

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

SUBJECT: Request Approval of the Re-designation of the Sandhill Station Campground from State Wildlife Area to State Park Property and Boundary Expansion for the Glacial Drumlin State Trail

FOR: SEPTEMBER 2012 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY:

The Sandhill Station Campground in Jefferson County was purchased 1991 to provide a rustic campground for users of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail. The property is located in and adjacent to the Lake Mills Wildlife Area project boundary and so was initially acquired as part of that project. The parks program has developed and managed this parcel as a rustic campground since 1993. Re-designation to State Park property, as part of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail will allow the parks and recreation program to fully manage this property as State Park property.

With this re-designation, 96.7 acres of State Wildlife Area would become State Park property. The residual department land would remain State Wildlife Area.

The property is located approximately one mile south of the Glacial Drumlin Trail Headquarters in Lake Mills. The Sandhill Station Campground has 15 rustic campsites, one group campsite, and a non-motorized boat launch onto Mud Lake.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve the re-designation of the Sandhill Station Campground to State Park and approve a boundary expansion of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail to include this property.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

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

APPROVED:

Kimberly Currier
Bureau Director,

8/20/12
Date

[Signature]
Administrator,

8/20/12
Date

Cathy Stepp
Secretary, Cathy Stepp

8/23/12
Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Dan Schuller, PR/6
Tom Hauge, WM/6
Eric Lobner, SCR Fitchburg

Brigit Brown, PR/6

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 20, 2012

TO: Natural Resources Board

FROM: Cathy Stepp

SUBJECT: Change in Designation for Sandhill Station Campground from a Wildlife Property to a State Park Property

In 1991, acquisition of Sandhill Station Campground, an approximately 100-acre parcel of land in Jefferson County, was approved by the Natural Resources Board and subsequently purchased by the department. It was included as part of the Lake Mills State Wildlife Area since the property is partially within that project boundary. Prior to DNR purchase of this property, it served as a private campground with approximately 100 sites. The department purchased this property with the intent of providing a rustic campground for users of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail. The parks program has developed and managed this parcel as a rustic campground and nonmotorized boat launch since 1993, consistent with the Glacial Drumlin State Trail master plan.

The property is located approximately one mile south of the Glacial Drumlin Trail Headquarters in Lake Mills. The Sandhill Station Campground has 15 rustic campsites, one group campsite and a non-motorized boat launch onto Mud Lake. The parks program has spent a significant amount of money to improve the site, such as: paved roadway and parking lots, installation of new toilet buildings, new well, and construction of an accessible boardwalk to provide shoreline fishing opportunities. Ongoing (parks) staff time is required to manage, monitor, and maintain the property. Re-designation of the property would allow the staff who supervise the campground to be able to manage admission to the property and generate revenue via the vehicle admission fees that are allowed to be charged on parks properties.

The property is currently designated as part of the Lake Mills State Wildlife Area; however it is being managed as a State Park property (State Trails are a subset of State Parks), by the parks program. The area Wildlife Biologist and the Region Wildlife Supervisor have approved the re-designation of this parcel from Wildlife Area to State Park designation. A memo to this effect is included with this packet.

The department recommends changing the designation for the Sandhill Station Campground, currently operating as the Sandhill Station Campground, from State Wildlife Area designation to State Park designation, and expanding the boundary of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail to include this property.

DATE: 08/15/12

FILE REF: Property Re-designation

TO: Dan Schuller – Bureau Director, Parks & Recreation

FROM: Eric Lobner – District Wildlife Supervisor

SUBJECT: Re-designation of Sandhill Station Campground

Wildlife management staff has reviewed the proposal to re-designate ^{910.7 ac} 120 acres of the Lake Mills Wildlife Area, currently the Sandhill Station Campground, as State Park designation and part of the Glacial Drumlin State Trail (GDST) project boundary. After discussing this with the Wildlife Biologist we concur with the recommendation to re-designate this area to State Park property.

This property was previously a private campground and was purchased jointly between Wildlife Management and Parks and Recreation to provide a rustic campground for the users of the GDST. The staff of the GDST has maintained this area as the Sandhill Station State Campground since the property was acquired in 1991. This property is located adjacent to or with in the Lake Mills wildlife area project boundary and therefore was initially included within that project boundary. Re-designation to state Park property will allow the parks and recreation program to fully manage this property as a state Park property.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you

Tom Hauge

Thomas Hauge
Bureau Director, Wildlife Management

8/15/12
Date



Proposed Redesignation of Subject area from Lake Mills WA to Glacial Drumlin ST Jefferson County

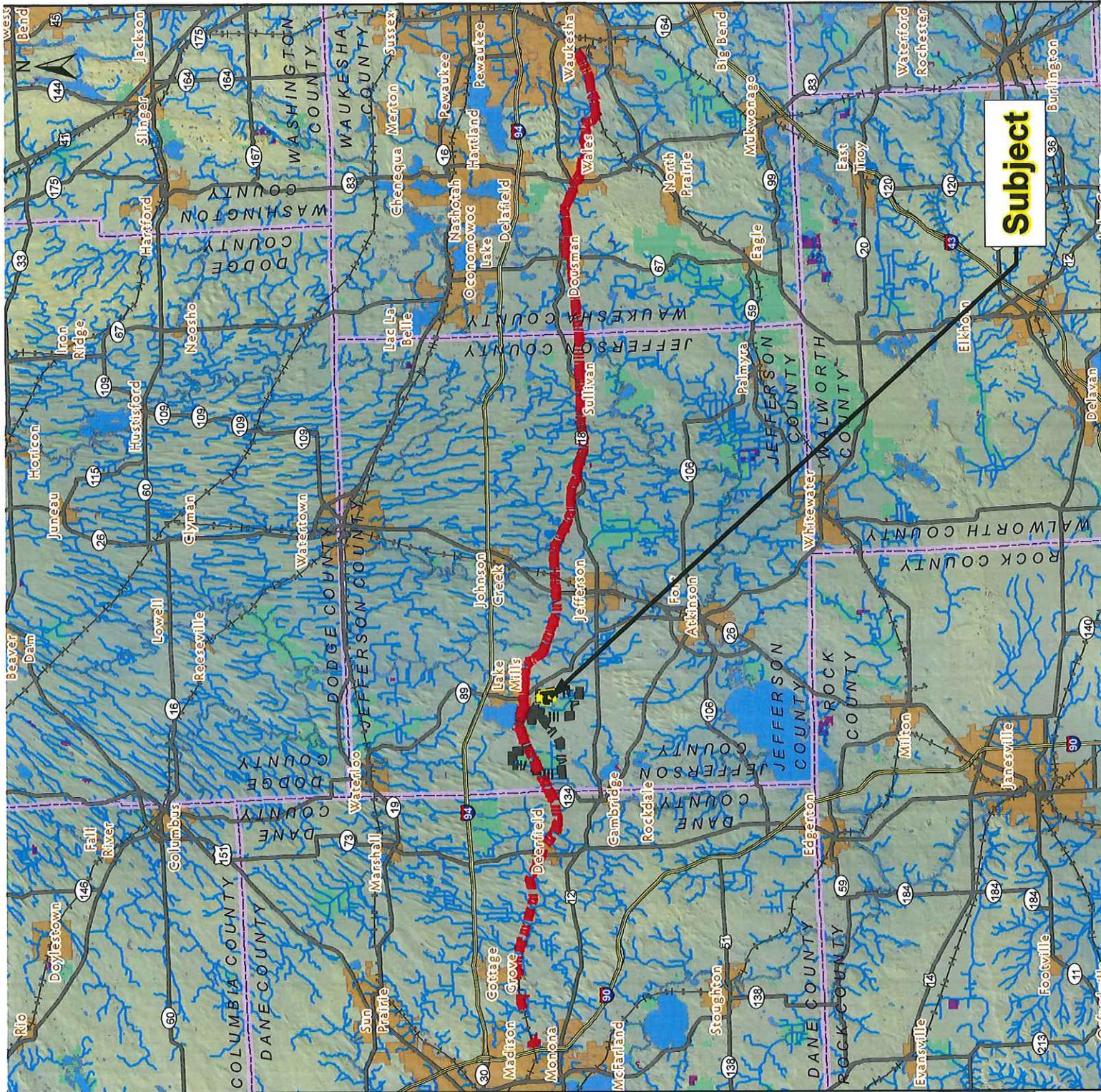
T7N R13E Sec 25 & 26
Jefferson County

Proposed Redesignation

-  WDNR Owned
-  WDNR Easement
-  Lake Mills Wildlife Area
-  Project Boundary
-  Glacial Drumlin State Trail Project Boundary



★ Location of Property



Proposed Redesignation of Subject area from Lake Mills WA to Glacial Drumlin ST Overview 1

T07N R13E Sec 25 & 26
Jefferson County

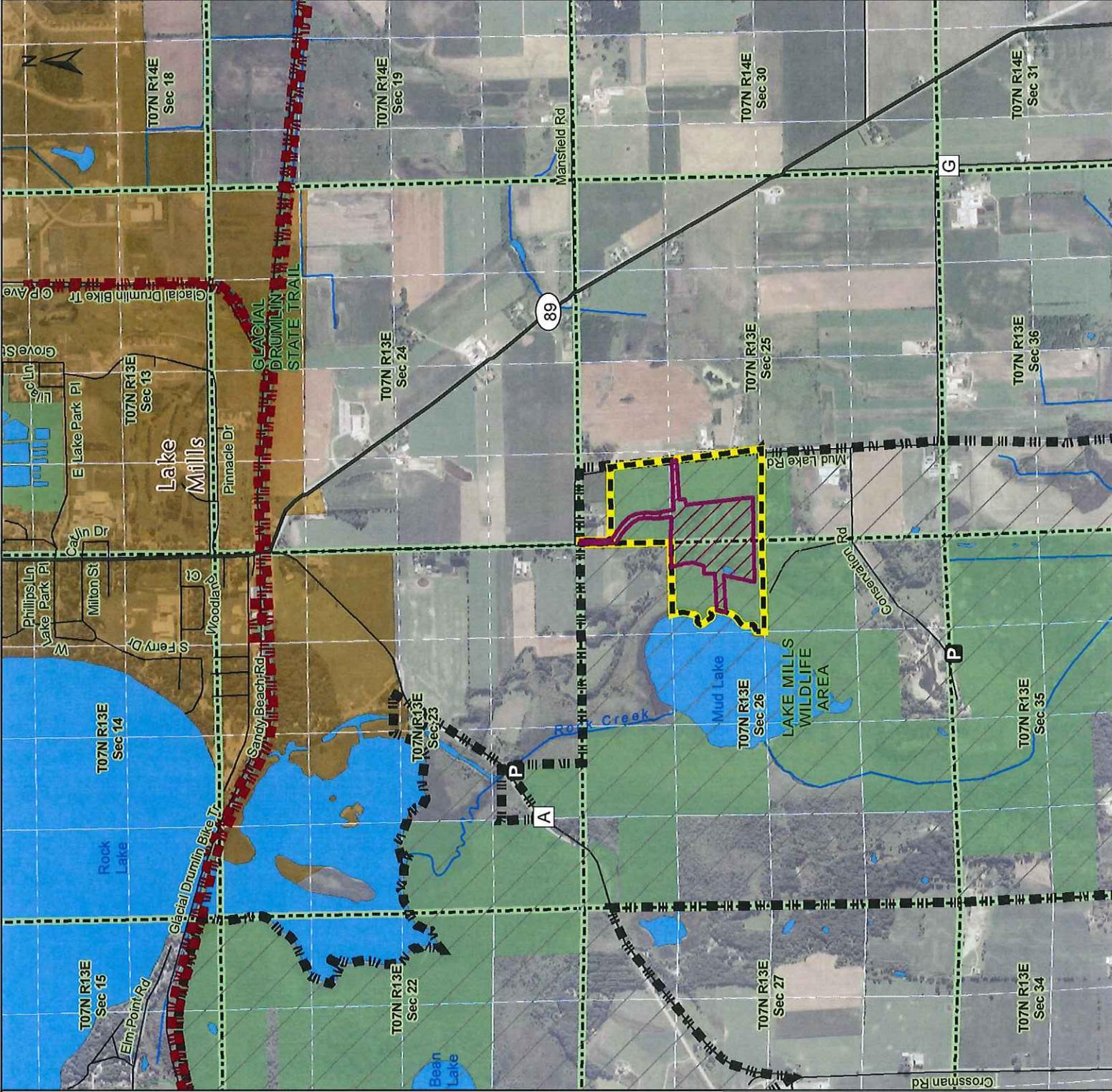
-  Proposed Redesignation
-  Designated Use Area

-  WDNR Owned
-  WDNR Easement
-  DNR Project Boundary
-  Glacial Drumlin State Trail Project Boundary
-  PLSS Section Line
-  QQ Section Boundary
-  Parking

0 600
Feet



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: Aug 22, 2012 kmh



Proposed Redesignation of Subject area from Lake Mills WA to Glacial Drumlin ST Jefferson County

T7N R13E Sec 25 & 26
Jefferson County

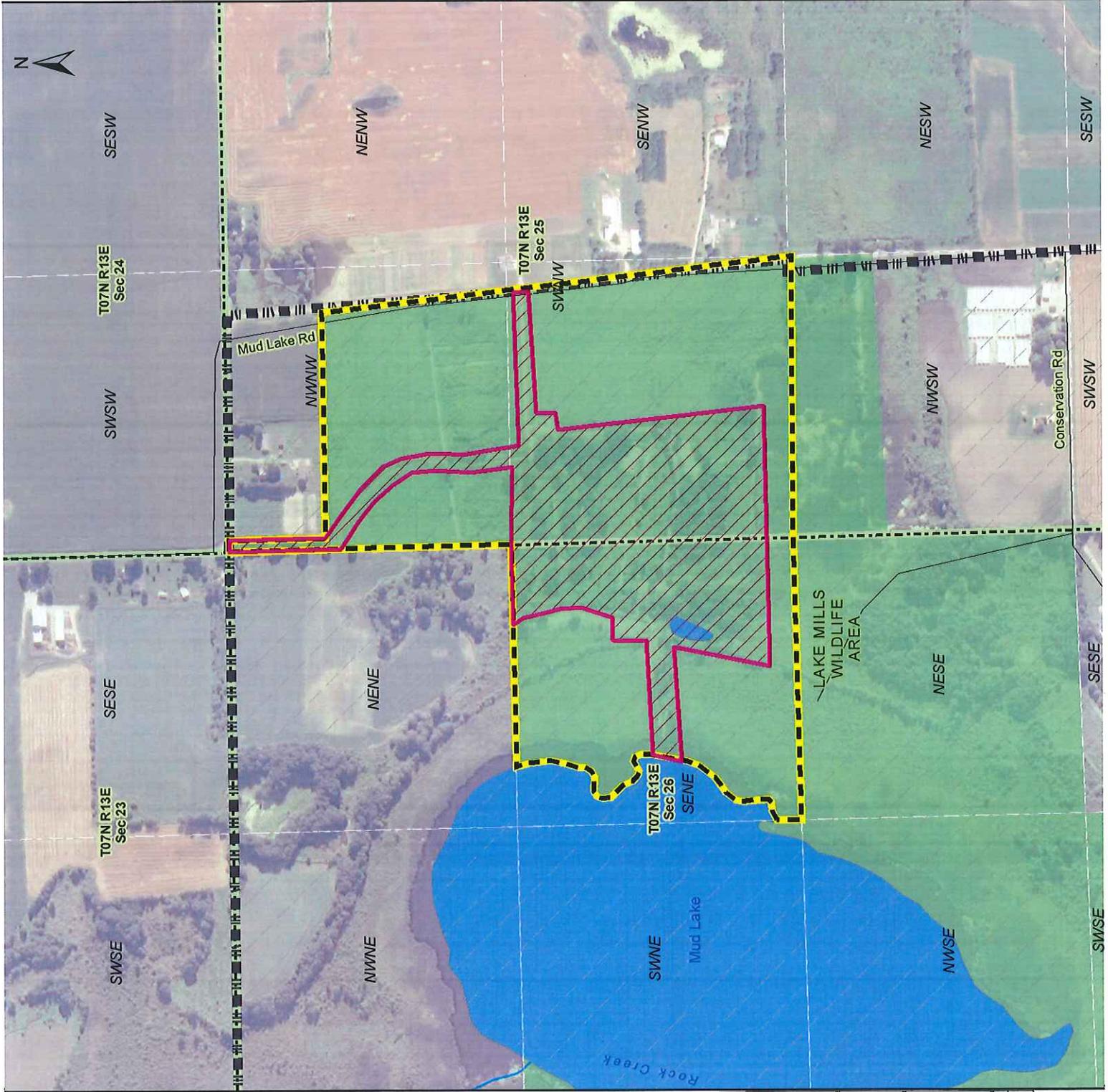
-  Proposed Redesignation
-  Designated Use Area

-  WDNR Owned
-  WDNR Easement
-  DNR Project Boundary
-  Glacial Drumlin State Trail Project Boundary
-  PLSS Section Line
-  QQ Section Boundary



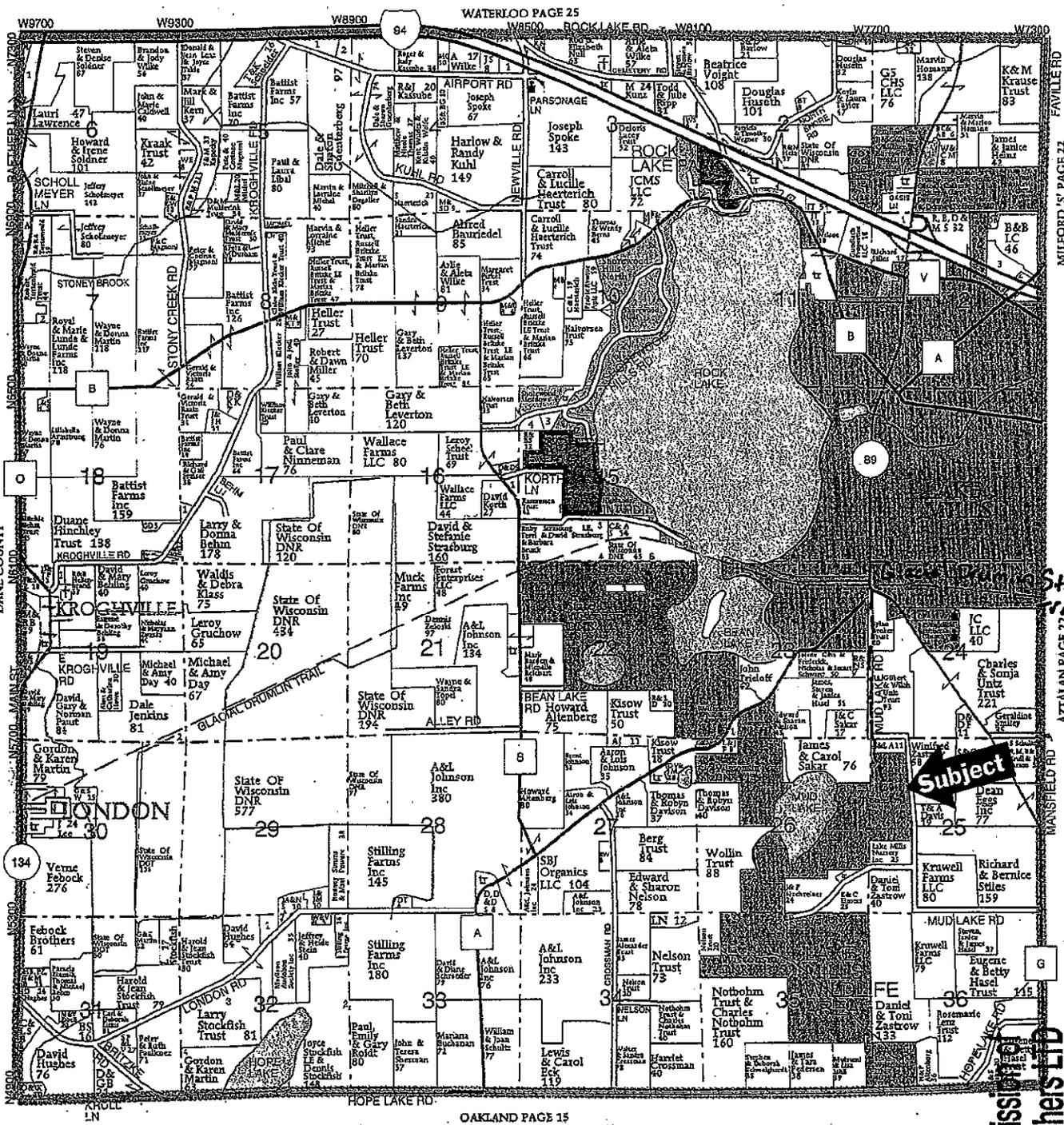
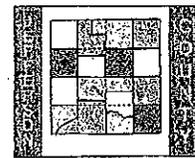
 Location of Property

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Bureau of Facilities of Lands
Map Created: May 21, 2012 kmh





LAKE MILLS T-7-N • R-13-E



To get to the Sandhill Station Campground,
Glacial Drumlin State Trail users exit the trail at
Mud Lake Road and travel 3/4 mile down Mud
Lake Road to the Sandhill Station Campground.

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