

Tools to Increase Restoration Activities on the National Forest Lands

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Overview

1. Ottawa and Chequamegon-Nicolet Timber Programs.
2. General Synopsis of Good Neighbor Authority and Stewardship Contracting Authority/Law
3. Taking a closer look at the Instruments of Stewardship Contracting
4. Strategic Implementation of Stewardship Contracting and a Brief Insight to the Chequamegon-Nicolet's program.

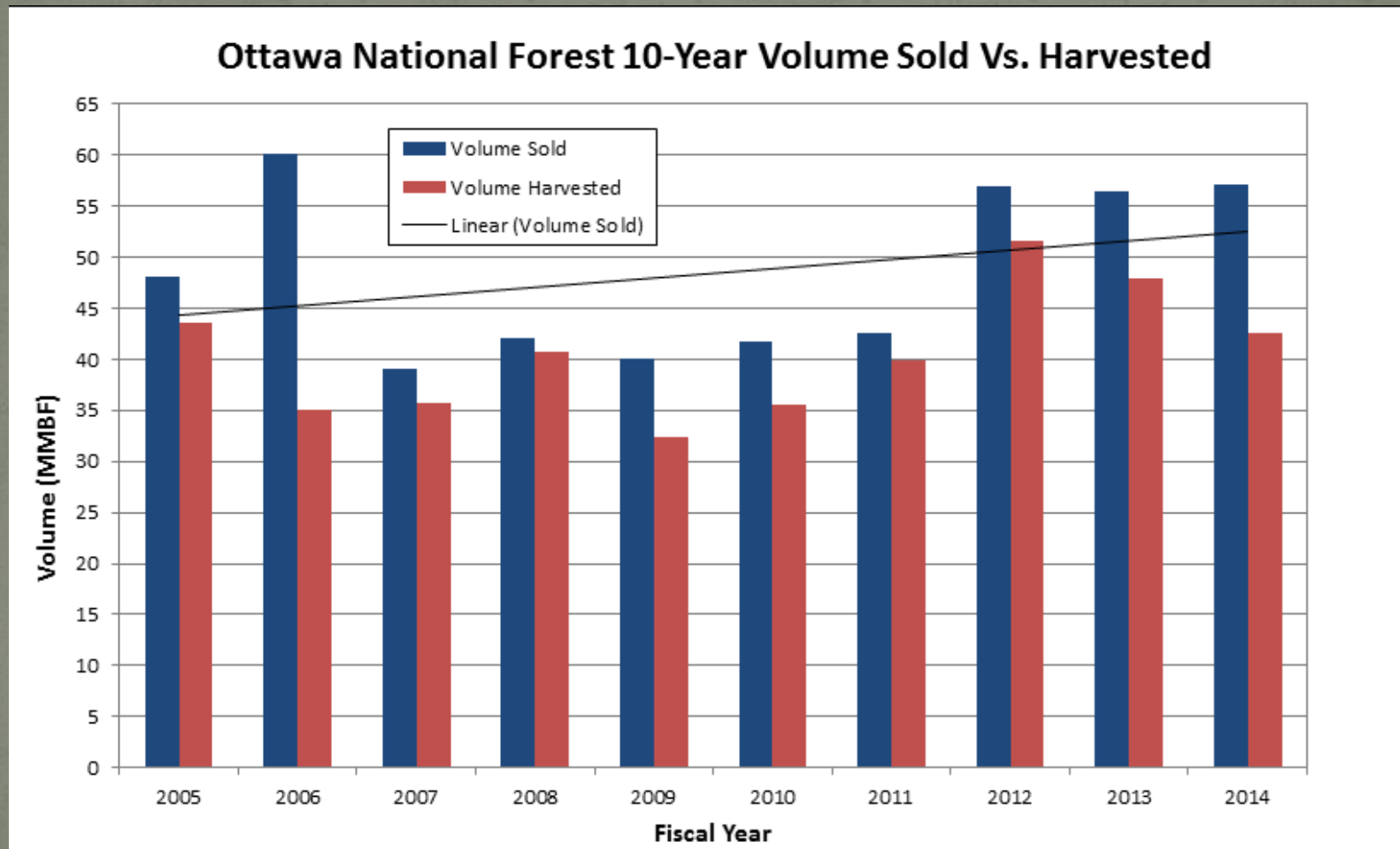
Ottawa National Forest Timber Program

- Fiscal Year 2015 (Oct.1, 2014 – Sept. 30, 2015)
 - Timber Sold Target: 60 MMBF
97,200 CCF
- Approximately 30% of Target volume (18 mmbf) to be sold through Stewardship contracts or Agreements

Ottawa National Forest Timber Program

- Fiscal Year 2016 (Oct.1, 2015 – Sept. 30, 2016)
 - Timber Sold Target: 65 MMBF
105,300 CCF
- Approximately 30% of Target volume (19.5 mmbf) to be sold through Stewardship contracts or Agreements

Ottawa National Forest Timber Program



Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Timber Program

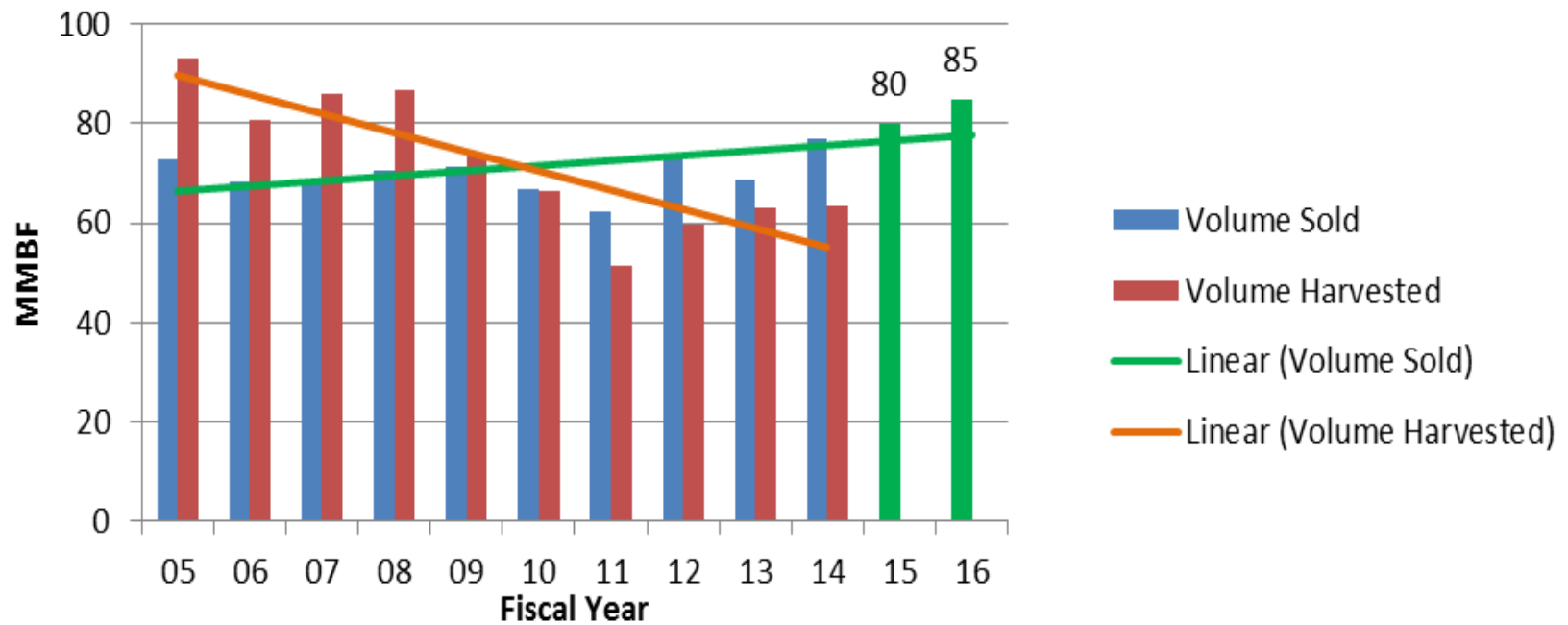
- Fiscal Year 2015 (Oct.1, 2014 – Sept. 30, 2015)
 - Timber Sold Target: 80 MMBF
129,450 CCF
- Approximately 25% of Target volume (20 mmbf) to be sold through Stewardship contracts or Agreements

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Timber Program

- Fiscal Year 2016 (Oct.1, 2015 – Sept. 30, 2016)
 - Timber Sold Target: 85 MMBF
137,500 CCF
- Approximately 25-30% of Target volume (21-25 mmbf) to be sold through Stewardship contracts or Agreements

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Timber Program

**Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest
Volume Sold and Harvested FY05-FY14**



GOOD NEIGHBOR AUTHORITY

Good Neighbor Authority (GNA)

- GNA allows the Forest Service and BLM to enter into cooperative agreements or contracts with State Agencies to allow the States to perform watershed restoration and forest management services on NFS lands.

Good Neighbor Authority

- Congress recently passed two laws expanding Good Neighbor Authority (GNA):
 - 2014 Appropriations Act
 - 2014 Farm Bill

2014 Appropriations Act

- The FY 2014 Appropriations Act included a five year authorization of the use of GNA to perform watershed restoration and protection services on NFS lands in all states when similar and complementary services are performed by the state on adjacent state or private lands.

2014 Appropriations Act

- Allowable activities include:
 - Construction,
 - Reconstruction,
 - Repair or,
 - Restoration of paved or permanent roads or parking areas and construction, alteration, repair, or replacement of public buildings or works.
- Timber sales are not incorporated into these agreements.

2014 Farm Bill

- Permanent authorization for forest and watershed restoration services. This includes activities:
 - to treat insect and disease infected trees;
 - to reduce hazardous fuels;
 - and any other activities to restore or improve forest and watershed health, including fish, and wildlife habitat.
- Services not allowed under this Authority includes:
 - construction, reconstruction, repair, or restoration of paved or permanent roads or parking areas and construction, alteration, repair, or replacement of public buildings or works.

Good Neighbor Authority

- GNA Agreements will have a ten year term limit. (applies to all templates)
- Allows for “Program Income” to pay for services under GNA Agreement
- Collaboration between agencies is a “must” to ensure good communication and reporting.

Good Neighbor Authority

- The Forest Service retains authority for providing approved NEPA analysis and Silvicultural Prescriptions and Marking Guides
- States will be considered “Agents” of the Forest Service.

Good Neighbor Authority

- States will be able to propose areas to be treated in collaboration with the Forest Service and in accordance with all requirements of the Forest Land Management Plan and applicable NEPA Analysis.

Good Neighbor Authority

- States will be able to layout, prepare, appraise, sell and administer timber sales utilizing state procurement and operating procedures
- States will be required to report volumes, values and accomplishments not less than annually but can occur more frequently as agreed upon when agreement is signed.

Good Neighbor Authority

- The Forest Service Washington Office is:
 - Working to provide approved agreement templates
 - Writing policy to clarify GNA implementation
- Both WI DNR and MI DNR have expressed interest in GNA.
- The Chequamegon-Nicolet and Ottawa National Forests continue to engage with our WI DNR and MI DNR Partners.

STEWARDSHIP
CONTRACTING
&
AGREEMENTS

Stewardship Contracting

- FY 1999, Section 347 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act (P.L. 105-277) authorized the Forest Service to implement up to 28 stewardship contracting pilot projects.
- In 2003, public Law 108-7 granted the Forest Service ten-year authority to enter into stewardship contracts or agreements to achieve agency land management objectives and meet community needs.
- The 2014 Farm Bill provided the Forest Service with permanent authority and use of stewardship end-result contracting.

Why Stewardship Authority?

- Collaboration builds support
- Exchange goods for service
- Less contracting through bundling
- More restoration with product value
- Projects completed in less time
- Use retained receipts in other STWD areas
- Environmental impacts reduced
- Cost/acre of service activities reduced
- Provides benefits to local & rural employment and communities

Stewardship End-Result Contracting
authorizes the Forest Service to enter into
contracts and agreements that accomplish one
or more:

Seven (7) Land Management Goals

Land Management Goals:

1. Road and trail maintenance or obliteration to restore or maintain water quality



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2. Soil productivity, habitat for wildlife and fisheries, or other resource values



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3. **Setting of prescribed fires to improve composition, structure, condition and health of stands to**



Land Management Goals:

1. Road and trail maintenance or obliteration to restore or maintain water quality
2. Soil productivity, habitat for wildlife and fisheries, or other resource values
3. Setting of prescribed fires to improve composition, structure, condition and health of stands to improve wildlife habitat
4. **Removing vegetation or other activities to promote healthy forest stands, reduce fire hazards, or achieve other land management objectives**



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5. Watershed restoration and maintenance



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5. Watershed restoration and maintenance



6. Restoration and maintenance of wildlife and fish habitat



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4. Removing vegetation or other activities to promote healthy forest stands, reduce fire hazards, or achieve other land management objectives
5. Watershed restoration and maintenance
6. Restoration and maintenance of wildlife and fish habitat

7. Control of noxious and exotic weeds and reestablishing native plants



Unique Features of Stewardship Contracting?

- Best Value Contracting
- Contracts may be awarded for **up to 10 years**
- Provides benefits to local & rural employment and communities
- End-result Contracting
- Retention of receipts that stay on the National Forest

What stewardship contracting receipts cannot be used for...

- Salaries & overhead
- Project planning or environmental analysis
- Construction of administrative or major developed recreation facilities
- Protection, operation, or maintenance of improvements resulting from stewardship projects.
- Inventories, Research, and Preparation & Planning of Administrative Studies
- Land Acquisition

An Exchange of Goods for Services...

Forest Products
Sold

Receipts
Generated

Stewardship
Integrated
Resource
Contracts &
Agreements

Exchange
Goods and
Services

Service Work
Received

Receipts/Partne
r/
Appropriated \$
Pay for
Restoration
Work

Integrated Resource

TIMBER

**Contract
(IRTC)**

Blended =
More Timber Value
than Service Value

**Stewardship
Agreements**

Blended =
Partner implements
goods and services

Service Contracts

Non-Blended =
Excess timber
receipts generated
from IRTC
Integrated Resource

SERVICE

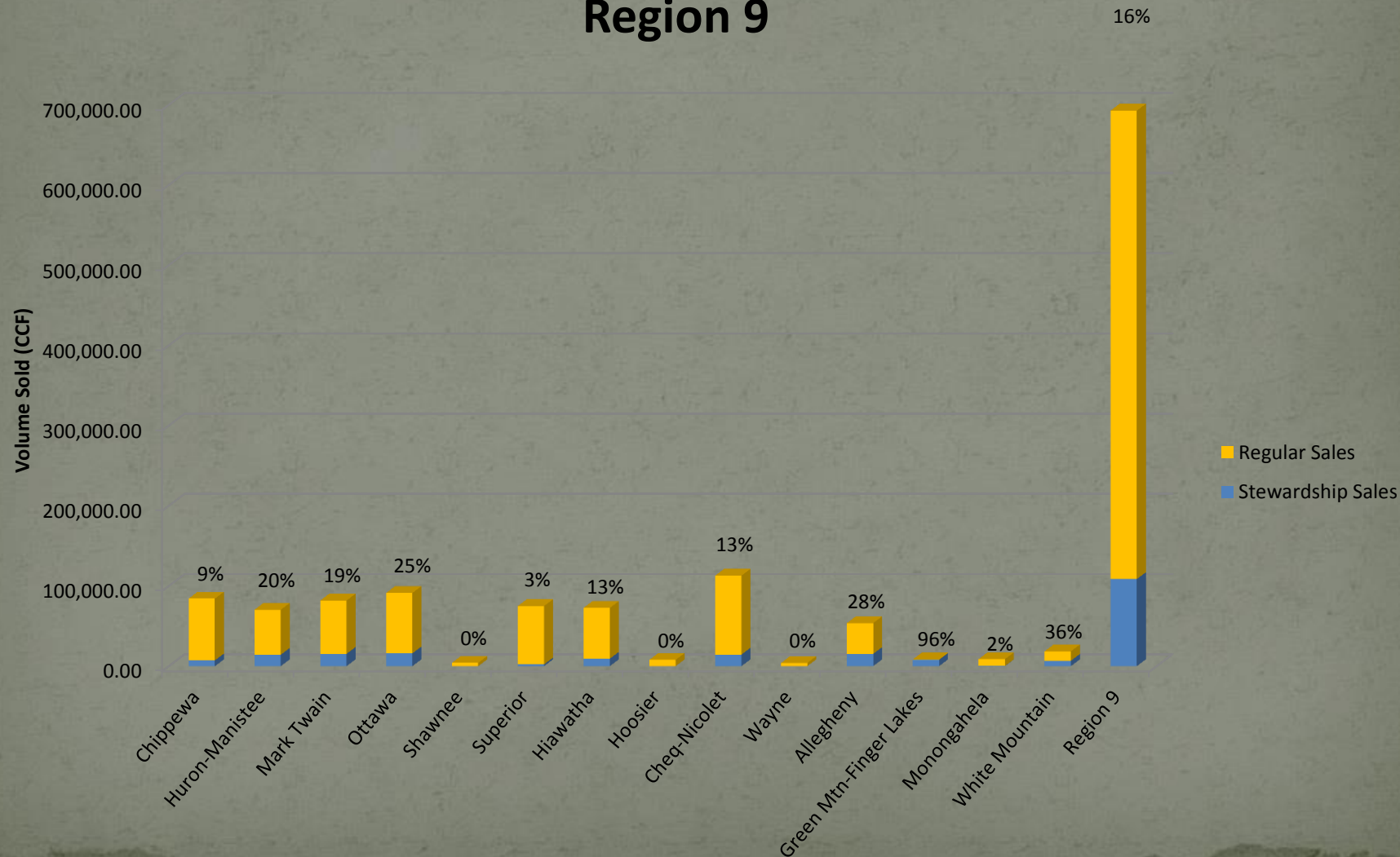
**Contract
(IRSC)**

Blended =
More Service Value
than Timber Value

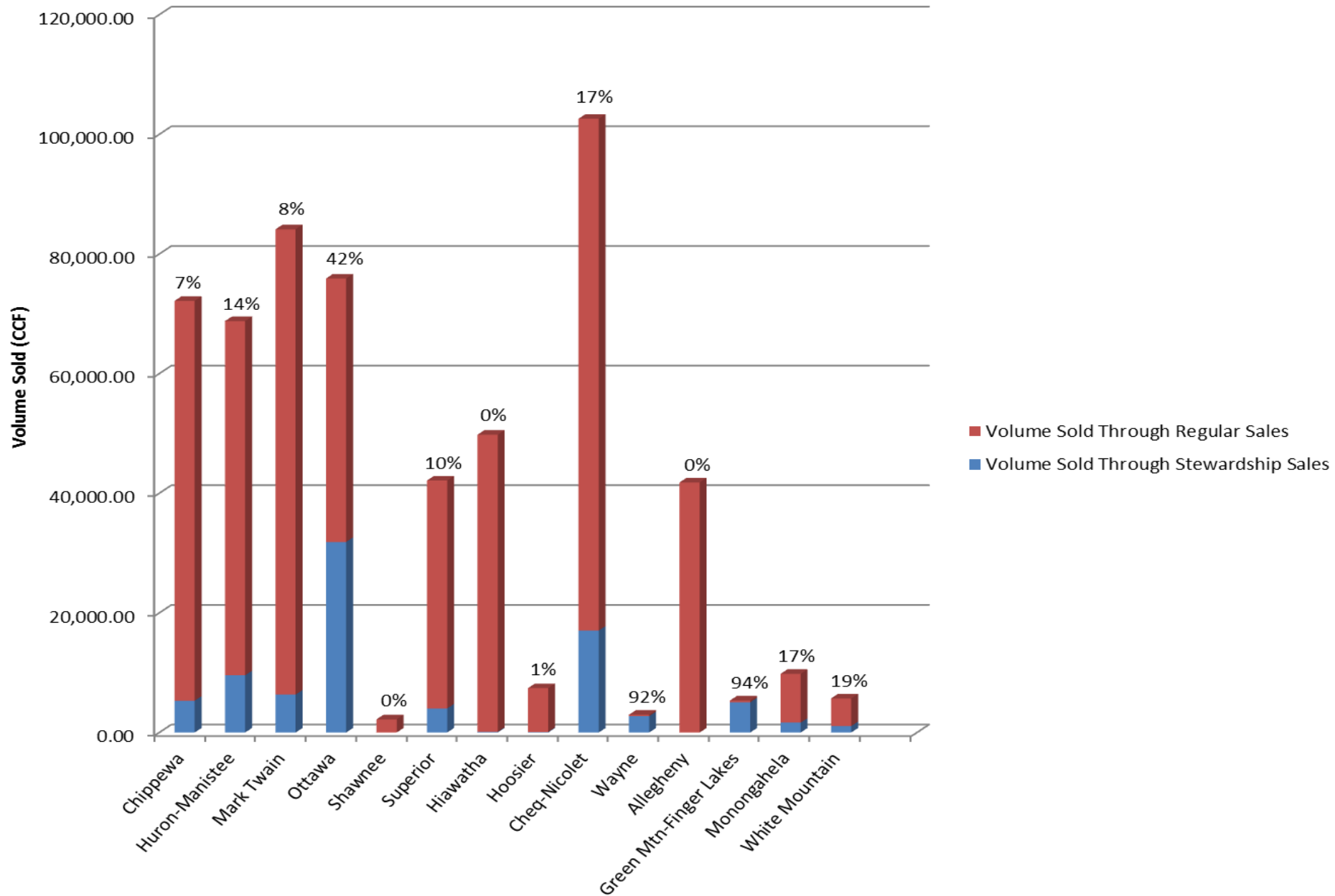
Evolution of Stewardship Implementation

Regionally and on the
Chequamegon-Nicolet
National Forest

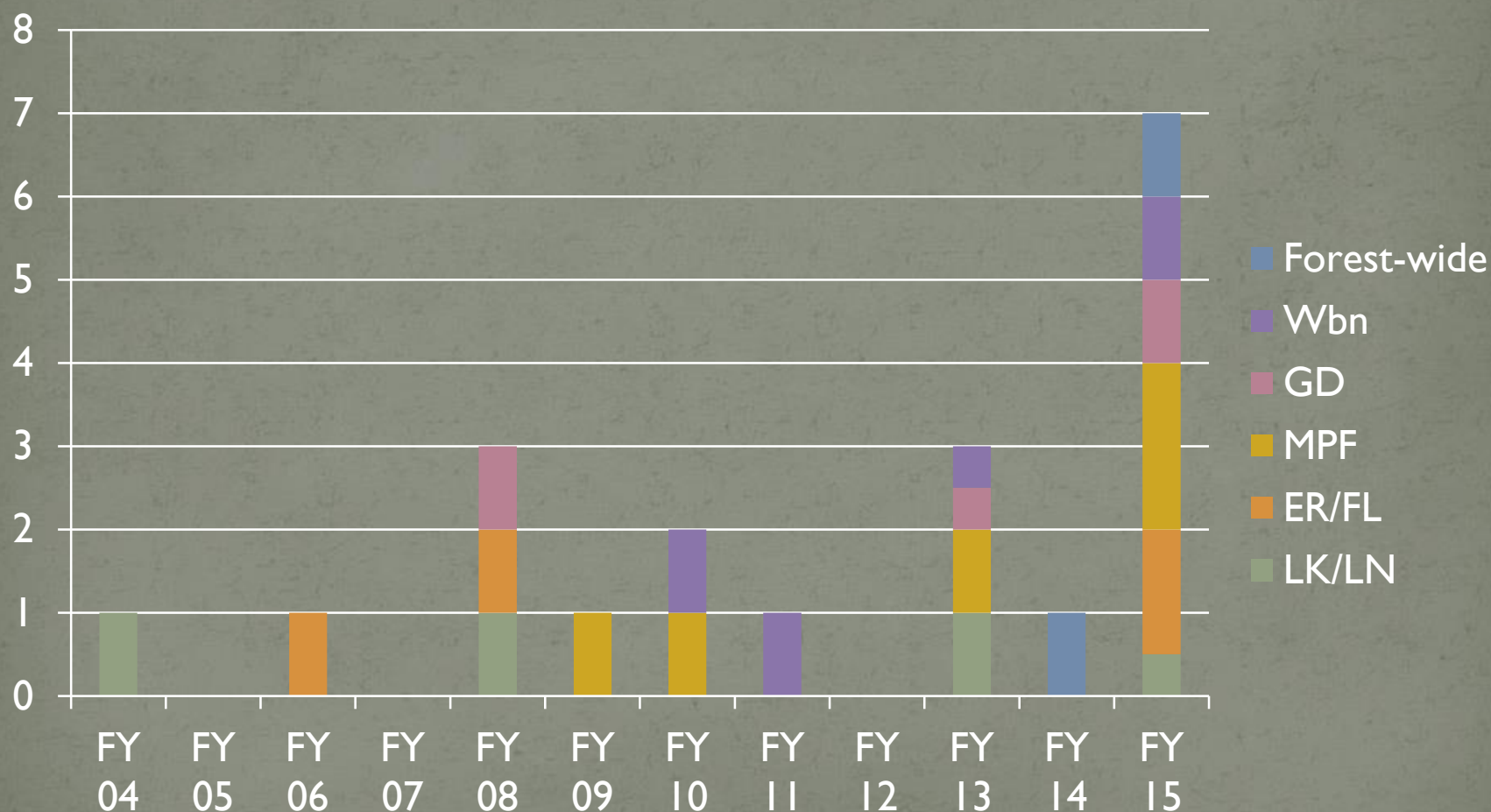
FY 2013 Volume of Timber Sold Through Stewardship Region 9



FY 2014 Volume of Timber Sold Through Stewardship Region 9 as of 08/27/14



Stewardship Proposals Approved by Fiscal Year and Location on the Chequamegon-Nicolet



CNNF Past and Current Proposals

LK/LN	ER/FL	MPF	GD	Wbn	Forest-wide
Oak Wilt	Argonne Old Growth	Riley Lake	Day Lake	Northwest Pine	Accelerated Restoration
Flower Lake	Eagle Pine	North Fishtrap	Bayfield County	Northwest Sands	Sustainable Resources Forest Restoration SA
LK/LN RGMA	Wallace SA	Wilson RGMA	Great Divide Restoration	Bayfield County	
LK/LN & ER/FL Project	LK/LN & ER/FL Project	Uneven-aged Hardwoods		Fishbone Restoration	
		NWTF Buffalo Farm/Round Lake			

Besides Goods (Timber).....What's been included in Proposals?

- Timber Marking/Cruising
- Mechanical Site Preparation
- Road Decommissioning
- Road Stream Crossing Improvements (AOP)
- NNIS Treatments
- Wildlife Opening/Hunter Walking Trail Mtc
- ATV Trail Mtc
- Road Reconstruction
- Trail Bridges (Motorized & Non-motorized)

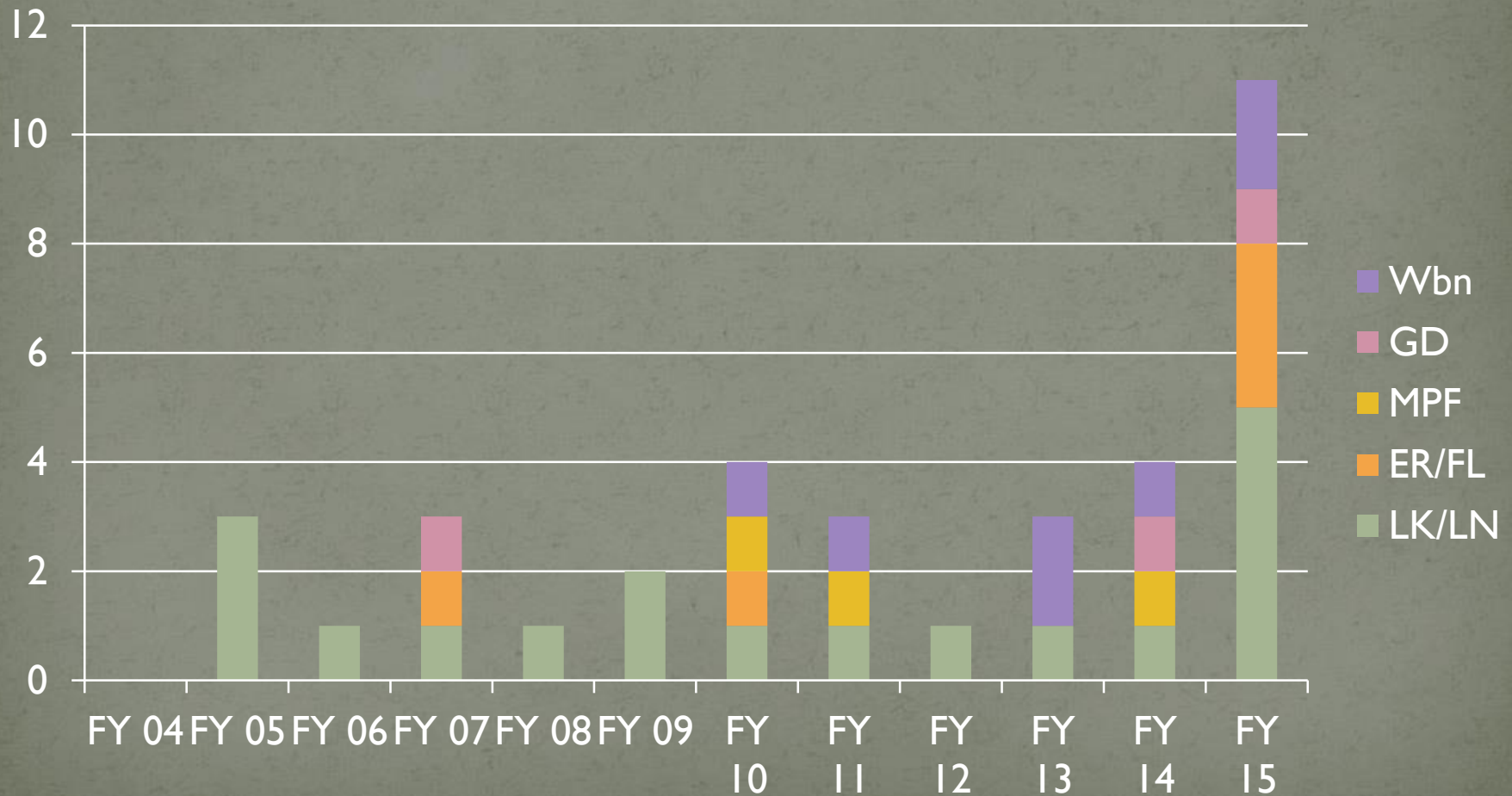
Services Continued

- Fallow Field Restoration
- Wildlife Habitat Creation (Grouse Drumming Logs)
- Alder Sheering
- Stump Removal (Oak Wilt Prevention)
- Stump Treatment (Annosum Prevention)
- Road Brushing, Ditching and Blading
- TSI (Pruning, Animal Damage Control, Plantation Release)
- Hazardous Fuels Reduction (Ladder Fuel Removal)

More Services.....

- ATV unauthorized use area decommissioning
- Installation of Berms and Gates
- Biomass Removal
- Roller Chopping (Wildlife Habitat Mtc)
- Remnant Dam Removal
- Boat Launch Restoration
- Boardwalk Installation (Non-Motorized Trails)
- Stream Channel Restoration
- Native Seed Collection
- And more.....

How Many Stewardship Projects (IRTC Contracts/Agreements) has the Forest engaged in?



Location of Contracts & Agreements FY 04 -14

Stewardship Type	LK/LN	ER/FL	MPF	GD	WBN
IRTC	12	2	3	2	5
Stewardship Agreement	1	0	0	0	0
Service Contracts	10	18	3	2	22

Use of Stewardship Agreements

- To date one stewardship agreement with Sustainable Resources Institute Inc has been executed (FY 14)
 - Final Goods Value of \$218,900 (2.33 MMBF)
- Two additional stewardship agreements are targeted in FY 15; Sustainable Resources Institute, Inc and Florence County
 - Estimated combined Goods Value of \$650,000 (5.62 MMBF)
- Discussions on possible future agreements are ongoing with The Nature Conservancy and National Wild Turkey Federation

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