

File W 1596 A– Racine County 100.67 Acres

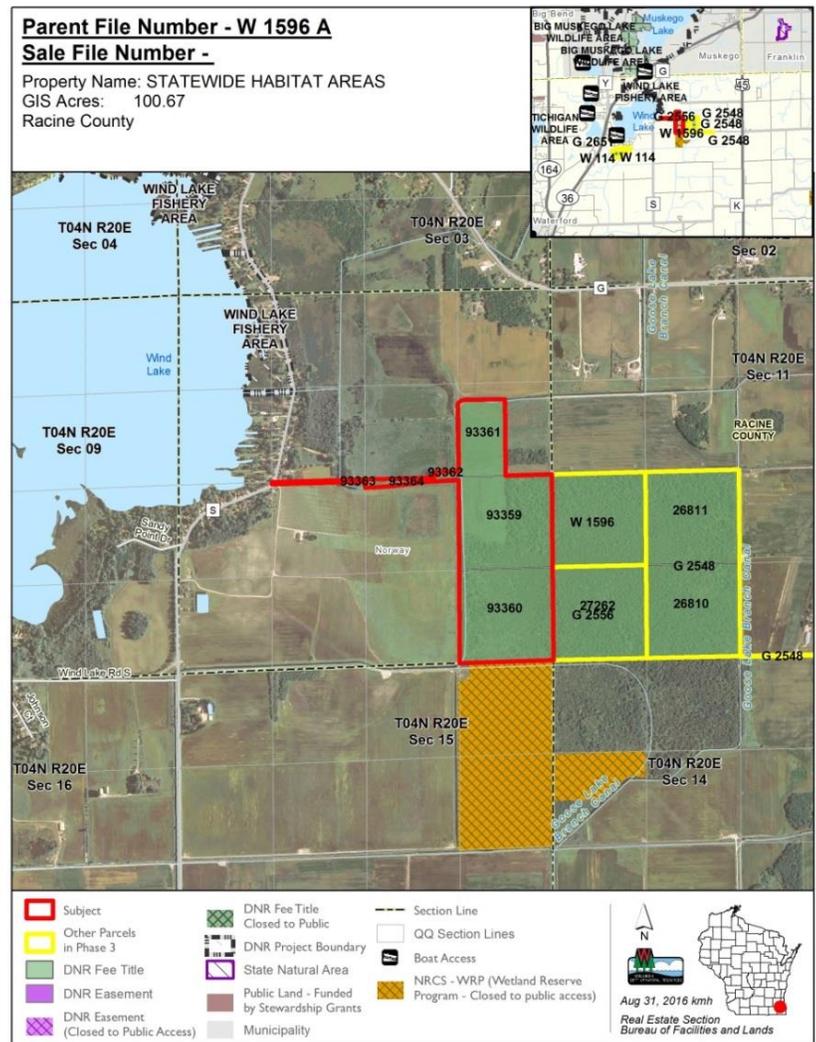
The Department acquired this parcel for \$286,276 in 2005. This parcel is located in the Town of Norway, approximately five miles northeast of the City of Waterford. It was purchased for the Statewide Habitat Area program.

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. It makes up part of a larger block of habitat that protects the Southern Tamarack Swamp, a Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission natural area. Selling the parcels 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 is a popular spot for deer archery hunters in the area and the selling of these would mean directly losing public recreational opportunities in an area of the state that has few. It is actively managed, as the Department does periodic brush mowing, invasive plant management and parking/gate maintenance.

The Department recommends retaining these parcels.



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