

Please provide your thoughts on the following:

You may also submit your answers to these questions through our website at - <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/masterplanning/saukprairie/>

What do you like about each alternative? *No Alternative option.*

No Action Alternative: *This is a great opportunity to preserve a precious resource for 7 generations.*

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

Are there elements of the alternatives that concern you? Please explain.

No Action Alternative:

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

No ATV, SNOW MOBILING, TARGET PRACTICE

Do you think the range of alternatives is complete? Are there things we have missed or overlooked?

Do you have any other comments or concerns you would like the planning team to take into consideration?

Preliminary Goal Statements

Ecological Management

Provide extensive areas of grassland and oak savanna habitats to support the significant grassland and shrubland bird populations. Restore and enhance the ecological transition zone between the Baraboo Hills and the Wisconsin River to promote quality habitat for desirable game and non-game species, including rare and special concern species.

Suggestions

Please provide suggestions on how you think we can better address this use and other recommendations related to this issue.

MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT PRAIRIE PLANTINGS, BLUE-BIRD HOUSES ETC HAVE ALL READY BEEN STARTED AND SHOULD BE EXPANDED ON. LET IT BE A WILDLIFE SANCTUARY.

Recreation

Provide for public recreation that complements and fulfills regional needs while providing opportunities that draw users past significant cultural and natural points of interest as well as aesthetic vistas.

Suggestions

Please provide suggestions on how you think we can better address this use and other recommendations related to this issue.

USE THIS 600 ACRE AREA FOR HIKING, CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING, BICYCLING — NOTHING MOTORIZED

Cultural Resource Preservation

Identify and preserve significant sites that contribute to the property's storyline from geological history, Native American life, Euro-American settlement, and the design, operation and decommissioning of the Badger Army Ammunitions Plant.

Suggestions

Please provide suggestions on how you think we can better address this use and other recommendations related to this issue.

I FEEL IT IS TIME TO GIVE THIS AREA A REST. SINCE 1941, AFTER THE EVICTION OF 80+ FAMILYS, THIS AREA HAS BEEN USED AND ABUSED BY THE GOVERNMENT. EVEN AFTER SO CALLED CLEANUP THERE ARE PROBABLY MANY HOT SPOTS. THE UNIVERSITY FARMS HAS CONSIDERABLE ACREAGE WHICH IS GREAT - THERE ARE ALSO TWO LARGER CEMETARY'S PLUS ANOTHER BURIAL GROUND. MY GRAND FATHER AND GRAND MOTHER AS WELL AS GREAT GRAND FATHER AND MOTHER AND OTHER RELATIVES ARE BURIED IN THE JEBKE CEMETARY.

Education and Interpretation

Provide interpretive and educational opportunities focusing upon natural history, restoration efforts, and the impacts of human uses. Integrate education and research related to restoration and conservation land use activities.

Suggestions

Please provide suggestions on how you think we can better address this use and other recommendations related to this issue.

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What do you like about each alternative?

No Action Alternative:

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

AT THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 2013
IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT AN ADDITION OF A SHOOTING RANGE
AS WELL AS AN ATV TRAIL. I'M DEFINITELY AGAINST
BOTH. THIS IS AN UNSUPERVISED AREA - (OR WILL BE) GIVEN
AN INCA - BOTH WILL TAKE A MILE. LET'S KEEP THIS AREA
TO HIKING, BIKING (ONLY PEDAL BIKES) SKIING ETC.

Are there elements of the alternatives that concern you? Please explain.

No Action Alternative:

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

SINCE 1941, THIS LAND HAS BEEN USED AND
WILL NEVER RETURNED TO THE NATURAL
BEAUTY THIS AREA WAS PREVIOUSLY.

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

~~TO~~ HIKING, BIKING, SKIING - PICKNICK AREAS
BOW HUNTING BUT ONLY TO INSURE THE DEER
DON'T OVER POPULATE -

Do you think the range of alternatives is complete? Are there things we have missed or overlooked?

DO NOT ALLOW ANY MOTORIZED SPORTS -

THIS WILL BE BASICALLY AN UNSUPERVISE AREA

AND ANYTHING MOTORIZED WILL BE ALL OVER.

NO RIFLE RANGE OR HUNTING WITH HIGH
POWERED GUNS.

Do you have any other comments or concerns you would like the planning team to take into consideration?

LISTEN TO THE LOCAL PARTIES AS
THEY HAVE TO CONTEND WITH NOISE
FROM WITHIN.

Preliminary Vision

The vision is a concise, broad statement describing the general desired future state and function of a property. It is not quantified and is timeless. The vision must be consistent with the property's statutory direction, NRB policies, division and program strategic plans and other appropriate guidance regarding the property's purpose.

Preliminary Vision Statement:

The Sauk Prairie Recreation Area contributes important areas of grassland habitat needed to reconstruct and experience a natural mosaic of prairie-savanna-woodland at a landscape scale. Directly adjacent to Devils Lake State Park, it serves as an ecological transition from the Baraboo Hills to the Wisconsin River, and creates a recreational corridor that enhances and complements regional recreation opportunities. The site's significant history is incorporated into the management and interpretation of the natural, agricultural, historical and cultural resources.

Suggestions

Please provide suggestions on how you think we can better address the property vision and other recommendations related to this issue.

To: Dept Natural Resources Board

Enclosed is a copy of what I and many others are calling Alternative No. 4. This is the plan we heartily support and ask that you adopt.

Thank you for holding the open house and taking questions from the taxpayers.

BADGER OVERSIGHT MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Recommendation on Sauk Prairie Recreation Area Draft Conceptual Land Use Alternatives

ALTERNATIVE 4

Conservation/Low Impact Recreation Emphasis

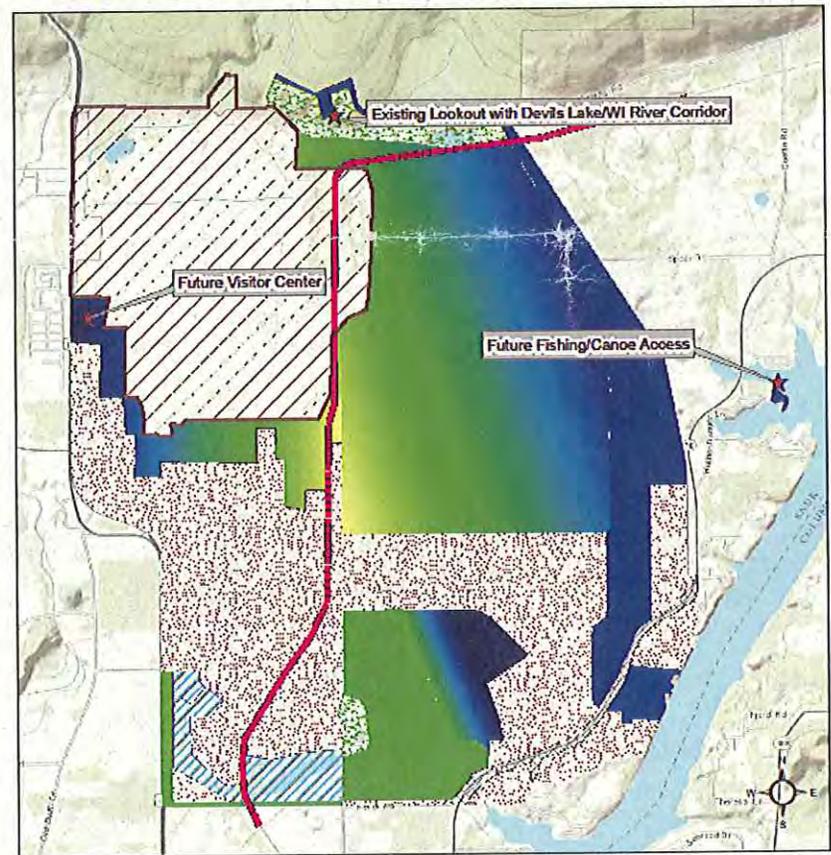
The 2001 Badger Reuse Plan was an agreement entered into by 21 representatives of local, state, federal and tribal units of government as well as neighboring landowners, businesses, school districts and nonprofits. The plan emphasizes conservation and low-impact recreational activities and it is still in effect. The National Park Service agreement with DNR (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources) also emphasizes conservation and low-impact recreational activities. Alternative 4 below continues this emphasis on conservation and low-impact recreation uses.

Under this management alternative, emphasis is placed on land uses and management objectives that complement each other and those of the surrounding land owners, enhancing the health, culture, and economy of the Badger lands and the surrounding community. This alternative views current planning and implementation efforts as the most recent expression of a long history of human activity on the Sauk Prairie, and as an opportunity to honor the sacrifices and contributions of our ancestors. It acknowledges the legacy of conflict that has marked previous chapters of human experience on the Sauk Prairie, and advances the process of reconciling these conflicts.

Healing the land is an essential step in that process, and at Badger, healing the land is a "re-recreational" activity of the first order. Ecological restoration projects, aided by collaborative agricultural, educational, and scientific research programs, will support enhanced understanding and appreciation of Badger's wildlife and its natural and cultural history, and demonstrate new ways to secure healthy, thriving human and natural communities. The history of all the people who have made the Sauk Prairie home over thousands of years will be shared. That history will include the story of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant and will continue through the current efforts to develop and implement the consensus vision for the future of this long contested site.

Opportunities for outdoor recreation will include traditional activities (such as hunting and fishing) that have long been among the varied uses of the Badger property, and that contribute importantly to greater awareness of Badger's full conservation value. Of particular value are the property's important populations of grassland birds. The presence of these birds and other wildlife will attract thousands of visitors, as wildlife viewing continues to expand in popularity in the coming decades. Because the benefits of peace and quiet are among the most rapidly diminishing natural resource values in our contemporary environment, and consequently are among the frequently most sought after, a wide variety of low-impact recreational activities will be accommodated. The opportunity to explore the Badger property, especially given the promise of a regional recreational trail linking the

Alternative 4: Conservation/Low Impact Recreation Emphasis



Native Community Management Zone
Conservation/Habitat Management Zone
Expanded Recreational Zone

Conservation/Habitat Management Sustainable Agriculture Low Impact Recreation Expanded Recreation Visitor Facilities

Note:
A color gradient has been used to indicate that conservation and low impact recreation opportunities are uses that complement each other. Overlap between these uses is likely across the property.

Other Parcel Ownership
BIA/Ho-Chunk
Bluffview Sanitary District
USDA
WDOT
Rails to Trails Corridor
Currently Leased by WDNR

Sauk Prairie Recreation Area to nearby major regional trails, will draw thousands more to the area. Their experience of the area will be enhanced by interpretive trail signage and guided tours.

Eventually, the creation of a Visitor Center will serve as a focal point for orienting visitors and as a destination for students of all ages interested in exploring Sauk Prairie's unique geological, ecological, and human history. Visitors will be encouraged to participate in on-site restoration and citizen science projects.

Because agriculture is such a fundamental component of the Wisconsin economy and landscape, and will remain an essential tool for economic development and land stewardship in the future, creative opportunities will be provided for local family farm operators to participate in collaborative conservation agriculture research projects. Badger's landscape includes not only the SPRA but lands now held by the USDA Dairy Forage Research Center and potentially the Ho-Chunk Nation, offering a unique and remarkable opportunity to study new ways to combine agricultural production with the conservation and restoration of soils, water, wildlife, forests, grasslands and wetlands. Research and demonstration of innovative conservation agriculture practices such as managed, rotational livestock grazing to help control invasive plants and woody vegetation will benefit the land, our farming neighbors, Badger's recreational users, and the people of Wisconsin. Private landowners, volunteers, students, and community organizations will come to Badger and play an active role in these land restoration and stewardship activities. As Badger's landowners work together with visitors, neighbors, and partners, a changing landscape of row crop, pasture, restored prairies and savannas, and woodlands will provide a valuable model, showing how Wisconsin's land can support an agricultural economy that enhances farm families, local economies and farm communities, and healthy populations of native birds and other wildlife, in a public setting that can be enjoyed and appreciated by generations to come.



Specific Activities and Uses consistent with Conservation and Low Impact Recreation:

- Implement plan elements specified in the Badger Reuse Plan;
- Restore large, unfragmented tracts of grassland, wetland and shrubland (Habitat Management Zone)* to support native and migratory birds and wildlife;
- Restore remnants of native natural communities and the species they support (Native Community Management Zone)*; limit access to pedestrian use;
- Provide low-impact porous non-paved recreation trails that complement the topography and resource management;
- Preserve and enhance key vistas through vegetation management;
- Selectively site and construct (through community partnerships) a new visitor center with interpretation and educational opportunities;
- Provide interpretation and education opportunities about this property's history and geographic location, acknowledge Ho-Chunk Nation history and Euro-American histories and displacements, and the design, operation and decommissioning of the Badger Army Ammunitions Plant;
- Provide facilities such as a classroom, parking area, staging area, wash station and bathrooms near the Visitor's Center in the Habitat Restoration Zone;
- Identify and improve primary auto access roads through the property and deconstruct roads no longer needed. Limit vehicle access;
- Provide interpretation and education opportunities for schools and universities;
- Use volunteers to promote community participation in education and to help restore natural communities;
- Provide outdoor research opportunities for ecologists, scientists and students;
- Develop parking, picnic areas and viewing areas in the Expanded Recreational Zone* and to a lesser degree in the Habitat Restoration Zone*;
- Develop a fishing pier, canoe/carry-in boat access, and picnic area at the Lake Wisconsin parcel;
- Provide a multiple use trail connecting the Sauk Prairie area, Merrimac area, and Devil's Lake State Park via Burma road consisting of hiking and biking and a seasonal snowmobile trail on an agreed upon route;
- Designate parcel "M" and "M1" as a Habitat Restoration Zone*;
- Remove any unwanted infrastructure, buildings or debris that remains on the property, with the exception of infrastructure that may provide bat habitat and support bat research.

Note (*): The use of the term "Zone(s)" above is to maintain compatibility with language in other DNR proposed alternatives; BOMC members feel this term in most cases is too restrictive and exclusive for Badger lands which often have characteristics of one or more zone types in one area. Exclusive use zones may conflict with the first Value of the Badger Reuse Plan: to manage Badger as a whole.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

As individual stakeholder members of the Badger Oversight Management Commission (BOMC), Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger, Sauk Prairie Conservation Alliance, and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation strongly urge the public to contact the WDNR with your **SUPPORT** for **BOMC ALTERNATIVE #4** by August 30, 2013. Comments may be sent to Diane Brusoe, DNR Planner - LF/6, Wisconsin Department Natural Resources, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 or email Diane.Brusoe@wisconsin.gov.

Preliminary Vision

The vision is a concise, broad statement describing the general desired future state and function of a property. It is not quantified and is timeless. The vision must be consistent with the property's statutory direction, NRB policies, division and program strategic plans and other appropriate guidance regarding the property's purpose.

Preliminary Vision Statement:

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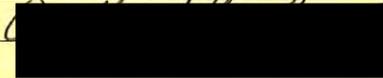
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To: Dept. Natural Resources Board

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Sincerely,



BADGER OVERSIGHT MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

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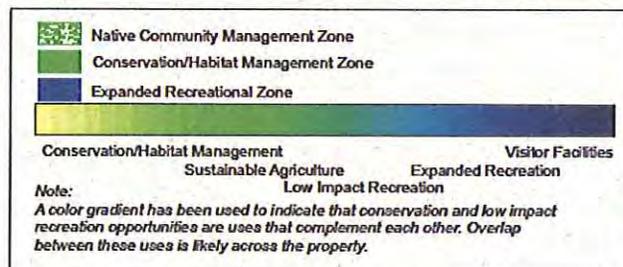
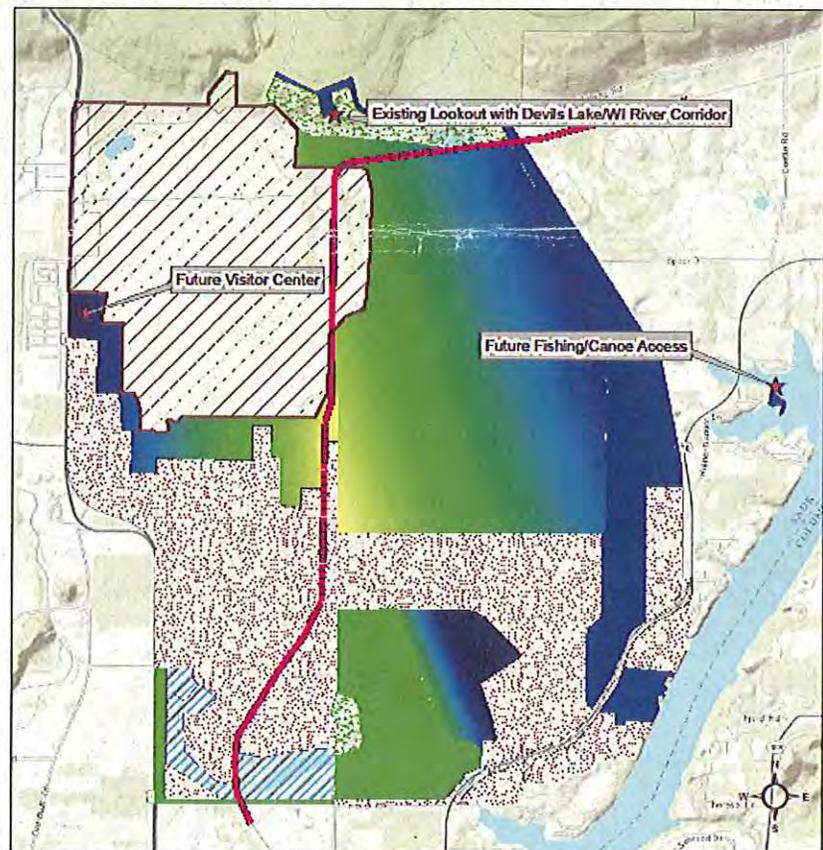
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Suggestions

Please provide suggestions on how you think we can better address the property vision and other recommendations related to this issue.

Per the original plan, there should be
no high-impact activities such as
motorized activities or a shooting range.

* Question - will the final plan reflect
the majority of opinions regarding
high-impact activities?

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

this opens the area up to many individuals with many outdoor activity options.

Do you think the range of alternatives is complete? Are there things we have missed or overlooked?

*Probably but grateful that there is a possibility of an area only 30 miles away for hiking, biking, *ATV/UTV recreation*

Do you have any other comments or concerns you would like the planning team to take into consideration?

Please provide your thoughts on the following:

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What do you like about each alternative?

No Action Alternative:

nothing

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

opens the area to many more individuals locally and to tourists

Are there elements of the alternatives that concern you? Please explain.

No Action Alternative:

wouldn't like to see this area be a huge wasteland

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

I think that this is good yet still plenty of area for a multi-use trail

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option #3 seems to be the option that opens the area up to more individuals and would be inviting to more outdoor enthusiasts.

if ATV's/UTV's were allowed older and handicapped people could also enjoy this outdoor site.

the more groups that can be entertained can bring more tourists and therefore more revenue for the area.

many people from miles around used to work @ BAAP and would love to come back to show family and friends the area.

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Preliminary Vision Statement:

- 1 The Sauk Prairie Recreation Area contributes important areas of grassland habitat needed to reconstruct and experience a natural mosaic of prairie-savanna-woodland at a landscape scale.
- 2 Directly adjacent to Devils Lake State Park, it serves as an ecological transition from the Baraboo Hills to the Wisconsin River, and creates a recreational corridor that enhances and complements regional recreation opportunities.
- 3 The site's significant history is incorporated into the management and interpretation of the natural, agricultural, historical and cultural resources.

Suggestions

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It seems that there may be two separate and potentially contradicting visions within this statement. Sentences 1 and 3 present the idea that the area making up The Sauk Prairie Recreation area provides an opportunity for restoration/preservation of not only the unique prairie-savanna but a chance to restore all significant aspect including historical and cultural resources. Sentence 2 on the other hand finishes by stating the desire to complement regional recreation opportunities. Anyone familiar with the region understands that there is an endless number of recreational opportunities. Many of these recreational activities are low impact and would sustain well on the Recreation area, but there are a number of recreational activities that require large area of disturbance (noise, deforestation, etc.). If the goal is to truly restore this area to its original state of prairie and savanna high disturbance activities cause a serious obstacle. ~~These~~ Species such as the prairie chickadee or many species of grassland sparrows which are indicators of quality prairie don't respond well to disturbance. The only suggestion for the vision statement would be to clarify and don't simplify the intent being outlined.