

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: January 10, 2018

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 January 10, 2018.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Tuesday, January 30, 2018**, 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 7821
Madison WI 53707-7821

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



January 5, 2018

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

JAN 10 2018
J. Finance

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Nygren:

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (dr), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you as co-chairs of the Committee on Joint Finance of a proposed grant of \$163,000.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to Forest County Forest for Forest Drive acquisition.

The Forest Drive project will acquire 280 acres to be incorporated into the County Forest and Stewardship Programs. The project will ensure continued future forest management, provide public recreation opportunities, and safeguard wildlife habitat. The property's timber includes 95% upland with a mixture of northern hardwood, aspen and proposed red pine plantation. There is also a wetland which has connectors to the watersheds of Lost Creek, Lilly River (Class II Trout Stream), Roberts Lake and Lily Lake. The property is bordered to the west by existing Forest County lands.

The entire property will be enrolled into the County Forest program and managed consistently with s. 28.11 Wis. Stats., which ensures that the land will be managed for optimum production of forest products together with recreational opportunities, wildlife, and watershed protection.

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,

Daniel L. Meyer
Secretary

C: Doug Haag, Administrator, Internal Services Division
Doug Brown, County Forest & Public Lands Specialist, Bureau of Forest Management

DATE: January 2, 2018
TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance
FROM: Daniel Meyer, Secretary

SUBJECT: Request for approval of a Stewardship grant award for acquisition north of Highway 64

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (d), Wis. Stats., the Department of Natural Resources is notifying you of a proposed Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant in the amount of \$163,000 to Forest County for the acquisition of a 280-acre parcel known as the Forest Drive property. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(ta), Wis. Stats.

PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Sponsor: Forest County

Grant sub-program: County Forest

Location: The 280-acre parcel is located in the Town of Lincoln, Forest County.

Project Description: This acquisition had been identified in the County's Forestry priorities as a long-term investment for timber production, recreation and watershed protection. The property cover includes 95% upland with a mixture of northern hardwood, aspen, several small forest openings and ~ 8 acres of wetland. The property is contiguous to existing Forest County lands on its western boundary.

Project area maps are attached as Appendix A.

Project benefits: county acquisition of this property will:

- Improve blocking of county forest lands, allowing for efficient management of contiguous blocks of productive timberland.
- Notably, allow Forest county to plant a ~58 acre area of open land to red pine in 2018. This will be the Forest County's first active planting program in several years, and will compliment timber management on existing County Forest lands with mature stands to be harvested and replanted in the next few years.
- Ensure continued motorized recreation via an adjacent existing state funded snowmobile trail on Forest Drive: Forest Drive is a town road which has been designated as an ATV/UTV route.
- Allow for ruffed grouse habitat management in areas of aspen cover.
- This purchase will expand recreational opportunities around Lake Lucerne, a significant recreation destination for the county, and is within 20 miles of Crandon, the county's largest city.

Public Uses: The Forest Drive project property will be open to the public year-round for hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, biking, horseback riding. County ownership will provide unlimited off-trail or cross country hiking opportunities throughout the property. The public will be able to access the parcels from a town road and through adjoining county forest lands.

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



Property Management: The property will be enrolled into the County Forest Program and managed consistently with s. 28.11 Wis. Stats., which ensures that the land will be managed for optimum production of forest products, public recreational, wildlife, and watershed protection. Management will occur according to the *Forest County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan*, as approved by the Department.

Timetable: Pending grant approval Forest County intends to close on this property early in the 2018 calendar year.

PROJECT FINANCES:

A. Appraisals:

As required by s.23.0917(7)(e)1., Wis. Stats., DNR used two appraisals to determine fair market value of the Forest Drive parcel; the proposed grant award is based on the lower of the two.

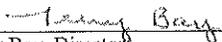
Appraisal 1	\$322,000.00
Appraisal 2	\$448,000.00

B. Grant Calculation

Land value	\$322,000.00
Grant-eligible associated costs	<u>\$4,000.00</u>
Total <i>grant eligible</i> project costs	\$326,000.00

DNR Stewardship grant funding (50%)	\$163,000.00
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I. RECOMMENDED:

 Terry Bay, Director Bureau of Facilities and Lands	<u>12/20/17</u> Date
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 Doug Haag, Administrator Division of Internal Services	<u>1-2-18</u> Date
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Attachments:
Appendix A -- project area maps
Appendix B -- Public use staff analysis

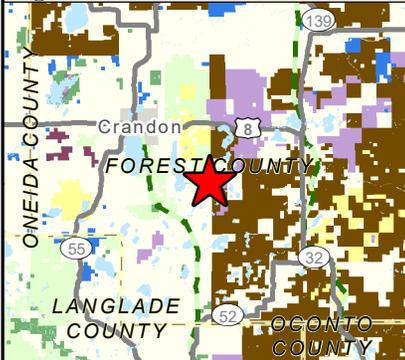
APPENDIX A p. 1
**Forest Drive County
 Forest Block**

...
*Preliminary
 Stewardship
 Grant*
 ...

T35N R13E Sec 13
 Town of Lincoln
 Forest County

- Subject
- DNR Project Boundary
- DNR Fee Title Lands
Open to Public Access
- DNR Easement Lands
Open to Public Access
- Tribal Lands
- County Forest Lands
- National Forest
- State Recreation Trail
- PLSS Section Lines

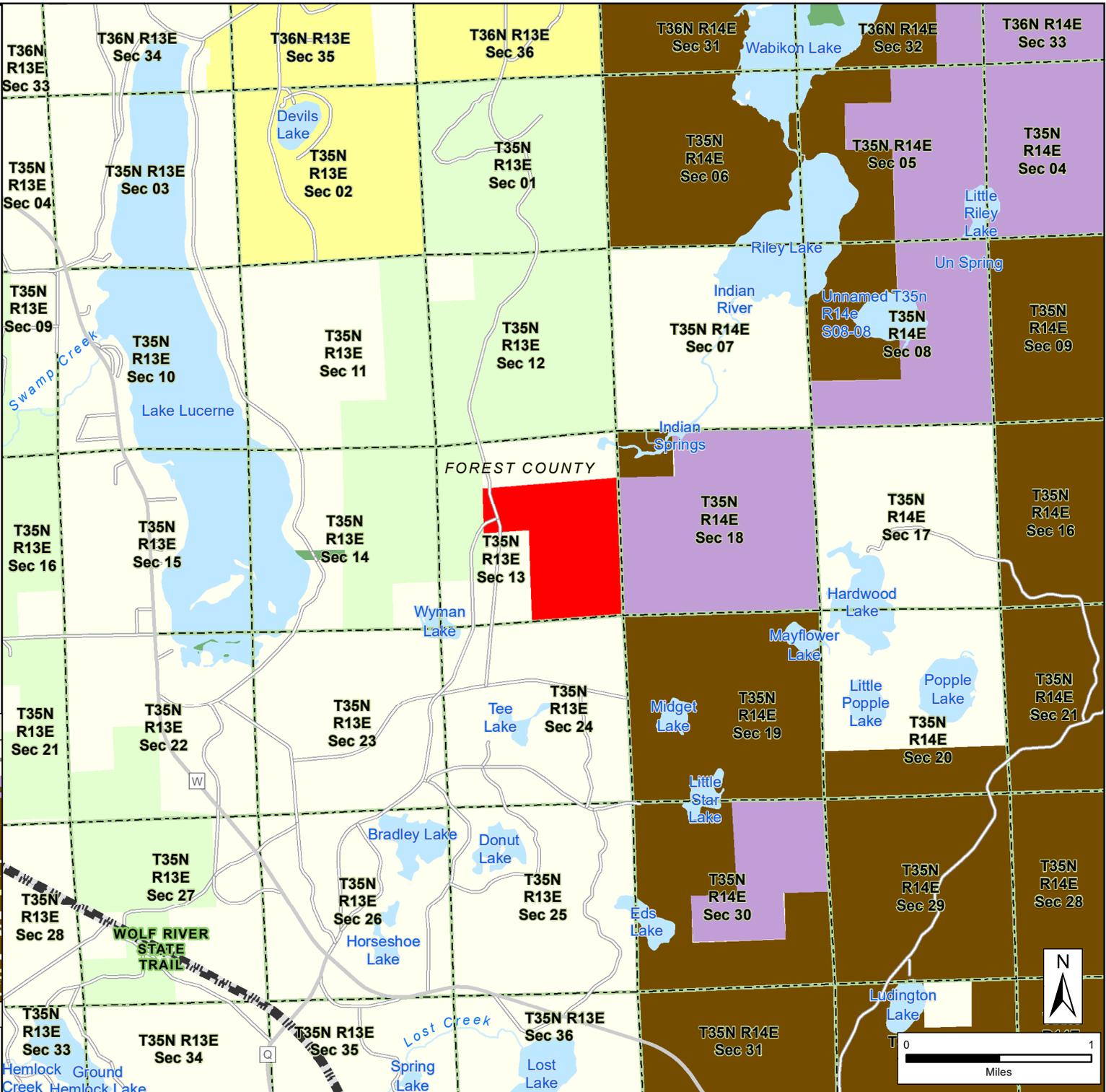
Regional View



★ Location of Property



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
 OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 Bureau of Facilities of Lands
 Map Created: Dec 06, 2017 jpk

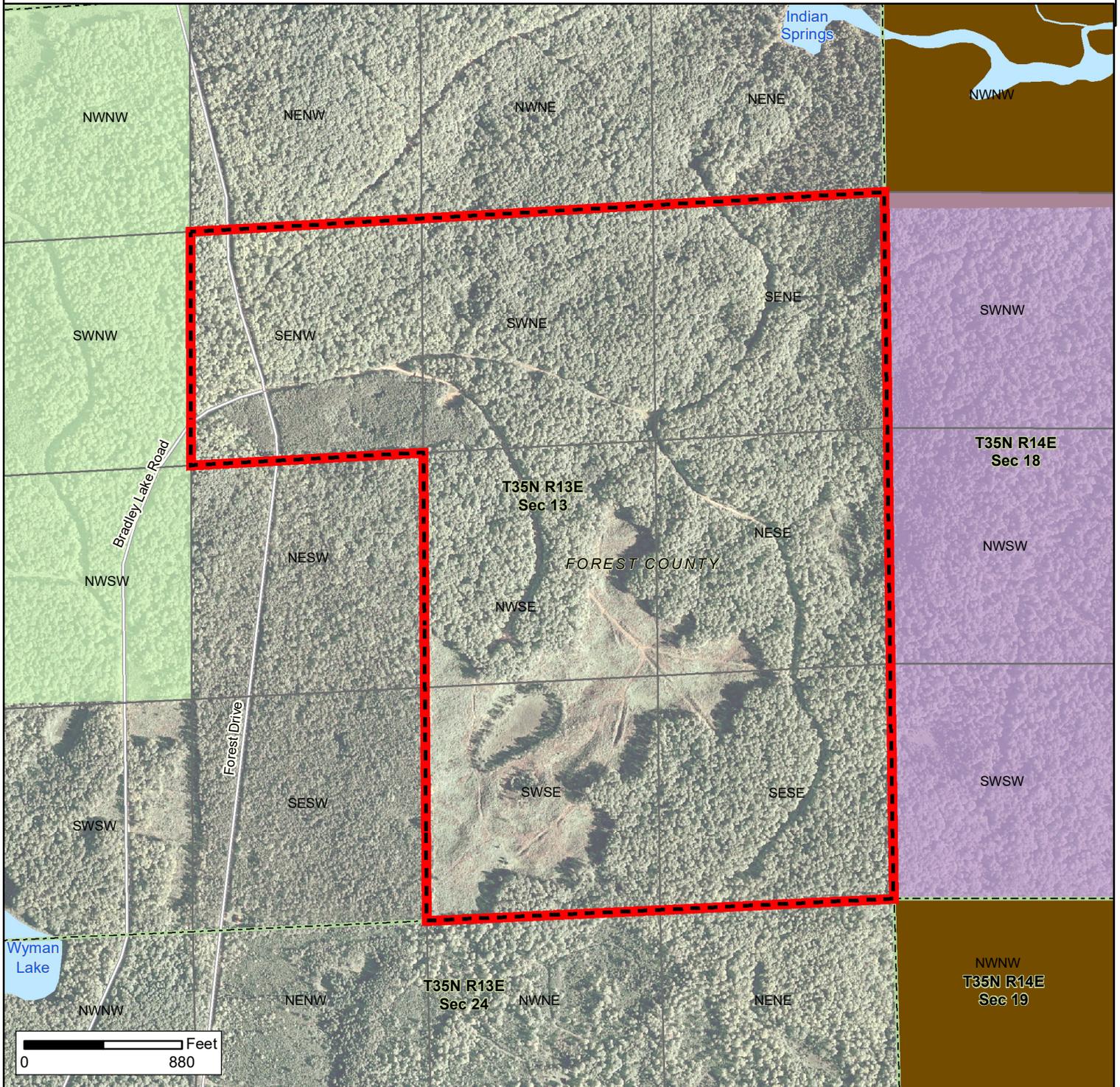


The data shown on this map have been obtained from various sources, and are of varying age, reliability and resolution. This map is not intended to be used for navigation, nor is this map an authoritative source of information about legal land ownership or public access. Users of this map should confirm 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.

Forest Drive County Forest Block

Sponsor: Forest County

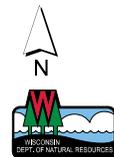
T35N R13E Sec 13 Town of Lincoln
County: Forest



**Proposed
Stewardship Grant**

 **Subject**

-  DNR Easement Lands
-  County Forest Lands
-  National Forest
-  PLSS Section Lines



Dec 06, 2017 jpk

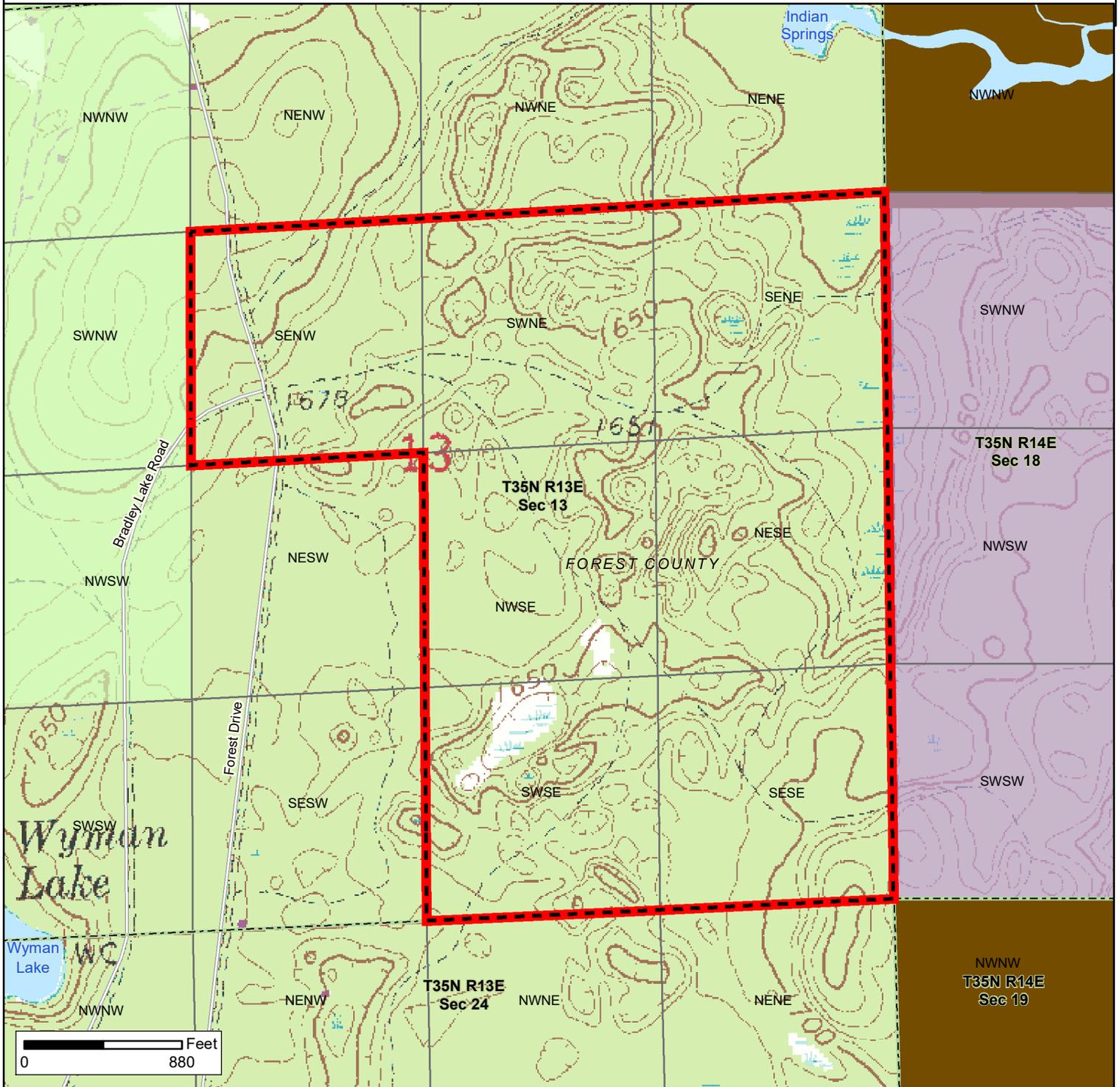
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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Forest Drive County Forest Block

Sponsor: Forest County

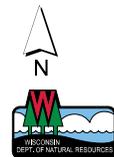
T35N R13E Sec 13 Town of Lincoln
County: Forest



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  DNR Easement Lands
-  County Forest Lands
-  National Forest
-  PLSS Section Lines



Dec 06, 2017 jpk

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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TRAPPING

DNR Staff Narrative: Property will be open for trapping.

- No prohibitions being proposed**
- 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	Per State Regulations	Per State Regulations

FISHING

DNR Staff Narrative: no fishable water

- No prohibitions being proposed**
- 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	Yes	Per State Regulations
Boat	Yes	Per State Regulations

HIKING**DNR Staff Narrative:** Property will be open for hiking. **No prohibitions being proposed****If a prohibition is proposed:****Public safety factors considered**, check all that apply.

- 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 Activities	List Dates (opening and closing)
On-Trail	Yes	Year-round
Off-Trail	Yes	Year-round

CROSS COUNTRY SKIING**DNR Staff Narrative:** Property will be open for cross-country skiing. **No prohibitions being proposed****If a prohibition is proposed:****Public safety factors considered**, check all that apply. 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

Type of Trail	Allowable Activities	List Dates (opening and closing)
Off-Trail (un-groomed)	Yes	Per snow conditions
On-Trail (un-groomed)	Yes	Per snow conditions
On-Trail (groomed)	No	Per snow conditions