

State of Wisconsin

SENATE CHAIR
Howard Marklein

316 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882
Phone: (608) 266-0703



ASSEMBLY CHAIR
Mark Born

308 East, State Capitol
P.O. Box 8592
Madison, WI 53708-8953
Phone: (608) 266-2540

Joint Committee on Finance

MEMORANDUM

To: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Howard Marklein
Representative Mark Born

Date: June 14, 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 June 14, 2022.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Marklein** or **Representative Born** no later than **July 1, 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



JUN 14 2022
St. Finance

June 14, 2022

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 \$111,245.00 from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program to Landmark Conservancy. The proposed grant will fund land acquisition north of State Highway 64. This request is for approval to award fiscal year 2022 funds.

The acquisition is in the Town of Bell in Bayfield County. The proposed grant will support acquisition of 160 forested acres through which Lost Creek falls toward Lake Superior. The property is contiguous on four sides to County Forest lands and popular hiking and snowmobile trails accessing Lost Creek Falls.

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
A7D70DC370642F
Preston D. Cole
Secretary

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 14, 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 \$111,245.00 to Landmark Conservancy for acquisition of 160 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: Stream Bank Protection

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

Project Description: The 160-acre property is undeveloped with 6,000 linear feet of frontage on Lost Creek, a class II trout stream and several unnamed tributaries. The parcel consists of upland forest with rolling to hilly topography and steep slopes and ravines down to the creek. Cover types include red and white pine overstory with a mixed hardwoods understory, and some aspen. The property is landlocked and bordered on four sides by county forest land.

Key benefits:

Water quality - The subject property is located in the Lost Creek watershed, a south shore streams watershed draining into Lake Superior. It includes part of the headwaters of the Lost Creek system which flows through Lost Creek State Natural Area and is adjacent to Bayfield County Forest's Lost Creek Special Management Area. This acquisition will help provide forested buffer to protect both the immediate stream corridor and watershed.

Habitat benefits – The property is surrounded by county forest land and will complement the existing forest block, ensuring contiguous habitat for forest-dependent species. This branch of Lost Creek supports natural trout reproduction and future management will target continued health of the trout fishery. The Lost Creek drainage is a Tier 1 Migratory Bird stopover area.

Recreational benefits – The property is currently open to public use under the Managed Forest Law. This acquisition will ensure that the property remains permanently open to nature-based outdoor activities including hunting, fishing, trapping and hiking. This property is in a heavily used recreational area: Bayfield County's popular Lost Creek Falls Trail is located just to the north of this property where both hiking and snow mobile trails lead to an overlook for Lost Creek Falls.

Project Goals: Landmark Conservancy’s Lost Creek Headwaters project meets or supports goals in the following plans:

- Bayfield County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2020-2024
- Bayfield County Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2010)
- Town of Bell Comprehensive Land Use Plan (2010)
- Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan for protection of a conservation opportunity area of statewide significance – Lake Superior South Shore Streams as part of the Coastal Headwaters and Estuaries

Partnerships: The property is being purchased in partnership with Bayfield County, which has received preliminary approval and an invitation to apply for funds from the Coastal Management program to support this acquisition.

- Both Bayfield County and the Town of Bell passed resolutions in support of Landmark Conservancy’s Stewardship grant application.
- Bayfield County has agreed to manage the subject property with the surrounding special use area according to a management plan approved by the DNR.
- The Ruffed Grouse Society has committed \$2,500 to this land purchase.
- Letters of support were received from Bayfield County Economic Development Corporation, Northland College, the School Districts of Washburn and Bayfield, the Ruffed Grouse Society, the Wild Rivers Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Wisconsin Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers.

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.

Property Management: The property will be managed by Bayfield County according to a land management plan approved by the Department as consistent with the purposes of the Stewardship Stream Bank Protection subprogram.

PROJECT FINANCES

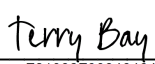
A. Appraisal

The property value used for grant calculation is based on an appraisal reviewed and accepted by DNR. The accepted appraised value is \$220,000.00

B: Grant Calculation:

Subject land value	\$220,000.00
Eligible related transaction costs	<u>\$2,490.00</u>
Total eligible project costs	\$222,490.00
Stewardship grant amount 50%	\$111,245.00

III. RECOMMENDED:

DocuSigned by:

 Terry Bay, Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands

6/13/2022 | 5:13 PM CDT
 Date

DocuSigned by:

 Tim Cooke, Administrator, Division of Internal Services

6/14/2022 | 8:24 AM CDT
 Date

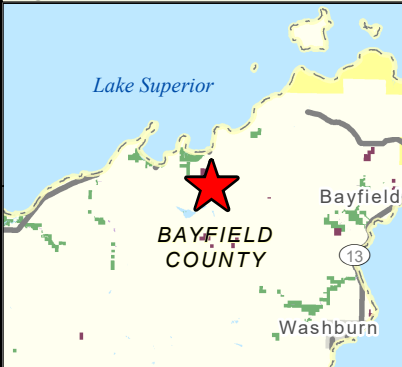
Landmark Conservancy Lost Creek tracts

Proposed
Stewardship
Grant

T50N R6W Section 10
Town of Bell
Bayfield County

- Subject
- DNR Land
- County Forest Lands
- Land Funded by Stewardship Grants (publicly accessible)
- State Natural Area
- Snowmobile Trails
- Other Trails
- P Parking at trailhead

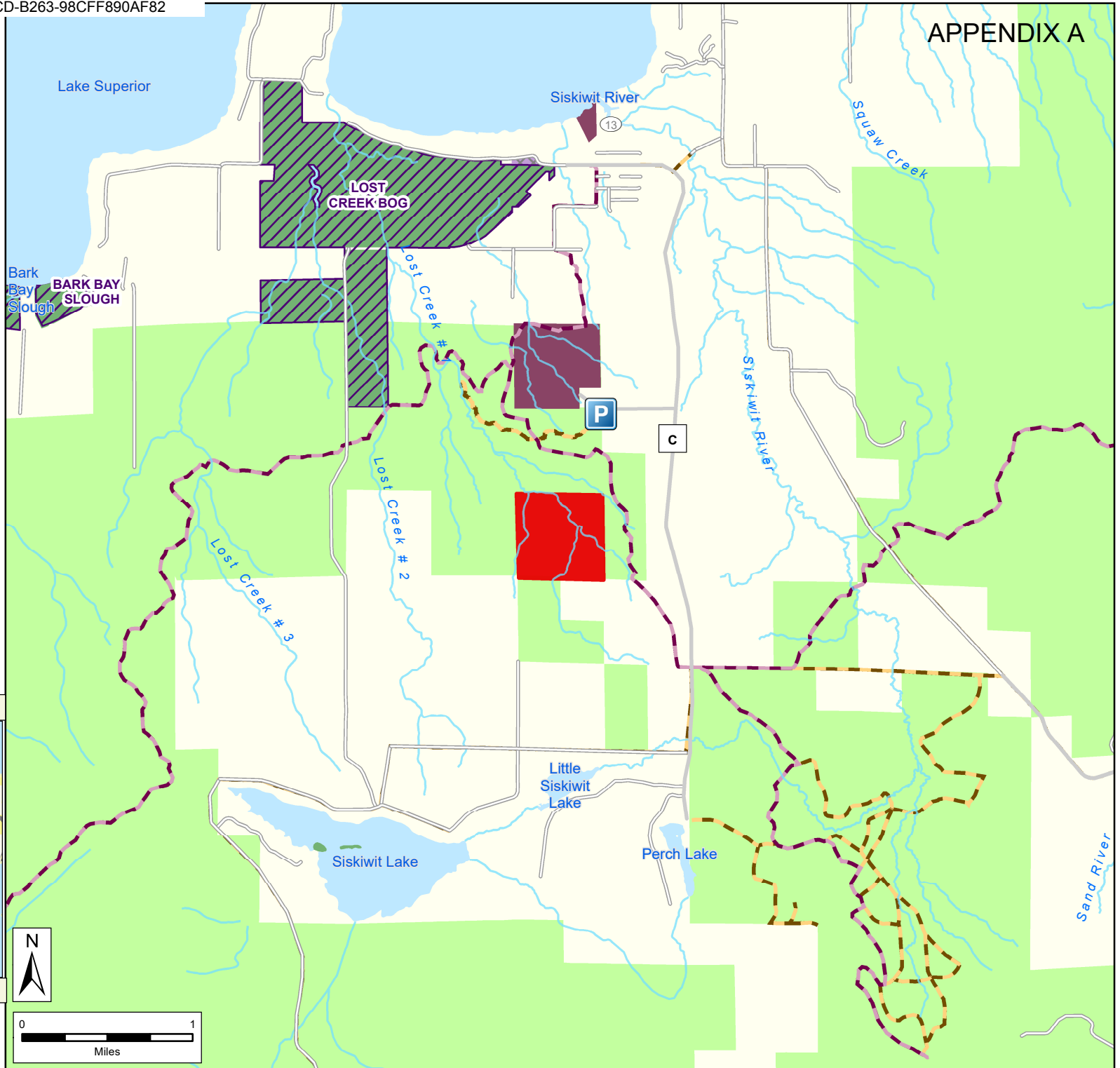
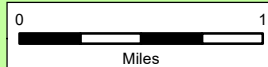
Regional View



★ Location of Property



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: May 24, 2022 msm



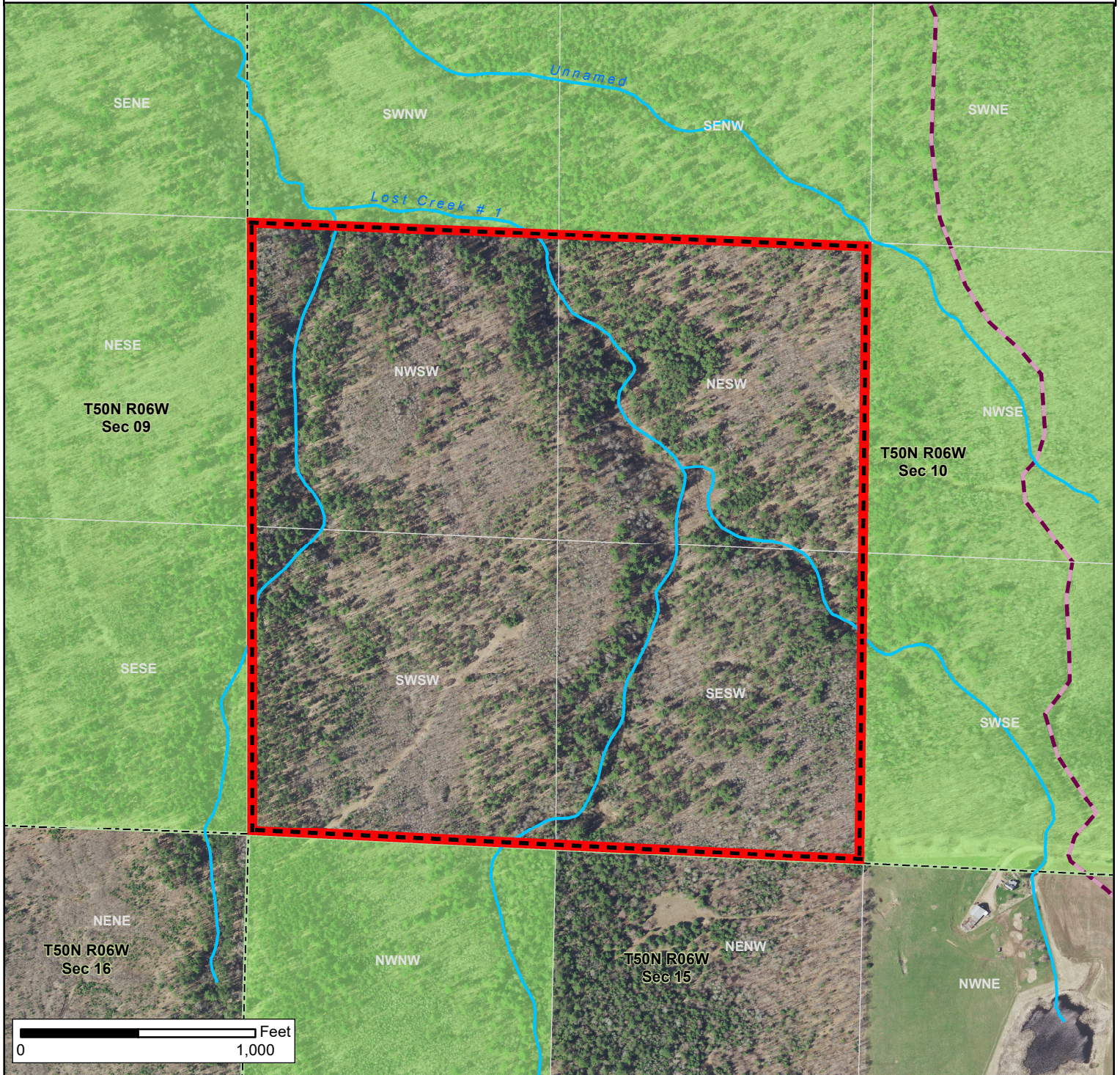
APPENDIX A

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 Lost Creek tracts





Sponsor: Landmark Conservancy
Approximate Total Acreage: 160

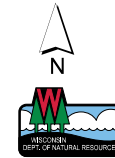
T50N R6W Section 10, Town of Bell
County: Bayfield



Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  Snowmobile Trail
-  County Forest Lands
-  Section Lines
-  QQ Sections



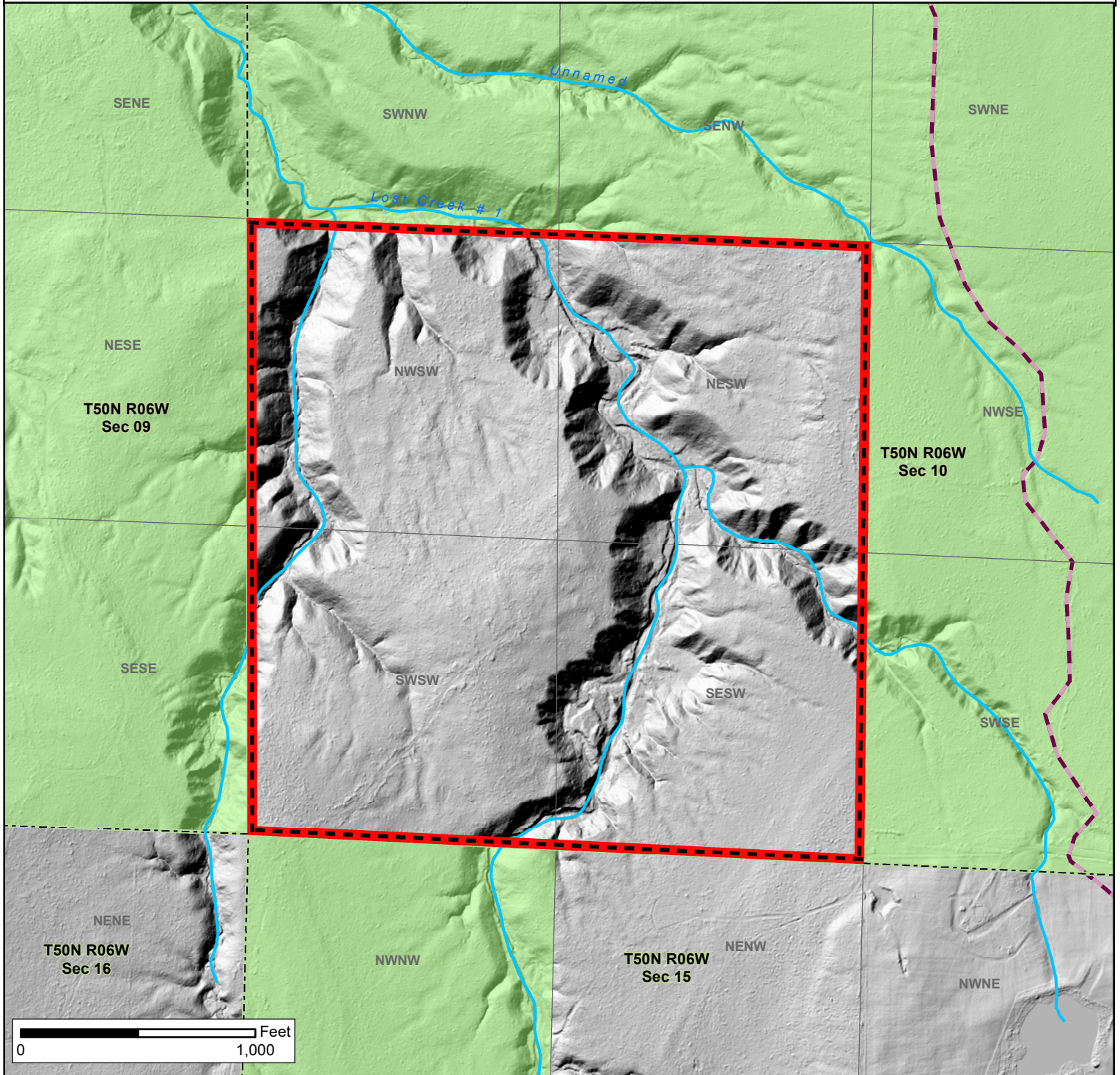
May 24, 2022 msm
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

Aerial Imagery 2020

Landmark Conservancy Lost Creek tracts





Sponsor: Landmark Conservancy
Approximate Total Acreage: 160


T50N R6W Section 10, Town of Bell
County: Bayfield



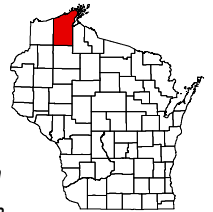
Proposed Stewardship Grant

 **Subject**

-  Snowmobile Trail
-  County Forest Lands
-  Section Lines
-  QQ Sections



May 24, 2022 msm
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands



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TRAPPING**DNR Staff Narrative:** Property will be open to trapping **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	Per state regulations	Per state regulations
Water	Per state regulations	Per state regulations

FISHING**DNR Staff Narrative:** Property will be open to fishing. **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	Per state regulations	Per state regulations
Boat	NA	Per state regulations

