

State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR
Howard Marklein

316 East, State Capitol
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ASSEMBLY CHAIR
Mark Born

308 East, State Capitol
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Joint Committee on Finance

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Howard Marklein
Representative Mark Born

Date: April 18, 2022

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 April 18, 2022.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Marklein** or **Representative Born** no later than **Thursday, May 5, 2022**, 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

HM:MB;jm

State of Wisconsin
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
101 S. Webster Street
Box 7921
Madison WI 53707-7921

Tony Evers, Governor
Preston D. Cole, Secretary
Telephone 608-266-2621
Toll Free 1-888-936-7463
TTY Access via relay - 711



April 15, 2022

APR 18 2022
St. Finance

The Honorable Howard Marklein Co-Chair
Committee on Joint Finance
Room 317 East
State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison WI 53707

The Honorable Mark Born, Co-Chair
Committee on Joint Finance
Room 308 East
State Capitol
PO Box 8952
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator Marklein and Representative Born:

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 \$22,383.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to Landmark Conservancy for land acquisition. The proposed grant will fund land acquisition north of State Highway 64.

The acquisition is in the Town of Bayfield in Bayfield County. The proposed grant funds will secure lasting public access to the headwaters of Big Ravine Creek which falls through Bayfield to Lake Superior. This 10-acre acquisition will protect the headwaters, conserve wetlands for flood retention and allow extension of a popular hiking trail. The property is contiguous to land already protected by the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program. The property will be open to 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.

for Sincerely,
DocuSigned by:
Sarah Barry
Preston D. Cole
Secretary

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 15, 2022

TO: Members of the Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Preston D. Cole, Secretary

SUBJECT: Request for approval – Knowles-Nelson 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 \$22,383.00 to Landmark Conservancy for acquisition of 10 acres. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(ta), Wis. Stats.

I. PROJECT DETAILS:

Project Sponsor: Landmark Conservancy

Stewardship Grant sub-program: Habitat Areas

Location: The subject property is in the Town of Bayfield, Bayfield County. Project maps are attached as Appendix A.

Project Description: The subject property is a 10-acre addition to the Big Ravine Preserve, a partnership between Landmark Conservancy and the Town of Bayfield. The preserve encompasses over 250 forested acres including and around a major drainage into Lake Superior's south shore. The steep watershed and creek have long been managed in a natural state for flood control, water quality protection, habitat preservation and outdoor recreation.

The subject property hosts the headwaters to the Big Ravine. Landmark Conservancy will transfer ownership of the parcel to the Town of Bayfield. Stewardship funding will ensure public access to the property via new trails and opening it to new recreational opportunities including hunting and trapping.

Key benefits:

Water quality - This acquisition will preserve Big Ravine headwaters and a shallow wetland.

Habitat benefits – The preserve provides an important habitat corridor to birds coming off Lake Superior and moving along the ridges to inland forests. It is located on the Mississippi flyway, a Tier 1 Migratory Bird Stopover area between two National Audubon Society designated Important Bird Areas: The Apostle Islands and the Lower Chequamegon Bay.

Recreational benefits - The property allows for expansion of a popular trail network that climbs from the center of downtown Bayfield up through the ravine's forest. The Bayfield Area Trails link Big Ravine Preserve, Fire Hill Forest Preserve, and a rural loop of orchard businesses frequented by residents and tourists alike.

Public Uses: The property will be open to the public for nature based outdoor activities (NBOA) including hunting, trapping, hiking, cross-country skiing and wildlife viewing. DNR's analysis of public uses is attached as Appendix B.

Consistency with planning: This acquisition will advance or meet goals in the following local and regional conservation and recreational plans:

- The City of Bayfield’s Comprehensive Plan: recognizes the Big Ravine watershed as a conservation priority.
- The Town of Bayfield’s Comprehensive Plan: sites the importance of wetlands protection, land conservation and trails in several objectives
- US Fish & Wildlife Service Joint Venture Program: Great Lake Restoration Initiative identifies a need for lasting habitat protection within this migratory corridor.

Partnerships: Local public support for this acquisition comes from Bayfield County, Town of Bayfield, and Bayfield Area Trails (a partnership among Town, City, County, Mt. Ashwabay, Landmark Conservancy, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa), This project builds on past completed projects that were funded by the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, the John C. Bock Foundation, and the USFWS Joint Venture Program. Landmark has received private donations to help cover transaction costs and support trail work on this parcel.

Matching funds: The Town of Bayfield has secured matching funds for the acquisition from the US Fish & Wildlife Service’s North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

Property Management: The property will be managed by the Town of Bayfield according to a land management plan approved by the Department as consistent with the purposes of the Stewardship Habitat Areas subprogram.

PROJECT FINANCES

A. Appraisal

Pursuant to S. 23.0917(7)(e)1, Stats., the fair market value of Landmark’s acres was determined by a third party appraisal reviewed by DNR. DNR’s accepted value for this parcel is \$38,000.00

B: Grant Calculation:

Subject land value	\$38,000.00
Eligible related transaction costs	<u>\$6,765.00</u>
Total eligible project costs	\$44,7650.00

Stewardship grant amount 50%	\$22,383.00
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III. RECOMMENDED:

DocuSigned by: <u>Terry Bay</u> F21083F90846464	4/14/2022 4:19 PM CDT
Terry Bay, Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands	Date

DocuSigned by: <u>Tim Cooke</u> D792C5F7A747460	4/15/2022 9:46 AM CDT
Tim Cooke, Administrator, Division of Internal Services	Date

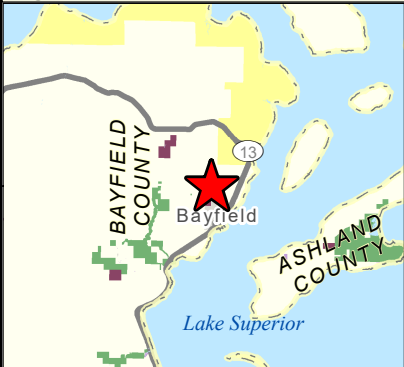
Landmark Conservancy Big Ravine addition

Proposed
Stewardship
Grant


T50N R4W Section 2
Town of Bayfield
Bayfield County

- Subject
- Closed easement - DNR
- DNR Land
- Land Funded by Stewardship Grants (publicly accessible)
- State Natural Area
- DNR Project Boundary
- Tribal Lands

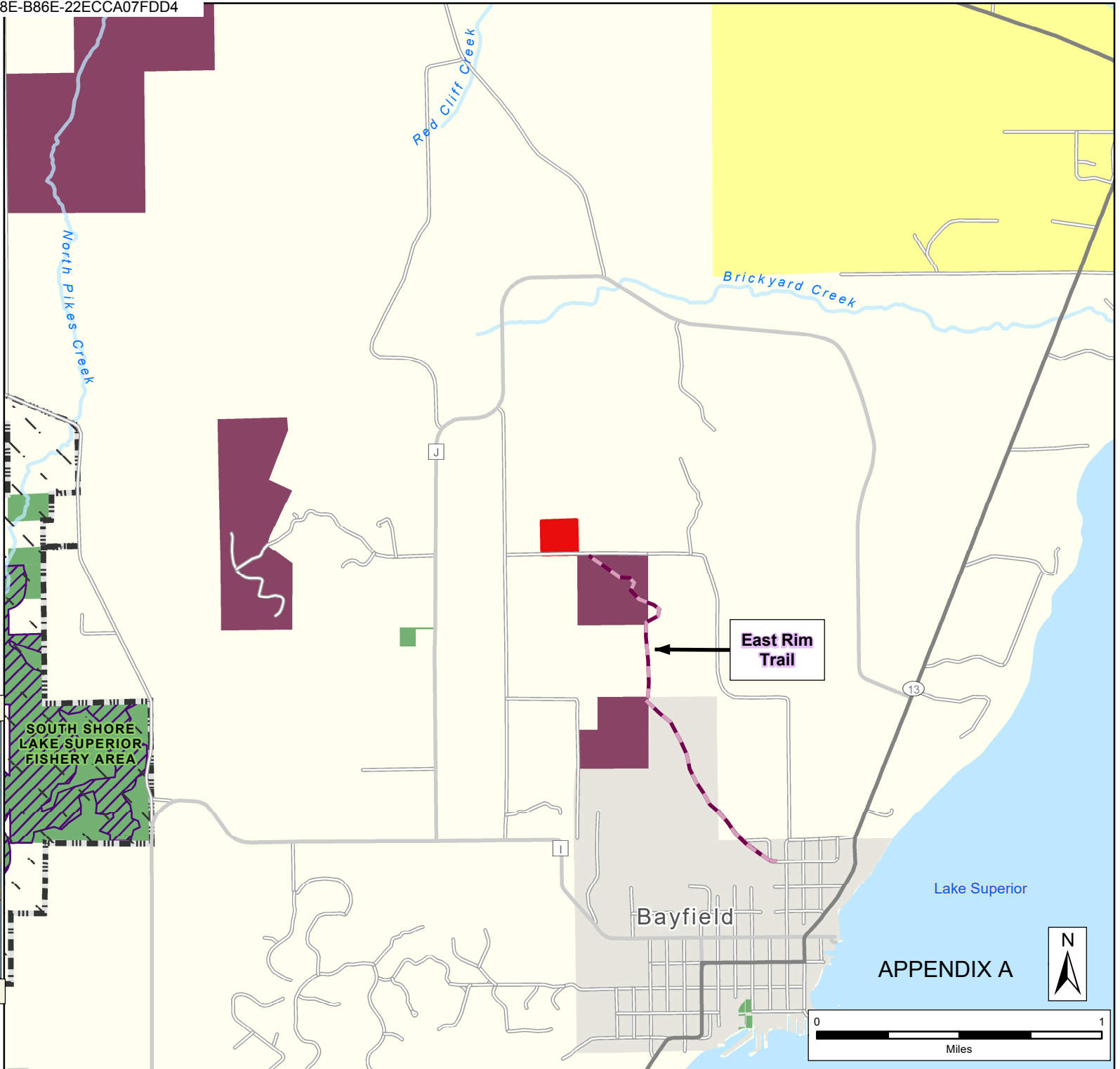
Regional View



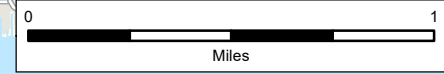
★ Location of Property



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: Apr 13, 2022 msm



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.

Landmark Conservancy Big Ravine addition


Sponsor: Landmark Conservancy
Approximate Total Acreage: 9.6


T50N R4W Section 2, Town of Bayfield
County: Bayfield




Proposed Stewardship Grant

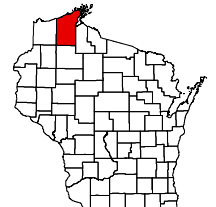
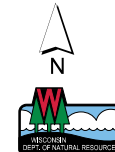
 **Subject**

 Funded by previous Stewardship Grant

 East Rim Trail

 PLSS Section Lines

 QQ Sections



Apr 12, 2022 msm

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

Aerial Imagery 2020

TRAPPING**DNR Staff Narrative:** Property will be open to trapping per state regulations. **No prohibitions 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:** Yes per state regulations – Due to the size of the creek on the property, boat fishing not possible. **No prohibitions 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	Yes - per state regs	per state regs

HIKING

DNR Staff Narrative: Property will be open to hiking.

■ No prohibitions 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 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 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 to cross-country skiing.

■ No prohibitions 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 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

Type of Trail	Allowable Activities	List Dates (opening and closing)
Off-Trail (un-groomed)	yes	Snow cover
On-Trail (un-groomed)	yes	Snow cover
On-Trail (groomed)	no groomed trails planned	NA