

State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR
Alberta Darling

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ASSEMBLY CHAIR
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309 East, State Capitol
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Joint Committee on Finance

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling
Representative John Nygren

Date: December 7, 2017

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 December 7, 2017.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Wednesday, December 27, 2017**, if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to consider it.

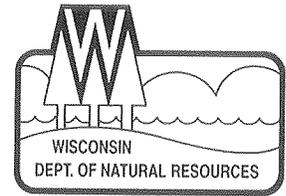
Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachments

AD:JN;jm

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

Scott Walker, Governor
Daniel L. Meyer, Secretary
Telephone 608-266-2621
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463
TTY Access via relay - 711



December 4, 2017

The Honorable Alberta Darling, Co-Chair
Committee on Joint Finance
Room 317 East
State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison WI 53707-7882

The Honorable John Nygren, Co-Chair
Committee on Joint Finance
Room 309 East
State Capitol
PO Box 8953
Madison, WI 53707-53708

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you as co-chairs of the Committee on Joint Finance of a proposed grant of \$327,072.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to the Nature Conservancy for purchase 362 acres in the Town of Baileys Harbor, Door County. The proposed grant award represents ~27% of the estimated total project costs.

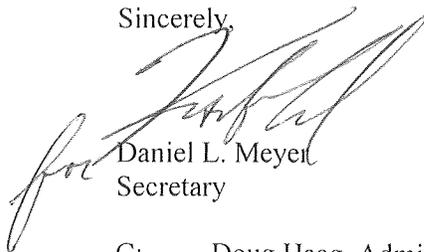
The proposed land acquisition will improve public access to the Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest and Wetlands State Natural Area and conserve 362 acres of coastal boreal forest comprising the core of the Departments' State Natural Area boundary.

There are no prohibitions of nature-based outdoor activities, as defined in s. 23.0916(1)(b), Wis. Stats.

As provided in s. 23.0917(6m)(a), Wis. Stats., if the Department does not receive notification of the scheduling of a hearing from either of the Joint Committee on Finance co-chairpersons within 14 working days from today, the Department will award this grant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



for Daniel L. Meyer
Secretary

C: Doug Haag, Administrator, Internal Services
Terry Bay, Director, Facilities and Lands
Pamela Foster Felt, Stewardship Grant Manager
Faith Murray, CFA Specialist, Northeast Region

DATE: December 4, 2017
TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance
FROM: Daniel L. Meyer, Secretary

SUBJECT: Request for approval of a Stewardship grant exceeding \$250,000.00

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (c), Wis. Stats., the Department of Natural Resources is notifying you of a proposed Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant of to \$327,072 to The Nature Conservancy for the acquisition of 362 acres in Door County. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(ta), Wis. Stats.

I. PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Sponsor: The Nature Conservancy
Grant sub-program: Natural Areas

Location: This parcel is located east of County Highway Q in the Town of Bailey Harbor, Door County. The property is adjacent to the Jonathan Ela Unit of DNR's Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest and Wetlands State Natural Area. The property can be accessed from County Highway Q and Cana Island Road. Project maps are attached as Appendix A.

Project Description: This 362-acre parcel comprises the core of the DNR's State Natural Area boundary, and is contiguous to and will connect disjunct Department lands on four sides. The Nature Conservancy's purchase will nearly double the existing public access and conservation acreage within the State Natural Area. The property is characterized by gently rolling coastal boreal forest and includes abundant sites of federally threatened Dwarf Lake Iris.

Key benefits:

- This acquisition will significantly improve public access to the Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest and Wetlands State Natural Area, connecting County Highway Q to a long section of protected shoreline and linking isolated tracts of public land to create contiguous block of State Natural Area along Lake Michigan.
- Includes a significant block of northern forest: the target ecological community of this State Natural Area, which provides critical stopover habitat for migratory birds.
- Provides high quality habitat and supports recovery of the federally threatened Dwarf Lake Iris; hosts a population of state threatened long eared bat; protects groundwater for the adjacent population of the federally endangered Hines Emerald Dragonfly.

Partnerships:

- The Nature Conservancy has secured ~\$900,000.00 in match funding for this acquisition from USFWS Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).
- The property will be managed in coordination with DNR crews managing adjacent lands.

Consistency with conservation planning:

- The Henson acquisition will advance the objectives in the Baileys Harbor Boreal Forest management plan including habitat protection and restoration for endangered, threatened, and special concern species.
- The Nature Conservancy’s purchase is also consistent with recommendations of USFWS recovery plans for Dwarf Lake Iris and Hines Emerald Dragonfly.
- The property is within a Conservation Opportunity Area of global significance identified in DNR’s State Wildlife Action Plan.

Public Uses: The property will be open to the public for low-impact recreational activities including hunting, trapping, cross-country skiing, hiking and wildlife viewing; there is no fishable water on the property.

The Department’s analysis of the permitted nature-based outdoor activities is attached as Appendix B.

II. PROJECT FINANCES

A. Appraisals

As required by s. 23.0917(7)(e)1., Wis. Stats., two appraisals were used to determine the fair market value of the land. The proposed grant is based on the lower of the two and will be for less than 50% of total eligible costs.

Appraisal 1 – accepted by DNR review	\$1,231,000
Appraisal 2	\$1,321,000

B: Grant Calculation:

land value	\$1,231,000.00
eligible related transaction costs	\$4,515.00
Total eligible project costs	\$1,235,515.00
Proposed Stewardship grant (~27%)	\$327,072.00

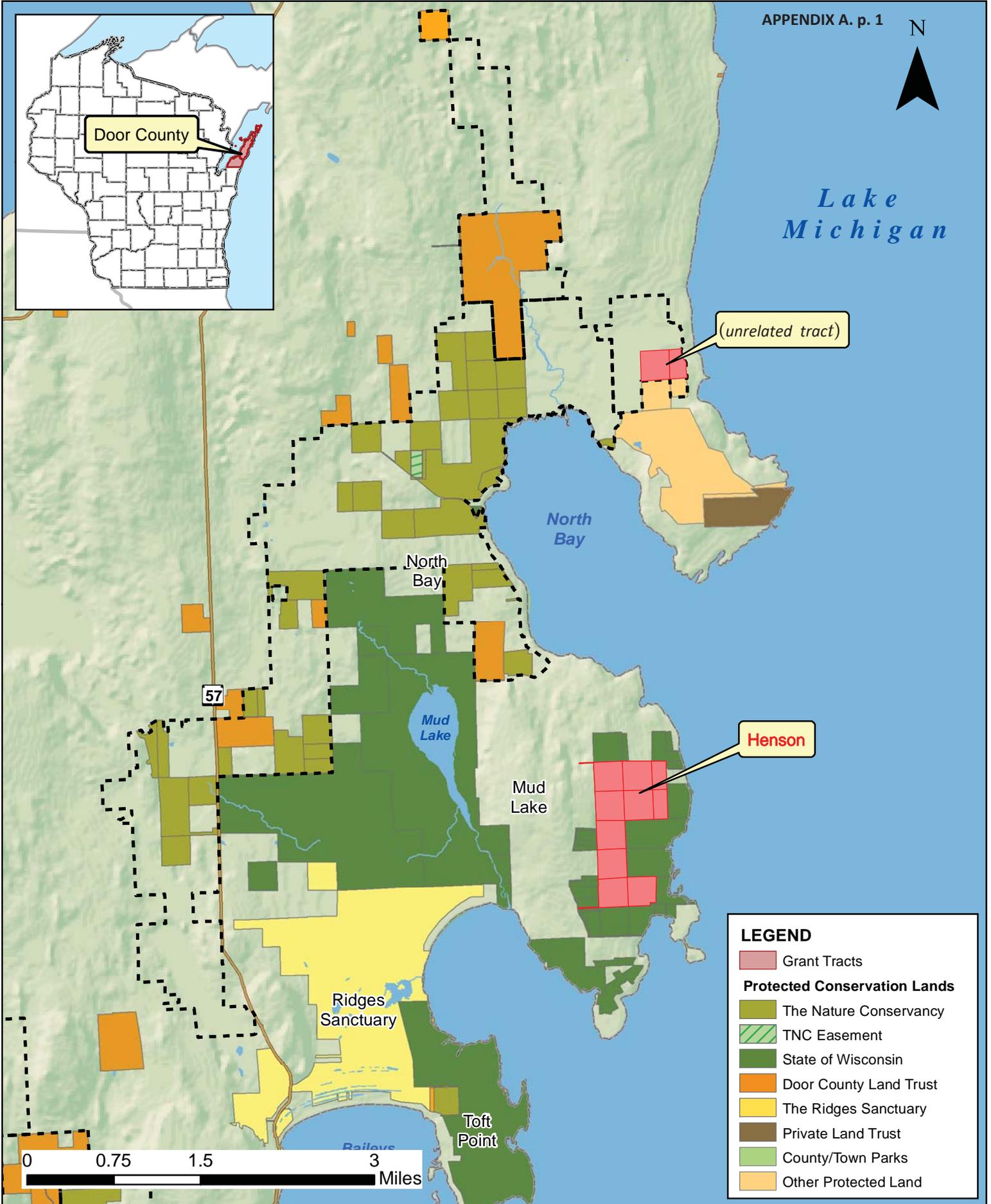
III. RECOMMENDED:

 _____ Terry Bay, Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands	<u>12/1/17</u> Date
 _____ Doug Haag, Administrator, Division of Internal Services	<u>12-1-17</u> Date

North Bay - Mud Lake - Ridges Project Area



APPENDIX A. p. 1



LEGEND

- Grant Tracts
- Protected Conservation Lands**
- The Nature Conservancy
- TNC Easement
- State of Wisconsin
- Door County Land Trust
- The Ridges Sanctuary
- Private Land Trust
- County/Town Parks
- Other Protected Land

Henson Trust Tract - Aerial Map

APPENDIX A p. 2

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Lake Michigan



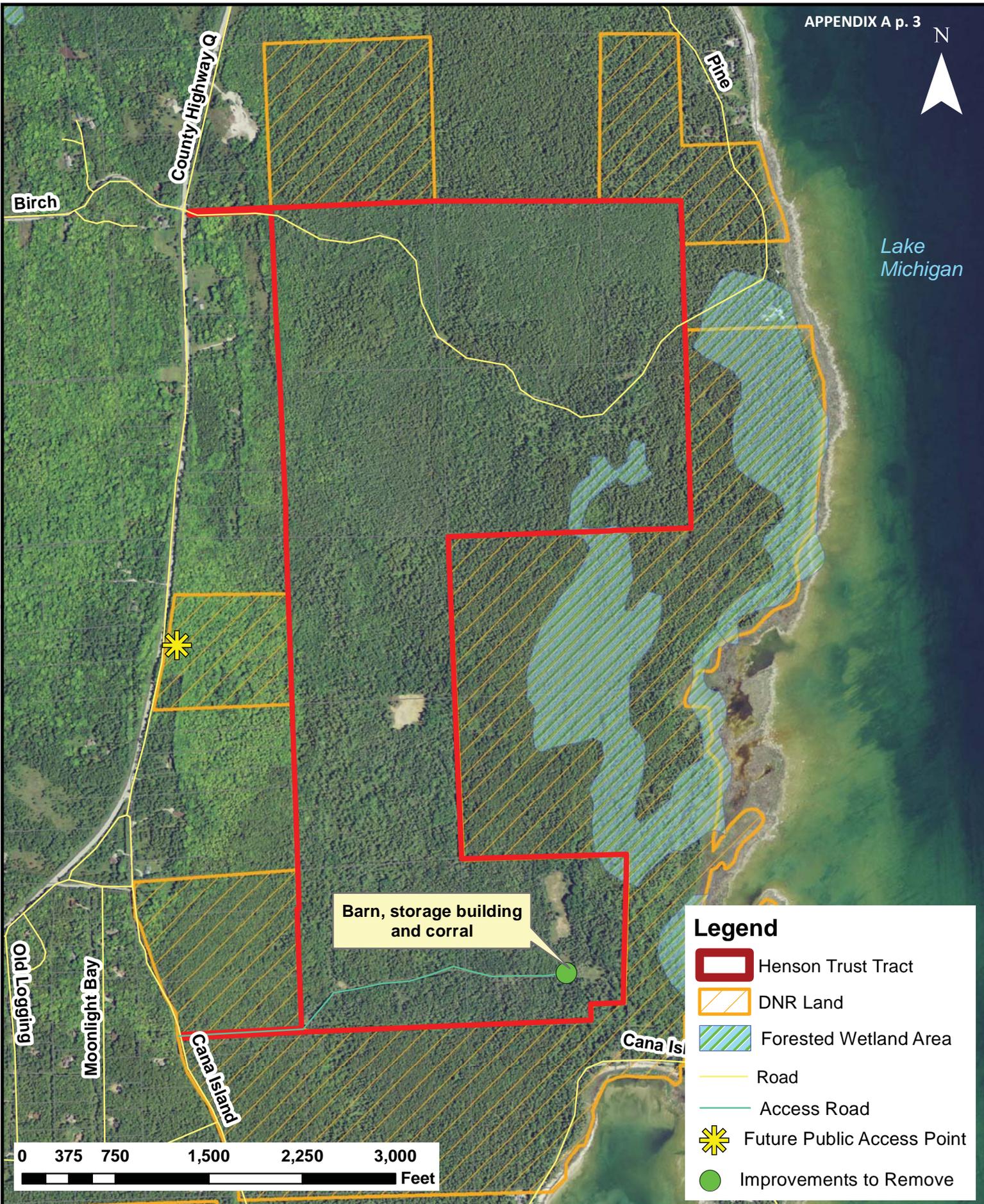
Legend

-  Henson Trust Tract
-  DNR Land
-  Tax Parcels
-  Road
-  Access Road



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Henson Trust Tract - Existing/Future Conditions Map



Legend

- Henson Trust Tract
- DNR Land
- Forested Wetland Area
- Road
- Access Road
- Future Public Access Point
- Improvements to Remove

TRAPPING**DNR Staff Narrative:** Property will be open to Upland Trapping**X No prohibitions being proposed****X No water on site****If a prohibition is proposed:****Public safety factors considered**, check all that apply.

- Size/shape of parcel
- The sponsor is within its own municipality boundary
- Parcel is within 100 yards of building devoted to human occupancy and per s. NR 13.(1)(b)(12), the following traps are prohibited: conibear body gripping traps (with jaws wider than 60 sq. inches) and cable restraints.
- Ordinance exists that prohibits trapping or some type of trapping.
- Visitor's expectations of safety at the site which include user conflicts that may create public safety issues and impact one or more NBOA's activities.
- Parcel is adjacent to a parcel where the NBOA's to be prohibited already exists.
- Parcel is adjacent to a public waterway.
- Parcel is subjected to a non-sponsor ordinance
- Project will be transferred to an eligible partner sponsor with ordinance prohibiting activity.

Unique plant and animal communities factors considered, check all that apply.

- Federal listed endangered species State listed endangered species
- Federal listed threatened species State listed threatened species
- Federal listed species of special concern State listed species of special concern

Location	Allowable Species	List Dates/Seasons (opening and closing)
Upland	Per state regulations	Per state regulations
Water	N/A	N/A

FISHING**DNR Staff Narrative:** No water on site**X No prohibitions being proposed****X No water on site****If a prohibition is proposed:****Public safety factors considered**, check all that apply.

- Ordinance exists – _____.
- Visitor's expectations of safety at the site which include user conflicts that may create public safety issues and impact one or more NBOA's activities.
- Parcel is adjacent to a parcel where the NBOA's to be prohibited already exists.
- Parcel is adjacent to a public waterway.
- Parcel is subjected to a non-sponsor ordinance
- Project will be transferred to an eligible partner sponsor with ordinance prohibiting activity.

Unique plant and animal communities factors considered, check all that apply.

- Federal listed endangered species State listed endangered species
- Federal listed threatened species State listed threatened species
- Federal listed species of special concern State listed species of special concern

Method	Allowable Activities	List Dates/Seasons (opening and closing)
Shore	N/A	N/A
Boat	N/A	N/A

