

Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Chairman Thompson and distinguished Members of the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy and Forestry, my name is James Schuessler. I serve as executive director for the Forest County Economic Development Partnership (FCEDP) in Forest County, Wisconsin. The stakeholders of FCECP include the City of Crandon, Forest County Government, Forest County Potawatomi Community and Foundation, The Forest County Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Commission, The Sokaogon-Chippewa Community, Wabeno Chamber of Commerce and four business sector representative including Laona Machine, Laona State Bank, Wolf River Valley Seeds and Northern Lakes Service, Inc., and Link CPA Service LLC... FCEDP is a public private partnership and also includes the invited resources of the Wabeno, Crandon and Laona School Districts, Forest County UW Extension and Land Conservation, the Laona District of USFS, USDA Blackwell Job Corp., the Town of Armstrong Creek, Nicolet Technical College and the Crandon Public Library.

The mission of FCEDP is “To foster an economic environment that promotes an increased and diversified tax base, an improved standard of living and quality of life for all the people of Forest County.” As a native of Northern Wisconsin I certainly embrace the beauty of our

land, cultural diversity, and traditions that have helped establish a thriving economic cluster built around masterfully managed timberlands.

I know that I am not the first to appear in this place and let you know that all is not well in our National Forests. What I will do that is different from other testimony is share a story from a public, private partnership point of view about the economic impact of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest on our local economy. And, I will offer what the immediate economic future portends, if unchecked, and finally suggest some solutions.

Our local story begins after what is locally called the forest cutover at the turn of the 20th Century. The idea locally for economic prosperity was forests and then farms. This formula failed however due to poor soils and harsh climate for agriculture production and the farms failed leaving the land largely barren.

By the mid-1920 the discussion turned to reforestation of the hundreds of thousands of acres in Forest County. The Wisconsin Conservation Commission offered to work with the counties on re-establishing forests on the cutover lands. Private companies owned by the Connor and Goodman families acquired substantial tracts, in our area, beginning the development of sustainable forest practices and pioneering the practice of selective harvesting of northern hardwoods. I must note that these family driven forests remained intact and managed under selective harvesting, provided millions of board feet of timber to support our economy, up until the late 1990's, when they too began to be parceled and fragmented.

Back in 1927, the United States Forest Service offered to take northern Wisconsin lands as part of a Federal Forest. After consideration, the Forest County Board voted on November 15, 1927, by a vote of 17-2, to keep the lands and work with the State Conservation Commission.¹

Immediately, voices were raised outside the county criticizing the decision. An editorial in the Rhinelander Daily News condemned the Forest County government and demanded that they immediately “get the cutover lands back into their best use—forestry.”² Another from the Antigo Journal urged the Forest County Board to reverse their decision in part by saying “Langlade County will join in when they are asked, but they have not been contacted by the Forest Service.”³ By the way, Langlade County never was asked, and today their county owned lands provide nearly two million dollars annually to their county budget.

Due to this outside pressure, the Forest County Board reviewed their previous decision and after debate voted to turn the matter to the electorate of the county in a referendum.

On March 14, 1928, Mr. L A Kneipp, employee of the United States Forest Service, appeared in a packed Circuit Court Room in Crandon to present his case as to why the lands should be turned over for the Federal Forest Program. According to local printed news accounts, Mr. Kneipp outlined the case for why the voters should choose the Federal Forest. He stated that at present timber was being harvested four to six times faster than it could grow. He stated that the primary purpose of Federal Forests was to restore forests, put forestry on a business

¹ Forest County Board Minutes, November 15, 1927.

² Rhinelander Daily News, Editorial, November 27, 1927.

³ Antigo Journal, Editorial, November 24, 1927.

basis, to carry on research in timber production, and to produce timber. He went on to state that the United States promised the following:⁴

1. Restoration
2. Plant trees where needed
3. Prevent fires
4. Practice selective cutting
5. Cover every acre with forest
6. Conserve and develop wildlife
7. Get the forest on a sustained-yield basis
8. Maintain stable wood-using industries
9. A supply of good lumber at a cheap price
10. 25 percent of the gross receipts to be used by the counties for schools and roads

Just days later the voters of Forest County voted, by nearly a 3 to 1 margin, to turn the lands over to the United States for Federal Forest purposes. Within the next ten years, 396,500 Forest County acres were turned over to the United States Government—54.3% of the county's total land base.

To put it mildly, the citizens of Forest County “bet the farm” on the promises made by Mr. Kneipp, as well as a future tied to the forest product industry.

⁴ Forest County Republican “Federal Forest Hearing Held at Crandon Last Week, published Thursday, March 22, 1928. (**Exhibit A**)

For decades, the United States Forest Service set out and delivered upon every promise that they made back in March of 1928. The Civil Conservation Corps rolled through northern Wisconsin forests helping reforest and establish the infrastructure, some of which is still producing timber today. This program operated successfully for decades, developing tremendous resources, jobs, and valuable commodities for a growing nation. The research done on the Argonne Experimental Forest, located in Forest County, provided the basis for sustainable northern hardwoods forest management practices still in use today among industrial and other managed hardwood forests.

It is no accident that, through the success of the National Forest program, a family owned sawmill, utilizing the forests of Forest County became the largest hardwood sawmill in the world by the 1940's.

All told, a thriving economic cluster built around masterfully managed timberlands was developed in places in and around National Forests not limited to but including CNNF, Superior (MN) and Ottawa (MI). At its peak, the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF) produced 159 million board feet of timber in a single year.

The forest management practices in place within the CNNF from its formation until the 1980's followed sustainable forestry practices and mirrored forest policy as inspired by the March 1903 speech of Theodore Roosevelt. Prosperity began to decline in the 1980's due largely to the unintended consequences of uninformed groups that slowed down forest management with lawsuits, all of which they eventually lost but many of which have caused a

dramatic devaluation of the standing timber. According to employees of the USFS, funding for the timber sale program began to decline, causing annual declines in the rate of forest treatments within the National Forest. **(Exhibit B)** These unintended consequences also caused a strain on industrial forest lands that have been overharvested to make up for the dramatic decline of National Forest timber stand management.

Currently, USFS timber sales have gone “no bid” as a result of the declining quality of standing timber, sales that are too large for small businesses, improper estimates, and onerous rules.

With the sharp decline in level of forest stand improvements in the CNNF, over 4,000 direct jobs have been lost in and around the eleven counties of the CNNF. **(Exhibit C)** Sawmills and processing plants have closed. Others operate sporadically and a tremendous outmigration of families has occurred in the past 20 years.

The Laona School District, ground zero for this tragedy, is on the brink of collapse. **(Exhibit D)** Laona’s soul was “sold to the USFS” in 1928, and only 17% of its entire land mass is taxable. When the CNNF was operating at appropriate management levels, this mill town built around Nicolet Hardwoods, Inc. and WD Flooring, LLC was running multiple shifts and provided major employment to the region. Today, a 140 year legacy, including four generations of selective harvesting with eight rotational selective harvests of family-owned company timberlands appears to be at an end due to lack of raw material. Monday, I drove through their lumber yard—which should at this point of the season have been completely

inaccessible due to the 2.5 million board feet of raw material normally stockpiled by spring “break-up”—instead, there was only another two weeks of work. **(Exhibit E)** The plant will likely close due to lack of hardwood saw-log and it appears that employees will be laid off and out of work.

Today, the Laona School district has the 5th highest mill rate in the state. Two years ago, the proud residents actually voted for a three year funding referendum to keep the school operating for three more years. Taxes on a home in Laona is roughly double that of Wabeno, located about ten miles south. Laona can be considered one of our nations Norman Rockwell towns, and because of its dependence on the national forests it is at ground zero for economic impact due to the decline of forest stand improvements on National Forests.

In 2014, if voters in Laona reject a new referendum, the school will likely close. That will trigger a “domino effect.” Wabeno will likely be on the hook for the debt of their neighbor’s school as they will be asked to take on the students of the neighboring district and this will drive Wabeno’s mill rate through the ceiling.

Wabeno’s low mill rate is largely fueled by waterfront homes in the southern part of the district, south of the Forest county line, in Oconto County. Oconto County voters will likely realign and move to a neighboring White Lake or Suring School District. Wabeno’s financial structure will see the same issues faced by Laona and their financial structure implodes. And who suffers? In the end it is the children and families of the rural American Norman Rockwell Communities.

As an economic development practitioner I can tell you that there is no recipe to solve this problem—lose your school, lose your town. The grocery store and other small family owned business close. Health care options diminish. Usually, the town is left with a c-store on the highway, and remaining residents have to travel ten miles for a dozen fresh eggs, fresh fruits and vegetables, and, considering where people like me hail from—a hunk of great Wisconsin cheese.

Shrinking demand for fiber? Hardly. All this is happening at a time when imports of Canadian wood pulp and pulp wood have increased 50% over the past ten years. **(Exhibit F)**

At the time Forest County accepted the offer of Federal Forests, other counties such as neighboring Marinette County declined their offer. As a result, in the northern half of Wisconsin we have many counties, void of National Forest, with very successful forest management programs.

Like the USFS, these counties manage their lands for multiple uses and abide by all regulatory guidelines. All Wisconsin counties that manage their forests have fully-certified forests, standing up to very stringent standards and practices. As a result, their timber is generally more valuable.

Attached, is a comparison of Wisconsin's top eleven forest-managed counties that do not have National Forest versus the performance of the eleven county CNNF managed by the USFS; in essence, Wisconsin's own national forest versus the USFS' CNNF **(Exhibit G)**

I am aware that the declining level of forest stand improvements on the National Forest are not limited to the Forest County or the CNNF, but the local story is where I concentrated my attention for this discussion. A similar impact has been felt across the eleven counties of the CNNF. From 1990, when management was much more prevalent, to 2010, after the dramatic decline, unemployment grew disproportionately in the eleven CNNF counties (**Exhibit H**) versus the top eleven counties with managed forests that did not turn land over for Federal Forests. (**Exhibit I**) In 2010, Wisconsin's overall unemployment rate stood at 8.5% quite close to the 8.8% of the eleven county managed-forest counties in the north. The eleven counties of the CNNF were 16% higher than the county managed-forest counties and 20% higher than the state as a whole. (**Exhibit J**)

Even more startling is the loss of the future that the eleven counties of the CNNF face. A comparison of 1990 census to 2010 reveals that these eleven counties have suffered double-digit declines with the demographics of children (0-17), and the people aged 18-44, largely the families who have children. (**Exhibit K**) Over this same period of time the other 61 counties in Wisconsin grew in these two key demographics. When the jobs decline, people tend to go elsewhere.

So where is the opportunity? It is in our National Forests. An additional 60 million board feet in the CNNF alone would provide over 3,000 direct jobs, and according to North Central Wisconsin Work Force Development, over 4,000 jobs total. This would still have the CNNF below the Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) outlined in the current Forest Plan, and 20 million board feet below the annual delivery achieved in the 1980's and early 1990's. Over 4,000

jobs—that is an environmentally friendly automobile plant, folks. Representative Benishek—I have good news for you. By my calculations, you have another auto plant within the Ottawa National Forest adjacent to the Chequamegon-Nicolet to our north waiting to be unveiled as well. **(Exhibit L)**

But please remember, the value National Forest timber has already declined dramatically due to decline of forest stand improvements and regenerative treatments. Here is a photo, taken last Thursday, of what was thought to be saw-log in the Ottawa that is until it was harvested. **(Exhibit M)** The timber has over-matured, and is now worth about 90% less than had it been harvested when it should have been about 20 years ago, according to trained foresters. This contractor will lose money on this contract. He has stated that his firm will no longer bid on USFS projects.

This is another reason why USFS sales go “no bid”, when it rarely, if ever, occurs on county or private timber sales.

The upside is tremendous. Setting aside the auto plant in the Ottawa for a moment, and just focusing on the one in the CNNF, the benefit is remarkable. **(Exhibit N)**

In just one National Forest alone, the economic impact is startling. **(Exhibit O)** How do we get this done? For one thing, we are Americans, and armed with a, sort of Conservation Correction Corps of USFS foresters, tribal forest professionals, and state and county foresters we should quickly determine priorities, salvage, and begin producing forest treatments on

projects that are “on the shelf” with completed National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) completed forest stands.

Where will the product go? For one thing, processors (those not already gone) that have been choked by skyrocketing raw material costs will get some relief from reduced commodity prices. It is very likely that we can keep a few more domestic paper mills, for example, from closing if they know that the raw material prices they have been paying will likely ease.

Just last month, Wausau Papers announced that they would be closing their mill in Bemidji, Minnesota. One of the chief reasons cited for the closure was increased production in Asia. Certainly manipulated foreign currency and questionable foreign labor practices cause problems for American industry. But considering the state of management within the National Forests here in America, should we not get our own house in order—for the sake of American jobs and American industry?

A wonderfully executed government program that produced a tremendous economic cluster is being pulled under. The value of an asset owned by the taxpayer is losing value and the skilled personnel are available to fix this—now.

While I’m certain that the current Chief’s years as a forester serve him well in normal times, these are not normal times. Let me introduce you to a few retired USFS employees that would help correct the picture. The crisis created by lack of sustainable forest management is crippling rural communities that believed the promises of L A Kneipp and the United States

Government he represented. Let us keep true to the ideals that inspired the development of our National Forests; people such as Gifford Pinchot and Theodore Roosevelt. Roosevelt's charge to the Society of American Foresters is included in this presentation. **(Exhibit P)**

Although this disaster has been at least two decades in the making, it is in fact a Federal disaster. Call it Katrina or Sandy. At the local level we are told that congress is to blame and there is need for more Federal money for timber sales. The most educated forester on earth is not necessarily a gifted crisis manager. I suggest that we bring in a crisis manager that can get this fixed. As the successful manager Lee Iacocca said—lead, follow or get out of the way. This is not meant as political and is geared more toward personality, but I wonder what Governor Christie of New Jersey or Governor Nixon of Missouri would say to someone that said they needed more money when at the same time maintaining they are not in business to make money?

“Secure Rural Schools” financial assistance is appreciated to keep our schools alive in the near term. But, we don't need social welfare. The real fix is to recreate the local jobs and a revived forest economy through effective forest management. Your action can return the rural forest economy to sustainable and successful levels, similar to the 1970's and 1980's.

Once again, thank you for allowing me to provide testimony and comments as you consider National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities. Laona, Forest County, northern Wisconsin, and America can't wait.

To summarize, from a local economic development perspective and from a national perspective, the formula for revitalizing the National Forest Economies are. A.) Declare the National Forests a Disaster Area. B.) Hire a crisis manager in each of the districts across the Forests in the United States. C.) Inventory lost production over the past 20 years and salvage harvest and implement forest health treatments on the backlog of NEPA approved forest land. D.) Demand USFS implementation of the current ASQ on all National Forests above and beyond the salvage harvests and forest health treatments.

Ultimately this is no small matter at all. I am amazed and puzzled that such a meaningful, profound and simple solution has surpassed the great minds of the decision makers in the Department of Interior and the Department of Agriculture and our great bureaucracy. And instead a small but dedicated group from an American apple pie and lemonade town stands before you to a call for action. The sustainability of tribal communities is on the line. With all due respect ladies and gentlemen, enough is enough. We are tired of the excuses. We are tired, angry, suffering and the regional economy has been needlessly fractured.

So, simply put; implementation of this strategy across all National Forests will pull local, regional and the national economies out of the mire of the Wall Street and housing crush. **And, the most amazing thing of all!** Every dollar invested in this strategy will return three dollars to the United States Treasury!

I look forward to your questions and the Forest County Economic Development Partnership is ready to partner and assist you to make the National Forests a thriving and vital national

economic resource engine once again. When you review my written testimony, consider that I am speaking on what I know about the impact of one United States Forest economy. And, on behalf of other forests, consider the impact of honoring the commitment to salvaging the backlog of timber, providing forest health treatments and fulfilling ASQ on all the national forests. May God bless this great country.

Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on "National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities"

March 13, 2013

Exhibit "A"

There is too much land in farms in the United States now," Mr. L. A. Kneipp emphasized. "The farmer is a poorly paid class of people. One seventh of the land now in farms should not be farmed."

The United States has been built upon our great store of natural wealth. We are having to adjust our economic system to meet our new conditions. Land that is producing nothing cannot continue to pay taxes.

Remedy Proposed

In Minnesota the conditions have become very critical. In one instance the tax rate reached 290 mills. In another case the rate was 112 mills. A committee appointed to study into remedial measures for that district recommended that the northern counties be abolished and that the area be controlled by the state as a territory.

L. A. Kneipp told Forest county folks it was up to them to decide the program they wished to follow. If you wish to make this a resort area, decide upon that. This, however, has the disadvantage of supplying only temporary employment. If you want private ownership of forests, decide upon that. If the county is prepared to reforest its thousands of acres of cut-over land, the United States has no place here. If the state is prepared to reforest this area, the United States has no place here. If the private owners, the county, or the state is not prepared to do this—is it worth while for the United States to come in?

Justifications of a Federal Forest

1. Money is appropriated yearly to carry on the work.
2. 250,000 acres are to be purchased in these three counties.
3. This area represents a variety of soils, of trees, and systems of management.
4. A corps of men will be kept busy.

What Will the United States Do?

1. Restore forests.
2. Plant trees where needed.
3. Prevent fires.
4. Practice selective cutting.
5. Cover every acre with forest.
6. Conserve and develop wild life.
7. Get the forest area on a sustained yield basis.
8. Maintain stable wood-using industries.

What Will the County Get?

25% of the gross receipts from the sale of timber and other incomes is paid to the county to

Testimony of James Schuessler

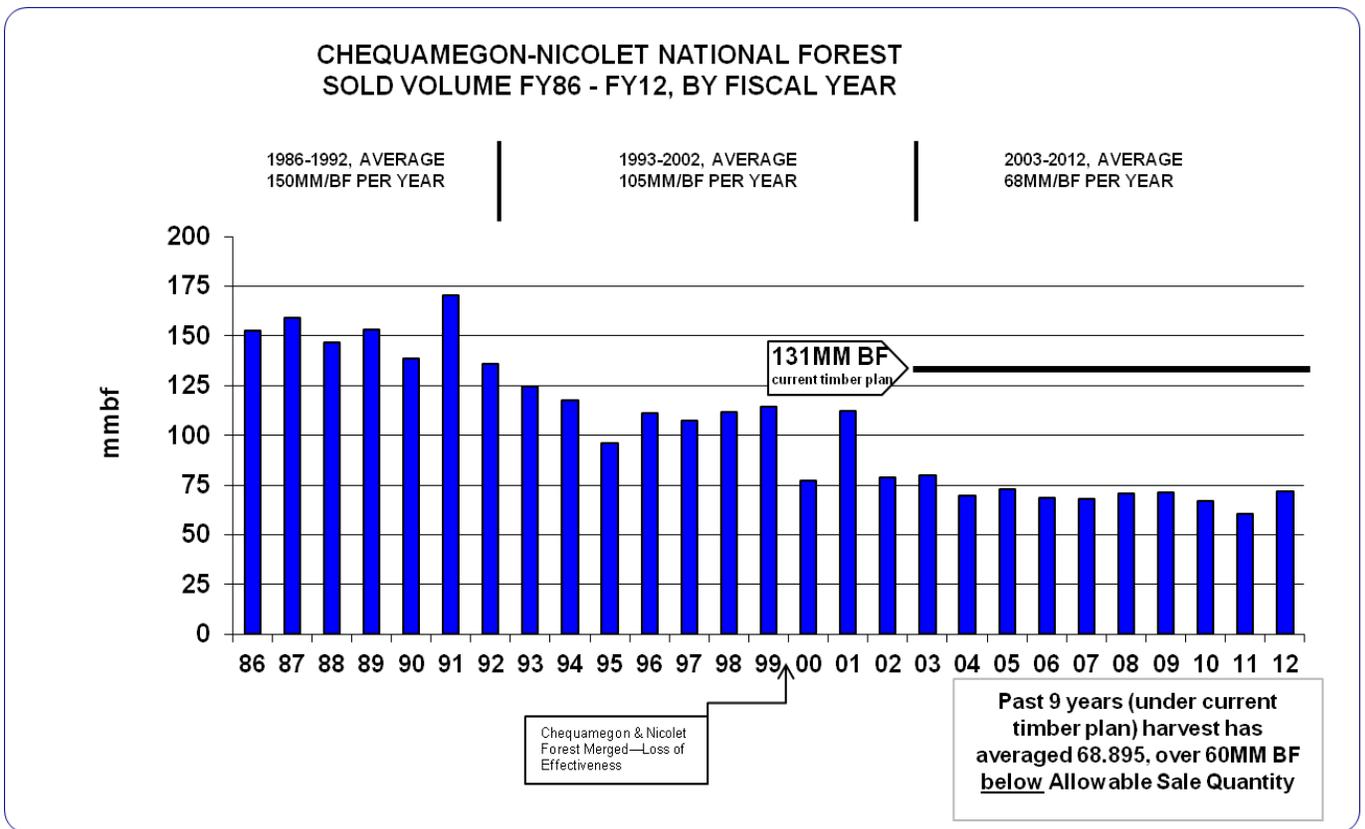
Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “B”



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

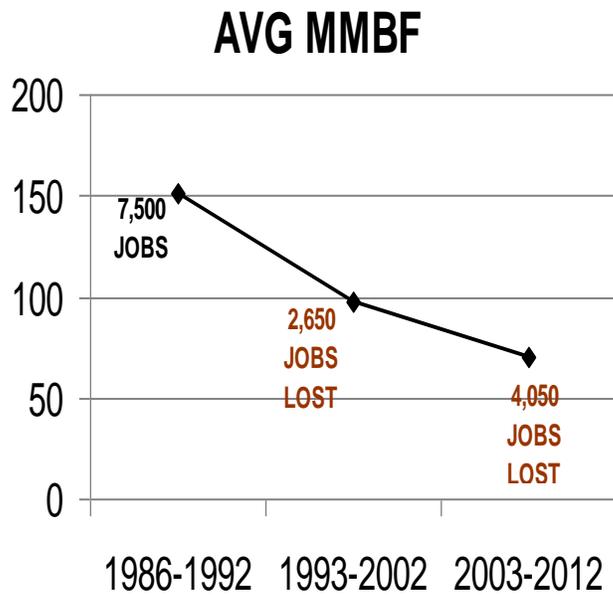
Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “C”

The decline of over 80,000,000 BF per year has resulted in significant job loss in and around the eleven counties of the CNNF over the past two decades



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

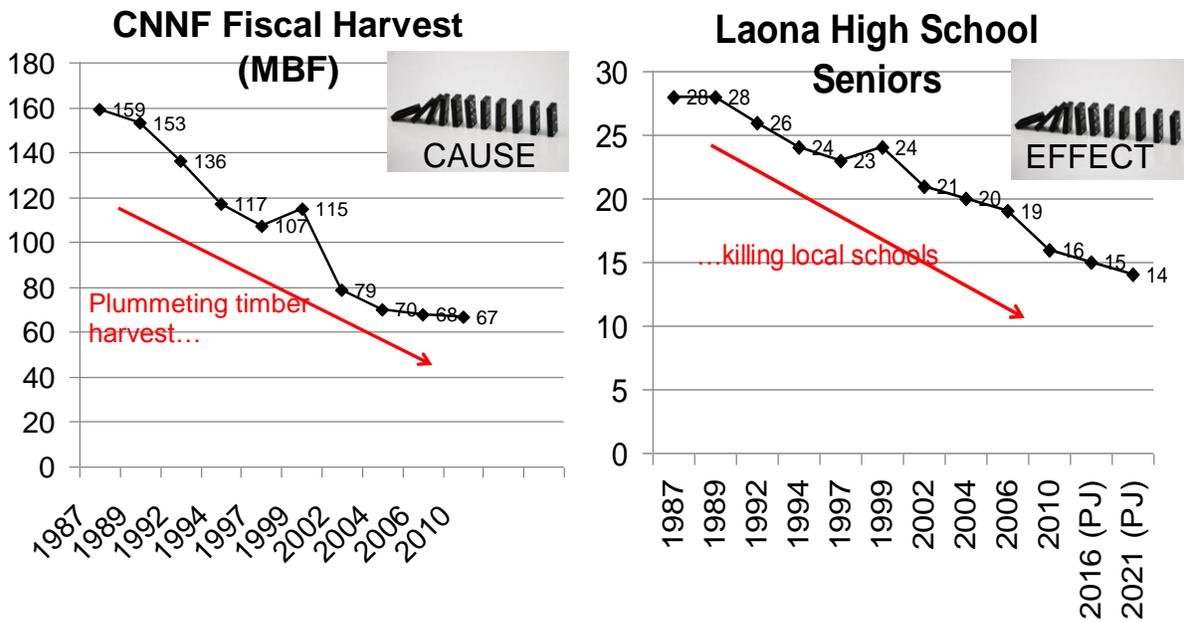
Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “D”

The decline in harvest, and fewer jobs is having an impact on local school enrollment and funding



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

**Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and
Communities”**

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “E”



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

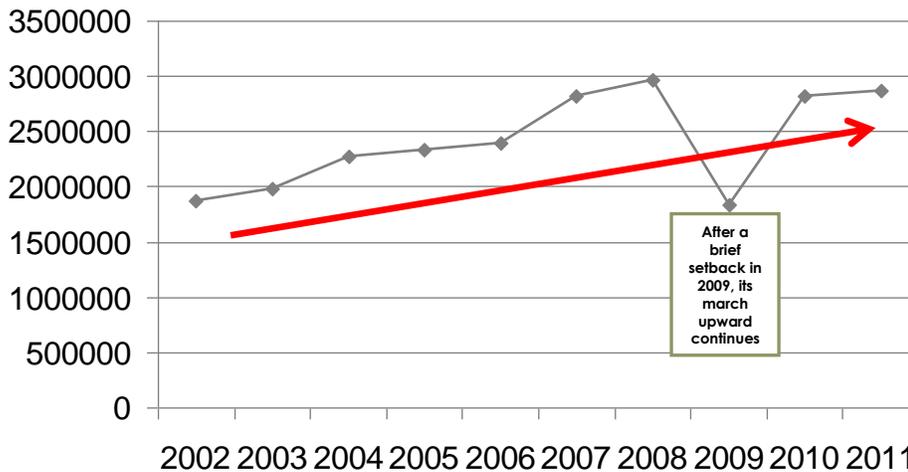
Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “F”

While timber harvesting declines on the National Forest, we send more dollars to Canada...

Pulpwood and woodpulp imported from Canada to US (000)



Source: Census.gov-Business & Industry-Foreign Trade-U.S. International Trade Data



Why worry about a trade deficit with China when we have a timber surplus and still import from Canada!



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

EXHIBIT “G”

County	Acreage	2004 \$	2005 \$	2006 \$	2007 \$	2008 \$	2009 \$	2010 \$	2011 \$	2012 \$	9 year average \$	9 year total \$	Annual \$ return per acre
Douglas	277,058	2,710,078	2,906,079	2,862,304	2,417,300	2,529,052	3,897,410	3,318,074	2,787,589	4,111,795	3,059,965	30,599,645	11.04
Marinette	230,905	1,767,302	1,866,115	2,791,123	1,858,576	2,472,448	2,352,220	2,640,081	2,693,838	1,996,033	2,270,859	22,708,595	9.83
Iron	174,261	697,884	603,513	1,600,876	1,252,782	1,339,311	1,324,313	2,540,010	1,636,892	1,623,692	1,402,142	14,021,415	8.05
Washburn	149,024	2,003,012	1,604,930	1,531,132	2,297,397	2,140,107	2,138,526	2,346,473	1,727,893	3,576,034	2,151,723	21,517,226	14.44
Clark	132,849	927,971	808,871	1,015,293	1,044,363	1,650,900	1,694,722	1,235,518	1,675,041	2,236,809	1,365,499	13,654,987	10.28
Jackson	121,491	1,496,208	1,088,223	1,600,876	1,201,039	1,213,726	1,524,381	1,070,156	1,202,681	1,157,485	1,283,864	12,838,640	10.57
Burnett	106,554	668,051	1,385,074	978,459	573,247	1,853,430	1,288,718	1,501,337	1,135,862	2,118,710	1,278,099	12,780,987	11.99
Lincoln	100,845	1,213,820	1,569,775	1,270,094	1,312,809	1,667,366	1,155,896	1,018,074	2,127,740	1,393,618	1,414,355	14,143,546	14.03
Rusk	89,006	977,628	1,245,994	1,192,234	1,544,838	2,222,006	597,275	1,120,390	1,702,449	2,573,928	1,464,082	14,640,824	16.45
Eau Claire	52,373	480,467	470,916	348,298	593,793	374,389	655,098	413,240	969,913	712,102	557,580	5,575,795	10.65
Wood	37,366	63,879	765,708	253,936	126,311	616,410	346,829	501,039	85,801	486,126	360,671	3,606,709	9.65
WI Top 11	1,381,992	12,461,954	13,078,575	14,842,391	13,502,350	17,088,347	15,973,462	16,790,113	16,689,984	20,788,105	15,690,587	141,215,279	11.35
CNNF	1,530,647	5,024,331	8,615,905	6,622,464	5,023,083	3,658,797	4,866,320	5,303,252	4,710,884	6,075,540	5,544,508	55,445,084	3.62
Sources:	County Data, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources												
	CNNF: United States Forest Service												



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

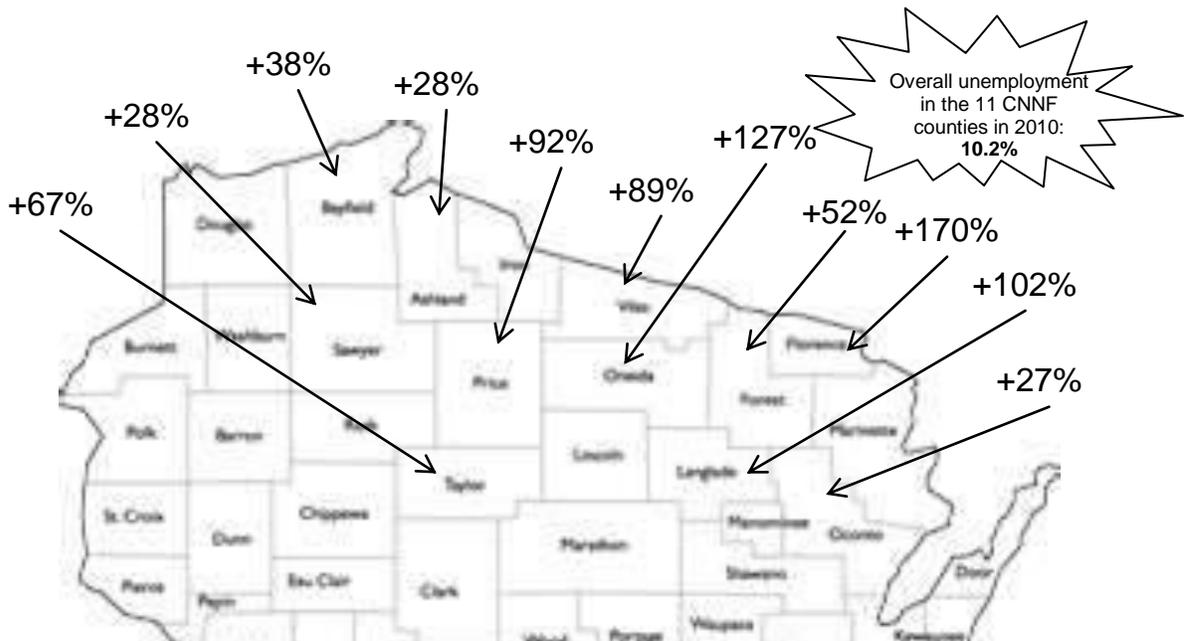
Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

EXHIBIT “H”

While imports increase, unemployment levels have skyrocketed in the 11 CNNF counties



Increase in unemployment rate from 1990 to 2010 (Source: worknet.wisconsin.gov)



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

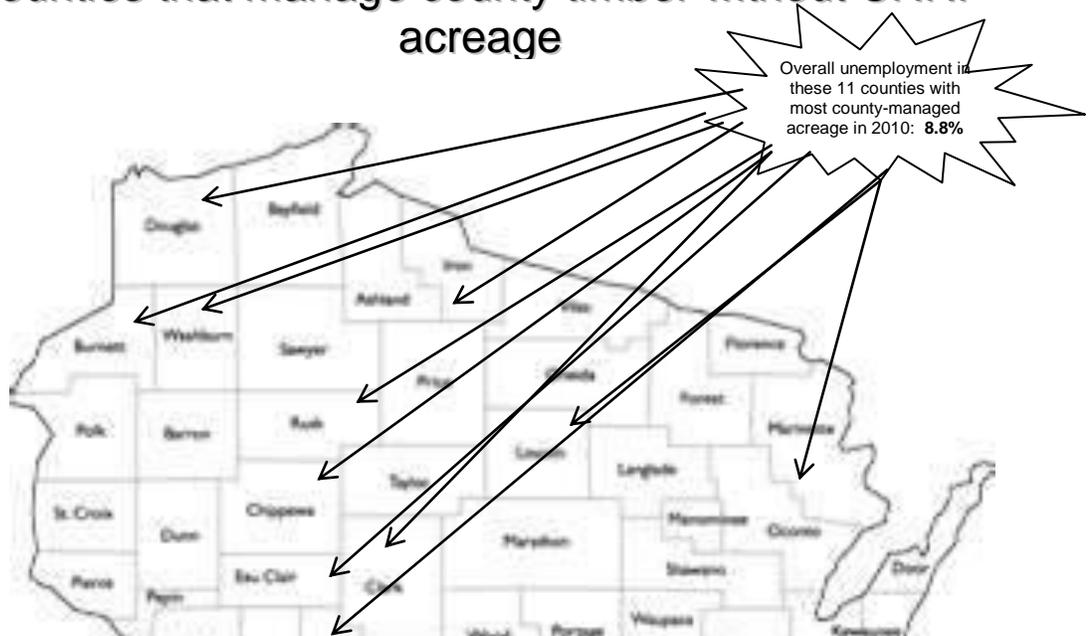
Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “I”

Unemployment remained much lower in the top 11 counties that manage county timber without CNNF acreage



Overall unemployment rate in 2010
(Source: worknet.wisconsin.gov)



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “J”

The unemployment rate within the 11 counties of CNNF exceeded that of the state overall and the top 11 counties managing timberlands without national forest

State of Wisconsin overall: 8.5%
11 Top County Acreage (w/o CNNF): 8.8%
11 CNNF Counties: **10.2%**



Overall unemployment rate in 2010
(Source: worknet.wisconsin.gov)



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “K”

Our future has been harmed by job loss and outmigration within CNNF counties

**ECONOMIC IMPACT =
POPULATION DECLINES IN
KEY DEMOGRAPHICS FOR
THE 11 COUNTIES IN THE
CNNF:**

FROM 1990 TO 2010...
AGES 0-17 DOWN 12.85%
AGES 18-44 DOWN 12.82%

Source: US Census Bureau, 1990, 2010

**EXCLUDING THE CNNF
COUNTIES, WISCONSIN'S
OTHER 61 COUNTIES
COMBINED TO ACHIEVE
GAINS:**

FROM 1990 TO 2010...
AGES 0-17 UP 4.39%
AGES 18-44 UP 15.46%

Source: US Census Bureau, 1990, 2010



Testimony of James Schuessler

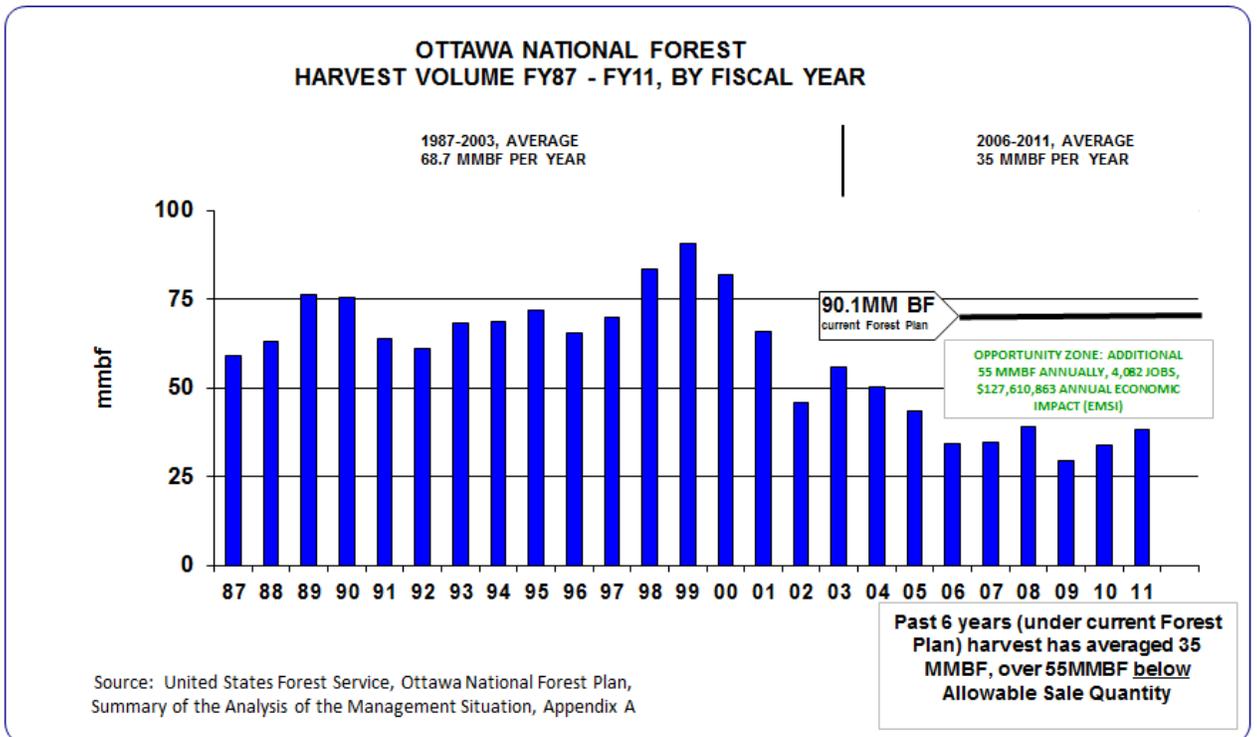
Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “L”



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

**Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and
Communities”**

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “M”



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

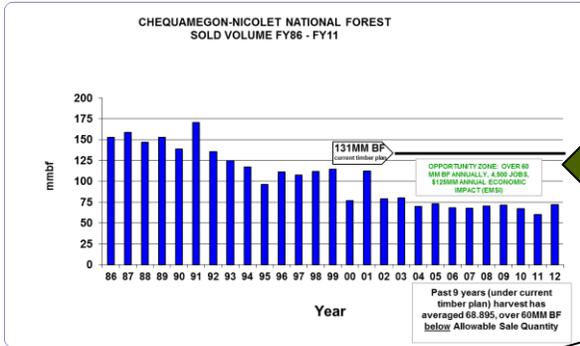
Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “N”

What is the annual opportunity in the CNNF?



In addition to the direct and indirect jobs created, the additional 60MM BF in additional timber, valued at about \$5 million, would add about \$208 million of value-added economic activity in Wisconsin's economy each year.

\$5,000,000 in timber harvested



\$41.60 of value added per \$1 in

timber economic activity*



\$208,000,000 to America's economy

* Source: Minnesota DNR Study on Value-Added Economic Impact of Timber Harvested in Minnesota (2004)

\$1,250,000 annually would be distributed to local municipalities for tax relief or infrastructure development

Includes **\$13,600,000** in annual income and sales taxes generated



Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and Communities”

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “O”

What is the opportunity in the Northwoods?

- 105,000 BF represent an additional 4,089 jobs *
- 4,089 jobs represent \$121,127,951 in added effect on earnings*
- 62,105,000 BF of timber provide added value of over \$200,000,000 annually to Wisconsin's economy **
- 4,089 jobs represent \$121,127,951 in added effect on earnings*

An environmentally friendly auto plant that grows on trees



* Source: EMSI, WI North Central Workforce Development

** Source: Minnesota DNR Study on Value-Added Economic Impact of Timber Harvested in Minnesota (2004)

Testimony of James Schuessler

Before the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry

Committee on Agriculture

**Hearing on “National Forest Management and its Impacts on Rural Economies and
Communities”**

March 13, 2013

Exhibit “P”



“And now first and foremost you can never afford to forget for one moment what is the object of our forest policy. That object is not to preserve the forests because they are beautiful, though that is good in itself, nor because they are refuges for the wild creatures of the wilderness, though that, too, is good in itself, but the primary object of our forest policy as of the land policy of the United States, is the making of prosperous homes. It is part of the traditional policy of home making in our country. Every other consideration comes as secondary. You yourselves have got to keep this practical object before your minds, to remember that a forest which contributes nothing to the wealth , progress or safety of the country is of no interest to the Government and should be of little interest to the forester. Your attention must be directed to the preservation of forests, not as an end in itself, but as a means of preserving and increasing the prosperity of the nation.”

**President Theodore Roosevelt from a
speech to a meeting of the Society of
American Foresters, Washington DC,
March 26, 1903**