

**2013 DRAFTING REQUEST**

**Bill**

Received: 7/18/2013 Received By: rkite  
Wanted: As time permits Same as LRB:  
For: Rob Swearingen (608) 266-7141 By/Representing: Dan  
May Contact: Drafter: rkite  
Subject: Nat. Res. - parks and forestry Addl. Drafters:  
Extra Copies:

Submit via email: YES  
Requester's email: Rep.Swearingen@legis.wisconsin.gov  
Carbon copy (CC) to:

**Pre Topic:**

No specific pre topic given

**Topic:**

State forest lease terms

**Instructions:**

See attached

**Drafting History:**

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	rkite 7/24/2013			_____			
/1		wjackson 8/5/2013	jfrantze 8/5/2013	_____	sbasford 8/5/2013	rose 8/27/2013	State S&L

FE Sent For:

<END>

→ At Intro.

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/?	rkite	1 WJ 8/1		<u>8/5</u>			

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# Boulder Junction Shooting Range

July 7, 2013

*President*  
Mike Keintz

*Vice-President*  
Jim Hornbrook

*Secretary*  
Pete Drahn

*Treasurer*  
Bob Conner

*Board of  
Directors*

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Randy Radtke

Jerry Rappa

John Schaeffel

*Range Officer*  
Terry Rinderknecht

*Rifle/ Pistol*  
Jeff Heeler

Representative Rob Swearingen  
Room 19 North  
State Capital  
PO Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708

Dear Assemblyman Swearingen:

We respectfully ask your support to amend Wis. Stat. s. 26.08 (2) to allow a longer term lease from the Department of Natural Resources for the operation of the Boulder Junction Shooting Range.

The Boulder Junction Shooting Range, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt, public charity located in Vilas County. The range land is owned by the State of Wisconsin, administered by the DNR, and leased to the Town of Boulder Junction as a shooting range. The range is open to the public and operated by the Boulder Junction Shooting Range (BJSR) at no cost to the taxpayer. The range provides facilities for trap, skeet, rifle and pistol shooting and is operated by an all-volunteer staff.

Our mission is to provide a safe and supervised facility for the public to engage in shooting sports. As part of our mission, we teach firearms safety and responsible gun handling, and do so for free. We actively promote and further Wisconsin's outdoors sporting heritage and the conservation of natural resources in these tangible ways.

- High School Trap League. In partnership with Northland Pines High School in Eagle River, we're currently sponsoring a weekly trap league with class instruction. These classes teach firearms safety, responsible gun handling, and shooting instruction. Targets are provided free to all students.
- Summer Youth Shooting Instruction. This is an ongoing program for new shooters, age 12-17, to learn gun safety and receive hands-on practice in clay target shooting from qualified instructors. Guns are provided for instruction and targets and ammunition are free.
- Hunter Education Courses. We host this required training for hunters with qualified instructors, again free of charge. Under Wisconsin law, anyone born after January 1, 1973, must complete such a course to be licensed to hunt.
- DNR Turkey and Bear Hunting Clinics. Our grounds are used annually for this purpose.
- Boy Scouts and Lion's Club Events. The range serves as a safe and supervised venue for local organizations to hold shooting events.

Boulder Junction Shooting Range

PO Box 171, Boulder Junction, WI 54512-0171

501(c)(3) public charity; contributions are tax deductible

- Conservation Scholarships. BJSR annually funds college scholarships for deserving students at Lakeland Union High School, with plans to continue his or her education in college-level courses in fields of study related to natural resources conservation.
- Law Enforcement Agencies such as the Vilas County Sheriff's Department and Wisconsin DNR Wardens use BJSR facilities free of charge to qualify in shooting proficiency.
- Beyond this, we host many family fun shoots, organized shooting leagues and donate some funds for community causes in Vilas County, including The Community Food Pantry.

Lease terms have been for 15 years, in accordance with Wis. Stat. s. 26.08 (2) (a) which states, "Except as provided under pars. (b) to (d), the department may lease state park land or state forest land for terms not exceeding 15 years."

While a 15-year lease is satisfactory for operation of the range in its present form, such a term is inadequate term to amortize any significant capital improvement. Since the area does not have a large population, it is not feasible to publically raise the capital needed to develop major facility improvements. Our long term goals include expanding the clubhouse, improving handicap accessibility, installing a new well and septic system, and developing a sporting clays course. These improvements total many thousands of dollars, and funds would have to be borrowed from a commercial lender to finance them. Such financing requires a longer term lease.

Our goal is to enter into a long-term lease with the DNR in order to facilitate these improvements. There is a provision in the law that would allow our lease to exceed 15 years. It is in the same statute cited above and identifies facilities which may exceed the 15-year limit. The language states:

"(b) The department may lease Rib Mountain state park lands and Willow River state park lands for terms not exceeding 30 years.

(bn) The department may lease state park land located within the boundaries of the Wisconsin Dells natural area for terms not exceeding 30 years.

(c) The department may lease Kettle Moraine state forest land for the YMCA Camp Matawa for a term not exceeding 30 years.

(d) The department may lease Northern Highland American Legion State Forest land on Statehouse Lake in the town of Manitowish Waters for the North Lakeland Discovery Center for a term not exceeding 30 years."

We ask for your support to amend Wis. Stat. s. 26.08 (2) by adding: "(e) The department may lease state forest lands for terms not exceeding 30 years to the Boulder Junction Shooting Range."

Thank you for your consideration, and if you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Michael P. Keintz, President  
Boulder Junction Shooting Range  
715-617-8307



State of Wisconsin  
2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



LRB-2714/0  
RNK:.....  
Wlj

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

2013 BILL

Gen Cat

1 AN ACT ...; relating to: authorizing the Department of Natural Resources to lease  
2 state forest land to the Boulder Junction Shooting Range for terms not  
3 exceeding 30 years.

**Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau**

of → Under current law, with certain exceptions, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may lease state park land or state forest land for terms not exceeding 15 years. This bill authorizes DNR to lease state forest land located in the town (b) Boulder Junction to the Boulder Junction Shooting Range for terms not exceeding 30 years.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

**The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:**

INS.  
1-4

4 →

SECTION 1. 26.08 (2) (e) of the statutes is created to read:



2013-2014 DRAFTING INSERT  
FROM THE  
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

LRB-2714/1ins.  
RNK:.....

INSERT 1-4

- 1           **SECTION ~~1~~** 26.08 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:
- 2           26.08 (2) (a) Except as provided under pars. (b) to ~~(d)~~ (e), the department may
- 3           lease state park land or state forest land for terms not exceeding 15 years.

**History:** 1979 c. 34; 1987 a. 27; 1997 a. 27; 1999 a. 9; 2001 a. 16.

**Basford, Sarah**

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**From:** Perchinsky, Dan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2013 10:37 AM  
**To:** LRB.Legal  
**Subject:** Draft Review: LRB -2714/1 Topic: State forest lease terms

Please Jacket LRB -2714/1 for the ASSEMBLY.