance or upkeep of the road.
- 8. Permittee waives any rights to any declaration of ownership or interest in the road on county land for administrative costs because of this "Access Permit". The access permit is granted upon the signature and any fees being received by the Wood County Park and Forestry Department.

520.6.3 Prescriptive Easements

Historical access points and driveways may meet the legal requirements of prescriptive use. A prescriptive use easement does not generally trigger a need to withdraw lands from the County Forest program unless the public is excluded from motorized travel on the subject road. Legal counsel must review any potential claims of prescriptive easement across County Forest lands in order to determine legal validity and possible legal defense or standing.

520.6.4 Other Types of Access

Complex issues of private access needs may arise in the future. Any proposals to grant an easement across County Forest must help achieve the purposes of the County Forest Law and meet a standard of better and higher public use. Easements to private parties will require withdrawal from County Forest Law and are to be discussed with the Department prior to initiating any proposals.

520.7 Private Utility Service Lines

If a landowner cannot gain utility access across other lands, the committee may consider a land use agreement/permit for access across County Forest. Requests will be handled according to the

Land Transaction Policy and is considered on a case-by-case basis. These agreements/permits should consider the inclusions mentioned below:

- 1. The permit is non-transferrable
- 2. The County retains full ownership of the utility corridor; however, it shall not be liable for maintenance, upkeep, or other damages associated with the utility service.
- The permittee waives any rights to any declaration of ownership or interest in the utility corridor on County land for administrative costs because of this Land Use Agreement – Utility permit. This agreement is granted upon the signature and any fees being received by Wood County.
- 4. The fee for such a land use agreement shall be negotiable.

520.8 Communication Towers

The siting of communication towers on the Wood County Forest will be considered by the Committee on a limited basis. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis subject to the following conditions:

- 1. It must be demonstrated that the site is the most practical location for such a tower.
- 2. Land selected for such a tower is no longer suitable for continued entry in the County Forest program. According to section 28.11(4), Wis. Stats, any accompanying lands needed for tower support wires that inhibit the practice of forestry and are no longer suitable for scenic, outdoor recreation, public hunting & fishing, water conservation or multiple use purposes may also need to be withdrawn from County Forest Law. Withdrawal is subject to approval by both County Board and DNR. The communication company shall replace any lands requiring withdrawal from county forest with other lands, equivalent or better in quality, and suitable for the purposes and management goals of the County Forest.
- 3. A request to withdraw lands from County Forest Law by a private communication company shall follow withdrawal protocol.
- 4. Any agreement should also consider the inclusions listed under 520.5 (Items 1-8).

520.9 Other

The committee may consider other types of special uses of the county forest. These may include, but are not limited to research, independent study and scientific areas. Regulations governing these uses will be developed on an individual basis.