



16 June 2010

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
State Office Building, Room 85
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (L-SOHC) members,

At the request of your chair, Dr. Michael Kilgore, the Minnesota Forest Resources Council (MFRC) and the Minnesota Forest Resources Partnership (Partnership) collaboratively developed the attached 25-year vision for Minnesota forests as a framework for the L-SOHC to use in advising the legislature on funding for forest projects that improve forest health, productivity and diversity, thereby improving fish and wildlife habitat for game and nongame species as well as for fishing, hunting, and wildlife viewing opportunities. This role is consistent with the MFRC's charge to advise "federal, state, county, and local governments with respect to forest resource policies and practices" (M.S. 89.03, Subd. 2), the Partnership's charge to advise the MFRC (M.S. 89.04), and our collective intent that our work "reflect a range of practical and sound practices based on the best available scientific information" (M.S. 89A.05, Subd. 1).

We want to make clear that this document is not the overall MFRC or Partnership vision for Minnesota forests or forest resources, as defined in M.S. 89A.01, Subd. 7 and M.S. 89.001, Subd. 8. Rather, it is our recommended vision for the L-SOHC to use in achieving its unique mission to advise the legislature on making investments that protect, restore, and enhance our forests for fish, game, and wildlife habitat.

On behalf of our respective organizations, we are pleased to present you with this vision for Minnesota forests.

Respectfully,

Alfred D. Sullivan, Chair
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Robert Sonnenberg, Chair
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