

PILT/Acreage Share Payment for County Forest Lands

The Citizens of Northwest Wisconsin Request

Increase the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) for County Forest Lands from \$.30 to \$1.00 per acre.

Background

- A significant portion of county forest lands are in the northwest portion of the state of Wisconsin.
- State County Forest Law controls usage of the lands; lands are enrolled in the County Forest Law, Statute 28.10 and 28.11.
- Seven northwest Wisconsin counties account for over 44% of the State's county forest land.
- County forest valuation is dramatically less than non-forest valuation.
- The State currently provides \$.30 per acre to local units of government. This amount was set in 1989.
- In 2015 PILT payments by the National Forest were \$2.55 per acre to local units of government.
- The State PILT payment amount has not changed in over 28 years.
- This requested increase in State PILT payments for county forest lands will directly benefit those town governments in the counties with county forest lands by helping them pay for vital public services.
- The Wisconsin County Forest Association supports this modification.



Photo: Peter Nordgren