



April 18, 2023

Senator Howard L. Marklein
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707
Sen.Marklein@legis.wi.gov

Representative Mark Born
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708
Rep.Born@legis.wisconsin.gov

RE: Support for the Forest Industry Strategic Plan and Roadmap Budget Request

Dear Senator Marklein and Representative Born,

Wisconsin woodland owners, who provide 64% of the raw material needed for our industry, need a diverse and forward-looking industry to be able to maintain our productive lands.

Therefore, we are contacting you to ask the Joint Committee on Finance to include funding in the 2023 – 2025 biennial budget for the Wisconsin Council on Forestry's effort to complete a **Forest Industry Strategic Plan and Roadmap**. This plan will build on existing projects that support innovation and workforce development and will position Wisconsin to anticipate and drive the demand of our 21st century wood fiber production with sustainable, innovative products that will put Wisconsin at the top of global wood markets.

This plan will be the foundational source of information and a compass for policymakers, industry investors, entrepreneurs, researchers, regional economic planning groups, and any who seek to invest in supporting and growing Wisconsin's forest products-based economy.

Sincerely,

Kristie Kasbohm
Executive Director, WAFO
wiforestowners@gmail.com