

**Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item**

**SUBJECT:** Donation acceptance – The Willow River OWLs(Organization for Wildlife Learning)

The Willow River OWLs(Organization for Wildlife Learning) will donate \$30,000. This donation will be used to pay the salary of the environmental educator and a seasonal assistant at Willow River State Park.

**FOR:** August 2013 Board meeting

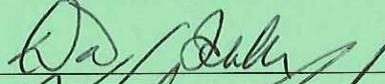
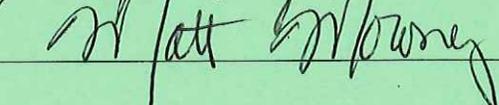
**TO BE PRESENTED BY:** Secretary Stepp

**SUMMARY:**

Visitor attendance was estimated at over 600,000 for the calendar year of 2012 with most of that number appearing on weekends. Providing interpretive programs for the public during the peak use season has been possible with the participation of the OWLs. 2013 is the sixteenth year that the OWLs have funded the environmental educator program with total donations exceeding \$200,000 over those years. The environmental educator, headquartered at the Nature Center, provides nature programs for schools and young people throughout the year along with public programs during the summer months.

In addition, the OWLs have funded playgrounds, accessible fishing piers, ski trail grooming equipment, and numerous other minor enhancements to benefit visitors in all seasons.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board accept the generous donation of \$30,000 from The Willow River OWLs(Organization for Wildlife Learning)

Approved by	Signature	Date
Dan Schuller, Bureau Director		7/30/13
Kurt Thiede, Administrator		7/31/13
Cathy Stepp, Secretary		7/31/13

cc: Board Liaison - AD/8  
Department rule coordinator – LS/8

# **Acknowledgment of Gift**

This is to certify that at its August 2013 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted a gift of \$30,000 from:

## **The Willow River OWLs(Organization for Wildlife Learning)**

This donation will be used to pay the salary of the environmental educator and a seasonal assistant at Willow River State Park.

Our expression of appreciation on behalf of Wisconsin's citizens is hereby recorded in the official records of the Natural Resources Board. We acknowledge this generous contribution.

Natural Resources Board

Preston D. Cole, Chair