

Trend/Issue: Forest Fire

- Average acreage burned by forest fire has decline

An average of 1,528 wildfires that burn 2,658 acres each year



Before suppression, an average of 2,136 wildfires burned 178,468 acres each year

- Control of fire affects forest composition
- Development increasing in fire prone areas

WUI Issues: Homes Built in or Adjacent to Pine Plantations



WUI Issues: Isolated Homes With No Emergency Vehicle Access



WUI Issues: Housing Developments in Fire-Prone Areas



Trend: Demand for Forest Based Recreation is Increasing

- Motorized recreation increasing
- More trails are being created



Trend/Issue: Urban Forests

- Wisconsin has about 2.2 million acres (4.7 %)
- Average canopy cover of 29 %
 - Urbanization & Development increasing
 - Exotic Species
 - Majority of WI residents live in an urban environment



Trend/Issue: Globalization

- Yes ! Wisconsin is part of the Global Economy
 - Exotic Species
 - Carbon Emissions and Sinks
 - Demand for Wood Products
 - Global Warming



Survey on Forestry Trends & Issues

Objectives:

- Assess the importance of the 45 Trends and Issues for inclusion in the Statewide Forest Plan
- Gather suggestions for trends and issues that we did not identify



Ecological Trends/Issues - Top 3



- Invasive and exotics are increasing

Relation to Overall

- Rank #1
- 93% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.5 out of 5



- Some Species are declining

- Rank #13
- 82% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.0 out of 5



- It is difficult to make scientific information relevant to decision-making

- Rank #18
- 79% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 3.9 out of 5

Economic Issues - Top 3



- Forests in high demand for mixed uses

Relation to Overall

- Rank #4
- 85% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.1 out of 5



- Demand for forest products is increasing

- Rank #8
- 84% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.1 out of 5



- Efficiency in wood use increasing

- Rank #14
- 81% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.0 out of 5

Social Trends/Issues - Top 3



- Private forestry assistance is needed



- Role of public forest



- Motorized recreation is increasing

Overall Statistics

- Rank #2
- 86% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.3 out of 5

- Rank #5
- 85% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.1 out of 5

- Rank #7
- 84% Str Agree+Agree
- Avg Score 4.1 out of 5

Top 10 Trends / Issues

- Invasive exotics are an increasing threat
- Private forestry assistance is needed
- Development is increasing
- Mixed use of forests
- Role of public forests
- Exotics threaten ecology balance
- Motorized recreation increasing
- Demand for forest products increasing
- Global demand for wood products increasing
- More forest owners

Social



Urban



Economic



Wisconsin Statewide Forest Plan

- Based on assessment of the forest resource and draft trends and issues
(Wisconsin's Forests at the Millennium)
- Involvement of public and partners
 - *confirm, identify trends and issues*
 - *determine importance of trends and issues*
 - *develop options for addressing trends and issues*

1st Step -Decide to Plan / Revise

- Existing Forest Plan - 1985, revised 1990
- Statewide Forest Inventory completed in 1996
- Number and nature of issues facing our forests are changing
- Partners looking for leadership and assistance

* Not mandated



Decide to Plan

2nd Step Statewide Forest Assessment

The State of Wisconsin's Forests - 2000

- Provides status on ecological, economic and social aspects of forestry
- Identifies Key Trends and Issues Forests will face
- Springboard for Statewide Forest Plan
- Major Communication outreach tool



Assess