



**SITE-SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT SHEET  
TIER-3 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROPERTY**

**Property Name:** Lost Lake

**Property Designation or Type:** State Natural Area

**SNA Designation Number:** 198

**Property Location:** Columbia County

**Real Estate:**

Project boundary acreage: 185

Fee acres owned: 169

Dedicated acres: 120, DNR file #D22 (1987)

DNR Easement acres: 0.3

Federal aid interest: None

Land use agreements: None

**Maps:**

A. Project Boundary

B. Existing Roads and Infrastructure

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**Property Manager:** **Nate Fayram, Southwest Ecologist**

3911 Fish Hatchery Rd

Fitchburg, WI 53711

608-273-5943

Prepared By (District Ecologist):

Name: Nate Fayram

Title: Conservation Biologist

Date: 4/10/2017

Reviewed/Approved By: (Bureau)

Name: Drew Feldkirchner

Title: Bureau Director, Natural Heritage Conservation Date: 4/10/2017

Approved by Natural Resources Board: Date: 6/28/2017

## A. Regional and Property Assessment

- 1. General Property Description (topography, soils, vegetation, water resources):** Lost Lake is a small kettle-type depression in ground moraine deposits overlying the eastern end of the Baraboo Range. This deep, circular hard water lake is perched near the upper end of a ravine about 0.2 mile wide and 0.5 mile long and drains to the northwest. Large quartzite boulders and exposures of quartzite conglomerate and layers of sandstone cover the north-facing slope. This area harbors a shaded cliff community with numerous ferns and mountain maple. The bottom of the hollow supports a well-established lowland forest with yellow birch, black ash, green ash, hackberry, American elm, and poison sumac. On the slopes, the forest grades into red oak, basswood, yellow birch, hackberry, and white ash with white oak predominant further upslope. Surrounding the 2-acre lake is a zone of swamp loosestrife and large alder thicket. Historically, the lake ice was in local demand due to its unusual density and clarity. Wildlife includes snapping turtles, green and gray tree frogs, and green herons. Invertebrate life is abundant throughout the lake.
- 2. Ecological Landscape:** [Western Coulee and Ridges EL](#) is characterized by its highly eroded, unglaciated topography with steep sided valleys and ridges, high gradient headwaters streams, and large rivers with extensive, complex floodplains and terraces. It offers the best opportunities in the state to maintain many of southern Wisconsin's natural communities. Many rare species have been documented here due to the diversity, scale, types, condition and context of the natural communities present.

Forests can be managed and conserved here at virtually all scales, including areas up to hundreds, or even thousands, of acres. Oak forests are more abundant here than any other ecological landscape, mesic maple-basswood forests are also widespread, and some of the Upper Midwest's most extensive stands of Floodplain Forest occur here along major rivers. All of these forest types can provide critical breeding and/or migratory habitat for significant populations of native plants and animals. Maintaining large blocks of these forest types, including areas with combinations of these types, is a major opportunity. Since much of the forested acreage is privately owned, there are opportunities to work with private landowners, looking for places to combine efforts and plan on a much larger scale than an individual property.

Less common natural communities also provide excellent management opportunities here. Conifer relicts, by definition, are almost entirely restricted to the Western Coulees and Ridges, with lesser management

opportunities present in the Southwest Savanna. Fire-dependent oak ecosystems are well-represented here include Oak Openings, Oak Barrens, Oak Woodland and dry to mesic oak forests. Bluff prairies and sand prairies are better represented in this Ecological Landscape than anywhere else in Wisconsin and probably better than anywhere else in the Upper Midwest. These fire-dependent communities could be managed in a continuum with savanna and forest communities, wherever possible.

3. **Ownership and Adjacent Land Uses:** Public road, agricultural and residential lands, and southern forest.

4. **Property Management Issues, Trends and Needs:**

Invasive Species: Garlic mustard, Japanese hedge parsley, hemp nettle, barberry, buckthorn, and multiflora rose are known on site.

Invasive Species Control History: An effort is made to control priority invasive species on an annual basis. Garlic mustard has been controlled annually on site since the 1990's. Small populations of Japanese hedge parsley (discovered recently), and hemp nettle (first discovered in 2015) are controlled annually. A number of positive comments have been received over the years about the lack of garlic mustard and other invasive species at this site, relative to similar sites in the area. Continued control of garlic mustard, hedge parsley, and hemp nettle on this site is a very high priority.

Forestry/Silviculture: Commercial timber harvests are not compatible with the ecological goals for the property.

Prescribed Burning: Prescribed fire can be used as a management practice to maintain this property.

5. **Facility/Amenity development:**

- a. **Existing:** Parking lot and property sign
- b. **Future:** Same

6. **Endangered, Threatened, Special Concern Species or Habitats, and wildlife Species of Greatest Conservation Need:** 2 state threatened species and 3 state special concern species are known to occur here and/or in the general area. For detailed EO data, see Appendix A.

7. **Conservation Opportunity Area:** Baraboo Hills and North Range (11.09) and Baraboo Hills Streams (A.22)

8. **Easements:**
  - a. 0.3 acres management access easement, DNR file #SA81E Grantor: Rockie Oaks Partnership
9. **Land use Agreements:** None
10. **Significant Cultural and Archaeological Features:** State Natural Areas (SNAs) may contain historic Native American or Euro-American sites. Activities with potential to disturb archaeological sites will only be undertaken after consultation with the DNR Archaeologist. Any sites with cultural or historical value will be managed in accordance with guidance and statutory requirements (see ss. 44.40 and DNR Manual Code 1810.10). More details can be found in Appendix B.
11. **Refuges and other Closed Areas:** None
12. **Primary Public Use:** Recreational uses such as hiking, fishing, cross country skiing, hunting, trapping, scientific research, wild edibles collection, , and wildlife viewing are allowed. Reference the State Natural Areas [Visitation Guidelines](#) and the property's specific [webpage](#) for more information.
13. **Biotic Inventory needs:** Currently, no plant or vertebrate inventory needs have been identified beyond normal monitoring through established SNA Site Inspection protocol.

**B. Property Purpose and Goals/  
Management Objectives and Prescriptions**

1. **Property Purpose and Goals**
  - a. **Purpose:** The purpose of the SNA Program is to protect outstanding examples of Wisconsin's native landscape of natural communities, significant geological formations and archeological sites. Natural areas are valuable for research and educational use, the preservation of genetic and biological diversity, and for providing ecological benchmarks for determining the impact of use on managed lands. They also provide habitat for numerous rare plants and animals.
  - b. **Goal:** Manage the site as a reserve for southern dry-mesic forest, northern mesic forest, bedrock glade, aquatic and wetland species, and as an ecological reference area.

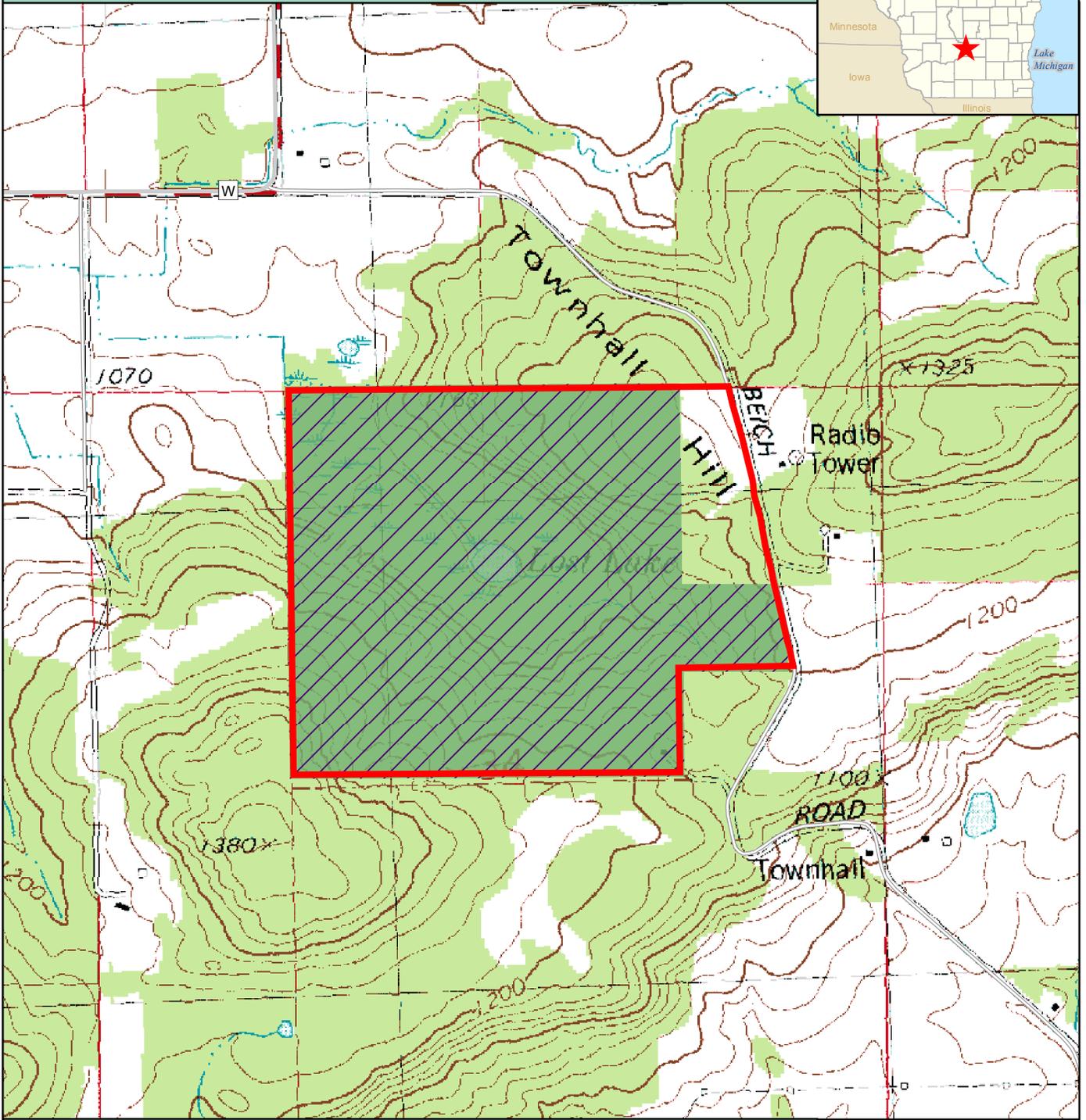
- 2. Management Objectives by Natural Community Type:**
  - a. Natural processes will determine the structure of the northern mesic forest, floodplain forest, alder thicket and lake (53 acres).
  - b. The structure of the southern dry-mesic forest will be determined by natural processes plus prescribed understory manipulation (see below; 70 acres).
  - c. Restore and maintain bedrock glades and adjacent oak woodland, southern dry forest, and southern dry-mesic forest on South and West facing aspects. The structure of the oak woodland, southern dry forest, southern dry-mesic forest, and bedrock glades will be determined by natural processes plus prescribed understory manipulation (see below; 46 acres).
  - d. Restore and maintain habitat for rare plants, including bedrock glade restricted plants.
  - e. Provide opportunities for research and education on the highest quality native southern dry-mesic forests, northern mesic forests, and bedrock glades.
  - f. Prevent introduction of new invasive species, and ensure long-term limitation of the spread, reproduction and impact of existing invasive species.
  
- 3. Management Prescriptions by Natural Community Type:**
  - a. In the southern dry-mesic forest, southern dry forest, oak woodland, and bedrock glade, the native dominant tree species (primarily oaks) are managed passively. However, understory manipulation and shrub control via manual cutting, brushing or prescribed fire may be needed to restore historic structure, and mimic natural disturbance patterns. The mostly passive canopy management and understory manipulation will determine the ecological characteristics of these areas.
  - b. In all other areas, native species are managed passively, which allows nature to determine the ecological characteristics.
  - c. Exceptions include control of invasive plants and animals, maintenance of existing facilities, and access to suppress fires.
  - d. Contain or eradicate invasive species through the use of department approved manual, chemical, biological, and mechanical practices, as well as prescribed fire.
  
- 4. Special Management Issues and/or constraints:**
  - a. Salvage of trees after a major wind event is not considered compatible with management objectives.
  - b. Manipulation/removal of vegetation and soil disturbance along

- abandoned logging roads is not allowed.
- c. Other bedrock glades are known nearby that could be evaluated for future expansion of this SNA.

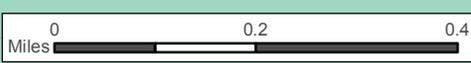
**Table 1: Current Facilities or Infrastructure**

<b>Type of Facility</b>	<b>Total (number/length)</b>	<b>Management Activities</b>	<b>Management Issues and Constraints</b>
Roads – public	none		
Roads – maintenance/service	none		
Roads – access easement	none		
Parking lots	1		
Boat landings	None		
Designated trails	None		
Dikes, ditches	None		
Dams	None		
Other			

# Lost Lake State Natural Area PROJECT BOUNDARY



-  Project Boundary
-  DNR Owned
-  State Natural Area



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Bureau of Natural  
Heritage Conservation

Jul 07, 2017

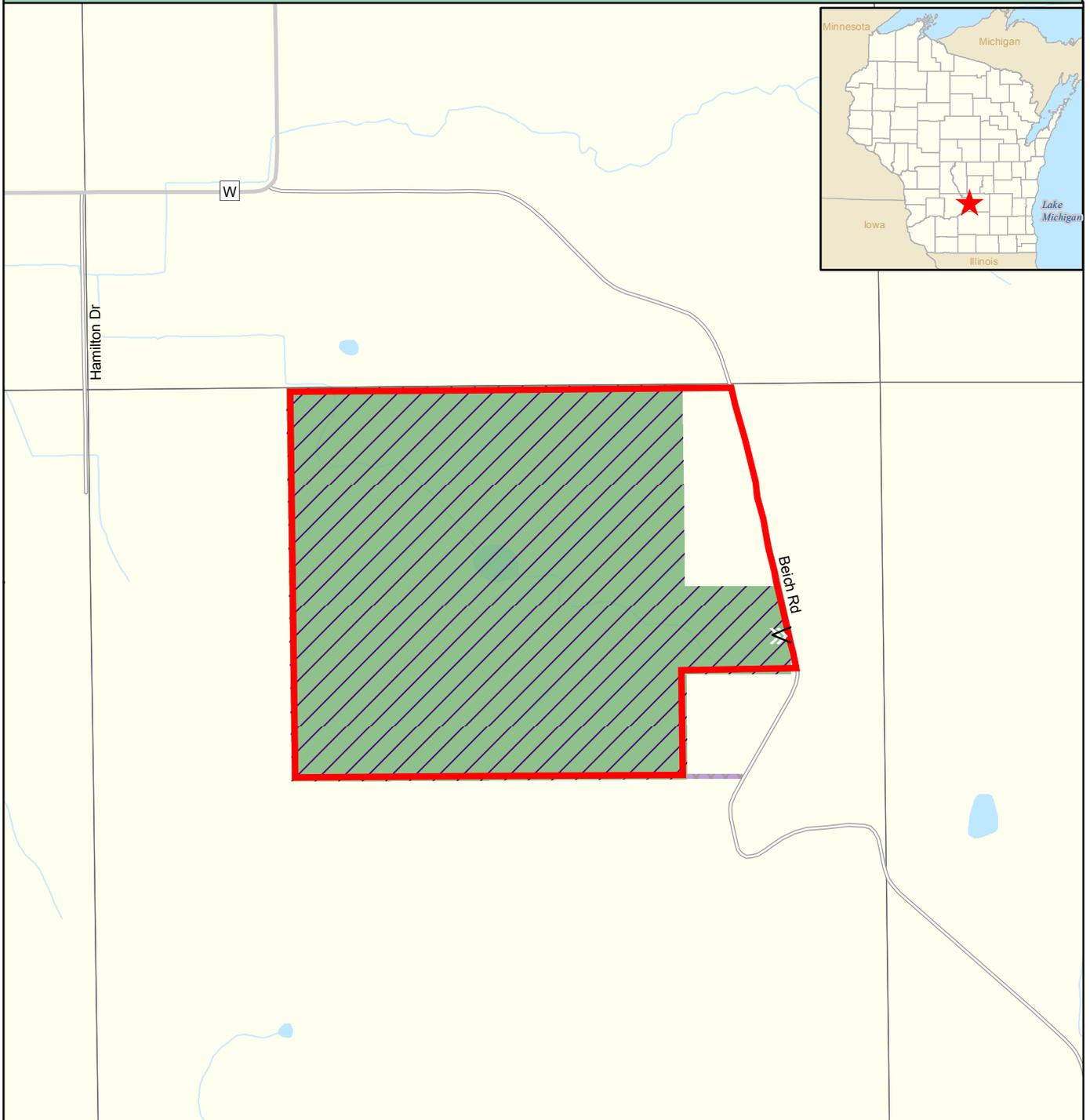
SNA Tier 3 dmh

## MAP A

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# Lost Lake State Natural Area

## EXISTING ROADS AND INFRASTRUCTURE



 Project Boundary

 State Natural Area

 DNR Owned

 DNR Easement (Closed to public access)

 Parking Lot

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

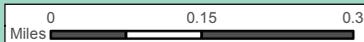


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# MAP B



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