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Contact(s): Faith Murray, Community Services Specialist, 920-662-5487

GREEN BAY – The Nature Conservancy has applied for matching grants from the [Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program](#) to assist with the purchase of five separate properties that would be added to two existing [State Natural Areas](#) in Door County.

The properties include a 25-acre parcel, a 20.79-acre parcel and a 14.23-acre parcel all located in the Town of Liberty Grove that would be additions to the [Mink River Estuary State Natural Area](#), and a 15.03-acre parcel in the Town of Liberty Grove and a 39.2-acre parcel in the Town of Baileys Harbor that would be additions to [North Bay State Natural Area](#).

The properties will be left in their natural state and will be open to the public for low impact recreational activities including, hunting, fishing, upland trapping, hiking, cross-county skiing, snowshoeing, nature study, wildlife observation, and photography. Two of the parcels have no water on the property. Three others have water, and water trapping would be prohibited on these properties to protect habitat for the [Hines emerald dragonfly](#), a Federally listed endangered species.

The checklist and the department's initial assessment of the proposal to prohibit Nature Based Outdoor Activities (NBOA) is available on the [Stewardship Public Notice](#) page of the Department of Natural Resources website or a copy is available on request from the project contact listed below.

The Nature Conservancy will provide 50 percent match for three of the properties, and 40 percent match for two of the properties.

Public written comments on the proposed acquisition can be mailed to Julie Sauer, Administrator, Division of Customer and Employee Services, care of Faith Murray, Community Services Specialist, 2984 Shawano Ave, Green Bay, WI 54313-6727, or sent by email to Faith.Murray@wisconsin.gov. Questions about this project should be directed to Faith Murray at 920-662-5487. Written comments will be accepted through June 7, 2011.

In accordance with s. NR 52.04 (2) (b), Wis. Adm. Code, objections about the prohibited activities on this property must show the proposed prohibition to be inconsistent with s. 23.0916 (2) (b), Stats., and s. NR 52.05, Wis. Adm. Code.

Under s. NR 150.03(3), Wis. Adm. Code, an environmental analysis is not needed because this proposal is considered a Type III action. A Type III action is one that normally does not have the potential to cause significant environmental effects, normally does not significantly affect energy usage, and normally does not involve unresolved conflicts in the use of available resources.

People may sign up for Stewardship grant project news releases through the [newsletters and updates](#) page of the DNR website.