

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION**

NRC TELECONFERENCE Business Meeting – Thursday, February 11, 2021

Teleconference Meeting convenes at 8:30 am

Public Teleconference Call-In Instructions:

A few minutes prior to the meeting time, **call 1-866-685-1580**

When prompted, enter **conference code 5152817122** followed by the # key; you will then be connected to the conference call.

Public Participation begins at approximately 9:00 am

NRC BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

1.	Approval of Agenda Consent Agenda (<i>*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda item</i>) *6. Contract with Louie Hugh (IHAP) *7. Contract with BKC Vista LLC (IHAP) *8. Contract with Millard and Lavonne Nelson Trust (IHAP) *12. Timber Sale Contract with Jones Wood Heating and Logging LLC (Chain-O-Lakes WMA) *13. Timber Sale Contract with Ben Bruggeman (Salt Creek WMA) *15.1 Barge Fleeting Lease Renewal – Mississippi River, Dubuque – American River Transportation Company *15.3 Management Agreement Renewal – Bauer Slough – Hamilton County Conservation Board (HCCB) *15.4 Easement Conveyance — Stephens State Forest – Lucas County *15.5 Easement Conveyance – St Mary’s Island WMA – Mills County	Decision	Commission
2.	Approve Minutes of 01/20/21 NRC Public Meeting	Decision	Commission
3.	Director’s Remarks	Information	Kayla Lyon
4.	Division Administrator’s Remarks	Information	Pete Hildreth
5.	Donations	Decision	Pete Hildreth
*6.	Contract with Louie Hugh (IHAP)	Decision	Todd Bishop
*7.	Contract with BKC Vista LLC (IHAP)	Decision	Todd Bishop
*8.	Contract with Millard and Lavonne Nelson Trust (IHAP)	Decision	Todd Bishop
9.	Contract with Blumer Excavating Company, LLC	Decision	Todd Bishop
10.	Chapter 23 – Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program Grant	Decision	Todd Bishop
11.	Chapter 35 – Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Board Grant Recommendations	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*12.	Timber Sale Contract with Jones Wood Heating and Logging LLC (Chain-O-Lakes WMA)	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
*13.	Timber Sale Contract with Ben Bruggeman (Salt Creek WMA)	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
14.	Chapter 30 - Waters Cost-Share and Grants Program, Water Trails Development Program Grant Recommendations	Decision	Travis Baker
15.	Public Land Management Projects		
*15.1	Barge Fleeting Lease Renewal – Mississippi River, Dubuque – American River Transportation Company	Decision	Travis Baker
15.2	Management Agreement – Adair WMA – Adair County Conservation Board	Decision	Travis Baker

For details on the NRC meeting schedule, visit:
<http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/BoardsCommissions/NaturalResourceCommission.aspx>

Comments during the public participation period regarding proposed rules or notices of intended action are not included in the official comments for that rule package unless they are submitted as required in the Notice of Intended Action.

Any person attending the public meeting and has special requirements such as those related to mobility or hearing impairments should contact the DNR or ADA Coordinator at 515-725-8200, Relay Iowa TTY Service 800-735-7942, or Webmaster@dnr.iowa.gov, and advise of specific needs.

*15.3	Management Agreement Renewal – Bauer Slough – Hamilton County Conservation Board	Decision	Travis Baker
*15.4	Easement Conveyance — Stephens State Forest – Lucas County	Decision	Travis Baker
*15.5	Easement Conveyance – St Mary’s Island WMA – Mills County	Decision	Travis Baker
16.	Public Land Acquisition Project: Pilot Knob Wildlife Management Area, Winnebago County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	Decision	Travis Baker
17.	Construction – Small Projects	Information	Travis Baker
18.	Construction – Large Projects		
18.1	Lake Icaria State Park, Pavement Preservation – Adams County	Decision	Travis Baker
18.2	Riverton WMA, Overlook Platform – Fremont County	Decision	Travis Baker
18.3	Geode State Park, Shoreline Armoring – Henry County	Decision	Travis Baker
19.	Contract with Newell Machinery Co., Inc.	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
20.	Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents - Notice of Intended Action	Decision	Todd Bishop
21.	Chapter 108, Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons- Notice of Intended	Decision	Todd Bishop
22.	General Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRC Discussion of Administrative Law Judge Case 		
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thu, 03/11/21, 9:30am, Business Meeting: IA DNR, 502 E 9th St, Des Moines, IA • Thu, 04/08/21, 9:30am, Business Meeting: IA DNR, 502 E 9th St, Des Moines, IA • Thu, 05/13/21, 9:30am, Business Meeting: IA DNR, 502 E 9th St, Des Moines, IA 			

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**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

5. Donations

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the following donations:

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Parks and Forestry	\$25.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry.	Kevin Miller
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Todd Genz.	Kristin Summerwill
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$150.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Todd Genz.	Peter Wallace
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Todd Genz.	Rebecca Schuchert
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Todd Genz.	Erin Johnson Klitgaard
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Todd Genz.	Dawn Wegman
Wildlife Bureau	\$5,064.65	1,395 Bushels of corn for food for Trumpeter swans, duck banding, and State Fair waterfowl.	Ragen More Administrative Assistant, Cargill-Eddyville
Wildlife Bureau	\$270.00	40 Bushels of corn (\$145) for food for Trumpeter swans and delivery of feed (\$125)	Tom Larson, Agronomy Manager, Viafield Coop
Backbone State Park	\$25.00	Funds to support Backbone State Park in memory of Brent Hoffert.	Joy Tuscherer
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$100.00	Funds to support the conservation of non-game species.	Marilyn Staples
Ledges State Park	\$25.00	Funds to support Ledges State Park.	Jean Goepfinger

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 02/11/21

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent*)

***6. Contract with Louie Hugh (IHAP)**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Louie Hugh, of Ionia, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$25,407.70

Dates: 3/1/2021 to 6/1/2030

Funding Source(s): Voluntary Public Access Grant – Iowa Habitat and Access Program

Contract Purpose: This 5.5 year contract with Louie Hugh will allow for the completion of the land management activities described in the Wildlife Management Plan.

Property Description: Louie Hugh owns a 235.49 acre property in Chickasaw County, Iowa. This property is currently enrolled in USDA's Conservation Reserve Program's CP42 and CP-25 practices. The property is under an Iowa Habitat Access Program (IHAP) agreement and will be open to public access for hunting from September 1, 2021 to June 1, 2027.

Land Management Tasks: The Wildlife Management Plan outlines the land management tasks for this property. Tasks for this contract include food plots, prescribed fire, herbicide application, native pollinator seed, and planting with a native seed drill. The DNR will assist the contractor with land management planning, provide technical assistance, and evaluate the completion of the land management tasks.

Selection Process Summary: IHAP contracting authorized under 483A.3B(3)c(1).

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent*)

***7. Contract with BKC Vista LLC**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with BKC Vista LLC, of Clermont, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$25,525.80

Dates: 3/1/2021 to 6/1/2030

Funding Source(s): Voluntary Public Access Grant – Iowa Habitat and Access Program

Contract Purpose: This 9.5 year contract with BKC Vista LLC will allow for the completion of the land management activities described in the Wildlife Management Plan.

Property Description: BKC Vista LLC owns a 290.17-acre property in Clayton County, Iowa. This property is currently enrolled in USDA's Conservation Reserve Program's CP42, CP21, CP15A, and CP-25 practices. The property is under an Iowa Habitat Access Program (IHAP) agreement and will be open to public access for hunting from September 1, 2021 to May 31, 2030.

Land Management Tasks: The Wildlife Management Plan outlines the land management tasks for this property. Tasks for this contract include brush management, prescribed fire, herbicide application, native pollinator seed, and planting with a native seed drill. The DNR will assist the contractor with land management planning, provide technical assistance, and evaluate the completion of the land management tasks.

Selection Process Summary: IHAP contracting authorized under 483A.3B(3)c(1).

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent*)

***8. Contract with Millard and Lavonne Nelson Trust**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Millard and Lavonne Nelson Trust of Clermont, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$43,879.30

Dates: 3/1/2021 to 6/1/2030

Funding Source(s): Voluntary Public Access Grant – Iowa Habitat and Access Program

Contract Purpose: This nine year contract with Millard and Lavonne Nelson Trust will allow for the completion of the land management activities described in the Wildlife Management Plan.

Property Description: Millard and Lavonne Nelson Trust owns a 302.41-acre property in Fayette County, Iowa. This property is currently enrolled in USDA's Conservation Reserve Program's CP42, CP21, and CP-25 practices. The property is under an Iowa Habitat Access Program (IHAP) agreement and will be open to public access for hunting from September 1, 2021 to May 31, 2030.

Land Management Tasks: The Wildlife Management Plan outlines the land management tasks for this property. Tasks for this contract include timber stand improvement, prescribed fire, herbicide application, native pollinator seed, and planting with a native seed drill. The DNR will assist the contractor with land management planning, provide technical assistance, and evaluate the completion of the land management tasks.

Selection Process Summary: IHAP contracting authorized under 483A.3B(3)c(1).

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

9. Contract with Blumer Excavating Company, LLC

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Blumer Excavating, LLC, of Osage, IA.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$62,420.40

Dates: February 15, 2021 to August 31, 2022

Funding Source(s): Lakes Restoration (65%), Dickinson SWCD (35%)

Contract Purpose: Over the past several decades, shoreline vegetation along the southeast section of Angler’s Bay on Spirit Lake, at Hale’s Slough Wildlife Management Area, has grown up from an open, park-like native oak savanna to a largely closed woodland dominated by green ash, ironwood, cottonwood, and other undesirable trees. These trees not only limit user access, but have also reached a height where they shade out a rare native submergent lake plant community in the shallows of Angler’s Bay – a problem identified by DNR fisheries. Also, the preponderance of green ash in the stand may pose a safety risk in the future should the community be impacted by emerald ash borer.



The contracted vendor will fall and remove all identified undesirable trees from the stand using heavy equipment that the DNR does not possess or have access to. All trees to be removed have been marked by a DNR forester and follow a Woodland Stewardship Plan developed by DNR in early 2020. Trees to be removed will be felled and stump treated with aquatic-safe herbicide to prevent resprout, and all debris will be removed or burned on site. All stumps will be cut to ground level (no rootballs pulled) and all heavy equipment work will take place during winter to minimize potential soil impacts. Because the project is along the shore of Spirit Lake, the vendor is required to implement specific erosion control measures to prevent loosened soils from entering the lake. Contract tasks include:



- Fell all marked undesirable trees in 17.3 acres of overgrown wooded shoreline using chainsaws and heavy-equipment mounted grapple and saws
- Trees too large or hazardous to drop shall be girdled and treated with pre-approved chemical approved for use in near-aquatic environments
- Implement erosion control practices prior to any heavy-equipment use on-site
- Remove all large biomass from the site with skidder, feller-buncher, or grapple-equipped excavator to minimize safety hazards and ensure open access for public users
- Stack and pile all extraneous small materials in DNR-designated areas for planned burning

Selection Process Summary: The Department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and also published a formal request for proposal (RFP) on the Department of Administrative Services website. Criteria reviewed for this work included: recognized national chain-saw safety certification for all operators, Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship Pesticide Applicator’s license (or equivalent), current State of Iowa Division of Labor contractor certification, experience in similar work and past experience with DNR or other conservation agencies, and appropriateness of equipment to be used for the project; verification of on-site project inspection by all bidders.

Proposal Due Date: January 12, 2021

of Proposals Received: 3

Recommendation: Blumer Excavating Company, LLC of Osage, Iowa

Bidder	Location	Score	Rank	Amount
Blumer Excavating, LLC	Osage, IA	84.5	1	\$62,420.20
Native Resource Preservation	West Saint Paul, MN	71.7	2	\$277,637.10
Beaver Stump & Tree	Urich, MO	49.4	3	\$345,448.20

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

10. Chapter 23 – Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program Grant Recommendations

The Commission is requested to approve the following grant recommendations pursuant to Chapter 23, Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program Grants.

Grant Purpose: In 1979, the Iowa General Assembly passed legislation requiring hunters and trappers to purchase a wildlife habitat stamp. All revenue derived from the sale of habitat stamps are used within the state of Iowa for acquisition of land, leasing of land, obtaining easements from willing sellers for use as wildlife habitats, and for the development and enhancement of wildlife lands and habitat areas. Beginning in 2019, in accordance with Iowa Code 483A.3, a portion of the revenue resulting from the increase in wildlife stamp fees are to be specifically used for projects other than land acquisition projects. For all projects, Counties must provide at least 25% cost share. By Code, grant applications are reviewed twice a year.

Funding Source(s): Fish and Game Trust Fund

Grant Funding Available: \$520,000 (\$160,000 specified use)

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 23, the grant review and selection committee met on 01/22/21 to evaluate and score applications and provide recommendations for the grant awards.

Selection Committee Members: The review and selection committee consists of five members:

- County Conservation Boards (4)
- DNR Staff (1)

Number of Applications Received: 17 (12 Addition Projects; 5 Habitat Development/Enhancement Projects)

Recommendations: The committee recommends offering full funding to the top 4 ranked projects as well as the 4 habitat development projects that met the minimum score. The minimum score for eligible projects is 45. Any unused funds, or if ranked projects decline their award, dollars will be offered to the next qualified applicant. Any unused funds will carry forward for use in future projects.

Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant (County)	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
53.10	Woodbury	Oak Ridge Conservation Area Zook Addition – This 82.5 acre tract adjoins the Oak Ridge Conservation Area and is part of the County’s larger Little Sioux River Corridor project. The tract consists of upland oak timber with open grasslands along the ridgetops. Management will focus on enhancement of oak savannah habitats. The area will be managed to provide public hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing, and other compatible outdoor education and recreation.	\$146,438	\$146,438
52.60	Mitchell	Pitzen Prairie Wildlife Complex – This 206 acre project consists of 3 tracts located along the Little Cedar River just east of the town of Stacyville. The tracts are composed of an established native prairie seeding, riparian and upland woodland, a small seasonal wetland, and some small prairie remnants. The area will be managed to provide wildlife habitat and will be open to the public for hunting and trapping as well as other compatible outdoor recreation including fishing, hiking, and nature viewing.	\$100,000	\$100,000
52.50	Cerro Gordo	Prairie Pothole Wildlife Area Seglem Addition – This 75.5 acre tract is part of a restored prairie and wetland complex that adjoins 2 public wildlife areas. The tract includes 53 acres of restored prairie and 10 restored wetlands. The area will be managed to provide wildlife habitat and will be open to public hunting, trapping, and other compatible outdoor recreation including wildlife viewing.	\$25,900	\$25,900
51.40	Poweshiek	Fox Forest Wildlife Area Barker Addition – This 45 acre tract consists of 22 acres of oak/hickory woodland and 21 acres seeded to native	\$85,443	\$85,443

		prairie species. The tract borders Fleming Woods State Preserve. The tract also includes a 1 acre pond. The area will be managed to provide wildlife habitat and to provide public hunting, trapping, and fishing,		
51.35	Wright	Dettman Wildlife Area – This 132 acre tract includes a 0.75 mile reach of the Iowa River. The tract consists of 32 acres of a mix of mesic grasslands and herbaceous wetlands bordering the Iowa River and 48 acres of bottomland woodlands composed of oak, hickory, walnut, elm, maple, basswood, and butternut species.	\$209,500	\$0
51.10	Fayette	Gilbertson Conservation Area Hackmann Addition – This 66 acre tract includes a 10 acre high quality sand prairie as well as 19.4 acres of mast producing woodland. The remainder of the tract consists of bottomland wetlands and agricultural fields situated along an unnamed tributary of the Turkey River. Wetland areas will be enlarged and managed to enhance the seasonal wetland habitat while the remainder of the bottomland area will be seeded to native prairie.	\$177,870	\$0
50.20	Mitchell	Pitzen Prairie Wetland Development Project – This 14 acre wildlife habitat development project will create 3 wetlands totaling 7.1 acres and establish 7 acres of shrubland habitats along grassland borders. Actions include creating berms, spillways, and installing water control structures and purchase of 15,408 shrub seedlings including Highbush Cranberry, Serviceberry, American Hazelnut and Redozier Dogwood.	\$30,000	\$30,000
48.90	Kossuth	Patterson Wildlife Area Wetland Enhancement Project – This 57 acre wildlife habitat development project will improve a 56 acre wetland located in the floodplain along the East Fork of the Des Moines River. Project tasks include shallow water excavations, widening, reshaping, and armoring 3,175 linear feet of existing dike as well as stabilizing 2 existing water control structures used to manage water levels in the wetland to maximize wildlife habitat benefits for waterfowl and other migratory birds.	\$68,406	\$68,406
48.90	Clay	Riverton Wildlife Area Muller Addition – This 35.5 acre tract is bordered on 3 sides by the Riverton Wildlife Area and borders 0.75 miles of the Ocheyedan River. Habitat restoration plans include establishment of 30 acres of high diversity native prairie, enhancement of existing wetland habitat, along with some acres seeded to native grasses such as big bluestem or switchgrass to provide winter thermal cover for upland birds.	\$51,000	\$0
48.80	Bremer	Seven Bridges Wildlife Area Richards and Snyder Additions – These tracts total 64.8 acres composed of forested habitats along the Wapsipinicon River. The tracts includes several seasonal oxbow wetlands. The area will be open to hunting and trapping as well as other compatible recreational activities including hiking, fishing, mushroom and berry hunting, and general nature observation.	\$71,225	\$0
48.40	Butler	Schaefer Wildlife Area – This 34.2 acre tract is situated along Boylan Creek within the Cedar River Watershed. The tract consists of 17 acres of herbaceous wetlands and 17 acres of tallgrass prairie. The project will provide habitat for a variety of wildlife, including game and non-game species. Public hunting and trapping will be the primary uses.	\$68,195	\$0
48.10	Polk	Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt Lane Addition – This 76.2 acre tract includes .35 miles of Bluff Creek and will include a mix of restored wetlands, prairie, and riparian woodlands. The area will be open to the public for hunting and trapping as well as other compatible recreational uses which include wildlife viewing, hiking, trail running, and nature photography.	\$210,100	\$0

47.60	Clayton	Becker West Wildlife Area Savanna Expansion/Enhancement – This 17 acre wildlife habitat development project involves clearing undesirable trees from an oak woodland utilizing the assistance of work crews from the Conservation Corps of Iowa followed by planting white oak and burr oak seedlings.	\$8,560	\$8,560
47.00	Appanoose	Fenton Wetland Wildlife Area Grassland Enhancement Project – This 32 acre wildlife habitat development project consists of establishment of 12 acres of diverse native forbs, 16 acres of native tallgrass prairie, and 4 acres of clover fire breaks.	\$7,500	\$7,500
46.90	Sioux	Rock Wildlife Area Draayer Addition – This 11.9 acre tract includes a 7 acre prairie seeding and 3.9 acres of remnant prairie, pond, and woodland. The area will be open to hunting and trapping as well as other compatible uses including bird watching, hiking, archery shooting, and nature study.	\$25,000	\$0
46.60	Linn	Chain Lakes Natural Area Wendling Quarry Addition – This 37.5 acre tract lies between the state owned Chain-O-Lakes Wildlife Management Area and the county owned Chain Lakes Wildlife Area. The tract consists of a 12 acre quarry pond surrounded by riparian forest and forested wetlands along the Cedar River. The property will be managed to provide habitat for a variety of game and non-game wildlife species. The area will be managed to provide fishing, hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing, bird watching, hiking, and outdoor education.	\$97,875	\$0
39.10	Polk	Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt Switchgrass Site Restoration – This 45 acre wildlife habitat development project consists of establishing 40 acres in a high diversity seeding of native prairie plants along with 5 acres of wetland habitats. Actions include acquiring and planting a diverse seeding mixture including up to 100 forbs and 20 grass species and a number of shallow water excavations to establish oxbow wetlands within former portions of prior river channel that run through the tract.	\$117,715	\$0
Total			\$1,500,727	\$472,247.00

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

11. Chapter 35 – Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Board Grant Recommendations

The Commission is requested to approve the following grant recommendations pursuant to Chapter 35, Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Board Grants.

Grant Purpose: All revenue derived from fish habitat fees, paid for as part of fishing licenses, is deposited in the state fish and game protection fund to be used for fish habitat development. At least fifty percent of all revenue from the sale of fish habitat fees is distributed equally among the six county conservation board districts. Each district is allowed to hold a two-year apportionment before money is redistributed equally among all districts. Applicants must provide at least 10% cost share for their project. This program is managed by the counties and is open to all county conservation boards for habitat development and acquisition purposes. The DNR serves in an advisory role and oversees funding administration.

Funding Source(s): Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.

Grant Funding Available: Grants are reviewed by the Counties annually. Funding available for this grant cycle is \$86,766 for each of the six county districts plus any carry over from the previous year for eligible project proposals.

Summary of Selection Process: The Fish Habitat Grant Review Committees met in December 2020 and January 2021 to rank and score the county conservation board projects in their district.

Selection Committee Members: The review and selection committee for each district consisted of at least five County Conservation Board Directors and one DNR Fisheries Biologist advisor.

Recommendations: The district committees recommend funding the projects as follows:

District 1	\$99,065.69	
Marshall	\$33,367.50	Shoreline stabilization at Sand Lake.
Story	\$56,428.20	Repurposing of lagoon into a walleye rearing pond for Hickory Grove Lake.
Webster	\$9,269.99	Construction of fish habitat at Moorland Pond and Prairie Pond.

District II	\$114,515.50	
Howard	\$46,291.50	Shoreline stabilization and construction of habitat in Bigalk Creek Trout Stream Wildlife Area.
Kossuth	\$40,658.00	Construction of a jetty and gravel spawning beds at Smith Lake.
Winneshiek	\$27,566.00	Shoreline stabilization and construction of habitat at Casey Springs, Sindelar Wildlife Access.

District III	\$86,766.00	
Cherokee	\$16,875.00	Streambank stabilization at Pearse Access County Park.
Dickinson	\$44,290.00	Streambank stabilization at Horseshoe Bend Park, Little Sioux River.
Monona	\$25,601.00	Shoreline armoring Peters Park Lake.

District IV	\$99,102.88	
Montgomery	\$23,000.00	Dam armoring and placement of fish habitat at Hacklebarney Woods Park, West Lake.
Shelby	\$450.00	Aquatic vegetation reduction at Manteno Park Lake. This is partial funding for the proposed project.
Taylor	\$27,985.50	Shoreline reshaping and armoring, and construction of spawning beds and fish habitat at Wilson Lake.
Union	\$47,667.38	Jetty construction and habitat placement at Thayer Lake.

District V	\$45,000.00	
Wapello	\$18,000.00	Pond renovation at Sycamore Wildlife Area including dredging, dam work, shoreline armoring, and habitat construction.
Wapello	\$27,000.00	Pond construction, including sediment retention basin, two jetties and fish habitat at Pioneer Ridge Wildlife Area.

District VI	\$94,614.00	
Allamakee	\$39,496.00	Stream bank stabilization and habitat construction in Clear Creek, Garrett Recreation Area.
Clayton	\$17,062.50	Stream bank stabilization and habitat construction in Joy Springs, Joy Springs County Park.
Clayton	\$10,500.00	Bank stabilization and habitat construction in the Volga River, Osborne County Park.
Clinton	\$2,598.50	Jetty construction and habitat placement at Hagen Pond, Ben Martinson Wildlife Area. This is partial funding for the proposed project.
Dubuque	\$24,957.00	Stream bank stabilization and habitat construction in Upper Catfish Creek, Swiss Valley Nature Preserve.

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
 Conservation and Recreation Division
 NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item (*indicates proposed consent)

***12. Timber Sale Contract with Jones Wood Heating and Logging LLC (Chain-O-Lakes WMA)**

Commission approval is requested for a timber sale contract with Jones Wood Heating and Logging LLC of McGregor, IA, for Chain-O-Lakes Wildlife Management Area.

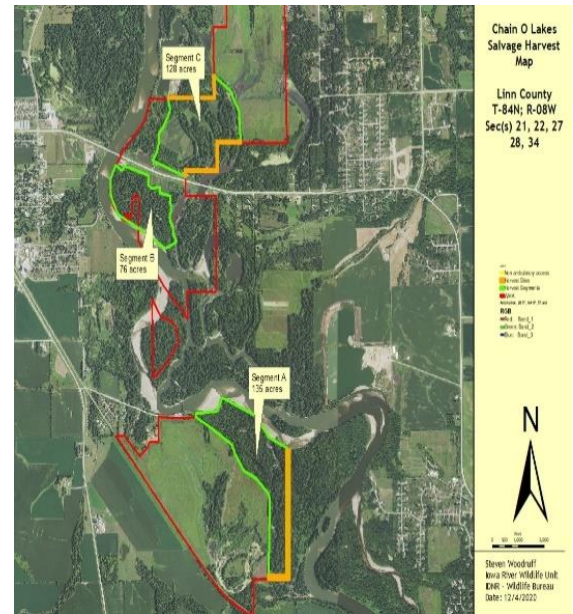
Contract Terms

Income: \$57,400

Dates: 2/15/21-3/31/22

Fund Deposited to: Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

Contract Purpose: This contract will facilitate a salvage timber harvest of storm hardwood trees on 339 acres at Chain-O-Lakes Wildlife Management Area in Linn County. This area received heavy damage from the August 10, 2020, derecho storm event. The harvest will remove downed and damaged trees, and create openings for new regeneration and access for public use. Seedlings may be planted in some areas to supplement natural regeneration. There are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest area. Harvesting and regenerating this stand will improve the overall health and vigor of the forest.



Wildlife den trees will be left standing. Iowa Forestry Best Management Practices will apply to the site. No tops or harvesting residue will be left in adjacent waterways. Harvesting is to occur only when ground is firm or frozen to minimize soil disturbance. Skid trails and landing areas will be repaired following the harvest. No skid trails will be allowed in the Stream Management Areas (within 50 feet of the adjacent waterway) except at designated stream crossings.

Selection Process Summary: An informal bid process was completed. To be qualified, a timber buyer must have on file with the State of Iowa a bond meeting the requirements of Section 456A.36 of the Code of Iowa and Chapter 571-72 of the Iowa Administrative Code. The forester and supervisor reviewed the bid proposals and the highest bid from the most responsive and responsible bidder was selected.

Date bids received: 1/15/21

Number of Bids Received: 2

Recommendation: Jones Wood Heating and Logging LLC

Bidder	City, State	Amount of Bid
Jones Wood Heating and Logging LLC	McGregor, IA	\$57,400.00
Ben Bruggeman	Monticello, IA	\$37,500.00

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item (*indicates proposed consent)

***13. Timber Sale Contract with Ben Bruggeman (Salt Creek WMA)**

Commission approval is requested for a timber sale contract with Ben Bruggeman of Monticello, IA, for Salt Creek Wildlife Management Area.

Contract Terms

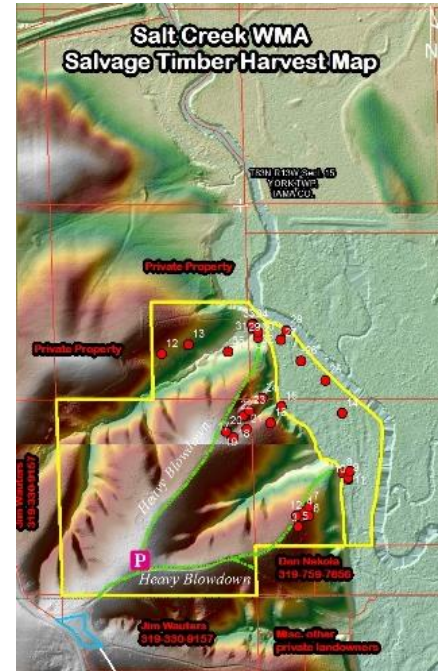
Income: \$44,500.00

Dates: 2/15/21-3/30/22

Fund Deposited to: Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

Contract Purpose: This contract will facilitate a salvage timber harvest of storm damaged oak and miscellaneous hardwood trees on 78 acres at Salt Creek Wildlife Management Area in Tama County. This area received heavy damage from the August 10, 2020, derecho storm event. The harvest will remove downed and damaged trees, and create openings for new regeneration and access for public use. Seedlings may be planted in some areas to supplement natural regeneration. There are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest area. Harvesting and regenerating this stand will improve the overall health and vigor of the forest.

Wildlife den trees will be left standing. Iowa Forestry Best Management Practices will apply to the site. No tops or harvesting residue will be left in adjacent waterways. Harvesting is to occur only when ground is firm or frozen to minimize soil disturbance. Skid trails and landing areas will be repaired following the harvest. No skid trails will be allowed in the Stream Management Areas (within 50 feet of the adjacent waterway) except at designated stream crossings.



Selection Process Summary: An informal bid process was completed. To be qualified, a timber buyer must have on file with the State of Iowa a bond meeting the requirements of Section 456A.36 of the Code of Iowa and Chapter 571-72 of the Iowa Administrative Code. The forester and supervisor reviewed the bid proposals and the highest bid from the most responsive and responsible bidder was selected.

Date bids received: 1/15/21

Number of Bids Received: 2

Recommendation: Ben Bruggeman

Bidder	City, State	Amount of Bid
Ben Bruggeman	Monticello, IA	\$44,500.00
Wilson Custom Tree	Cresco, IA	\$31,552.00

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

14. Chapter 30 - Waters Cost-Share and Grants Program, Water Trails Development Program Grant Recommendations

The Commission is requested to approve the following grant recommendations pursuant to Chapter 30, Waters Cost-share and Grants Programs.

Grant Purpose: The purpose of the Water Trails Development Program Grant is to offer cost-share funds to water trails infrastructure projects, such as water accesses, parking areas, restrooms, and paddlecraft campsites. Eligible applicants include any local divisions of Iowa government. A minimum 50 percent cost-share is required from the applicant. As outlined in rule, grants are issued at least annually if funding is available. The last grants were approved in January 2020.

Funding Source(s): Marine Fuel Tax

Grant Funding Available: \$130,000

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 30, the grant review and selection committee met on January 6, 2021, to evaluate and score applications and to provide recommendations for the grant awards.

Selection Committee Members: The review and selection committee consisted of five members:

- Citizen stakeholders (2)
- DNR Staff (3)

Recommendations: The committee recommends funding the two grant applicants. Any unused funds will carry forward for use in the next grant cycle.

DEVELOPMENT GRANT				
Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
93.4	City of Evansdale in Black Hawk County	This grant is for the design for a new access on the Cedar River at Evansdale. This project was identified in the water trail master plan, written in 2018-2019. The planned improvements include a loading and unloading area with vegetated islands, walking path, and pollinator plantings. The area is already being used by anglers, but there is no formal access. It's very close to Highway 20 and situated about 1,000 feet from the Cedar Valley Nature Trail Bridge.	\$15,000	\$15,000
63.6	City of Mason City	This grant is for the design of a Gateway access that can accommodate both motorized boats and paddlecraft, and includes an ADA path down to the river's edge. Its location at MacNider Camground near the popular East Park is purposeful, as it's a popular and well-known asset to the city and community.	\$16,000	\$16,000
DEVELOPMENT GRANT TOTALS			\$31,000	\$31,000

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item (* indicates proposed consent item)

15. Public Land Management Projects

***15.1 Barge Fleeting Lease Renewal – Mississippi River, Dubuque – American River Transportation Company**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 29-R with American River Transportation Company of Cassville, WI.

Location: The leased area is described as a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River including approximately 1600 feet of frontage by 210 feet of depth located at Mississippi River Mile 576.75 located in Section 5, Township 88 North, Range 3 East of the 5th P.M., Dubuque County, Iowa.

Lease History: This area has been under a barge fleeting lease since 1978.

Lease Terms: The annual fee is \$11,363.00 and will be increased annually based on the percentage increase of the consumer price index. The term of the lease will be five years.

15.2 Management Agreement – Adair WMA – Adair County Conservation Board

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve a management agreement with the Adair County Conservation Board (CCB) for Adair Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Location: The area is located 8 miles west of Greenfield in Adair County.

Site Purpose: The purpose of this management agreement is to transfer the use and care of state-owned land to the Adair CCB. Adair WMA is a 338-acre wildlife management area. The area is mainly used for public hunting and is comprised of roughly half timber and half upland grasses. The Adair CCB owns and manages Mormon Trail Park which is approximately three miles from the Adair WMA. The DNR and Adair CCB agree that due to proximity of existing land holdings, the CCB is well situated to manage the area. The CCB has reviewed and approved the transfer of management and the DNR will support the management through plan assistance and technical advice. This agreement will provide mutual benefit and will continue to be managed for public use.

Management History: This is a new management agreement.

Management Agreement Term: The term of this agreement is through 2046.

***15.3 Management Agreement Renewal – Bauer Slough – Hamilton County Conservation Board**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve a renewal to the management agreement with Hamilton County Conservation Board (HCCB) for the area known as Bauer Slough.

Location: The area is located 4 miles southeast of Webster City in Hamilton County.

Site Purpose: The purpose of the original agreement was to transfer care and maintenance of state-owned real property to the county. Bauer Slough is one of the most unique and diverse wildlife areas in

Hamilton County. This area consists of 417 acres (80 acres are state-owned) of restored prairies and wetlands. A virgin wetland and prairie also exist on the site. This area is ideal for hiking and bird watching. Public hunting is allowed. The Hamilton CCB owns and manages 340 acres of adjacent similar habitat. The DNR and Hamilton CCB agree that due to proximity of existing land holdings, the CCB is well situated to manage the area.

Management History: The original Management Agreement was approved in 1995.

Management Agreement Term: The term of this agreement is through 2046.

***15.4 Easement Conveyance – Stephens State Forest – Lucas County**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve an easement for public highway at Stephens State Forest in Lucas County.

Project Description: The Lucas County Board of Supervisors is requesting a permanent easement for additional road right of way (ROW). This additional ROW will allow the county roads department to replace the old existing wood bridge with an at-grade railroad crossing. The size of the easement will be 1.1 acres in total. Local forestry staff have reviewed the request and given their approval.

Compensation: \$0 (mutual benefit)

***15.5 Easement Conveyance – St Mary’s Island WMA – Mills County**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve a permanent easement at St Mary’s Island Wildlife Management Area in Mills County.

Project Description: The USACE and the Mills and Pottawattamie Missouri River Levee District are requesting a permanent easement for levee repairs along the Missouri River. The area has been decimated with flooding in recent years and this easement will provide unimpeded access to the levee for repairs and maintenance. No public access will be lost. The size of the easement will be 26.58 acres. Local wildlife staff have reviewed the request and given their approval.

Compensation: \$0.00 (mutual benefit)

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

16. Public Land Acquisition Project: Pilot Knob Wildlife Management Area, Winnebago County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Winnebago County near Pilot Knob Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 80 acres

Purchase Price: \$118,000

Appraised Price: \$118,000

Property Description: This property is located three miles east of Forest City in southeastern Winnebago County. The topography varies, reflecting several low depressional areas to gently rolling uplands. There is a 2-acre natural slough, and some small areas of oak timber. A majority of the tract (76.8 acres) is encumbered by a permanent Wetland Reserve Easement. Restoration will include restored wetlands, prairie seeding, and oak savannah. There is a 3-acre building site that includes a vacant house, a garage, and numerous outbuildings of no value. The buildings will be removed from the property. A dead-end county road provides access to the east center of the tract.

Purpose: In addition to providing for important water quality benefits, this acquisition will allow for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities. This tract will provide for excellent habitats for upland game birds, waterfowl, and whitetail deer.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Prairie Lakes XI Federal NAWCA (\$72,500), Winnebago County Pheasants Forever (\$40,000), Wildlife Habitat Stamp (\$5,500)

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. The property will remain on property tax rolls in full levy.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Information Item

17. Construction - Small Projects

The following Engineering managed projects have been let utilizing the Competitive Quotation process for projects \$100,000 or less:

Bid Date	Project No.	Location	County	Summary	Cost Estimate	Bids
12/3/20	19-01-11-01 Fisheries	Storm Lake Hatchery	Buena Vista	A new wheel mounted generator and automatic transfer switch will be installed to run the current water pump.	\$43,000	\$34,056.53 \$34,461.00 \$37,350.00 \$41,653.00 \$48,007.00
12/17/20	20-06-53-01 Parks	Wapsipinicon State Park	Jones	Repair 2019 flood damaged Wapsipinicon bank with 640 CY of embankment fill and 756 tons of Class E revetment.	\$38,000	\$42,160.00 \$45,280.00 \$48,123.20 \$59,960.00 \$62,246.00 \$79,156.00 \$83,580.00
12/17/20	21-06-70-01 Parks	Fairport SRA	Muscatine	Repair 2019 flood damaged Mississippi River bank with 347 tons of Class E revetment and 17 tons of erosion stone.	\$16,000	\$17,057.00 \$18,006.00 \$18,900.00 \$19,656.05 \$21,119.75 \$21,211.01 \$21,590.00 \$21,947.50

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

18. Construction Projects

18.1 Lake Icaria State, Park Pavement Preservation – Adams County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Lake Icaria State Park is located approximately 4 miles north of Corning on Highway 148. The Park is managed by the Adams County Conservation Board. The park offers two different campgrounds, both with full-service hook ups and primitive sites. Each campground contains a playground, horseshoe pits, trails, shower houses, water hydrants, restrooms, trash dumpsters and a dump station. Also, in the Park are 14 cabins and two full-service handicap accessible lake front family cabin cottages. The Park has 6 miles of trail, a lookout point, picnic shelters, a handicap fishing pier, several boat ramps, and a fish cleaning station. A marina concession and beach swimming area are other amenities available at the Park.



Over the last few years, the increasing numbers of campers and park visitors and the larger, longer, heavier vehicles have led to pavement failure, oxidation, raveling, random, transverse and longitudinal cracking. Cracks in the road have contributed to excess water infiltration and ultimately localized pavement failures in some areas. This project will replace road sections and repair joints and cracks. Also, deposited sediment will be removed from approximately 800 feet of ditch to improve water flow, and four rusted out culverts will be removed and replaced with concrete culvert pipes.



Construction Needed: Maintenance will occur on approximately 3.8 miles of road through asphalt milling and placement, pavement removal, transverse joint repair, crack sealing, asphalt patching and fog sealing. Also four culverts will be replaced and 800 feet of ditch will be cleaned.

Engineering Project #: 17-04-02-01

Cost Estimate: \$420,000

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: DOT Parks and Institutional Road Fund

Bid Letting Date: 01/21/2021

Construction Completion Date: 09/30/2021

Bidders

Blacktop Service Co

Humboldt, IA

\$449,223.46

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Blacktop Service Co

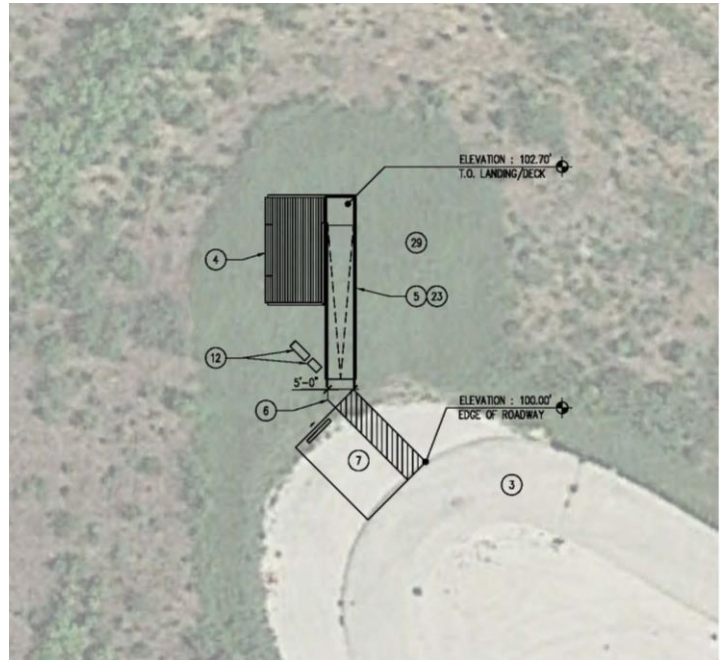
18.2 Riverton WMA, Overlook Platform – Fremont County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Riverton Wildlife Management Area (WMA) covers approximately 3,990 acres and consists of marsh and upland habitat. The WMA is located approximately nine miles southeast of Sidney, Iowa.

The purpose of the platform is to provide visitors an elevated view of the surrounding marsh. The platform is located in the northeastern section of the Riverton Wildlife Management Area, accessible from 330th Avenue.

The existing 145 square foot wooden overlook platform was constructed in the 1980s and is starting to deteriorate. This project will replace the current platform with an ADA compliant platform; it and the railing and bench tops will be made of composite wood material. Also, a new ADA parking space and accessible sidewalk to the platform will be installed.



Construction Needed: Construct a new ADA compliant platform approximately 10' x 20' constructed of composite material. Construct a new ADA parking space and accessible sidewalk.

Engineering Project #: 20-04-36-04

Cost Estimate: \$41,000.00

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: REAP License Plates

Bid Letting Date: 01/21/2021

Construction Completion Date: 05/28/2021

Bidders

United Construction Services	Atlantic, IA	\$49,025.20
Vieco Development & Construction Co., Inc	St. Joseph, MO	\$62,275.00
Pillar Inc.	Huxley, IA	\$81,356.77

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, IDNR recommends awarding the contract to United Construction Services.

18.3 Geode State Park, Shoreline Armoring – Henry County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Lake Geode is a 174-acre lake encompassed by a 1,640-acre State Park. The Lake Geode watershed consists of approximately 10,327 acres. The watershed encompasses drainage from Cedar Creek and the lake outlets to the Skunk River. This scenic lake was constructed in 1950 and has excellent fishing. DNR estimates that Lake Geode State Park attracts approximately 180,000 annual visitors who camp, hike, fish, and boat within the park.

Restoration projects previously completed at Geode between 2012 and 2020 include the installation of 21 sediment ponds, 983 feet of armored shoreline, replacing the drain valve, repairing the concrete spillway, and removing deposited sediment.

This project will armor areas of the shoreline that have been actively eroding and are not terrestrially accessible. Rock riprap will be placed along approximately 1,419 linear feet of shoreline, in five different locations. Preventing this erosion will reduce suspended sediment entering the lake and improve water quality.

Construction Needed: The contractor will utilize a barge to transport and place an estimated 6,939 tons of Class E Revetment along the shoreline.

Engineering Project #: 18-06-44-03

Cost Estimate: \$430,000.00

Operating Bureau: Lake Restoration

Funding Source: Lake Restoration

Bid Letting Date: 01/21/2021

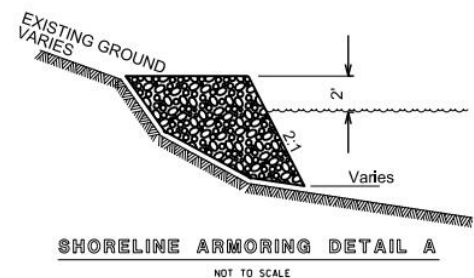
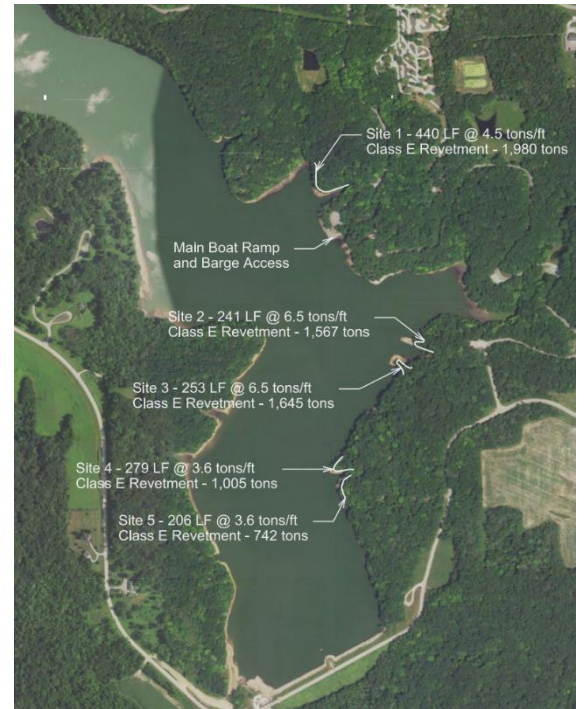
Construction Completion Date: 8/31/2021

Bidders

Water Works Docks & Boat Lifts, Inc.	Stoddard, WI	\$344,900.00
Miller Trucking & Excavating	Silvis, IL	\$497,291.00
Superior Seawalls, Inc.	Illinois City, IL	\$528,626.50
Langman Construction, Inc.	Rock Island, IL	\$543,852.00
Legacy Corporation of IL	East Moline, IL	\$568,770.00
Cole Construction, Inc	Keosauqua, IA	\$573,604.15
Newt Marine Service	Dubuque, IA	\$574,977.35
Four Seasons Excavating, Inc.	West Burlington, IA	\$616,120.00
Brandt Construction Co.	Milan, IL	\$674,510.00
Veit & Company, Inc.	Rogers, MN	\$679,486.00

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Water Works Docks & Boat Lifts, Inc.

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
 Conservation and Recreation Division
 NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021



**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

19. Contract with Newell Machinery Co., Inc.

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Newell Machinery Co., Inc., of Hiawatha, IA.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$109,985.00

Dates: February 15, 2021 to September 15, 2021

Funding Source(s): REAP Open Spaces Development

Contract Purpose: Beginning in 2018, the DNR analyzed the process flow of tree seedlings at the State Forest Nursery through several continuous improvement events. The outcome of these events helped determine the need for a new conveyor system at the State Forest Nursery. The current conveyor system is very outdated, limits nursery staff to operation at a single speed, requires extensive maintenance, and creates downtime with frequent repairs.

The new conveyor system will allow more efficient operation at variable speeds, meet electrical codes and safety requirements, and will be designed to handle the removal of excess soil from the grading room in a more efficient manner. The new conveyor system will be installed as part of an upcoming construction project that will improve the design, HVAC, lighting, and overall operation of the grading room.

The contractor will design, manufacture, deliver, and install a new conveyor system for processing nursery stock seedlings weighing up to 250 pounds (weighing approximately 1 pound each) and heights up to 36 inches. The new conveyor system will be designed to run continuously at variable speeds up to 90 feet per minute for long periods of time processing an average of 5,000+ seedlings per hour, be able to effectively handle dirt and debris from seedlings, have all required safety features meeting industry and OSHA standards, and prevent seedlings or materials from falling off the conveyor or getting caught in or under belts. Contract Tasks Include:

- Preliminary Design Review of Conveyor System
- Final Design Review of Conveyor System
- Manufacture Conveyor System
- Delivery, Installation and Operational Certification of Conveyor System
- Ongoing Support of Conveyor System

In the RFP, vendors were asked to submit their bid and a conceptual design for the conveyor system. The DNR reserves the right to negotiate the final equipment cost upon completion of the Final Design Review.

Process Summary: The Department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and also published a request of proposals (RFP) on the Department of Administrative Services website. Criteria reviewed for this work included cost, a technical proposal, a conceptual design, and examples of conveyor systems for previous customers.

Proposal Due Date: January 19, 2021

of Proposals Received: 2

Recommendation: Newell Machinery Co., Inc.

Bidder	Location	Score	Rank	Amount
Newell Machinery Co., Inc.	Hiawatha, IA	146.3	1	\$109,985.00
Thomas Conveyor and Equipment Co., Inc.	Oak Brook Terrace, IL	119.9	2	\$248,219.96

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

20. Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents – Notice of Intended Action

The Commission is requested to approve the Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents.

Basic Intent of Rule - Chapter 106 sets regulations for deer hunting by residents and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, transportation, and reporting requirements.

Proposed Rule Change - This rule making proposes six amendments to Chapter 106 that combined will accomplish the following changes:

1. General deer licenses are being reestablished as valid in three counties for all seasons: Hamilton, Webster, and Wright. Deer populations have been steadily increasing in the northwest allowing for this increase in recreational opportunity for Iowa hunters.
2. The January antlerless-deer-only season is being conditionally reinstated for five counties: Allamakee, Appanoose, Decatur, Wayne, and Winneshiek. The season will occur only if the respective number of unsold antlerless-only-deer licenses in a county exceeds 100 on the third Monday in December. This change accomplishes two objectives for deer population and disease management: 1) it maintains a stable level of antlerless deer harvest during the early seasons when deer are still within their breeding home range, thus slowing the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease among family groups, and 2) it allows opportunity for additional antlerless harvest late in the hunting season to help with population management. The Department goal moving forward will be to stabilize deer numbers in these counties and slow the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease.
3. A total of 25 counties are having their respective resident county antlerless-deer-only license quotas modified, for an overall increase of 1,250 more tags. Quotas are being increased in Buchanan, Butler, Dallas, Des Moines, Dubuque, Fayette, Floyd, Henry, Johnson, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa, Madison, Marion, Muscatine, and Warren counties to reduce deer densities for disease control or to alleviate negative human-deer interactions. Quotas would be decreased in Adams, Fremont, Harrison, Jasper, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, Wapello, and Woodbury counties to stabilize a healthy local population. Statewide, the overall proposed quota change would be an increase of 1,250.

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

Attached: Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents”– Notice of Intended Action

**NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]
Notice of Intended Action**

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby proposes to amend Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 455A.5(6)“a”, 481A.39, and 481A.48(1).

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.39 and 481A.48(1).

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 106, which governs deer hunting by residents in the state of Iowa, sets regulations for deer hunting and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, and transportation and reporting requirements.

This rule making proposes six specific amendments to Chapter 106, which collectively accomplish the following three broader changes to the deer hunting regulations. First, general deer licenses are being reestablished as valid in three counties for all reasons: Hamilton, Webster, and Wright. Deer populations have been steadily increasing in the northwest allowing for this increase in recreational opportunity for Iowa hunters.

Second, the January antlerless-deer-only season is being conditionally reinstated for five counties: Allamakee, Appanoose, Decatur, Wayne, and Winneshiek. The season will only happen, on a county by county basis, if the respective number of unsold antlerless-only-deer licenses exceeds 100 in a county on the third Monday in December. This change accomplishes two objectives for deer population and disease management: 1) it maintains a stable level of antlerless deer harvest during the early seasons when deer are still within their breeding home range, thus slowing the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease among family groups, and 2) it allows opportunity for additional antlerless harvest late in the hunting season to help with population management. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) goal moving forward will be to stabilize deer numbers in these counties and slow the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease.

Third, a total of 25 counties are having their respective resident county antlerless-deer-only license quotas modified, for an overall increase of 1,250 more tags. Quotas are being increased in Buchanan, Butler, Dallas, Des Moines, Dubuque, Fayette, Floyd, Henry, Johnson, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa, Madison, Marion, Muscatine, and Warren counties to reduce deer densities for disease control or to alleviate negative human-deer interactions. Quotas would be decreased in Adams, Fremont, Harrison, Jasper, Mills, Monona, Pottawattamie, Wapello, and Woodbury counties to stabilize a healthy local population. Statewide, the overall proposed quota change would be an increase of 1,250.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no negative fiscal impact to the state of Iowa. A copy of the fiscal impact statement is available from the Department upon request.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found. A copy of the jobs impact statement is available from the Department upon request.

Waivers

This rule is subject to the waiver provisions of 571--Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 30, 2021. Comments should be directed to:

Tyler Harms
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
502 East Ninth Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Email: Tyler.Harms@dnr.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally will be held by conference call as follows. Persons who wish to attend the conference call should contact Chris Ensminger, Wildlife Research Supervisor, at Chris.Ensminger@dnr.iowa.gov. A conference call number will be provided prior to the hearing. Persons who wish to make oral comments at the conference call public hearing must submit a request to Mr. Ensminger prior to the hearing to facilitate an orderly hearing.

March 30, 2021	Conference call
Noon to 1 p.m.	Wallace State Office Building

Persons who wish to make oral comments at the public hearing will be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rule making.

Any persons who intend to attend the hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department and advise of specific needs.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend paragraph **106.1(1)"a"** as follows:

a. General deer licenses. General deer licenses shall be valid for taking deer in one season selected at the time the license is purchased. General deer licenses shall be valid for taking deer of either sex except in Buena Vista, Calhoun, Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, ~~Hamilton~~, Humboldt, Ida, Kossuth, Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth, Pocahontas, Sac, and Sioux, Webster, and Wright counties during the first regular gun season when the general deer license will be valid for taking deer with at least one forked antler. Paid general deer licenses shall be valid statewide except where prohibited in deer population management zones established under 571—Chapter 105. Free general deer licenses shall be valid for taking deer of either sex only on the farm unit of an eligible landowner or tenant in the season or seasons selected at the time the license is obtained.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule **106.1(6)** as follows:

106.1(6) January antlerless-deer-only licenses. ~~Rescinded IAB 7/1/20, effective 8/5/20.~~ Licenses for the January antlerless-deer-only season may be issued for the following counties: Allamakee, Appanoose, Decatur, Wayne, and Winneshiek. January antlerless-deer-only licenses shall be issued for a county only when a minimum of 100 antlerless-deer-only licenses, as described in 106.6(6), remain unsold in that county as of the third Monday in December. If 100 or more antlerless-deer-only licenses remain unsold for a given county as of the third Monday in December, those remaining antlerless-deer-only licenses shall be made available for the January antlerless-deer-only season in that county until the relevant antlerless-deer-only quota as described in 106.6(6) is met.

ITEM 3. Amend subrule **106.2(5)** as follows:

106.2(5) January antlerless-deer-only season. ~~Rescinded IAB 7/1/20, effective 8/5/20.~~ Deer may be taken in accordance with the type, season, and zone designated on the license from January 11 through the third Sunday in January.

ITEM 4. Amend subrule **106.4(5)** as follows:

106.4(5) January antlerless-deer-only season. ~~Rescinded IAB 7/1/20, effective 8/5/20.~~ The bag limit is one deer per license. The possession limit is one deer per license.

ITEM 5. Amend subrule **106.6(4)** as follows:

106.6(4) January antlerless-deer-only season. ~~Rescinded IAB 7/1/20, effective 8/5/20.~~ Only antlerless-deer-only licenses, paid or free, are available in counties as described and pursuant to conditions described in 106.1(6). A license must be used during the January antlerless-deer-only season as described in 106.2(5) and in the county or deer population management area selected at the time the license is purchased. Free antlerless-deer-only licenses shall be available only in the portion of the farm unit located in a county where paid antlerless-deer-only licenses are available during the January antlerless-deer-only season.

ITEM 6. Amend subrule **106.6(6)** as follows:

106.6(6) Antlerless-deer-only licenses. Paid antlerless-deer-only licenses will be available by county as follows:

County	Quota	County	Quota	County	Quota
Adair	1200	Floyd	100 <u>150</u>	Monona	850 <u>750</u>
Adams	1200 <u>1000</u>	Franklin	0	Monroe	2250
Allamakee	3800	Fremont	200 <u>100</u>	Montgomery	500

Appanoose	2700	Greene	0	Muscatine	775 <u>900</u>
Audubon	0	Grundy	0	O'Brien	0
Benton	325	Guthrie	2150	Osceola	0
Black Hawk	0	Hamilton	0	Page	500
Boone	300	Hancock	0	Palo Alto	0
Bremer	300	Hardin	0	Plymouth	0
Buchanan	300 <u>400</u>	Harrison	850 <u>750</u>	Pocahontas	0
Buena Vista	0	Henry	925 <u>1050</u>	Polk	1350
Butler	150 <u>200</u>	Howard	450	Pottawattamie	850 <u>750</u>
Calhoun	0	Humboldt	0	Poweshiek	200
Carroll	0	Ida	0	Ringgold	1200
Cass	400	Iowa	450	Sac	0
Cedar	775	Jackson	1100	Scott	200
Cerro Gordo	0	Jasper	775 <u>575</u>	Shelby	0
Cherokee	0	Jefferson	1500	Sioux	0
Chickasaw	375	Johnson	850 <u>950</u>	Story	150
Clarke	2400	Jones	1100	Tama	300
Clay	0	Keokuk	450 <u>500</u>	Taylor	1300
Clayton	4000	Kossuth	0	Union	1300
Clinton	400	Lee	1500 <u>1700</u>	Van Buren	2100
Crawford	0	Linn	850	Wapello	1700 <u>1600</u>
Dallas	1875 <u>2100</u>	Louisa	675 <u>775</u>	Warren	2700 <u>3000</u>
Davis	1700	Lucas	2500	Washington	1000
Decatur	2200	Lyon	0	Wayne	2700
Delaware	950	Madison	3000 <u>3300</u>	Webster	0
Des Moines	800 <u>900</u>	Mahaska	475	Winnebago	0
Dickinson	0	Marion	1850 <u>2050</u>	Winneshiek	2700
Dubuque	975 <u>1200</u>	Marshall	150	Woodbury	300 <u>200</u>
Emmet	0	Mills	500 <u>300</u>	Worth	0
Fayette	2300 <u>2500</u>	Mitchell	100	Wright	0

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

21. Chapter 108, Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons - Notice of Intended Action

The Commission is requested to approve the Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 108, Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons.

Basic Intent of Rule - Chapter 108 sets the season dates, bag limits, possession limits, and areas open to hunting or trapping furbearers. This rule making proposes to add Delaware, Dubuque, and Jones counties to the “one bobcat per fur harvester” zone.

Data from the past 12 years reveal that Iowa’s bobcat population continues to grow and expand into more counties with suitable habitat. These data are compiled from a variety of sources, such as hunter surveys, harvest information, field reports, and sightings. This proposed rule change is biologically responsible, as required by law, and will also increase recreational opportunities for Iowa fur harvesters while helping minimize social issues associated with high bobcat densities.

Proposed Rule Change - This proposed rule increases the bag limit for bobcats to one per fur harvester in Delaware, Dubuque, and Jones counties. Surveys, harvest rates, tooth age distribution, and field reports indicate that Iowa’s bobcat population is well balanced. Additionally, the population has trended upward the past three years with expansion still occurring in Iowa. Iowa’s bobcat population is at a level that will sustain this proposed harvest.

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 11, 2021

Attached: Chapter 108, “Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons” – NOIA

**NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]
Notice of Intended Action**

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby proposes to amend Chapter 108, “Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 455A.5(6)“a”, 481A.38, 481A.39, and 481A.87.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 481A.87.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 108 sets the season dates, bag limits, possession limits, and areas open to hunting or trapping furbearers. This rule making proposes to add Delaware, Dubuque, and Jones counties to the one bobcat per fur harvester zone. Data from the past 12 years reveal that Iowa’s bobcat population continues to grow and expand into more counties with suitable habitat. These data are compiled from a variety of sources, such as hunter surveys, harvest information, field reports, and sightings. This proposed rule change is biologically responsible, as required by law, and will increase recreational opportunities for Iowa fur harvesters while helping minimize social issues associated with high bobcat densities.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Natural Resources (Department) anticipates a very modest increase in fur harvester license sales from the proposed rule. Currently, resident fur harvester licenses, with the wildlife habitat fee, are \$41 per year. If any additional fur harvester licenses are sold as a result of the newly opened counties, revenue would be generated for the State Fish and Game Protection Fund. A copy of the fiscal impact statement is available from the Department upon request.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found. A copy of the jobs impact statement is available from the Department upon request.

Waivers

This rule is subject to the waiver provisions of 571--Chapter 11. Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Commission for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on March 30, 2021. Comments should be directed to:

Vince Evelsizer
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
1203 North Shore Drive
Clear Lake, Iowa 50428
Email: Vince.Evelsizer@dnr.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally will be held by conference call as follows. Persons who wish to attend the conference call should contact Chris Ensminger, Wildlife Research Supervisor, at Chris.Ensminger@dnr.iowa.gov. A conference call number will be provided prior to the hearing. Persons who wish to make oral comments at the conference call public hearing must submit a request to Mr. Ensminger prior to the hearing to facilitate an orderly hearing.

March 30, 2021
Noon to 1 p.m.

Conference call
Wallace State Office Building

Persons who wish to make oral comments at the public hearing will be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rule making.

Any persons who intend to attend the hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department and advise of specific needs.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making action is proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 108.7(3) as follows:

108.7(3) Seasonal bag limit. The seasonal bag limit for river otters is 3 river otters per person. The seasonal bag limit for bobcats is 1 bobcat per person in the following counties: Audubon, Boone, Cedar, Cherokee, Clinton, Crawford, Dallas, Delaware, Dubuque, Guthrie, Harrison, Iowa, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Jones, Lyon, Monona, Muscatine, Plymouth, Polk, Poweshiek, Scott, Shelby, Sioux, Webster, and Woodbury. The seasonal bag limit for bobcats is 3 bobcats per person in the following counties: Adair, Adams, Appanoose, Cass, Clarke, Davis, Decatur, Des Moines, Fremont, Henry, Jefferson, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa, Lucas, Madison, Mahaska, Marion, Mills, Monroe, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, Ringgold, Taylor, Union, Van Buren, Wapello, Warren, Washington, and Wayne. No more than 3 bobcats total can be legally harvested by a fur harvester in a season. River otters or bobcats trapped in excess of the seasonal bag limit or in a closed area must be turned over to the Department; the trapper shall not be penalized.