

**Minutes of the
Natural Resource Commission
Meeting**

**February 10,
2022**

Business Meeting
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
502 E 9th St, 2nd Fl Conf Rm, Des Moines, IA

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By NRC: 03/10/22

Director's Signature: _____
Kayla Lyon, Director

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Natural Resource Commission Minutes

Sender's initials: KR

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MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission was called to order by the NRC Chair, Margo Underwood, on 02/10/22 at 9:31am. This meeting is open to the public and is being recorded as outlined by Iowa Code (571—1.8).

Commissioner Attendance

Present

- Marcus Branstad, Vice Chair [9:31am – 1:14pm]
- Laura Foell [9:31am -1:14pm]
- Uriah Hansen [9:31am – 12:47pm]
- Laura Hommel, Secretary [9:31am – 1:14pm]
- Tammi Kircher [9:31am – 1:14pm]
- Margo Underwood, Chair [9:31am – 1:14pm]

Absent

- Tom Prickett

Public Participation

Name	City, State	Representing	Topic
David Kerr	Des Moines, IA	--	Bikes, support trail fee

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion – Commissioner Foell with adjustment for Commissioner Hansen’s motion to move agenda item #20 (Chapter 94, Chapter 106) to immediately after public comment.
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

2. Approve Minutes of 01/19/22 Public Meeting

Motion – Commissioner Hommel
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

3. Director’s Remarks

Director Kayla Lyon reported she presented the DNR’s budget to the Senate and House and discussed DNR programs with the Infrastructure committee. She noted the next step for Honey Creek Resort is to have an appraisal completed. She provided information related to State Park funding being considered legislatively and potential projects.

4. Division Administrator’s Remarks

Pete Hildreth, Conservation and Recreation Division Administrator, provided information about Chronic Wasting Disease incentive hunts, the 02/08/22 Deer Advisory Meeting, and the SCTP archery event last weekend. Upcoming events include the Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference being held in Des Moines, the 02/21/22-02/24/22 Wildlife Bureau-led townhall style listening sessions across Iowa, and bureaus related statewide meetings. From CRD’s Forestry Section, Tivon Feeley presented information regarding Iowa’s forest health and Gabriel Edwards presented information on the Forestry Action Plan.

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 in memory of Amy Higgins	Pamela Feld
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Ryan Whitman
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Gerald and Ann Raw
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Jerald Gates
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$10.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Mark Dirks of Belmond, IA	Wendell Mayes
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$500.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Chad Lekwa	Kerry Skinner
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Donald Young	Jennifer Thomas
Parks and Forestry	\$50.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Willy Suchy	Timothy Dicey
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Willie J. Suchy	Anna Suchy
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Chadwick (Chad) Lekwa	Evelyn Holden
Parks and Forestry	\$90.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Chadwick Lekwa	Anna Murphy
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Willie Suchy	Theresa Justice
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Shannon Porter
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Lynnette Kirsop, Nicole Honeycutt, Michael Dana, and Christopher Dana
Parks and Forestry	\$500.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry.	John Morgan
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	John and Jan Zoutte
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Operating Team Members of Preston Reeves
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Kimberly Hols

Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Cindy Steingrabe
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Michael and Doris O'Malley
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of John H. Milder.	Connie and Carol Dietsch
Red Rock Wildlife Unit	\$4,300.00	Funds to support habitat related projects at the Swan Refuge.	Anonymous
Parks and Forestry	\$50.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Wilfred Suchy for Willie J Suchy WMA	Daniel Schmidt
Lake Macbride State Park	\$1,309.00	Fund for a bench along North Shore Trail	Don Ellis
Lake Macbride State Park	\$80.00	Funds to support improvements at Lake Macbride	Anonymous

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

6. 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’s 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. Recommended funding is based on state dollars requested.

Summary of Selection Process: The Fish Habitat Grant Review Committees met in December 2021 and January 2022 to rank and score the county conservation board projects in their district.

Selection Committee Members: The review and selection committee for each district consists 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	\$91,921.00	
Marshall	\$37,921.00	Acquisition of abandoned former Martin Marietta mining quarry (52 ac) adjacent to Marshall CCB’s Sand Lake Recreation Area which will serve as habitat for fishing.
Tama	\$54,000.00	Fish habitat placement, Otter Creek Lake.

District II	\$136,533.00	
Howard	\$80,615.00	Acquisition and protection of 950 LF of the Turkey River corridor directly downstream from existing Howard CCB resources and facilities.
Fayette	\$22,584.60	Dutton Springs Creek Brook Trout fish habitat improvement and protection.
Winnebago	\$33,333.40	Stream bank stabilization and habitat improvement, Sindelar Wildlife Access.

District III	\$82,005.00	
Buena Vista	\$82,000.00	Linn Grove low water dam modification, stream bank stabilization and habitat placement.

District IV	\$76,905.00	
Harrison	\$38,250.00	Willow Lake sediment pond renovation.
Taylor	\$27,985.50	Shoreline reshaping and armoring and placement of fish habitat at Wilson Lake.

District V	\$220,150.00	
Keokuk	\$220,150.00	Sediment basin renovation and fish habitat placement above Belva Deer Lake.

District VI	\$86,276.00	
Allamakee	\$19,507.00	County Home Pond sediment basin renovation and fish habitat placement.
Linn	\$50,000.00	Low head dam modification and fish habitat construction.
Benton	\$16,769.00	Cedar River shoreline stabilization at Hoefle-Dulin Recreation Area.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – Randy Schultz, Fisheries Bureau, provided information regarding the county boards’ project vetting and voting process and confirmed that district chairs do not vote for their own projects.
 Decision – Approved (1 nay-Commissioner Foell)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***7. Contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC (IHAP)**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC, of Johnston, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$33,567.50

Dates: 4/1/2022 to 8/1/2028

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

Contract Purpose: This six-year contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC will allow for the completion of the land management activities described in the Wildlife Management Plan.

Property Description: Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC owns a 167-acre property in Adams County, Iowa. The property is under an Iowa Habitat Access Program (IHAP) agreement and will be open to public access for hunting from 9/1/2022-5/31/2032.

Land Management Tasks: The Wildlife Management Plan outlines the land management tasks for this six-year contract. Tasks for this contract include providing native seed, planting with a broadcast seeder, mowing, prescribed fire, brush management, and timber stand improvement. 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).

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

8. 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 revenues 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: \$547,500 (*\$182,500 of funding available is for specified use)

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 23, the grant review and selection committee met on 12/14/21 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: 7 (4 Additions to existing/new Wildlife Areas and 3 Habitat Development projects)

Recommendations: The committee recommends offering funding to the projects as ranked. The minimum score for eligible projects is 45. If any of the 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
52.3	Humboldt	Boone Valley Wildlife Area – This 79 acre tract is located 1 mile north of the town of Renwick and lies in the floodplain of Prairie Creek, a natural meandering stream within the Boone River watershed. This reach of Prairie Creek floods regularly providing a combination of temporary and seasonal habitat for migratory birds in historic wetland habitats located on this tract. The restoration plan for the area includes 12 acres of wetland habitat and 67 acres planted to native grasses, sedges, and forbes. This is the 2 nd phase of a 3 phase project that will total 390 acres of wildlife habitat open to public hunting. Currently, Humboldt CCB manages a total of 394 acres open to public hunting county-wide.	\$133,550	\$133,550
50.9	Woodbury	Little Sioux River Greenbelt Briese Addition – This 109 acre tract adjoins Sioux Bend Wildlife Management Area and lies just to the northwest of Little Sioux Park and is part of a growing complex of public lands that make up the core of the County’s larger Little Sioux River Greenbelt project. The tract borders a 0.54 mile reach of the Little Sioux River and consists of 67 acres of upland oak timber with open grasslands along the ridgetops with another 42 acres that were planted to native grasses and forbs in 2018. 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.	\$215,660	\$215,660
50.6	Jones	Hale Wildlife Area West Addition – This 158 acre tract lies on the western boundary of the 260 acre Hale Wildlife Area and is located on upland slopes along the northern edge of the Wapsipinicon River valley. The Hale wildlife area includes a complex of prairie, savanna, woodland, and wetland types including more than 200 acres of diverse prairie, 25 acres of woodland, 8 wetlands, and 6 ponds. The West addition adds 90 acres of prairie, 64 acres of woodland, 2 wetlands, and a 3 acre pond. The Hale Wildlife Area is managed as a wildlife management area open to hunting, fishing, hiking, trapping, and other forms of nature appreciation activities with an emphasis on education regarding wildlife and management of wildlife habitat.	\$275,000	\$0 (applicant declined \$15,790 partial funding award)
49.9	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.	\$43,500	\$15,790
49.5	Dubuque	* McCarthy Wildlife Area Habitat Restoration – This 100-acre restoration project will include 70 acres of diverse native prairie, a 3-	\$22,000	\$22,000

		acre winter shelterbelt, 10 acres of alfalfa, and 8 acres of firebreaks. McCarthy Wildlife area is a new public area located 9.5 miles SW of the city of Dubuque. Future plans for the area include 6 acres of wildlife food plots and 3 acres of wetland habitat. This area will be managed as a wildlife area and will be open to hunting and trapping, as well as other compatible uses such as bird watching, photography, nature study, and hiking. There are currently only 560 acres of upland prairie habitat open to public hunting in Dubuque County.		
47.7	Winnebago	* Hogsback Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration – This project will restore 4 to 6 wetlands, enhancing approximately 6 acres of wetland habitat on the 54 acre Tenold tract. The Gosback Wildlife Area is part of the Winnebago River Greenbelt, and the Tenold tract includes a ¾ mile meandered reach of the Winnebago River. The property is managed for public hunting, trapping, and other compatible uses. Prescribed fire will be conducted periodically to promote prairie and control woody invasive species.	\$18,750	\$18,750
45.6	Clayton	* Becker Wildlife Area – This wildlife area consists of 2 tracts near the town of Millville. Both tracts support restored native grasslands intermixed with diverse forested habitats. This project will repair the dikes and install water control structures on 2 ponds to provide shallow water habitat to benefit waterfowl and other wildlife species. The tracts will remain open to hunting, trapping, and nature study as they have since 2012.	\$9,623	\$9,623
Total			\$718,083	\$415,373

Motion – Commissioner Hansen
 Secoded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief, reported that reviewers attend site visits and discuss the details of the project before scoring; their expertise and knowledge is important for their decision making.
 Decision – Approved (2 nays – Commissioners Foell and Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9. Contract with Iowa State University (SGCN maps)

Commission approval is requested for a contract agreement with Iowa State University (ISU), Ames, Iowa.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$105,913

Dates: July 1, 2022 to May 31, 2025

Funding Source(s): Federal State Wildlife Grants – Competitive Funds

Contract Purpose: This three-year agreement is the result of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant Enhancement (SWG-E) Section proposal. Iowa State University (ISU) partnered with DNR on this application. SWG-Es are designed to allow a single State to apply for competitive funds to assist with the planning/accessibility components of the State Wildlife Actions Plans. This project will update the predictive modeling and maps originally completed in 2015 for Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) using the Multiple Species Inventory and Monitoring (MSIM) data. By using the additional data collected since 2015, combined with new analytical techniques, will allow us to 1) develop predictive occurrence maps for SGCN not included in the previous effort due to lack of observations and 2) improve accuracy and precision of predictive occurrence maps for previously examined SGCN to aid in conservation planning for SGCN throughout Iowa. The maps will also be in a more usable format for use by the public and organizations such as USFWS, NRCS, and Army Corps of Engineers.

The total cost for this project with ISU is \$141,237. The DNR will provide funding up to \$105,913. ISU will provide up to \$35,324 in matching funds. ISU tasks include:

- Use the MSIM program occupancy models to create predictive species maps and raster files (data converted to color pixels creating images that will identify areas on the map) for 100+ priority SCGN.
- Create an occurrence layer showing the areas (based on landscape variables) in Iowa that are predicted to have the highest density of SGCN for each taxa (bird, mammal, amphibian, reptile, butterfly, and dragonfly).

- Develop a product consisting of a file of raster layers and a short user manual to distribute to partners to assist in land planning and management decisions.

Selection Process Summary: This contract is authorized by 11 Iowa Administrative Code section 118.4.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
 Seconded – Commissioner Hansen
 Discussion – Dr. Karen Kinkead, Wildlife Bureau, provided information regarding predictive analytics and observation tracking methods.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

10. Contract with Iowa State University (turtle monitoring)

Commission approval is requested for a contract agreement with Iowa State University (ISU), Ames, Iowa.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$163,266

Dates: July 1, 2022 to February 28, 2025

Funding Source(s): Federal State Wildlife Grants – Competitive Funds

Contract Purpose: This 2.5 year agreement is part of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant. Iowa State University (ISU) and Blank Park Zoo are partners with DNR on this competitive grant with the IL DNR. This project will allow our States to monitor Blanding’s turtle response to habitat management in focal areas in west-central Iowa.

Blanding’s turtles are long lived (perhaps more than 75 years) and, once reaching sexual maturity, can reproduce throughout their adult lifespan. Blanding’s turtle natural history (females typically do not reproduce until age 14 or older, do not lay eggs every year, and have small clutches) means that the older adults, particularly females, are key to the longevity of a population at a given site. They are usually found in low numbers in landscapes consisting of multiple wetlands, and types of wetlands, embedded in large expanses of low vegetation. While Blanding’s turtles must have wetlands to survive for feeding, mating, thermoregulation, and overwintering, they are also dependent upon the surrounding terrestrial habitat for nesting, moving between wetlands, aestivation, and dispersing.

Within a prior Blanding’s turtle study, in 2009, a weather-related mortality event occurred reducing their population. While we still find and receive reports of Blanding’s turtles in the specific blocks in Iowa, those reports are of older adult turtles and we have not seen the numbers that were there prior to the 2009 snowstorm. Given the emphasis on habitat restoration within these blocks, we believe a head-starting program for Blanding’s turtles could be beneficial in restoring the population to a higher level. (In a separate project, Blank Park Zoo will be our partner on the head-starting efforts (facility egg hatching and preliminary turtle growth).)

This project will locate and attach radio-telemetry on Blanding’s turtles and facility an attempt to improve population numbers. The total cost for this project is \$220,700. The DNR will provide up to \$163,266 and ISU will provide up to \$57,434 in matching funds. ISU tasks include:

- Capture Blanding’s turtles and place radio-transmitters on 20 turtles.
- If gravid, assist in transporting female turtles to Blank Park Zoo for egg deposition prior to releasing adult at site of capture.
- In 2024, if viable, add in a small number of head-started turtles to the radio-telemetry project.
- Follow all turtles with radio-transmitters and record habitat preferences and characteristics of the habitat.
- Analyze data and create a report detailing habitat preferences of the turtles in the study area.

Selection Process Summary: This contract is authorized by 11 Iowa Administrative Code section 118.4.

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

11. Contract with Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (acoustic bat monitoring)

Commission approval is requested for a contract agreement with Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF), Des Moines, Iowa.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$180,000

Dates: April 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024

Funding Source(s): Federal State Wildlife Grants – Competitive Funds

Contract Purpose: This 2.5 year agreement is a result of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant proposal. The State of Illinois partnered with the DNR on this application with INHF being a subrecipient of the grant project. This grant will allow our states to expand and implement the North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat) in eastern 1/3 and southern 1/3 of Iowa. NABat aims to create a North American comprehensive monitoring program for bats where data are gathered and processed in a systematic, comprehensive manner, thereby allowing for continent-wide inferences about the status of all bats. These data are needed to assess bat population trends on a local, national, and continental scale and will increase our knowledge of all nine bat species that occupy Iowa including two Federally listed species (Indiana Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat) and two species on the Federal National Listing Workplan (Little Brown Bat, Tri-colored Bat).

Under the competitive grant award agreement, INHF will submit the data collected to the DNR and the federal database for use in long-term monitoring of bats. INHF tasks include:

- On behalf of DNR, INHF will purchase all the supplies necessary for monitoring.
- INHF will recruit and train community scientist volunteers to conduct acoustic data collection in at least 15 NABat priority sites. Following the conclusion of the training process, INHF will continue to coordinate trained volunteers conducting acoustic data collection, and will ensure that the data collection occurs as scheduled and follows standard protocols.
- INHF will locate and ground-truth new mobile routes and fixed-point locations in priority grids in the eastern 1/3 and southern 1/3 of Iowa for monitoring.
- INHF will process data collected by the volunteers to quantify bat activity, identify bat species, and determine differences in relative species abundance across the regions monitored. Data will be submitted to DNR and to the federal database.

The total cost for this project is \$220,000. The DNR will provide funding up to \$180,000 and INHF will provide up to \$40,000 in matching funds for the project. Data collected for this project will contribute to the international bat conservation monitoring program, inform management planning efforts, and improve our understanding of current stewardship practices on bat populations.

Selection Process Summary: Statute or federal grant contracting with INHF, is authorized by 11 IAC 118.7.

Motion – Commissioner Branstad
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
 Discussion – Karen Kinkead, Wildlife Bureau, provided information regarding training and the work of the volunteers.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

12. Contract with Iowa State University (acoustic bat monitoring)

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Iowa State University (ISU), of Ames, Iowa

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$39,500

Dates: March 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Funding Source(s): Federal US Fish and Wildlife Service Grant

Contract Purpose: This contract will provide training and coordination of community scientists conducting acoustic surveys for bats, provide supplies and materials needed to conduct the monitoring, and analyze acoustic data collected by community scientists. Under the competitive grant award agreement, ISU will submit the data collected to the DNR and the federal database for use in long-term monitoring of bats. ISU tasks include:

- **Purchase Supplies for Acoustic Monitoring:** On behalf of DNR, ISU will purchase all the supplies necessary for monitoring. Monitoring units purchased for this project will become the property of the DNR.
- **Training and Monitoring Coordination:** ISU will train and coordinate community scientist volunteers recruited by DNR to conduct acoustic data collection at 41 sites. Following the conclusion of the training process, ISU will continue to coordinate trained volunteers conducting acoustic data collection, and ISU will ensure that the data collection occurs as scheduled and follows standard protocols.
- **Establish Monitoring Locations within Priority Grids:** ISU will locate and ground-truth new mobile routes and fixed-point locations in priority grids in northwest Iowa for monitoring.
- **Data Analysis and Submission:** ISU will analyze data collected by the volunteers to quantify bat activity, identify bat species, and determine differences in relative species abundance across the regions monitored. Data will be submitted to DNR and to the federal database.

The DNR’s Wildlife Bureau, under their current Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program, will secure the community scientist volunteers for ISU training and coordination; 35-40 volunteers are anticipated to complete this work.

Acoustic bat call data has been collected annually since 2013 and is being used to assess trends in bat activity over time. This project is part of an ongoing national effort to monitor bat populations. ISU was selected because of their expertise in acoustic bat call data analysis and successful completion of similar work with DNR.

Selection Process Summary: Intergovernmental contracting with Iowa State University is authorized under 11 IAC 118.4.

Motion – Commissioner Branstad
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
 Discussion – Kelly Poole, Land and Waters Bureau, noted that previously purchased equipment will be used and new purchases will be made to replenish stock and add for the additional monitoring sites. She discussed the early data, trends being identified, and continued monitoring of the legacy routes.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

13. 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 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. Although Code does not require cost-share for Development projects, it is strongly encouraged. This grant cycle advertised a 20% minimum cost-share from the applicant. As outlined in rule, grants are issued at least annually if funding is available. The last grants were approved in June 2021.

Funding Source(s): Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF)

Grant Funding Available: \$150,000

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 30, the grant review and selection committee met on January 24, 2022, to evaluate and score applications and to provide recommendations for the grant awards.

Number of Applications Received: 8

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

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

Recommendations: The committee recommends funding to the top ranked projects. If the highest ranked projects decline the funding, the Department requests authority to offer those funds to the next highest scored projects that meet the grant criteria or return the funds to the grant program for distribution in the next grant cycle.

DEVELOPMENT GRANT				
Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
1	Story County Conservation	Improvements to Soper’s Mill Access Area along the South Skunk River: includes a landing upstream of the rapids, and a launch downstream of the rapids, as well as a parking for 12 vehicles and 2 handicap stalls. It’s designed to also include a portage around the rapids for those coming from upstream wanting to continue downstream.	\$85,000	\$85,000
2	Shelby County Conservation	Construction of a new Launch at Nishna Bend Recreation Area along the West Nishnabotna River. This amount funds the final need for the project. Project includes two handicapped stalls located at the entrance to the access, a turn-around lane for drop off, and a 12 car parking lot north of the launch.	\$34,240	\$34,240
3	City of Estherville	Construction of a new launch and parking area at Midway Access along the West Fork Des Moines River in Emmet County. This project includes a concrete launch and gravel parking with five stalls for vehicles (1 handicapped) and three stalls for vehicles with trailers.	\$150,000	\$30,760

4	Jackson County Conservation		\$47,683	0
5	Jackson County Conservation		\$8,000	0
6	Sac County Conservation		\$32,000	0
7	Buena Vista County Conservation		\$90,000	0
8	Amana Society		\$13,600	0
DEVELOPMENT GRANT TOTALS			\$460,523	\$150,000

Motion – Commissioner Hansen
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – Nate Hoogeveen, River Trails Program, provided information regarding the projects not awarded, the reapplication process, cost share, and signage plans and responsibilities for projects.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***14. Public Land Management Project: Renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 60-R**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 60-R with Matteson Marine Service, Inc of Burlington, IA.

Location: The leased area is 150 feet in depth along 800 feet of frontage at Mississippi River Mile 405.8 adjacent to Baby Rush Island near the City of Burlington in Section 27, Township 70 North, Range 2 West of the 5th P.M., Des Moines County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This area has been under a barge fleeting lease since 1988. Barges are tied to deadmen (an anchoring system used to secure barges) installed on the Island, permitted by the DNR in 1992.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is currently \$5,587.00 and will be increased annually based on the percentage increase of the consumer price index. The term of the lease will be five years.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

15. Public Land Acquisition Projects

15.1 Big Wall Lake WMA, Wright County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Wright County near Big Wall Lake WMA.

Donor: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 2.37 acres

Property Description: This property is located at Big Wall Lake WMA in Wright County. The tract is located on the north side of the lake and has very similar characteristics to the rest of the marsh land surrounding the lake.

Purpose: The tract will provide public access to numerous outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad

Roll Call Vote:
 Commissioner Branstad - aye
 Commissioner Foell – aye
 Commissioner Hansen – aye
 Commissioner Hommel – aye
 Commissioner Kircher – aye
 Commissioner Underwood – aye

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

15.2 Pilot Knob Wildlife Management Area, Worth County – Pheasants Forever, Inc.

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Worth County near Pilot Knob Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Donor: Pheasants Forever, Inc.

Acreage: 40 acres

Property Description: This property is located 2 1/2 miles west of Fertile in extreme southwestern Worth County. The near level tract is in the permanent Wetlands Reserve Program Easement (WRP). There are no building improvements. Beaver Creek forms a majority of the north boundary of the property. Access is provided along the south by Highway 9.

Purpose: The property will provide for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion – Commissioner Branstad
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher

Roll Call Vote:
 Commissioner Foell – aye
 Commissioner Hansen – aye
 Commissioner Hommel – nay
 Commissioner Kircher – aye
 Commissioner Branstad - aye
 Commissioner Underwood – aye

Decision – Approved (1 nay – Commissioners Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

15.3 Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area, Madison County - Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Madison County adjacent Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 126 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$290,175

Appraised Price: \$385,000

Property Description: This property is located 12 miles south of Winterset in extreme south central Madison County. The moderately rolling to steep tract consists of 72 acres of pasture, 51 of timber and deep, forested draws, and 3 acres of ponds and old building site. There is an old barn and an open front shed, both of no contributory value and will be removed from the property. Access is provided by adjacent state-owned land along the east side of the tract.

Purpose: This acquisition reflects excellent habitats for upland game, including potential for Barn owls and other prairie species. The property will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): REAP Private/Public Grant

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

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – Kelly Smith, Wildlife Bureau, provided information related to mitigation of manmade structures, staffing assignments in the area, and mixed value appraisals to identify a fair market value.

Roll Call Vote:
 Commissioner Hansen – aye
 Commissioner Hommel – nay

Commissioner Kircher – aye
 Commissioner Branstad – aye
 Commissioner Foell – nay
 Commissioner Underwood – aye

Decision – Approved (2 nays – Commissioners Foell and Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

15.4 Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area, Clarke County - Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Clarke County adjacent Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 230 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$850,000

Appraised Price: \$850,000

Property Description: This property is located four miles northeast of Lorimor in northwestern Clarke County. The rolling tract consists of 183 acres of CRP, 46 acres of timber and deep forested draws, and 1 acre of road right-of-way. The DNR will take on the management of the CRP contract, which includes the addition of a high diverse seeding on the former cropland acres. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by a county, gravel-base road along the entire west boundary of the tract.

Purpose: This acquisition reflects excellent habitats for upland game, including potential for Barn owls and other prairie species. The property will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Federal Pittman-Robertson

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
 Seconded – Commissioner Hansen

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Hommel – nay
 Commissioner Kircher – aye
 Commissioner Branstad – aye
 Commissioner Foell – nay
 Commissioner Hansen – aye
 Commissioner Underwood – aye

Decision – Approved (2 nays – Commissioners Foell and Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

15.5 Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Butler County – Sam Klinkenberg

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Butler County adjacent Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Sam Klinkenberg

Acreage: 131 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$278,000

Appraised Price: \$278,000

Property Description: This property is located five miles north of Parkersburg in southern Butler County. The irregular-shaped tract is mostly level to gently sloping as is typical in the lowlands along the West Fork of the Cedar River. The tract is also located within a FEMA-designated flood zone. There are roughly 19 acres of cropland, 0.95 acres of CRP with the remainder encumbered by a perpetual USDA wetlands easement. The cropland will be converted to diverse native grassland. There will be a 5 acre food plot maintained on the tract. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by State Highway 14 along the eastern boundary as well as County Highway C51 along the northern boundary.

Purpose: This acquisition will provide for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Wildlife Habitat Stamp (\$135,000), SWG -C Grant (\$81,500), REAP License Plate (\$61,500)

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

Motion – Commissioner Hansen
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – Kelly Smith, Wildlife Bureau, discussed the management plan and CRP guidelines and funding.

Roll Call Vote:

- Commissioner Kircher – aye
- Commissioner Branstad - aye
- Commissioner Foell – nay
- Commissioner Hansen – aye
- Commissioner Hommel – nay
- Commissioner Underwood – aye

Decision – Approved (2 nays – Commissioners Foell and Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

15.6 South Pine Creek Wildlife Management Area, Winneshiek County – Edward & Bronwyn Wilson

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Winneshiek County adjacent South Pine Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Edward & Bronwyn Wilson

Acreage: 20 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$71,000

Appraised Price: \$81,000

Property Description: This property is located nine miles northeast of Decorah in northeastern Winneshiek County. The rectangular-shaped tract contains steep, heavily wooded ravines. The property also has two sections of South Pine Creek, a cold-water trout stream, running in the extreme NE corner. The two deep draws run SW to NE, one in the SW corner and one starting from the south property line about 1/3 of the way from the SE corner. There is a high ridge that runs SW to NE from about the center of the south property line to the NE corner, tapering downhill to the creek bottom. The property is fully encumbered by a conservation easement held by the Iowa DNR.

Purpose: This acquisition will provide for public access to hunting, continued protection of a cold-water stream and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Wildlife Habitat Stamp (\$63,000), Fish Restitution (\$8,000)

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. This property will remain on property tax rolls.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
 Seconded – Commissioner Hansen
 Discussion – Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief, provided information about conservation easements.

Roll Call Vote:

- Commissioner Branstad – aye
- Commissioner Foell – nay
- Commissioner Hansen – aye
- Commissioner Hommel – nay
- Commissioner Kircher – aye
- Commissioner Underwood – aye

Decision – Approved (2 nays – Commissioners Foell and Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

15.7 Lake Keomah State Park, Mahaska County – Sytsma

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Mahaska County adjacent Lake Keomah State Park.

Seller: Dale Sytsma

Acreage: 100 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$660,000

Appraised Price: \$660,000

Property Description: This property is located four miles east of Oskaloosa in east central Mahaska County. The tract topography varies greatly, reflecting low, depressional draws along Spring Creek, and moderately to strongly sloping grassland and timber. There are 62.2 acres of established and well-maintained grasslands enrolled in the CRP. The remainder land use consists of 18.3 acres of creek, timber, and ravines, 10 acres of hay land, 7.5 acres of cropland, and 2 acres of road right-of-way. County roads form a portion of the west and north boundaries of the property provide good public access.

Purpose: Lake Keomah is in the conceptual planning phase for lake restoration. Planned lake restoration activities include: dredging, shoreline armoring, boat ramp/parking lot improvements, construction of fishing jetties, and fish habitat improvements. This property has been identified as an ideal location, critical for the use as a spoil site for approximately 180,000 cubic yards of sediment. In addition, there may be opportunities to construct sediment control basins, which will provide additional water quality benefits to the lake. Long term, the entire property would be reseeded to prairie and a portion used for hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau & State Parks Bureau

Funding Source(s): Lake Restoration

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion – Commissioner Hansen
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief, reported that the topography spoil coverage would be approximately 4’ deep over 40 acres which will be planted to native grasses and prairie.

Roll Call Vote:
 Commissioner Foell – nay
 Commissioner Hansen – aye
 Commissioner Hommel – nay
 Commissioner Kircher – aye
 Commissioner Branstad - aye
 Commissioner Underwood – aye

Decision – Approved (2 nays – Commissioners Foell and Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

16. 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
1/6/22	22-02-77-03 Parks	Big Creek State Park	Polk	Repair a lift station by removing vegetative growth, repair cracks in the side walls, and seal the pit from future infiltration and potential structural damage.	\$10,000	\$8,802.79
1/20/22	22-04-69-02 Parks	Viking Lake State Park	Montgomery	Replace the existing shoreline riprap along 585' of shoreline with	\$40,000	\$32,900.00 \$39,000.00

				new Class "E" riprap at the campground location.		\$66,477.00 \$72,800.00
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INFORMATIONAL

17. Construction Change Order with MLS Landscape & Design, Inc. (Stone State Park)

Commission approval is requested for a construction change order with MLS Landscape & Design, of Granville, Iowa.

Change Order Terms:

Amount: \$50,872.17

Dates: 2/11/2022 to 5/1/2022

Funding Source(s): IA DOT Parks and Institutional Roads Fund

Change Order Purpose: In July 2021, the Stone State Park Road and Slide Repair construction project began. To date, the underground stormwater piping and earth stabilization portion of the original contract have been completed (stormwater pipe installation, installation of pipe junction structures, and placement of 90% of the earth stabilization fill), with the next phase being the replacement of the roadway surface and shoulder. However, while completing the utility work and hauling in of the stabilizing earthfill material, approximately 150' of the existing asphalt roadway outside the scope of the current work began to fail under the contractor's heavy equipment. Prior to a project's original design, roads are inspected to determine the load and equipment requirements to help identify the anticipated level of localized failures, the extent of the damage during this project was greater than anticipated and on a section that did not fail under similar loading on a previous project 7 years ago.

Staff evaluated options for maintenance or replacement along with the road closure timing and determined that, with patching almost half the cost of removal and replacement with no guarantee it would hold a full season, the best remedy would be to remove the 150' section of damaged asphalt roadway and replace it with a new Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) section. Currently, this section of roadway (service to the campground and lodge) is closed for the road construction project; no delays in the opening of the roadway are anticipated with this added work. The road is scheduled to be open before the start of the rec season.

Original Contract Purpose: Stone State Park is located in the northwest corner of Sioux City. The property was acquired by the State in 1935. The Civilian Conservation Corps was responsible for constructing the majority of the park's facilities at the time, including entrance portals, staff residences, the Calumet shelter, and the rustic stone lodge. This project was designed to repair a section of road and stabilize a failing slope with flattening and earthfill. The existing ditch slope of the road is very steep, and over the years, erosion along an existing stream adjacent to the roadway have caused 650' of the road edge to slough away, damaging the traveled portion of the roadway. The original scope of construction included the installation of a concrete storm sewer pipe, placement of 3,800 cubic yards of embankment fill (for stabilization), and the replacement of 1,200 square yards of roadway surface.

Original Cost Estimate: \$252,743.00

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Road Fund

Construction Completion Date: 08/03/21

Original Selection Process: The Department used a formal competitive bid process.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$252,743.00; Timeframe: 04/08/2021 – 08/31/2021

Time Extension Terms: Amount: -0-; Timeframe: 08/31/21 – 5/1/2022; Purpose: The storm sewer material supplier was not able to deliver the required materials on time due to COVID 19 related worker shortages and shutdowns. The extension was granted to allow extra time for manufacturing of the concrete pipe and structures.

Change Order Terms: Amount: \$22,315.56; Timeframe: 10/26/2021-5/1/2022; Purpose: addressed over saturated (unsuitable) soils under the storm sewer piping alignment along with a section of existing ditch cleanout to address water from a natural spring that was running over the surface of the roadway causing damage and potential safety issues.

Motion – Commissioner Foell Seconded – Commissioner Branstad Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote
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CARRIED AS PRESENTED

18. Construction Projects

18.1 Black Hawk Lake, Hydraulic Dredging – Sac County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Black Hawk Lake, located in Black Hawk Lake State Park, is the southernmost glacial lake in Iowa. The lake has a surface area of approximately 922 acres, an average depth of 6 feet, and a maximum depth of 15 feet. The lake is adjacent to the city of Lake view, as well as Black Hawk State Park and the Black Hawk Wildlife Management Area. Three boat ramps are located around the lake for public use.

Community members began meeting in 2008 to discuss improvements needs for Black Hawk Lake, culminating with a Diagnostic and Feasibility study completed by Iowa State University and a TMDL study completed by DNR. Planning efforts with the community, based on results of these studies, determined that reducing phosphorus from the watershed, as well as in-lake work, including dredging and rough fish removal, would improve water quality in the lake.

A watershed improvement plan was developed and, in 2012, partners hired a watershed coordinator to work with local landowners to implement pollution reducing management practices on their land. Since watershed improvement efforts began, over 211 practices have been installed. Additionally, the City of Lake View has worked to reduce storm water runoff to Black Hawk Lake through the installation of numerous urban practices including bioswales, a wet detention pond, and rain gardens. Together, these practices have reduced the annual sediment load to Black Hawk Lake by 4,163 tons and the annual phosphorus load by 8,954 pounds. This represents over 50% of the phosphorus reduction goals laid out in the watershed plan.

In 2012, the DNR renovated the fishery, installed several fish barriers to prevent fish passage, and armored several sections of shoreline to protect the lake from erosion and improve overall water clarity. The City of Lake View and the Black Hawk Lake Protective Association also invested in an ADA fishing pier and fish cleaning station. Since the fishery renovation was completed, vegetation has returned to the lake, water clarity has improved, and fewer algae blooms have been observed. The sport fishery has also improved, with large communities of walleye, pan fish, and muskellunge available for anglers.

In 2015, a small-scale dredging project was completed at the State Marina to remove 3 feet of soft sediment from the lake bottom, which allowed for better access to a cove of the lake that was especially shallow. Between 2017 and 2019, a dredging project removed approximately 330,000 CY of soft sediment from the inlet of Black Hawk Lake (commonly known as Provost Bay). As a part of the project, the channel throughout the inlet was also re-meandered, allowing for additional sediment and nutrient storage, which is critical for continued water quality improvement.

The LPA and City of Lake View continue to work with the DNR to implement an aquatic vegetation management plan for the lake to address excess vegetation conditions.

In 2020, the DNR began working with partners to install a high capacity water control pump and construct a new fish barrier between Black Hawk Lake and Provost Bay. The barrier and pump system will minimize the movement of undesirable fish species between the lake and their spawning habitat in the marsh and allow for better water control management of Provost Bay to promote the growth of wetland vegetation.

According to the Iowa Lakes Valuation Project conducted in 2019 by the Iowa State University Center for Agricultural and Rural Development, Black Hawk Lake has an annual economic impact of over \$11.0M and is typically ranked 21 of 139 in terms of lakes surveyed for visitation. People take part in a variety of recreational opportunities, including swimming, fishing, boating, and wildlife watching. A marketing survey conducted by the City of Lake View in 2010 found that water quality in Black Hawk Lake was the most important factor to residents and visitors when considering community improvement.

Since the restoration project began, the community has also experienced many positive returns. For example, the City of Lake View’s campground has reported a record high in visitation rates and revenue. Creel surveys have shown that Black Hawk Lake experiences more anglers and pleasure boats per acre of water compared to other natural lakes in the region.

For this project, an area approximately 173.6 acres in size will be deepened to a depth of nine feet. The average dredge cut will be 2.7 feet, and will result in approximately 750,000 CY of material removed from the lake. This material will be transported via pipeline to a leased former gravel pit, located approximately 2.5 miles to the southeast of the lake. Solid material will be settled out in the gravel pit, and clean water will be pumped back to the lake.

The dredging work planned for Black Hawk is considered an important component of the overall effort to protect and enhance this lake. Dredging will minimize excessive aquatic vegetation in the main basin of the lake, reduce re-suspension of sediments due to wind and wave action, and remove high-P sediments thus, improving overall water quality and recreational opportunities in the lake.

Funding Breakdown	Expenditures	Percent
Local	\$918,597	8%
State	\$4,592,613	42%
Federal	\$5,441,709	50%
Total	\$10,952,919	

Engineering Project #: 21-01-81-01
Cost Estimate: \$5,400,000.00
Operating Bureau: Lake Restoration
Funding Source: Lake Restoration
Bid Letting Date: 12/09/2021
Construction Completion Date: 12/31/2023
Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

J.F. Brennan Company, Inc.	La Crosse, WI	\$5,391,700.00
Michels Corporation	Brownsville, WI	\$5,419,013.60
Dubuque Barge & Fleeting Service dba Newt Marine	Dubuque, IA	\$7,499,500.00

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to J.F. Brennan Company, Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – George Antoniou, Lakes Restoration Program, provided information regarding the aquatic vegetation management plan and local contributions to this public lake project.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

18.2 Koszta Access Wildlife Management Area, Roadway Stabilization - Iowa County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:
Project Summary: The 61 acre Koszta Access Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is ½ timber and ½ river bottom. The 800-foot plus long rock road within the area provides access for hunters, boaters, bird watchers, mushroom hunters and nature enthusiasts. A small parking area for vehicles and trailers is located near the east end of the road and close to the boat ramp. The area also provides habitat for deer, turkey, pheasant, waterfowl, rabbit, dove, and mushrooms. Since the Koszta Access WMA provides one of the few boat ramps that has access to the Iowa River in the northwest portion of Iowa County, the access road is used on a near daily basis. High water events over the last few years have caused severe erosion along the river bank, and is encroaching upon the roadway embankment. As a result, the roadway has recently been closed due to safety concerns.

This project will provide minor bank shaping and class E riprap will be placed along 562’ of the south river bank, starting near the boat ramp and proceeding west towards the county bridge. This will stabilize the slope and allow the road to be safely reopened. A small area of brush and a tree will also be removed to provide better access to the parking area.

Engineering Project #: 17-06-48-01
Cost Estimate: \$110,000
Operating Bureau: Wildlife
Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Road Fund
Bid Letting Date: 1/20/2022
Construction Completion Date: 9/30/2022
Number of Bids Received: 9

Bidders

Boomerang Corp	Anamosa, IA	\$72,767.00
IA Builders	Albia, IA	\$80,119.98
MD Construction Inc	Garwin, IA	\$90,058.00
Dan Oberbreckling Concrete & Excavating	Coggon, IA	\$99,932.40
Triple B Construction	Wilton, IA	\$108,672.00
Brian Miller Excavating, LLC	Marengo, IA	\$109,281.64
Peterson Contractors, Inc	Reinbeck, IA	\$111,642.00
Dirty30 Excavating & Trucking LLC	Des Moines, IA	\$117,668.00
Jasper Construction Services, Inc	Newton, IA	\$129,120.00

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Boomerang Corp.
 Motion – Commissioner Kircher
 Seconded – Commissioner Foell

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

18.3 Lake Ahquabi State Park, Campground Reconstruction – Warren County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Lake Ahquabi State Park was dedicated in 1936 and is approximately 770 acres in size, including the 115 acre lake. Existing facilities include a lakeshore campground with modern facilities, a beach with a CCC beach shelter and concessionaire, a CCC lodge, an enclosed fishing pier, hiking trails, and two boat ramps.

The campground was originally constructed in the 1960’s, however much of the existing infrastructure was constructed in the mid-1970’s. This project will address the infrastructure related to the campground reconstruction.

Throughout the campground area, the asphalt roads have deteriorated. The existing roads will be removed and replaced with 27,600 sq yards of concrete, with minor adjustments in size to conform to current roadway design standards. Electric, water, and sewer services are outdated and undersized by today’s standard. The number of camp sites will be decreased from 110 to 93 in total, however the layout and size of the campsites will be improved. Electrical service to campers will increase in capacity from 30 amps to 50 amps, and will be provided to all campsites. 52 campsites will have on-site water and sewer hookups as well, with the rest of the campsites having access to regional water hydrants. The current RV dump station will be demolished and a new dump station will be constructed near the exit of the campground. A bioretention pond will be constructed to filter stormwater runoff prior to discharging into the lake. The existing two campground shower buildings, which are in good condition, will remain.

Engineering Project #: 22-05-91-01

Cost Estimate: \$3,800,000.00

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks & Institutional Roads (62%), Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (38%)

Bid Letting Date: 1/19/2022

Construction Completion Date: 12/31/2022

Number of Bids Received: 4

Bidders

Vieco Development & Construction Co., Inc.	St. Joseph, MO	\$4,779,751.322
Vanderpool Construction, Inc.	Indianola, IA	\$5,104,499.996
CJ Moyna & Sons, LLC, and Progressive Structures, LLC	Elkader, IA	\$5,431,417.05
Absolute Concrete Construction, Inc.	Slater, IA	\$5,835,457.30

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Vieco Development & Construction Co., Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Kircher
Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

18.4 Big Creek State Park, Parking Lots – Polk County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Big Creek State Park offers a variety of recreation opportunities for visitors. It has an 866-acre lake that provides excellent fishing year-round, boating activities, and swimming. Park amenities include picnic shelters, sports fields, several boat ramps, a 26-mile paved trail system, a disc golf course, and a beach with a concessionaire.

Big Creek State Park has four boat ramps that provide access to the lake. The parking areas associated with the ramps, along with their access roads, were constructed in the 1970’s with either rock surfacing or asphalt pavement. One exception is the gravel secondary parking at the Beach boat ramp which was constructed in the 1990’s.

The Beach boat ramp is the most popular ramp at the lake. The main parking area and the secondary parking lot are both gravel. The access roads and the tertiary parking are paved with asphalt. The West boat ramp parking lot and access road are constructed of asphalt. The William’s Drive boat ramp access road is asphalt and has a gravel parking lot. The East boat ramp parking lot and access roads are asphalt. The gravel parking lots have received new rock periodically. The asphalt access roads underwent a pavement resurfacing and seal coating project in 2002. The other 45-year-old asphalt areas have widespread structural failure characterized by significant cracking and minor potholing. The surface of the pavement is delaminating and shedding aggregate.

This project will remove and replace the parking lots and access roads with approximately 34,000 square yards of concrete pavement placed over a rock base. Also, the existing underground storm sewer system at the West ramp and the East ramp are constructed of corrugated metal pipe and are original to the construction of the parking lots. Approximately 500 feet of existing corrugated metal underground storm sewer will be replaced with reinforced concrete pipe. Although currently in serviceable condition, it is unlikely that the existing metal pipes will outlast the new concrete pavement.

Engineering Project #: 22-02-77-01

Cost Estimate: \$2,700,000

Operating Bureau: Parks and Fisheries

Funding Source: Federal USFWS Boat Access Grant (75%), Marine Fuel Tax (25%)

Bid Letting Date: 1/19/2022

Construction Completion Date: 11/30/2022

Number of Bids Received: 7

Bidders

Concrete Technologies, Inc.	Grimes, IA	\$2,433,727.00
Wicks Construction, Inc.	Decorah, IA	\$2,795,951.28
Berkey Homebuilders DBA Concrete Professionals	Altoona, IA	\$2,811,399.38
Jensen Builders, Ltd.	Fort Dodge, IA	\$2,984,128.84
Nehring Construction, Inc.	Des Moines, IA	\$3,021,263.20
All Star Concrete, LLC	Johnston, IA	\$3,038,866.47
Absolute Concrete Construction, Inc.	Slater, IA	\$3,169,853.80

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Concrete Technologies, Inc.

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

18.5 Pine Lake State Park, Beach Tunnel Repair – Hardin County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Pine Lake State Park was dedicated in 1929 and consists of 668 acres of woodland, river, and lakes. This park has picnic shelters, a CCC timber and stone lodge, 123 campsites, four CCC timber and stone cabins built in the 1930’s, two boat ramps, a beach, and 2.6 miles of paved multi-use trails.

The beach area is connected to its parking lot via a trail and tunnel under a county highway. This concrete box culvert is in good condition and will remain in place. However, the stone retaining walls and archway on both sides of the tunnel are in poor condition. This project will remove the stone retaining walls and archway and replace them with concrete retaining walls with stone veneer applied to the face of the concrete. The adjacent concrete walk and steps will also be replaced to match the existing elevations.

Engineering Project #: 19-02-42-02

Cost Estimate: \$54,000.00

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Roads

Bid Letting Date: 12/16/2021

Construction Completion Date: 05/25/2022

Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

Boulder Contracting LLC	Grundy Center, IA	\$89,000.00
Pillar Inc	Nevada, IA	\$135,000.00
Peterson Contractors, Inc	Reinbeck, IA	\$138,000.00

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Boulder Contracting, LLC.

Motion – Commissioner Hommel
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

19. Contract with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs

Commission approval is requested for a 28E contract with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), of Des Moines, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: -0-

Dates: February 10, 2022 to February 10, 2027

Contract Purpose: The Department of Natural Resources’ (DNR) purpose in entering into this Cooperative Agreement is to meet Iowa Code 303.2 – 2a(1) legal requirements for buildings identified as eligible for listing on the national register of historic sites by entering into a 28E agreement to ensure the proper management, maintenance, and development of the buildings. The DCA’s purpose in entering into this Cooperative Agreement is to meet Iowa Code 303.2 – 2a(1) legal requirements by administering the care for historical sites under the authority of the division and entering into a 28E agreement to ensure the proper management, maintenance, and development of the buildings.

The cooperation between DNR and DCA to define mitigation efforts to resolve the adverse effect from demolishing two Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) era buildings at Lake Ahquabi State Park. The demolition of these buildings will alleviate staff and public health and safety concerns associated with the use of the buildings.

The major components of the agreement include:

- DNR will submit the CCC interpretive display proposal to DCA for review and comment
- DNR will take their recommendations into consideration for final design if any are provided.
- DNR will construct a CCC interpretive display in the new park office entrance vestibule and DNR shall maintain the interpretive display for a minimum of five years.
- DNR will provide DCA with verification that the interpretive display has been constructed in the office vestibule.
- DCA will review and comment on the DNR provided CCC interpretive display proposal.
- Once the display is constructed, DCA will provide concurrence that the constructed interpretive display meets the specifics outlined in the 28E agreement.

Selection Process Summary: This agreement is authorized under Iowa Code Chapter 28E.

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

20. Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting”, and Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents” – Notice of Intended Action

The Commission is requested to approve the Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting”, and Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents.”

Chapter 94, Nonresident Deer Hunting:

Basic Intent of Current Rule: Chapter 94 sets regulations for deer hunting by nonresidents 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: The license requirements for nonresident hunters under the age of sixteen are clarified in Chapter 94 by citing directly to Iowa Code section 483A.24(8). This statute allows persons under the age of sixteen to hunt deer after purchasing only a nonresident deer hunting license. Other nonresidents must purchase a deer hunting license along with a general hunting license and pay the wildlife habitat fee.

Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents:

Basic Intent of Current 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: Three amendments are proposed for Chapter 106.

1. Monroe County is added to Chapter 106’s list of counties eligible for a January antlerless-deer-only season.
2. Antlerless deer only county quotas are modified to increase harvest in central and southern Iowa where the wild herd is above population goals. Conversely, quotas are modified in far western Iowa to decrease harvest where populations are below goals and hunter effort is waning.
3. The method of take during the January antlerless deer only season is modified to restore centerfire rifle use. Centerfire rifles .240 to .350 are added to the list of approved rifles for the January antlerless-deer-only season.

Attached: Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting”, and Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents” NOIA

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby proposes to amend Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting,” and 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”, 481.39, and 481A.48.

State or Federal Law Implemented

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

Purpose and Summary

Chapters 94 and 106 govern deer hunting by nonresidents and residents in the state of Iowa. Collectively, these chapters regulate deer hunting and set forth 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 one amendment to Chapter 94 and three amendments to Chapter 106. First, license requirements for nonresident hunters under the age of sixteen are clarified in Chapter 94 by citing directly to Iowa Code section 483A.24(8). This statute allows persons under the age of sixteen to hunt deer after purchasing only a nonresident deer hunting license. Other nonresidents must purchase a deer hunting license along with a general hunting license and pay the wildlife habitat fee. Second, Monroe County is added to Chapter 106’s list of counties eligible for a January antlerless-deer-only season. Third, antlerless-deer-only county quotas are modified to increase harvest in central and southern Iowa where the wild herd is above population goals. Conversely, quotas are modified in far western Iowa to decrease harvest where populations are below goals and hunter effort is waning. Lastly, centerfire rifles .240 to .350 are added to the list of approved rifles for the January antlerless-deer-only season.

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 of Natural Resources (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 Department 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 29, 2022. Comments should be directed to:

Dr. 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 or in writing will be held by conference call. 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 29, 2022 Conference call
Noon to 1 p.m.

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 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 proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—94.1(483A), introductory paragraph, as follows:

94.1(483A) Licenses. Every hunter, except as authorized by Iowa Code section 483A.24(8), must have in possession a valid nonresident deer license, a valid nonresident hunting license, and proof that the hunter has paid the current year’s wildlife habitat fee when hunting, possessing, or transporting deer. No person, while hunting deer, shall carry or have in possession any license or transportation tag issued to another person. No one who is issued a deer hunting license and transportation tag shall allow another person to use or possess that license or transportation tag while deer hunting or tagging a deer.

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

106.1(6) January antlerless-deer-only licenses. Licenses for the January antlerless-deer-only season may be issued for the following counties: Allamakee, Appanoose, Decatur, Monroe, 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 subrule 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 subrule 106.6(6) is met.

ITEM 3. 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	150	Monona	750 <u>500</u>
Adams	1000	Franklin	0	Monroe	2250 <u>2500</u>
Allamakee	3800	Fremont	1000	Montgomery	500
Appanoose	2700	Greene	0 <u>100</u>	Muscatine	900
Audubon	0	Grundy	0	O’Brien	0
Benton	325	Guthrie	2150 <u>2350</u>	Osceola	0
Black Hawk	0	Hamilton	0	Page	500 <u>300</u>
Boone	300 <u>400</u>	Hancock	0	Palo Alto	0
Bremer	300	Hardin	0	Plymouth	0
Buchanan	400	Harrison	750 <u>500</u>	Pocahontas	0
Buena Vista	0	Henry	1050	Polk	1350
Butler	200	Howard	450	Pottawattamie	750 <u>500</u>
Calhoun	0	Humboldt	0	Poweshiek	200
Carroll	0	Ida	0	Ringgold	1400 <u>1600</u>
Cass	400 <u>300</u>	Iowa	450	Sac	0
Cedar	775	Jackson	1100	Scott	200
Cerro Gordo	0	Jasper	575 <u>400</u>	Shelby	0
Cherokee	0	Jefferson	1500	Sioux	0
Chickasaw	375	Johnson	950	Story	150

Clarke	2400	Jones	1100	Tama	300
Clay	0	Keokuk	500	Taylor	1500
Clayton	4000	Kossuth	0	Union	1400
Clinton	400	Lee	1700	Van Buren	2100 2300
Crawford	0	Linn	850	Wapello	1600
Dallas	2100	Louisa	775	Warren	3000
Davis	1700 1900	Lucas	2500	Washington	1000
Decatur	2200 2400	Lyon	0	Wayne	2700
Delaware	950	Madison	3300	Webster	0
Des Moines	900	Mahaska	475	Winnebago	0
Dickinson	0	Marion	2050	Winneshiek	2700
Dubuque	1200	Marshall	150	Woodbury	2000
Emmet	0	Mills	300 150	Worth	0
Fayette	2500	Mitchell	100	Wright	0

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 106.7(5) as follows:

106.7(5) January antlerless-deer-only season. Bows, crossbows, shotguns, muzzleloaders, rifles, including centerfire rifles .240 to .350, and handguns, as each is described in this rule, may be used during the January antlerless-deer-only season.

Motion – Commissioner Branstad
 Seconded – Commissioner Hansen
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

21. General Discussion

- **Discussion of Administrative Law Judge Case(s):** Commissioner Underwood opened discussion for Commissioner input to determine if there needs to be an NRC review of the ALJ case. No Commissioner requests for review were made; no action will be taken on the case.
- **Commissioner Comments:** Commissioners shared general comments and natural resource related experiences. Sherry Arntzen, State Parks Bureau Chief, provided information regarding the status of the Storm Lake Marina. Commissioner Underwood noted the NRC’s Annual Report has been submitted to the legislators and Governor’s office. The next NRC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 03/10/22, 9:30am in Des Moines, IA.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Commissioner Branstad
 Second – Commissioner Foell
 Decision - Approved by Unanimous Vote
 With no further business to come before the Natural Resource Commission, Commissioner Underwood adjourned the meeting on 02/10/22 at 1:14pm

CARRIED – MEETING ADJOURNED

Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates

- Thu, 03/10/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)
- Thu, 04/14/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)
- Thu, 05/12/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)

VISITORS/ATTENDEES - SIGN IN SHEET

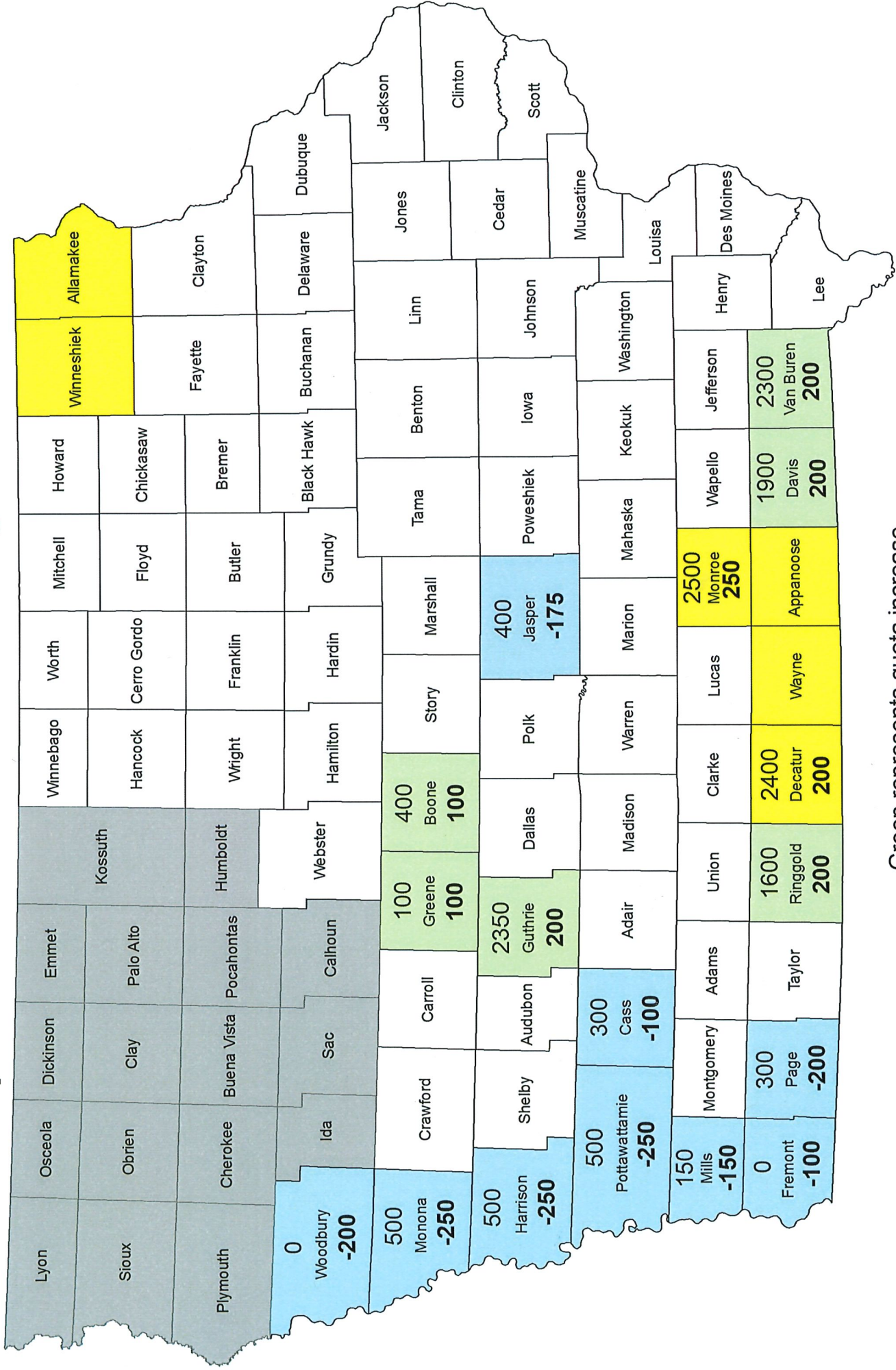
FOR NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON 2/10/22

PLEASE PRINT

If you wish to speak before the NRC, also complete a Public Speaker Form.

NAME ADDRESS CITY, STATE, ZIP	GROUP REPRESENTING (if applicable)	TOPIC OF INTEREST
4870 Guth. St. Dm. DAVID KEAR 50322		BIKES. ADULTS
Kieran Liddy - on behalf of Sen Sweeney	Sen Sweeney	Listings

Proposed Antlerless Quota Changes 2022-2023



Green represents quota increase
 Blue represents quota decrease
 Gray represents buck-only during first shotgun season
 Yellow represents January antlerless-deer-only season

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

NRC Business Meeting – Thursday, February 10, 2022

Meeting Convenes at 9:30am			
Meeting Location: Iowa DNR, 502 E 9 th St, 2 nd Floor Conference Rm, Des Moines, IA			
Public Teleconference Options:			
Video Link: https://meet.google.com/sco-mbns-qva			
or			
Telephone: call 442-242-3609 PIN: 883 789 392#			
Public Participation begins at approximately 10:00 am			
1.	Approval of Agenda Consent Agenda (*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda item) *7. Contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC (IHAP) *14. Public Land Management Project: Renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 60-R	Decision	Commission
2.	Approve Minutes of 01/19/22 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.	Chapter 35 – Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Board Grant Recommendations	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*7.	Contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC (IHAP)	Decision	Todd Bishop
8.	Chapter 23 – Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program Grant Recommendations	Decision	Todd Bishop
9.	Contract with Iowa State University (SGCN maps)	Decision	Todd Bishop
10.	Contract with Iowa State University (turtle monitoring)	Decision	Todd Bishop
11.	Contract with Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (acoustic bat monitoring)	Decision	Todd Bishop
12.	Contract with Iowa State University (acoustic bat monitoring)	Decision	Travis Baker
13.	Chapter 30 - Waters Cost-Share and Grants Program, Water Trails Development Program Grant Recommendations	Decision	Travis Baker
*14.	Public Land Management Project: Renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 60-R	Decision	Travis Baker
15.	Public Land Acquisition Projects		
15.1	Big Wall Lake WMA, Wright County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	Decision	Travis Baker
15.2	Pilot Knob Wildlife Management Area, Worth County – Pheasants Forever, Inc.	Decision	Travis Baker
15.3	Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area, Madison County - Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	Decision	Travis Baker
15.4	Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area, Clarke County - Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	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.

15.5	Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Butler County – Sam Klinkenborg	Decision	Travis Baker
15.6	South Pine Creek Wildlife Management Area, Winneshiek County – Edward & Bronwyn Wilson	Decision	Travis Baker
15.7	Lake Keomah State Park, Mahaska County – Sytsma	Decision	Travis Baker
16.	Construction – Small Projects	Information	Travis Baker
17.	Construction Change Order with MLS Landscape & Design, Inc. (Stone State Park)	Decision	Travis Baker
18.	Construction – Large Projects		
18.1	Black Hawk Lake, Hydraulic Dredging – Sac County	Decision	Travis Baker
18.2	Koszta Access Wildlife Management Area, Roadway Stabilization - Iowa County	Decision	Travis Baker
18.3	Lake Ahquabi State Park, Campground Reconstruction – Warren County	Decision	Travis Baker
18.4	Big Creek State Park, Parking Lots – Polk County	Decision	Travis Baker
18.5	Pine Lake State Park, Beach Tunnel Repair – Hardin County	Decision	Travis Baker
19.	Contract with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs	Decision	Sherry Arntzen
20.	Chapter 94, Nonresident Deer Hunting, and Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents - Notice of Intended Action	Decision	Todd Bishop
21.	General Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NRC Discussion of Administrative Law Judge Case(s) 		
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thu, 03/10/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County) • Thu, 04/14/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County) • Thu, 05/12/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County) 			

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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 in memory of Amy Higgins	Pamela Feld
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Ryan Whitman
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Gerald and Ann Raw
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Jerald Gates
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$10.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Mark Dirks of Belmont, IA	Wendell Mayes
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$500.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Chad Lekwa	Kerry Skinner
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Donald Young	Jennifer Thomas
Parks and Forestry	\$50.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Willy Suchy	Timothy Dicey
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Willie J. Suchy	Anna Suchy
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Chadwick (Chad) Lekwa	Evelyn Holden
Parks and Forestry	\$90.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Chadwick Lekwa	Anna Murphy
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Willie Suchy	Theresa Justice
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Shannon Porter
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Greg Dana	Lynnette Kirsop, Nicole Honeycutt, Michael Dana, and Christopher Dana
Parks and Forestry	\$500.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry.	John Morgan
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	John and Jan Zoutte
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Operating Team Members of Preston Reeves
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Kimberly Hols
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Cindy Steingrabe
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Preston Reeves.	Michael and Doris O'Malley
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of John H. Milder.	Connie and Carol Dietsch
Red Rock Wildlife Unit	\$4,300.00	Funds to support habitat related projects at the Swan Refuge.	Anonymous
Parks and Forestry	\$50.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Wilfred Suchy for Willie J Suchy WMA	Daniel Schmidt
Lake Macbride State Park	\$1,309.00	Fund for a bench along North Shore Trail	Don Ellis
Lake Macbride State Park	\$80.00	Funds to support improvements at Lake Macbride	Anonymous

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

Decision Item

6. 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’s 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. Recommended funding is based on state dollars requested.

Summary of Selection Process: The Fish Habitat Grant Review Committees met in December 2021 and January 2022 to rank and score the county conservation board projects in their district.

Selection Committee Members: The review and selection committee for each district consists 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	\$91,921.00	
Marshall	\$37,921.00	Acquisition of abandoned former Martin Marietta mining quarry (52 ac) adjacent to Marshall CCB’s Sand Lake Recreation Area which will serve as habitat for fishing.
Tama	\$54,000.00	Fish habitat placement, Otter Creek Lake.

District II	\$136,533.00	
Howard	\$80,615.00	Acquisition and protection of 950 LF of the Turkey River corridor directly downstream from existing Howard CCB resources and facilities.
Fayette	\$22,584.60	Dutton Springs Creek Brook Trout fish habitat improvement and protection.
Winneshiek	\$33,333.40	Stream bank stabilization and habitat improvement, Sindelar Wildlife Access.

District III	\$82,005.00	
Buena Vista	\$82,000.00	Linn Grove low water dam modification, stream bank stabilization and habitat placement.

District IV	\$76,905.00	
Harrison	\$38,250.00	Willow Lake sediment pond renovation.
Taylor	\$27,985.50	Shoreline reshaping and armoring and placement of fish habitat at Wilson Lake.

District V	\$220,150.00	
Keokuk	\$220,150.00	Sediment basin renovation and fish habitat placement above Belva Deer Lake.

District VI	\$86,276.00	
Allamakee	\$19,507.00	County Home Pond sediment basin renovation and fish habitat placement.
Linn	\$50,000.00	Low head dam modification and fish habitat construction.
Benton	\$16,769.00	Cedar River shoreline stabilization at Hoefle-Dulin Recreation Area.

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 10, 2022

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

Decision Item (*indicates proposed consent)

***7. Contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC (IHAP)**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC, of Johnston, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$33,567.50

Dates: 4/1/2022 to 8/1/2028

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

Contract Purpose: This six-year contract with Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC will allow for the completion of the land management activities described in the Wildlife Management Plan.

Property Description: Leroy Jensen Farms, LLC owns a 167-acre property in Adams County, Iowa. The property is under an Iowa Habitat Access Program (IHAP) agreement and will be open to public access for hunting from 9/1/2022-5/31/2032.

Land Management Tasks: The Wildlife Management Plan outlines the land management tasks for this six-year contract. Tasks for this contract include providing native seed, planting with a broadcast seeder, mowing, prescribed fire, brush management, and timber stand improvement. 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 10, 2022

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

Decision Item

8. 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 revenues 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: \$547,500 (*\$182,500 of funding available is for specified use)

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 23, the grant review and selection committee met on 12/14/21 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: 7 (4 Additions to existing/new Wildlife Areas and 3 Habitat Development projects)

Recommendations: The committee recommends offering funding to the projects as ranked. The minimum score for eligible projects is 45. If any of the 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
52.3	Humboldt	Boone Valley Wildlife Area – This 79 acre tract is located 1 mile north of the town of Renwick and lies in the floodplain of Prairie Creek, a natural meandering stream within the Boone River watershed. This reach of Prairie Creek floods regularly providing a combination of temporary and seasonal habitat for migratory birds in historic wetland habitats located on this tract. The restoration plan for the area includes 12 acres of wetland habitat and 67 acres planted to native grasses, sedges, and forbes. This is the 2 nd phase of a 3 phase project that will total 390 acres of wildlife habitat open to public hunting. Currently, Humboldt CCB manages a total of 394 acres open to public hunting county-wide.	\$133,550	\$133,550
50.9	Woodbury	Little Sioux River Greenbelt Briese Addition – This 109 acre tract adjoins Sioux Bend Wildlife Management Area and lies just to the northwest of Little Sioux Park and is part of a growing complex of public lands that make up the core of the County's larger Little Sioux River Greenbelt project. The tract borders a 0.54 mile reach of the Little Sioux River and consists of 67 acres of upland oak timber with open grasslands along the ridgetops with another 42 acres that were planted to native grasses and forbs in 2018. Management will focus on enhancement of oak savannah habitats. The area will be managed to provide public	\$215,660	\$215,660

		hunting, trapping, wildlife viewing, and other compatible outdoor education and recreation.		
50.6	Jones	Hale Wildlife Area West Addition – This 158 acre tract lies on the western boundary of the 260 acre Hale Wildlife Area and is located on upland slopes along the northern edge of the Wapsipinicon River valley. The Hale wildlife area includes a complex of prairie, savanna, woodland, and wetland types including more than 200 acres of diverse prairie, 25 acres of woodland, 8 wetlands, and 6 ponds. The West addition adds 90 acres of prairie, 64 acres of woodland, 2 wetlands, and a 3 acre pond. The Hale Wildlife Area is managed as a wildlife management area open to hunting, fishing, hiking, trapping, and other forms of nature appreciation activities with an emphasis on education regarding wildlife and management of wildlife habitat.	\$275,000	\$0 (applicant declined \$15,790 partial funding award)
49.9	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 Ocheyedon 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.	\$43,500	\$15,790
49.5	Dubuque	* McCarthy Wildlife Area Habitat Restoration – This 100-acre restoration project will include 70 acres of diverse native prairie, a 3- acre winter shelterbelt, 10 acres of alfalfa, and 8 acres of firebreaks. McCarthy Wildlife area is a new public area located 9.5 miles SW of the city of Dubuque. Future plans for the area include 6 acres of wildlife food plots and 3 acres of wetland habitat. This area will be managed as a wildlife area and will be open to hunting and trapping, as well as other compatible uses such as bird watching, photography, nature study, and hiking. There are currently only 560 acres of upland prairie habitat open to public hunting in Dubuque County.	\$22,000	\$22,000
47.7	Winnebago	* Hogsback Wildlife Area Wetland Restoration – This project will restore 4 to 6 wetlands, enhancing approximately 6 acres of wetland habitat on the 54 acre Tenold tract. The Gosback Wildlife Area is part of the Winnebago River Greenbelt, and the Tenold tract includes a ¼ mile meandered reach of the Winnebago River. The property is managed for public hunting, trapping, and other compatible uses. Prescribed fire will be conducted periodically to promote prairie and control woody invasive species.	\$18,750	\$18,750
45.6	Clayton	* Becker Wildlife Area – This wildlife area consists of 2 tracts near the town of Millville. Both tracts support restored native grasslands intermixed with diverse forested habitats. This project will repair the dikes and install water control structures on 2 ponds to provide shallow water habitat to benefit waterfowl and other wildlife species. The tracts will remain open to hunting, trapping, and nature study as they have since 2012.	\$9,623	\$9,623
Total			\$718,083	\$415,373

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 10, 2022

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

Decision Item

9. Contract with Iowa State University (SGCN maps)

Commission approval is requested for a contract agreement with Iowa State University (ISU), Ames, Iowa.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$105,913

Dates: July 1, 2022 to May 31, 2025

Funding Source(s): Federal State Wildlife Grants – Competitive Funds

Contract Purpose: This three-year agreement is the result of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant Enhancement (SWG-E) Section proposal. Iowa State University (ISU) partnered with DNR on this application. SWG-Es are designed to allow a single State to apply for competitive funds to assist with the planning/accessibility components of the State Wildlife Actions Plans.

This project will update the predictive modeling and maps originally completed in 2015 for Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) using the Multiple Species Inventory and Monitoring (MSIM) data. By using the additional data collected since 2015, combined with new analytical techniques, will allow us to 1) develop predictive occurrence maps for SGCN not included in the previous effort due to lack of observations and 2) improve accuracy and precision of predictive occurrence maps for previously examined SGCN to aid in conservation planning for SGCN throughout Iowa. The maps will also be in a more usable format for use by the public and organizations such as USFWS, NRCS, and Army Corps of Engineers.

The total cost for this project with ISU is \$141,237. The DNR will provide funding up to \$105,913. ISU will provide up to \$35,324 in matching funds. ISU tasks include:

- Use the MSIM program occupancy models to create predictive species maps and raster files (data converted to color pixels creating images that will identify areas on the map) for 100+ priority SGCN.
- Create an occurrence layer showing the areas (based on landscape variables) in Iowa that are predicted to have the highest density of SGCN for each taxa (bird, mammal, amphibian, reptile, butterfly, and dragonfly).
- Develop a product consisting of a file of raster layers and a short user manual to distribute to partners to assist in land planning and management decisions.

Selection Process Summary: This contract is authorized by 11 Iowa Administrative Code section 118.4.

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 02/10/2022

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

Decision Item

10. Contract with Iowa State University (turtle monitoring)

Commission approval is requested for a contract agreement with Iowa State University (ISU), Ames, Iowa.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$163,266

Dates: July 1, 2022 to February 28, 2025

Funding Source(s): Federal State Wildlife Grants – Competitive Funds

Contract Purpose: This 2.5 year agreement is part of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant. Iowa State University (ISU) and Blank Park Zoo are partners with DNR on this competitive grant with the IL DNR. This project will allow our States to monitor Blanding's turtle response to habitat management in focal areas in west-central Iowa.

Blanding's turtles are long lived (perhaps more than 75 years) and, once reaching sexual maturity, can reproduce throughout their adult lifespan. Blanding's turtle natural history (females typically do not reproduce until age 14 or older, do not lay eggs every year, and have small clutches) means that the older adults, particularly females, are key to the longevity of a population at a given site. They are usually found in low numbers in landscapes consisting of multiple wetlands, and types of wetlands, embedded in large expanses of low vegetation. While Blanding's turtles must have wetlands to survive for feeding, mating, thermoregulation, and overwintering, they are also dependent upon the surrounding terrestrial habitat for nesting, moving between wetlands, aestivation, and dispersing.

Within a prior Blanding's turtle study, in 2009, a weather-related mortality event occurred reducing their population. While we still find and receive reports of Blanding's turtles in the specific blocks in Iowa, those reports are of older adult turtles and we have not seen the numbers that were there prior to the 2009 snowstorm. Given the emphasis on habitat restoration within these blocks, we believe a head-starting program for Blanding's turtles could be beneficial in restoring the population to a higher level. (In a separate project, Blank Park Zoo will be our partner on the head-starting efforts (facility egg hatching and preliminary turtle growth).)

This project will locate and attach radio-telemetry on Blanding's turtles and facility an attempt to improve population numbers. The total cost for this project is \$220,700. The DNR will provide up to \$163,266 and ISU will provide up to \$57,434 in matching funds. ISU tasks include:

- Capture Blanding's turtles and place radio-transmitters on 20 turtles.
- If gravid, assist in transporting female turtles to Blank Park Zoo for egg deposition prior to releasing adult at site of capture.
- In 2024, if viable, add in a small number of head-started turtles to the radio-telemetry project.
- Follow all turtles with radio-transmitters and record habitat preferences and characteristics of the habitat.
- Analyze data and create a report detailing habitat preferences of the turtles in the study area.

Selection Process Summary: This contract is authorized by 11 Iowa Administrative Code section 118.4.

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 02/10/2022

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

11. Contract with Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (acoustic bat monitoring)

Commission approval is requested for a contract agreement with Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF), Des Moines, Iowa.

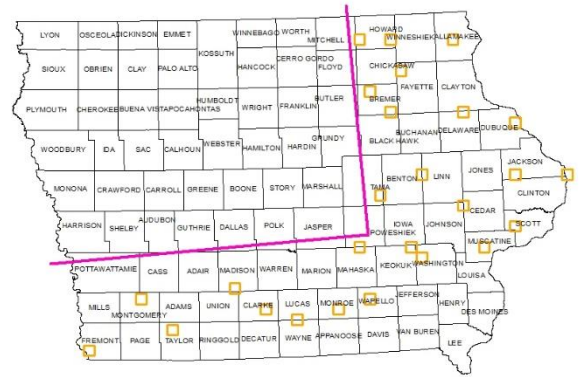
Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$180,000

Dates: April 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024

Funding Source(s): Federal State Wildlife Grants – Competitive Funds

Contract Purpose: This 2.5 year agreement is a result of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant proposal. The State of Illinois partnered with the DNR on this application with INHF being a subrecipient of the grant project. This grant will allow our states to expand and implement the North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat) in eastern 1/3 and southern 1/3 of Iowa. NABat aims to create a North American comprehensive monitoring program for bats where data are gathered and processed in a systematic, comprehensive manner, thereby allowing for continent-wide inferences about the status of all bats. These data are needed to assess bat population trends on a local, national, and continental scale and will increase our knowledge of all nine bat species that occupy Iowa including two Federally listed species (Indiana Bat, Northern Long-eared Bat) and two species on the Federal National Listing Workplan (Little Brown Bat, Tri-colored Bat).



Under the competitive grant award agreement, INHF will submit the data collected to the DNR and the federal database for use in long-term monitoring of bats. INHF tasks include:

- On behalf of DNR, INHF will purchase all the supplies necessary for monitoring.
- INHF will recruit and train community scientist volunteers to conduct acoustic data collection in at least 15 NABat priority sites. Following the conclusion of the training process, INHF will continue to coordinate trained volunteers conducting acoustic data collection, and will ensure that the data collection occurs as scheduled and follows standard protocols.
- INHF will locate and ground-truth new mobile routes and fixed-point locations in priority grids in the eastern 1/3 and southern 1/3 of Iowa for monitoring.
- INHF will process data collected by the volunteers to quantify bat activity, identify bat species, and determine differences in relative species abundance across the regions monitored. Data will be submitted to DNR and to the federal database.

The total cost for this project is \$220,000. The DNR will provide funding up to \$180,000 and INHF will provide up to \$40,000 in matching funds for the project. Data collected for this project will contribute to the international bat conservation monitoring program, inform management planning efforts, and improve our understanding of current stewardship practices on bat populations.

Selection Process Summary: Statute or federal grant contracting with INHF, is authorized by 11 IAC 118.7.

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 02/10/2022

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

Decision Item

12. Contract with Iowa State University (acoustic bat monitoring)

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Iowa State University (ISU), of Ames, Iowa

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$39,500

Dates: March 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

Funding Source(s): Federal US Fish and Wildlife Service Grant

Contract Purpose: This contract will provide training and coordination of community scientists conducting acoustic surveys for bats, provide supplies and materials needed to conduct the monitoring, and analyze acoustic data collected by community scientists. Under the competitive grant award agreement, ISU will submit the data collected to the DNR and the federal database for use in long-term monitoring of bats. ISU tasks include:

- **Purchase Supplies for Acoustic Monitoring:** On behalf of DNR, ISU will purchase all the supplies necessary for monitoring. Monitoring units purchased for this project will become the property of the DNR.
- **Training and Monitoring Coordination:** ISU will train and coordinate community scientist volunteers recruited by DNR to conduct acoustic data collection at 41 sites. Following the conclusion of the training process, ISU will continue to coordinate trained volunteers conducting acoustic data collection, and ISU will ensure that the data collection occurs as scheduled and follows standard protocols.
- **Establish Monitoring Locations within Priority Grids:** ISU will locate and ground-truth new mobile routes and fixed-point locations in priority grids in northwest Iowa for monitoring.
- **Data Analysis and Submission:** ISU will analyze data collected by the volunteers to quantify bat activity, identify bat species, and determine differences in relative species abundance across the regions monitored. Data will be submitted to DNR and to the federal database.

The DNR's Wildlife Bureau, under their current Volunteer Wildlife Monitoring Program, will secure the community scientist volunteers for ISU training and coordination; 35-40 volunteers are anticipated to complete this work.

Acoustic bat call data has been collected annually since 2013 and is being used to assess trends in bat activity over time. This project is part of an ongoing national effort to monitor bat populations. ISU was selected because of their expertise in acoustic bat call data analysis and successful completion of similar work with DNR.

Selection Process Summary: Intergovernmental contracting with Iowa State University is authorized under 11 IAC 118.4.

Travis Baker, Lands & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 10, 2022

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

Decision Item

13. 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 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. Although Code does not require cost-share for Development projects, it is strongly encouraged. This grant cycle advertised a 20% minimum cost-share from the applicant. As outlined in rule, grants are issued at least annually if funding is available. The last grants were approved in June 2021.

Funding Source(s): Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund (RIIF)

Grant Funding Available: \$150,000

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 30, the grant review and selection committee met on January 24, 2022, to evaluate and score applications and to provide recommendations for the grant awards.

Number of Applications Received: 8

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

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

Recommendations: The committee recommends funding to the top ranked projects. If the highest ranked projects decline the funding, the Department requests authority to offer those funds to the next highest scored projects that meet the grant criteria or return the funds to the grant program for distribution in the next grant cycle.

DEVELOPMENT GRANT				
Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
1	Story County Conservation	Improvements to Soper’s Mill Access Area along the South Skunk River: includes a landing upstream of the rapids, and a launch downstream of the rapids, as well as a parking for 12 vehicles and 2 handicap stalls. It’s designed to also include a portage around the rapids for those coming from upstream wanting to continue downstream.	\$85,000	\$85,000
2	Shelby County Conservation	Construction of a new Launch at Nishna Bend Recreation Area along the West Nishnabotna River. This amount funds the final need for the project. Project includes two handicapped stalls located at the entrance to the access, a turn-around lane for drop off, and a 12 car parking lot north of the launch.	\$34,240	\$34,240

3	City of Estherville	Construction of a new launch and parking area at Midway Access along the West Fork Des Moines River in Emmet County. This project includes a concrete launch and gravel parking with five stalls for vehicles (1 handicapped) and three stalls for vehicles with trailers.	\$150,000	\$30,760
4	Jackson County Conservation		\$47,683	0
5	Jackson County Conservation		\$8,000	0
6	Sac County Conservation		\$32,000	0
7	Buena Vista County Conservation		\$90,000	0
8	Amana Society		\$13,600	0
DEVELOPMENT GRANT TOTALS			\$460,523	\$150,000

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 10, 2022

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

Decision Item (* indicates proposed consent item)

***14. Public Land Management Project: Renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 60-R**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 60-R with Matteson Marine Service, Inc of Burlington, IA.

Location: The leased area is 150 feet in depth along 800 feet of frontage at Mississippi River Mile 405.8 adjacent to Baby Rush Island near the City of Burlington in Section 27, Township 70 North, Range 2 West of the 5th P.M., Des Moines County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This area has been under a barge fleeting lease since 1988. Barges are tied to deadmen (an anchoring system used to secure barges) installed on the Island, permitted by the DNR in 1992.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is currently \$5,587.00.00 and will be increased annually based on the percentage increase of the consumer price index. The term of the lease will be five years.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 02/10/22

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

Decision Item

15. Public Land Acquisition Projects

15.1 Big Wall Lake WMA, Wright County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Wright County near Big Wall Lake WMA.

Donor: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 2.37 acres

Property Description: This property is located at Big Wall Lake WMA in Wright County. The tract is located on the north side of the lake and has very similar characteristics to the rest of the marsh land surrounding the lake.

Purpose: The tract will provide public access to numerous outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

15.2 Pilot Knob Wildlife Management Area, Worth County – Pheasants Forever, Inc.

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

Donor: Pheasants Forever, Inc.

Acreage: 40 acres

Property Description: This property is located 2 1/2 miles west of Fertile in extreme southwestern Worth County. The near level tract is in the permanent Wetlands Reserve Program Easement (WRP). There are no building improvements. Beaver Creek forms a majority of the north boundary of the property. Access is provided along the south by Highway 9.

Purpose: The property will provide for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

15.3 Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area, Madison County - Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Madison County adjacent Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 126 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$290,175

Appraised Price: \$385,000

Property Description: This property is located 12 miles south of Winterset in extreme south central Madison County. The moderately rolling to steep tract consists of 72 acres of pasture, 51 of timber and deep, forested draws, and 3 acres of ponds and old building site. There is an old barn and an open front shed, both of no contributory value and will be removed from the property. Access is provided by adjacent state-owned land along the east side of the tract.

Purpose: This acquisition reflects excellent habitats for upland game, including potential for Barn owls and other prairie species. The property will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): REAP Private/Public Grant

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

15.4 Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area, Clarke County - Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Clarke County adjacent Heritage Hills Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 230 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$850,000

Appraised Price: \$850,000

Property Description: This property is located four miles northeast of Lorimor in northwestern Clarke County. The rolling tract consists of 183 acres of CRP, 46 acres of timber and deep forested draws, and 1 acre of road right-of-way. The DNR will take on the management of the CRP contract, which includes the addition of a high diverse seeding on the former cropland acres. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by a county, gravel-base road along the entire west boundary of the tract.

Purpose: This acquisition reflects excellent habitats for upland game, including potential for Barn owls and other prairie species. The property will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Federal Pittman-Robertson

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

15.5 Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Butler County – Sam Klinkenborg

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Butler County adjacent Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Sam Klinkenborg

Acreage: 131 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$278,000

Appraised Price: \$278,000

Property Description: This property is located five miles north of Parkersburg in southern Butler County. The irregular-shaped tract is mostly level to gently sloping as is typical in the lowlands along the West Fork of the Cedar River. The tract is also located within a FEMA-designated flood zone. There are roughly 19 acres of cropland, 0.95 acres of CRP with the remainder encumbered by a perpetual USDA wetlands easement. The cropland will be converted to diverse native grassland. There will be a 5 acre food plot maintained on the tract. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by State Highway 14 along the eastern boundary as well as County Highway C51 along the northern boundary.

Purpose: This acquisition will provide for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Wildlife Habitat Stamp (\$135,000), SWG -C Grant (\$81,500), REAP License Plate (\$61,500)

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

15.6 South Pine Creek Wildlife Management Area, Winneshiek County – Edward & Bronwyn Wilson

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Winneshiek County adjacent South Pine Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Edward & Bronwyn Wilson

Acreage: 20 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$71,000

Appraised Price: \$81,000

Property Description: This property is located nine miles northeast of Decorah in northeastern Winneshiek County. The rectangular-shaped tract contains steep, heavily wooded ravines. The property also has two sections of South Pine Creek, a cold-water trout stream, running in the extreme NE corner. The two deep draws run SW to NE, one in the SW corner and one starting from the south property line about 1/3 of the way from the SE corner. There is a high ridge that runs SW to NE from about the center of the south property line to the NE corner, tapering downhill to the creek bottom. The property is fully encumbered by a conservation easement held by the Iowa DNR.

Purpose: This acquisition will provide for public access to hunting, continued protection of a cold-water stream and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Wildlife Habitat Stamp (\$63,000), Fish Restitution (\$8,000)

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. This property will remain on property tax rolls.

15.7 Lake Keomah State Park, Mahaska County – Sytsma

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Mahaska County adjacent Lake Keomah State Park.

Seller: Dale Sytsma

Acreage: 100 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$660,000

Appraised Price: \$660,000

Property Description: This property is located four miles east of Oskaloosa in east central Mahaska County. The tract topography varies greatly, reflecting low, depressional draws along Spring Creek, and moderately to strongly sloping grassland and timber. There are 62.2 acres of established and well-maintained grasslands enrolled in the CRP. The remainder land use consists of 18.3 acres of creek, timber, and ravines, 10 acres of hay land, 7.5 acres of cropland, and 2 acres of road right-of-way. County roads form a portion of the west and north boundaries of the property provide good public access.

Purpose: Lake Keomah is in the conceptual planning phase for lake restoration. Planned lake restoration activities include: dredging, shoreline armoring, boat ramp/parking lot improvements, construction of fishing jetties, and fish habitat improvements. This property has been identified as an ideal location, critical for the use as a spoil site for approximately 180,000 cubic yards of sediment. In addition, there may be opportunities to construct sediment control basins, which will provide additional water quality benefits to the lake. Long term, the entire property would be reseeded to prairie and a portion used for hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau & State Parks Bureau

Funding Source(s): Lake Restoration

Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief

Conservation and Recreation Division

NRC Meeting Date: February 10, 2022

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

Information Item

16. 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
1/6/22	22-02-77-03 Parks	Big Creek State Park	Polk	Repair a lift station by removing vegetative growth, repair cracks in the side walls, and seal the pit from future infiltration and potential structural damage.	\$10,000	\$8,802.79
1/20/22	22-04-69-02 Parks	Viking Lake State Park	Montgomery	Replace the existing shoreline riprap along 585' of shoreline with new Class "E" riprap at the campground location.	\$40,000	\$32,900.00 \$39,000.00 \$66,477.00 \$72,800.00

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 10, 2022

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

17. Construction Change Order with MLS Landscape & Design, Inc. (Stone State Park)

Commission approval is requested for a construction change order with MLS Landscape & Design, of Granville, Iowa.

Change Order Terms:

Amount: \$50,872.17

Dates: 2/11/2022 to 5/1/2022

Funding Source(s): IA DOT Parks and Institutional Roads Fund

Change Order Purpose: In July 2021, the Stone State Park Road and Slide Repair construction project began. To date, the underground stormwater piping and earth stabilization portion of the original contract have been completed (stormwater pipe installation, installation of pipe junction structures, and placement of 90% of the earth stabilization fill), with the next phase being the replacement of the roadway surface and shoulder. However, while completing the utility work and hauling in of the stabilizing earthfill material, approximately 150' of the existing asphalt roadway outside the scope of the current work began to fail under the contractor's heavy equipment. Prior to a project's original design, roads are inspected to determine the load and equipment requirements to help identify the anticipated level of localized failures, the extent of the damage during this project was greater than anticipated and on a section that did not fail under similar loading on a previous project 7 years ago.

Staff evaluated options for maintenance or replacement along with the road closure timing and determined that, with patching almost half the cost of removal and replacement with no guarantee it would hold a full season, the best remedy would be to remove the 150' section of damaged asphalt roadway and replace it with a new Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) section. Currently, this section of roadway (service to the campground and lodge) is closed for the road construction project; no delays in the opening of the roadway are anticipated with this added work. The road is scheduled to be open before the start of the rec season.



Original Contract Purpose: Stone State Park is located in the northwest corner of Sioux City. The property was acquired by the State in 1935. The Civilian Conservation Corps was responsible for constructing the majority of the park's facilities at the time, including entrance portals, staff residences, the Calumet shelter, and the rustic stone lodge. This project was designed to repair a section of road and stabilize a failing slope with flattening and earthfill. The existing ditch slope of the road is very steep, and over the years, erosion along an existing stream adjacent to the roadway have caused 650' of the road edge to slough away, damaging the traveled portion of the roadway. The original scope of construction included the installation of a concrete storm sewer pipe, placement of 3,800 cubic yards of embankment fill (for stabilization), and the replacement of 1,200 square yards of roadway surface.

Original Cost Estimate: \$252,743.00

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Road Fund

Construction Completion Date: 08/03/21

Original Selection Process: The Department used a formal competitive bid process.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$252,743.00; Timeframe: 04/08/2021 – 08/31/2021

Time Extension Terms: Amount: -0-; Timeframe: 08/31/21 – 5/1/2022; Purpose: The storm sewer material supplier was not able to deliver the required materials on time due to COVID 19 related worker shortages and shutdowns. The extension was granted to allow extra time for manufacturing of the concrete pipe and structures.

Change Order Terms: Amount: \$22,315.56; Timeframe: 10/26/2021-5/1/2022; Purpose: addressed over saturated (unsuitable) soils under the storm sewer piping alignment along with a section of existing ditch cleanout to address water from a natural spring that was running over the surface of the roadway causing damage and potential safety issues.

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 02/10/22

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

Decision Item

18. Construction Projects

18.1 Black Hawk Lake, Hydraulic Dredging – Sac County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Black Hawk Lake, located in Black Hawk Lake State Park, is the southernmost glacial lake in Iowa. The lake has a surface area of approximately 922 acres, an average depth of 6 feet, and a maximum depth of 15 feet. The lake is adjacent to the city of Lake view, as well as Black Hawk State Park and the Black Hawk Wildlife Management Area. Three boat ramps are located around the lake for public use.

Community members began meeting in 2008 to discuss improvements needs for Black Hawk Lake, culminating with a Diagnostic and Feasibility study completed by Iowa State University and a TMDL study completed by DNR. Planning efforts with the community, based on results of these studies, determined that reducing phosphorus from the watershed, as well as in-lake work, including dredging and rough fish removal, would improve water quality in the lake.

A watershed improvement plan was developed and, in 2012, partners hired a watershed coordinator to work with local landowners to implement pollution reducing management practices on their land. Since watershed improvement efforts began, over 211 practices have been installed. Additionally, the City of Lake View has worked to reduce storm water runoff to Black Hawk Lake through the installation of numerous urban practices including bioswales, a wet detention pond, and rain gardens. Together, these practices have reduced the annual sediment load to Black Hawk Lake by 4,163 tons and the annual phosphorus load by 8,954 pounds. This represents over 50% of the phosphorus reduction goals laid out in the watershed plan.

In 2012, the DNR renovated the fishery, installed several fish barriers to prevent fish passage, and armored several sections of shoreline to protect the lake from erosion and improve overall water clarity. The City of Lake View and the Black Hawk Lake Protective Association also invested in an ADA fishing pier and fish cleaning station. Since the fishery renovation was completed, vegetation has returned to the lake, water clarity has improved, and fewer algae blooms have been observed. The sport fishery has also improved, with large communities of walleye, pan fish, and muskellunge available for anglers.

In 2015, a small-scale dredging project was completed at the State Marina to remove 3 feet of soft sediment from the lake bottom, which allowed for better access to a cove of the lake that was especially shallow. Between 2017 and 2019, a dredging project removed approximately 330,000 CY of soft sediment from the inlet of Black Hawk Lake (commonly known as Provost Bay). As a part of the project, the channel throughout the inlet was also re-meandered, allowing for additional sediment and nutrient storage, which is critical for continued water quality improvement.

The LPA and City of Lake View continue to work with the DNR to implement an aquatic vegetation management plan for the lake to address excess vegetation conditions.

In 2020, the DNR began working with partners to install a high capacity water control pump and construct a new fish barrier between Black Hawk Lake and Provost Bay. The barrier and pump system will minimize the movement of undesirable fish species between the lake and their spawning habitat in the marsh and allow for better water control management of Provost Bay to promote the growth of wetland vegetation.

Funding Breakdown	Expenditures	Percent
Local	\$918,597	8%
State	\$4,592,613	42%
Federal	\$5,441,709	50%
Total	\$10,952,919	

According to the Iowa Lakes Valuation Project conducted in 2019 by the Iowa State University Center for Agricultural and Rural Development, Black Hawk Lake has an annual economic impact of over \$11.0M and is typically ranked 21 of 139 in terms of lakes surveyed for visitation. People take part in a variety of recreational opportunities, including swimming, fishing, boating, and wildlife watching. A marketing survey conducted by the City of Lake View in 2010 found that water quality in Black Hawk Lake was the most important factor to residents and visitors when considering community improvement.

Since the restoration project began, the community has also experienced many positive returns. For example, the City of Lake View’s campground has reported a record high in visitation rates and revenue. Creel surveys have shown that Black Hawk Lake experiences more anglers and pleasure boats per acre of water compared to other natural lakes in the region.

For this project, an area approximately 173.6 acres in size will be deepened to a depth of nine feet. The average dredge cut will be 2.7 feet, and will result in approximately 750,000 CY of material removed from the lake. This material will be transported via pipeline to a leased former gravel pit, located approximately 2.5 miles to the southeast of the lake. Solid material will be settled out in the gravel pit, and clean water will be pumped back to the lake.

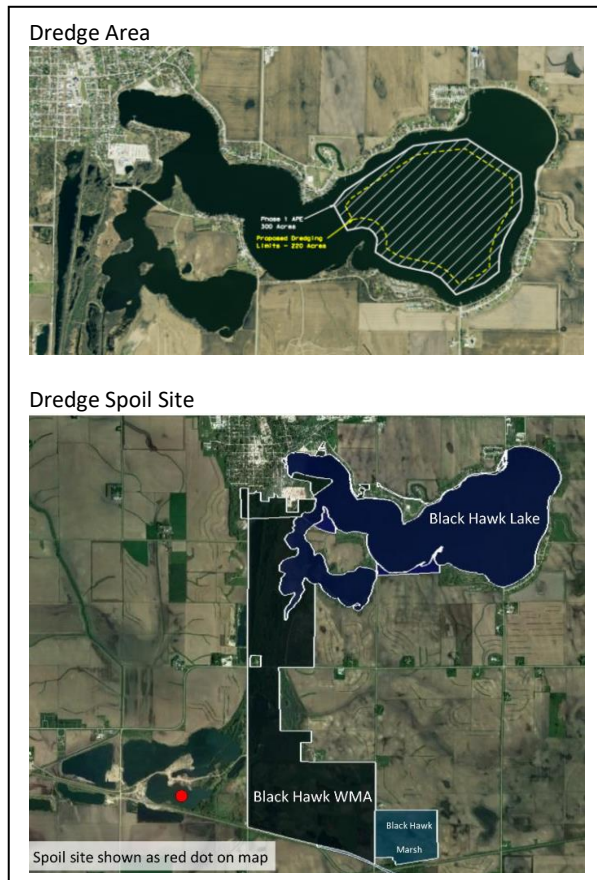
The dredging work planned for Black Hawk is considered an important component of the overall effort to protect and enhance this lake. Dredging will minimize excessive aquatic vegetation in the main basin of the lake, reduce re-suspension of sediments due to wind and wave action, and remove high-P sediments thus, improving overall water quality and recreational opportunities in the lake.

Engineering Project #: 21-01-81-01
Cost Estimate: \$5,400,000.00
Operating Bureau: Lake Restoration
Funding Source: Lake Restoration
Bid Letting Date: 12/09/2021
Construction Completion Date: 12/31/2023
Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

J.F. Brennan Company, Inc.	La Crosse, WI	\$5,391,700.00
Michels Corporation	Brownsville, WI	\$5,419,013.60
Dubuque Barge & Fleeting Service dba Newt Marine	Dubuque, IA	\$7,499,500.00

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to J.F. Brennan Company, Inc.



18.2 Koszta Access Wildlife Management Area, Roadway Stabilization - Iowa County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: The 61 acre Koszta Access Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is ½ timber and ½ river bottom. The 800-foot plus long rock road within the area provides access for hunters, boaters, bird watchers, mushroom hunters and nature enthusiasts. A small parking area for vehicles and trailers is located near the east end of the road and close to the boat ramp. The area also provides habitat for deer, turkey, pheasant, waterfowl, rabbit, dove, and mushrooms.

Since the Koszta Access WMA provides one of the few boat ramps that has access to the Iowa River in the northwest portion of Iowa County, the access road is used on a near daily basis. High water events over the last few years have caused severe erosion along the river bank, and is encroaching upon the roadway embankment. As a result, the roadway has recently been closed due to safety concerns.



This project will provide minor bank shaping and class E riprap will be placed along 562' of the south river bank, starting near the boat ramp and proceeding west towards the county bridge. This will stabilize the slope and allow the road to be safely reopened. A small area of brush and a tree will also be removed to provide better access to the parking area.

Engineering Project #: 17-06-48-01

Cost Estimate: \$110,000

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Road Fund

Bid Letting Date: 1/20/2022

Construction Completion Date: 9/30/2022

Number of Bids Received: 9

Bidders

Boomerang Corp	Anamosa, IA	\$72,767.00
IA Builders	Albia, IA	\$80,119.98
MD Construction Inc	Garwin, IA	\$90,058.00
Dan Oberbreckling Concrete & Excavating	Coggon, IA	\$99,932.40
Triple B Construction	Wilton, IA	\$108,672.00
Brian Miller Excavating, LLC	Marengo, IA	\$109,281.64
Peterson Contractors, Inc	Reinbeck, IA	\$111,642.00
Dirty30 Excavating & Trucking LLC	Des Moines, IA	\$117,668.00
Jasper Construction Services, Inc	Newton, IA	\$129,120.00

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Boomerang Corp.

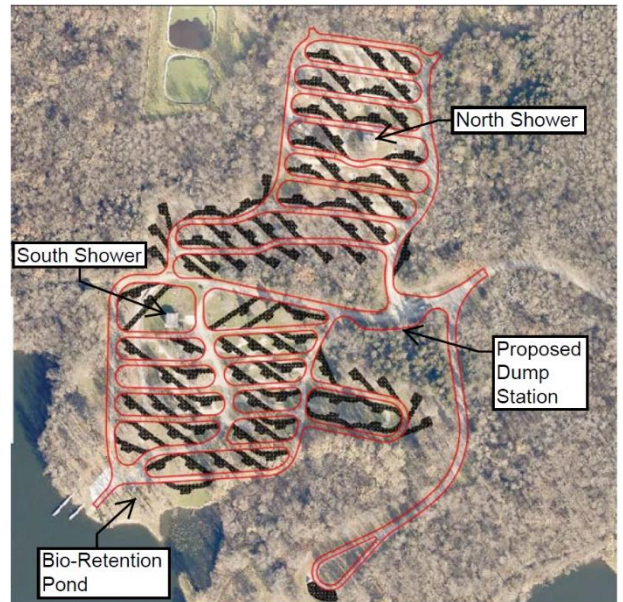
18.3 Lake Ahquabi State Park, Campground Reconstruction – Warren County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Lake Ahquabi State Park was dedicated in 1936 and is approximately 770 acres in size, including the 115 acre lake. Existing facilities include a lakeshore campground with modern facilities, a beach with a CCC beach shelter and concessionaire, a CCC lodge, an enclosed fishing pier, hiking trails, and two boat ramps.

The campground was originally constructed in the 1960’s, however much of the existing infrastructure was constructed in the mid-1970’s. This project will address the infrastructure related to the campground reconstruction.

Throughout the campground area, the asphalt roads have deteriorated. The existing roads will be removed and replaced with 27,600 sq yards of concrete, with minor adjustments in size to conform to current roadway design standards. Electric, water, and sewer services are outdated and undersized by today’s standard. The number of camp sites will be decreased from 110 to 93 in total, however the layout and size of the campsites will be improved. Electrical service to campers will increase in capacity from 30 amps to 50 amps, and will be provided to all campsites. 52 campsites will have on-site water and sewer hookups as well, with the rest of the campsites having access to regional water hydrants. The current RV dump station will be demolished and a new dump station will be constructed near the exit of the campground. A bioretention pond will be constructed to filter stormwater runoff prior to discharging into the lake. The existing two campground shower buildings, which are in good condition, will remain.



Engineering Project #: 22-05-91-01

Cost Estimate: \$3,800,000.00

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks & Institutional Roads (62%), Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (38%)

Bid Letting Date: 1/19/2022

Construction Completion Date: 12/31/2022

Number of Bids Received: 4

Bidders

Vieco Development & Construction Co., Inc.

Vanderpool Construction, Inc.

CJ Moyna & Sons, LLC, and Progressive Structures, LLC

Absolute Concrete Construction, Inc.

St. Joseph, MO \$4,779,751.322

Indianola, IA \$5,104,499.996

Elkader, IA \$5,431,417.05

Slater, IA \$5,835,457.30

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Vieco Development & Construction Co., Inc.

18.4 Big Creek State Park, Parking Lots – Polk County

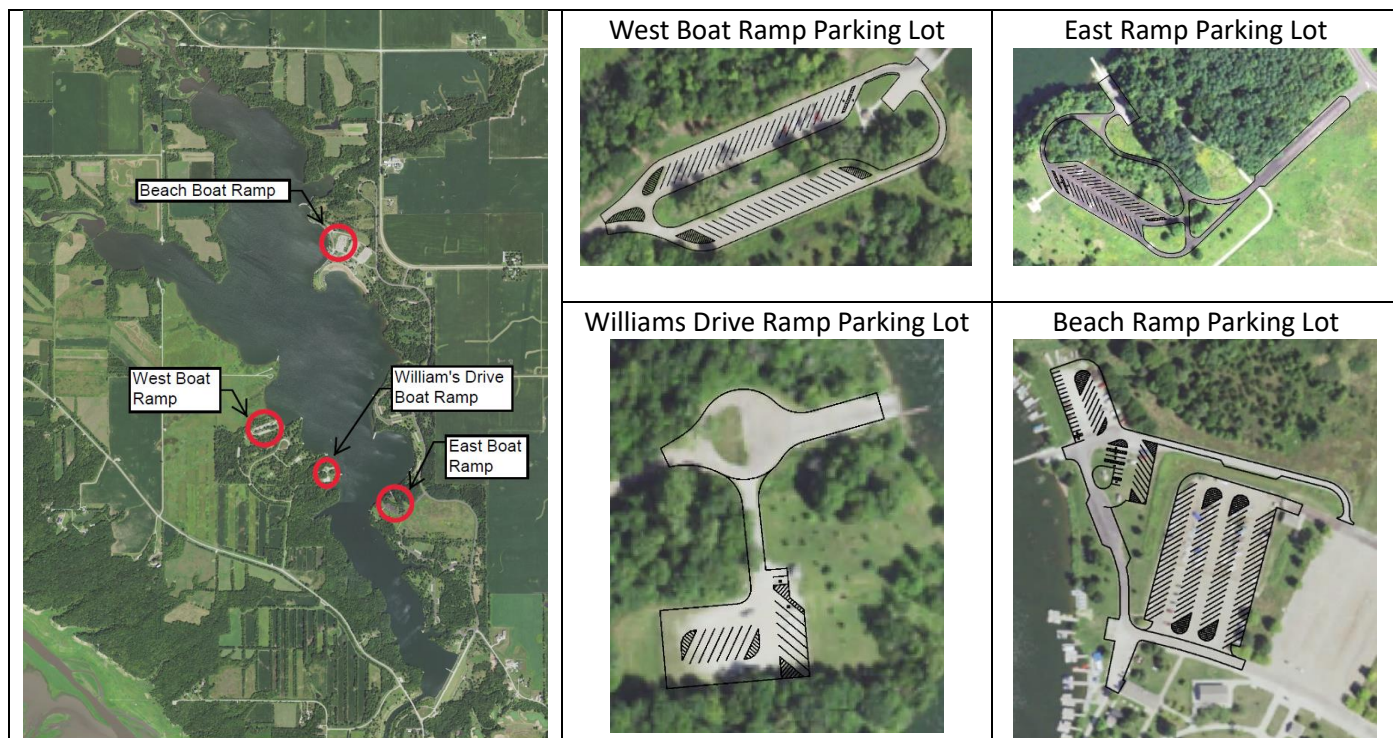
The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Big Creek State Park offers a variety of recreation opportunities for visitors. It has an 866-acre lake that provides excellent fishing year-round, boating activities, and swimming. Park amenities include picnic shelters, sports fields, several boat ramps, a 26-mile paved trail system, a disc golf course, and a beach with a concessionaire.

Big Creek State Park has four boat ramps that provide access to the lake. The parking areas associated with the ramps, along with their access roads, were constructed in the 1970's with either rock surfacing or asphalt pavement. One exception is the gravel secondary parking at the Beach boat ramp which was constructed in the 1990's.

The Beach boat ramp is the most popular ramp at the lake. The main parking area and the secondary parking lot are both gravel. The access roads and the tertiary parking are paved with asphalt. The West boat ramp parking lot and access road are constructed of asphalt. The William's Drive boat ramp access road is asphalt and has a gravel parking lot. The East boat ramp parking lot and access roads are asphalt. The gravel parking lots have received new rock periodically. The asphalt access roads underwent a pavement resurfacing and seal coating project in 2002. The other 45-year-old asphalt areas have widespread structural failure characterized by significant cracking and minor potholing. The surface of the pavement is delaminating and shedding aggregate.

This project will remove and replace the parking lots and access roads with approximately 34,000 square yards of concrete pavement placed over a rock base. Also, the existing underground storm sewer system at the West ramp and the East ramp are constructed of corrugated metal pipe and are original to the construction of the parking lots. Approximately 500 feet of existing corrugated metal underground storm sewer will be replaced with reinforced concrete pipe. Although currently in serviceable condition, it is unlikely that the existing metal pipes will outlast the new concrete pavement.



Engineering Project #: 22-02-77-01

Cost Estimate: \$2,700,000

Operating Bureau: Parks and Fisheries

Funding Source: Federal USFWS Boat Access Grant (75%), Marine Fuel Tax (25%)

Bid Letting Date: 1/19/2022
Construction Completion Date: 11/30/2022
Number of Bids Received: 7

Bidders

Concrete Technologies, Inc.	Grimes, IA	\$2,433,727.00
Wicks Construction, Inc.	Decorah, IA	\$2,795,951.28
Berkey Homebuilders DBA Concrete Professionals	Altoona, IA	\$2,811,399.38
Jensen Builders, Ltd.	Fort Dodge, IA	\$2,984,128.84
Nehring Construction, Inc.	Des Moines, IA	\$3,021,263.20
All Star Concrete, LLC	Johnston, IA	\$3,038,866.47
Absolute Concrete Construction, Inc.	Slater, IA	\$3,169,853.80

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Concrete Technologies, Inc.

18 .5 Pine Lake State Park, Beach Tunnel Repair – Hardin County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Pine Lake State Park was dedicated in 1929 and consists of 668 acres of woodland, river, and lakes. This park has picnic shelters, a CCC timber and stone lodge, 123 campsites, four CCC timber and stone cabins built in the 1930’s, two boat ramps, a beach, and 2.6 miles of paved multi-use trails.

The beach area is connected to its parking lot via a trail and tunnel under a county highway. This concrete box culvert is in good condition and will remain in place. However, the stone retaining walls and archway on both sides of the tunnel are in poor condition. This project will remove the stone retaining walls and archway and replace them with concrete retaining walls with stone veneer applied to the face of the concrete. The adjacent concrete walk and steps will also be replaced to match the existing elevations.



Engineering Project #: 19-02-42-02
Cost Estimate: \$54,000.00
Operating Bureau: Parks
Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Roads
Bid Letting Date: 12/16/2021
Construction Completion Date: 05/25/2022
Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

Boulder Contracting LLC	Grundy Center, IA	\$89,000.00
Pillar Inc	Nevada, IA	\$135,000.00
Peterson Contractors, Inc	Reinbeck, IA	\$138,000.00

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Boulder Contracting, LLC.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
 Conservation and Recreation Division
 NRC Meeting Date: 02/10/2022

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

Decision Item

19. Contract with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs

Commission approval is requested for a 28E contract with the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), of Des Moines, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: -0-

Dates: February 10, 2022 to February 10, 2027

Contract Purpose: The Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) purpose in entering into this Cooperative Agreement is to meet Iowa Code 303.2 – 2a(1) legal requirements for buildings identified as eligible for listing on the national register of historic sites by entering into a 28E agreement to ensure the proper management, maintenance, and development of the buildings. The DCA's purpose in entering into this Cooperative Agreement is to meet Iowa Code 303.2 – 2a(1) legal requirements by administering the care for historical sites under the authority of the division and entering into a 28E agreement to ensure the proper management, maintenance, and development of the buildings.

The cooperation between DNR and DCA to define mitigation efforts to resolve the adverse effect from demolishing two Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) era buildings at Lake Ahquabi State Park. The demolition of these buildings will alleviate staff and public health and safety concerns associated with the use of the buildings.

The major components of the agreement include:

- DNR will submit the CCC interpretive display proposal to DCA for review and comment
- DNR will take their recommendations into consideration for final design if any are provided.
- DNR will construct a CCC interpretive display in the new park office entrance vestibule and DNR shall maintain the interpretive display for a minimum of five years.
- DNR will provide DCA with verification that the interpretive display has been constructed in the office vestibule.
- DCA will review and comment on the DNR provided CCC interpretive display proposal.
- Once the display is constructed, DCA will provide concurrence that the constructed interpretive display meets the specifics outlined in the 28E agreement.

Selection Process Summary: This agreement is authorized under Iowa Code Chapter 28E.

Sherry Arntzen, State Parks, Forests, and Preserves Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: February 10, 2022

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

20. Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting”, and Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents” – Notice of Intended Action

The Commission is requested to approve the Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting”, and Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents.”

Chapter 94, Nonresident Deer Hunting:

Basic Intent of Current Rule: Chapter 94 sets regulations for deer hunting by nonresidents 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: The license requirements for nonresident hunters under the age of sixteen are clarified in Chapter 94 by citing directly to Iowa Code section 483A.24(8). This statute allows persons under the age of sixteen to hunt deer after purchasing only a nonresident deer hunting license. Other nonresidents must purchase a deer hunting license along with a general hunting license and pay the wildlife habitat fee.

Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents:

Basic Intent of Current 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: Three amendments are proposed for Chapter 106.

1. Monroe County is added to Chapter 106’s list of counties eligible for a January antlerless-deer-only season.
2. Antlerless deer only county quotas are modified to increase harvest in central and southern Iowa where the wild herd is above population goals. Conversely, quotas are modified in far western Iowa to decrease harvest where populations are below goals and hunter effort is waning.
3. The method of take during the January antlerless deer only season is modified to restore centerfire rifle use. Centerfire rifles .240 to .350 are added to the list of approved rifles for the January antlerless-deer-only season.

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 2/10/2022

Attached: Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting”, and Chapter 106, “Deer Hunting by Residents” NOIA

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby proposes to amend Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting,” and 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”, 481.39, and 481A.48.

State or Federal Law Implemented

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

Purpose and Summary

Chapters 94 and 106 govern deer hunting by nonresidents and residents in the state of Iowa. Collectively, these chapters regulate deer hunting and set forth 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 one amendment to Chapter 94 and three amendments to Chapter 106. First, license requirements for nonresident hunters under the age of sixteen are clarified in Chapter 94 by citing directly to

Iowa Code section 483A.24(8). This statute allows persons under the age of sixteen to hunt deer after purchasing only a nonresident deer hunting license. Other nonresidents must purchase a deer hunting license along with a general hunting license and pay the wildlife habitat fee. Second, Monroe County is added to Chapter 106's list of counties eligible for a January antlerless-deer-only season. Third, antlerless-deer-only county quotas are modified to increase harvest in central and southern Iowa where the wild herd is above population goals. Conversely, quotas are modified in far western Iowa to decrease harvest where populations are below goals and hunter effort is waning. Lastly, centerfire rifles .240 to .350 are added to the list of approved rifles for the January antlerless-deer-only season.

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 of Natural Resources (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 Department 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 29, 2022. Comments should be directed to:

Dr. 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 or in writing will be held by conference call. 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 29, 2022

Conference call

Noon to 1 p.m.

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 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 proposed:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—94.1(483A), introductory paragraph, as follows:

94.1(483A) Licenses. Every hunter, except as authorized by Iowa Code section 483A.24(8), must have in possession a valid nonresident deer license, a valid nonresident hunting license, and proof that the hunter has paid the current year's wildlife habitat fee when hunting, possessing, or transporting deer. No person, while hunting deer, shall carry or have in possession any license or transportation tag issued to another person. No one who is issued a deer hunting license and transportation tag shall allow another person to use or possess that license or transportation tag while deer hunting or tagging a deer.

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

106.1(6) January antlerless-deer-only licenses. Licenses for the January antlerless-deer-only season may be issued for the following counties: Allamakee, Appanoose, Decatur, Monroe, 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 subrule 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 subrule 106.6(6) is met.

ITEM 3. 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	150	Monona	750 <u>500</u>
Adams	1000	Franklin	0	Monroe	2250 <u>250</u> 0
Allamakee	3800	Fremont	1000	Montgomery	500
Appanoose	2700	Greene	0 <u>100</u>	Muscatine	900
Audubon	0	Grundy	0	O'Brien	0
Benton	325	Guthrie	2150 <u>235</u> 0	Osceola	0
Black Hawk	0	Hamilton	0	Page	500 <u>300</u>
Boone	300 <u>400</u>	Hancock	0	Palo Alto	0
Bremer	300	Hardin	0	Plymouth	0
Buchanan	400	Harrison	750 <u>500</u>	Pocahontas	0
Buena Vista	0	Henry	1050	Polk	1350
Butler	200	Howard	450	Pottawattamie	750 <u>500</u>
Calhoun	0	Humboldt	0	Poweshiek	200
Carroll	0	Ida	0	Ringgold	1400 <u>160</u> 0
Cass	400 <u>300</u>	Iowa	450	Sac	0
Cedar	775	Jackson	1100	Scott	200
Cerro Gordo	0	Jasper	575 <u>400</u>	Shelby	0
Cherokee	0	Jefferson	1500	Sioux	0
Chickasaw	375	Johnson	950	Story	150
Clarke	2400	Jones	1100	Tama	300

County	Quota	County	Quota	County	Quota
Clay	0	Keokuk	500	Taylor	1500
Clayton	4000	Kossuth	0	Union	1400
Clinton	400	Lee	1700	Van Buren	2100 <u>2300</u>
Crawford	0	Linn	850	Wapello	1600
Dallas	2100	Louisa	775	Warren	3000
Davis	1700 <u>1900</u>	Lucas	2500	Washington	1000
Decatur	2200 <u>2400</u>	Lyon	0	Wayne	2700
Delaware	950	Madison	3300	Webster	0
Des Moines	900	Mahaska	475	Winnebago	0
Dickinson	0	Marion	2050	Winneshiek	2700
Dubuque	1200	Marshall	150	Woodbury	2000
Emmet	0	Mills	300 <u>150</u>	Worth	0
Fayette	2500	Mitchell	100	Wright	0

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 106.7(5) as follows:

106.7(5) January antlerless-deer-only season. Bows, crossbows, shotguns, muzzleloaders, rifles, including centerfire rifles .240 to .350, and handguns, as each is described in this rule, may be used during the January antlerless-deer-only season.