

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Retirement Resolution - Signe L. Holtz

FOR: JANUARY, 2010 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Secretary Matt Frank

SUMMARY:

Signe L. Holtz retired on January 11, 2010 after completing 31 years of service to the citizens of Wisconsin.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt retirement resolution for Gregory Swanson

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- No Fiscal Estimate Required
- No Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No Background Memo

- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached
- Yes Attached

APPROVED:

Rebecca Schroeder
Bureau Director, Rebecca Schroeder (Acting)

12/21/09
Date

Laurie Osterndorf
Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf

12/21/09
Date

Matt Frank
Secretary, Matt Frank

12-23-09
Date

Retirement Resolution

Signe L. Holtz retired from the Department of Natural Resources on January 11, 2010 after 31 years of dedicated service to the State of Wisconsin.

Before coming to the Department, Signe graduated from the University of Wisconsin with a Masters in Landscape Architecture. Signe held a number of positions within the Department beginning in 1987 as a Natural Resources Specialist. She went on to serve as a Wildlife Biologist, Real Estate Agent and finally as the Director of the Bureau of Endangered Resources beginning in 2000.

As a member of the Real Estate program Signe wrote red folders for hundreds of DNR land acquisitions from 1992 through 1999. Among the many initiatives Signe guided were the development of the natural area feasibility studies for Lost Creek Bog, Jay Creek Pines, and Quincy Bluff and Wetlands, the first Stewardship Grants to Nonprofit Conservation Organizations under the Natural Areas grants program, and the dedication of hundreds of acres of natural areas across the state, providing permanent protection for future generations. She was the first leader of the Ecosystem Management Planning Team and shepherded the development and acceptance of the Wisconsin Ecological Landscapes map. Signe worked with the Natural Areas Preservation Council to establish baseline data collection protocols on forests and grasslands, implemented them on more than 30 state natural areas, and received the Geoffrey L. Emerson Leadership Award. Under Signe's leadership as Director, she led the development of the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail, and the first Wisconsin Wildlife Action Plan and Conservation Opportunity Areas map. She also expanded the mission of the Bureau of Endangered Resources through the establishment of new monitoring programs and the placement of Regional Ecologists in the field. Signe also represented the Department on various state and national teams in the areas of biodiversity, partnership development and climate change.

WHEREAS, Signe L. Holtz has served the people of the State of Wisconsin faithfully and well in the performance of duties and has thus earned the commendation due an exemplary public employee;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Natural Resources Board at its January 2010 meeting at Madison, Wisconsin, recognizes such faithful service with due respect and gratitude, and hereby makes this commendation a part of its official records.

Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIR