

**SUBJECT: LAND DONATION AND BOUNDARY MODIFICATION - CHIWAUKEE PRAIRIE-CAROL BEACH
NATURAL AREA - KENOSHA COUNTY**

FOR: MAY 2010 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc. (CPPF) has offered to donate 0.28-acre of land for the Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Natural Area in Kenosha County. This is part of an important Lake Michigan wetland prairie complex.

The Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Natural Area is located south of the City of Kenosha and borders Lake Michigan and the Illinois state line. This area is referred to locally as the "Iris Prairie" because of the significant number of native Blue Flag Iris. The subject 0.28-acre lot falls just outside of the project boundary. However, if accepted, it will be added to the boundary. The Department has ownership in this same block (two donated lots totaling 0.54 acres in 1999) and across the street to its southeast. Likewise, the Village of Pleasant Prairie also has ownership in this block.

The project was established in 1985 as a cooperative project with the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, The Nature Conservancy, Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Kenosha County, Town of Pleasant Prairie, and the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. The project will protect the natural area values of the property while providing public access for scientific, educational, and limited recreational use. The project is a ridge and swale-wetland complex formed by a series of beach ridges and dunes left by receding water levels of Glacial Lake Chicago. Most of the area is wetland, which includes scarce prairie wetland and fens that have changed little in the last 250 years. Rare plants and animals, including several state-listed species, live here. The Chiwaukee Prairie area has been recognized as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service.

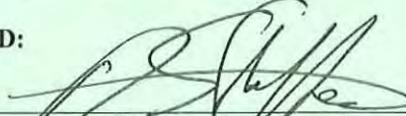
Acceptance of the Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc. property will allow for natural area management, protect the natural values of the site, consolidate state ownership, and provide opportunities for public recreation.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 0.28 acre of land for the Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Natural Area; that the project boundary be expanded to include the subject property, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc., 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

5-5-10

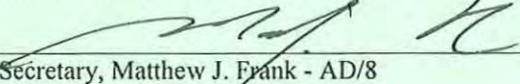
Date



Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/8

5/7/10

Date



Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/8

5-10-2010

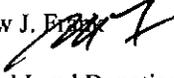
Date

- cc: S. Miller - LF/6
R. Steffes - LF/6
L. Ross - AD/8
E. Cain - ER/6
G. McCutcheon - SER/Milwaukee

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 5, 2010 FILE REF: NA 20046

TO: Natural Resources Board

FROM: Matthew J. Fry 

SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc.,
Tract, File # NA 20046

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Natural Area
Kenosha County

Grantor:

Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc.
c/o Pam Holy, President
P.O. Box 1802
Kenosha, WI 53141

Acres: 0.28Price: DonationAppraised Value: NoneInterest: NoneImprovements: NoneLocation: The tract is located in southeast Kenosha County in the Village of Pleasant Prairie.Land Description: The subject land is level lowland

<u>Covertypes Breakdown:</u>	Type:	Acreage:
	Wetland	0.18
	Grassland	<u>0.10</u>
	TOTAL:	0.28

Zoning: Lowland ConservancyPresent Use: ConservationProposed Use: Natural Resource Protection and Public RecreationTenure: 20 yearsAgreement Date (Letter of Intent): March 17, 2010Taxes: ExemptStewardship Land Access: This property will be open to the public for all nature-based outdoor recreational activities to include hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking and cross-country skiing.2. JUSTIFICATION:

The Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc. (CPPF) has offered to donate 0.28 acres of land for the Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Natural Area in Kenosha County to the Department. This is part of an important Lake Michigan wetland prairie complex and for public recreation.

The Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach Natural Area is located south of the City of Kenosha and borders Lake Michigan and the Illinois state line. The parcel was donated to the CPPF in 1990 in an effort to preserve the entire block referred to locally as the "Iris Prairie" because of the significant number of native Blue Flag Iris found at this location. The gift to the Department was intended to happen sooner, with the hope of other lots from CPPF being transferred at the same time. Unfortunately, this was the only lot CPPF has successfully acquired in this area. The subject 0.28-acre lot falls just outside of the project boundary. However, if accepted, it will be added to the boundary. The Department has ownership in this same block and across the street to its southeast. Likewise, the Village of Pleasant Prairie also has ownership in this block.

The project was established in 1985 as a cooperative project with the University of Wisconsin-Parkside and The Nature Conservancy. The project will protect the natural area values of the property while providing public access for scientific, educational, and limited recreational use. The project is a ridge and swale-wetland complex formed by a series of beach ridges and dunes left by receding water levels of Glacial Lake Chicago. Most of the area is wetland, which includes scarce prairie wetland and fens that have changed little in the last 250 years. Rare plants and animals, including several state-listed species, live here. The Chiwaukee Prairie area has been recognized as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service.

The Department recommends acceptance of donation of the Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc. property to allow for natural area management, to protect the natural values of the site, to consolidate state ownership, and to provide opportunities for public recreation.

3. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE CHIWAUKEE PRAIRIE-CAROL BEACH NATURAL AREA:

Established: 1985
Acres Purchased to Date: 437.83
Acquisition Goal: 400.0 Acres
Percent Complete: 109.46%
Cost to Date: \$2,043,327.28

RECOMMENDED:



Richard E. Steffes

5-5-10
Date



Bureau of Legal Services

5-6-10
Date



Laurie Osterdorf

5/7/10
Date

RES:ch

Acknowledgment of Gift

This is to certify that at its May 2010 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of 0.28-acre parcel of land in Kenosha County for the Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Beach State Natural Area from

CHIWAUKEE PRAIRIE PRESERVATION FUND, INC.

It is significant that organizations such as yours 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

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR

Chiwaukee Prairie Preservation Fund, Inc. Parcel

T1N R23E Section 19, Town of Pleasant Prairie, Kenosha County, WI (0.28 Acres)



Legend

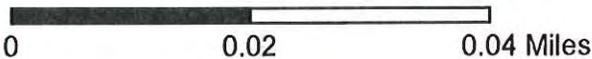
- - - PLSS Section Line
- PLSS Quarter-Quarter
- ▨ DNR Project Boundary
- ▭ County Boundary
- ▨ DNR Eased
- ▭ DNR Owned

Subject Property

NA 20046

Chiwaukee Prairie-Carol Natural Area

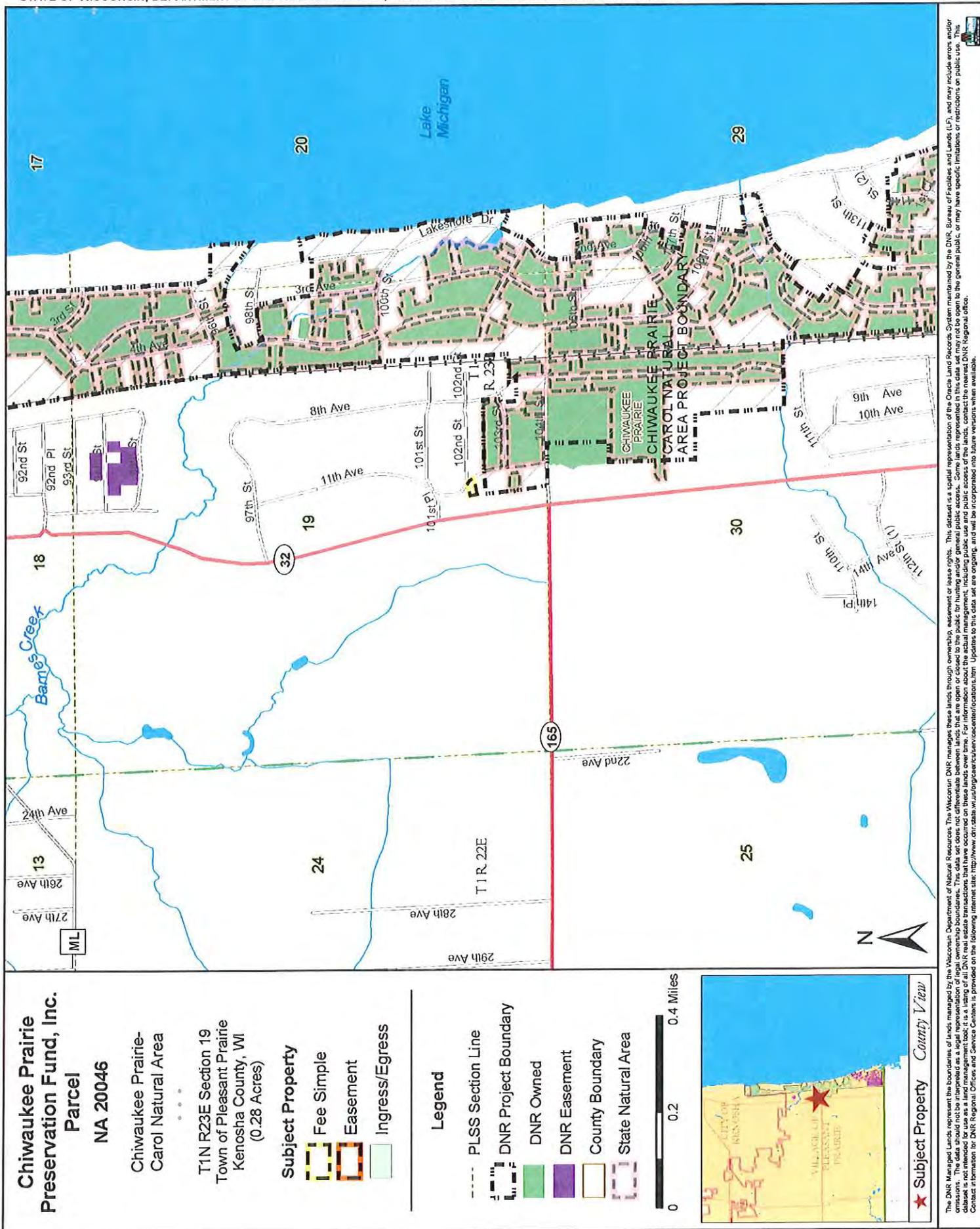
- ▨ Fee Simple
- ▨ Easement
- ▭ Ingress/Egress



State of Wisconsin

April 21, 2010
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

Use Advisory: Neither the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) nor any of its employees shall be held liable for any improper or incorrect use of the information and/or contained herein and assumes no responsibility for use of the information. Furthermore, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding accuracy, adequacy, completeness, legality, or reliability of any information. The WDNR provides mapped information on an "as is" basis. The WDNR has made reasonable efforts to provide accurate information, but cannot exclude the possibility of errors or omissions in source information. There is no guarantee the parcel boundaries are defined by a survey. The map user is expected to exercise reasonable use of the map information.



**Chiswaukee Prairie
Preservation Fund, Inc.
Parcel
NA 20046**

Chiswaukee Prairie-
Carol Natural Area

T1N R23E Section 19
Town of Pleasant Prairie
Kenosha County, WI
(0.28 Acres)

Subject Property

- Fee Simple
- Easement
- Ingress/Egress

Legend

- PLSS Section Line
- DNR Project Boundary
- DNR Owned
- DNR Easement
- County Boundary
- State Natural Area



The DNR Managed Lands represent the boundaries of lands managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The Wisconsin DNR manages these lands through ownership, easement or lease rights. This dataset is a spatial representation of the Oracle Land Records. System maintained by the DNR, Bureau of Facilities and Lands (LF), and may include errors and/or omissions. The data should not be interpreted as a legal representation of land ownership boundaries. The data set does not differentiate between lands that are open or closed to the public for hunting and/or general public access. Some jurisdictions represented in this data set may not be open to the general public, or may have specific limitations or restrictions on public use. This information is provided for informational purposes only. For more information, please contact the DNR Regional Office and Service Centers is provided on the following internet site: <http://www.dnr.wisconsin.gov/geospatial/locator.html>. Updates to this data set are ongoing, and will be incorporated into future versions when available.