

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: June 18, 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 June 18, 2018.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Nygren** no later than **Thursday, July 5, 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



June 13, 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

JUN 18 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 \$148,030.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to Washburn County for the "Wolf Springs" acquisition. This is a request for approval to award fiscal year 2018 funds.

The grant will help acquire 200 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 44 acres of pine plantations, 27 acres of natural white pine, 21 acres of fir, 20 acres of aspen, 40 acres of lowland areas as well as 38 acres of flowage on a tributary to the Totogatic River.

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,

for Daniel L. Meyer
Secretary

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

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

DATE: June 11, 2018

TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Daniel Meyer, Secretary

SUBJECT: Request for approval of a Stewardship grant award 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 \$148,050 to Washburn County for acquisition of a 200-acre property known as the Wolf Springs tract. This is a request for approval to award funds from fiscal year 2018.

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

PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Sponsor: Washburn County

Grant sub-program: County Forest Acquisition

Location: The land is in the Town of Frog Creek, accessible via Totogatic Road. Project area maps are attached as Appendix A.

Project Description: This 200-acre property is relatively flat to rolling terrain. Two dilapidated buildings (previously used as dorms for college students studying on the property) will be demolished by the County. There are two impoundments on the property, created by unpermitted earthen dams (these flowages total approximately 38 acres). The structure creating the northern impoundment will be removed and rehabilitated after county acquisition due to structural and safety concerns. The County intends to maintain the smaller impoundment, which will require minor improvements to maintain per state regulations.

This acquisition lies within a blocking boundary and will consolidate county ownership and reduce private boundaries within the surrounding County Forest. The property includes spring headwaters to a tributary of the Totogatic, a State-designated Wild River.

The property also has some cultural significance: long owned by the family of Charles Stoddard, a noted forester and author of numerous forestry textbooks, the land has been managed for forest products since the 1940s. It is the seller's desire to permanently conserve this property by sale to County Forest. Current timber stands include 44 acres of pine plantation, 27 acres of natural white pine, 21 acres of fir, 20 acres of aspen, and ~40 acres of lowland tamarack, swamp hardwood and wetlands.

Project benefits: County acquisition of this property will:

- Create a single larger block of county forest land and keep a full section of productive timber land in contiguous public ownership.
- Provide recreational access to acres previously closed to the public.
- Allow the County to address removal of a structurally unsound impoundment and rehabilitation of the flowage.

Public Uses: The Wolf Springs 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 property is within 26 miles of Spooner and 19 miles of Hayward, two major recreation-tourism areas in northwest Wisconsin.

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 *Washburn County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan*, as approved by the Department.

PROJECT FINANCES:

A. Appraisals:

As required by s.23.0917(7)(e)1., Wis. Stats., land value was determined by a DNR-reviewed and accepted appraisal which valued the property at \$290,000.00

B. Grant Calculation

Land value	\$ 290,000.00
Grant-eligible associated costs	\$ 6,060.00
Total grant eligible project costs	\$ 296,060.00
DNR Stewardship grant funding (50%)	\$ 148,030.00

I. RECOMMENDED:

Terry Bay 6/12/18
Terry Bay, Director Date
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

Doug Haag 6/13/18
Doug Haag, Administrator Date
Division of Internal Services

- Attachments:
Appendix A – project maps
Appendix B – public use staff analysis

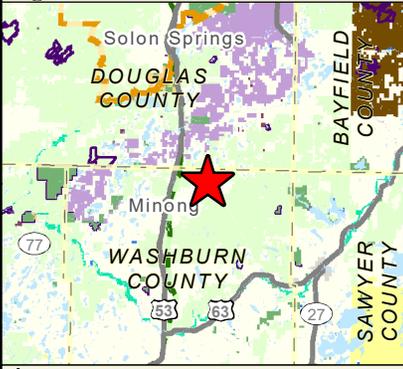
Washburn County Forest- Wolf Springs Tracts

Preliminary
Stewardship
Grant

T42N R11W Sec 09
Town of Frog Creek
Washburn County

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

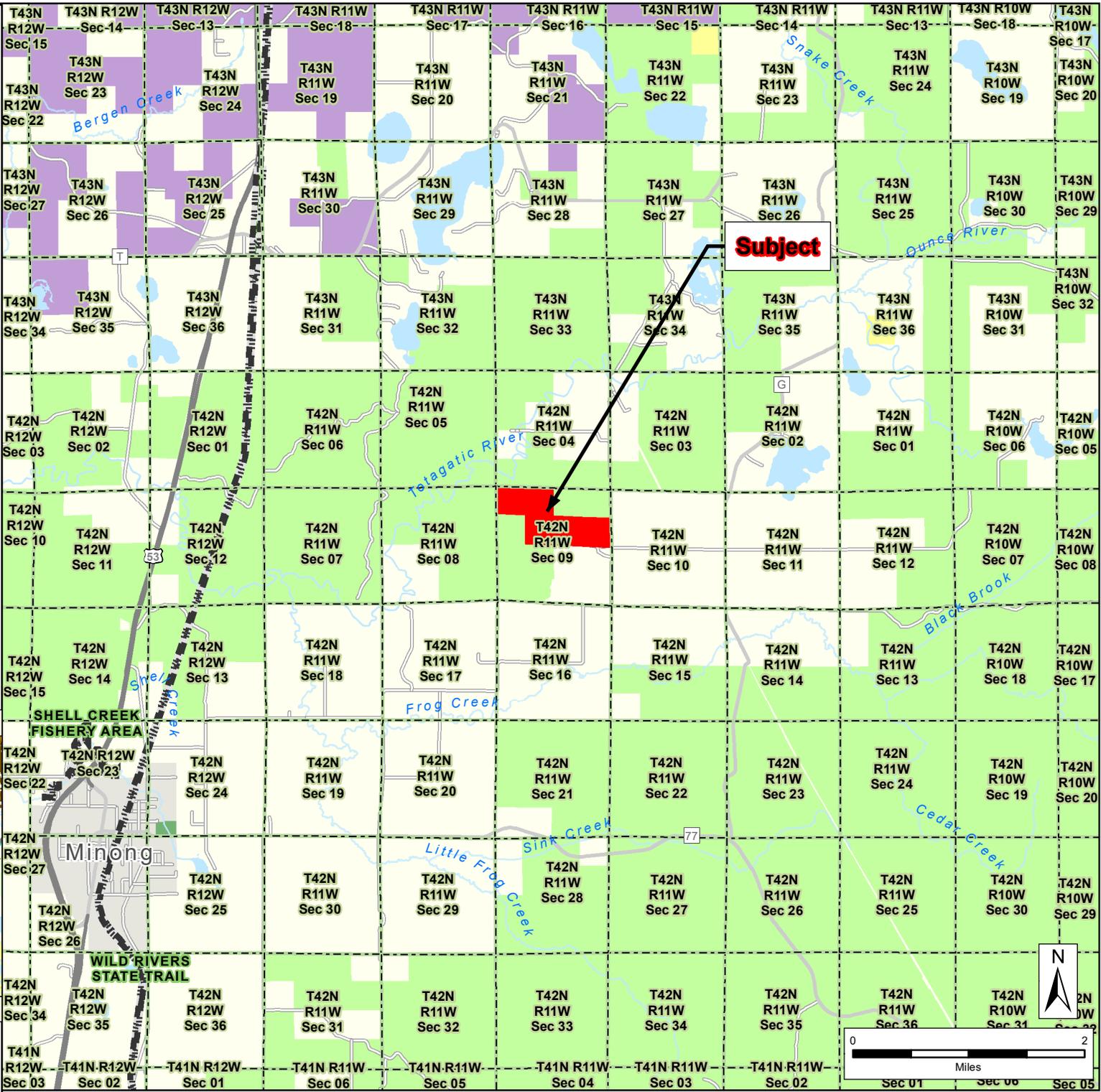
Regional View



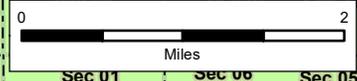
★ Location of Property



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: May 21, 2018 jdc



Subject

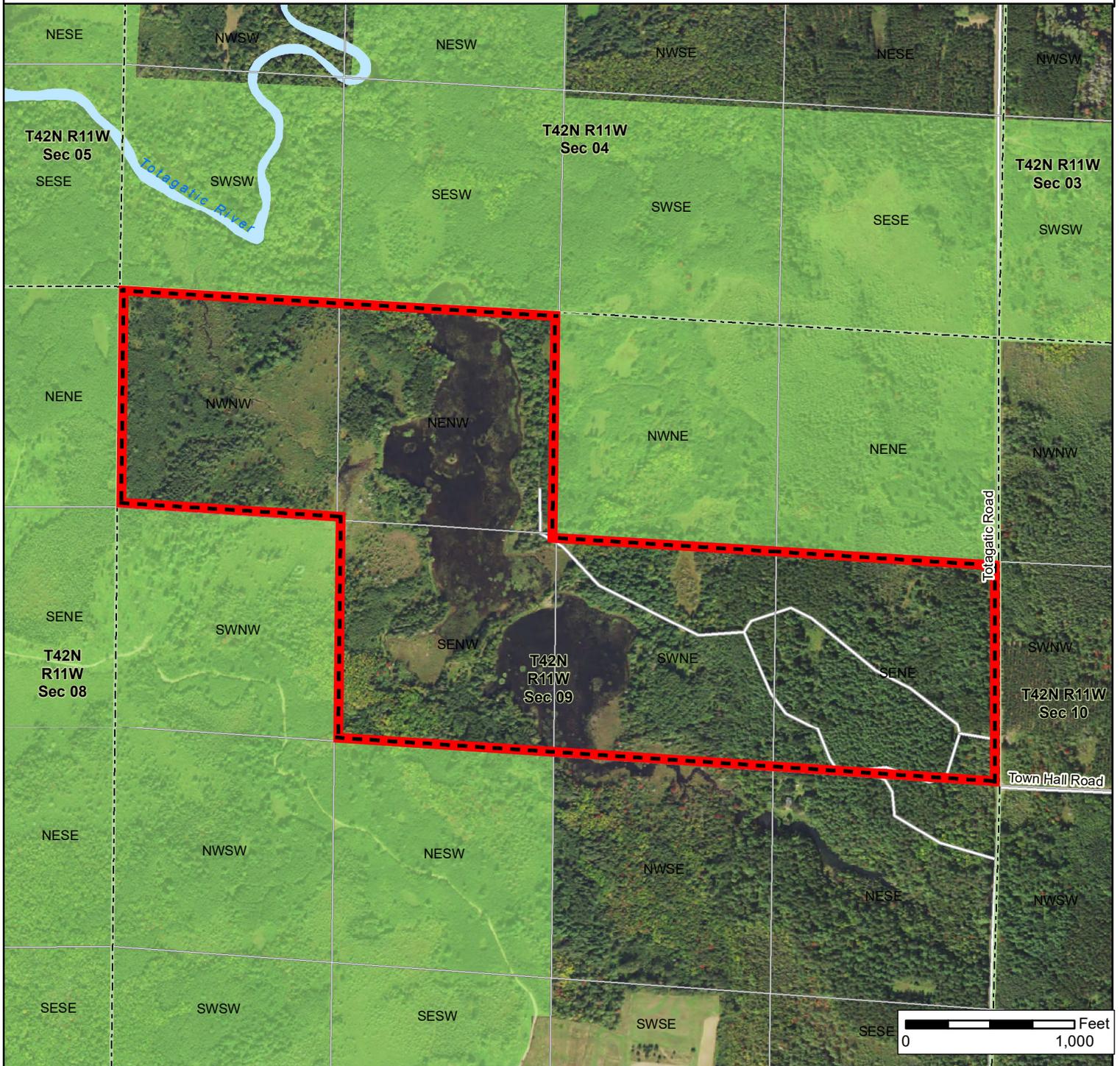


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Washburn County Forest-Wolf Springs Tracts

Sponsor: Washburn County
Approximate Total Acreage: 200

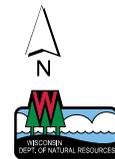
T42N R11W Sec 09 Town of Frog Creek
County: Washburn



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  County Forest Lands
-  PLSS Section Lines
-  QQ Section Boundary
-  Local Roads



May 21, 2018 jdc

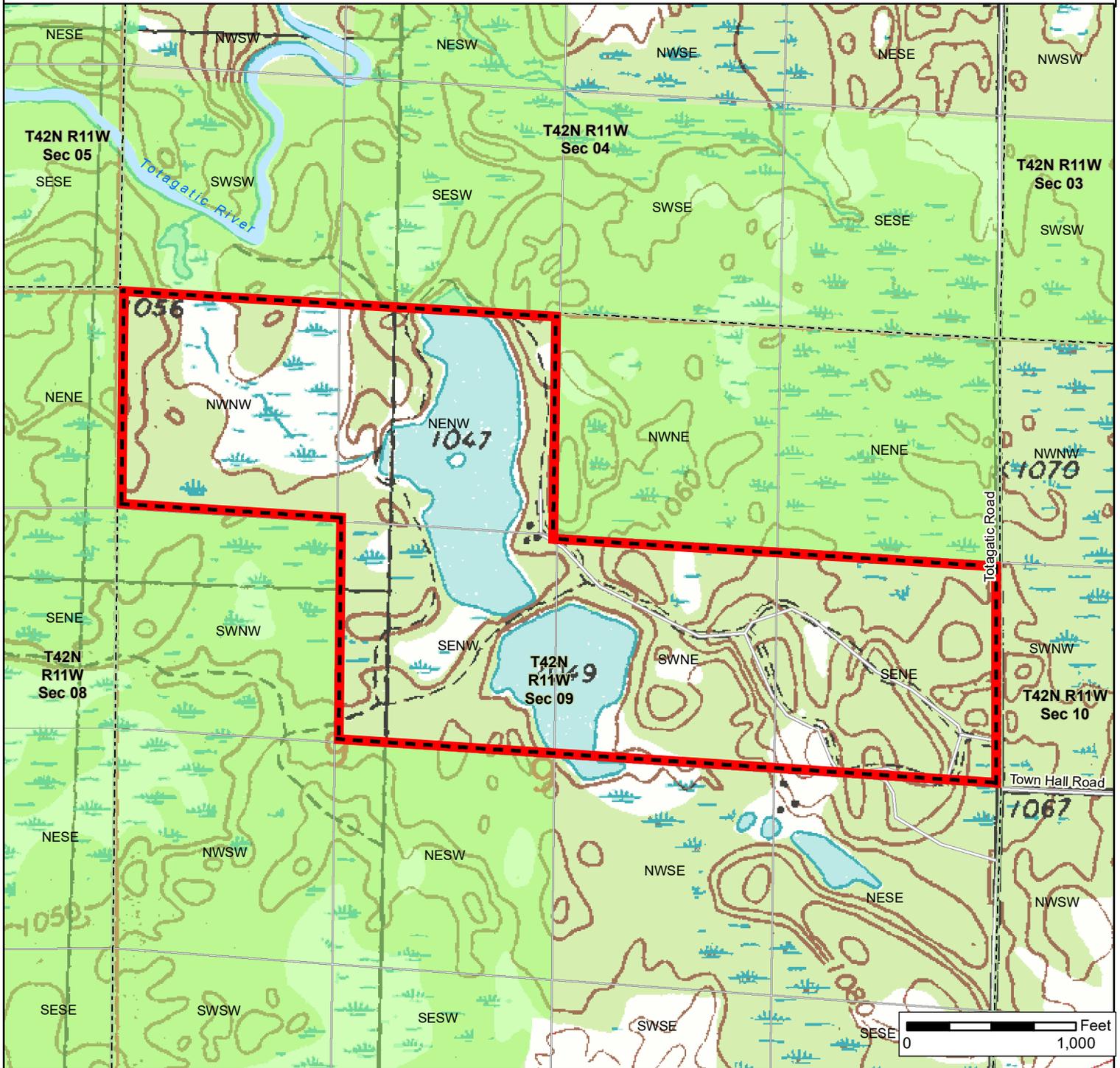
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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Washburn County Forest-Wolf Springs Tracts

Sponsor: Washburn County
 Approximate Total Acreage: 200

T42N R11W Sec 09 Town of Frog Creek
 County: Washburn



Proposed Stewardship Grant

Subject

- County Forest Lands
- PLSS Section Lines
- QQ Section Boundary
- Local Roads



May 21, 2018 jdc

Real Estate Section
 Bureau of Facilities and Lands

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Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Grant Program



**DNR Staff Analysis of
Nature Based Outdoor Activities on
Projects Purchased with
Stewardship Grant Funds**

Rev. August 2012

NOTE TO DNR STAFF: This completed form will be attached to the NBOA notice that the DNR will publish when considering a request for Stewardship grant funding. Do not list location information for the subject property or the seller's name because WI courts have held that this information is confidential until land ownership has changed hands. In "Staff Narrative" sections below each NBOA, summarize sponsor's reason for prohibition.

Applicant/ Sponsor Washburn Co. Forest	Year of application: 2018
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Project name and primary purpose (after acquisition):

"Wolf Springs" tract addition to County Forest

Parcel size, shape and topography: relatively flat to rolling terrain. Two dilapidated bunk house/dormitories will be demolished. There are two impoundments on the property, created by unpermitted earthen dams (these flowages total approximately 38 acres). One will be removed, the other rehabilitated. Remaining ~160 acres mixed timber lands.

Plan(s) or reports identifying project area as priority: Washburn County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Proposed NBOA – Applicant Narrative and Checklist

HUNTING			
DNR Staff Narrative: Property will be open to hunting.			
X No prohibitions being proposed			
If a prohibition is proposed:			
Public safety factors considered , check all that apply.			
<input type="checkbox"/> The sponsor is within its own municipality boundary			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parcel is within 100 yards of building devoted to human occupancy			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parcel is within 50 feet of the center line of highways & roads			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parcel is within 1700 feet of school grounds, hospital, or sanatorium			
<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance exists –			
<input type="checkbox"/> Discharge or carrying a weapon <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting within park <input type="checkbox"/> Throwing or shooting missiles, arrows, spears, etc.			
<input type="checkbox"/> 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.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parcel is adjacent to a parcel where the NBOA's to be prohibited already exists.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parcel is adjacent to a public waterway.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parcel is subjected to a non-sponsor ordinance			
<input type="checkbox"/> Project will be transferred to an eligible partner sponsor with ordinance prohibiting activity.			
Unique plant and animal communities factors considered , check all that apply.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal listed endangered species		<input type="checkbox"/> State listed endangered species	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal listed threatened species		<input type="checkbox"/> State listed threatened species	
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal listed species of special concern		<input type="checkbox"/> State listed species of special concern	
	Allowable species (Gun)	Allowable species (bow)	List Dates/Seasons (opening and closing)
Waterfowl	Per state regulations	Per state regulations	Per state regulations
Small Game	Per state regulations	Per state regulations	Per state regulations
Turkey	Per state regulations	Per state regulations	Per state regulations
Large Game	Per state regulations	Per state regulations	Per state regulations

TRAPPING

DNR Staff Narrative: Property will be open to trapping.

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 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 to fishing

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 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	Per state regulations	Per state regulations
Boat	Yes – carry in access	Per state regulations

