

Wisconsin Investments and Outputs

- Capital Investments in Forest industry - Wisconsin is second highest in nation - 811 million (20% of all Wisconsin manufacturing)
- Of Wisconsin's total industrial output, forest products and processing produced 8.1% (22.6 billion) of the states total



Economic Benefits of Forest Industry

- Wisconsin is 2nd in nation for number of employees in forest products sector
- Forest products and processing jobs account for 4.8% of total employment in Wisconsin (157,357)
- Annual wages on average are \$36,800 (1997) in forests products and processing versus the state average of \$30,296 (2000)



Value of Wood Products Shipments

Lakes States Perspective



Printing not included



Future of Forest Products Economy

Wisconsin is well positioned to be a competitive leader in forest industry because...

- Current and future supply of raw material -- wood
- Adequate and high quality labor force
- Proximity to markets
- Proximity between primary and secondary production (e.g. paper and printing).

Key for Forest Based Economy?

Practicing Sustainable Forestry

Success depends on:

- Maintaining large blocks of forest land
- Public access to forest lands to support forest-based recreation
- Fiscal policies that encourage practicing sustainable forestry and that recognize the public values of forest land (e.g. MFL)
- Channeling growth in a manner that maintains larger blocks of forest land (e.g. Smart Growth)

If Wisconsin Loses its Robust Forest Products Industry:

- Loss of pulp markets would reduce the range of commercial options available to landowners, likely increasing the prevalence of “high-grading” (destructive cutting) forests in the state for log value, at the expense of the future forest.
- Loss of economic value associated with standing timber would provide an incentive to further subdivide and develop forest lands, compromising water quality and biological diversity.
- Incentives to address the threat of invasive exotics species in our forests will decline.

Certified Sustainable Forests

- Certification decisions will have economic, ecological and social impacts throughout Wisconsin.
- Certification has the potential to more clearly link consumers to the ecological, economic and social benefits of sustainable forests.
- Decisions made in the near future may determine the competitiveness of Wisconsin's forest products industry and, by extension the future ownership, composition, condition and extent of Wisconsin's forests.

Certification of Wisconsin Forests

**Certification
Standards**

**Certification and
Wisconsin Forestry Programs
and Standards are Closely
Aligned**

**State Forests,
County Forests, and
Tax Law
Standards**

Issue: Invasive and Exotic Species are an Increasing Threat



Issues: Some Ecosystems Rare or Declining

- Savannas and Barrens
- Successional Stages and Forest Types

