

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 12, 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 12, 2018.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Thursday, February 1, 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 53707-7921

Scott Walker, Governor
Daniel L. Meyer, Secretary
Telephone 608-260-2621
Toll Free 1-888-938-7463
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 12 2018
St. Finance

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 Knowles-Nelson Stewardship grant to the Northwoods Land Trust and the Minocqua Winter Park Conservation Partnership. The proposed \$166,165.00 grant is for land purchase north of State Hwy. 64. This parcel is in the Town of Minocqua, Oneida County.

The proposed grant is for acquisition of 135 acres of wooded land situated within the Minocqua Winter Park's ski trail system. Public access to this parcel is currently provided through a handshake agreement only, and acquisition of this parcel will permanently secure a major connection in the trail network. This project is a partnership between the Northwoods Land Trust and the Minocqua Winter Park Conservation Partnership. As required match, the Northwoods Land Trust is incorporating into the Stewardship program an additional 96 acres adjacent to the Chequamegon National forest.

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

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Daniel L. Meyer'.

Daniel L. Meyer
Secretary

DATE: January 5, 2018
TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance
FROM: Daniel Meyer, Secretary -- Department of Natural Resources
SUBJECT: Request for approval of a Stewardship grant for land acquisition North of State Hwy. 64

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 \$166,165 to the Northwoods Land Trust for acquisition of 135.5 acres. As a portion of their match, the Land Trust will incorporate an additional 96 acres of conservation land into the portfolio of Stewardship lands. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(a), Wis. Stats.

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Sponsor: The Northwoods Land Trust

Grant sub-program: Habitat Areas

Location: The 135.5-acre Tyler tract in the Town of Minocqua, Oneida County, along and accessible from Manhardt Road.

The Tyler tract is within in a large complex of private and public forest and conservation lands. It is contiguous to the west to Wisconsin BCPL land. To the north, this tract borders the largest privately held conservation easement in the state. To the south, this tract shares a border with DNR's Willow Flowage Scenic Waters project area.

As a portion of their required match, the Land Trust is offering the 96-acre Marshall Wildlife Area in the Town of Lac du Flambeau, Vilas County.

Property Description: The Northwoods Land Trust, in partnership with Minocqua Winter Park Trail Fund, is purchasing this tract to ensure conservation and permanent public access to a key parcel in the Minocqua Winter Park ski trail system. The 135.5-acre parcel is half wetland, half upland, wooded and situated between 3,000+ acres of private conservation easement, Wisconsin BCPL lands and Manhardt Rd. This parcel has been a key ski trail link for years on which public access has been via handshake agreement only.

The property will continue to be enrolled in MFL, and will be managed for public recreation and sustainable woodland habitat.

The Northwoods Land Trust is providing an additional 96-acre parcel as a portion of the match requirement for the Stewardship grant. This land will be designated Stewardship land, guaranteed to be open to public nature-based recreation. This parcel, known as the Marshall Wildlife Conservation Area, is rolling and wooded along 1.3 miles of Koernet Creek. A short trail connects parking to a wildlife viewing platform along the creek. The property is adjacent to Chequamegon National Forest and Lac de Flambeau Tribal lands.

Project maps are attached as Appendix A.

Key benefits of this project:

- Will ensure permanent trail access on a critical tract in the Minocqua Winter Park cross-country ski trail system, which brings 14,000 users to the area annually.
- Will ensure permanent public hunting and wildlife-based recreation adjacent to a large 3,000+ acre block of open MFL/conservation easement land and the adjacent, landlocked state property.



- Includes several acres in the Yukon Creek/Squirrel River headwaters, designated Outstanding Resource Waters.
- The match lands offer notable wildlife viewing, frequented by local birding and conservation clubs; this project will ensure permanent public access for hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing and canoe/kayak access from State Hwy 70.

Public Uses: Both properties will be open to the public for low-impact recreational activities including hunting, trapping, hiking, cross-country skiing, and wildlife viewing.

A daily or seasonal fee is charged to those using the groomed ski trail system at Minocqua Winter Park; the fee is consistent with provisions in state code regarding access to Stewardship lands.

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

Partnerships:

- Northwoods Land Trust is acting as the grant applicant, will purchase the property and provide the 96-acre match parcel, the Marshall Wildlife Conservation Area.
- Minocqua Winter Park Trail Fund is providing ~\$20,000 toward the purchase of the property and will ultimately hold title to the 135.5-acre parcel.
- Lakeland Ski Touring Foundation will oversee management per a Land Management Plan approved by the Department.

Local support:

- DNR has received a letter of support for this project from the Minocqua Area Chamber of Commerce.
- The Minocqua Town Board voted unanimously to send a letter expressing support for this Stewardship grant and the Land Trust's purchase.

II. PROJECT FINANCES

A. Appraisals

The property value used for grant calculation is based on appraisals reviewed and accepted by DNR.

Appraised value Minocqua Winter Park Parcel (135.5 acres)	\$183,000
Appraisal value match parcel (96 acres)	\$144,000

B: Grant Calculation:

Subject land value	\$183,000.00
Eligible related transaction costs	\$5,330.00
Total eligible project costs	\$188,330.00
Stewardship grant amount (50%)	\$94,165.00
Land value used as match (50%)	\$72,000
Total award amount	\$166,165

III. RECOMMENDED:

 Terry Bay, Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands	<u>1/5/18</u> Date
 Douglas Haag, Administrator, Internal Services	<u>1-9-18</u> Date

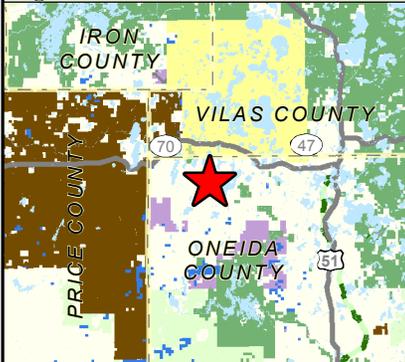
Winter Park Conservation Partnership - Match Parcel, Marshall Tract

Proposed Stewardship Grant

T40N R04E Sec 28 & 33
Town of Lac Du Flambeau
Vilas County

- Match Land
- Subject
- Winter Park Conservation Easement
- Project Boundary Not Subject to Act 20 JFC Review
- DNR Fee Title Lands Open to Public Access
- DNR Easement Lands Open to Public Access
- DNR Easement Lands Closed to Public Access
- Tribal Lands
- Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
- National Forest

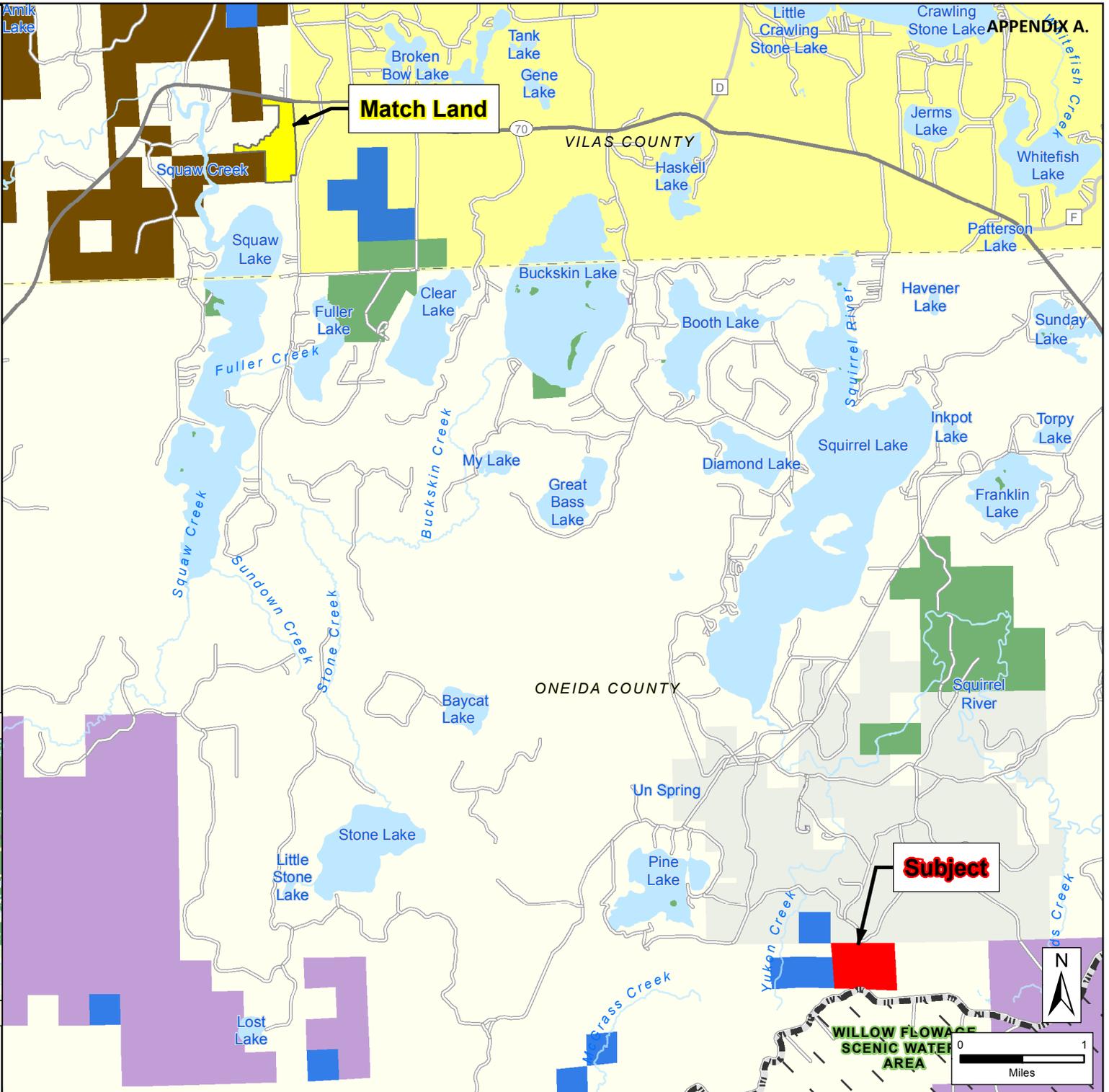
Regional View



★ Location of Property



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: Aug 03, 2017 jpk



Subject

WILLOW FLOWAGE SCENIC WATER AREA



APPENDIX A.

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.

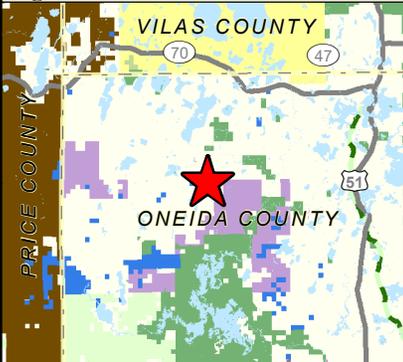
Northwoods Land Trust- Winter Park Add'n

Proposed
Stewardship
Grant

T38N R05E Sec 05
Town of Minocqua
Oneida County

- Subject
- Winter Park Conservation Easement
- Project Boundary Not Subject to Act 20 JFC Review
- DNR Fee Title Lands Open to Public Access
- DNR Easement Lands Open to Public Access
- DNR Easement Lands Closed to Public Access
- Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
- PLSS Section Lines

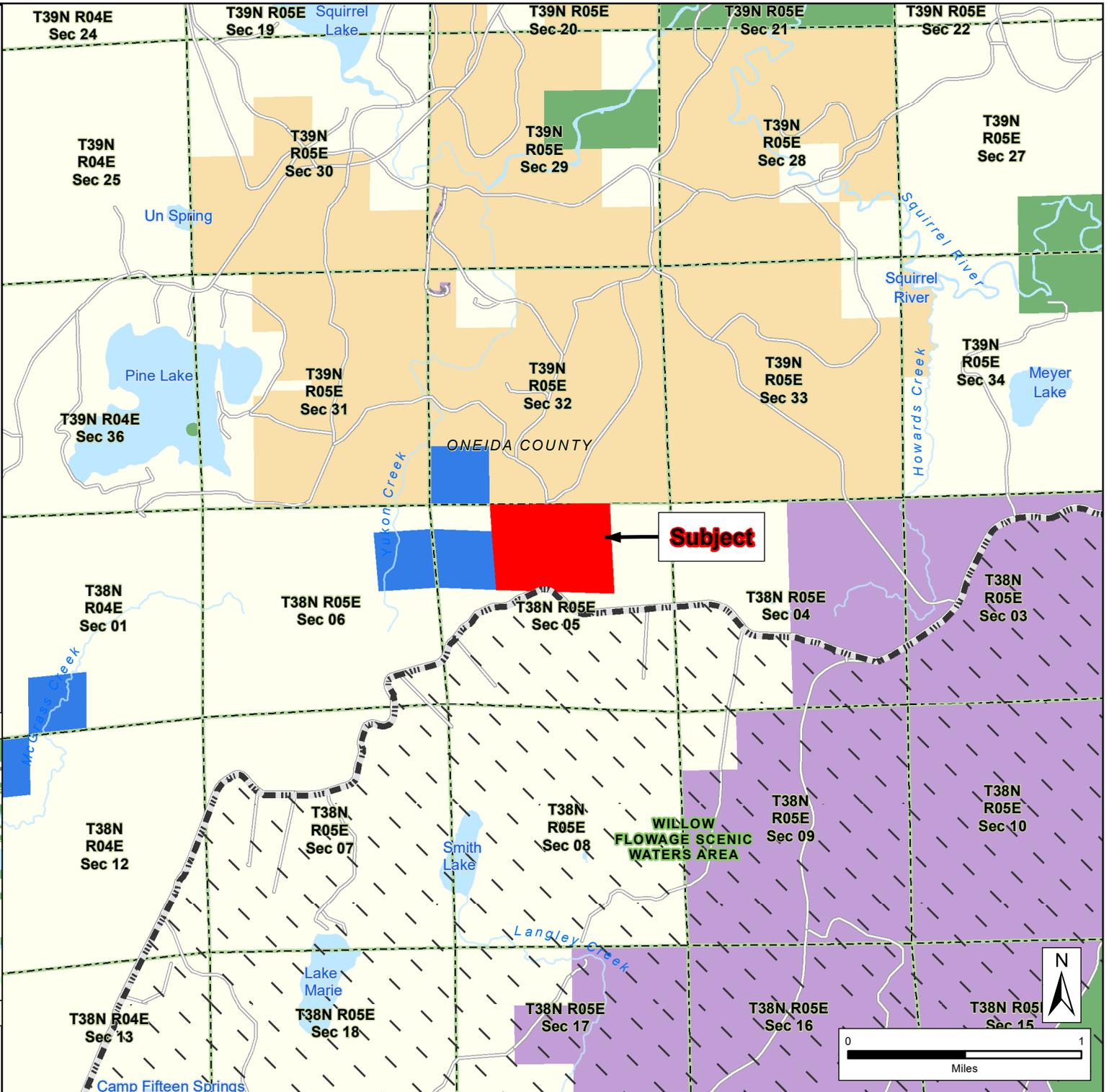
Regional View



★ Location of Property



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: Dec 22, 2017 jpk

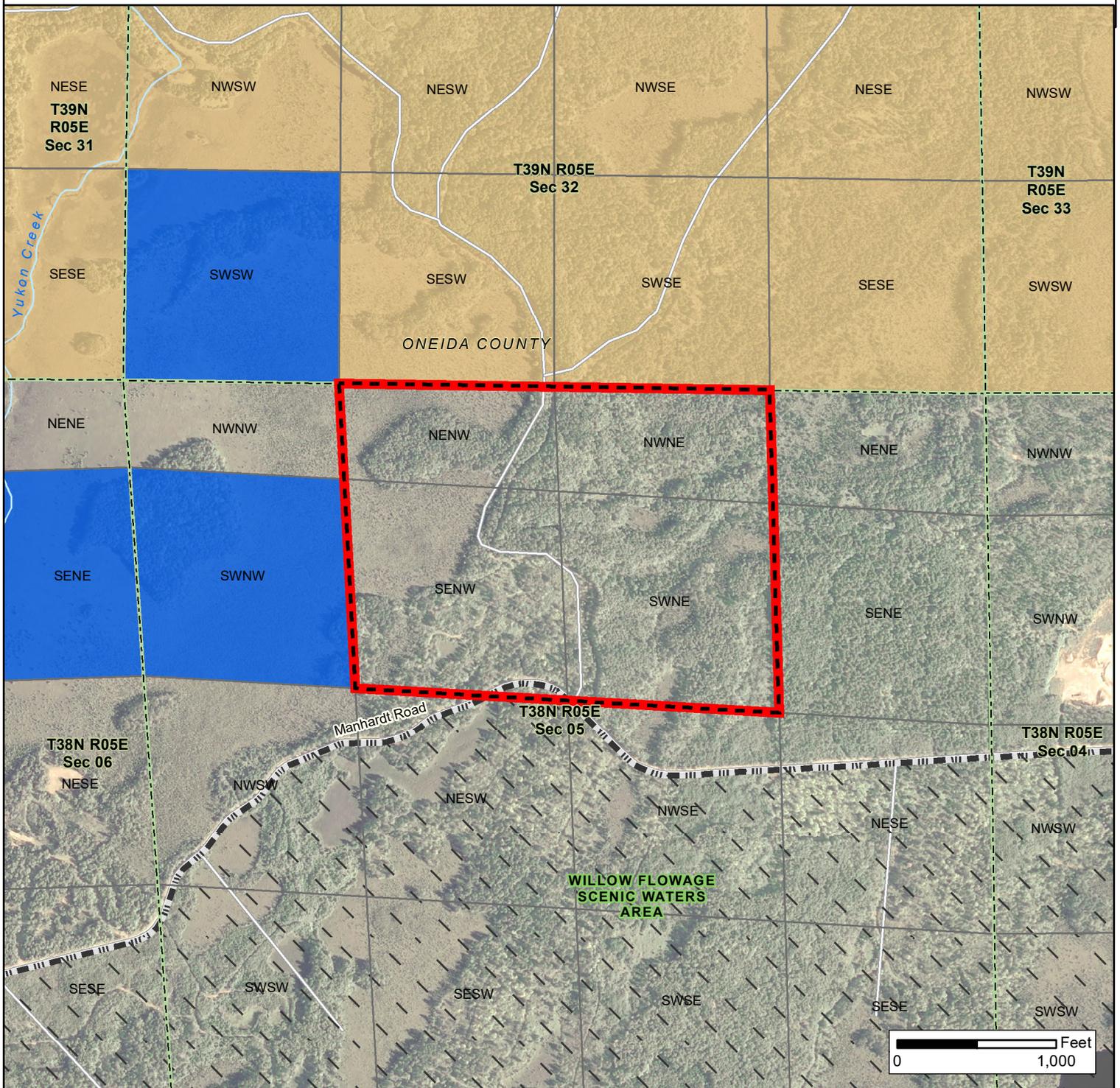


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Northwoods Land Trust - Winter Park Add'n

Sponsor: Northwoods Land Trust

T38N R05E Sec 05 Town of Minocqua
County: Oneida



Proposed Stewardship Grant

Subject

- Winter Park Conservation Easement
- Project Boundary Not Subject to Act 20 JFC Review
- Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
- PLSS Section Lines



Dec 22, 2017 jpk

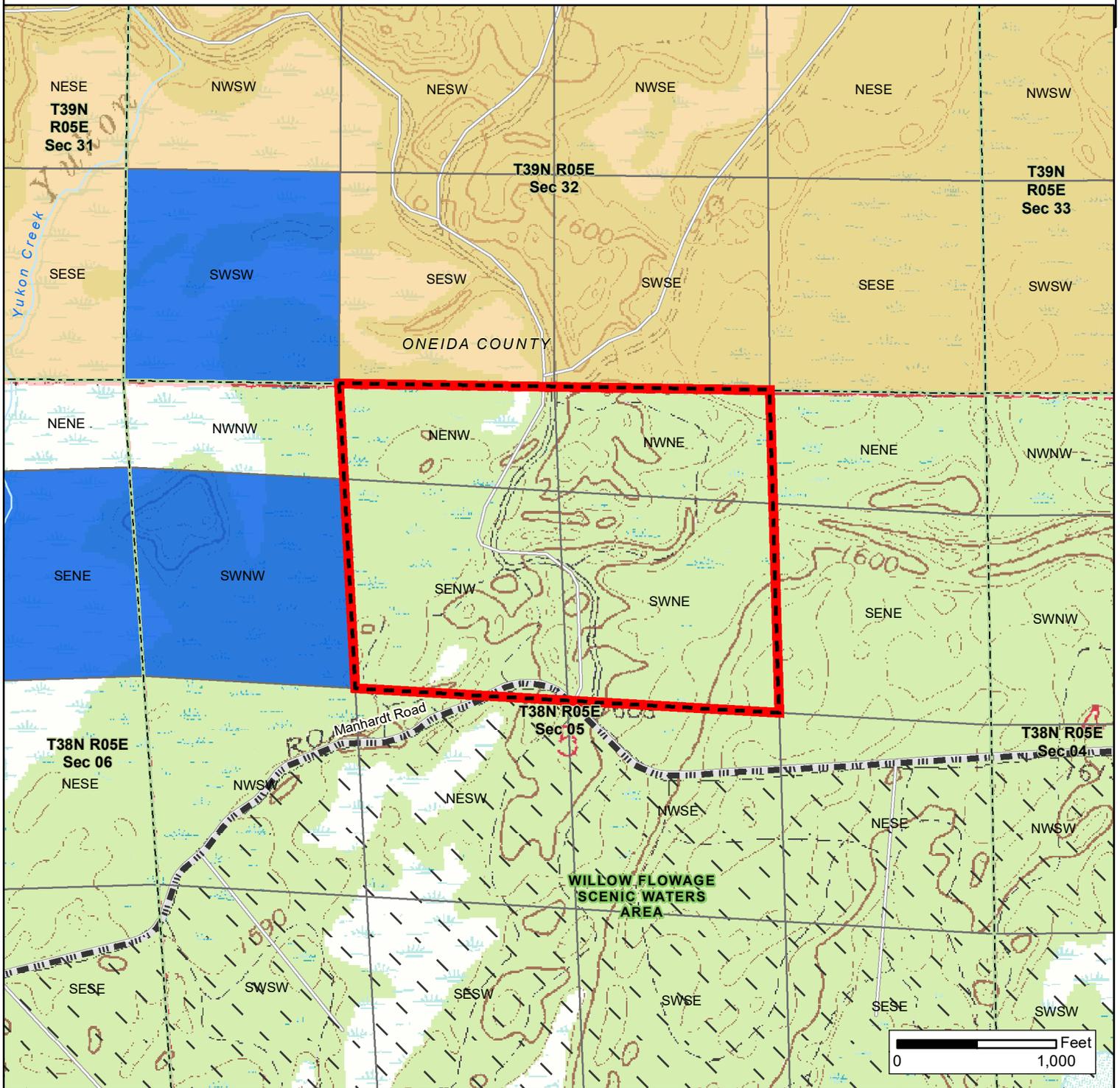
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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Northwoods Land Trust - Winter Park Add'n

Sponsor: Northwoods Land Trust

T38N R05E Sec 05 Town of Minocqua
County: Oneida



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  Winter Park Conservation Easement
-  Project Boundary Not Subject to Act 20 JFC Review
-  Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
-  PLSS Section Lines



Dec 22, 2017 jpk

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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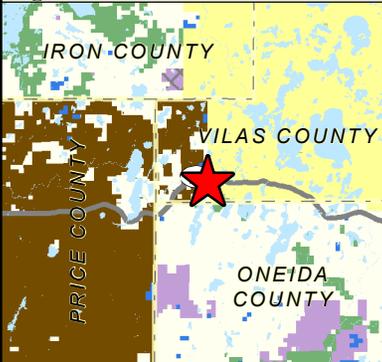
Winter Park Conservation Partnership - Match Parcel, Marshall Tract

Proposed Stewardship Grant

T40N R04E Sec 28 & 33
Town of Lac Du Flambeau
Vilas County

-  Match Land
-  DNR Fee Title Lands Open to Public Access
-  Tribal Lands
-  Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
-  National Forest
-  PLSS Section Lines

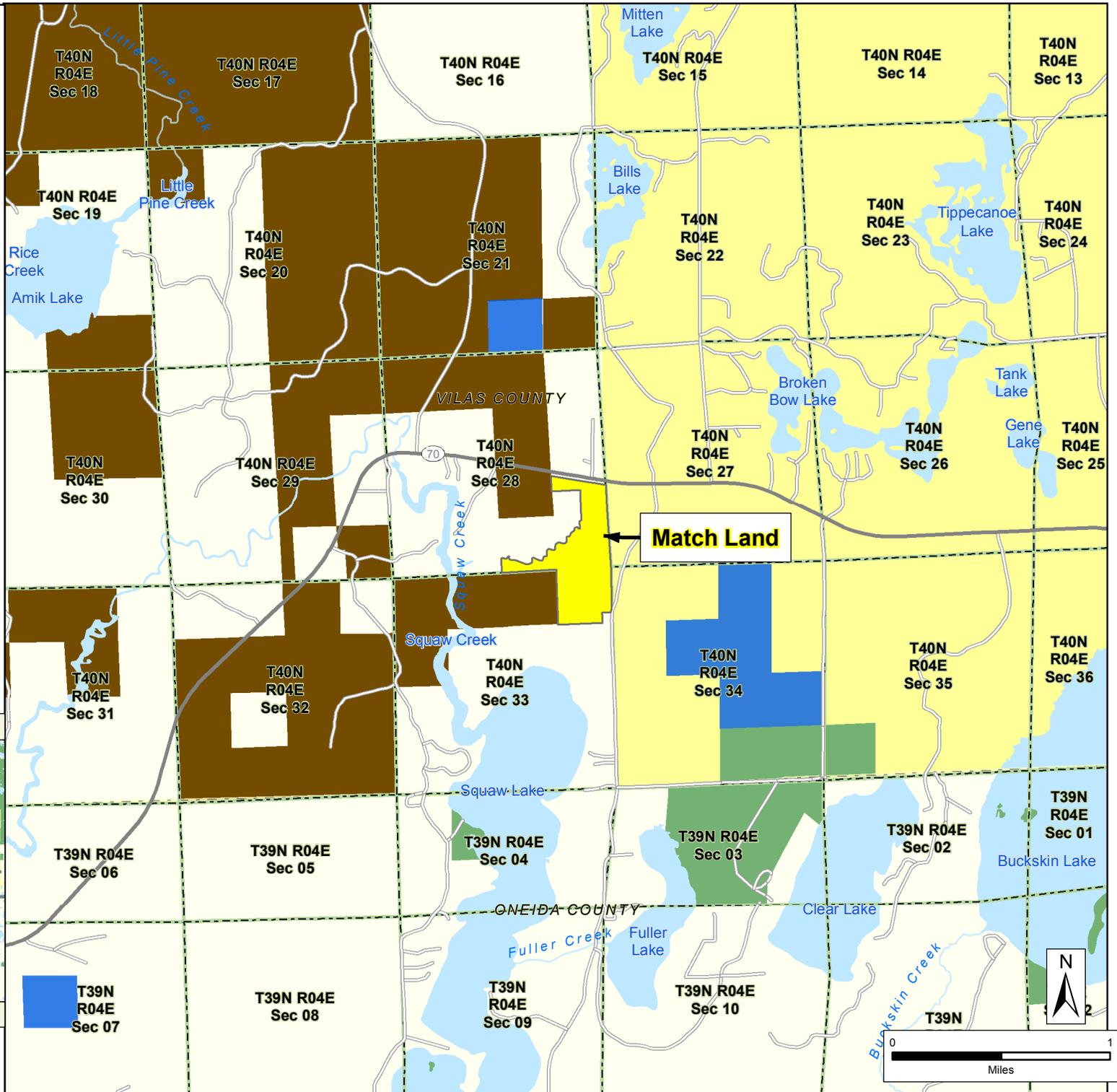
Regional View



 Location of Property



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: Aug 03, 2017 jpk



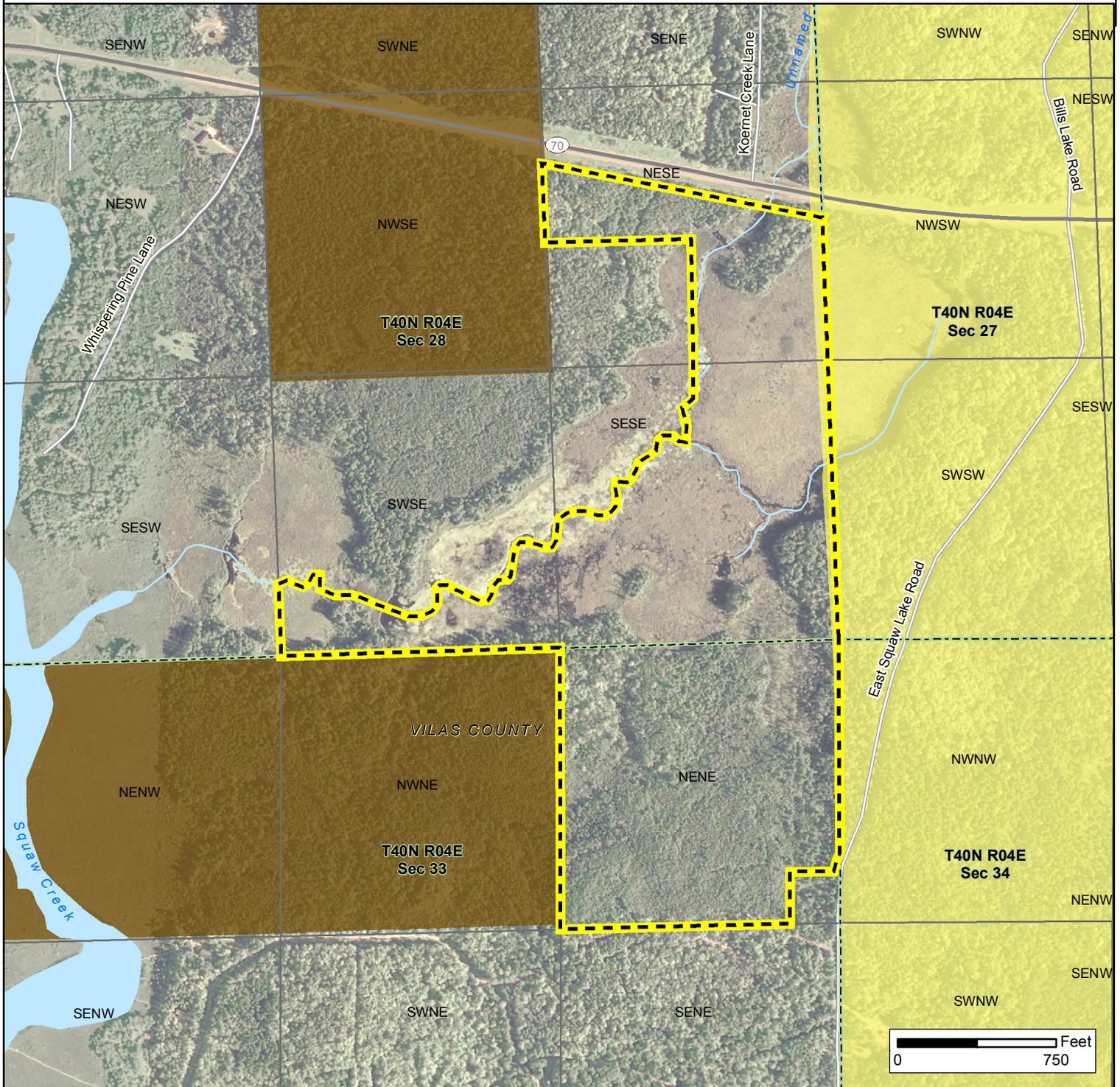
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Winter Park Conservation Partnership - Match Parcel, Marshall Tract

Sponsor: Northwoods Land Trust

T40N R04E Sec 28 & 33 Town of Lac Du Flambeau

County: Vilas



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Match Land**

-  Triball Land
-  Board of Commissioners of Public Lands
-  National Forest
-  PLSS Section Lines



Aug 03, 2017 jpk

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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TRAPPING**DNR Staff Narrative:** Property will be open to trapping. There is no open water on the property.**X No prohibition 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 community 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:** There are no fishable waters on this 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 community 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	NA	NA
Boat	NA	NA

