

SUBJECT: LAND DONATION - STATEWIDE NATURAL AREA PROGRAM – CHIPPEWA COUNTY

FOR: SEPTEMBER 2009 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: JJC Associates, LLP offered to donate 97.0 acres of land for the Statewide Natural Area Program in Chippewa County to the Department.

The land is located in Chippewa County about 10 miles northeast of the City of Bloomer in the Town of Bloomer. The parcel abuts Marshmiller Lake that is a 436-acre millpond with a maximum depth of 14 feet and mean depth of seven feet. The parcel is a good example of Northern Wet-Mesic Forest (51 acres) with two small pockets of Northern Hardwood Swamp (10 acres total) and an area on the edge of the lake that is a mix of Northern Sedge Meadow and Tag Alder Swamp (36 acres). In addition, there are 23 acres that are under water. The entire parcel is in good condition with few invasive species. Acquisition will protect the natural values of the site for future generations, allow natural area management, prevent incompatible development within the project boundary, and provide area for public use.

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. Natural areas are used for study by elementary to college-age school groups and researchers.

Accepting donation of this property will help protect the natural values and integrity of this ecosystem, allow natural area management and protect the site from development incompatible with the goals of the Natural Area program.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 97.0 acres of land for the Marshmiller Lake Cedars State Natural Area, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to JJC Associates, LLP and that an expression of appreciation be made a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

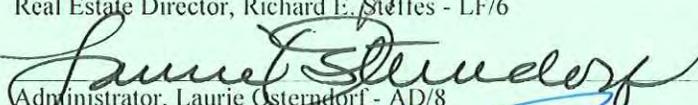
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|--|---|---|----------|
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment of Impact Statement Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>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

APPROVED:



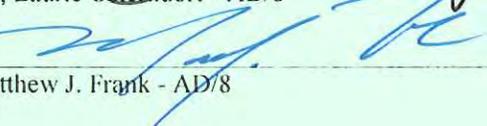
Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6

8-10-09
Date



Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/8

8/17/09
Date



Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/8

8-25-09
Date

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

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 10, 2009
 TO: Natural Resources Board
 FROM: Matthew J. Frank
 SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, JJC Associates, LLP
 Tract, File # NA 20031

FILE REF: NA 20031

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Statewide Natural Area
 Chippewa County

Grantor:

JJC Associates, LLP
 c/o Charles Selchert
 801 East Summit Avenue
 Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

Acres: 97.0Price: N/A; GiftInterest: Fee title donationImprovements: NoneLocation: The tract is located in about 10 miles northeast of the City of Bloomer in the Town of Bloomer.Land Description: The land is low.

<u>Covertypes Breakdown:</u>	<u>Type:</u>	<u>Acreage:</u>
	Lowland Woodland	51.0
	Lowland Woodland	10.0
	Wetland	36.0
	TOTAL:	97.0

Zoning: Shoreland zoningPresent Use: RecreationProposed Use: Resource protection and public recreationTenure: 7 yearsOption Date: July 24, 2009Stewardship 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 Department has an opportunity to accept a gift of 97.0 acres of land from JJC Associates, LLP for the Statewide Natural Area program in Chippewa County. Specifically, it would be for the Marshmiller Lake Cedars State Natural Area. The land is located in Chippewa County about 10 miles northeast of the City of Bloomer in the Town of Bloomer. The parcel abuts Marshmiller Lake that is a 436-acre millpond with a maximum depth of 14 feet and mean depth of seven feet. The parcel is a good example of Northern Wet-Mesic Forest (51 acres) with two small pockets of Northern Hardwood Swamp (10 acres total) and an area on the edge of the lake that is a mix of Northern Sedge Meadow and Tag Alder Swamp (36 acres). In addition, there are 23 acres that are under water. The entire parcel is in good condition with few invasive

species. Acquisition will protect the natural values of the site for future generations, allow natural area management, prevent incompatible development within the project boundary, and provide area for public use.

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The Department recommends purchase of this property to help protect the natural values and integrity of this ecosystem, to allow for natural area management and to protect the site from development incompatible with the goals of the Natural Area program.

3. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE STATE NATURAL AREA:

Established: 1972
Acres Purchased to Date: 39,291.18
Acquisition Goal: 41,000.0 acres
Percent Complete: 95.80%
Cost to Date: \$22,653,916.14

RECOMMENDED:


Richard E. Steffes

8-10-09
Date


Bureau of Legal Services

8/11/09
Date


Laurie Osterndorf

8/17/09
Date

RES:dv

Acknowledgment Of Gift

This is to certify that at its September 2009 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of 77 acres of land in Chippewa County for the Statewide Natural Area program from

**CHARLES SELCHERT
JJC ASSOCIATES, LLP**

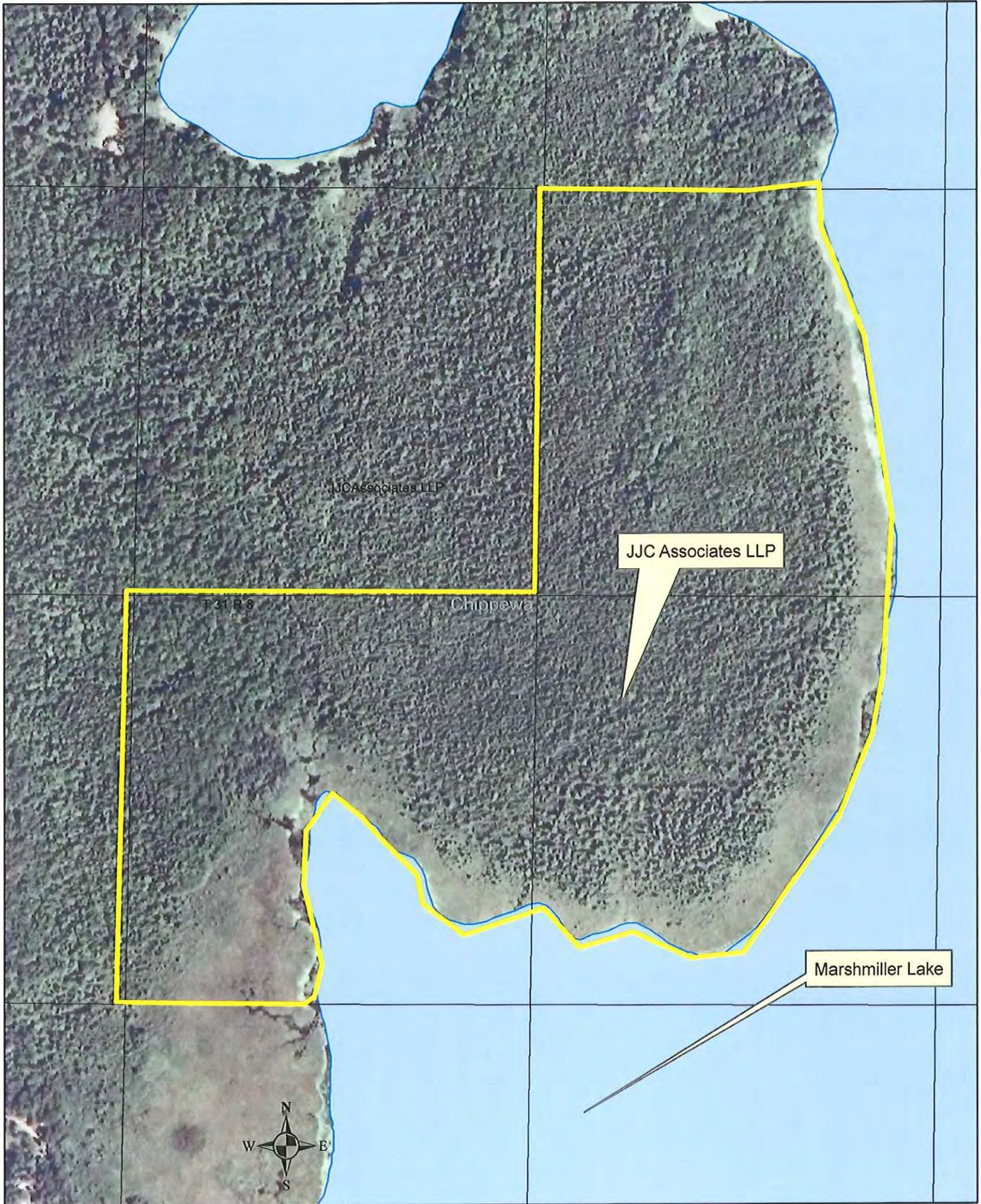
It is significant that organizations such as yours are interested in helping protect Wisconsin's natural heritage and contribute materially toward this end.

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 L. Thomas, CHAIR

JJC Associates LLP





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