

SUBJECT: LAND DONATION – STATEWIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT – SHAWANO COUNTY

FOR: OCTOBER 2010 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: The Estate of Ruben L. Welder has provided for a donation of 292.27 acres of land to the Department for conservation purposes.

The parcel is located in Shawano County about two miles northeast of the City of Wittenburg and twenty-two miles south of the City of Antigo. Acquisition of this parcel will provide more opportunities for public recreation, including hiking, hunting and bird watching. Given the quality of this land with its forests, fields and stream, the Department would include it for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program.

The focus of the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program is to protect critical habitat that is in danger of being destroyed through incompatible land use. In addition, the parcel will provide opportunities for public recreation such as hunting, hiking and bird watching. Although some of the land will remain in agricultural use until 2014, the remainder can be open for timber management and public use right away.

The property lies in the Forest Transition Ecological Landscape in western Shawano County. From the Wildlife Action Plan, there are two major community management opportunities on this property, those being cold-water streams and northern mesic forest. In this ecological landscape, only 6% is in public ownership. With the closing of many parcels owned by Tigerton Lumber Company, there is little public land to hunt in this part of Shawano County. Deer are flourishing without the harvest on these lands, and deer damage permits have increased. There would be deer, bear, turkey, and small game hunting opportunities if this land becomes open to the public. The cold-water stream also has trout fishing opportunities. It is very close to Wittenberg and could also be used for environmental education by the Wittenberg/Birnamwood School District. The Mountain-Bay State Trail is located ½-mile from the northern boundary of this parcel.

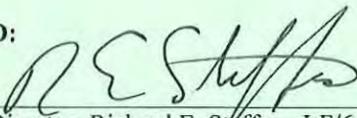
Acceptance of this donation helps protect the ecological diversity of the land and provides area for public recreation.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 292.27 acres of land for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to the Estate of Ruben L. Welder 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:



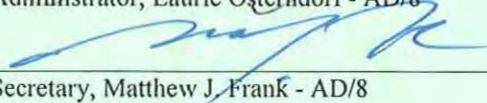
Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6

Date 9-17-10



Administrator, Laurie Osterdorf - AD/8

Date 9/24/10



Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/8

Date 10-13-10

- cc: S. Miller – LF/6
 R. Steffes – LF/6
 L. Ross – AD/8
 T. Hauge- WM/6
 R. Kazmierczak – NER/Green Bay

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 17, 2010 FILE REF: WM 60111

TO: Natural Resources Board

FROM: Matthew J. Frank *MJF*

SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, Estate of Ruben L. Welder Tract, File WM 60111

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Statewide Wildlife Habitat
Shawano County

Grantor:

Estate of Ruben L. Welder
c/o Attorney Arnold Greenhill
110 South Main Street
Shawano, WI 54166

Acres: 292.27Price: Gift of landInterest: Fee title giftImprovements: None

Location: The tract is located in Shawano County in the Town of Wittenburg about two miles northeast of the City of Wittenburg and twenty-two miles south of the City of Antigo.

Land Description: The subject land is level to rolling.

<u>Covertime Breakdown:</u>	Type:	Acreage:
	Wooded Uplands	100.00
	Cropland	192.27
	TOTAL:	292.27

Present Use: VacantProposed Use: Resource protection and recreationTenure: 15 yearsOption Date: August 30, 2010

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 parcel is located in Shawano County about two miles northeast of the City of Wittenburg and twenty-two miles south of the City of Antigo. Acquisition of this parcel will provide more opportunities for public recreation, including hiking, hunting and bird watching. Given the quality of this land with its forests, fields and stream, the Department would include it for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program.

The focus of the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program is to protect critical habitat that is in danger of being destroyed through incompatible land use. In addition, the parcel will provide opportunities for public recreation such as hunting, hiking and bird watching. Although some of the land will remain in agricultural use until 2014, the remainder can be open for timber management and public use right away.

The property lies in the Forest Transition Ecological Landscape in western Shawano County. From the Wildlife Action Plan, there are two major community management opportunities on this property, those being cold-water streams and northern mesic forest. In this ecological landscape, only 6% is in public ownership. With the closing of many parcels owned by Tigerton Lumber Company, there is little public land to hunt in this part of Shawano County. Deer are flourishing without the harvest on these lands, and deer damage permits have increased. There would be deer, bear, turkey, and small game hunting opportunities if this land becomes open to the public. The cold-water stream also has trout fishing opportunities. It is very close to Wittenberg and could also be used for environmental education by the Wittenberg/Birnamwood School District. The Mountain-Bay State Trail is located 1/2-mile from the northern boundary of this parcel.

The Department recommends this donation be accepted due to the ecological diversity of the land, opportunity for public recreation and that it will complement other department-owned lands within the Embarrass Fishery Area to the north of this parcel.

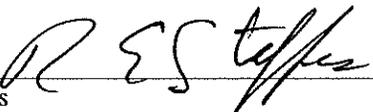
3. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE STATEWIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT:

Established: 1991
Acres Purchased to Date: 4,111.54
Acquisition Goal: 6,000.0 Acres
Percent Complete: 68.53%
Cost to Date: \$2,490,902.13

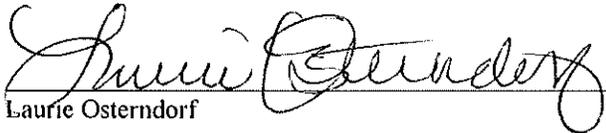
RECOMMENDED:


Richard E. Steffes

9-17-10
Date


Bureau of Legal Services

9-21-10
Date


Laurie Osterndorf

9/24/10
Date

RES:dv

Acknowledgment Of Gift

This is to certify that at its October 2010 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of 292.27 acres of land in Shawano County for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area from

ESTATE OF RUBEN L. WELDER

It is significant that Mr. Welder chose in his estate to donate lands and was interested in helping protect Wisconsin's natural heritage and contribute materially toward this end.

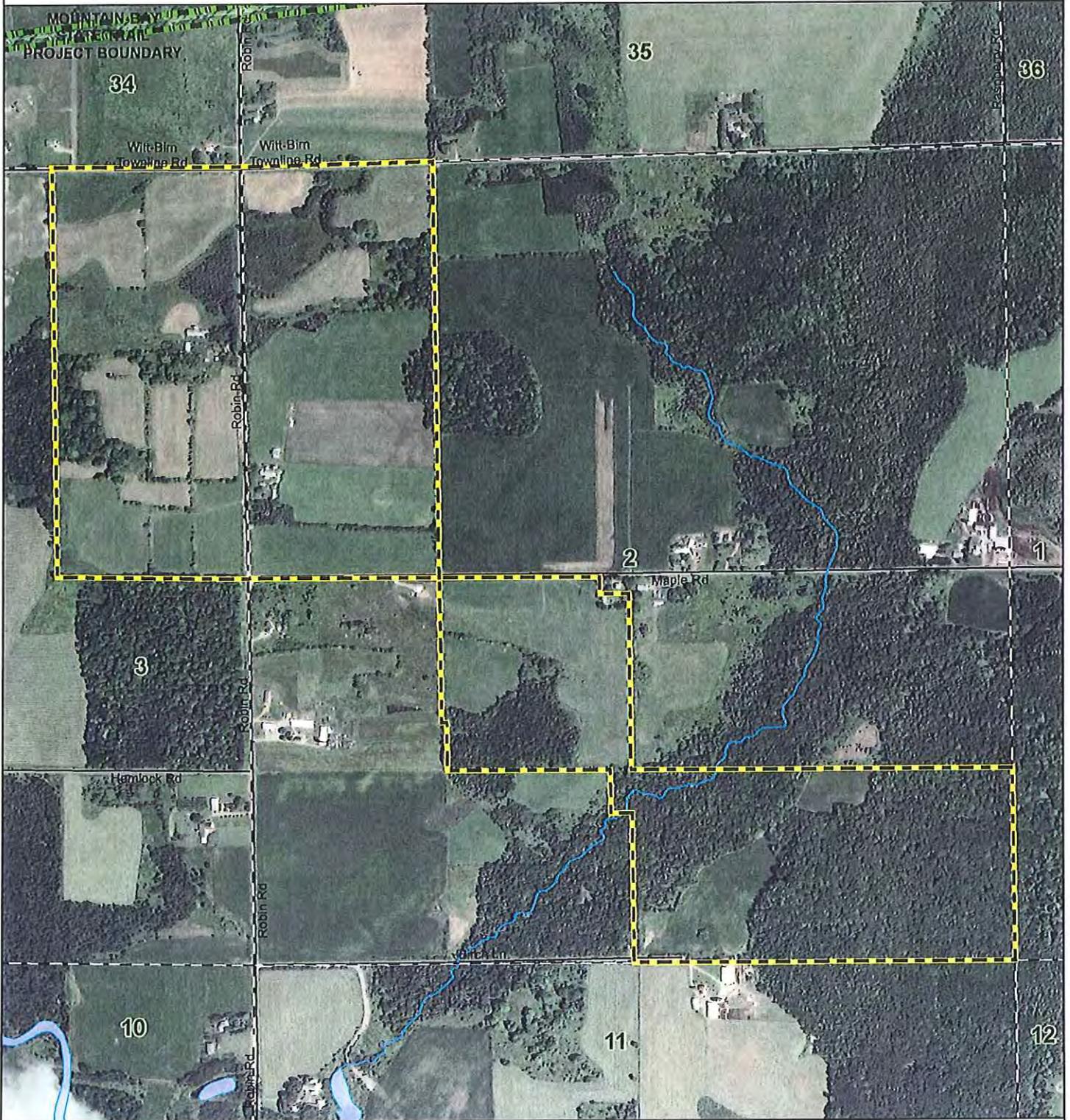
An expression of our appreciation is a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board. We present this certificate of sincere appreciation on behalf of present and future generations to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIRMAN

Ruben Welder Estate Parcel

T27N R11E Sections 2 & 3, Town of Wittenberg, Shawano County, WI (292.27 Acres)



Legend

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

Subject Property

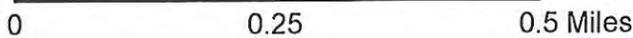
WM 60111

Statewide Wildlife Habitat

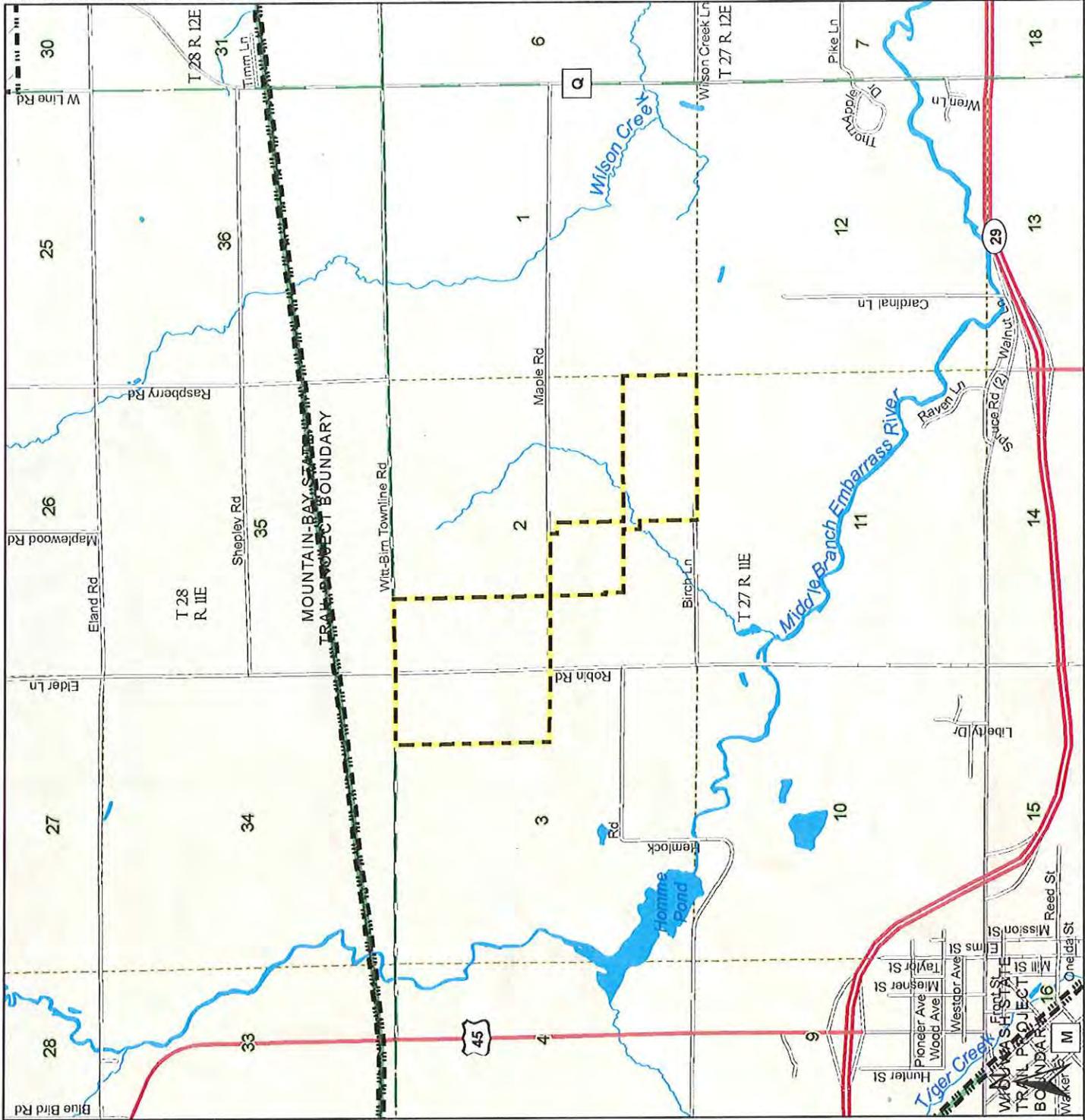
- Fee Simple
- Easement
- Ingress/Egress

State of Wisconsin

September 10, 2018
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands



Use Advisory: Neither the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) nor any of its employees shall be held liable for any improper or incorrect use of the information as/for 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 DNR provides mapped information on an "as is" basis. The DNR 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.

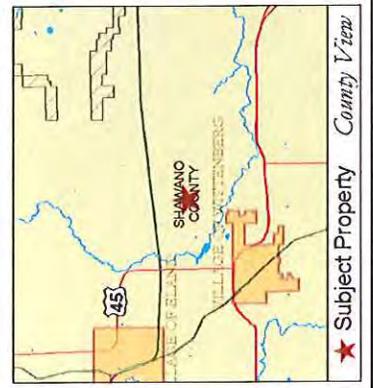


Ruben Welder Estate Parcel
WM 60111
 Statewide Wildlife Habitat
 . . .
 T27N R11E Sections 2 & 3
 Town of Wittenberg
 Shawano County, WI
 (292.27 Acres)

Subject Property
 Fee Simple
 Easement
 Ingress/Egress

Legend

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



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 Credit Land Records System maintained by the DNR, Bureau of Facilities and Lands (FL), and may include errors and omissions. It 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/casr/servicecenters/locations.htm>. Updates to this data set are ongoing, and will be incorporated into future versions when available.