Form 1100-1
Rev. 5-91

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 3.B.21

SUBJECT: DONATION OF STATEWIDE NATURAL AREA EASEMENT AND ARTICLES OF DEDICATION – OCONTO COUNTY

FOR: DECEMBER 2007 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: The Department proposes to accept a donation of a 210.7-acre easement and Articles of Dedication from Charles Rohlman for the Statewide Natural Area program in Oconto County. The item is being submitted to the Board because it is a donation.

The easement is located in central Oconto County in the Town of Brazeau. The Kelly Lake Forest State Natural Area supports just over one hundred acres of northern mixed hardwood forest on rolling glacial deposits north and west of Long Lake, a 38-acre seepage lake with a maximum depth of 22 feet. The property includes about 4,000 feet of shoreline on the lake with the upland cover-type of mature white pine, and a maple-beech complex. The forest is mostly second growth (composed of medium size sugar maple, American beech, red oak and paper birch), though a few patches of older forest (eastern hemlock, American beech and yellow birch) are present. Several small conifer swamps composed of (tamarack, black spruce, white cedar, balsam fir, hemlock, and white pine) occur within the matrix of the forest.

The northern mesic forest found on the Rohlman property is very high quality with a mix of beech, hemlock and yellow birch. The donation provides for protection of the natural values of the property.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of a 210.7-acre easement and Articles of Dedication for the Kelly Lake Hemlock and Northern Mesic Forest Statewide Natural Area, that an expression of appreciation be made a part of the official records of the Board and that a certificate of appreciation be given to the donor.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

No ☒	Fiscal Estimate Required	Yes ☐	Attached
No ☒	Environmental Assessment of Impact Statement Required	Yes ☐	Attached
No ☐	Background Memo	Yes ☒	Attached

APPROVED:

R E Steffes — 10-18-07
Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6 — Date

Laurie Osterndorf — 10/18/07
Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/5 — Date

Matthew J. Frank — 11/7/07
Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/5 — Date

cc: S. Miller – LF/6
R. Steffes – LF/6
L. Ross – AD/5
S. Holtz – ER/6
R. Kazmierczak – NER/Green Bay

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

DATE: October 16, 2007

FILE REF: D-231 E

TO: Governor Doyle

FROM: Matthew J. Frank

SUBJECT: Proposed Easement Dedication, Charles Rohlman Tract, File # D-231 E, Approval Requested By December 27, 2007

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Statewide Natural Area – Kelly Lake Hemlock and
Northern Mesic Forest State Natural Area
Oconto County

Grantor:

Charles Rohlman
1033 Neufeld Street
Green Bay, WI 54304

Acres: 210.7
Interest: Donation of a conservation easement pursuant to s. 23.27 and s. 23.29, Stats.
Improvements: None
Location: The tract is located in Oconto County in the Town of Brazeau.
Land Description: The subject area is a rolling, hilly landscape with mature stands of white pine as well as hardwoods in a mesic forest complex.
Present Use: Private recreation
Proposed Use: Natural resource protection.
Tenure: Acquired by Rohlman in 1940.

2. JUSTIFICATION:

Charles Rohlman has agreed to donate a 210.7-acre easement and Articles of Dedication to the Department for the Kelly Lake Hemlock and Northern Mesic Forest Statewide Natural Area in Oconto County. The easement is located in central Oconto County in the Town of Brazeau. The Kelly Lake Forest State Natural Area supports just over 100 acres of northern mixed hardwood forest on rolling glacial deposits north and west of Long Lake, a 38-acre seepage lake with a maximum depth of 22 feet. The property includes about 4,000 feet of shoreline on the lake with the upland cover-type of mature white pine, and a maple-beech complex. The forest is mostly second growth (composed of medium size sugar maple, American beech, red oak and paper birch), though a few patches of older forest (eastern hemlock, American beech and yellow birch) are present. Several small conifer swamps composed of (tamarack, black spruce, white cedar, balsam fir, hemlock, and white pine) occur within the matrix of the forest. The northern mesic forest found on the Rohlman property is of high quality, having an excellent management history and uncommon species present.

The Statewide Natural Area program was established in 1972 to protect the best remaining examples of Wisconsin's native vegetation as well as habitat for endangered and threatened plants and animals. Natural areas will help protect the natural diversity of the landscape and preserve for future generations a living history of the past.

The Department recommends the acceptance of this dedicated easement due to its significance in terms of protecting the natural values of the site, to allow for natural area management, and to protect the site from development incompatible with the goals of the Statewide Natural Area program.

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3. FINANCING:

No funding is needed for this transaction since this is a donation. No stewardship grant is involved.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE STATEWIDE NATURAL AREA:

Established: 1972
Acres Purchased to Date: 35,327
Acquisition Goal: 41,000 Acres
Percent Complete: 86%
Cost to Date: $18,842,851

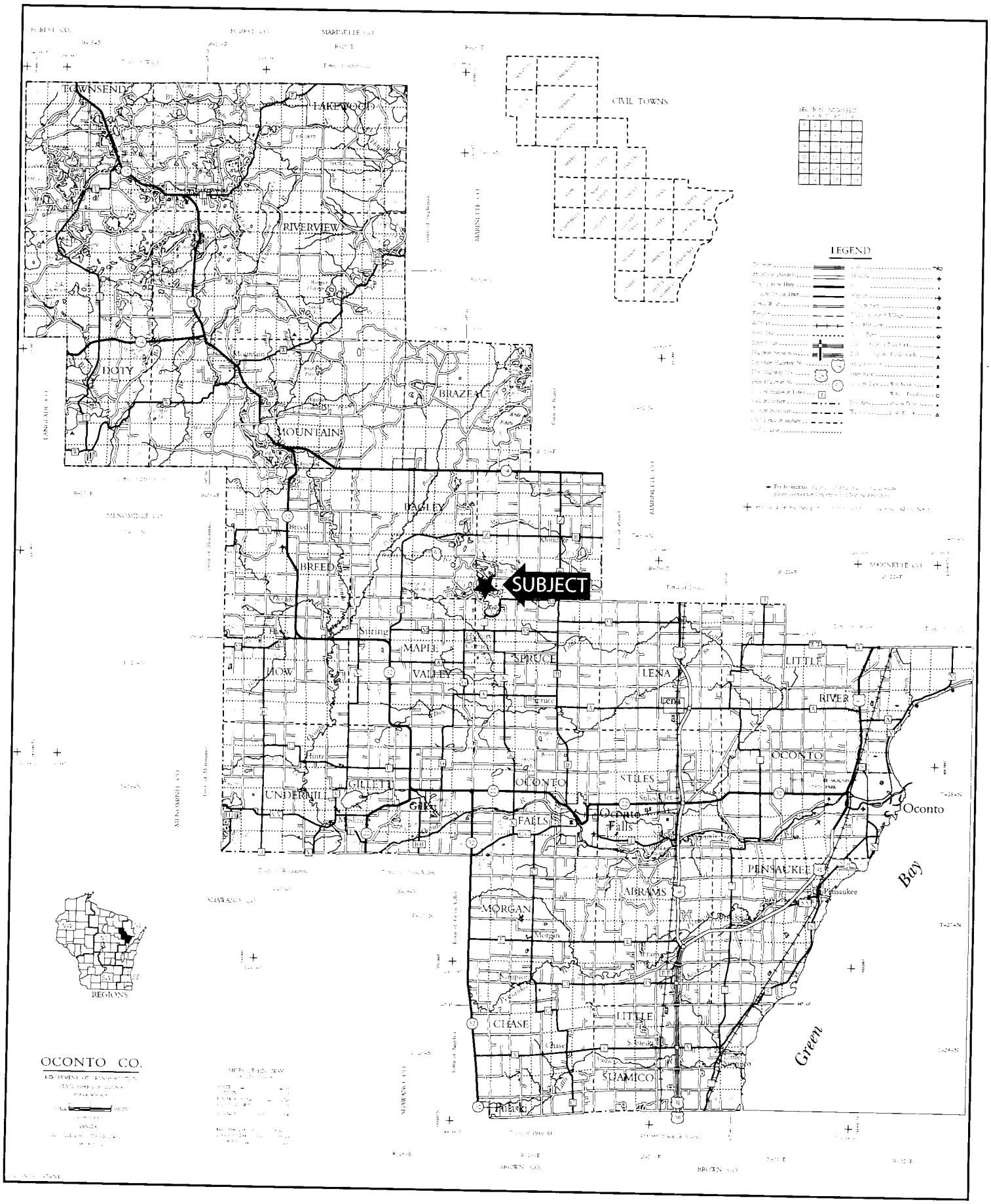
RECOMMENDED:

Richard E. Steffes — Date: 10-18-07

Bureau of Legal Services — Date: 10/18/07

Laurie Osterndorf — Date: 10/18/07

RES:dv


TOWNSEND
LAKEWOOD
RIVERVIEW
DOTY
BRAZEAU
MOUNTAIN
EAGLEY
BREED
SUBJECT
MAPLE
VALLEY
SPRUCE
LENA
LITTLE
RIVER
OCONTO
STILES
GILLETT
UNDERHILL
FALLS
Oconto Falls
Oconto
PENSAUKEE
Pensaukee
ABRAMS
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Rohlman Gift

Statewide Natural Area

- Subject Property
- WDNR Owned
- WNDR Eased
- WDNR Leased
- Ice Age Trail
- Project Boundary
- Open Water

Miles
0 0.5 1

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 data set 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 legal ownership boundaries.

This data set does not differentiate between lands that are open or closed to the public for hunting and/or general public access. Some lands represented in this data set may not be open to the general public, or may have specific limitations or restrictions on public use. This data set is not intended for use as a land management tool; it is a listing of all DNR real estate transactions that have occurred on these lands over time.

For information about the actual management, including public use and public access of the lands, contact the nearest DNR Regional office. Contact information for DNR Regional Offices and Service Centers is provided on the following internet site:

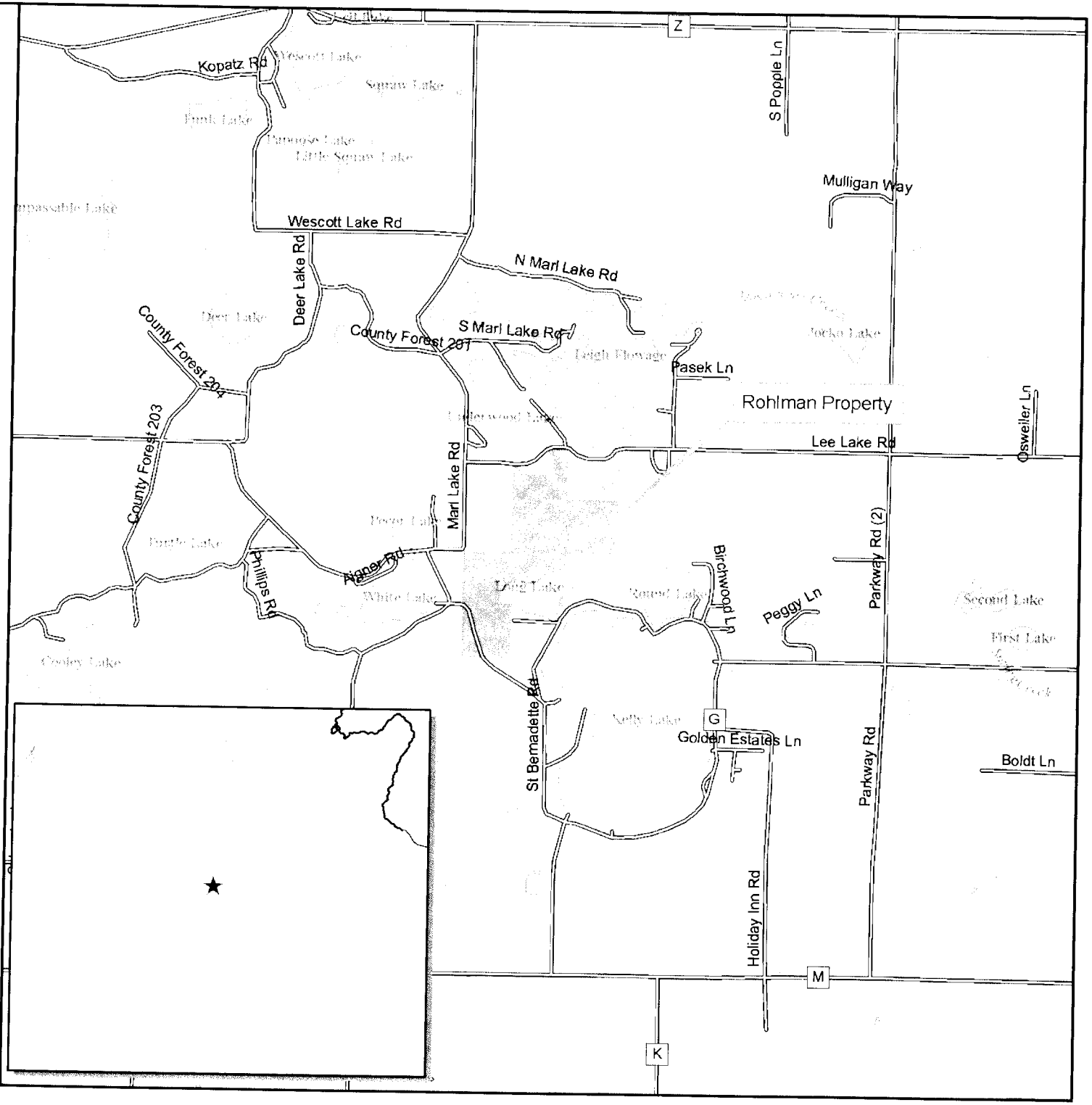
http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aboutdnr/servicecenter/locations.htm

Updates to this data set are ongoing, and will be incorporated into future versions when available.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Bureau of Facilities and Lands

September 17, 2007



Acknowledgment Of Gift

This is to certify that at its December 2007 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted a gift of a 210.7-acre easement and Articles of Dedication from

CHARLES ROHLMAN

The donation will ensure protection of the natural values of this land and its frontage on Long Lake for the Statewide Natural Area program at Kelly Lake Hemlock and Northern Mesic Forest State Natural Area in Oconto County. It is significant that people like you are interested in helping protect Wisconsin's natural heritage and contribute 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 L. Thomas, CHAIR