

State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR
Alberta Darling

317 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882
Phone: (608) 266-5830



ASSEMBLY CHAIR
John Nygren

309 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8593
Madison, WI 53708-8953
Phone: (608) 266-2343

Joint Committee on Finance

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling
Representative John Nygren

Date: June 17, 2016

Re: 14-Day Passive Review Approval – DNR

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m), Stats., attached is a 14-day passive review request from the Department of Natural Resources, received on June 17, 2016.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Thursday, July 7, 2016**, if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to consider it.

Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachments

AD:JN;jm

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
101 S. Webster Street
Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921

Scott Walker, Governor
Cathy Stepp, Secretary
Telephone 608-266-2621
FAX 608-267-3579
TTY Access via relay - 711



The Honorable Alberta Darling
Committee on Joint Finance
317 East, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53701

The Honorable John Nygren, Co-Chair
Committee of Joint Finance
309 East, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53701

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

Pursuant to §23.0917(6m), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you as co-chairs of the Committee on Joint Finance of the proposed acquisition of 17.17 acres from Friends of Crex, Inc. using funds from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program.

The purchase price of the acquisition is \$20,000.00 to be funded by the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program. Miscellaneous fees associated with the transaction are estimated at \$2,800.00. The payment in lieu of taxes is estimated at \$97.32.

If there are no objections by the Committee, the Department plans to use FY16 Knowles-Nelson Stewardship money to fund the acquisition.

As provided in §23.0917(6m), if the Department does not receive notification of the scheduling of a hearing from either of the JFC co-chairpersons within 14 working days from today, the Department will forward the proposal to the Governor for his consideration. If there are questions about the proposal, please contact Douglas Haag at 608-266-2136.

Thank you for this consideration.

Sincerely,


for Kurt Thiede
Deputy Secretary

Attachment

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 15, 2016 FILE REF: WM 60400
TO: Scott Walker
FROM: Cathy Stepp
SUBJECT: Proposed Land Acquisition, Friends of Crex, Inc. (former Carol Johnson parcel) Tract, File # WM 60400, Option Expires September 15, 2016

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Fish Lake Wildlife Area
Burnett County

Grantor:

Friends of Crex, Inc.
Attn: Mr. Richard Sandve
102 East Crex Ave
Grantsburg, WI 54840

Acres: 17.17
Price: \$20,000.00
Appraised Value: \$20,000.00
Interest: Fee Title Purchase
Improvements: None

Location: The property is located four miles south of Grantsburg in Burnett County.

Land Description: The subject land is level, with elevations slightly higher in the southeast part of the property and becoming slightly lower moving northerly across the property.

Covertypes Breakdown:

Table with 2 columns: Type, Acreage. Rows include Wetland (10.00), Upland Woodland (7.17), and Total (17.17).

Zoning: RR3
Present Use: Recreation
Proposed Use: Recreation
Tenure: 4 months
Property Taxes: \$96.52
Option Date: June 8, 2016

Stewardship Land Access: This property will be open to the public for all nature based outdoor recreational activities to include hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking and cross country skiing. Physical features of the property may not be conducive to all these activities.



2. JUSTIFICATION:

The Department has received an option from Friends of Crex, Inc. for a 17.17 acre property located within the project boundary of the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area, for \$20,000.00. The parcel is surrounded on three sides by Department ownership and is adjacent to STH 87 on one side.

Friends of Crex, Inc. is a conservation partner the Department has collaboratively worked with since the mid 1980's. Friends of Crex, Inc. purchased the subject property in February 2016 in an effort to ensure the property would be open to public recreation and eventually become part of the Fish Lake Wildlife Area.

The Fish Lake Wildlife Area was established in 1946 to manage the large wetland habitat, primarily for waterfowl and furbearing animals. Most of the originally acquired tracts were purchased by the state as tax delinquent parcels. After years of repeated and unsuccessful attempts to convert the land to agricultural production, private landholders abandoned their properties. The property is a part of historic Glacial Lake Grantsburg, which blanketed and scarred the landscape 12,000 years ago. The vast marshes historically present on the landscape are slowly being restored as the state works to re-establish these wetland remnants.

Fish Lake Wildlife Area is also part of the northwest Wisconsin pine barrens corridor which extend from northern Polk County to southern Bayfield County, covering 1,500 square miles. The southern portion of the barrens, where the project is located, contains expansive sedge marshes. Fish Lake Wildlife Area's master plan was recently updated and approved by the Natural Resources Board in January 2016, as a part of the Glacial Lake Grantsburg Properties Master Plan.

The subject property consists of 17.17 acres of vacant land consisting primarily of wetland. The southeast portion of the property is heavily wooded and well drained. Natural Heritage Inventory data defines 10 element occurrences within the subject property and buffer area. Among the listed species are the state endangered Black Tern, last observed in 2011, and the State Threatened Dwarf Milkweed observed along the nearby Dnaiels Flowage in 2010. The property is suitable for recreational activities similar to the Fish lake Wildlife Area including hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing, and berry picking.

The Department recommends acquisition of the Friends of Crex, Inc. property to improve management efficiencies and public recreation use.

3. LAND MANAGEMENT:

The property will be managed in conjunction with the surrounding state lands on Fish Lake Wildlife Area. There are currently no planned developments for the property. Because planned management for this parcel is similar to that employed on the Department's adjacent owned lands, no additional expense is anticipated with the addition of this property. The subject acreage extends the project to STH 87, thereby reducing boundary posting work and facilitating property management efficiencies with provision of direct road access into the project. In addition posting and hunting restrictions, necessary during private ownership of the tract, will no longer be an issue, thus expanding recreational uses and eliminating encroachment/trespass and other related concerns from staff focus.

4. FINANCING:

State Stewardship bond funds are anticipated:

Funds allotted to program:	Balance after proposed transaction:
\$2,640,000.00	\$1,831,632.00

5. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE FISH LAKE WILDLIFE AREA:

Established: 1946

Acres Purchased to Date: 13,462.83

Acquisition Goal: 14,075.00

Percent Complete: 95.65 %

Cost to Date: \$1,350,369.86

6. APPRAISAL:

Appraiser: Ron Olson
Valuation Date: June 01, 2016
Appraised Value: \$20,000.00
Highest and Best Use: Recreation

Allocation of Values:

- a. land: 17.17 acres @ \$1,164.82 per acre: \$20,000.00
- b. market data approach used, four comparable sales cited
- c. adjusted value range: \$1,125.00 - \$1,292.00 per acre

Appraisal Review:

Pete Wolter

Date: 6/7/2016

RECOMMENDED:



Douglas J Haag, Deputy Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands

6-14-16

Date



Richard W. Henneger, Bureau of Legal Services

6/15/16

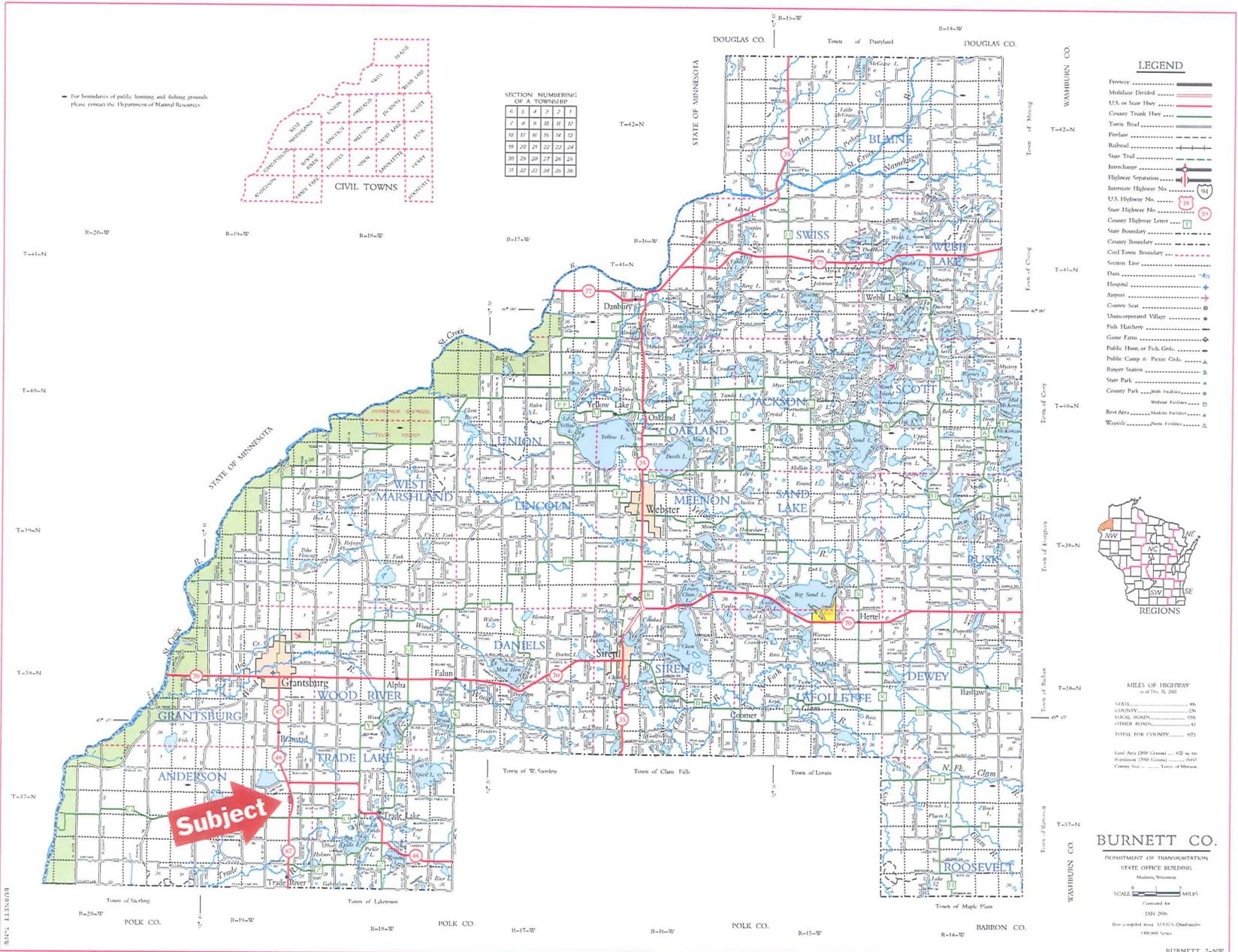
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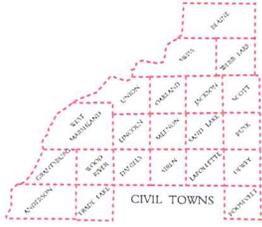
Sanjay Olson, Fish, Wildlife and Parks Division Administrator

6/14/16

Date



For boundaries of public hunting and fishing grounds please contact the Department of Natural Resources



SECTION NUMBERING OF A TOWNSHIP

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

LEGEND

- Freeway
- Multilane Divided
- U.S. or State Hwy
- County Trunk Hwy
- Town Road
- Private
- Railroad
- State Trail
- Interchange
- Highway Separation
- Interstate Highway No.
- U.S. Highway No.
- State Highway No.
- County Highway Letter
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- Civil Town Boundary
- Section Line
- Dam
- Hospital
- Airport
- County Seat
- Unincorporated Village
- Fish Hatchery
- Game Farm
- Public Hunt or Fish Gnd.
- Public Camp & Picnic Gnd.
- Ranger Station
- State Park
- County Park
- Without Facilities
- Rest Area
- Modern Facilities
- Weyell
- Panic Facilities



MILES OF HIGHWAY
as of Oct. 31, 2015

STATE	496
COUNTY	206
LOCAL ROAD	706
OTHER ROAD	42
TOTAL FOR COUNTY	1450

Land Area (2010 Census) - 422 sq. mi.
Population (2010 Census) - 10,647
County Seat - Town of Menomonie

BURNETT CO.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
MADISON, WISCONSIN

SCALE 1" = 1 MILE
Compiled for
JAN 2016

Not compiled from U.S.G.S. Quadtiles
1:80,000 Series

**Friends of Crex, Inc. -
Fee Title**

...
*Fish Lake
Wildlife Area*

WM 60400

T37N R19W Sec 13
Town of Anderson
Burnett County

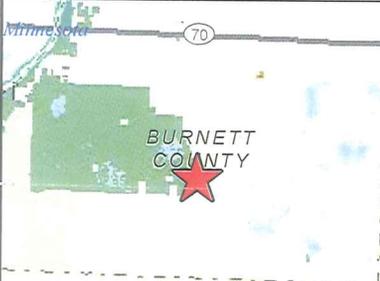
 **Subject**

 Project Boundary Not Subject
to Act 20 JFC Review

 DNR Fee Title

 State Natural Area

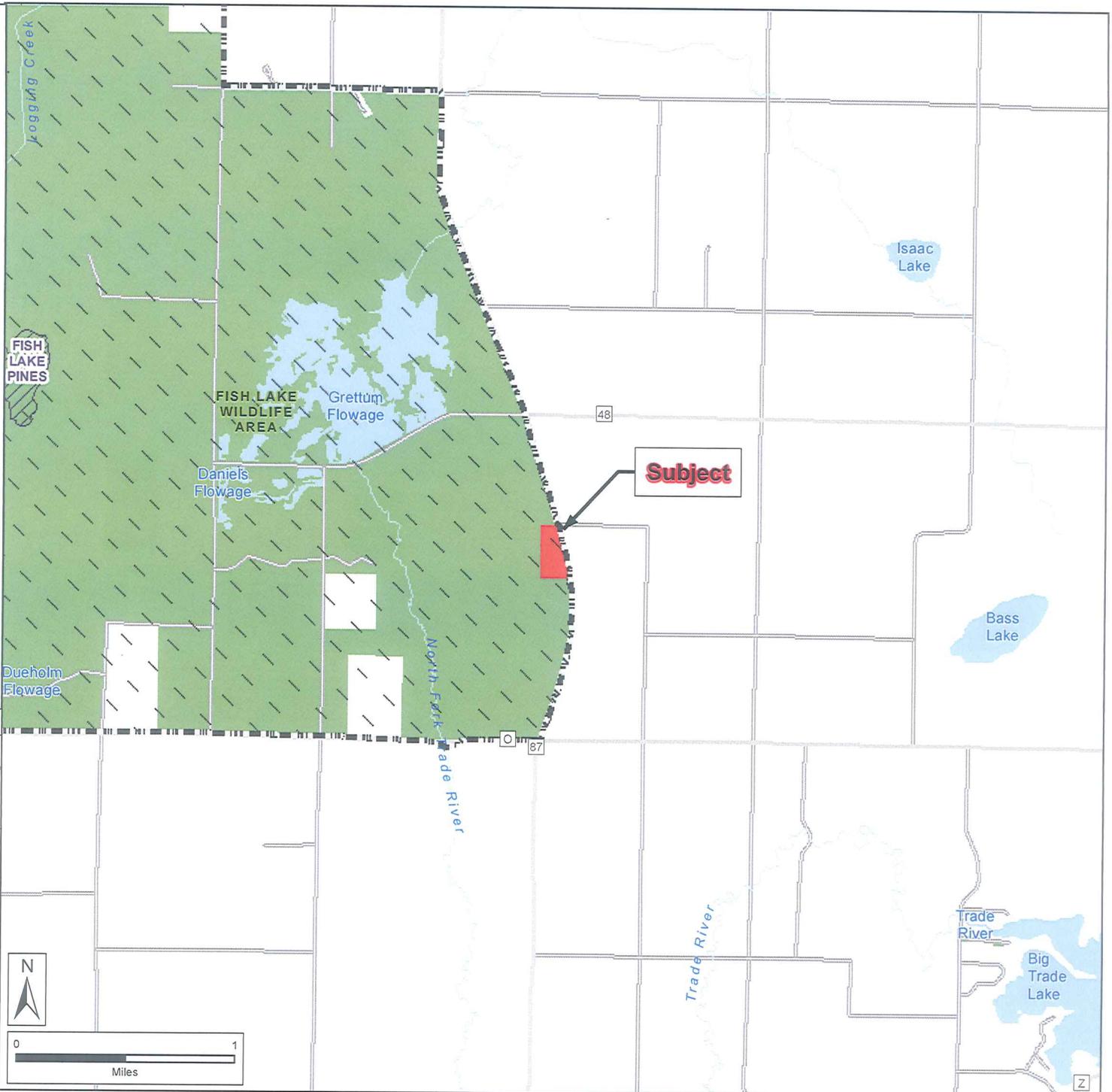
Regional View



 **Location of Property**



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: Jun 09, 2016 jst



The data shown on this map have been obtained from various sources, and are of varying age, reliability and resolution. This map is not intended to be used for navigation, nor is this map an authoritative source of information about legal land ownership or public access. Users of this map should confirm the ownership of land through other means in order to avoid trespassing. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding accuracy, applicability for a particular use, completeness, or legality of the information depicted on this map.

Friends of Crex, Inc. - Fee Title

T37N R19W Sec 13, Town of Anderson, Burnett County



Fish Lake Wildlife Area

 **Subject**

 Project Boundary Not Subject to Act 20 JFC Review

 DNR Fee Title

 Section Boundary

 QQ Section Boundary



Jun 09, 2016 jst

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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