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.

Ensure that the property is managed with the intent to
create and maintain a truly native grassland. Including property
using management techniques such as burning to promote diversity and
quality within the vegetation, along with managing for wildlife (game
and non-game).

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.

fulfilling regional needs is a broad and overarching goal. It
seems that the land cultural and natural attributes may be its
significant. An honest analysis of region opportunities may result
in a realization that additions such as a vineyard and a gun range
may not truly be an immediate need of the people. It may
show what has been and should be a beautiful natural
area may provide many of the desired recreational opportunities
while maintaining the integrity of a grassland.
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 Ammunition Plant.

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

Cultural history is significant in both education and tourism. Allowing for these opportunities while still striving for the goals stated in the vision statement is of utmost importance.

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.

Joining this piece of property with Devil's Lake provides one of the most diverse ecological and geological places in the area. The education opportunities it presents are endless.
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 Action Alternative:

Limited human impact

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

The chance to experiment, learn, and restore a natural grassland while still providing recreation through NBA's. This draft to me provides fun and meets the most prescribed needs.

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

The opportunity for education along with low impact activities (not the Special use Zone)

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

No Action Alternative:

All preserved properties need management, if this land is allowed to grow as it is now, inherent chance for large scale restoration is lost.

Ecological Restoration Emphasis:

WDNR Sauk Prairie Recreation Area

July 2013
Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

The special use zone, this property doesn’t need a gun range. Also, Devil’s Lake has all the amenities listed in the draft within a few miles of protected site.

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

A combination of both the outdoor recreation and ecological restoration draft may provide the most logical management opportunity. If and only if the special use zone is eliminated.

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

This area is a terrific addition to Devil's Lake and the River Conservancy. Let's commit to restoring and healing the land. A great expense of prairie and woods will be a wonderful resource for the whole Midwest. We need to think long range here, creating a resource for many generations.
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.

- We could engage with community groups like Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, church youth groups to help with prairie restoration. Or have local groups and individuals adopt specific areas for maintenance and restoration. Maybe organize a "Friends of SPRA" group. Or join with the Leopold Foundation as an outdoor classroom.

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.

- Make hiking and cycling trails, maybe horse trails. Maybe primitive camping + some picnic areas. A visitor center would be nice, telling geology, human history, ecology, etc. Like it is at Devil's Lake
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.

Could the Ho Chunk Nation create a museum to show their history up to the present? Label significant trees, plants and tell the story of the cemeteries. The Badger History Group has some great exhibits.

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.

Encourage school trips, have teacher materials sent out to surrounding school districts. Maybe recruit volunteer tour guides for school groups. Put on classes in prairie restoration and management of invasive species. Run some programs with the Leopold Foundation.
What do you like about each alternative?

No Action Alternative: Not much to like here. The whole place would be wild parsnips and burdock without some maintenance.

Ecological Restoration Emphasis: This would help heal the land and it would benefit birds and wildlife, but it misses the opportunity to introduce the public to the prairie's beauty.

Outdoor Recreation Emphasis: Keep it quiet and make the uses compatible with each other and with nesting birds. Keep the restoration and conservation parts, and education, too. This option gets more people out on the prairie.

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

No Action Alternative: Not enough opportunity for the public to enjoy the property. Wastes a great opportunity for education.

Ecological Restoration Emphasis: Again, not enough public involvement. People need peaceful open spaces to recreate themselves.

WDNR Sauk Prairie Recreation Area

July 2013
Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

This is fine if we leave out the special interest groups and their high-impact sports. They would be disruptive to all the other uses.

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

You have covered it if you will tweak the plans, keep all the restoration, conservation and education options and then include lots of quiet, low-impact uses for people like hiking, bird watching, picnicking, cycling, etc.

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

We have an amazing opportunity here to make a great gift to the future, to our grandchildren and to the prairie ecosystem. Let's not cave in to destructive uses of this magnificent property. Thank you.
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.

ADOPT ALTERNATIVE #4.
Outdoor Recreation Emphasis:

OF CONCERN:

ATV'S / UTV'S / CROSS COUNTRY MOTORCYCLES

SHOOTING RANGE

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

ADOPT ALTERNATIVE # 4

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

NO ATV'S / UTV'S / CC MOTORCYCLES

SHOOTING RANGES

NOT TO BE ALLOWED ON FORMER BADGER PROPERTY

☑ CONSIDER & ADOPT ALTERNATIVE # 4