

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING APPROPRIATIONS
FOR HARVESTING ON THE WISCONSIN NATIONAL FORESTS

WHEREAS, there is currently an initiative under consideration to reduce appropriations for timber harvesting on the National Forests including the Nicolet and Chequamegon National Forests; and

WHEREAS part of this initiative has been characterized as an initiative to eliminate below cost timber sales; and

WHEREAS, the industry and public are greatly dependent on the National Forest timber sale program both as a source of timber and of jobs; and

WHEREAS, the timber sale program on the Nicolet and Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests creates a minimum of 1,888 direct jobs in the State of Wisconsin which in turn create additional value of added jobs that result in income tax revenue which far exceeds the cost of the timber sale program; and

WHEREAS, the cost of the National Forest timber sale program in Wisconsin is a small percentage of the total USDA - Forest Service budget yet the timber sale program generates over 90% of all revenues received by the National Forests in the State of Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, this revenue is used for a variety of other federal government purposes including other USDA - Forest Service multiple use programs which do not generate adequate direct revenues to cover their expenses; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of the timber sale program would reduce the operational costs of the USDA - Forest Service on the National Forests in Wisconsin by only a small amount and the fixed costs for the various other programs would continue to require direct payment by the taxpayers.

WHEREAS, the reduction of the timber sale programs on the National Forests in the State of Wisconsin will decrease revenues and the utilization of natural resources for the benefit of all society; and

WHEREAS, the proposed elimination of the timber sale program or its substantial reduction will result in decreasing revenues and utilization of resources located in the State of Wisconsin to promote and sustain employment; and

WHEREAS, local units of government, school districts and road commissions receive revenue from the Twenty-five Percent Fund of the National Forests timber sale program in the State of Wisconsin and the elimination or reduction of timber harvesting would reduce these programs. Reducing these funds would cause deficit budget situations for many areas of the State of Wisconsin, particularly the northern portion and effected rural areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED because of the serious negative impacts and devastating effect the approval or implementation of any initiative that would substantially reduce or eliminate the sale of timber from the National Forests in Wisconsin would have on our local economy, the Board of

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strenuously objects to any current or future initiative to either substantially reduce or eliminate timber sales on the National Forests in the State of Wisconsin based upon a below cost analysis, reduction in appropriations, or any other theory which significantly reduces timber sales.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the U.S. Congress be advised, petitioned and mandated to carefully consider the fact that the impact of the administration's initiative to eliminate or substantially reduce timber harvesting appropriations will have an adverse effect on not only local economies in the State of Wisconsin but also the national budget.

BE IT FURTHERED RESOLVED that Congress be encouraged to support and continue to direct the implementation of the National Forest management plan for the Nicolet and Chequamegon National Forests and that funding be provided to implement the program as planned.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent at least to the following:

1. Supervisors of the Nicolet and Chequamegon National Forest.
2. Regional Forester of Region 9.
3. Chief of the U.S. Forest Service.
4. State representatives and senators representing this district and the northern part of the State of Wisconsin.
5. All U.S. Congressmen and Senators representing the State of Wisconsin.
6. Secretary of Agriculture Michael Espy.
7. The President of the United States.

AYES: 2

NAYS: 2/

NONE ABSTENTIONS:

ABSENT:

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED



Chairperson



Secretary-CLERK

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