



News Release

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PLUM CREEK HELPS CONSERVE 400 ACRES IN BAYFIELD COUNTY THROUGH UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP

Conservation effort maintains wildlife refuge and outdoor recreation site

TOMAHAWK, Wis. — Plum Creek Timber Company today announced that it will partner with state and federal governments, local organizations and individuals to conserve 400 acres of forestland in Bayfield County. The land, which is located near the Mt. Ashwabay ski hill, is valued as a wildlife refuge and as an important spot for outdoor recreation such as hiking, hunting, cross-country skiing, fishing, birdwatching and more.

“As members of this community, we at Plum Creek understand that Wisconsin’s forests are valued for the recreational opportunities they provide,” said Lynn Wilson, general manager of Plum Creek’s Lake States Region. “That’s why the company engages in conservation partnerships and provides public access to 97 percent of our land in the state through the Managed Forestlaw Program.”

Wilson credited the hard work of Governor Jim Doyle, Congressman Dave Obey, State Rep. Gary Sherman, State Sen. Bob Jauch, Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Secretary Scott Hassett and DNR staff for achieving this conservation outcome. She also praised the Bayfield Regional Conservancy, the Ashwabay Outdoor Education Foundation and local citizens for making this project a reality.

“Plum Creek is committed to helping conserve land throughout Wisconsin and in other states where we manage land,” said Wilson. “We are pleased that the dedication of all involved in this partnership will allow residents and visitors to the area to enjoy the pristine land, nearby Mt. Ashwabay ski hill and the Nourse Sugarbush for years to come.”

Wilson added that while this project will conserve 400 acres of land in Bayfield County, the state is expected to purchase an additional 160 acres in the area from Plum Creek next year. This first phase of the conservation effort is expected to close September 20, 2006. Plum Creek will continue to explore other possible conservation efforts in the future.

Plum Creek is the largest and most geographically diverse private landowner in the nation with more than 8 million acres of timberlands in major timber producing regions of the United States and 10 wood products manufacturing facilities in the Northwest. Since 1989, the company has participated in conservation transactions on nearly half a millions acres of land across the country. Plum Creek owns and manages more than 500,000 acres of timberland in Wisconsin. More information about the company can be found at www.plumcreek.com.

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