

MINUTES
OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION
MEETING

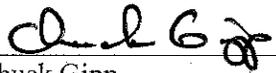
AUGUST 8, 2013

HELD AT:

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HENRY WALLACE STATE OFFICE BUILDING
502 EAST 9TH STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50319

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By NRC: 9/5/13

Director's Signature: 

Chuck Gipp
Director

RECORD COPY

File Name: ADM 1-1-1

NRC 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 08/08/13 at 9:31am.

COMMISSIONER ATTENDANCE

Present

- Marcus Branstad
- Conrad Clement (by phone)
- Richard (Kim) Francisco, Secretary
- Dr. Sally Prickett, Vice-Chair (by phone)
- Phyllis Reimer
- Dennis Schemmel
- Margo Underwood, Chair

Absent

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Speaker	Address	Representing	Subject
Ed Raber	205 W Main Street, Washington, IA 52353	Washington Economic Development Group	Lake Darling
Don Kline	9095 12 th Ave, Washington, IA 52353	Washington County Ikes	Lake Darling Fish Trail

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion - Commissioner Francisco moved item #15 to be moved up to approximately 10:30a
 Seconded – Commissioner Reimer
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS AMENDED

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF 07/11/13 NRC PUBLIC MEETING

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

3. DIRECTOR’S REMARKS

Director Gipp provided information on the DNR State Fair building improvements, funding used, and a phased approach to completing improvements. He also provided an update on the defeasance of the bonds for Honey Creek Resort State Park. Tthe Department will have to make the 2014 payment, but no other payments will need to be made after that. The earliest the bonds can be paid off is 2016. The defeasance funds will be set aside and gain interest until then.

4. HONEY CREEK RESORT STATE PARK UPDATE

Geoff Baekey, CHM Central Group Companies Vice President, and Andy Woodrick, Honey Creek Resort General Manager, presented information on the general budget, marketing, and public relations.

INFORMATIONAL

5. CONTRACT WITH TREES FOREVER, INC

Commission approval is requested for a service contract with Trees Forever, Inc. of Marion, Iowa

Length of Contract: 3 years, 5 months

Contract Start Date: 08/15/13

Contract End Date: 12/31/16

Contract shall not exceed: \$29,000

DNR shall have the option to renew this contract long as this contract and any extensions do not exceed a six-year period.

Funding Source(s): Federal Grant (United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service Grant)

Contract Purpose: Provide assistance with organizing six Forestry Field Days and fifteen public meetings to promote forested riparian buffer re-enrollment and enrollment, tree planting, and forest management; also, develop locally led Forestry Advisory Committees.

Background and Program related information: This project will build a sense of community in the Upper Cedar River Watershed and Howard County to foster a vision of landscape level forest stewardship. A community of landowners will be developed around the proposition that trees and forests have a valuable role to play in improving water quality. Water quality benefits will be optimized through focusing strategic forestry practices on riparian and upland forests. Re-enrollment of buffers in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) will be emphasized. Additional benefits will be improved water quality, retention of existing forested riparian buffers, and sustainably managed forests on private land. This project will conserve the biological diversity of high priority forestland and forested riparian buffers at risk of conversion and fragmentation. Contractor will provide DNR with documentation that they have provided \$29,000 of cash and/or in-kind match to this grant project.

Selection Process Summary: The federal grant dollars that fund this contract can be used only as specified in the Forest Service/IDNR grant agreement. That agreement specifies working with Trees Forever, Inc. The authority of the United States Forest Service (USFS) to work with individual states is found in the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978. The DNR’s Forestry Bureau is authorized to enter into these agreements in Iowa Code § 456A.24(13).

Motion - Commissioner Reimer

Seconded – Commissioner Branstad,

Discussion – Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief, provided information on the selection process.

Decision – Approved (Commissioner Underwood abstained since she is a member of the Trees Forever board)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

6. LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT - LAKE SUGEMA, VAN BUREN COUNTY, IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The Natural Resource Commission’s approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Van Buren County adjacent Lake Sugema Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF)

Acreage: 140-acre tract

DNR Purchase Price: \$365,000

Appraised Value: \$413,000

Appraised By: Darrell Limkeman, Licensed Appraiser of Ottumwa, Iowa

Property Description: This property is located 5 miles northeast of Cantril in south central Van Buren County. The gently sloping to steep tract consists of 100 acres of established grassland, 31 acres of forest cover, and the remaining 9 acres are an old building site and roads. Building improvements include a frame barn, an obsolete implement shed, and a dilapidated garage. The barn will remain on

the property and be utilized as barn owl habitat. The remaining buildings will be removed and viable materials will be recycled.

County gravel road 245th Street splits the parcel with 80 acres north and 60 acres south of the road. A single pole structure electric transmission line bisects the north 80 acres running east-west.

Connection to DNR Priorities: This tract has been a highly desired property for acquisition since the beginning of the Lake Sugema project some 30 years ago. The parcel is bordered by public land on 3 sides. The area has been known as a nesting site for the Henslow’s sparrow. This acquisition will provide for wildlife habitat, watershed protection of Lake Sugema, and enhance public recreation to this area.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): \$265,000 from Wildlife Habitat Stamp, \$80,000 from NAWCA, and \$20,000 from Fisheries Habitat Stamp

Incidental Costs: No surveying or fencing costs are anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion - Commissioner Schemmel
Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
Discussion – Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief, provided information that the property will remain on the property tax rolls due to the use of Habitat Stamp funding.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

7. LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

***7.1. CHAPTER 18 LEASE RENEWAL - DICKINSON COUNTY – JERRY AND MARY FREEMAN**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 18 lease 44-R with Jerry and Mary Freeman.

Location: The area is four feet wide by sixteen feet long and an area three feet wide by twenty-eight feet long located adjacent to Lot 18, Block 35, Blue Water Beach Subdivision in Section 2, Township 99 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Dickinson County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: The site contains a deck that is attached to the dwelling and stairs that lead down to the lake area.

Lease History: The location has been under lease since 1983.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is \$150.00 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.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

***7.2. MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT – HEERY WOODS STATE PARK - BUTLER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the management agreement with the Butler County Conservation Board and the DNR for Heery Woods State Park.

Location: Heery Woods State Park is located approximately ¼ mile south of Clarksville, Iowa on Highway 188.

Site Purpose: Heery Woods State Park provides excellent opportunities for fishing, boating, and hiking. The camping area features electrical hook-ups for 30 trailers plus a large tent area with modern restrooms and showers. There are several picnic areas throughout the park, as well as a nature center with many hands-on exhibits located on the south side of the river near the stone lodge. The park also

provides direct access to the Rolling Prairie Trail. Straddling the Shell Rock River, Heery Woods State Park contains the original tract of land belonging to the first land owner in the county.

Management History: The State Conservation Commission purchased the land in 1934. The area has been managed by Butler County Conservation since 1974.

Management Agreement Term: The County desires to continue to manage the park. This agreement authorizes the Butler County Conservation Board to manage Heery Woods State Park through 2038.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

7.3. MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT – KYLE WILDLIFE AREA – BUTLER COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the management agreement with Butler County Conservation Board for the Kyle Wildlife Area

Location: The property is located three miles south and 7 miles east of Greene, Iowa, and 14 miles northwest of Allison. The Butler County Conservation Board owns 19 acres of timber and grassland adjacent to a waterway that bisects the midsection of the tract. The property is approximately 58 acres of row crop and 1 acre of woodland.

Site Purpose: Butler County Conservation Board desires to manage the property. The County will restore the row crop acres to native prairie and wetlands. The area will be managed as a wildlife refuge with hunting and trapping prohibited.

Management History: This property was acquired by the Wildlife Bureau in 2012.

Management Agreement Term: A summary of the agreement terms is as follows: the CCB will inspect the boundary and provide an annual written report of any boundary issues; no trees, vegetation or other natural features shall be disturbed without DNR approval; no permanent improvements shall be made unless DNR approved;; and all costs associated with maintenance and management shall be the responsibility of the CCB. This agreement authorizes the Butler CCB to manage Kyle Wildlife Area through 2038.

Motion - Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Reimer
Discussion – Travis Baker provided information on the basic content of management agreements.
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

8. CHAPTER 91, “WATERFOWL AND COOT HUNTING SEASONS”– FINAL RULE

The Commission is requested to adopt a final rule to amend Chapter 91, “Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons.”

Basic Intent of Rule: Chapter 91 sets regulations for hunting waterfowl and coot and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, and areas open to hunting.

Proposed Rule Change: These amendments adjust the season dates to comply with United States Fish and Wildlife Service regulations and to ensure the seasons open on weekends. The amendments change the daily bag limit from four scaup and one canvasback to three scaup and two canvasbacks and also increase the possession limit from two times the daily bag to three times the daily bag. The amendments also remove the bag limit on light geese during the conservation order season as studies indicate the population can withstand it, and doing so increases hunter opportunity. Light geese include white and blue-phase lesser snow geese and Ross’ geese. The NRC approved the early season dates and the zone boundaries related to this rule at the 7/11/13 meeting.

NOIA Process: Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on May 1, 2013, as ARC 0721C. A public hearing was held on May 23, 2013. Sixteen comments were received. All except one supported the dates in general; three of the sixteen asked that the early duck season be reduced to two days while four asked that it stay at five days.

Additional Changes from NOIA: Amendments were added to the rule since the Notice was published to change the daily bag limit from four scaup and one canvasback to three scaup and two canvasbacks and to increase the possession limit from two times the daily bag to three times the daily bag for all applicable species to conform to changes made in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's regulations for hunting waterfowl. These changes reflect the most recent population information on these species.

Effective Date of Final Rule: The Final Rule will be effective for the 2013 waterfowl season which begins September 7, 2013.

Attachment: Chapter 91, "Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons"

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION [571]

Notice of Intended Action

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48, and 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby amends Chapter 91, "Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons," Iowa Administrative Code.

This chapter contains the regulations for hunting waterfowl and coot and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, and areas open to hunting. The amendments to adjust the season dates to reflect changes in calendar dates and remove the bag limit on light geese during the conservation order season remain unchanged from the notice. Amendments were added to the rule since the Notice of Intended Action was published to change the daily bag limit from four scaup and one canvasback to three scaup and two canvasbacks and to increase the possession limit from two times the daily bag to three times the daily bag for all applicable species to conform to changes made in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service's regulations for hunting waterfowl. These changes reflect the most recent population information on these species.

Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on May 1, 2013, as ARC 0721C. A public hearing was held on May 23, 2013. Sixteen comments were received. All except one supported the dates in general; three of the sixteen asked that the early duck season be reduced to two days while four asked that it stay at five days.

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found since changes are due to shifts in the calendar dates or minor changes in bag limits. The change in the bag limit for light geese during the conservation order will not affect license sales or hunter effort.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, and 481A.48.

The following amendments are adopted.

ITEM 1. Amend subrules 91.1(2) to 91.1(6) (481A) as follows:

91.1(2) Season dates - north zone. For all ducks: September ~~22~~ 21 through September ~~26~~ 25 and October ~~13~~ 12 through December ~~6~~ 5.

91.1(3) Season dates - south zone. For all ducks: September ~~22~~ 21 through September ~~26~~ 25 and October ~~20~~ 19 through December ~~13~~ 12.

91.1(4) Season dates – Missouri River zone. For all ducks: September ~~22~~ 21 through September ~~26~~ 25 and October ~~27~~ 26 through December ~~20~~ 19.

91.1(5) Bag limit. The daily bag limit of ducks is 6, and may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 1 black duck, 3 wood ducks, 2 pintails, 1 mottled duck, ~~1~~ 2 canvasback, 2 redheads, and ~~4~~ 3 scaup. The daily bag limit of mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers.

91.1(6) Possession limit. Possession limit is ~~twice~~ three times the daily bag limit.

ITEM 2. Amend subrules 571-- 91.2(1) (481A) as follows:

91.2(1) Bag and possession limits. Daily bag limit is 15 and possession limit is ~~30~~ three times the daily bag limit.

ITEM 3. Amend subrules 91.3(2) to 91.3(4) and 91.3(6) (481A) as follows:

91.3(2) Season dates - north zone. Canada geese and brant: September ~~29~~ 28 through January 4, ~~2013~~ 3, 2014. White-fronted geese: September ~~29~~ 28 through December ~~11~~ 10. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese): September ~~29~~ 28 through January ~~13, 2013~~ 12, 2014.

91.3(3) Season dates - south zone. Canada geese and brant: October ~~6~~ 5 through January ~~11, 2013~~ 10, 2014. White-fronted geese: October ~~6~~ 5 through December ~~18~~ 17. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese): October ~~6~~ 5 through January ~~18, 2013~~ 17, 2014.

91.3(4) Season dates - Missouri River zone. Canada geese and brant: October ~~13~~ 12 through January ~~18, 2013~~ 17, 2014. White-fronted geese: October ~~13~~ 12 through December ~~25~~ 24. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese): October ~~13~~ 12 through January ~~18, 2013~~ 17, 2014.

91.3(6) Possession limit. The possession limit is ~~twice~~ three times the daily bag limit for Canada geese, brant and white-fronted geese. There is no possession limit for light geese.

91.3(9)c Possession limit. ~~Twice~~ Three times the daily bag limit.

91.3(10)c Possession limit. ~~Twice~~ Three times the daily bag limit.

91.3(11)c Possession limit. ~~Twice~~ Three times the daily bag limit.

ITEM 4. Amend subrules 91.3(8) and 91.3(10) to 91.3(12) (481A) as follows:

91.3(8) Light goose conservation order season. Only light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese) may be taken under a conservation order from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from January ~~19, 2013~~ 18, 2014, through April 15, ~~2013~~ 2014.

a. Zone boundaries. Statewide.

b. Shooting hours. One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

c. Bag limit. ~~Bag limit is 20 light geese.~~ No bag limit.

d. Possession limit. No possession limit.

e. Other regulations. Methods of take approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for hunting light geese during the conservation order season shall be permitted.

91.3(9) Cedar Rapids/Iowa City goose hunting zone.

a. Season dates. September ~~4~~ 7 through September 9 15.

b. No change.

c. Possession limit. ~~Twice~~ Three times the daily bag limit.

d. No change.

91.3(10) Des Moines goose hunting zone.

a. Season dates. September ~~4~~ 7 through September 9 15.

b. No change.

c. Possession limit. ~~Twice~~ Three times the daily bag limit.

d. No change.

91.3(11) Cedar Falls/Waterloo goose hunting zone.

a. Season dates. September ~~4~~ 7 through September 9 15.

b. No change.

c. Possession limit. ~~Twice~~ Three times the daily bag limit.

d. No change.

ITEM 5. Amend rule 571--91.6(481A) as follows:

571—91.6(481A) Youth waterfowl hunt. A special youth waterfowl hunt will be held on October ~~6 and 7, 2012~~ 5 and 6, in the north duck hunting zone and October ~~13 and 14, 2012~~ 12 and 13, in the south duck hunting zone and October ~~20 and 21, 2012~~ 19 and 20, in the Missouri River duck hunting zone.

Youth hunters must be residents of Iowa as defined in Iowa Code section 483A.1A and less than 16 years old. Each youth hunter must be accompanied by an adult 18 years old or older. The youth hunter does not need to have a hunting license or stamps. The adult must have a valid hunting license and habitat stamp if normally required to have them to hunt and a state waterfowl stamp. Only the youth hunter may shoot ducks and coots. The adult may hunt for any other game birds for which the season is open. The daily bag and possession limits are the same as for the regular waterfowl season, as defined in rule 571—91.1(481A). All other hunting regulations in effect for the regular waterfowl season apply to the youth hunt.

Motion - Commissioner Francisco
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

9. 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.

Funding Source(s): Fish and Game Trust Fund

Grant Funding Available: \$450,000

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 23, the grant review and selection committee met on July 12, 2013, to evaluate and score applications and to provide recommendations for the grant awards.

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

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

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.

Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant	Acquisition Area	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
49.9	Hamilton CCB	Brandrup Wildlife Management Area	\$263,500.00	\$263,500.00
48.8	Poweshiek CCB	Fox Land	\$374,500.00	<i>Applicant Declined Partial Funding</i>
47.4	Sioux CCB	Big Sioux Rec Area Lynott Addition	\$72,000.00	\$72,000.00
47.1	Butler CCB	N Butler Wilderness Area	\$87,918.00	\$87,918.00
43.9	Carroll CCB	Hazelbrush Wildlife Area Addition	\$57,000.00	N/A <i>(Did not meet)</i>

				<i>minimum score of 45)</i>
Total			\$854,918.00	\$423,418.00

Motion - Commissioner Schemmel
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

10. SMALL CONSTRUCTION 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
6/27/2013	12-04-36-02	Waubonsie State Park	Fremont	Paving a boat ramp, placement of riprap near the boat ramp and incidental items.	\$66,000	\$49,740.00
7/11/2013	13-06-06-01 Parks	Cedar Rock Visitors Center	Buchanan	Construct and develop a new public water well, install new water and electrical services from well to Visitors Center and connect new system to existing inside the Visitor Center. Plug existing well and disconnect existing services.	\$30,000	\$47,024.50 \$48,574.62
7/11/2013	12-03-17-07 Fisheries	Clear Lake Dredge Spoil Site	Cerro Gordo	Project consists of lowering (approximately 5') & reshaping 7300 LF of dikes, removing, salvaging, & stockpiling 8 steel drain pipes, and removing outflow structure. Disturbed areas will be seeded with a stabilizing crop seeding.	\$90,000	\$22,755.00 \$24,153.15 \$61,250.00 \$68,101.00 \$73,922.00 \$103,750.00
7/18/2013	13-05-04-01	Stephens State Forest	Appanoose	Construction of a sediment basin in the Stephens State Forest Northeast of Unionville, IA.	\$8,000	\$8,059.97 \$13,686.18

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

Bid Date	Contract No.	Location	County	Summary	DNR Engineering Consultant	Bids
6/20/2013	13PI-CRDLWBZKOP-0003	Klondike Rapids Access Area	Lyon	Excavation for crew-built canoe ramp.	Gabe Lee	4,800

INFORMATIONAL

11. PUBLICLY OWNED LAKES PROGRAM WATERSHED ELIGIBILITY

Purpose: The Department requests NRC approval of a priority list of watersheds above publicly owned lakes and reservoirs where private landowners are eligible to receive cost-share funding from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship’s Public Owned Lakes program.

Summary of Selection Process: In accordance with Iowa Administrative Code 571, Chapter 31, Public Owned Lakes Program the Commission establishes a priority list of watersheds above publicly owned lakes. The DNR is to make an annual recommendation to the Commission utilizing the criteria established in the rule. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship’s Division of Soil Conservation manages the Public Owned Lakes Program, which administers the funds available to private landowners in the watersheds above the designated publicly owned lakes. The applications are evaluated on their identification of locations within the watershed that contribute significant sediment to the lake and their plans for targeted installation of permanent soil conservation practices to reduce that sediment delivery.

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

- IDNR Staff – Conservation and Recreation Division (2)
- IDNR Staff – Environmental Services Division (1)
- IDALS Staff (1)

Recommendations: In accordance with the administrative rules, the Department has determined that the following meet program requirements and recommends approval of the following watersheds for program eligibility:

- Lake Macbride (Johnson SWCD)
- Three Mile Lake (Adair SWCD, Union SWCD)
- Iowa Great Lakes (Dickinson SWCD)
- Lake Darling (Washington SWCD)

Motion - Commissioner Prickett

Seconded – Commissioner Clement

Discussion – George Antoniou, Fisheries, provided information regarding watershed planning and NRCS (USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service) is the agency creating watershed reports related to multiple projects within an area.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

12. CONSTRUCTION - BIG MILL CREEK STREAM BANK RESTORATION

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Big Mill Creek is a trout stream located in Jackson County. In 2001 it ranked 4th highest in the number of fisher visits. However, angler surveys in 2006 and 2011 showed its usage dropped to 29th and 27th place out of the top 50 most commonly fished trout streams. Poor riparian corridor conditions and significant stream bank erosion is mainly responsible for this visible decline. These conditions impair water quality and angler access to the stream. This construction will correct these conditions for both sides of 1000 foot of the stream. The work will include back sloping the steep banks, and establishing annual covers crops, deep rooted perennial grasses, and planting flood tolerant tree species. This work will allow the water’s energy to dissipate which will reduce bank cutting and

allow a more natural flow. Also, for this project, some bank areas will be benched (within the grade, a flat section will be integrated to allow easy access for fishers).

Construction Needed: This project consists of excavation, stream bank restoration, and incidental work as required by the plans and/or the DNR Construction Inspector. Project includes excavation of approximately 12,000 cubic yards of spoil, planting of 50 Swamp White Oak saplings, planting of 50 Cottonwood saplings, approximately 7.25 acres of seeding and mulching and approximately 1,200 feet of silt fencing. Spoils will be spread out 3' to 4' thick; and then graded and seeded for stabilization. The spoils site is located away from the creek. Severely eroded stream bank areas with nearly a vertical profile will be graded to more gradual slopes ranging from 3:1 to 10:1. Some flat 15' wide benched areas are also proposed with this new stream bank configuration.

Green Features: Planting of saplings, seeding, and silt fencing

Engineering Project #: 12-06-49-01

Project County: Jackson

Engineering Project Manager: Mike Broderick, PE; Engineering Bureau

Designer: Mike Broderick, PE; Engineering Bureau

DNR Inspector: Bruce Flippin, PE; Engineering Bureau

Cost Estimate: \$110,000

Operating Bureau: Fisheries

Funding Source: 79% EPA; 21% FHS

Plans Issue Date: 06/19/13

Bid Letting Date: 07/18/13

Plan Holders: 15

Number of Bids Received: 6

Bidders:

S 2 Construction	Bellevue, IA	\$65,230.00
Mainline Excavating Co. Inc.	Dubuque, IA	\$79,295.00
H & H Construction & Development LLC	Sabula, IA	\$86,750.00
Ag & Turf Construction	Davenport, IA	\$93,275.00
Ardo Schmidt Construction Inc.	Preston, IA	\$97,200.00
Connolly Construction Inc.	Peosta, IA	\$116,452.50

Recommendation: IDNR recommends awarding the bid to S 2 Construction.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

13. CONSTRUCTION – RED HAW STATE PARK SEDIMENT BASINS

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Red Haw Lake is located in Lucas County. The six new proposed sediment control ponds are located in high priority areas that have significant active head cutting from gullies that are resulting in severe soil erosion and direct sediment loading, which negatively impacts the water quality in Red Haw Lake. Pooled areas are approximately 0.5 to 2.0 acres in size with drainage areas of between 6 and 60 acres. Rehab work on an existing sediment control pond is also part of this project.

Construction Needed: Construction of grade stabilization structures; six new and rehabilitation of an existing sediment control pond; and other incidental work as required by the IDNR construction

inspector. Construction includes clearing and grubbing of 15.8 acres, excavation of 6225 cubic yds of soil, 34,320 cubic yds of earth fill, 1,230 feet of diversion channels and a total of 797 feet of smooth steel pipe. Smooth steel pipes that outlet-impounded water behind the dikes range in size from 6" diameter to 12" diameter. Anti-seep collars will be used with these pipes to prevent migration of water adjacent to the pipe. Core trench excavation and recompaction under the dikes will be utilized to help insure the impounded water does not undermine the new structures. Slopes of 3:1 and shallower are utilized for dike side slopes and back slopes. The rehab work on the existing sediment control pond includes clearing of existing vegetative growth on the dike and replacement of the outlet pipe.

Green Features: Seeding of disturbed sites. Improved water quality at downstream receiving waters.

Engineering Project #: 11-05-59-01

Project County: Lucas

Engineering Project Manager: Mike Broderick, PE; Engineering Bureau

Designer: Dave Rohlf, PE; Engineering Bureau

DNR Inspector: Jason Kruse, PE; Engineering Bureau

Cost Estimate: \$152,660

Operating Bureau: Fisheries

Funding Source: 100% Lake Restoration

Plans Issue Date: 06/19/13

Bid Letting Date: 07/18/13

Plan Holders: 12

Number of Bids Received: 6

Bidders:

Kamerick Dozing Inc.	Melrose, IA	\$126,193.86
Huyser Dozing & Tiling	New Sharon, IA	\$134,690.25
Sterk Excavating Inc.	Otley, IA	\$139,000.00
Jay & Garret Inc.	Leon, IA	\$172,222.30
Buford Dozing and Excavating, LLC	Bonaparte, IA	\$174,187.10
Spring Lake Construction	Polk City, IA	\$200,977.00

Recommendation: IDNR recommends awarding the bid to Kamerick Dozing Inc.

Motion - Commissioner Francisco
Seconded – Commissioner Prickett
Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

14. CONSTRUCTION – PRAIRIE ROSE SEDIMENT CONTAINMENT SITE

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Prairie Rose Lake is a 173 acre man-made lake that was initially impounded in 1958. It is listed as one of the initial priority lakes for restoration. A Diagnostic/Feasibility study was completed that identified water quality issues and outlined the necessary steps for restoration. Watershed work is 95% complete and in-lake shoreline deepening, fish habitat construction, dam/spillway repair, wetland construction on public property and fish restocking is completed. Water quality has already significantly improved at the lake and this final component construction of a silt containment site on state owned property followed by an in-lake hydraulic dredging of 180,000 cubic yards of silt from this prioritized lake will complete this restoration project.

Construction Needed: An earthen embankment will be constructed on DNR property immediately south of the park. This is the first of two phases required to dredge Prairie Rose Lake. The 133,000 cubic yard embankment will be approximately 1,500 feet long and is 14 feet tall at the highest point. In addition to constructing the embankment, approximately 180,000 cubic yards of material will need to be removed from the impoundment area in order to have sufficient volume for hydraulic dredging operations.

Green Features: Upon completion of the dredging operation, the spoil site will be dewatered and planted and maintained as a native prairie area.

Engineering Project #: 12-04-83-05

Project County: Shelby

Engineering Project Manager: Heath Delzell, PE; Engineering Bureau

Designer: Heath Delzell, PE; Engineering Bureau

DNR Inspector: Mark Johnson; Engineering Bureau

Cost Estimate: \$643,000

Operating Bureau: Lake Restoration

Funding Source: 100% Lake Restoration

Plans Issue Date: 07/17/13

Bid Letting Date: 08/01/13

Plan Holders: 11

Number of Bids Received: 8

Bidders:

Spring Lake Construction	Polk City, IA	\$629,154.40
Kevin Kent Construction	Lucas, IA	\$733,981.70
CJ Moyna & Sons, Inc.	Elkader, IA	\$770,605.05
Steger Construction Inc.	Dyersville, IA	\$834,235.39
Joy Dirt Construction	Cushing, IA	\$865,631.94
Dixon Construction Co.	Correctionville, IA	\$892,385.90
Peterson Contractors Inc.	Reinbeck, IA	\$924,917.57
K & L Construction, Inc	Sergeant Bluff, IA	\$995,782.49

Recommendation: IDNR recommends awarding the bid to Spring Lake Construction.

Motion - Commissioner Reimer
 Seconded – Commissioner Schemmel
 Discussion – George Antoniou, Fisheries, provided information about the dredging methods used for this area, mechanical and hydraulic, due to the different types of areas of the lake and its hydrology. He stated the Secchi testing is typical and provided average lake ratios.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

15. CONSTRUCTION – LAKE DARLING STATE PARK DREDGING, SHORELINE ARMORING, AND PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE (PCC) PAVING

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Since the completion of Lake Darling dam in 1950, an estimated 27.5 million cubic feet of sediment has entered the lake, decreasing the maximum depth from 22 feet to 18 feet and reducing the total volume of the lake by 24%. Since 2000, work within the watershed has occurred and has been completed ultimately reducing sediment flow by 56%. With the watershed work complete, this

project is to address in-park issues related to the balance of lake related work and park infrastructure. This project includes:

- Removal of past deposited sediment from the lake to reclaim areas of open water habitat and improve water quality
- Armor critical regions of the shoreline that are susceptible to erosion
- Grade the improved shoreline to prevent wave action erosion
- Construct a paved (PCC) fishing trail that will extend from the east end of the lake to the campground, providing ADA fishing access
- Construct a steel fishing pier at the end of an existing fishing pier to allow ADA access to the end of the pier
- Construct a new parking lot and boat ramp area outside of the campground
- Relocate RV dump station to better serve campground RV users
- Replace failing asphalt roads with concrete
- Relocation and enlargement of a small picnic area to enhance the picnicking experience with more shoreline and less conflicts with boat trailer traffic
- Install a new picnic shelter and restroom at the enlarged picnic area

Prior to this project request, the campground was upgraded with new camping pads, 50-amp electrical service, and the two old shower buildings were replaced. In addition, the entire park water system was upgraded with new lines, more hydrants, and utility stubs for future cabins.

Construction Needed: 160,000 CY of sediment is to be removed this winter while the lake is down. Excavators and off-road dump trucks will be operating on the dry lake bed as soon as the ground is frozen. Additionally, 5,500 feet of shoreline is to be shaped and armored with riprap. The shoreline by the main boat ramp will be moved inland, and a new concrete boat ramp and parking facility will be constructed. All of the main roads as well as the remaining asphalt side roads will be removed, regraded and paved with concrete. The asphalt parking lot by the existing lodge will be removed and replaced with a concrete parking area with twice the capacity. A fishing trail will be paved along the newly graded shoreline, and will provide ADA access from the campground to the upper end of the lake. A steel fishing pier will be constructed on the end of an existing fishing jetty to enhance fishing access.

Green Features: A mixture of new clean white stone and millings of the existing asphalt road will be use as base material for the new roadway. Excess asphalt millings will be stockpiled for future use as roadway base material or used as aggregate in new asphalt pavements. The Lodge parking area will drain into a rain garden, which will filter and normalize the runoff before it is conveyed to the lake. The main boat ramp parking area will drain into a sand-and-oil separator before the runoff reaches the lake. Existing culverts are to be placed in the lake to be repurposed as fish habitat.

Engineering Project #: 10-06-92-14

Project County: Washington

Engineering Project Manager: Heath Delzell, PE; Engineering Bureau

Designer: Heath Delzell, PE; Engineering Bureau

DNR Inspector: Bruce Flippin, PE; Engineering Bureau

Cost Estimate: \$5,400,000

Operating Bureau: Lake Restoration, Fisheries, Parks

Funding Source: 39% P&I, 36% Lake Restoration, 13% MFT/Coast Guard, 8% Parks Infrastructure 2013, 4% FWS Trust Non-Habitat Stamp, <1% REAP Land Management

Plans Issue Date: 07/15/13

Bid Letting Date: 08/01/13

Plan Holders: 30

Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders:

JB Holland Construction	Decorah, IA	\$5,473,527.72
Wicks Construction Co	Decorah, IA	\$5,525,263.10
C J Moyna & Sons Inc	Elkader, IA	\$5,600,010.80

Recommendation: IDNR recommends awarding the bid to JB Holland Construction.

Motion - Commissioner Francisco
 Seconded – Commissioner Clement
 Discussion – Mike McGhee, Fisheries, provided information on the funding partners and that the revision of the engineer’s estimate was to accommodate the park upgrades and sediment removal. This will complete the lake restoration phase of this project. Chad Dolan, Fisheries, provided information that interpretive panels are being developed and public programs will be coordinated. Mike McGhee noted that, in addition to DNR staff being engaged with watershed issues, ongoing education with landowners in the watershed is normally the work of NRCS watershed coordinators.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

16. CONSTRUCTION – BIG CREEK STATE PARK PUMP STATION AND FORCE MAIN

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Big Creek State Park currently handles its wastewater via a lagoon system operated by park staff. The system is no longer adequate and needs renovation and expansion. With the cooperation of the City of Polk City, Polk County, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Knapp Properties, Big Creek State Park will be directing its wastewater into the City of Polk City’s system, which in turn will be transported and treated at the Des Moines Regional Treatment Facility. The NRC approved two contracts (DNR/Polk City and DNR/Polk City/Knapp Properties) on 02/11/13 to facilitate this project. This construction project will provide the infrastructure required in Big Creek State Park to direct the wastewater from the park’s east side to the City of Polk City. A longstanding goal of the State Parks Bureau is to connect to city or regional wastewater systems, when possible, rather than operating its own lagoon or septic systems. Over the long term, achieving this goal provides for the most cost-effective and environmentally responsible means of handling wastewater in state parks.

Construction Needed: Construction will consist of excavation and installation of a new dual pump wastewater pump station adjacent to the Big Creek lagoon cells; new 3” diameter force main from the existing lagoons in the park to a receiving manhole with a magnetic flow meter located in the Polk City, Iowa, collection system immediately south of the park entrance. The new force main will be installed by a combination of open cut, directional boring, and by placing some of the 3” inside of an existing 6” carrier pipe in the Park. The finished project will allow all wastewater generated on the east side of Big Creek Lake to be transported and treated at the Des Moines WRA Regional Treatment Facility.

Green Features: Improved water quality at Big Creek Lake and Big Creek as the result of the project; two acres of seeding and mulching.

Engineering Project #: 12-02-77-13

Project County: Polk

Engineering Project Manager: Butch Doorenbos, PE; Engineering Bureau

Designer: Stanley Consultants

DNR Inspector: Don Labate, PE; Engineering Bureau

Cost Estimate: \$488,000

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: 100% State Revolving Fund

Plans Issue Date: 06/26/13

Bid Letting Date: 07/18/13

Plan Holders: 21

Number of Bids Received: 5

Bidders:

Smith Seeding Inc.	Eldridge, IA	\$229,263.00
Ellingson Companies	West Concord, MN	\$279,955.00
GM Contracting Inc.	Lake Crystal, MN	\$350,587.50
J & K Contracting	Ames, IA	\$478,920.00
Synergy Contracting	Bondurant, IA	\$530,471.50

Recommendation: IDNR recommends awarding the bid to Smith Seeding Inc.

Motion - Commissioner Schemmel
 Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
 Discussion – Gabe Lee, Engineering Bureau Chief, confirmed the low bidder is aware of the project’s needs.
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

17. CONSTRUCTION – UNION GROVE STATE PARK DESIGN GUIDE CABIN

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Union Grove State Park in Tama County comprises 282 acres and has a 118-acre lake. Recreation activities include camping with nine new 50 amp full hook-ups, 2 standard electrical sites and 11 non-electric sites, swimming beach, picnicking, fishing, snowmobiling, and boat ramps. One year-round family cabin was constructed two years ago and this one will increase the overnight opportunities.

Construction Needed: Install one new design guide cabin at the park. Existing infrastructure and utilities are already in place from previous development. This cabin will have one bedroom, kitchen and living room area, one ADA compliant restroom, and mechanical room totaling 500 sf. It will also have an exterior deck on the backside of the cabin. Excavation, utility relocation, concrete work, and building erection are included in the construction.

Green Features: SIP walls and roof, Pella Architectural series windows with Low-E and Argon, ReWall Essential board instead of gypsum board walls, in-floor radiant heating, split system ac units, ultra-efficient water heater, dual flush toilet, low-flow plumbing fixtures throughout, LED lighting.

Engineering Project #: 13-05-86-01

Project County: Tama

Engineering Project Manager: Ryan Richey, NCARB; Engineering Bureau

Designer: Ryan Richey, NCARB; Engineering Bureau

DNR Inspector: Jason Kruse, PE; Engineering Bureau

Cost Estimate: \$150,000

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: 35% Infrastructure 2013, 65% anonymous donation

Plans Issue Date: 07/10/13

Bid Letting Date: 08/01/13

Plan Holders: 9

Number of Bids Received: 1

Bidders:

S L Baumeier

Gladbrook, IA

\$91,669.00

IDNR recommends awarding the bid to S L Baumeier

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

18. CONSTRUCTION - GEODE STATE PARK SEWAGE TREATMENT SOLUTION FOR THE BATH HOUSE

Project Summary: The Parks Bureau has been systematically upgrading waste water treatment systems annually. Many state park sewage treatment systems are as old as the original park facilities. Acceptable standards for treatment have dramatically changed, as well as other demands placed on those systems with increased visitor usage. In 2009, it was determined that Geode's waste water mound system was unable to process wastewater adequately. In response, the single cell lagoon and septic holding tanks for the beach restrooms were rebuilt to store the wastewater from the campground. The beach septic tanks are pumped weekly and are dumped into the lagoon which is pumped annually and land applied. Geode's system needs to be upgraded to provide a long-term, sustainable solution. The solution to Geode's wastewater issues is a two-phase project. The first phase, this project request, is for the construction of a sewer line to connect the beach to the lagoon thereby eliminating the need for weekly pumping and dumping of wastewater. The sewer line will be utilized when the new lagoon is constructed. The second phase, a future project request, will require a Request for Proposal (RFP) to secure an engineering consultant to design the upgrade of the current lagoon to a new multi-cell lagoon. As part of the permanent solution the outfall for the new multi-cell lagoon will discharge below the dam.

Construction Needed: Replace pumps in an existing lift station (lift station pumps wastewater to higher elevations in a sewer system), replace the existing sewer lateral with a new 6" lateral and directional boring approximately 3500ft of 2" High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Force Main (force main works under pressure as compared to a gravity line) connecting it to an existing manhole.

Green Features: The force main will be installed by utilizing directional boring. This construction method will minimize ground surface disruption and erosion cause by construction activities. Any open cut or trenching site work will be restored to original vegetative cover by seeding. The water quality at and downstream of the park will improve upon the completion of both phases of construction.

Engineering Project #: 12-06-29-04

Project County: Henry

DNR Project Manager: Mike Hameed, PE; Engineering Bureau

Designer: Mike Hameed, PE; Engineering Bureau

DNR Inspector: Bruce Flippin, PE; Engineering Bureau

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: 100% State Park Infrastructure

Engineering Cost Estimate: \$75,570

Plans Issue Date: 7/22/13

Bid Letting Date: 8/1/13

Plan Holders: 14

Number of Bids Received: 1

Bidders

Triple B Construction

Wilton, IA

\$62,900.00

IDNR recommends awarding the bid to Triple B Construction.

Motion - Commissioner Prickett Seconded – Commissioner Francisco Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote
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CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***19. WASTEWATER TREATMENT REVOLVING LOAN FUND INTEREST REDUCTION – STATE PARKS**

Since 1996 the Natural Resource Commission has approved resolutions authorizing the Director to enter into a three State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan agreements through the Iowa Finance Authority in the principal amounts of \$796,000, \$1,554,000 and \$1,568,000 for the purpose of defraying the costs of construction of wastewater treatment improvements in certain state park facilities. The loans were payable over 20 years and the original interest rates were 4.19%, 3.92% and 4.30%, respectively. In October 2001, the SRF loan interest rate was reduced to 3% and, once each loan was 10 years old, the Iowa Finance Authority offered the Department a reduction in the interest rate for a combined savings to the Department of \$194,010 over the remaining life of the loans. For each loan, the Natural Resource Commission was requested to approve a resolution authorizing the Director to execute an amendment to the loan to accept the interest rate reduction. In September 2012, the Iowa Finance Authority again reduced the SRF loan interest rate from 3% to 1.75% and has offered the Department this interest reduction over the remaining life of the three loans, for additional savings to the Department of \$94,437. The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve resolutions authorizing the Director to execute amendments to the loan agreements to reflect the interest rate reduction.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT AGENDA

20. DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR REMARKS

Chuck Corell reported on the status of the Federal Duck Stamp funding and anticipated follow up letters. He inquired on the interest in updating Honey Creek Resort (HCR) presentations to the Commission. After discussion, HCR staff will present to the Commission four times per year and provide a monthly one page summary report that includes the end of month accounting balance. DNR staff will continue to regularly meet with HCR staff and management team. Chuck asked if there were any Commissioner comments they would like to submit regarding the Guidebook that will assist staff in preparing NRC briefs. Commissioners noted appreciation for the new format which answers many questions beforehand and has streamlined the meeting. He noted that suggestions are welcome. Chuck provided a presentation on Deer Island located on the Missouri River.

21. GENERAL DISCUSSION

- NRC Goal Setting – Commissioner Underwood is working to structure goals discussed at the last meeting in a broad sense and will provide them to the Commission for their review. She, also, proposed drafting a letter explaining the Commission’s mission and top goals and share them at the REAP assemblies as a handout and if Commissioners are able, to attend REAP meetings in their area. Chuck Corell provided information on the agenda of the REAP assemblies and how an NRC handout could be incorporated. Commissioners agreed this would be a good idea.
- Commissioner Reimer expressed appreciation for the structure of the briefs and presentations which provided appropriate information helpful for decision making. Commissioners Branstad, Francisco, Prickett, and Schemmel agreed.

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- Commissioner Prickett inquired on the issuance of a permit to the Corps of Engineers for the Missouri River. Chuck Corell reported he believed Director Gipp was confident the permits would be issued.
- Commissioner Underwood shared that her local paper had a wonderful article from a DNR press release regarding Iowa's lakes are among the most valuable resources. On Friday, she will be participating by telephone in the Mississippi River Parkway Commission meeting being held in Bettendorf, IA.
- Commissioner Branstad invited Commissioners and their families to the Iowa Outdoor Expo being held at the end of September and to the Iowa Hunters Appreciation Day in Ankeny on 08/24/13.

Lunchtime Presentation: Woodland Health Economics, Benefits, and Planning (Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief)

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Commissioner Schemmel
Seconded – Commissioner Branstad
Decision - Approved by Unanimous Vote
With no further business to come before the Natural Resource Commission, Chair Underwood adjourned the meeting on 08/08/13 at 2:27pm.

CARRIED – MEETING ADJOURNED

UPCOMING NRC MEETING DATES

- September 5, 2013 - Mines of Spain/EB Lyons Interpretive Ctr, Dubuque, IA, 8:30am
- October 10, 2013 - Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am
- November 14, 2013 - Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am
- December 12, 2013 - Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am