



## Sustainability / Statewide Scale

<b>Wisconsin's Forest Sustainability Framework Based on Criteria &amp; Indicators</b>	
<b>Place-Based Example</b>	Wisconsin's Forest Sustainability Framework lays out blueprint for gathering data to assess the sustainability of forests in Wisconsin
<b>Discussion</b>	<p><b>Description:</b> The Wisconsin Governor's Council of Forestry approved the scientific framework in December 2007 as a comprehensive, systematic approach for tracking data about and measuring the sustainability of Wisconsin's forests. It was developed by an advisory committee with support by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), using a diverse range of published material and scientific data and soliciting advice from technical specialists, tribal communities, and the general public. The framework includes 19 indicators of forest sustainability across the 7 Montreal Process (MP) Criteria. Over time, as the framework is applied and people become familiar with it, the Council expects it will be further adapted to reflect the fullest range of perspectives that people hold about Wisconsin's forests.</p> <p><b>Context:</b> Indicators were chosen for their applicability at a statewide scale and for their ability to be compared to other initiatives occurring regionally and nationally. Regionally this includes work of the Great Lakes Forest Alliance and the USDA Forest Service's Northeastern Area in partnership with the 20 state forestry organizations in the Northeast and Midwest. Nationally the Framework links to domestic forest sustainability reporting efforts organized and informed by the MP Criteria &amp; Indicators.</p> <p><b>Value Added:</b> The Framework does not include data, rather it creates a common language and unbiased set of measuring sticks to understand forest conditions and trends. The Council also views the task of selecting measurable indicators as a process for choosing how to define the sustainability of Wisconsin's forests—public and private—at a statewide level. The Framework has been incorporated into Wisconsin's statewide forest planning process—using it as a tool to implement the next Statewide Forest Assessment and update the Statewide Forest Plan. Determining the desired future conditions or benchmarks of sustainability will be addressed in the Statewide Forest Assessment to be completed in 2010. As data are collected on the indicators the Framework will be used to monitor actions implementing the Statewide Forest Plan.</p>
<b>Key Resources and Web Links</b>	<a href="#">Wisconsin's Forest Sustainability Framework</a>
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