

State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR
Alberta Darling

317 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882
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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 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



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
St. 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 \$403,000.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to Forest County Forest for Spring Lake Acquisition. The Department is seeking Committee approval to award County Forest grant funds authorized for FY 2018 for this project.

The Spring Lake project will acquire 458 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. This project is the first in a long-term plan to create a new county forest block to connect with existing county forest lands to the west.

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 proposed 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



CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

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 greater than \$250,000 and for land acquisition north of Highway 64

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (dr), Wis. Stats., the Department of Natural Resources is notifying you of a proposed Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant in the amount of \$403,000 to Forest County for acquisition of a 458-acre property known as the Spring Lake block.

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(a), Wis. Stats.

PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Sponsor: Forest County
Grant sub-program: County Forest Acquisition

Location: The land is located in the Town of Nashville, accessible via Jungle Road.

Project Description: This 458-acre property is flat to rolling woodland with no improvements. Current cover includes northern hardwood, aspen, red pine, small wetland and several small forest openings. Wetlands on this property are in the watersheds of Lost Creek, Lilly River (a Class II Trout Stream), Roberts Lake and Lily Lake.

This acquisition had been identified among Forest County's properties as a long-term investment for timber production, recreation and watershed protection. This acquisition is the first purchase in a new forest block with eventual plans to connect to existing county forest lands.

All 458 acres will be incorporated into the Stewardship and County Forest programs and managed according to the County's Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

Project area maps are attached as Appendix A.

Project benefits: County acquisition of this property will:

- Provide Forest County additional productive forest land.
- Anchor a new block of county forest for public use.
- Ensure future motorized recreation, by keeping an existing segment of snowmobile trail running through public lands: Spring Lake is a town road which has been designated an ATV/UTV route.

Public Uses: The Spring Lake 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. A snowmobile route crosses the property along a seasonal road. County plans include development of hiking trails linking existing unimproved roads to be seeded and mowed as part of the Forest County Forest hunter walking trail system. The property is within 40 miles of both Crandon, the county's largest city, and Lake Lucerne, a significant recreation destination.



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 together with recreational opportunities, 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)(c)1., Wis. Stats., DNR used two appraisals to determine fair market value of the Spring Lake parcel; the proposed grant award is based on the lower of the two.

Appraisal 1 \$801,000.00
Appraisal 2 \$847,300.00

B. Grant Calculation

Land value	\$801,000.00
Grant-eligible associated costs	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>
Total grant eligible project costs	\$806,000.00
DNR Stewardship grant funding (50% of eligible costs)	\$ 403,000.00

I. RECOMMENDED:

 Terry Bay, Director Bureau of Facilities and Lands	<u>12/20/17</u> Date
 Doug Haag, Administrator Division of Internal Services	<u>12-18</u> Date

Attachments:
Appendix A -- project area maps
Appendix B -- Public use staff analysis

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: Property will be open for fishing.

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

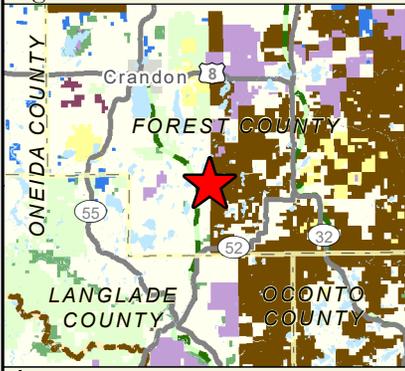
Forest County Spring Lake Block

...
*Preliminary
Stewardship
Grant*
...

T34N R13E Sec 01
Town of Nashville
Forest County

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

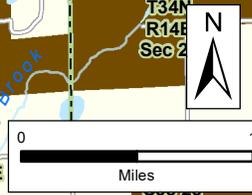
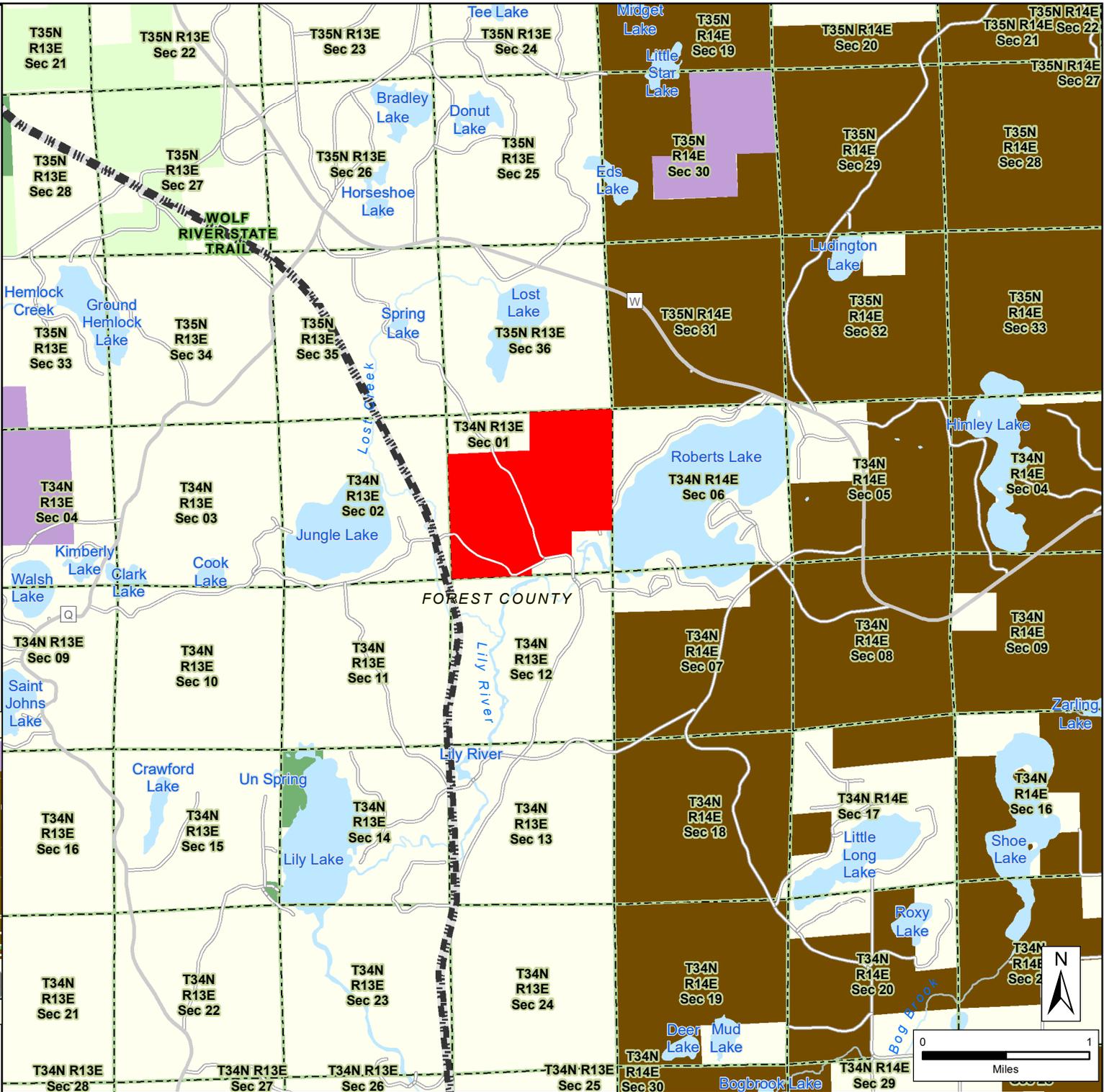
Regional View



★ Location of Property



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

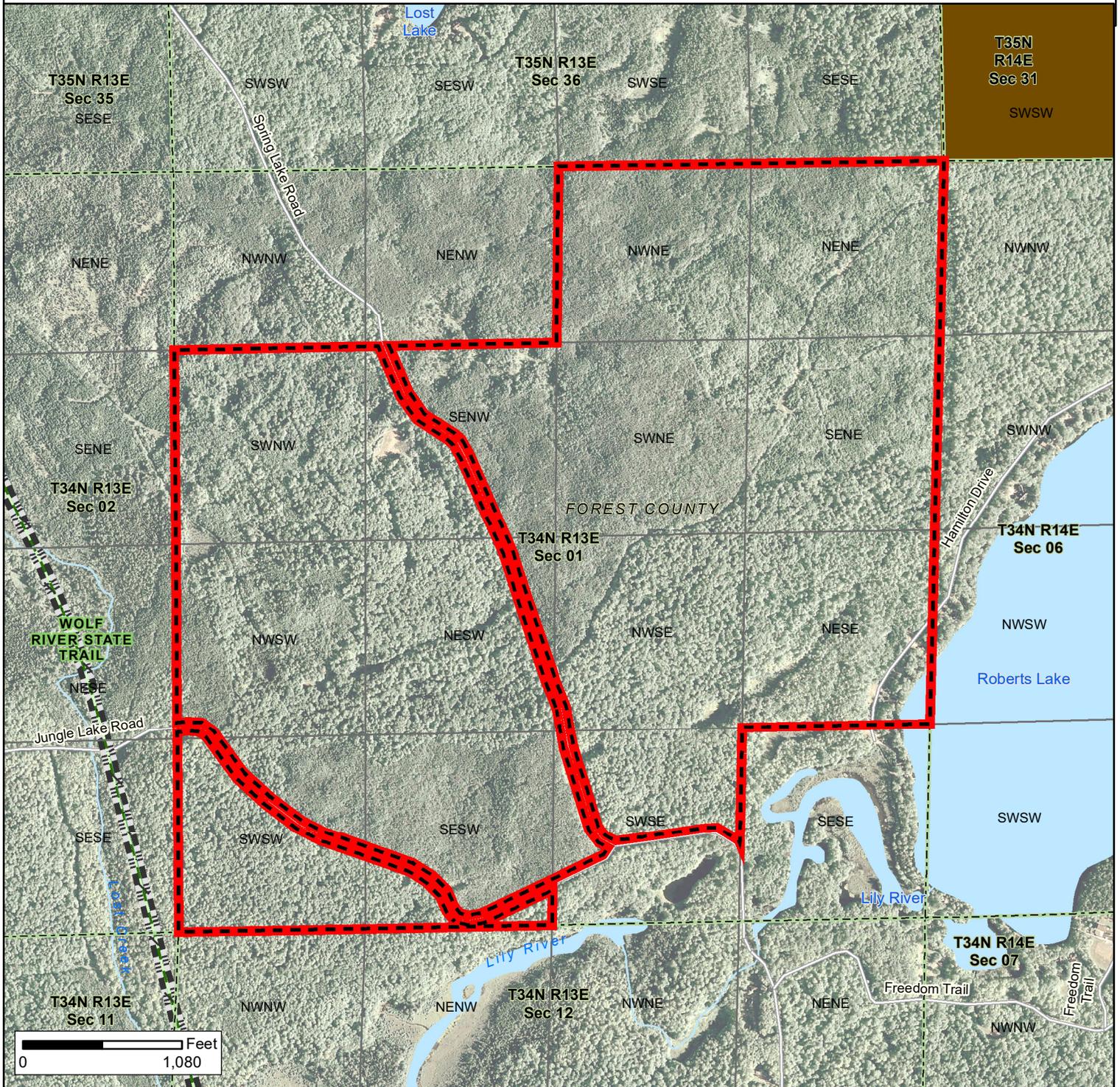


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Forest County Spring Lake Block

Sponsor: Forest County Forestry

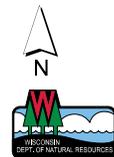
T34N R13E Sec 01 Town of Nashville
County: Forest



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  Project Boundary Not Subject to Act 20 JFC Review
-  DNR Fee Title Lands
-  National Forest
-  State Recreation Trail
-  PLSS Section Lines



Dec 06, 2017 jpk

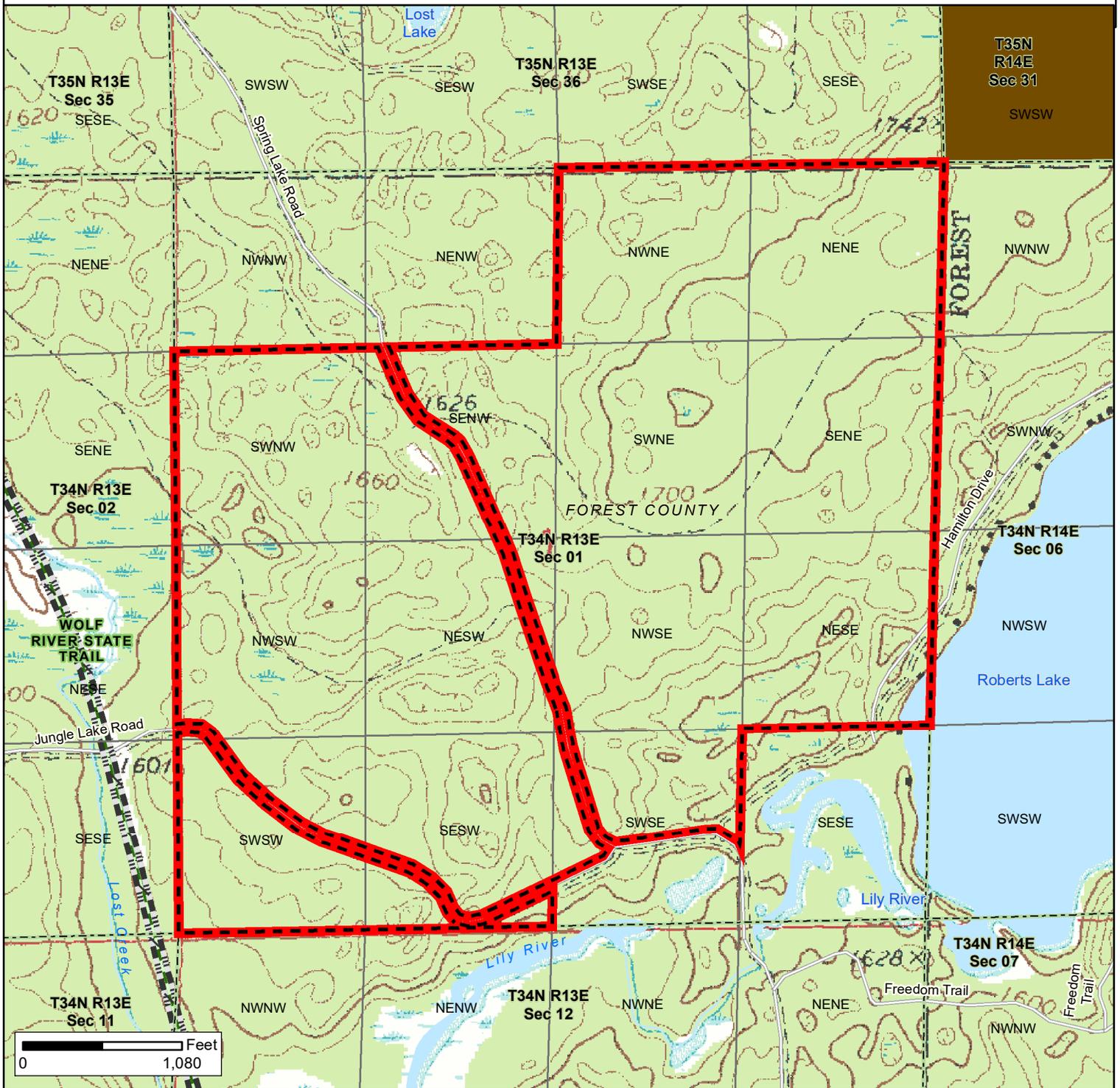
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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Forest County Spring Lake Block

Sponsor: Forest County Forestry

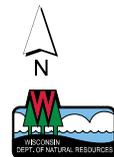
T34N R13E Sec 01 Town of Nashville
County: Forest



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  Project Boundary Not Subject to Act 20 JFC Review
-  DNR Fee Title Lands
-  National Forest
-  State Recreation Trail
-  PLSS Section Lines



Dec 06, 2017 jpk

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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