

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS AND DECISION ON THE NEED  
FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

Form 1600-0 Rev. 6-90

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

District or Bureau Northern Region
Type List Designation:

NOTE TO REVIEWERS: This document is a DNR environmental analysis that evaluates probable environmental effects and decides on the need for an EIS. The attached analysis includes a description of the proposal and the affected environment. The DNR has reviewed the attachments and, upon certification, accepts responsibility for their scope and content to fulfill requirements in s. NR 150.22, Wis. Adm. Code. Your comments should address completeness, accuracy or the EIS decision. For your comments to be considered, they must be received by the contact person before 4:30 p.m., \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Contact Person Thomas A. Duke
Title County Forest Liaison
Address 1635 Neva Road, P.O. Box 310
Antigo, WI 54409
Telephone Number (715)627-4317

Applicant: Langlade County

Address: Langlade County Fairgrounds, 1633 Neva Road, Antigo, WI 54409

Title of Proposal: County Forest Land Withdrawal for Gravel Pit

Location: County Langlade City/Town/Village Town of Ainsworth  
Township 33 North, Range 12E Section(s) 34, NESW

**PROJECT SUMMARY - DNR Review Information Based on:**

List documents, plans, studies or memos referred to and provide a brief overview

It is proposed to withdraw 40.00 acres of Langlade County Forest land from the County Forest Law, WI Statute 28.11. The withdrawn land to be maintained in county ownership for the purpose of creating a gravel pit to be used by the Langlade County Highway department. There will be a 29.64 acre piece of county owned land along the Eau Claire River entered into the County Forest Program to help offset the loss of County Forest Land acreage.

**DOCUMENTS**

- County Forest Compartment Map of land to be withdrawn (2 sheets)
- County Plat Book Map of land to be withdrawn
- 1997 Aerial Photograph of land to be withdrawn
- Langlade County Zoning Map of land to be withdrawn
- County Plat Book Map of land to be entered
- 1997 Aerial Photograph of land to be entered

**DNR EVALUATION OF PROJECT SIGNIFICANCE (complete each item)**

1. Environmental Effects and Their Significance  
Discuss the short-term and long-term environmental effects of the proposed project, including secondary effects, particularly to geographically scarce resources such as historic or cultural resources, scenic and recreational resources, prime agricultural lands, threatened or endangered species or ecologically sensitive areas, and the significance of these effects. (The reversibility of an action affects the extent or degree of impact.)  
  
The short-term effects will include loss of flora and fauna due to excavating of the gravel pit. Associated short-term effects will be noise and dust emissions both in the gravel pit and on the associated town road. These short term effects are minimized due to the location of this proposed site which is in a large 6,000 acre block of county land with the closest permanent residence being 1.5 miles to the west where prevailing winds will keep noise and dust away from. Long-term effects will include loss of aspen/northern hardwood forest, eventually being replaced by red pine or another even-aged species.
2. Significance of Cumulative Effects.  
Discuss the significance of reasonably anticipated cumulative effects on the environment (and energy usage, if applicable). Consider cumulative effects from repeated projects of the same type. Would the cumulative effects be more severe or substantially change the quality of the environment? Include other activities planned or proposed in the area that would compound effects on the environment.

There are no other gravel pits proposed by Langlade County, as this site is to cover the needs of the northeastern part of Langlade County. Increased heavy equipment traffic is anticipated on the associated town road, thus causing increased traffic dangers and road maintenance needs.

3. Significance of Risk

- a. Explain the significance of any unknowns which create substantial uncertainty in predicting effects on the quality of the environment. What additional studies or analysis would eliminate or reduce these unknowns?

No other studies or analysis is planned at this time. The incidence of unknowns, due to the nature of a gravel pit operation, should not cause any significant risk.

- b. Explain the environmental significance of reasonably anticipated operating problems such as malfunctions, spills, fires or other hazards (particularly those relating to health or safety). Consider reasonable detection and emergency response, and discuss the potential for these hazards.

Possible malfunctions include equipment breakdowns/accidents with possible diesel and oil spillage, fires, or other hazards associated with the use of excavating equipment and dump trucks.

4. Significance of Precedent

Would a decision on this proposal influence future decisions or foreclose options that may additionally affect the quality of the environment? Describe any conflicts the proposal has with plans or policy of local, state or federal agencies. Explain the significance of each.

Future decisions would be approved or disapproved based on their own merit; precedence would not be a significant factor. There will be a 29.64 acre piece of county owned land along the Eau Claire River entered into the County Forest Program to help offset the loss of County Forest Land acreage.

[optional, if applicable]

The Department has determined that the proposed project is consistent with the state's water quality standards for wetlands and is in compliance with the state's water quality standards for wetlands and is in compliance with Ch. NR 103, Wisconsin Administrative Code.

5. Significance of Controversy Over Environmental Effects

Discuss the effects on the quality of the environment, including socio-economic effects, that are (or are likely to be) highly controversial, and summarize the controversy.

Controversy may arise out of the loss of county forest land and aspen/northern hardwood timber type. Improved road conditions throughout the county will result from the use of this gravel pit, thus increasing vehicle access to areas of the county forest.

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## ALTERNATIVES

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Briefly describe the impacts of no action and of alternatives that would decrease or eliminate adverse environmental effects. (Refer to any appropriate alternatives from the applicant or anyone else.)

The county highway committee has explored alternative sites for 2 years prior to the proposed withdrawal of this site with no other suitable site available. An alternative of looking for a suitable gravel site on private lands would be cost prohibitive for the county taxpayers.

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## SUMMARY OF ISSUE IDENTIFICATION ACTIVITIES

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List agencies, citizen groups and individuals contacted regarding the project (include DNR personnel and title) and summarize public contacts, completed or proposed.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comment Summary</u>
4-14-1998	Langlade County Highway Commissioner	Attended County Forestry and Parks Committee meeting and asked committee for use of land.
4-28-1998	Langlade County Forestry & Parks Committee	Toured proposed withdrawal site, 4 of 5 supervisors in attendance.
5-4-1998	Langlade County Forestry & Parks Committee	Approved resolution #93-98 to withdraw proposed land, sent to full county board.
5-16-1998	Langlade County Board of Supervisors	Adopted resolution #93-98 to withdraw proposed site by a vote of 21 ayes to 0 noes.
7-22-1998	Antigo DNR	Received withdrawal application packet from county forest administrator.
8-4-1998	Rhineland DNR	Received withdrawal application packet from county forest liaison.
8-25-1998	Langlade County Forest Administrator	Received letter with several questions concerning withdrawal.
9-8-1998	David Heath, State of Wisconsin DNR	National Heritage Inventory, stated there were no threatened or endangered species on the proposed site.
9-9-1998	Rhineland DNR	Received answered questions from county forest administrator.

On-site inspection or past experience with site by evaluator.

*Mike Benfante*

DECISION (This decision is not final until certified by the appropriate authority)

In accordance with s. 1.11, Stats., and Ch. NR 150, Adm. Code, the Department is authorized and required to determine whether it has complied with s. 1.11, Stats., and Ch. NR 150, Wis. Adm. Code.

Complete either A or B below:

A. EIS Process Not Required



The attached analysis of the expected impacts of this proposal is of sufficient scope and detail to conclude that this is not a major action which would significantly affect the quality of the human environment. In my opinion, therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required prior to final action by the Department on this project.

B. Major Action Requiring the Full EIS Process



The proposal is of such magnitude and complexity with such considerable and important impacts on the quality of the human environment that it constitutes a major action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Signature of Evaluator <i>Thomas A. Duke</i>	Date Signed 1-11-99
Noted: District Staff Specialist or Bureau Director	Date Signed

Number of responses to news release or other notice: 0

CERTIFIED TO BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH WEPA	
District Director or Director of BEAR (or designee) <i>James Prof...</i>	Date Signed 1/29/99

NOTICE OF APPEAL RIGHTS

If you believe that you have a right to challenge this decision, you should know that Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules establish time periods within which requests to review Department decisions must be filed.

For judicial review of a decision pursuant to sections 227.52 and 227.53, Stats., you have 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the Department, to file your petition with the appropriate circuit court and serve the petition on the Department. Such a petition for judicial review shall name the Department of Natural Resources as the respondent.

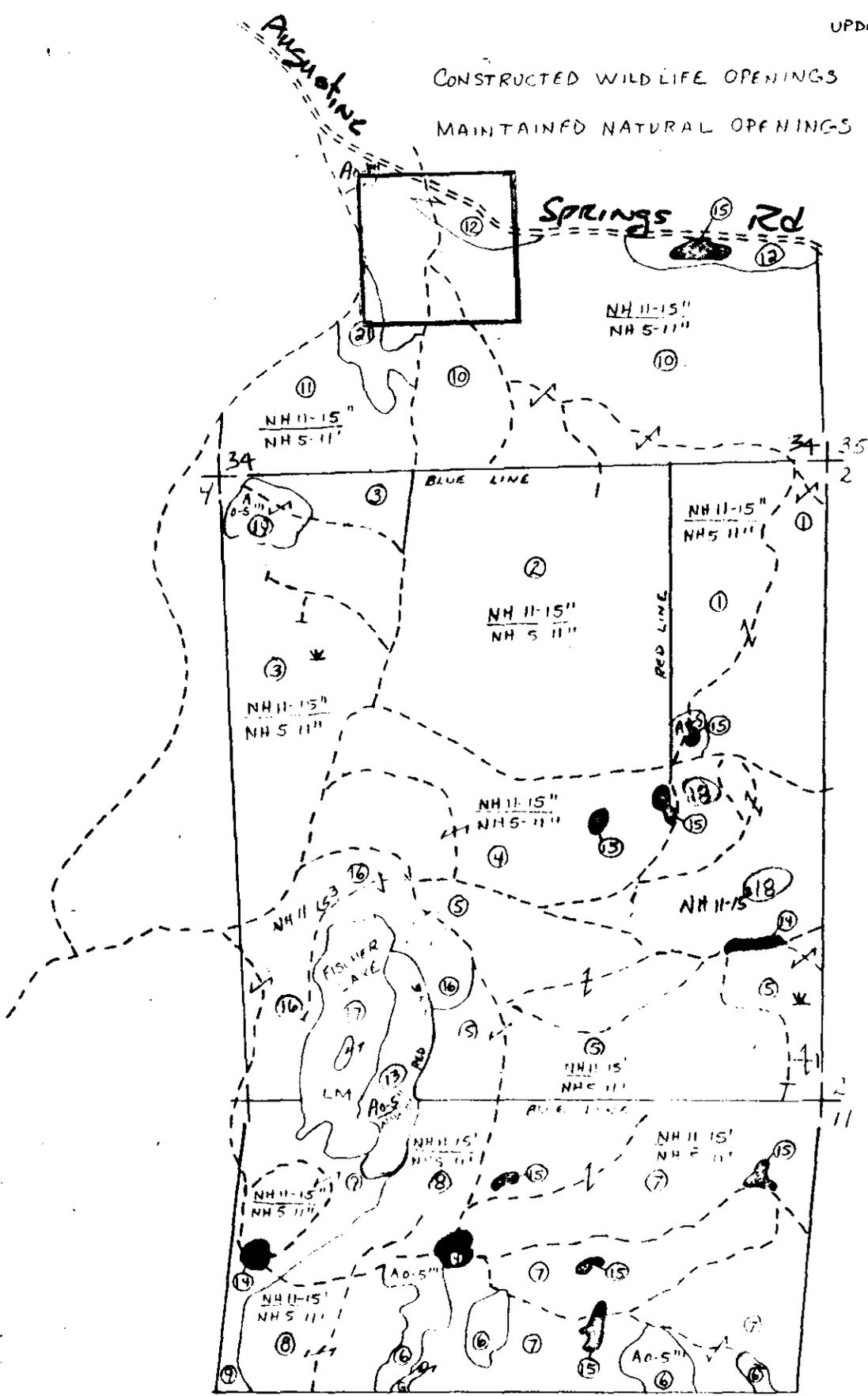
To request a contested case hearing pursuant to section 227.42, Stats., you have 30 days after the decision is mailed, or otherwise served by the Department, to serve a petition for hearing on the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources. The filing of a request for a contested case hearing is not a prerequisite for judicial review and does not extend the 30-day period for filing a petition for judicial review.

Note: Not all Department decisions respecting environmental impact, such as those involving solid waste or hazardous waste facilities under sections 144.43 to 144.47 and 144.60 to 144.74, Stats., are subject to the contested case hearing provisions of section 227.42, Stats.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 227.48(2), Stats.

CONSTRUCTED WILD LIFE OPENINGS ●

MAINTAINED NATURAL OPENINGS ○



COMPARTMENT 146 LANGLADE COUNTY FOREST (UPDATE)

1256 ACRES MAPPED BY MARK HEYDE 6-22-84

SECTION 34, T33N, R12E SECTION 3, 10 T32N, R12E SCALE = 1: 16240

PHOTOS: 1975 B+W 12 FLIGHT 13 # 1309

PROPERTY: ( 3400) LANGLADE COUNTY  
COMPARTMENT: 146 WILDLIFE HABITAT UNIT: 013

-STAND- PREF NO	PRIM TYPE	TIMBER SIZE	SECD TYPE	TIMBER SIZE	ACRES	ORIG YEAR	HT	DBH	SI	BASAL AREA	CO RD	BOARD FEET	B J	TRACT NO YY	EXAM YEAR	----- MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES -----				
																TREAT TYPE	PLANNED TREAT CODE	SCHEDULED YEAR	SCHEDULED YEARS	
1	NH	1115 2	NH	0511 2	87	0000	0	13	0	76	10	2,500	A		1995	RA	2	0	0	2010
2	NH	1115 2	NH	0511 2	146	0000	0	10		85	8	3,000	A		1983	RA	2	0	0	1998 1998
3	NH	1115 2	NH	0511 2	107	0000	0	10		116	10	4,400	A	34-96						
4	NH	1115 2	NH	0511 2	85		0	11	0	82	9	4,000	A	53-97						
5	NH	1115 2	NH	0511 2	127	0000	0	11		116	7	3,500	A	35-96						
6	A	0105 3	NH	0105 1	21	1981	4	0	65	3	0	0	A		1984	RE	1	0	0	2023
7	NH	1115 1	NH	0511 1	175	0000	0	9		65	7	1,500	A		1984	RA	2	0	0	2005 2005
8	NH	1115 1	NH	0511 1	70	0000	0	8		45	4	1,300	A		1972	RA	2	0	0	2002 2002
9	NH	1115 2	NH	0511 2	38	0000	0	10		85	9	3,000	A	31-97						
10	NH	0511 3	NH	1115 1	162	0000	0	9	0	84	15	1,260	A		1994	RA	2	0	0	2006
11	NH	1115 2	NH	0511 1	66	0000	0	9		80	6	3,000	A	15-95						
12	A	0001 3			17	1995	6	1	60	3	0	0	A		1995	RE	1			2037
13	A	0001 3	NH	0001 1	14	1994	3	1	70	3	0	0	A		1995	RE	1	0	0	2036
14	GG		GH		3	0000	0	0		0	0	0	A		1984					
WILDLIFE OPENING (01-01-94)																				
15	GH		GG		9	0000	0	0		0	0	0	A		1986					
WILDLIFE OPENING (01-01-94)																				
16	NH	1115 3	NH	0511 1	47	0000	0	13		70	7	4,067	A		1997	RA	2	0	0	2012
17	LM				21	0000	0	0		0	0	0	A		1984					
18	NH	1115 3	NH	0511 2	56		0	12	0	83	13	2,375	A	35-95						
19	A	0105 3	NH	0511	5	1982	4	0	65	3	0	0	H		1983	RE	1	0	0	2024
<p><b>91A 0001 3 NH 0105 1 15 1997 3 1 70 3 0 0 A 1998</b></p>																				
COMPARTMENT TOTALS:					ACRES:	1,256	CORDS:			10,492	BOARDFEET:			3,104,569						

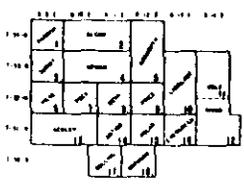
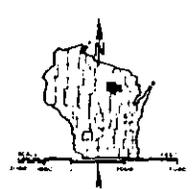
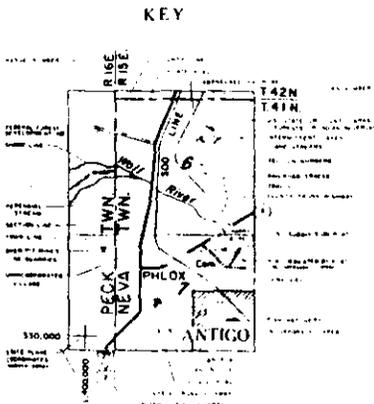


7-30-90

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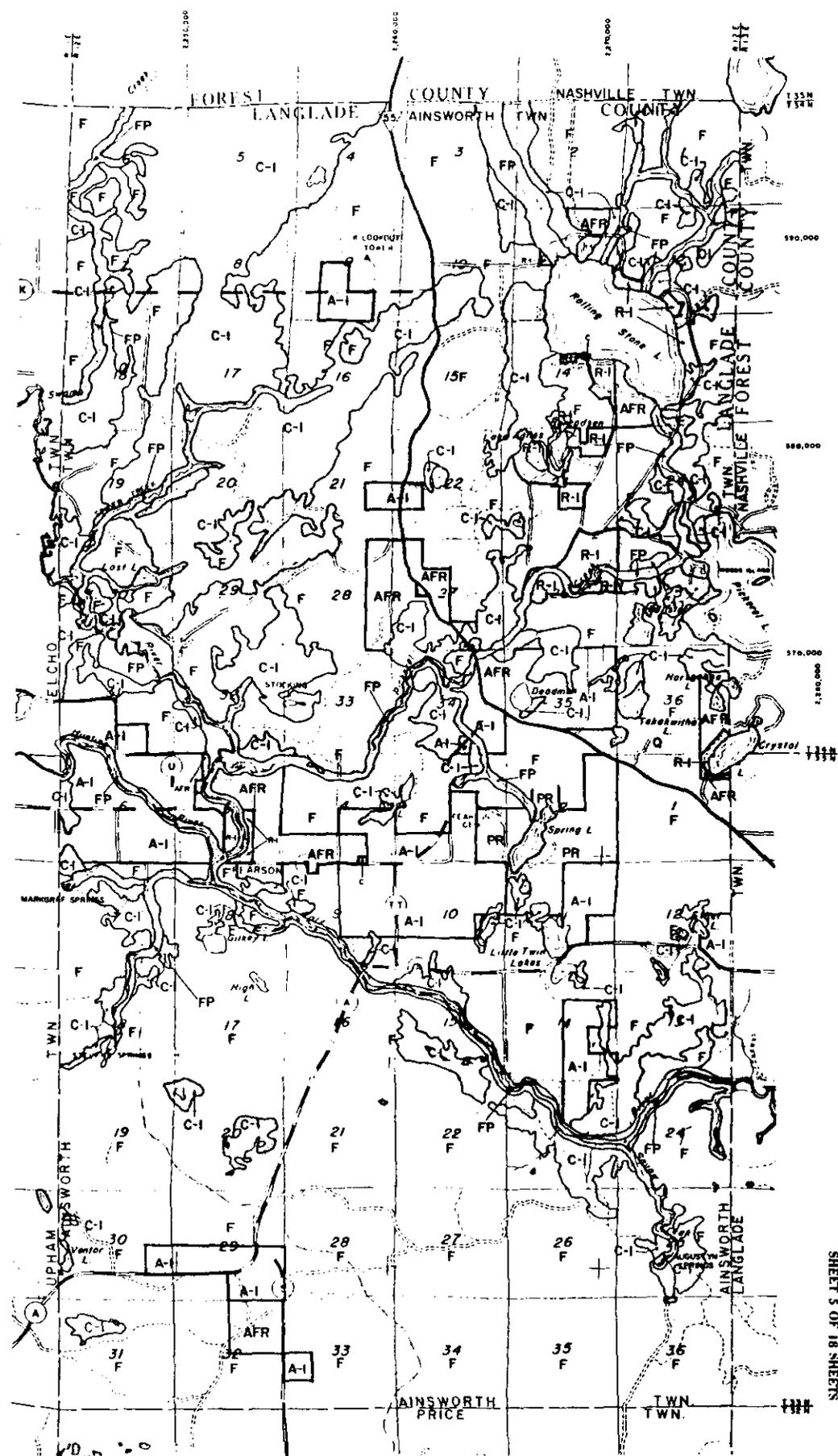
**LEGEND**  
ZONING SYMBOLS

- C-1 CONSERVANCY
- F FOREST
- PR PARK & RECREATION
- FP FLOOD PLAIN
- A-1 RESERVE AGRICULTURAL
- AFR AGRICULTURE/FOREST RESIDENTIAL
- R-1 RESIDENTIAL SINGLE FAMILY
- R-2 RESIDENTIAL MULTIPLE FAMILY & CONDORMIUM
- BB SINGLE HOME PARK
- Q-1 SINGLE HOME SUBDIVISION
- C GENERAL COMMERCIAL
- I INDUSTRIAL
- Q QUARRYING
- MME METALLIC MINING EXPLORATION
- M MINING
- AL AIRPORT HEIGHT LIMITATION

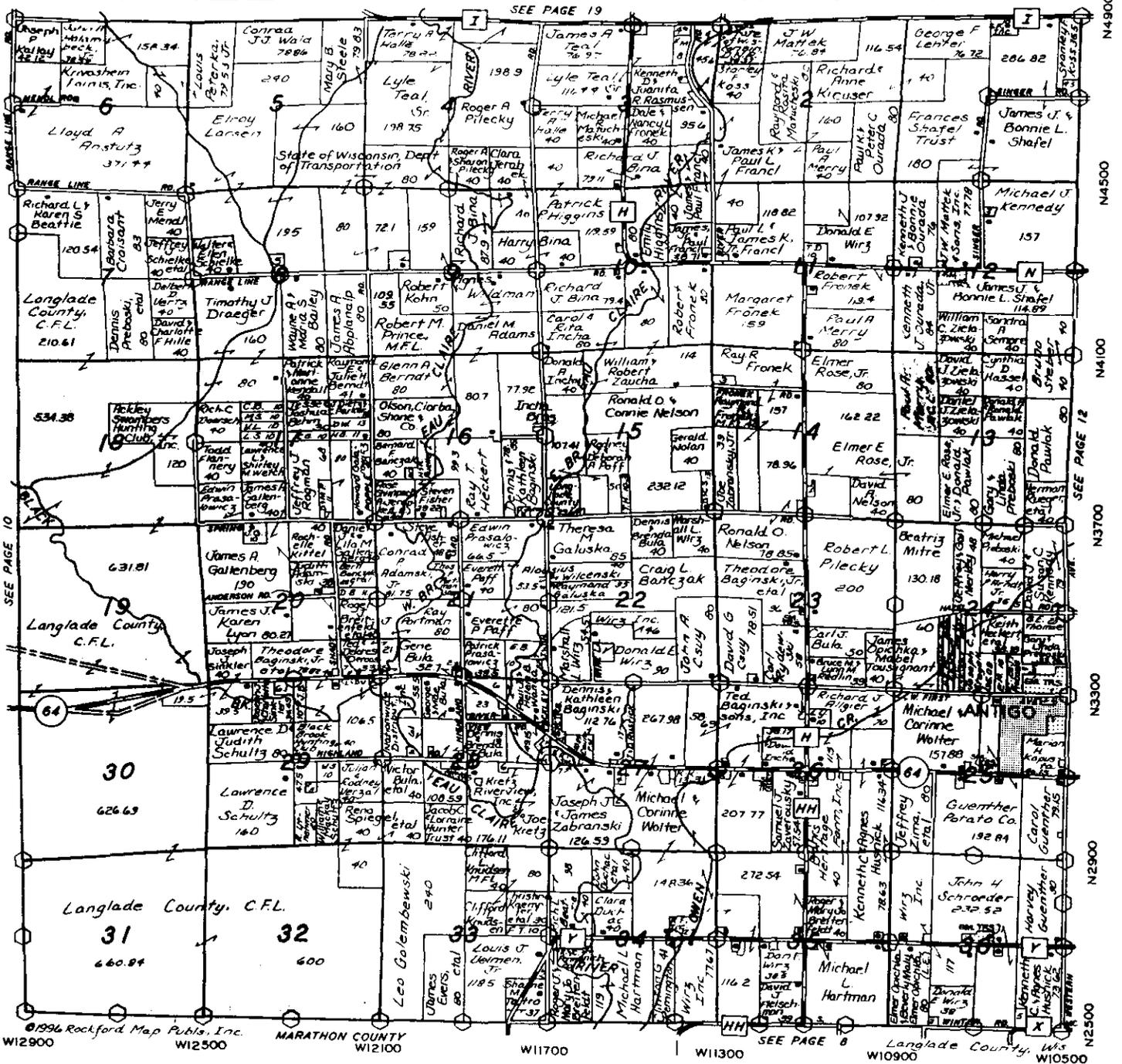
ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 117,  
ON March 12, 1972

ATTEST  
*Thomas J. Cogh*  
CLERK

*Thomas J. Cogh*  
TOWNSHIP CLERK



**ZONING MAP**  
**TOWN OF AINSWORTH**  
 LANGLADE COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
 SHEET 5 OF 18 SHEETS



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HOMES • BUSINESS PROPERTY

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DANIEL M. ADAMS - LICENSED BROKER

W11806 Adams Lane  
Antigo, Wisconsin 54409

PHONE: (715) 627-7446

7-18-97

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