

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: May 14, 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 May 14, 2018.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Thursday, May 31, 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



May 7, 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

MAY 14 2018
St. Finace

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 acquisition grant for the Tyler Forks Community Forest, using grant funds in the amount of \$362,825.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. The proposed grant award represents 50 % of the estimated total project costs. This parcel is located in the Town of Morse, Ashland County.

The proposed project will acquire 590 acres adjacent to Copper Falls State Park, with over two miles of frontage on Tyler Forks River and Scott Taylor Creek.

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, Division of Internal Services
Terry Bay, Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands
Pamela Foster Felt, Stewardship Grant Manager
Jillian Steffes, CPA Specialist, Rhinelander

DATE: May 7, 2018
TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance
FROM: Daniel L. Meyer, Secretary
SUBJECT: Request for approval of a Stewardship grant for land acquisition north of State Hwy. 64 and exceeding \$250,000.

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 \$362,825.00 grant amount to the Bayfield Regional Conservancy in for the acquisition of 590 acres . The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(tu), Wis. Stats.

I. PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Sponsor: Bayfield Regional Conservancy
Grant sub-program: Habitat Areas

Location: The tract, known as "Tyler Forks Community Forest" is in the Town of Morse, Ashland County, immediately adjacent to Copper Falls State Park.

Project Description: Sharing most of the eastern boundary of Copper Falls State Park, the Tyler Forks tract offers diverse topography with steep ravines and riparian systems draining into Bad River above the Falls in the State Park. Vegetative cover includes mixed hardwood forest, large forested wetland, and a wetland meadow complex at the confluence of two creeks. This property includes over two miles shoreline on Tyler Forks River and Scott Taylor Creek, both Class II trout streams, and an unnamed tributary.

Project maps are attached as Appendix A.

Key benefits: This purchase will advance recommendations from the Ashland County Comprehensive Plan, The Town of Morse Comprehensive Plan, The Lake Superior Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, and USFWS Priority Brook Trout Restoration Area. More specially:

- This tract is a significant enhancement to the State Park project area, and will increase contiguous public lands by 15%.
- The purchase will expand both public access to and conservation of the Tyler Fork corridor, a major tributary to Bad River immediately above Copper Falls; a Class II trout stream and designated "exceptional resource water."
- It will provide for water quality conservation in the Bad River immediately above Copper Falls through the Conservancy's management efforts, including, invasive species management and wetland preservation and restoration in the watershed.
- It will conserve river shoreline habitat in particular for Wood Turtle and native fish species.
- This acquisition will keep a block of northern mesic forest available for sustainable harvest, ensure against forest fragmentation in area with several steep, erodible slopes in the Tyler Fork watershed.



Partnerships: Boards of both Ashland County and the Town of Morse passed resolutions supporting the Stewardship grant and this purchase. In addition:

- The Conservancy plans to pursue matching funds from the US Forest Service Community Forest Grant Program.
- Trout Unlimited local and state chapters provided \$5,000 to help cover staff time and related acquisition costs for this project.

Public Uses:

The property will be open to the public for low-impact recreational activities including hunting, trapping, hiking, cross-country skiing, fishing, and wildlife viewing. The Department's analysis of the permitted nature-based outdoor activities is attached as Appendix B.

Property Management: The property will be managed by Bayfield Regional Conservancy as the Tyler Forks Community Forest according to a Land Management Plan approved by the Department.

II. PROJECT FINANCES

A. Appraisals

As required by s. 23.0917(7)(e)1., Wis. Stats., two appraisals were evaluated to determine the fair market value of the land.

Appraisal 1- accepted by DNR review	\$719,650.00
Appraisal 2	\$885,00.00

B: Grant Calculation:

Approved land value	\$719,650.00
Eligible related transaction costs	\$6,000
Total eligible project costs	<u>\$725,650.00</u>
Proposed Stewardship grant	\$362,825.00

III. RECOMMENDED:

Terry Bay
Terry Bay, Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands
Doug Haag
Doug Haag, Administrator, Division of Internal Services

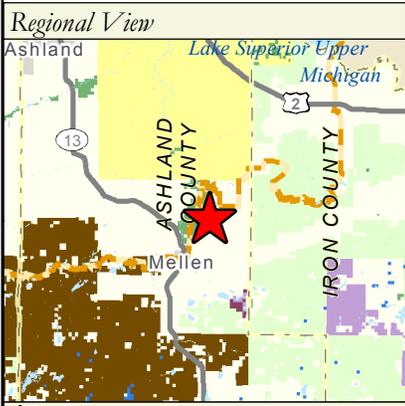
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Date
5/7/18
Date

Bayfield Regional Conservancy - Tyler Fork Tract

Proposed Stewardship Grant

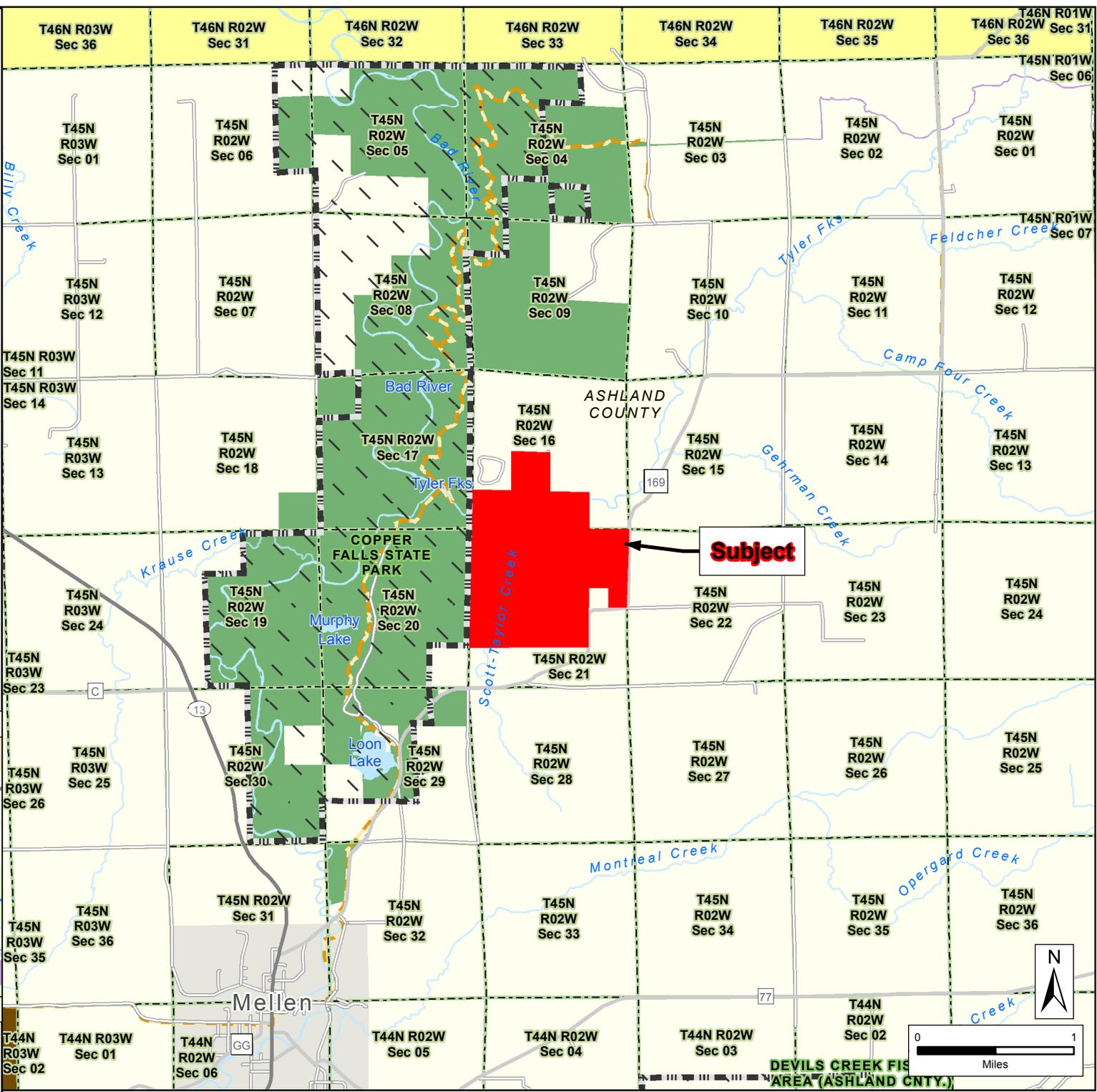
T45N R02W Sec 16 & 21
Town of Morse
Ashland County

- Subject
- DNR Project Boundary
- DNR Fee Title Lands Open to Public Access
- DNR Easement Lands Open to Public Access
- DNR Easement Lands Closed to Public Access
- Tribal Lands
- County Forest Lands
- National Forest
- North Country Nat'l Scenic Trail
- PLSS Section Lines



★ Location of Property

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: Jun 29, 2017 jpk

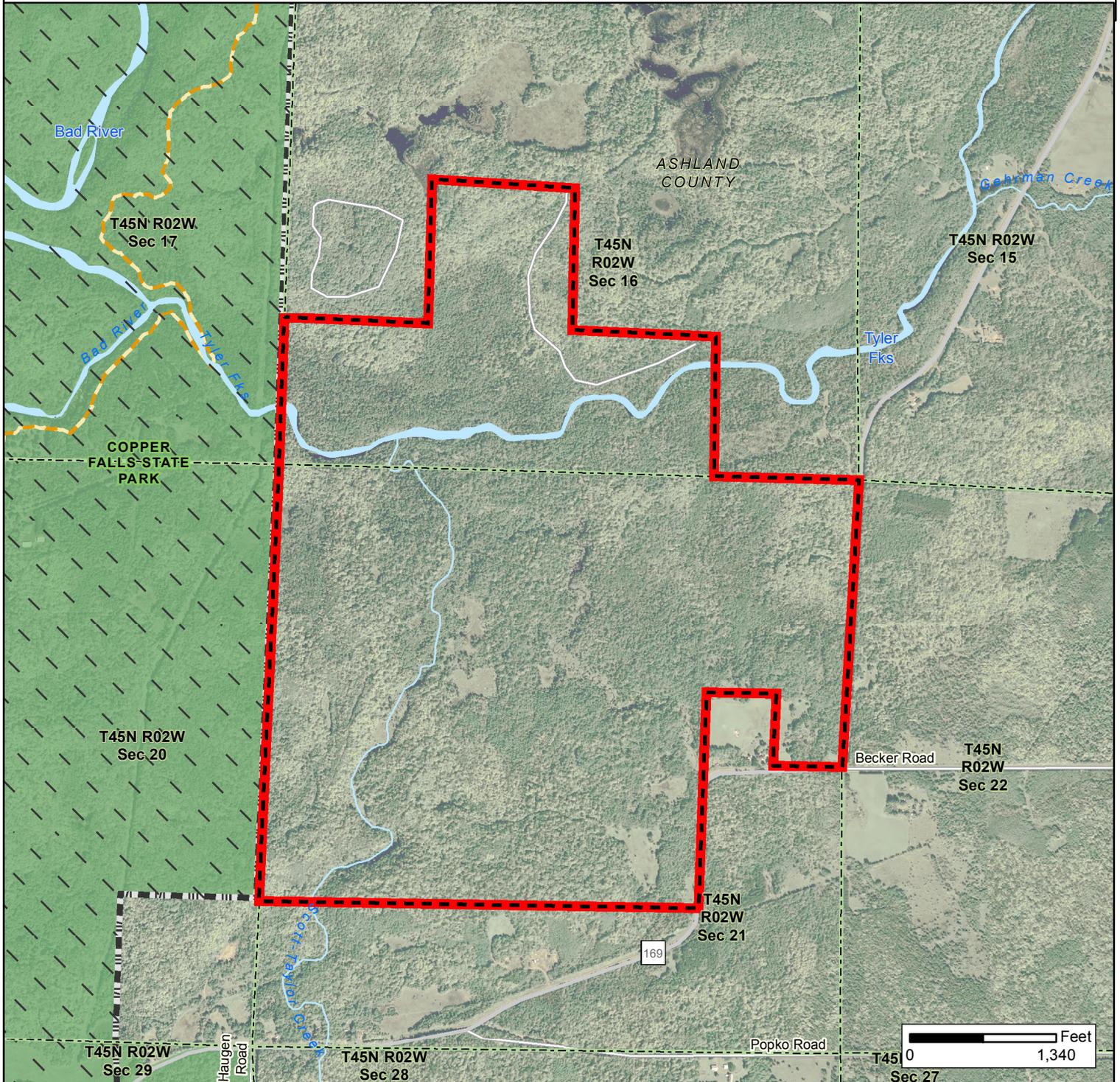


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Bayfield Regional Conservancy - Tyler Fork Tract

Sponsor: Bayfield Regional Conservancy
Approximate Total Acreage: 594.22

T45N R02W Sec 16 & 21 Town of Morse
County: Ashland



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  DNR Project Boundary
-  DNR Fee Title Lands
-  North Country Nat'l Scenic Trail
-  PLSS Section Lines



Jun 29, 2017 jpk

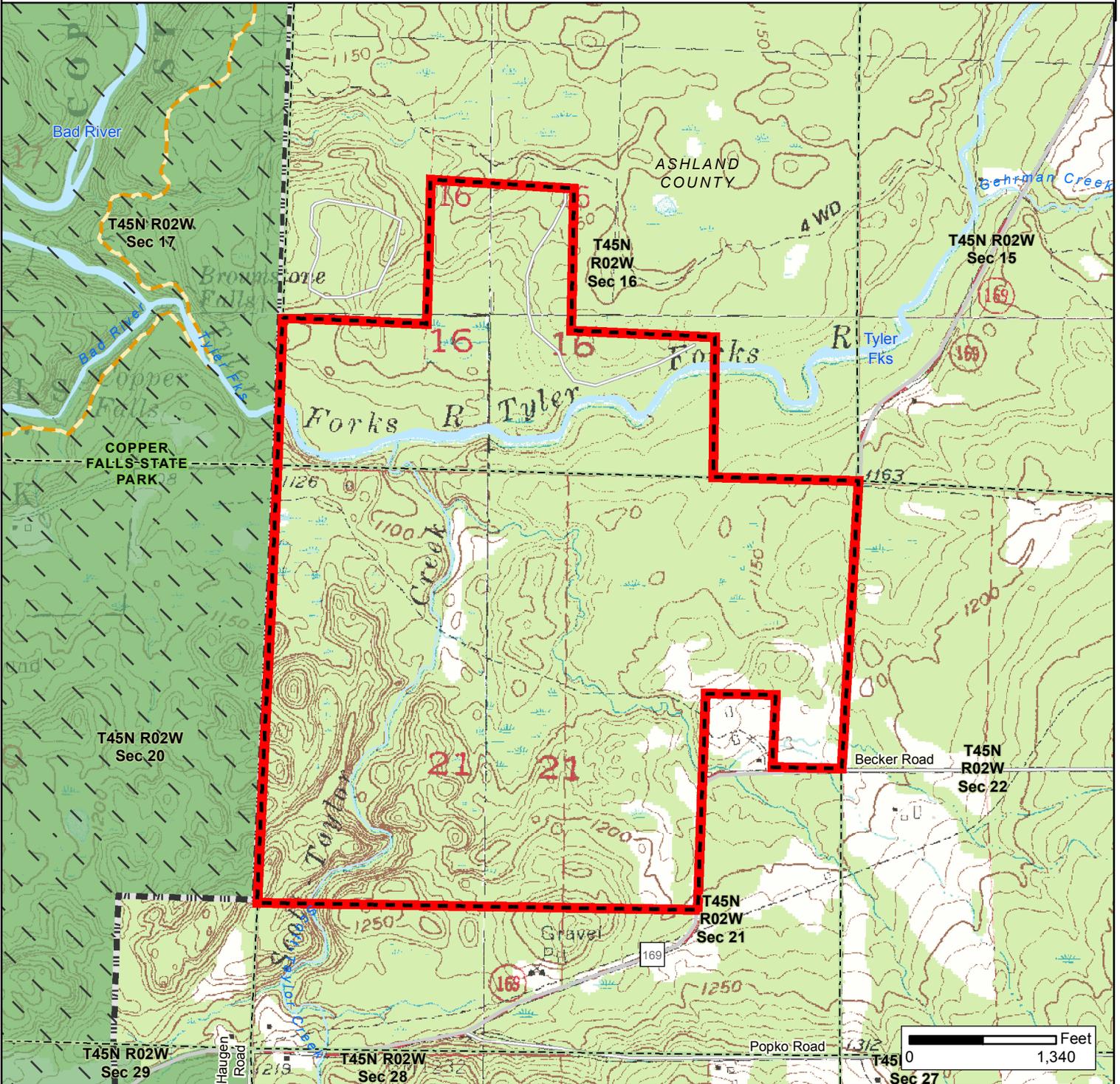
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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Jun 29, 2017 jpk

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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TRAPPING

DNR Staff Narrative: Property will be open to trapping per state regulations.

X 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 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	Yes - per state regs	per state regs
Water	Yes - per state regs	per state regs

FISHING

DNR Staff Narrative: Property will be open to fishing per state regulations. Streams are too small to accommodate boats.

X 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 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	Yes - per state regs	per state regs
Boat	N/A	N/A

