## **Natural Resource Commission**

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Teleconference: 442-242-3609 PIN: 883 789 392#

Video Conference: <u>meet.google.com/sco-mbns-qva</u>

502 E 9<sup>th</sup> St, Des Moines, Iowa 50319

**DNR 2N Conf Room** 

## Thursday, December 14, 2023 9:30 AM – NRC Business Meeting

Agenda

Public participation begins at approximately 10:00am. If you are unable to attend the business meeting, comments regarding agenda items may be submitted for public record to Alicia Plathe at <a href="mailto:Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov">Alicia.Plathe@dnr.iowa.gov</a> or 502 East 9th St, Des Moines IA 50319 up to 24 hours prior to the business meeting.

1.		Approval of Agenda	Decision	Commission						
		Consent Agenda (*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda i	tem)							
		*5. Donations								
		*10. Public Land Management Projects (10.1-10.6)								
		*11.7 Wood Duck Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Winnebago County-Skogen								
2.		Approval of the Minutes	Decision	Commission						
3.		Director's Remarks	Information	Kayla Lyon						
4.		Division Administrator's Remarks	Information	Pete Hildreth						
*5.		Donations	Decision	Pete Hildreth						
6.		Contract with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc.	Decision	Kathryne Clark						
7.		2023-2024 Additional Deer Management Zone Hunts	Decision	Todd Bishop						
8.		28E with Iowa Economic Development Authority	Decision	Sherry Arntzen						
9.		Construction-Small Projects-Culvert Replacement at Red Haw State	Information	Travis Baker						
		Park; Deer Fence Construction at Maquoketa Caves State								
*10.		Land Management Projects	Decision	Travis Baker						
	10.1	Kearny State Park, Palo Alto County-City of Emmetsburg	Decision	Travis Baker						
	10.2	Chapter 18 Lease, Scott County-Holcim Cement	Decision	Travis Baker						
	10.3	Chapter 18 Lease, Viserion Grain, LLC	Decision	Travis Baker						
	10.4	Management Agreement, Townsend Wildlife Area-Cedar County	Decision	Travis Baker						
		Conservation Board								
	10.5	Contract with Agri-Valley Farm Management	Decision	Travis Baker						
	10.6	Contract with Agri-Management Farm Services dba Growthland	Decision	Travis Baker						
11.		Land Acquisition	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.1	Shimek State Forest, Lee County-Anderson	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.2	Big Wall Lake Wildlife Management Area, Wright County-Howell and Wiekierak	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.3	Green Island Wildlife Management Area, Jackson County-Clausen	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.4	Lake George Wildlife Management Area, Hancock County-Helgeland	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.5	Mt. Talbot State Preserve, Plymouth County-William Huser	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.6	Perkins Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Palo Alto County-Iowa	Decision	Travis Baker						
	*11 7	Natural Heritage Foundation	Docision	Travia Dakor						
	*11.7	Wood Duck Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Winnebago County- Skogen	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.8	Hayden Prairie, Howard County-The Nature Conservancy	Decision	Travis Baker						
	11.9	Mcintosh Wildlife Management Area-Cerro Gordo County-The Nature Conservancy	Decision	Travis Baker						

#### 12. General Discussion

**Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates** 

- Wednesday, January 10, 2024, Wallace Building at 10:00am
- Thursday, February 8, 2024, Wallace Buildling

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.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, English-language proficiency, disability, or age in the administration of its programs or activities in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. DNR will not tolerate discrimination, intimidation, threats, coercion, or retaliation against any individual or group because they have exercised their rights protected by federal or state law.

## **M**INUTES OF THE **NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION M**EETING

November 9, 2023

**Video Teleconference** and **Wallace State Office Building** 

Approved by the Commission TBD

Digitally signed by Kayla Lyon Date: 2023.12.08 10:06:30 -06'00'

Kayla Lyon, Director

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Sender's Initials ap

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#### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission (Commission or NRC) was called to order by Chairperson Marcus Branstad at 9:32am on November 9, 2023, via a combination of in-person and video/teleconference attendees.

#### **COMMISSIONERS PRESENT**

Laura Foell

Tammi Kircher

Tom Prickett

Marcus Branstad

Laura Kudej

**Uriah Hansen** 

**KR Buck** 

#### **COMMISSIONERS ABSENT**

None

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda included the following agenda items:

- Donations
- Subrecipient Grant Agreement with the City of Dubuque
- Chapter 30-Waters Cost-Share and Grant Programs, Water Recreation Access Cost-Share Grants
- Contract with Ecosystem Repair US, Inc.
- Contract with David Mouw
- Contract with Iowa State University (Urban SGCN)
- Contract with Polk County Conservation Board (Urban SGCN)
- Chapter 30-Waters Cost-Share and Grants Program, Low-Head Dam Public Hazard Grant
- 2024 NRC Meeting Dates
- Public Land Management Projects (42.1-42.5)

At the request of the Department, Chair Branstad removed agenda item 16.1 from the agenda. In addition, Division Administrator Pete Hildreth mentioned a date change for Item 11 from the printed version of the packet, noting a new end date of August 31, 2025.

Motion was made by Tom Prickett to approve the agenda and consent agenda as amended. Seconded by KR Buck.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED AS AMENDED

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the October 12, 2023, NRC minutes as presented. Seconded by Laura Kudej.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

#### **DIRECTOR'S REMARKS**

• Director Lyon shared the success of the 2023 Iowa Governor's Pheasant hunt that was held in Kossuth County on November 3 and 4.

#### **DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS**

- Division Administrator Pete Hildreth started his remarks by thanking General Counsel Tamara McIntosh and DNR program staff for all of their work on preparing the November NRC agenda items.
- Mr. Hildreth continued his remarks by inviting Commissioners and guests to enjoy lowa's Fall outdoor activities. Mr. Hildreth shared the importance of hunting safety and highlighted some key safety tips specific to pheasant hunting, tree stand safety and hunting deer with a firearm.

#### CONTRACT WITH IOWA OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Sherry Arntzen requested Commission approval for a contract with Iowa Off-Highway Vehicle Association to fund an Executive Director position that will support the off-highway vehicle program's goals and objectives. Mrs. Arntzen explained that there will be an interim Executive Director until it is permanently filled.

**Public Comments - None** 

Written Comments - None

Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### APPROVED AS PRESENTED

#### LARGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS-MCINTOSH WOODS STATE PARK FISHING CLEANING STATION-CERRO GORDO COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for the construction of a new fish cleaning station at McIntosh Woods State Park. Due to the pending response regarding a question with the accessibility design of the station, a motion was made by KR Buck to table the agenda item until later in the meeting, the motion was seconded by Laura Foell. The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. After the discussion on item 15.2, a motion was made by Tammi Kircher to take this item off of the table and to approve the item as presented. Ryan Richey responded to the Commission regarding the accessibility of the fish cleaning station. Mr. Richey noted that the fish cleaning station will be ADA compliant.

**Public Comments - None** 

Written Comments - None

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

#### LARGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS-PLEASANT CREEK STATE RECREATION AREA, PAVEMENT PRESERVATION-LINN COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to repair 5.4 miles of paved roads at Pleasant Creek State Recreation Area.

**Public Comments - None** 

Written Comments - None

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

# LARGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS-SWEET MARSH WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA QUAIL AVENUE PCC PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE-BREMER COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to repair pavement failures at the Sweet Marsh Wildlife Management Area.

#### **Public Comments - None**

#### Written Comments - None

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tom Prickett.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### APPROVED AS PRESENTED

#### LAND ACQUISITION-GREEN ISLAND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, JACKSON COUNTY-KEIL TRUST

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to purchase a tract of land located in Jackson County adjacent to Green Island Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Mr. Baker stated that the grassland restoration costs are included as part of the USDA easement.

#### **Public Comments--None**

#### Written Comments - None

Motion was made by Tom Prickett to approve the item as presented. Seconded by KR Buck.

The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Tom Prickett-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Laura Foell-nay, KR Buck-aye, Laura Kudej-aye, Uriah Hansen-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.

#### **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

# LAND ACQUISITION-EAST FORK DES MOINES RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, HUMBOLDT COUNTY-IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to purchase a tract of land located in Humboldt County at East Fork Des Moines River Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Commissioners discussed the beginning farmer ag lease program.

#### **Public Comments - None**

#### Written Comments - None

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Kudej.

The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Tom Prickett-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Laura Foell-nay, KR Buck-aye, Laura Kudej-aye, Uriah Hansen-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.

#### **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

## LAND ACQUISITION-SEDAN BOTTOMS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, APPANOOSE COUNTY-IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to purchase a tract of land located in Appanoose County adjacent to Sedan Bottoms Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

#### **Public Comments - None**

#### Written Comments - None

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Tom Prickett-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Laura Foell-nay, KR Buck-aye, Laura Kudej-aye, Uriah Hansen-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.

#### APPROVED AS PRESENTED

#### LAND ACQUISITION-MERRITT FOREST STATE PRESERVE, CLAYTON COUNTY-BOB L. BEHREND

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Clayton County adjacent to Merritt Forest State Preserve.

#### **Public Comments - None**

#### Written Comments - None

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Kudej.

The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Tom Prickett-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Laura Foell-aye, KR Buck-aye, Laura Kudej-aye, Uriah Hansen-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.

#### **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

## CHAPTER 1, "OPERATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Kelli Book requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 1.

Motion was made by Tom Prickett to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

### CHAPTER 12, "CONSERVATION EDUCATION"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Tammie Krausman requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 12.

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by KR Buck.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

# CHAPTER 13, "PERMITS AND EASEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION AND OTHER ACTIVITIES ON PUBLIC LAND AND WATERS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 13.

Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tom Prickett.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 14, "CONCESSIONS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Sherry Arntzen requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 14. She highlighted the change in contract term length, increasing the cap from 5 years to 10 years.

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Kudej.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

## CHAPTER 15, "GENERAL LICENSE REGULATIONS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Mark Warren requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 15. General Counsel McIntosh clarified that rules governing the hunting seasons will be presented at a later date to the Commission.

Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

## CHAPTER 16, "DOCKS AND OTHER STRUCTURES ON PUBLIC WATERS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Craig Cutts requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 16.

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 17, "LEASES AND PERMITS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 17. Mr. Baker stated that among the changes is the ability for the consumer price index to be consulted when drafting a new or renewed lease instead of using a fixed price in rule.

Motion was made by Laura Kudej to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

## CHAPTER 20, "MANUFACTURER'S CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Susan Stocker requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 20.

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

### CHAPTER 21, "HABITAT LEASE PROGRAM"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 21.

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 22, "HABITAT AND PUBLIC ACCESS PROGRAM"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Nick Baumgarten requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 22.

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tom Prickett.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 23, "WILDLIFE HABITAT PROMOTION WITH LOCAL ENTITIES PROGRAM"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Kelsey Fleming requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 23.

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

### CHAPTER 24, "BLUFFLANDS PROTECTION PROGRAM AND REVOLVING LOAN FUND"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Kelly Smith requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 24.

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 25, "CERTIFICATION OF LAND AS NATIVE PRAIRIE OR WILDLIFE HABITAT"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Monica Thelen requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 25.

Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

### CHAPTER 26, "Relocation Assistance"-Notice of Intended Action

Travis Baker requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 26.

Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by KR Buck.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 27, "LANDS AND WATERS CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Jessica Flatt requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 27.

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 28, "ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE REGISTRATION REVENUE COST-SHARE PROGRAM"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Jessica Flatt requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 28. Mrs. Flatt gave an update on the Council Bluffs OHV park as requested and responded to questions regarding the registration process for OHV use.

Motion was made by Tom Prickett to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 30, "WATERS COST-SHARE AND GRANT PROGRAMS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 30. Mr. Baker responded to an inquiry regarding the number of remaining low-head dams in the state of Iowa.

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 31, "PUBLICLY OWNED LAKES WATERSHED PROGRAM"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 31.

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

# CHAPTER 33, "RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAM: COUNTY, CITY, PRIVATE OPEN SPACES AND CONSERVATION EDUCATION GRANT"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Michelle Wilson requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 33.

Motion was made by Laura Kudej to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

### CHAPTER 34. "COMMUNITY FOREST GRANT PROGRAM"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Tamara McIntosh requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 34.

Motion was made by Tom Prickett to approve the item as presented. Seconded by KR Buck.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### CHAPTER 35, "FISH HABITAT PROMOTION FOR COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARDS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Randy Schulz requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 35.

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion

passes.

## CHAPTER 61, "STATE PARKS, RECREATION AREAS, AND STATE FOREST CAMPING"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Jessica Manken requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 61. Mrs. Manken responded to several questions regarding the Parks Reservation system, reservation regulations, and reservation trends.

Motion was made by Tom Prickett to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

## CHAPTER 91, "WATERFOWL AND COOT HUNTING SEASONS"-NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Chris Ensminger requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 91.

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by KR Buck.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

### CHAPTER 94, "Nonresident Deer Hunting," and Chapter 106, "Deer Hunting" - Notice of Intended Action

Chris Ensminger requested Commission approval of the Notice of Intended Action for Chapters 94 and 106.

Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.

#### **GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- Commissioners took turns sharing notable events.
- Chairperson Branstad clarified that the Fremont county tour for 2024 was switched to Winnebago county.

#### **A**DJOURN

The Chairperson adjourned the Natural Resource Commission meeting at 11:41 am on November 9, 2023.

Adjourned	

## **Decision Item**

\*Item #5 (\*indicates proposed consent item)

## **Donations**

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

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:		
Ledges State Park	\$484.00	Two charcoal picnic grills for Ledges State Park.	Chuck Lovin		
Ledges State Park	\$503.93	Twenty-seven 2'x10'x12' treated lumber boards for picnic table construction.	Neal Giese		
\$2,240.00 Ledges State Park		Two days of Conservation Corps Minnesota and Iowa crew time removing invasive species.	Friends of the Ledges		
Pine Lake State Park	\$2,750.00	Hazard tree removal.	Friends of Pine Lake		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jeannie Kuster.	Dennis and Joyce Kuster		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jeannie Kuster.	Dean Vickstrom		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jeannie Kuster.	Robert and Tamarra Washington		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jeannie Kuster.	Dino Ganakes		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jeannie Kuster.	Carol Clark		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jeannie Kuster.	Lea Bradley		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$15.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jeannie Kuster.	Tanya Morrison		
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$50.00	Donation to support the Wildlife Diversity Program.	Grace Mauerer		
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$150.00	Donation to support the Wildlife Diversity Program.	Kenneth Kiss		
Parks and Forestry Fund	\$250.00	Donation to the Parks and Forestry Fund in honor of Kenneth Young.	Jacob Young		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$500.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Kenneth Young.	Jacob Young		
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor or Mrs. Phyllis Goldman.	Chris and Tammi Martin		

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator Conservation and Recreation Division NRC Meeting Date: December 14, 2023

#### **Decision Item**

Item #6

#23ESDLQBAClar-0001

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. ("Esri"), of Redlands, CA.

## **Contract Terms**

Amount: Not to exceed \$500,000

Dates: February 9, 2024 to February 9, 2027

Funding Source(s): Multiple state and federal funding sources which are determined by DNR program supervisors

annually depending on their budgets. The following is a list of the funding sources utilized in 2022:

Air Contaminant Source Fund
Animal Agricultural Compliance
Brownfields (Federal)
Environment First
Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund
FWTF, RIIF, MFT, GWPF, REAP, ATV/Snowmobile Reg Fees
G82 Floodplain Management Program
General Fund
Groundwater Protection Fund
NPDES Permit Fund
State Revolving Fund

**Contract Purpose:** The DNR is heavily reliant upon Geographic Information System (GIS) software to provide support for decision making, data analysis and direct support to our customers. The software is utilized in nearly every environmental and conservation and recreation program at the Department. Conservation and Recreation programs use the software to track their work, assess habitat, record and monitor endangered and game species, model species distribution and record public land and associated infrastructure, among many other uses. Server-based GIS software is used to create the mapping components added to electronic applications/databases used by many DNR environmental and conservation and recreation programs.

Software maintenance is required to keep software up-to-date functionally and to maintain software security. Technical support from Esri is used many times a year by GIS staff to assist in solving technical problems that arise as State of Iowa technical systems change. They also help to provide solutions to the evolving needs of GIS users.

**Selection Process Summary:** Esri GIS software maintenance is a sole source product. Sole source approval was obtained on August 11, 2023.

Amie Davidson, Land Quality Bureau, Bureau Chief Environmental Protection Division NRC Meeting Date: December 14, 2023

## Addendum 1 – ESRI Software Maintenance Components

Technical support
New version software
Hot fixes
Patches
Software updates
Self-Paced E-Learning
Beta programs
Esri User Conference registration

#### **Decision Item**

#### Item #7

#### 2023-2024 Deer Management Zone Hunt

The Commission is requested to approve three additional Deer Management Zone Hunts for the upcoming season as required by 571 Iowa Administrative Code 105.3. These zones will be used for increased Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance.

2023-2024 DEER MANAGEMENT ZONES							
Zone Name	Zone #	Season Name	Season Number	Season Dates		License Quota	Any Deer
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	Youth	1	9/17/2022	10/2/2022		
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	Disabled	2	9/17/2022	10/2/2022		
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	Bow	3	10/1/2022	1/10/2023		
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	Early Muzzle	4	10/15/2022	10/23/2022	500	
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	Reg Gun 1	5	12/3/2022	12/7/2022		
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	Reg Gun 2	6	12/10/2022	12/18/2022		
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	Late Muzzle	7	12/19/2022	1/10/2023		
Decatur East County (CWD Perimeter)	117	January	8	1/11/2023	1/21/2024		
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter)	118	Youth	1	9/17/2022	10/2/2022		
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter)	118	Disabled	2	9/17/2022	10/2/2022		
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter)	118	Bow	3	10/1/2022	1/10/2023		
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter))	118	Early Muzzle	4	10/15/2022	10/23/2022	500	
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter)	118	Reg Gun 1	5	12/3/2022	12/7/2022		
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter)	118	Reg Gun 2	6	12/10/2022	12/18/2022		
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter)	118	Late Muzzle	7	12/19/2022	1/10/2023		
Lucas County (CWD Perimeter)	118	January	8	1/11/2023	1/21/2024		
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	Youth	1	9/17/2022	10/2/2022		
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	Disabled	2	9/17/2022	10/2/2022		
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	Bow	3	10/1/2022	1/10/2023		
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	Early Muzzle	4	10/15/2022	10/23/2022	500	
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	Reg Gun 1	5	12/3/2022	12/7/2022		
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	Reg Gun 2	6	12/10/2022	12/18/2022		
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	Late Muzzle	7	12/19/2022	1/10/2023		
Monroe County (CWD Perimeter)	119	January	8	1/11/2023	1/21/2024		

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief Conservation and Recreation Division NRC Meeting Date: 12/14/2023

#### **Decision Item**

Item #8

28E with Iowa Economic Development Authority

Commission approval is requested for a 28E with Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA).

**Terms** 

Amount: No Cost

Dates: December 14, 2023 to December 31, 2026

**Purpose:** The Springbrook Conservation Education Center is a campus of five buildings located on an upland portion of Springbrook State Park that is no longer in use. The center was built in 1969, and as the name implies, the Iowa DNR used this campus for purposes of education, conservation, and outdoor recreation. Over the years, school participation has declined, particularly during the last decade. Several factors have contributed to this decline, such as increasing transportation costs for schools, which have led many to seek similar opportunities closer to home. The center was officially closed in 2017. The campus includes three dormitory buildings, one dining hall building, and one classroom/office building. Currently, the vacant buildings are a target for vandalism and have become a liability to the park. Demolition of these buildings will alleviate staff and public health and safety concerns.

In short, the DNR's purpose in entering into this agreement is to demolish the existing 5 CEC buildings. The IEDA's purpose in entering into this agreement is to define mitigation efforts to resolve adverse effects of demolishing the buildings. The DNR will restore a CCC-era shelter at Trappers Bay State Recreation as mitigation. The agreement is authorized under lowa Code Chapter 28E

Sherry Arntzen, Bureau Chief Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau

NRC Meeting Date: December 14, 2023

#### **Information Item**

#### Item #9

## **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
10/26/23	24-05-59-01	Red Haw State Park	Lucas	This project consists of replacing a collapsed road culvert.	\$22,000	\$20,200.67 \$21,280.00 \$22,953.90 \$23,495.00 \$24,252.00 \$24,687.30 \$27,840.00
11/9/23	23-06-49-05	Maquoketa Caves State Park	Jackson	This project consists of constructing a deer fence around the wastewater treatment lagoon	\$32,000	<b>\$23,785.00</b> \$32,730.00 \$65,275.00

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief Conservation and Recreation Division NRC Meeting Date: 12/14/2023

**Decision Item** (\* indicates proposed consent item)

#### \*10. Public Land Management Projects

### 10.1 Kearny State Park, Palo Alto County – City of Emmetsburg

**Receiver:** City of Emmetsburg

Acreage: 44 acres m/l

**Conveyance without Consideration & Undesignation of State Park** 

The City of Emmetsburg has requested the State to transfer title to Kearny State Park, currently operated as Five Island Golf Course, in Palo Alto County to the city through Resolution No 23-24 on August 28th, 2024. The Natural Resource Commission is requested to recommend a title transfer to the Executive Council. Upon approval by the Executive Council, title will be transferred to the City of Emmetsburg.

This property was acquired by the State in 1940 and was converted into a golf course at that time. The City of Emmetsburg has been maintaining, either themselves or through a sub-agreement, the golf-course since its creation. The first management agreement was put in place in 1960. The city has made a formal request to have the title transferred to them. As part of this transfer, a reverter clause will be included on the patent, that should the property not remain open to the public, it will revert back to state ownership. When the title is transferred to the City of Emmetsburg, the Department will remove the State Park designation from the property.

Small areas of dredge fill along the shore and First Island will not be patented and will remain in the public trust. The management of these areas will be transferred to the City through an updated management agreement.

The city intends to continue to manage the property in that same manner that they have for the previous 80+ years. The small camp ground near the boat ramp will be removed and converted into a park area, while maintaining parking for the boat ramp.

The department recommends the conveyance of the land to the City of Emmetsburg as a way to align the DNRs priorities with the properties it manages. This golf course is a beloved part of the City of Emmetsburg and does not fit the management goals of the DNR.

Closing costs will be the responsibility of the City of Emmetsburg.

#### 10.2 Chapter 18 Lease, Scott County – Holcim Cement

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve Chapter 18 lease 72-R with Holcim Cement. LaFarge purchased the operation from Continental Cement Co. LLC in September 2015. LaFarge has since merged with Holcim Cement.

**Location**: The lease area consists of a portion of the Mississippi River bed with a frontage of 300 feet and a depth of 250 feet at Mississippi River Mile 486.8 located in Section 34, Township 78 North, Range 4 East of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M., Scott County, Iowa.

**Site Purpose**: Three barge mooring cells are located at the site. The site is used for barge loading and unloading.

**Lease History**: The location has been under lease since 1987.

**Lease Fee and Term**: The annual fee is \$7,500.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. The term of the lease will be five years.

### 12.3 Chapter 18 lease, Clayton County – Viserion Grain, LLC

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the Chapter 18 lease 18-R with Viserion Grain, LLC of Boulder, Colorado.

**Location**: The leased area is described as a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River including approximately 1000 feet of frontage by 140 feet of depth located at Mississippi River Mile 633.3 in Clayton County, Iowa.

**Site Purpose:** The site is used as an area for unloading of grain from barges.

**Lease History**: The location has been under a barge fleeting lease since 1983. A Public Notice was printed in a local newspaper and no comments were received. The area of this lease was altered from 800' to 1000' of frontage to cover the operations. This lease has historically been a chapter 17 lease but was determined by the Attorney General's office to be more appropriate as a Chapter 18 lease.

**Lease Fee and Term**: The annual fee is \$11,200.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. The term of the lease will be five years.

**10.4** Management Agreement, Townsend Wildlife Area – Cedar County Conservation Board
The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of a Management Agreement with Cedar County Conservation Board for Townsend Wildlife Area located in Cedar County.

**Location**: This parcel is located in the NW ¼ of Section 21, Township 81 North, Range 1 West of the Fifth P.M. Cedar County, Iowa.

**Site Purpose**: This 58.09-acre area is used for outdoor recreation and hunting.

**Management History**: This site has been managed by Cedar County Conservation Board since 1999. The current agreement is set to expire December 31, 2023.

**Management Agreement Term**: This standard Management Agreement with the Cedar County Conservation Board is for 25 years.

This agreement was approved by the Cedar County Conservation Board on November 13, 2023.

### 10.5 Contract with Agri-Valley Farm Management

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the contract with Agri-Valley Farm Management of Mineola, IA

#### **Contract Terms**:

Amount: Not to exceed \$30,392.00 per year; \$151,960 full contract value

Dates: 12/14/23 to 12/13/28.

DNR shall have the option to extend this contract for up to a total of six years from the beginning date of

the original contract by executing a signed amendment prior to the expiration of this contract.

Funding Source(s): 8724

**Contract Purpose:** The purpose of the habitat management lease program is to enhance habitat for wildlife on Public Wildlife and Recreation Areas, thereby providing recreational opportunities to the public. Utilization of a habitat lease provides practices which are essential to successful wildlife habitat and vegetation management and reduces associated operating expenses. In 1987 the DNR began a pilot project at Loess Hills Forest to explore the use of private farm managers to assist foresters and wildlife biologists with the administration of the agricultural leasing system to improve efficiency of the system and to reduce the operating expense of the wildlife habitat management. These leases include row crop and grazing land leases.

**Selection Process Summary:** The Department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and also published a Request for Proposal (RFP) on the Department of Administrative Services website.

Proposal Due Date: 11/03/2023

**Proposals Received: 1** 

Recommendation: Agri-Valley Farm Management, LLC

## 10.6 Contract with Agri-Management Farm Services dba Growthland

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the contract with Agri-Management Farm Services dba Growthland of Ottumwa, IA 52501

#### **Contract Terms:**

Amount: Not to exceed \$11,430.00 per year; \$57,150 full contract value

**Dates:** 12/14/23 to 12/13/28.

DNR shall have the option to extend this contract for a total of six years from the beginning date of the

original contract by executing a signed amendment prior to the expiration of this Contract.

Funding Source(s): 8722

**Contract Purpose:** The purpose of the habitat management lease program is to enhance habitat for wildlife on Public Wildlife and Recreation Areas, thereby providing recreational opportunities to the public. Utilization of a habitat lease provides practices which are essential to successful wildlife habitat and vegetation management and reduces associated operating expenses. In 1987 the DNR began a pilot project at Loess Hills Forest to explore the use of private farm managers to assist foresters and wildlife biologists with the administration of the agricultural leasing system to improve efficiency of the system

and to reduce the operating expense of the wildlife habitat management. These leases include row crop and grazing land leases.

**Selection Process Summary:** The Department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and also published a Request for Proposal (RFP) on the Department of Administrative Services website.

**Proposal Due Date:** 11/03/2023

**Proposals Received: 1** 

Recommendation: Agri-Management Farm Services dba Growthland

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief Conservation and Recreation Division NRC Meeting Date: December 14, 2023

**Decision Item** (\* indicates proposed consent item)

#### 11. Public Land Acquisition Project

#### 11.1 Shimek State Forest, Lee County – Anderson

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Lee County at Shimek State Forest.

**Donor**: Kimberly Anderson **Acreage**: 18.25 acres

**Property Description:** This property is located five (5) miles west of Donnellson in west central Lee County. The steep to near level tract is entirely dense forest. There are no building improvements. Access will be provided from adjacent stated-owned land known as the Donnellson Unit of Shimek State Forest.

**Purpose:** The property will provide for excellent management potential due to the adjacency on three sides to the public forest. The tract will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

**DNR Property Manager:** Parks, Forests, and Preserves Bureau

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

#### 11.2 Big Wall Lake Wildlife Management Area, Wright County – Howell & Wiekierak

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 Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

**Donor**: Daryl Howell and Gaye Wiekierak **Acreage**: 200 acres (subject to a life estate)

**Property Description:** This property is located 11 miles south of Clarion in south central Wright County. The gently sloping to level, nearly square-shaped tract is currently agricultural land severed by a drainage ditch known as Buck Creek. The land use reflects 165 acres of cropland, 19 acres enrolled in CRP, 8.4 acres of drainage ditch, 6 acres of building site, and the balance in public road right-of-way. The building site, located in the southeast corner of the tract, contains a one-story, 1395 square foot dwelling, a detached, two-car garage, a 2,700 square foot metal storage building, a small metal shed with lean-to (1440 sq. Ft.), and a grain storage bin. Access is be provided by a county, gravel roads forming the east and south boundaries of the property.

**Purpose:** This generous donation will be named the Howell Tract of the Big Wall Lake WMA. Upon termination of the life estate, this property will be restored to tallgrass prairie for valuable diverse wildlife habitat, with nearly 16 wetland sites. The tract will provide for future public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities. Species in the area include Blanding's Turtle, Tiger Salamander, and Upland Sandpiper. The buildings will eventually be removed and the site incorporated into the balance of the property. Also, upon termination of the life estate, the current farm tenant will retain the right to cash rent the cropland at the ISU cash rental rate during the land restoration transition from row cropping to wildlife habitat with the cash rent income allocated back to the resource.

### **DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

**Incidental Costs:** The donors will retain/reserve a life estate for both of their lives. The Department will provide for an appraisal of the donated property for the sellers' noncash charitable contribution. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

#### 11.3 Green Island Wildlife Management Area, Jackson County – Clausen

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

**Seller:** Keith Clausen **Acreage**: 16.7 acres

**DNR Purchase Price:** \$35,000 **Appraised Value:** \$35,000

**Property Description:** This property is located seven (7) miles southeast of Bellevue in eastern Jackson County near the confluence of the Maquoketa and Mississippi Rivers. The entire tract is Maquoketa River bottomland encumbered by an Emergency Watersheds Protection Program Floodplain (EWPP) permanent easement (May 2022). The entire property is currently seeded to a grass mix. There are no building improvements. The Maquoketa River is just west of the property. The tract is bordered along the northeast by US HWY 52.

**Purpose:** In addition to providing for important water quality benefits and further elimination of inholdings in the Green Island bottoms complex, this acquisition will allow for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities. This tract will also provide critical nesting habitat for waterfowl, one of the primary objectives across the WMA.

### **DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): 10,000 Conserving the Upper Mississippi Migration Corridor II NAWCA, \$25,000 from

Wildlife Habitat Stamp

**Incidental Costs:** Survey and incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. This property will remain on property tax rolls in Jackson County.

#### 11.4 Lake George Wildlife Management Area, Hancock County – Helgeland

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Hancock County within Lake George Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Donor: Dale and Susan Helgeland

Acreage: 3.2 acres

**Property Description:** This property is located three (3) miles west of Crystal Lake in northwestern Hancock County. The near level tract is an old, vacated farmstead site with forest cover. The building site contains a few old outbuildings of no value, along with some discarded salvage items all which will be removed. Access is be provided by a county, gravel road along the south boundary.

**Purpose:** This donation will create a more desirable management boundary resulting from elimination of the inholding. The tract will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

**DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

**Incidental Costs:** The Department will provide for an appraisal of the donated property for the sellers' noncash charitable contribution. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

## 11.5 Mt. Talbot State Preserve, Plymouth County – William Huser

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Plymouth County in Mt. Talbot State Preserve.

**Seller**: William Huser **Acreage**: 1.8 acres

**DNR Purchase Price**: \$10,000

**Property Description:** This irregular shaped property is located adjacent to Mt. Talbot State Preserve in Plymouth County. This property provides for high quality remnant prairie protection and management with the State Preserve. It will bring the NW corner of the property to the center of the closed Mt. Talbot Road. This parcel will square up the NW corner to Mt. Talbot State Preserve. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by Talbot Road that closes at the boundary of this property.

**Purpose:** This acquisition will remove an inholding between the preserve and Heendah Hills WMA. This will improve the department's ability to manage and access the State Preserve.

**DNR Property Manager:** Parks, Forests, and Preserves Bureau

Funding Source(s): \$10,000 REAP Open Spaces

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

**11.6** Perkins Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Palo Alto County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Palo Alto County adjacent Perkins Marsh Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: INHF Acreage: 31 acres

**DNR Purchase Price:** \$330,000 **Appraised Value:** \$332,100

**Property Description:** This property is located eight (8) miles northwest of Emmetsburg in northwestern Palo Alto County. The near level to gently sloping rectangular-shaped tract consists of 17.9 acres of land enrolled in CRP (3 separate contracts), with remainder 13.0 acres in cropland. The CRP income will be retained by a prior owner for 2024 and 2025, and the cropping rights for 2024 will be reserved by the seller. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by a county, gravel road along the south boundary.

**Purpose:** This acquisition will serve as a necessary saturation buffer between the restored marsh and the neighboring cropland field as part of the planned restoration of Perkins Marsh wetland basin. The cropland component will be seeded to a prairie seed mix to provide for valuable nesting habitat, and restoration for Blanding's turtles. The property will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

**DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): \$190,000 Wildlife Habitat Stamp, \$140,000 Iowa-Des Moines Lobe Wetland Initiative

**NAWCA** 

**Incidental Costs:** Survey and incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department. This property will remain on property tax rolls in Palo Alto County.

#### \*11.7 Wood Duck Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Winnebago County – Skogen

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a permanent easement for the permanent and temporary storage of water for a project to restore a wetland basin located in Winnebago County adjacent Wood Duck Marsh Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

**Seller:** Jill Skogen **Acreage**: 0.75 acres

**DNR Purchase Price:** \$2,500

**Property Description:** This property is located north of Wood Duck Marsh WMA, one mile south of Lake Mills in eastern Winnebago County. The easement segment is a nearly level triangular-shaped tract currently grassland. The NRCS has designed a water control/spillway structure and excavations to create eight (8) shallow-water wetlands affecting public and private lands currently enrolled in permanent wetlands easements. The project will back water onto the southeast corner of the Skogen property extending north and west from the greater region of the project. The structure will be designed to trap sediment and to impound water to reduce runoff of soil and nutrients to a design elevation of 1249.5 ft. above mean sea level.

**Purpose:** This easement will become part of the Wood Duck Marsh complex, and will be monitored by the Wildlife Bureau in accord with the area management plan.

**DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): \$2,500 Winnebago/Hancock Chapter of Pheasants Forever

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

#### 11.8 Hayden Prairie, Howard County – The Nature Conservancy

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Howard County located near Hayden Prairie.

**Donor**: The Nature Conservancy

Acreage: 11 Acres

**Property Description:** This property is located near Hayden Prairie in Howard County. This small Native prairie is home to over 120 species of plants including Bog Birch, Earleaf Foxglove, Steele's Dewberry, Valerian, Western Prairie Fringed Orchid and Small White Lady's Slippers. This property provides for high quality remnant prairie protection and management. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by County Road 75<sup>th</sup> street on the southside of the property.

**Purpose:** This acquisition is a high-quality remnant and is a priority because of the biological importance and uniqueness of the area.

**DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

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

#### 11.9 Mcintosh Wildlife Management Area, Cerro Gordo County – The Nature Conservancy

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Cerro Gordo County adjacent to Mcintosh Wildlife Management Area.

**Donor**: The Nature Conservancy

Acreage: 30.95 Acres

**Property Description:** This property is located adjacent to Mcintosh Wildlife Management Area in Cerro Gordo County. This property is the last known location of Poweshiek Skipperling, a federally endangered species, in the State of Iowa. This property also has populations of State listed small white lady-slipper, broad-winged skipper, and Dion skipper. This property provides for high quality remnant prairie protection and management. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by Cardinal Ave on the west side of the property.

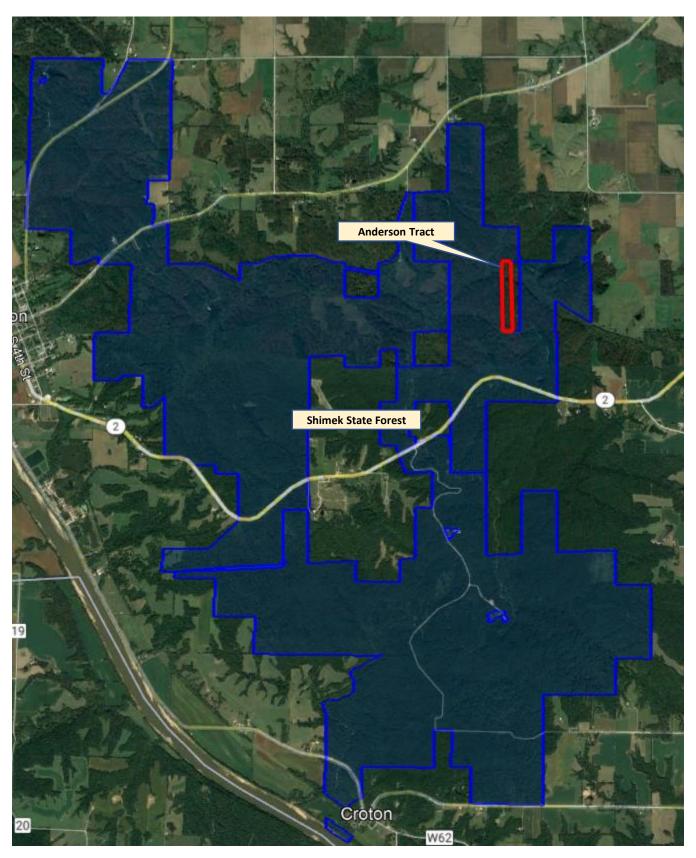
**Purpose:** This acquisition is a high-quality remnant and is a priority because of the biological importance and uniqueness of the area.

**DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

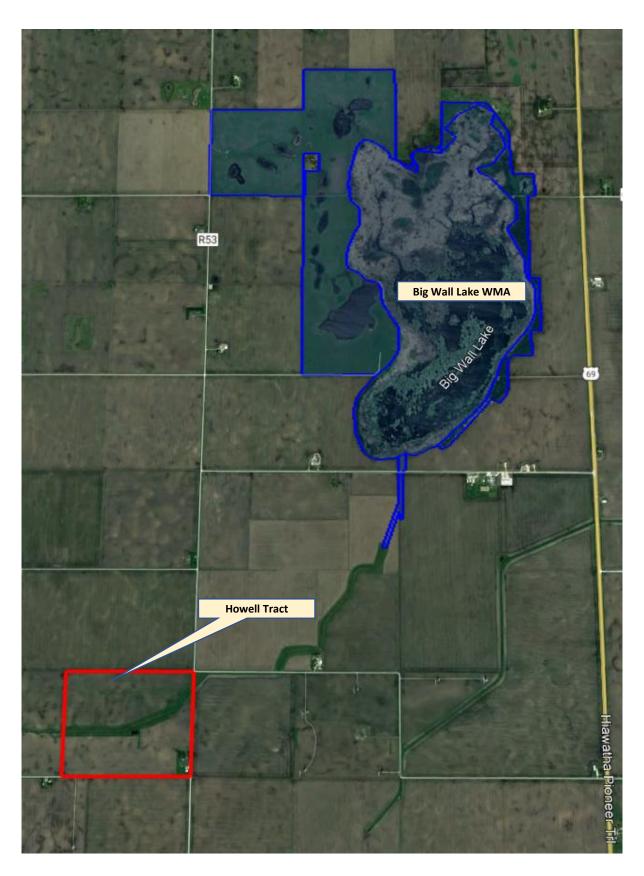
Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

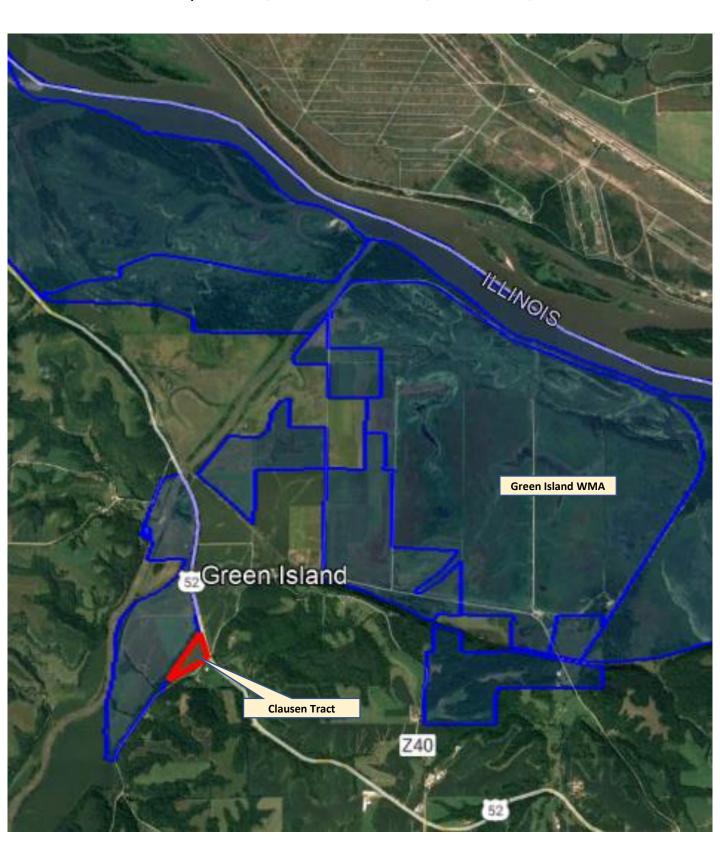
Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief Conservation and Recreation Division NRC Meeting Date: December 14, 2023

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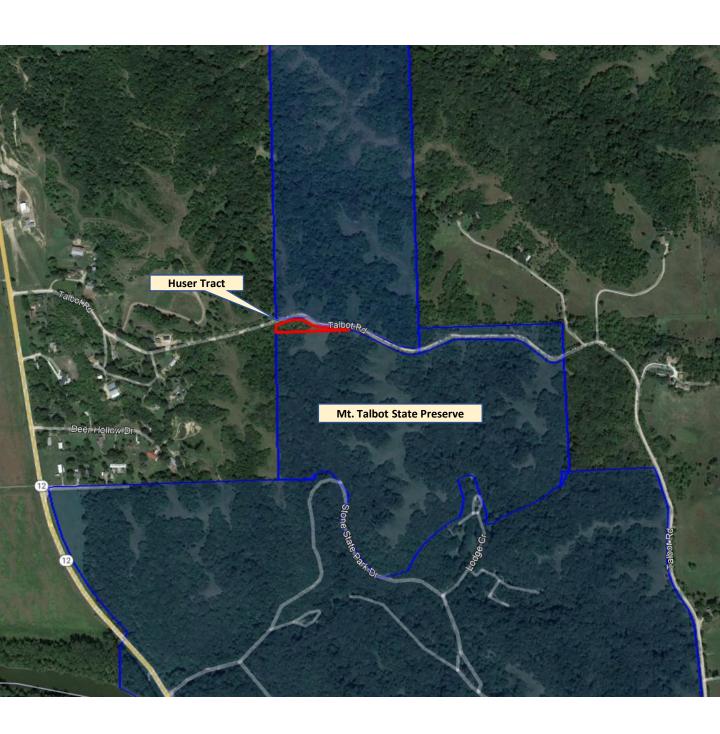


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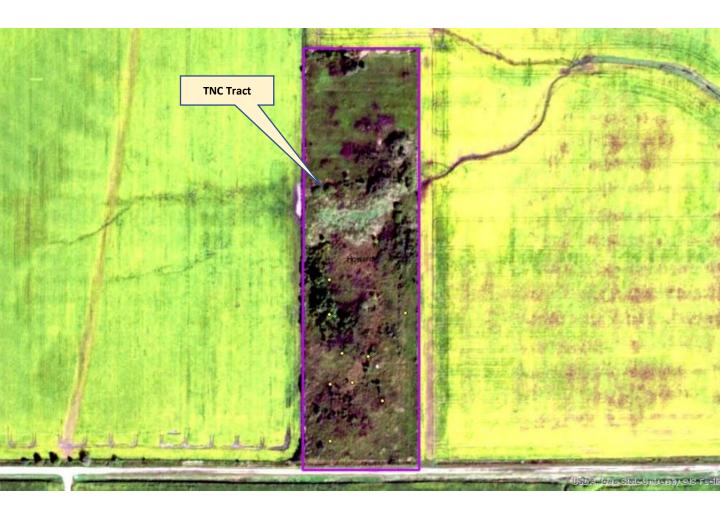








## Realty Services / Hayden Prairie WMA / Howard Co. / TNC



## Realty Services / Mcintosh WMA / Cerro Gordo Co. / TNC

