

## File W 1596 – Racine County 40.1 Acres

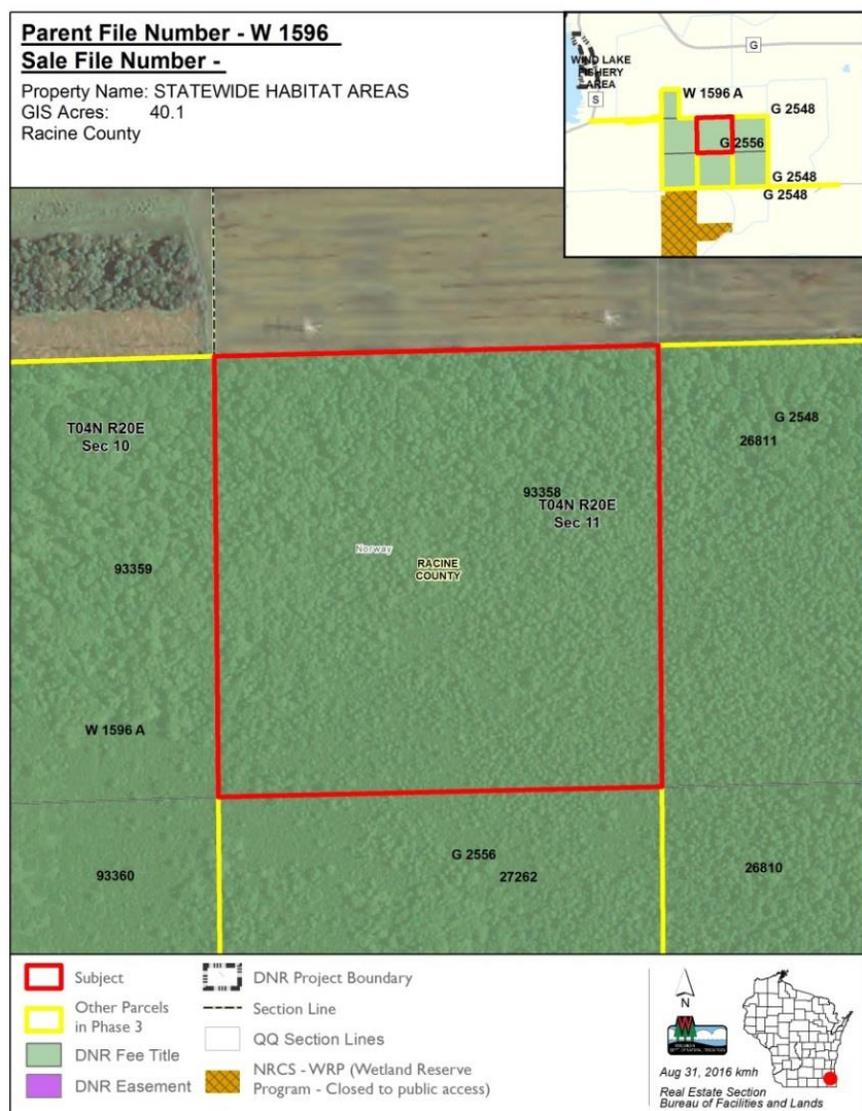
The Department acquired this parcel for \$23,724 in 2005. It is located in the Town of Norway, approximately five miles northeast of the City of Waterford in Racine County. It was purchased for the Statewide Habitat Area program.

This is one of a block of four parcels purchased to preserve a regionally rare plant community, provide habitat for several game and non-game species, provide wetland restoration opportunities and provide public recreation in a heavily populated portion of the state.

There is no water frontage on this parcel, but it is considered forested lowland habitat that provides storm water retention during large flood events. This parcel is part of a larger block of habitat that protects the Southern Tamarack Swamp, a Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission natural area. Selling the parcel would make a large part of the swamp unprotected. This Northern Wet Forest community has been identified as a county-wide or regional significance by the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission.

This parcel is a popular spot for deer archery hunters in the area and the selling of this parcel would mean directly losing public recreational opportunities in an area of the state that has few public lands. It is passively managed, as the Department has not invested in infrastructure or habitat improvements on the property.

The Department recommends retaining this parcel.



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