

Parent File WR 500 \ /Sale File FM 10394 – Lincoln County 330.48 Acres

The Department acquired this parcel for \$254,177 in 1999 as a part of a 32,000 acre purchase from Packaging Corporation of America. Approximately 7,000 acres of land from that transaction were identified for resale to counties and tribes. This tract was identified for sale to Lincoln County due to its blocking nature with county forest lands.

The parcel is part of the Statewide Public Access project located in the Town of Bradley in Lincoln County.

This parcel is accessible to the public via Graff Road which cuts through the very far northeast corner of the parcel. It receives high public use and provides access roads to surrounding County forest lands and Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company (WVIC) property.

There are property roads and parking lots throughout the parcel. In 2013 the Department has made investments through the Conservation Infrastructure project to repair and improve the access roads and parking areas on the property. All the improved roads on the property are open for public vehicle use.

This parcel borders Rice Reservoir riparian property, owned by the dam owner, WVIC. The public is allowed on WVIC property. Walk-in access to the reservoir across the state property to WVIC lands allows ice anglers and shore anglers access to over a mile of shoreline property owned by WVIC. It is approximately 170 feet from the north border of the state land to the shoreline of Rice Reservoir across WVIC land.

WVIC has reserved access rights across the Department's parcel to access their lands to the north.

Further, as part of a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed project, WVIC is unable to grant any separate access to Rice Flowage to any party that may purchase this parcel.

The Department recommends that the Natural Resources Board offer this land for sale under the authority granted by s. 23.145 Wis. Stats., and the land be only offered to Lincoln County, subject to deed restrictions requiring the land be open to the general public for all five NBOA's in perpetuity, and subject to a requirement to continue to allow public vehicle access on the roads constructed on the property.

