

SUBJECT: LAND DONATION - ICE AGE TRAIL - WAUSHARA COUNTY

FOR: MARCH 2009 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: The Kreuscher Revocable Trust has offered to donate approximately 0.01-acre of land for the Ice Age Trail in Waushara County.

The Kreuscher Revocable Trust parcel is located in the Town of Deerfield in Waushara County about 3.5 miles southeast of Hancock. The 0.01-acre subject abuts existing Department ownership at Bohn Lake. Acceptance of the parcel will bring the west project boundary here out to the road edge of CTH "B", an easily identifiable boundary for the public.

In 1987, the Wisconsin Legislature passed legislation that established the Ice Age State Scenic Trail as a state project and directed the Department to develop a trail to promote public awareness and appreciation of Wisconsin's glacial heritage, to preserve and protect significant glacial features and other natural and cultural features associated with the period of glaciation, and to provide a continuous off-road trail for recreational use.

The trail is one of only eight national scenic trails in the United States and when completed, will run for over a thousand miles through much of Wisconsin. The trail route extends from Door County, south through the Kettle Moraine to Janesville, and then north through Devil's Lake State Park to northwestern Wisconsin. The trail provides opportunities to observe a large number of landforms that are unique to continental glaciation such as eskers, kames, drumlins and kettles, as well as many other features and places of natural beauty. The trail is intended for low impact uses such as hiking, backpacking, snowshoeing, and in suitable areas, cross-country skiing.

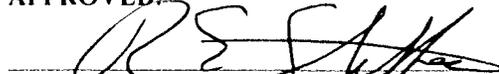
Acceptance of the donation from Kreuscher Revocable Trust property will help bring state ownership out to an easily identifiable boundary and will improve state management of the area.

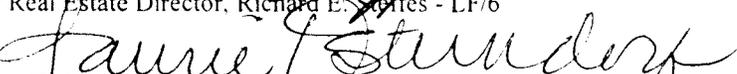
RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 0.01-acre of land for the Ice Age Trail, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to Kreuscher Revocable Trust and that an expression of appreciation be made a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board.

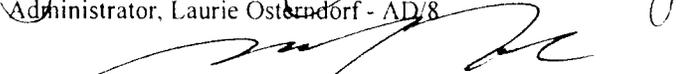
LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment of Impact Statement Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

APPROVED:


Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6


Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/8


Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/8

2-19-09
Date

2/20/09
Date

3/4/09
Date

- cc: S. Miller - LF/6
R. Steffes - LF/6
L. Ross - AD/8
D. Schuller - PR/6
R. Kazmierczak - NER/Green Bay

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 17, 2009 FILE REF: PR 40035
 TO: Natural Resources Board
 FROM: Matthew J. Frank 
 SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, Kreuscher Revocable Trust Tract, File # PR 40035

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Ice Age Trail
 Waushara County

Grantor:

Kreuscher Revocable Trust
 c/o Attorney Randall Kreuscher
 602 17th Street NE
 Appleton, WI 55904

Acres: 0.01Price: N/A - GiftAppraised Value: N/AInterest: Fee Title DonationImprovements: NoneLocation: The tract is located in Waushara County seven miles northwest of the City of Wautoma.Land Description: The land is level.

<u>Covertyp</u> <u>Breakdown:</u>	<u>Type:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
	Woodland	0.01

Zoning: Agriculture-ResidentialPresent Use: Larger LotProposed Use: Scenic Protection and Public RecreationTenure: 12 yearsOption Date: February 2, 2009Stewardship Land Access: This property will be open to the public for hiking and cross-country skiing.2. JUSTIFICATION:

The Department proposes to accept the donation of an approximate 0.01-acre parcel for the Ice Age Trail (IAT). The Kreuscher Revocable Trust parcel is located in the Town of Deerfield in Waushara County about 3.5 miles southeast of Hancock. The subject falls completely within the proposed IAT project boundary and abuts existing Department ownership, Bohn Lake parcel (229.67 acres) for the Ice Age Trail on its north and east sides. Acquisition of the parcel will remove this small private parcel and would bring the IAT west project boundary here out to the road edge of CTH "B", an easily identifiable boundary for the public. In addition, acquisition will enhance natural resource habitat management activities and public recreation opportunities on contiguous IAT parcels.

In 1987, the Wisconsin Legislature passed legislation that established the Ice Age State Scenic Trail as a state project and directed the Department to develop a trail to promote public awareness and appreciation



of Wisconsin's glacial heritage, to preserve and protect significant glacial features and other natural and cultural features associated with the period of glaciation, and to provide a continuous off-road trail for recreational use. The Ice Age Trail is a cooperative project between the U.S. National Park Service, the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation and its various volunteer groups around the state, and the counties through which the trail passes. The trail is one of only eight national scenic trails in the United States and when completed, will run for over a thousand miles through much of Wisconsin. The trail route extends from Door County, south through the Kettle Moraine to Janesville, and then north through Devil's Lake State Park to northwestern Wisconsin. The trail provides opportunities to observe a large number of landforms that are unique to continental glaciation such as eskers, kames, drumlins and kettles, as well as many other features and places of natural beauty. The trail is intended for low impact uses such as hiking, backpacking, snowshoeing, and in suitable areas, cross-country skiing. To date, about half of the trail has been completed in numerous segments. Management, development and maintenance of the trail will be shared between the Department and the Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation.

Acceptance of the donation from Kreuzscher Revocable Trust property is recommended to provide a contiguous Ice Age Trail ownership and will provide a continuation of state owned Ice Age Trail land along CTH "B".

3. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE ICE AGE TRAIL:

Established: 1988
Acres Purchased to Date: 6,398.71
Acquisition Goal: 9,673
Percent Complete: 66.1%
Cost to Date: \$10,462,426

RECOMMENDED:


Richard E. Steffes

2-19-09
Date


Bureau of Legal Services

2/19/09
Date


Laurie Osterdorf

2/20/09
Date

RES:ch

Acknowledgment of Gift

This is to certify that at its March 2009 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of an approximate 0.01-acre of land in Waushara County for the Ice Age Trail from

KREUSCHER REVOCABLE TRUST

It is significant that you are interested in helping protect Wisconsin's natural heritage and contribute materially toward this end.

An expression of our appreciation is a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board. We present this certificate of sincere appreciation on behalf of present and future generations to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIRMAN

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