

SUBJECT: LAND DONATION - STATEWIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT - PIERCE COUNTY

FOR: DECEMBER 2009 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: Kinnickinnic River Land Trust has offered to donate to the Department 158.43 acres of land for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat Program in Pierce County.

The Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area program was established in 1991 to acquire, protect, and develop important habitat for pheasants, waterfowl, songbirds and other species. The tract is located in Pierce County between the City of River Falls and the Kinnickinnic State Park. The property includes several scenic vistas of the adjacent lower Kinnickinnic River Canyon. The Land Trust owns several conservation easements to the north of the parcel. Land cover on the land to be donated includes about 33 acres of open grassland, 22 acres of goat prairie and oak savanna, 15 acres of mesic forest and about 88 acres of cropland to be converted to prairie. The goat prairies located in the oak savanna areas, are small but ecologically significant.

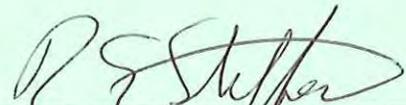
Acceptance of this 158.43-acre parcel from the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust will protect open grasslands and oak savanna for wildlife habitat and natural plant conservation. It also will buffer the headwaters of the Kinnickinnic River watershed and the land will be open for public outdoor recreation

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 158.43 acres of land for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to Kinnickinnic River Land Trust and that an expression of appreciation be made a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

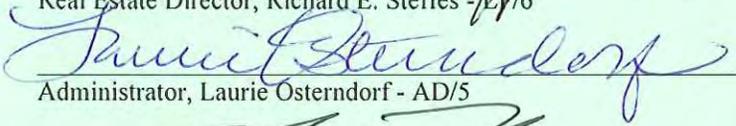
- | | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment of Impact Statement Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input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

APPROVED:



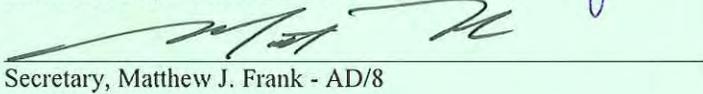
Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6

Date 10.30.09



Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/5

Date 11/3/09



Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/8

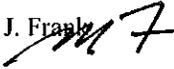
Date 11/11/09

- cc: S. Miller – LF/6
 R. Steffes – LF/6
 L. Ross – AD/8
 T. Hauge – WM/6
 S. Humrickhouse- WCR/Eau Claire

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 29, 2009

TO: Natural Resources Board

FROM: Matthew J. Frank 

SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, Kinnickinnic River Land Trust
Tract, File # WM 60069

FILE REF: WM 60069

I. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Statewide Wildlife Habitat Program
Pierce County

Grantor:

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust
c/o Nelson French, Executive Director
421 North Main Street
River Falls, WI 54022

Acres: 158.43Price: GiftAppraised Value: \$1,208,000 (Appraisal completed for the Land Trust); \$1,300,000 (Department appraisal)Interest: Fee title donationImprovements: Small barn; Land Trust will remove before conveyance to the Department.Location: The tract is located in Pierce County about three miles southwest of River Falls in the Town of Clifton.Land Description: The subject land is rolling.

<u>Covertypes Breakdown:</u>	Type:	Acres:
	Grassland	33.06
	Cropland	88.37
	Upland/Woodland	<u>37.00</u>
	TOTAL	158.43

Present Use: Vacant/AgricultureProposed Use: Resource protection and public recreation

Tenure: The Land Trust acquired the land as part of a 232-acre parcel by land contract on January 10, 2008 for a price of \$1,350,000. It is fulfilling the land contract and closing out with a deed in October of 2009. The Department is making a Stewardship grant on the southern 158.43 acres (the portion of the property south of County Road FF). That southern portion is the land to be donated to the Department.

Option Date: September 29, 2009

Stewardship 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 Kinnickinnic River Land Trust has agreed to donate a 158.43-acre parcel to the Department for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program. The Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area program was established in 1991 to acquire, protect, and develop important habitat for pheasants, waterfowl and other species. The tract is located in Pierce County between the City of River Falls and the Kinnickinnic State Park on County FF in the Town of Clifton. The property includes several scenic vistas of the adjacent lower Kinnickinnic River Cañyon. The KRLT owns several conservation easements to the north of the parcel. Land cover includes about 33 acres of open grassland, 22 acres of goat prairie and oak savanna, 15 acres of mesic forest and about 88 acres of cropland that will be converted to prairie. The embedded goat prairies, in the oak savanna, are small but ecologically significant.

The Department recommends acceptance of this 158.43-acre parcel from the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust for Statewide Wildlife Habitat, add acres of open grasslands and oak savanna to the project area for nesting and buffer the headwaters of the Kinnickinnic River watershed. The land will be open for public outdoor recreation.

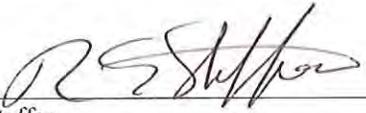
3. FINANCING:

No department land acquisition funding is required for this transaction. However, the Department is making a Stewardship grant of \$604,000 to the Land Trust in support of the transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE STATEWIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT:

Established: 1991
Acres Purchased to Date: 3,849.04
Acquisition Goal: 6,000.00
Percent Complete: 64.15%
Cost to Date: \$2,488,385.00

RECOMMENDED:


Richard E. Steffes

10-30-09
Date


Bureau of Legal Services

11/2/09
Date


Laurie Osterndorf

11/5/09
Date

RES:dv

Acknowledgment Of Gift

This is to certify that at its December 2009 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted a gift of 158.43 acres of land in Pierce County for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area from

KINNICKINNIC RIVER LAND TRUST

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

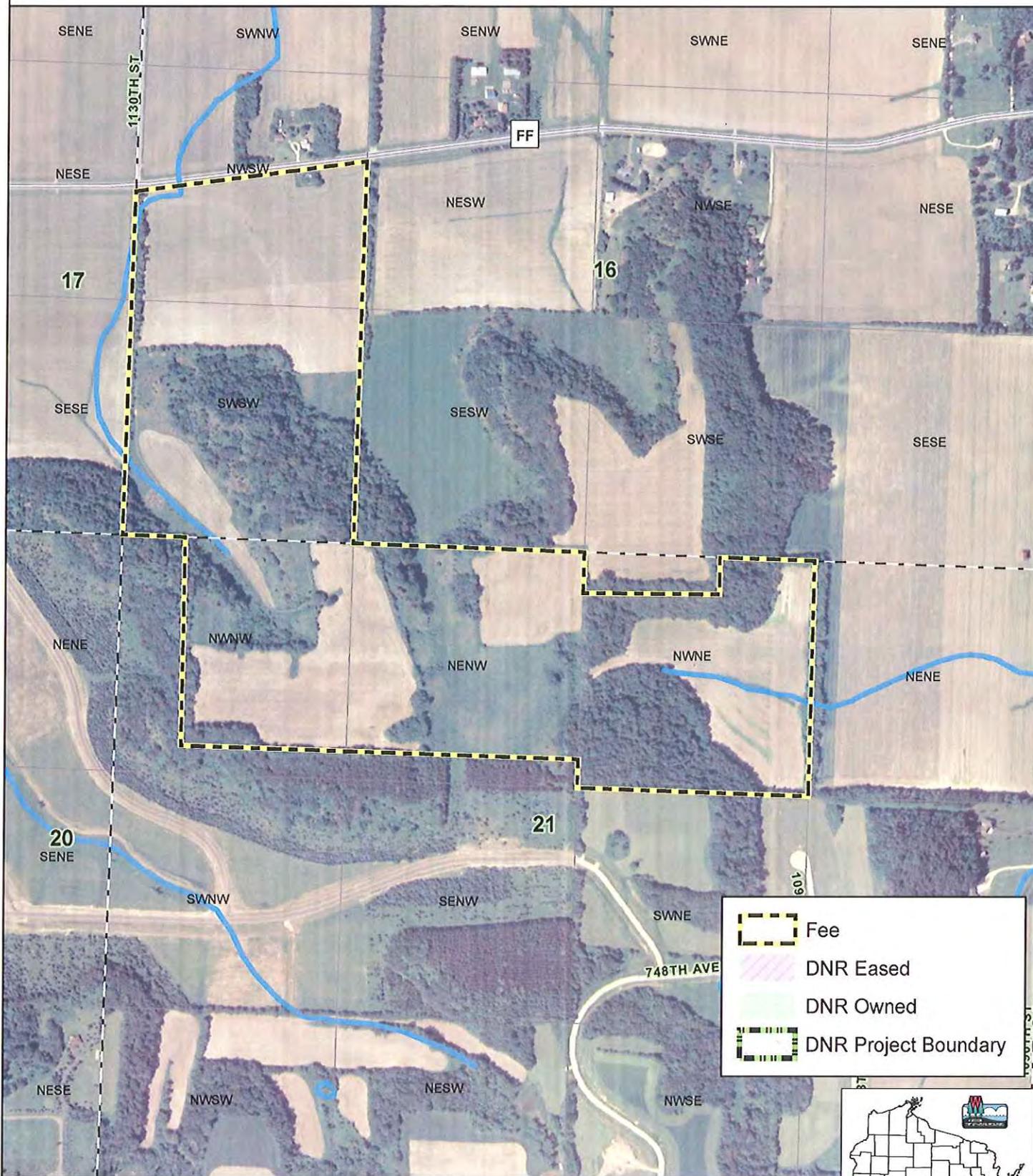
An expression of our appreciation is a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board. We present this certificate of sincere appreciation on behalf of present and future generations to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIRMAN

Kinnickinnic River Land Trust (Formerly Manion) Fee

T27N R19W Section 16 & 21, Town of Clifton, Pierce County, WI (158.43 Acres)



	Fee
	DNR Eased
	DNR Owned
	DNR Project Boundary



WM 60069

Statewide Wildlife Habitat



0 0.25 0.5 Miles

Created by Bureau of Facilities and Lands
Real Estate Section
October 26, 2009

**Kinnickinnic River
Land Trust
(Formerly Manion) Fee**

T27N R19W Section 16 & 21
Town of Clifton
Pierce County, WI
(158.43 Acres)
WM 60069



Statewide Wildlife
Habitat

	PLSS Section
	Project Boundary
	WDNR Owned
	WDNR Easement
	Fee
	State Natural Area



The DNR Managed Lands represent the boundaries of lands managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). DNR manages these lands through ownership, easement or leasehold. The spatial representation of the DNR Land Resources System maintained by the DNR, Bureau of Facilities and Lands (FL), 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 are open to the public for hunting and/or general public access, or may have specific limitations on management. 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/careers/office/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
October 26, 2009

