

**Minutes of the
Natural Resource Commission
Meeting**

**September 7,
2022**

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

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By NRC: 10/13/22

Director's Signature: _____
Kayla Lyon, Director

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Natural Resource Commission Minutes

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MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission was called to order by the NRC Chair, Marcus Branstad, on 09/07/22 at 12:00 pm. This meeting is open to the public and is being recorded as outlined by Iowa Code (571—1.8). The meeting is being conducted electronically pursuant to and in compliance with Iowa Code 21.8. The Commission has made the determination that it would be impractical for this meeting to be conducted in person based on the length and content of the agenda as well as commissioner in-person attendance.

Commissioner Attendance

Present

Marcus Branstad, Chair (electronically) [12:00p-1:22p]
 Laura Foell (electronically) [12:00p-1:22p]
 Uriah Hansen (electronically) [12:07p-12:43p, 12:53-1:22p] (missed votes on items 7, 9, 10)
 Laura Hommel, Secretary (electronically) [12:00p-1:22p]
 Tammi Kircher (electronically) [12:00p-1:22p]
 Tom Prickett, Vice Chair (electronically) [12:00p-1:22p]

Absent

Margo Underwood

Public Participation

Name	Address	Representing	Topic
Megan Clymen	David County	Davis County Recorders Office	Concerned about the changes in, and citizens' ability to complete, the HIP requirements, and contradictory license related information in the hunting regulations.

1. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Hommel requested item #12 be removed from the consent agenda.
 Motion – Commissioner Kircher moved to approve the amended agenda
 Seconded – Commissioner Foell
 Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

2. Approve Minutes of 08/11/22 Public Meeting

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

3. Director's Remarks

Director Kayla Lyon provided information on the DNR activities at this year's State Fair and DNR's Family Night. She also reported on the STEM teacher's extern program and the DNR's participation.

4. Division Administrator's Remarks

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator, provided information on staff's role at the State Fair, his meeting with the USACOE and other partners last month on upcoming watershed and habitat protection projects in the Rathbun area, the recent wildlife roadside survey, the State Forest Nursery's online store, and the hunting seasons in progress. He, also, introduced Craig Cutts, our recently appointed Law Enforcement Bureau Chief. Sherry Arntzen, State Parks Bureau Chief, reported on the research and follow up she did related to a concern about an Emerson Bay facility that was shared with the commissioners. Chris Ensminger, Wildlife Supervisor, provided an update on the HIP registration system and they are continuing to work with the licensing vendor to improve the process. He noted no citations were written and officers are making this an educational opportunity.

5. Donations

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

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Bill Neal.	Tamara Winn
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$910.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Michael Harryman
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Katrina Moyna
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Stephanie Bryson
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Amy Higgins.	Janette Dolabson
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Jorgan Hammond.	Mark Hammond
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$30.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Richard Kurtenbach
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$330.00	Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Gary Thomas.	Barb Thomas
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Gary Thomas.	Joyce Bowie
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Gary Thomas.	Robert Oostendorp
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Gary Thomas.	Anne Tabor
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Gary Thomas.	Jean Manasmith
Parks and Forestry	\$500.00	Funds to support Parks and Forestry in memory of Bob Leete (step-brother) of Hawkeye, IA.	Robin Keller and Henry Mark McMillan
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$30.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Richard Kurtenbach
General Fund	\$1,000.00	Donation to support the General Fund in honor of "exceptional educational outreach" by DNR staff, Paul Frese, Miark Vitosh, and Jen Kurth.	Elisabeth Swain, Executive Director, Iowa Master Naturalists
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$319.50	Funds donated from having a cookie and lemonade stand to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund, as well as encouraging others to care for our natural resources!	Olivia Pothoven and Madeline McCullough Kelley, c/o Amy Pothoven
Red Haw State Park	\$25.00	Funds to support Red Haw State Park's restoration efforts in memory of Sam Irving.	John & Judy Wooton
Red Haw State Park	\$35.00	Funds to support Red Haw State Park's restoration efforts in memory of Sam Irving.	Tony & Melodee Irving
Lake Macbride State Park	\$351.85	Funds for improvements at Lake Macbride State Park.	Anonymous

Ledges State Park	\$693.12	Funds for 19 gallons of stain to restrain the 2 open-air shelters at Ledges State Park	Friends of the Ledges, Inc.
Ledges State Park	\$948.48	Funds for lumber and hardware to construct all new picnic tables for the 2 open-air shelters at Ledges State Park	Friends of the Ledges, Inc.
Ledges State Park	\$247.24	Funds for stain and paint for new picnic tables at Ledges State Park open air shelters.	Friends of the Ledges, Inc.
Lake Macbride State Park	\$250.00	Funds for improvements at Lake Macbride State Park.	Rick Chase, Chase Family Boat Sales
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$95.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jim Souhrada.	Emilie Souhrada
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jim Souhrada.	Connie Liljegren
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jim Souhrada.	Leslie Peltz

Motion – Commissioner Kircher

Seconded – Commissioner Foell

Discussion – Kim Rasler, CRD, provided information regarding the in memory of donations, the lemonade stand story has been shared with communications, and will follow up with communications regarding stories on Friends Groups and their fundraising and project contributions.

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

6. FY 2024 Budget Request

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the Department's FY 2024 appropriations request. Guidance received from the Department of Management indicates that the FY 2023 adopted budget will be the basis for operating appropriations for the FY 2024 requests. The budget is required by statute to be submitted to the Department of Management by October 1, 2022.

APPROPRIATION NAME	FY 23 Appropriation	FY 24 Department Request	Increase/ (Decrease)
<u>GENERAL FUND</u>			
Department Operations	\$12,093,061	\$12,093,061	\$0
State Park Operations	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0
Floodplain Management	\$1,510,000	\$1,510,000	\$0
Forestry Health Management	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0
Total General Fund	\$15,103,061	\$15,103,061	\$0
<u>ENVIRONMENT FIRST</u>			
Resource Enhancement and Protection	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000	\$0
Ambient Air Quality Monitoring	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$0
Water Quality Monitoring	\$2,955,000	\$2,955,000	\$0
GIS Data for Watershed Managers	\$195,000	\$195,000	\$0
Park Operations and Maintenance	\$6,235,000	\$6,235,000	\$0
Floodplain Management	\$375,000	\$375,000	\$0
Animal Feeding Operations	\$1,320,000	\$1,320,000	\$0
Water Supply Appropriation	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0
Total Environment First Fund	\$24,005,000	\$24,005,000	\$0
<u>NON-GENERAL FUND</u>			

Fish and Wildlife Operations	\$48,397,337	\$48,397,337	\$0
Groundwater Fund	\$3,455,832	\$3,455,832	\$0
UST Administration Match	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
UST Fund Technical Assistance	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
Snowmobile Transfer to Fish and Wildlife	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$0
Total Non-General Funds	\$52,353,169	\$52,353,169	\$0
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Lake Water Quality Improvements	\$9,600,000	\$9,600,000	\$0
Water Trails/Lowhead Dams	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$0
Park Infrastructure Improvements	\$5,000,000	\$5,350,000	\$350,000
Community Forestry Grant Program	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$0
Ft. Atkinson	\$350,000	\$0	(\$350,000)
On-Stream Impoundment	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$0
Total Rebuild Iowa Infrastructure Fund	\$17,200,000	\$17,200,000	\$0
TOTAL DEPARTMENT REQUEST	\$108,661,230	\$108,661,230	\$0

Motion – Commissioner Kircher

Seconded – Commissioner Prickett

Discussion – Jennifer Nelson, DNR CFO, provided information about the budgeting process, the request for a status quo budget, and the opportunity to discuss additional needs with the Dept of Management post submittal.

Decision – Approved (2 abstain – Commissioners Hansen and Hommel due to not agreeing with the budget approval process.)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

7. **Contract Amendment – 1 with Visual Labs, Inc.**

Commission approval is requested for a contract amendment with Visual Labs, Inc., of Menlo Park, California.

Amendment- 1 Terms:

Amendment Amount: Not to exceed \$211,200

Amendment Dates: 9/16/2022 to 9/15/2026

Funding Source(s): Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

Amendment Purpose: The DNR's Law Enforcement Bureau has utilized cell phone-based body worn cameras for the last two years to record video and audio of interactions between conservation officers and the general public as officers are working in an enforcement capacity. Conservation Officers currently use department-issued cell phones with a proprietary body-camera application developed and provided by Visual Labs. When the Visual Labs application is engaged on the officer's cell phone, high definition geo-tagged video is created, stored and then transmitted to a cloud-based server where it is retained for 180 days (occasionally longer). The video and audio is regularly utilized by officers in the prosecution of law enforcement cases and serves as a resource to command staff when addressing inquiries from the public.

Based on the suitable performance of the application and devices in the field over the last two years, this four year amendment will extend the service with Visual Labs, Inc.. Cost for the service will be:

Years 1 and 2 - \$48.50 per month per device subscription fee

Year 3 - \$50.00 per month per device subscription fee

Year 4 - \$53.00 per month per device subscription fee

Original Contract Purpose: In 2019, the Department began exploring the use of body cameras for its certified Peace Officers. Due to the unexpected nature involved in police encounters, and possible volatile situations, officers and citizens should have the content of interactions available if needed. After much research and testing, it was determined, based the Department's needs and services provided by the body camera companies, Visual Labs was the best solution due to its unique cell phone based application, which provided the best connectivity in the field. The two-year contract provided service to the Law Enforcement Bureau staff. Visual Labs, Inc.:

- Implement and train all DNR Law Enforcement staff on the equipment and software.

- Provide the DNR with its proprietary smartphone application to store body camera footage (e.g. video, photo) as an encrypted file. (The footage was be stored in a “sandboxed” portion of internal storage such that it is not accessible by the user or other applications. The encrypted footage is then uploaded via an encrypted connection to Visual Labs hosted website, Microsoft Azure Government Cloud, which receives an A+ rating on the SSL Labs Server Test tool. The footage is stored and encrypted for the agreed upon time of 180 days; authorized DNR staff have the ability to change the retention period of any specific file. Once the upload is successful, footage is deleted from the employee’s device. On a daily basis, footage is backed up to the Microsoft Azure Government Cloud. If an upload connection is unavailable, the footage will be stored on the device until service is available to upload the data.)

Cost for the service included: \$45 per month per device subscription fee. Each subscription included a monthly allowance of up to 600 hours of video uploads, up to 600 hours of audio recordings uploaded, up to 5 hours of live streaming video, and up to 1,500 photos via the photo sequence function or the incident reporting function. Devices added during the month will have monthly allowances on a pro rata basis. All footage is owned by the DNR.

Original Selection Process: Sole source procurement, authorized under 11 IAC 118.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$95,800; Timeframe: 09/15/20 - 09/15/22

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
 Decision – Approved (Commissioner Hansen absent during this vote)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***8. Contract with Responsive Management (SCORP Survey)**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Responsive Management of Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$70,000

Dates: 09/15/22-6/30/23

Funding Source(s): General Fund

Contract Purpose: Iowa submitted the first SCORP (Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan) in 1968, titled *Outdoor Recreation in Iowa*. This was a comprehensive report that blended reports for Land & Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife Planning, and the State Historical Action Program. Over the past 50 years, these plans have been used by city, county, and state agencies in planning and implementing recreational use for Iowans. Grants through programs such as, Fish Habitat, Wildlife Habitat Stamp, Resource Enhancement and Protection, Land & Water Conservation Fund, and Recreational Infrastructure Funds all require projects to reference back to the current SCORP plan and indicate how the projects accomplish goals set forth in the plan. Current SCORP plans are also a requirement of the National Park Service in order for states to receive their portion of Land and Water Conservation Funds. This plan is the 12th edition for Iowa.

A component of each SCORP plan must include a survey of Iowans to consider their recreational uses and interests as well as their satisfaction of natural resource areas and amenities. This contract will gather that information for use in the current plan to be completed by fall of 2023 and submitted to the National Park Service.

Selection Process Summary: The Department solicited bids from targeted small businesses and also published an Informal Request for Bids on the Department of Administrative Services website. Criteria in the RFB included providing proof of experience and equipment needed to complete the tasks.

Bids Due Date: 8/19/22

Bids Reviewed: 2

Recommendation: Responsive Management

Vendor	Vendor Location (city, state)	Cost
Responsive Management	Harrisonburg, Virginia	\$70,000.00
University of Iowa, Social Science Research Center	Iowa City, Iowa	\$106,023.79

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

9. Contract with Friends of Lake Darling State Park

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Friends of Lake Darling State Park of Brighton, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$194,000.00

Dates: August 23, 2022 to December 31, 2023

Funding Source(s): Friends of Lake Darling State Park - Donation

Contract Purpose: In 2022, the Friends of Lake Darling SP (Friends Group) committed to funding a trail project within Lake Darling State Park. In August 2022, the NRC approved the trail related construction project, which noted the donation from the Friends Group. Due to the cost and scope of the trail project, the DNR and Friends Group decided to enter into a contract in order to define the roles of the DNR and the Friends Group and to help outline for the contractor the funding mechanism. Aspects outlined in this contract include:

- The Friends Group will provide funding for this trail project. Their previous support and commitments upheld to projects within the Park have been established and credible (a new lodge, cabins, and other amenities).
- The Friends Group requested Delong Construction, Inc., a local contractor, to complete the project. The DNR has successfully worked with Delong on other projects and they meet the State's Targeted Small Business requirements.
- The DNR will design the trail project and the contractor will complete construction using DNR design plans with DNR oversight. The following is the 08/11/22 NRC approved construction project summary:

Lake Darling State Park is 1,417 acres in size and includes a recently restored beautiful 302-acre lake with almost 18 miles of shoreline. There are numerous hiking opportunities including a 1.5 mile paved fishing trail that is ADA accessible and runs along the south shoreline of the lake. In 2018, a 140' long bridge was constructed and spans across the in-lake silt dam, completing a trail around the lake. In 2020, 0.5 miles of rocked trails were paved.

This project will continue to pave areas of mowed paths connecting the 2020 trail project to an existing parking lot off a park road. This will provide ADA access to large retention ponds that are stocked with fish. Also, the existing rock parking lot will be paved providing seven parking stalls, two of which will be ADA accessible. Paving will reduce the need for maintenance and provide multi-functional use. This project consists of constructing 1,577 feet of trail, ten feet wide, within Lake Darling State Park and 300 SY of a new concrete parking lot. Work includes subgrade preparation, culvert installations, and concrete placement.

Motion – Commissioner Prickett

Seconded – Commissioner Foell

Decision – Approved (Commissioner Hansen absent during this vote)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

10. Timber Sale Contract with RJ Lumber, L.L.C. – Lee County (Shimek State Forest)

Commission approval is requested for a timber sale contract with RJ Lumber, L.L.C. of Bonaparte, IA, for Shimek State Forest.

Contract Terms

Income: \$226,980.00

Dates: 10/01/22 to 03/31/24

Fund Deposited to: Conservation Fund - Forestry

Contract Purpose: This contract will facilitate a hardwood timber harvest of an estimated 207,460 board feet in 1,416 mixed hardwood trees at Shimek State Forest in Lee County. An even-aged management system will be used in accordance with the Shimek State Forest Management Plan to allow sunlight to stimulate the growth of oak seedlings already present on the site. A natural areas inventory was conducted and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest area. Harvesting and regenerating this stand will improve the overall health and vigor of the forest.

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

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

Date bids received: 8/18/22

Number of Bids Received: 4

Recommendation: RJ Lumber, L.L.C.

Bidder	City, State	Amount of Bid
RJ Lumber, L.L.C.	Drakesville, IA	\$226,980.00
Yoder Sawmill, LLC	Bonaparte, IA	\$184,000.00
Ben Bruggeman	Monticello, IA	\$148,274.00
Kendrick, Inc.	Edgewood, IA	\$116,000.00

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
 Decision – Approved (Commissioner Hansen absent during this vote)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***11. Contract Amendment-1 with Spee-Dee Delivery Service, Inc.**

Commission approval is requested for a contract amendment with Spee-Dee Delivery Service, Inc., of St. Cloud, MN.

Amendment-1 Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$75,000.00

Dates: 10/23/2022 to 10/24/2023

Funding Source(s): State Forest Nursery Sales

Amendment Purpose: The purpose of the amendment is to continue shipping services for delivering tree seedlings to customers. The State Forest Nursery ships over 1,000,000 trees to customers within and outside of Iowa. Shipping costs are passed onto the customer for payment.

The State Forest Nursery has used Spee-Dee Delivery for approximately 16 years. They have provided quality service at a reasonable rate. Other major delivery services will not ship the bagged tree packages and/or are unable to meet the low cost Spee-Dee Delivery can provide. Spee-Dee Delivery also charges a flat rate per package versus needing to have staff weigh and measure every bag to determine a shipping cost for each package.

Original Selection Process: The Department solicited quotes from targeted small businesses and also published an Informal Request for Quotes on the Department of Administrative Services website. Criteria in the RFQ included the ability to ship the material as bagged by the Nursery.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$49,999.00; Timeframe: 10/25/2021 – 10/24/2022

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

12. Contract Amendment-3 with Iowa State University (State Forest Nursery)

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

Amendment-3 Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$50,000.00

Dates: October 15, 2022 to October 15, 2023

Funding Source(s): State Forest Nursery Sales

Amendment Purpose: The purpose of the amendment is to increase funds available for the upcoming year's temporary staff at the State Forest Nursery (SFN). Due to the projected increase in tree sales, we anticipate needing more seasonal workers, and with higher labor costs, this will help us to be more competitive in the labor market.

Original Contract Purpose: This contract creates a partnership that allowed ISU students to assist in forestry production aspects at the DNR's State Forest Nursery (SFN) and provided them with experiential learning opportunities. Through work experience, these students have the opportunity to assist with nearly all aspects of the nursery operation, from lifting and grading seedlings to storage and distribution. In addition, students learn to identify, collect, and plant seeds as well as performed seedling maintenance and care.

The SFN, over the years, has explored economical options to assist with the labor and skill needed to operate the nursery. In 2020, as a pilot, the SFN hired ISU students as seasonal workers to assist with nursery operations. The pilot was successful and cultivated student and University interest. This partnership has provided a stable labor resource for the nursery and created a work experience for the students. ISU will promote and provide administration oversight for the students participating in the program. The DNR will provide instruction for the work being performed and oversight and coordination for the approximately 400 man-hours per week anticipated for the assigned work. Tasks in this contract include:

- Collection, harvest and grading of tree seedling stock: ISU will assist with all aspects of tree seedling identification, harvest, collection and grading of seedling stock for storage, stratification and distribution.
- Propagation, planting, locating of seed sources, collection of tree seeds: ISU will conduct activities associated with collection of seed stock, propagation, location of rare species, development of methods for new tree species production, maintenance and production of seedlings.
- Collection of Data: ISU will collect and document data on seed collection, processing, propagation, distribution and methodologies for submission to Iowa DNR.

The DNR will utilize the information gathered and analyzed in this contract to improve processes for tree seedling production, harvest, collection, grading, and to evaluate efficacies of different methods and standards used in tree seedling propagation.

Selection Process Summary: Contracting with Iowa State University is authorized under 11 Iowa Administrative Code section 118.4.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$76,488.19; Timeframe: 10/12/2020 – 6/30/2021

Amendment 1 Terms: Amount \$43,502.66; Timeframe: 6/29/2021 – 10/15/2021; Purpose: Continue service

Amendment 2 Terms: Amount \$135,000.00; Timeframe: 10/15/2021-10/15/2022; Purpose: Continue service

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

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

***13. Contract with Pheasants Forever, Inc.**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Pheasants Forever, Inc., of St. Paul, MN.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$80,000

Dates: 10/1/2022 to 12/1/2023

Funding Source(s): Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

Contract Purpose: The DNR and Pheasant Forever (PF) have been in partnership since 2009 with the joint goal of improving and increase wildlife habitat by supporting private landowners who are interested in habitat management on their property. By contracting with PF, local service to private landowners will be increased for the consultation of restoring, enhancing, or managing wildlife habitat. This will complement the outreach efforts of the DNR's regional and statewide private lands biologists.

For this contract, PF Farm Bill Biologists assigned by PF will work one-on-one with voluntary landowners interested in discussing and evaluating habitat improvements and potential funding sources the landowner may seek to perform the recommended improvements. Habitat improvements could include CRP, native seeding, prescribed burning, timber stand improvement, and non-CRP wetlands.

In collaboration with USDA, where PF biologists are staffed, PF biologists will identify and reach out to landowners to discuss Habitat Proposals. After discussions, PF will create a Proposal and provide it to a landowner as a customized conservation proposal to restore, enhance, or manage wildlife habitat on their property, and inform them of different options for improving wildlife habitat. During this contract period, PF is to complete one hundred Habitat Proposals.

Habitat Proposals are the stepping stones to Wildlife Plans. After reviewing a Proposal with a landowner, PF will prepare a Wildlife Plan. The Plan is then provided to the landowner as a customized conservation plan for the implementation of wildlife habitat restoration, enhancement, or management on their property. Wildlife Plans inform landowners how to implement the wildlife habitat improvements that they wish to see developed on their property. During this contract period, PF is to complete fifty Wildlife Plans.

The number of Habitat and Wildlife Plans agreed upon are comparable to previous work. During the contract period, the DNR will evaluate the Habitat Proposals and Wildlife Plans for coordination with the Department's current tracking system of implemented strategies. The ultimate goal of this project is to increase or improve wildlife habitat in Iowa, which this service will provide.

Selection Process Summary: Non-governmental contracting with Pheasants Forever, Inc., is authorized under 11 IAC 117.5(5) and 118.7.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

***14. Contract with Carstens Ag and Tiling, LLC**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Carstens Ag and Tiling, LLC/Kyle Carstens, of Fontanelle, IA.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$30,820

Dates: October 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023

Funding Source(s): Federal 319 Clean Water Act State Land Grant (70%), Lakes Restoration (30%)

Contract Purpose The purpose of this contract is to remove and treat invasive tree and brush species from the grassland areas on the designated area on Meadow Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Eastern red cedar, green ash, red mulberry, elm, bush honeysuckle, Russian olive, and many other invasive tree and brush species have invaded the grasslands around the lake. Work used to address these invasive species will be grubbing, pulling, and piling with a dozer, excavator and skid loader on 37.9 designated acres. The unit staff will follow up with an immediate cover crop seeding followed by and eventual native prairie seeding. Future maintenance of the acres will be under the management plans for the area. This project is part of a larger effort to improve the Meadow Lake WMA watershed. The purpose of removing the invasive brush and tree species is to restore grassland habitat, thus improving infiltration rates and wildlife habitat for grassland wildlife species. This will result in better water quality for the lake and improved fishing and hunting opportunities. This project falls in line with the current management plan in place for the Meadow Lake WMA.

Selection Process Summary: The Department published an Informal Request for Quotes (RFQ) and also shared the RFQ with additional contractors. Criteria reviewed for this work included cost and ability to complete the tasks.

Date bids received: July 22, 2022

of Quotes Received: 9

Recommendation: Carstens Ag and Tiling, LLC, of Fontanelle, IA

Vendor	Vendor Location (city, state)	Bid	Rank
Carstens Ag and Tiling, LLC	Fontanelle, IA	\$30,820.00	1
Allsup Tiling and Excavating, LLC	Menlo, IA	\$47,057.02	2
Redman Services	Greenfield, IA	\$56,400.00	3
JNC Construction LLC	Clearfield, IA	\$68,220.00	4
APCO Construction	Corning, IA	\$87,814.30	5
Needham Dirtwork, LLC	Afton, IA	\$94,138.67	6
J Pettiecord	Bondurant, IA	\$94,750.00	7
Hansen Earth Moving, INC	Audubon, IA	\$166,760.00	8
Gary McNees Excavation	New Market, IA	\$265,000.00	9

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

15. Chapter 98, Wild Turkey Spring Hunting, and Chapter 99, Wild Turkey Fall Hunting – Notice of Intended Action

The Commission is requested to approve the Notice of Intended Action – Chapter 98, Wild Turkey Spring Hunting, and Chapter 99, Wild Turkey Fall Hunting.

Basic Intent of Current Rule:

Chapter 98 regulates spring wild turkey hunting for both residents and nonresidents, and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, and transportation tag requirements.

Chapter 99 regulates fall wild turkey hunting for residents, and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, and transportation tag requirements.

Proposed Rule Change:

This rulemaking proposes to amend both chapters as required by recent legislation. 2022 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2334 (signed by Governor Reynolds on May 24, 2022) authorized the use of a caliber .410 shotgun or a 28-gauge shotgun for hunting

turkey. It further required that a caliber .410 shotgun or a .28 shotgun shall only shoot shot not smaller than shot size number 10. These requirements are added to both chapters.

Attached: Chapter 98, Wild Turkey Spring Hunting, and Chapter 99, Wild Turkey Fall Hunting - NOIA

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

The Natural Resource Commission hereby proposes to amend Chapter 98, "Wild Turkey Spring Hunting" and Chapter 99, "Wild Turkey Fall Hunting", both of the Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

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

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39 and 481A.48.

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 98 regulates spring wild turkey hunting for both residents and nonresidents, and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, and transportation tag requirements.

Chapter 99 regulates fall wild turkey hunting for residents, and includes season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, and transportation tag requirements.

This rulemaking proposes to amend both chapters as required by recent legislation. 2022 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2334 (signed by Governor Reynolds on May 24, 2022) authorized the use of a caliber .410 shotgun or a 28-gauge shotgun for hunting turkey. It further required that a caliber .410 shotgun or a .28 shotgun shall only shoot shot not smaller than shot size number 10. These requirements are added to both chapters.

Fiscal Impact

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

Jobs Impact

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

Waivers

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

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on October 25, 2022. Comments should be directed to:

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

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held via conference call as follows. Persons who wish to attend the conference call should contact Chris Ensminger, wildlife research supervisor, via email at chris.ensminger@dnr.iowa.gov. A conference call number will be provided prior to the hearing. Persons who wish to make oral comments at the conference call public hearing must submit a request to Mr. Ensminger prior to the hearing to facilitate an orderly hearing.

October 25, 2022 Video/conference call
12 noon to 1 p.m.

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

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

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

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

The following rule-making action proposed:

Item 1. Amend paragraph 98.2(1)"a" as follows:

98.2(1) Permitted weapons. Wild turkey may be taken in accordance with the type of license issued as follows:

a. Combination shotgun-or-archery license. Wild turkey may be taken by shotgun or muzzleloading shotgun not smaller than .410 caliber 20-gauge and shooting only shot sizes number 4 through 108 lead or nontoxic shot; and by bow and arrow as defined in paragraph 98.2(1)"b." A person shall not have shotshells containing shot of any size other than number 4 through 108 lead or nontoxic shot on the person while hunting wild turkey.

Item 2. Amend subrule 98.12(1) as follows:

98.12(1) Permitted weapons. Wild turkey may be taken only with shotguns and muzzleloading shotguns not smaller than .410 caliber 20-gauge and shooting only shot sizes number 4 through 108 lead or nontoxic shot. No person may have shotshells containing shot of any size other than number 4 through 108 lead or nontoxic shot on the person while hunting wild turkey. Except for crossbows for persons with certain afflictions of the upper body, as provided in 571—15.22(481A), only longbow, compound, or recurve bows shooting broadhead arrows are permitted. Blunthead arrows with a minimum diameter of 9/16 inch may also be used. Arrows must be at least 18 inches long. No explosive or chemical devices may be attached to the arrow, broadhead, or blunthead.

Item 3. Amend subrule 99.8(1) as follows:

99.8(1) Permitted weapons. In accordance with the type of license issued, wild turkey may be taken by shotgun and muzzleloading shotgun not smaller than .410 caliber 20-gauge and shooting only shot sizes number 4 through 108 lead or nontoxic shot; and by longbow, recurve, or compound bow shooting broadhead or blunthead (minimum diameter 9/16 inch) arrows only. No person may carry or have in possession shotshells containing shot of any size other than number 4 through 108 lead or nontoxic shot while hunting wild turkey. Arrows with chemical or explosive pods are not permitted.

Motion – Commissioner Foell

Seconded – Commissioner Hansen

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

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

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

Basic Intent of Current Rule: Chapter 106 governs deer hunting by residents in the state of Iowa. This chapter regulates deer hunting and sets forth season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, areas open to hunting, licensing procedures, means and methods of take, and transportation and reporting requirements.

Proposed Rule Change: This rulemaking aligns chapter 106 with recent legislation. More specifically, 2022 Iowa Acts, Senate File 581 (signed by Governor Reynolds on June 17, 2022) established a mandatory rifle-based January antlerless-deer-only season whenever a county has unsold antlerless deer licenses available in its county quota. That season and the rifle requirement have both been added to the chapter. Additionally, the legislation required that the deer depredation program sell its license and shooting permits for \$5. Those fees have been appropriately adjusted.

Attached: Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents - NOIA

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

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

Legal Authority for Rule Making

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

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39 and 481A.48.

Purpose and Summary

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

This rulemaking proposes six amendments necessary to align chapter 106 with recent legislation. More specifically, 2022 Iowa Acts, Senate File 581 (signed by Governor Reynolds on June 17, 2022) established a mandatory rifle-based January antlerless-deer-only season whenever a county has unsold antlerless deer licenses available in its county quota. That season and the rifle requirement have both been added to the chapter. Additionally, the legislation required that the deer depredation program sell its license and shooting permits for \$5. Those fees have been appropriately adjusted.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no negative fiscal impact to the State of Iowa. A copy of the fiscal impact statement is available from the Department of Natural Resources (Department) upon request.

Jobs Impact

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

Waivers

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

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on October 25, 2022. Comments should be directed to:

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

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held via conference call as follows. Persons who wish to attend the conference call should contact Chris Ensminger, wildlife research supervisor, via email at chris.ensminger@dnr.iowa.gov. A conference call number will be provided prior to the hearing. Persons who wish to make oral comments at the conference call public hearing must submit a request to Mr. Ensminger prior to the hearing to facilitate an orderly hearing.

October 25, 2022 Video/conference call
12 noon to 1 p.m.

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

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

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

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

The following rule-making actions are proposed:

Item 1. Amend subrule 106.1(6) as follows:

a. Population management season. Licenses for the population management January antlerless-deer-only season may be issued for the following counties: Allamakee, Appanoose, Decatur, Monroe, Wayne, and Winneshiek. Population management January antlerless-deer-only licenses shall be issued for a county only when a minimum of 100 antlerless-deer-only licenses, as described in subrule 106.6(6), remain unsold in that county as of the third Monday in December. If 100 or more antlerless-deer-only licenses remain unsold for a given county as of the third Monday in December, those remaining antlerless-deer-only licenses shall be made available for the population management January antlerless-deer-only season in that county until the relevant antlerless-deer-only quota as described in subrule 106.6(6) is met.

b. Excess tag season. Licenses for the excess tag January antlerless-deer-only season may be issued in any county. Excess tag January antlerless-deer-only licenses shall be issued for a county only when a minimum of 1 antlerless-deer-only license, as described in subrule 106.6(6), remains unsold for a given county through January 10. Remaining antlerless-deer-only licenses shall be made available starting on January 11 for the excess tag January antlerless-deer-only season in that

county until the relevant antlerless-deer-only quota as described in subrule 106.6(6) is met.

Item 2. Amend subrule 106.2(5) as follows:

106.2(5) Population management and excess tag January antlerless-deer-only seasons. Deer may be taken in accordance with the type, season, and zone designated on the license from January 11 through the second Sunday following that date.

Item 3. Amend subrule 106.4(5) as follows:

106.4(5) Population management and excess tag January antlerless-deer-only seasons. The bag limit is one deer per license. The possession limit is one deer per license.

Item 4. Amend subrule 106.6(4) as follows:

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

Item 5. Amend subrule 106.7(5) as follows:

106.7(5) January antlerless-deer-only seasons.

a. Population management January antlerless-deer-only season. Bows, crossbows, shotguns, muzzleloaders, ~~rifles (including centerfire rifles .223 to .350)~~, and handguns, as each is described in this rule, and rifles as described in Iowa Code section 483A.8(9) may be used during the population management January antlerless-deer-only season.

b. Excess tag January antlerless-deer-only season. Rifles as described in Iowa Code section 483A.8(9).

Item 6. Amend paragraph 106.11(4)“a” as follows:

a. Deer depredation licenses. Deer depredation licenses may be sold to resident hunters only for ~~the regular deer license~~ a fee of five dollars for use during one or more legal hunting seasons. Depredation licenses will be available to producers of agricultural and horticultural crops.

Item 7. Amend subparagraph 106.11(4)“b”(1) as follows:

(1) Deer shooting permits will be issued at ~~no cost~~ a fee of five dollars to the applicant.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

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

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

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

Funding Source(s): Fish and Game Trust Fund

Grant Funding Available: \$547,500 (\$182,500 restricted)

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 23, the grant review and selection committee met on 7/27/22 to evaluate and score applications and provide recommendations for the grant awards.

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

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

Number of Applications Received: 5 (3 Additions to existing Wildlife Areas and 2 Habitat Development Projects)

Recommendations: The committee recommends offering full funding to the top 2 ranked Wildlife Area additions. The committee further recommends offering full funding to the 2 habitat development projects meeting the minimum score (45.0) for eligibility. The remaining \$61,642 was accepted by Polk County for their Addition to the Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt. Any unused funds will carry forward for use in future projects.

Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant (County)	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
50.6	Jones	Hale Wildlife Area West Addition – This 158 acre tract lies on the western boundary of the 260 acre Hale Wildlife Area and is located on upland slopes along the northern edge of the Wapsipinicon River valley. The Hale wildlife area includes a complex of prairie, savanna, woodland, and wetland types including more than 200 acres of diverse prairie, 25 acres of woodland, 8 wetlands, and 6 ponds. The West addition adds 90 acres of prairie, 64 acres of woodland, 2 wetlands, and a 3 acre pond. The Hale Wildlife Area is managed as a wildlife management area open to hunting, fishing, hiking, trapping, and other forms of nature appreciation activities with an emphasis on education regarding wildlife and management of wildlife habitat.	\$273,900	\$273,900
48.0	Wright	Elm Lake Wetland Complex Addition - The Wright County Conservation Board will be purchasing 29.06 acres of ground in 2 parcels adjacent to existing public lands in the Elm Lake complex. This land is in a permanent wetland easement due to the closures of two ag drainage wells on the adjacent property. Both parcels will be planted in a wetland mix and will both hold water in years with normal precipitation. These are key properties as they will allow the entire marsh complex created by the ADW closures to be in public ownership. This is part of a larger plan to improve water quality in both Lake Cornelia and Elm Lake and to expand hunting opportunities in the area.	\$29,458	\$29,458
48.0	Cerro Gordo	Mallard Marsh Wetland Enhancement - Mallard Marsh is a 227 acre Wildlife Area. Three permanent and two seasonal wetlands make up approximately 130 acres. The two largest wetland basins are managed using corrugated metal water control structures installed when the wetlands were originally restored in the 1960's. The corrugated metal structures and tubes will be replaced with new Agri-Drain in-line water control structures to provide the ability to better manage water levels to maximize vegetation growth for the benefit of waterfowl and other wildlife species that utilize wetlands.	\$21,084	\$21,084
46.0	Jones	Hale Wildlife Area West Invasive Species Control - This project will involve mechanical removal of 9+ acres of Black Locust trees followed by treatment of re-sprouts and establishment of permanent grassland.	\$14,000	\$14,000
45.0	Polk	Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt Bailey Addition - The 48.5 acre Bailey tract lies along the South Skunk River and is surrounded by Polk County Conservation owned land. The entire tract was seeded to native grasses and forbs in fall 2021. Plans are to restore a wetland-prairie complex on this tract to improve habitat for wildlife and provide critical resources for pollinators. The Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt (CBG) is an important regional resource for wildlife due to its size and diversity of habitats. CBG has one of the most diverse populations of breeding birds in the state, designated as an Iowa DNR Bird Conservation Area and an Audubon Important Bird Area. The most recent Breeding Bird Atlas listed more than 120 species as confirmed, probable, or possible breeding species in surveys on the area.	\$287,648	\$61,642
Total			\$626,090	\$400,084

Motion – Commissioner Foell
 Seconded – Commissioner Kircher
 Decision – Approved (1 nay – Commissioner Hommel)

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

18. Contract with Iowa State University (CWD Specialists)

Commission approval is requested for sub-recipient agreement with Iowa State University (ISU), of Ames, IA.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$146,210

Dates: September 30, 2022 to September 29, 2023

Funding Source(s): USDA APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) Grant Award

Contract Purpose: This agreement represents a collaborative effort between the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Wildlife Bureau and Iowa State University to fund two Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Extension Specialists to implement incentive hunts to increase localized hunter harvest of antlerless deer, build local landowner and hunter partnerships to increased controlled access to private lands, partner with local landowners to establish property-specific management plans that slow the advance of CWD, and collect tissue samples from deer harvested during special incentive hunts to monitor CWD spread, all within two CWD-endemic areas in northeastern Iowa.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) continues to spread across North America posing an existential threat to the long-term viability of cervid populations as well as the hunting culture that relies on this resource for recreation and sustenance. Increased localized harvest has been identified as the most successful approach for wildlife management agencies to slow the spread of CWD and is often achieved through selective culling (i.e., sharpshooting) despite the widespread lack of support for this approach among stakeholders. Engaging hunters to increase localized harvest to manage CWD within core areas is broadly accepted among both hunters and landowners, but hunters often lack access to private land and landowners lack guidance to effectively implement density reduction efforts on their property. There is a critical need, therefore, to connect local hunters and landowners to promote access to private land within core areas and establish property-specific deer management plans for landowners to achieve harvest objectives to fight a battle of attrition against CWD. This project will develop a framework for engaging both hunters and private landowners in a cooperative effort to slow the spread of CWD that is cost-effective, sustainable, and widely accepted by constituents.

Tasks in this agreement include:

- Hire two Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Extension Specialists to coordinate special incentive hunts in Allamakee and Clayton counties.
- Partner with local landowners to increase hunter access to private land and establish property-specific management plans to slow the advance of CWD in endemic areas.
- Collect both retropharyngeal lymph node (RPLN) samples from deer harvested within incentive zone during special January season.
- Screen RLPNs with enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) to evaluate CWD status and monitor the spread of the disease within endemic areas.

The DNR will provide daily work guidance for the two Specialists in collaboration with the area Wildlife Biologist, as well as provide office space. The DNR will also provide guidance on the development of property-specific management plans and will coordinate submission of RPLN samples for CWD testing. The Department will use the partnerships cultivated and data collected for future decision making on CWD management practices.

Selection Process Summary: This Contract is authorized by 11 Iowa Administrative Code sections 117.5(5) and 118.7.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

19. Contract with Iowa State University, College of Veterinary Medicine

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Iowa State University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Ames, IA.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$101,492.22

Dates: October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023

Funding Source(s): USDA CFDA Program 10.028 Funding

Contract Purpose: The parties propose to enter into this contract to retain the contractor to evaluate the performance of pooled testing for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) under real-world conditions in order to support a full transition to pooled testing by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources moving forward. The Iowa DNR intends to utilize the information gathered and analyzed in this contract to better allocate resources to CWD management by reducing the cost of testing multi-fold.

This project addresses a critical information need necessary for state agencies, and specifically the Iowa DNR, to implement pooled testing for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) moving forward. Pooled testing in this scenario means using a diagnostic assay to screen multiple deer using one test for the presence of the misfolded prion protein. Because most of our positive detections in Iowa involve deer testing at the maximum threshold on the current screening test (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, ELISA), we believed we could test several deer before diluting this signal. Work from our 2020 Cooperative Agreement identified this threshold at 10, meaning we could still reliably detect a positive deer from a pool of 9 other deer testing "Not Detected." When we asked this same question using an amplification assay (real-time quaking-induced conversion, RT-QuIC), which is much more sensitive than ELISA, we found a threshold of 50. In other words, we could still reliably detect a positive deer from a pool of 49 other deer testing "Not Detected." However, these thresholds were identified under idealized conditions, where we knew the status of all individuals going into the pools. The next step is to evaluate how these thresholds perform under real-world conditions.

Tasks in this contract include:

- Compare the performance of testing pooled samples at a 1:4 and 1:9 dilution of the positive by ELISA to traditional testing with ELISA via use of paired RPLN
- Compare the performance of testing pooled samples at a 1:24 or 1:49 dilution of the positive by RT-QuIC to traditional testing with ELISA via use of paired RPLN
- Evaluate the technician time and amount of consumables required to prepare these different dilutions for ELISA and RT-QuIC
- Determine which pooling thresholds maximize sensitivity and functionality for screening real-world samples by ELISA and RT-QuIC

The DNR will:

- Provide lymphoid tissues for Iowa deer to test in pools
- Determine of composition of each pool, based on regional proximity and CWD status

The results of this project will help us identify which dilution and which diagnostic is most reliable and economical so that the Iowa DNR can make an informed transition to pooled testing. This will then allow us to reallocate costs of monitoring for this disease to managing for this disease within an expanding footprint.

Contractor Selection Process: This contract is authorized by 11 Iowa Administrative Code section 118.4(8A).

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

20. 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
7/28/22	21-01-97-01	Brown's Lake WMA	Woodbury	Repair surface drainage and add granular surfacing to a section of roadway.	\$19,000	\$14,980.00 \$16,150.00 \$24,747.00
7/28/22	22-03-28-02	Backbone State Park	Delaware	Construct a building foundation using insulated block system and installing an in-floor heated floor for a future building at the park.	\$32,000	\$36,071.69 \$40,369.40

8/11/22	22-01-60-01	Big Sioux River Complex	Lyon	Repair surface drainage and add granular surfacing to a section of roadway.	\$18,000	\$19,549
8/18/22	23-01-30-02	Trickle Slough WMA	Dickinson	Restore a wetland area. Work includes dike construction, excavation, tile investigation, tile breaks, tile installation, and a water control structure with associated piping.	\$50,000	\$45,971.80 \$48,834.00 \$49,965.96 \$49,980.54
8/18/22	18-01-74-02	Virgin Lake	Palo Alto	Add rock fish barrier protection to a drainage and construct a granular parking lot for the boat ramp on the east side of Virgin Lake.	\$59,000	\$39,340.00 \$58,310.00

INFORMATIONAL

21. Construction Projects**21.1 Rathbun WMA, Road Maintenance – Appanoose/Lucas Counties**

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: This project addresses road issues within the 15,888 acre Rathbun Wildlife Management Area. The WMA consists of ½ upland, ¼ lake and ¼ timber, which provide habitat for deer, pheasant, quail, dove and waterfowl. The WMA surrounds much of Rathbun lake and provides several access points for hunters, paddlers, bird watchers, mushroom hunters and nature enthusiasts. The access roads are used on a near daily basis and also provides access for habitat management leases.

Over one mile of the existing granular roadway will have the crown re-established and new rock will be spread. Two 18-inch culverts will be replaced and erosion stone will be placed at the inlets/outlets. Revetment will also be placed at a large culvert that was recently replaced by the County. Over one mile of ditches will be cleaned along with minor bank shaping. All disturbed areas will be seeded and fertilized

Engineering Project #: 22-05-04-05

Cost Estimate: \$130,000

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Road Fund

Bid Letting Date: 8/18/2022

Construction Completion Date: 12/31/2022

Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

IA Builders LLC	Albia IA	\$85,826.30
Nagel Construction	Allerton IA	\$98,061.95
Miller Trucking & Excavating Co	Silvis IL	\$155,714.50

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to IA Builders LLC.

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

21.2 Odessa WMA, Access Road Maintenance – Louisa County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: The 4,139 acre Odessa Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is 3/4 timber and 1/4 upland. The 1.8 mile long rock road within the area provides access for hunters, paddlers, bird watchers, mushroom hunters and nature enthusiasts. The area also provides habitat for deer, turkey, pheasant, waterfowl, rabbit, dove, and mushrooms.

The Odessa WMA is one of six wildlife areas within Louisa County, and the only one that provides limited access to the Mississippi River. The access road is used on a daily basis and also provides access for habitat management leases.

The existing granular roadway will have the crown re-established and new rock will be spread on approximately 1.8 miles of road. Five culverts will be replaced, along with erosion stone/revetment at the inlets and outlets, and nearly one-half mile of ditches will be cleaned along with minor bank shaping. All disturbed areas will be seeded and fertilized.

Engineering Project #: 21-06-58-03

Cost Estimate: \$220,000

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Institutional Road Fund

Bid Letting Date: 8/18/2022

Construction Completion Date: 10/31/2023

Number of Bids Received: 7

Bidders

IA Builders LLC	Albia IA	\$168,625.11
Delong Construction Inc	Washington IA	\$171,149.00
Triple B Construction	Wilton IA	\$177,235.50
Cole Construction Co, Inc	Keosauqua IA	\$197,566.26
H & H Construction & Development LLC	Miles IA	\$214,709.04
Ethics Contracting LLC	Bettendorf IA	\$233,686.30
Heuer Construction Inc	Muscatine IA	\$253,591.75

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to IA Builders LLC.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

21.3 Heytman's Landing Access, Channel Maintenance Dredging – Allamakee County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Heytman's Landing Access, located about 9 miles southeast of Lansing, Iowa, currently has an existing kiosk and concrete boat ramp with a boat dock. The parking area is surfaced with crushed rock. The access is popular with kayakers, waterfowlers, and fisherman. Species of fish caught in the area include bluegill, channel catfish, crappie, freshwater drum, largemouth bass, northern pike, sauger, smallmouth bass, walleye, flathead catfish, rock bass, white bass, and yellow perch. Due to the accumulation of sediment in the access channel, boats are running aground and the channel is very narrow. This project will dredge the channel to maintain boater access to the Mississippi River. The contractor will dredge the access channel from the boat ramp to east of the railroad bridge into the Mississippi River. Approximately 1,500 cubic yards of material will be removed and disposed of by the contractor.

Engineering Project #: 21-03-03-02

Cost Estimate: \$110,000.00

Operating Bureau: Fisheries

Funding Source: Marine Fuel Tax

Bid Letting Date: 08/18/2022

Construction Completion Date: 08/31/2023

Number of Bids Received: 2

Bidders

JF Brennan Company, Inc.	La Crosse, WI	\$179,325.00
Veit & Company, Inc.	Rogers, MN	\$299,900.00

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to JF Brennan Company, Inc.

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

CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***22. Contract with the Poweshiek County Conservation Board (Diamond Lake Park)**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with the Poweshiek County Conservation Board (PCCB), of Montezuma, Iowa.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$58,275.00

Dates: September 13, 2022, to December 31, 2023

Funding Source(s): Lake Restoration Program

Background: Constructed in the 1950s, Diamond Lake is a 98.7-acre lake with a 2,672 acre watershed which is comprised of a mix of public and privately owned lands. The lake is located in Diamond Lake County Park in Poweshiek County and is managed by Poweshiek County Conservation. With a 27: 1 watershed to lake area ratio, the lake is an excellent candidate for restoration. The watershed has a mix of forested land, crop land, and grassland. Water quality is considered average for the State of Iowa, but the lake suffers periodically from algae blooms that lead to poor water clarity. The maximum depth of Diamond Lake is about 20' with the mean depth being 7.2' although the depths in the norther portion of the lake are fairly shallow and there has been some sediment deposition in the arms of the lake since it was constructed.

Both landowners within the watershed and the park staff have worked to reduce sediment and nutrient inputs to the lake by installing a variety of best management practices on the landscape, but additional work is needed to better manage inputs to the lake. This project represents the first step in a comprehensive restoration project that is proposed for the lake and park. Additionally, a watershed coordinator is working with landowner and operators within the watershed to install additional BMPs on privately owned land. Diamond Lake is a significant public resource and it supports more than 33,000 visitor trips each year for recreational activities including boating and fishing. In addition, Diamond Lake serves the City of Montezuma as its drinking water source.

DNR worked with the CCB in 2015 to repair and modify the spillway at the lake outlet. The spillway was in need of repair, and upgrading the lakes infrastructure allowed project partners to modify the outlet structure to eliminate migration of undesirable fish species into the lake from downstream Moon Creek. Modification of the outlet was an important step in the long-term water quality improvement plan for Diamond Lake. The spillway modification was completed in 2015 for a total cost of \$160k, with the PCCB contributing \$32k to the project.

Contract Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to work with PCCB to retain a consultant to provide engineering services for the restoration of Diamond Lake Park. Engineering services provided for this project include the evaluation of existing watershed best management practices within the park to determine their effectiveness and remaining lifespan and evaluation of the park to locate additional cost-effective BMPs that will reduce sediment and phosphorus inputs to the lake. Additionally, the consultant hired by PCCB will provide a conceptual design and cost estimate for recommended watershed practices so that project partners can plan and budget for the construction of proposed practices.

Budget:

DNR Contribution \$ 58,275.00

Poweshiek County Conservation Board Contribution \$ 19,425.00

Total budget \$ 77,700.00

Anticipated Future Work: Future work will include engineering design, permitting, and construction of watershed best management practices selected through this evaluation process. Additionally, long term, project partners to complete restoration work within the lake, however; in-lake practices are not anticipated within the next 3-5 years. Total anticipated costs for construction of watershed practices within the park is around \$1 million, and will likely include some timber stand improvement, construction of new sediment ponds, and rehabilitation of existing ponds within the park.

Selection Process Summary: Intergovernmental contracting with the TCCB is authorized under 11 IAC 118.4.

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

23. Contract Amendment-1 with the Office of the State Archeologist at the University of Iowa

Commission approval is requested for a contract amendment with University of Iowa Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA).

Amendment-1 Terms:

Amendment Amount: Not to exceed \$200,000

Amendment Dates: October 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Funding Source(s): Funding sources will be project related; potential sources include, but are not limited to: Lake Restoration, USFWS Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, USFWS North American Wetland Conservation Act, State Duck Stamp, REAP Land Management and Open Spaces, Marine Fuel Tax, Watershed Improvement Section (Section 319 funds of the Clean Water Act), Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF), and the Clean Water SRF.

Amendment Purpose: DNR is responsible for the management and development of lands and facilities under the jurisdiction of the Natural Resources Commission and the Environmental Protection Commission. This includes state parks, recreation areas and preserves; state forests; wildlife management areas; office and recreation facilities, and hatcheries; clean water best management practices (BMPs) and demonstration practices on both public and private lands. The DNR also provides environmental and cultural review services for cities and public water supplies that finance projects through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs. As part of these obligations, DNR must, at times, conduct investigations into the historical and archeological resources that may be impacted by DNR's construction and development activities in these areas. This amendment will provide additional funding to the existing contract.

Original Contract Purpose: Archeological and architectural investigations are required for many construction and improvement projects completed on public land, including those associated with SRF and Section 319 sponsored projects for water quality improvement, lake restoration projects, wildlife and fisheries capital projects, and parks improvement/capital projects. For the majority of projects associated with this Contract, a phase 1 survey will be completed by OSA for each work order. A phase 1 is an archeological survey that determines the presence or absence of archeological resources within a project area. Additional surveys may need to be completed if cultural resources are located within the project area.

The purpose of this 2-year contract is to allow DNR staff across both divisions (CRD and ESD) ready access to contract with OSA to complete archeological and architectural investigations by issuing work orders for individual projects under this master agreement. Issuing work orders for archeological and architectural work will improve efficiency by reducing staff time drafting and preparing contracts for each individual project. The previous 2-year contract with OSA was very successful in serving the needs of the DNR project officers, allowing for timely, efficient, and economical investigations of cultural and historical resource concerns at all project construction sites.

Original Selection Process: Intergovernmental contracting with the University of Iowa is authorized under 11 IAC 118.4. Also contracts with state universities and other public agencies for laboratory work, scientific field measurement and environmental quality evaluation services necessary to implement Iowa Code Chapter 455B is authorized under Iowa Code section 455B.103(3).

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount: Not to exceed \$650,000.00; Timeframe: June 1, 2021, to June 30, 2023

<p>Motion – Commissioner Foell</p> <p>Seconded – Commissioner Kircher</p> <p>Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote</p>
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CARRIED AS PRESENTED

***24. Contract with Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Stantec Consulting Services Inc., Des Moines, IA.

Contract Terms

Amount: not to exceed \$58,621

Dates: September 15, 2022 to January 31, 2024

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

Contract Purpose: The River Programs section of the DNR requires professional planning services to develop a water trail plan for the for 57.2 miles of the Upper North Raccoon River starting slightly upstream of the Sac County line to Rainbow Bridge Access in Calhoun County. This stream was recently selected for water trail planning by a scoring committee consisting of three DNR employees and two citizen river advocates. Sac County Conservation Board applied for these services and agreed to be the water trail sponsor.

A good water trail plan is one that is responsive to local desires and concerns. Through a series of local stakeholder meetings, public input sessions, and research, the water trail plan will establish a priority for infrastructure projects (i.e. developing new water accesses, improving existing accesses, adding access amenities, improved parking, and hazard mitigation). The plan will also identify any interpretive or educational programming needs, as well as offer potential solutions to any existing problems that are identified. Tasks in this contract include:

- Host multiple stakeholder and public input meetings. Analyze and integrate information collected into the plan.
- Establish a steering committee to develop vision and goals for the trail and guide development of the plan.
- Develop an online social media presence.
- Research and report existing conditions of the water trail (i.e. river traffic/use; accesses; natural geological, historical, and archeological resources).
- Draft a master water trail plan with GIS data and include project recommendations.

Selection Process Summary: The Department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and also published a request of proposals on the Department of Administrative Services website. Criteria reviewed included cost; satisfactory performance on previous contracts similar in scope; contractor's professional experience, performance record, and letters of references; compliance and thoroughness of their response to RFP Technical Proposal; and the capacity and work plan of the service provider to complete responsibilities described in the statement of work.

Proposal Due Date: August 12, 2022

Proposals Received: 3

Recommendation: Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Vendor	Vendor Location (city, state)	Score (150 pts total)	Rank	Cost
Stantec Consulting Services Inc.	Des Moines, Iowa	148	1	\$58,621
LT Leon Associates, Inc.	Des Moines, Iowa	130	2	\$59,905
ISG	Des Moines, Iowa	125	3	\$59,800

CARRIED UNDER CONSENT

25. General Discussion

- **NRC Discussion of Administrative Law Judge Case(s):** Commissioner Branstad opened discussion for Commissioner input to determine if there needs to be an NRC review of the ALJ cases. No Commissioner requests for review were made; no action will be taken on the cases.
- **Commissioner Comments:** Commissioners shared general comments and natural resource related experiences. Commissioner Branstad noted, due to circumstances reducing the number of in-person commissioners for the September meeting, he cancelled the field tour with the hopes it can be rescheduled for another time when more commissioners would be able to attend. The next NRC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2022, in Des Moines, Iowa.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting – Commissioner Kircher

Second – Commissioner Hansen

Decision - Approved by Unanimous Vote

With no further business to come before the Natural Resource Commission, Chair Branstad adjourned the meeting on 09/07/22 at 1:22pm

CARRIED – MEETING ADJOURNED

Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates

- Thu, 10/13/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)
- Thu, 11/10/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)
- Thu, 12/08/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)

VISITORS/ATTENDEES - SIGN IN SHEET

FOR NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON October 13, 2022

PLEASE PRINT

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

NAME, CITY, STATE	GROUP REPRESENTING (if applicable)	TOPIC OF INTEREST
Will de Bliss	Senate Rep. Cave's	-

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

NRC Business Meeting – Thursday, October 13, 2022

Meeting Convenes at 9:30am

Meeting Location: Iowa DNR, 502 E 9th St, 2nd Floor Conference Rm, Des Moines, IA

To attend virtually, join via

Video Link: <https://meet.google.com/sco-mbns-qva>

or

Telephone: call 442-242-3609 PIN: 883 789 392#

Public Participation begins at approximately 10:00 am

1.	Approval of Agenda Consent Agenda (<i>*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda item</i>) *12. Timber Sale Contract with Kendrick, Inc. (Big Mill WMA) – Jackson County *13. Timber Sale Contract with Ben Bruggeman for Yellow River State Forest *15. Public Land Management Project: Management Agreement, Lake Manawa State Park Levee – Pottawattamie County – Council Bluffs *19.4 Beeds Lake State Park – Pit Latrine, Franklin County *19.5 Beeds Lake State Park – Replace Dump Station, Franklin County *19.6 Botna Bottoms WMA, Tree Clearing, Levee and WCS Repair – Fremont Co	Decision	Commission
2.	Approve Minutes of 09/07/22 NRC Public Meeting	Decision	Commission
3.	Director’s Remarks	Information	Kayla Lyon
4.	Division Administrator’s Remarks	Information	Pete Hildreth
5.	2023 NRC Meeting Recommendations	Decision	Commission
6.	Donations	Decision	Pete Hildreth
7.	Chapter 23, Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program; Chapter 27, Lands and Waters Conservation Fund Program; Chapter 29, Local Recreation Infrastructure Grants Program; Chapter 30, Waters Cost-share and Grant Programs; Chapter 33, Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: County, City and Private Open Spaces Grant Programs; and Chapter 35, Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Boards – Notice of Intended Action	Decision	Michelle Wilson
8.	REAP City Parks and Open Space Grants (FY23)	Decision	Michelle Wilson
9.	REAP County Grants (FY23)	Decision	Michelle Wilson
10.	REAP Private Public Cost-share Grants (FY23)	Decision	Michelle Wilson
11.	Contract with Iowa State University (Shovelnose Sturgeon Research)	Decision	Joe Larscheid
*12.	Timber Sale Contract with Kendrick, Inc. (Big Mill WMA) – Jackson County	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
*13.	Timber Sale Contract with Ben Bruggeman for Yellow River State Forest	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
14.	Contract with Mechanical Comfort, Inc.	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
*15.	Public Land Management Project: Management Agreements, Lake Manawa State Park Levee – Pottawattamie County – Council Bluffs	Decision	Travis Baker

For details on the NRC meeting schedule, visit:

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/BoardsCommissions/NaturalResourceCommission.aspx>

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

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

16.	Public Land Acquisition Projects		
16.1	Green Island Wildlife Management Area, Jackson County – Doring Corporation	Decision	Travis Baker
16.2	Kirke Woods Wildlife Management Area, Madison County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	Decision	Travis Baker
16.3	Riverton Wildlife Management Area, Fremont County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	Decision	Travis Baker
17.	Chapter 30 - Waters Cost-Share and Grants Program, Water Trails Development Program Grant Recommendations	Decision	Travis Baker
18.	Contract Amendment-2 with Rachel Contracting, LLC (Otter Creek Lake)	Decision	Travis Baker
19.	Construction – Large Projects		
19.1	Lake Macbride State Park North Shore Parking Lot Extension – Johnson County	Decision	Travis Baker
19.2	Lake Ahquabi State Park, Beach and Shelter Restrooms – Warren County	Decision	Travis Baker
19.3	Geode State Park, Reconstruct Beach/Boat Ramp Parking Lot – Henry County	Decision	Travis Baker
*19.4	Beeds Lake State Park – Pit Latrine, Franklin County	Decision	Travis Baker
*19.5	Beeds Lake State Park – Replace Dump Station, Franklin County	Decision	Travis Baker
*19.6	Botna Bottoms WMA, Tree Clearing, Levee and WCS Repair – Fremont Co	Decision	Travis Baker
20.	General Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">NRC Discussion of Administrative Law Judge Case		
Post Meeting Topical Information Session: Fish Survey Data Presentation			
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates <ul style="list-style-type: none">Thu, 11/10/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)Thu, 12/08/22, 9:30am, Business Meeting (Polk County)			

For details on the NRC meeting schedule, visit:
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**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission**

Decision Item

5. 2023 NRC Meeting Recommendations

Month	Meeting Date / Day / Time (Business Meeting 2 nd Thursday of the Month – unless noted*)			Meeting Location (County)
January	01/12/23 OR 01/18/23*	Thu OR Wed	9:30a Business Meeting 7:30a- 9:30a DNR Legislative Meet/Greet 10:00a NRC Business Meeting	Polk
February	02/09/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
March	03/09/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
April	04/13/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
May	05/11/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
June	06/07/23*	Wed	12:00p Business Meeting, Field Tour	Scott (Lost Grove Lake/WMA)
	06/08/23*	Thu	9:00a Field Tour	Scott (Lost Grove Lake/WMA)
July	07/13/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
August	08/09/23*	Wed	9:30a Business Meeting 12:00p-5:30p NRC/EPC Joint Mtg (joint mtg pending), Field Tour	Polk Polk/Warren (Lake Ahquabi SP)
September	09/13/23*	Wed	12:00p Business Meeting, Field Tour	Fremont (Riverton WMA, Waubonsi SP)
	09/14/23*	Thu	9:00a Field Tour	Fremont (Riverton WMA, Waubonsi SP)
October	10/12/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
November	11/09/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
December	12/14/23	Thu	9:30a Business Meeting	Polk
January	01/11/24 OR 01/17/24*	Thu OR Wed	9:30a Business Meeting 7:30a- 9:30a DNR Legislative Meet/Greet 10:00a NRC Business Meeting	Polk

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 10/13/22

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

Decision Item

6. Donations

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

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$350.00	Funds to support the conservation of non-game species	Jane and William Overland
Brushy Creek	\$1,588.62	75.29 ton 3/8- rock for hitch rails	Morgan Endecott, Backcountry Horsemen of IA
Lake Darling State Park	\$1,700.00	2018 Hurricane Skimmer 140 Kayak & Trailer	Linda Marie
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$196,551.96	Bequeath from Doris Ann Flater in support of Iowa's natural resources.	Mardean VanDeest, Executor of Doris Ann Flater Estate
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$30.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Richard Kurtenbach
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$650.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Robert Bumsted.	Collins Community CU, c/o Dennis Bumsted
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Robert Bumsted.	Doraine Schuling
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Robert Bumsted.	Penny Dankbar
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Robert Bumsted.	Thomas and Norma Twohill
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Robert Bumsted.	Thomas and Sue
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Robert Bumsted.	Barbara O'Rourke
Ledges State Park	\$405.00	Value of donated labor for a journeyman and apprentice to replace photocells on 3 security lights in the Ledges campground.	Thompson Electric
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Joe Keller	Ara Keller
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$360.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Richard Kurtenbach
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$600.00	After learning about philanthropy and giving back through discussion of various organizations they are passionate about and the work these organizations do in their communities, Vermeer's NextGen program youth donated funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Tricia K. Vermeer, Executive Director, Vermeer Charitable Foundation
Bellevue State Park	\$650.00	Three framed paintings of park areas throughout the seasons for use in the lodge.	Sue Sawvel

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 10/13/22

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

Decision Item

7. Chapter 23, “Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program”, Chapter 27, “Lands and Waters Conservation Fund Program,” Chapter 29, “Local Recreation Infrastructure Grants Program,” Chapter 30, “Waters Cost-share and Grant Programs,” Chapter 33, “Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: County, City and Private Open Spaces Grant Programs,” and Chapter 35, “Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Boards,”– Notice of Intended Action

The Commission is requested to approve the Notice of Intended Action for Chapter 23, “Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program”, Chapter 27, “Lands and Waters Conservation Fund Program,” Chapter 29, “Local Recreation Infrastructure Grants Program,” Chapter 30, “Waters Cost-share and Grant Programs,” Chapter 33, “Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: County, City and Private Open Spaces Grant Programs,” and Chapter 35, “Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Boards.”

Basic Intent of Current Rules:

Chapter 23, Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program: To allocate wildlife habitat stamp revenues to local entities. These funds must be used specifically for the acquisition of whole or partial interests in land from willing sellers for use as wildlife habitats, and the development and enhancement of wildlife lands and habitat areas.

Chapter 27, Lands and Waters Conservation Fund Program: To offer grants to Iowa’s cities and counties to assist with planning, acquisition, and development of outdoor recreation.

Chapter 29, Local Recreation Infrastructure Grants Program: To provide state cost sharing to communities, counties, organizations and associations for the restoration or construction of recreational complexes or facilities.

Chapter 30, Waters Cost-share and Grant Programs: To offer cost-share funds to water trails infrastructure projects, such as water accesses, parking areas, restrooms, and paddlecraft campsites. Eligible applicants include any local divisions of Iowa government.

Chapter 33, Resource Enhancement and Protection Program-County, City and Private Open Spaces Grant Programs: To administer the private cost-sharing funds within the open spaces account, the county conservation account, and the city park and open spaces account of the resource enhancement and protection fund.

Chapter 35, Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Boards: To allocate fish habitat revenue to county conservation boards. These funds shall be used specifically to acquire from willing sellers whole or partial interest in land for use as or for protection of fish habitats and to develop and enhance fishable waters and habitat areas.

Proposed Rule Change: Several grant programs do not explicitly address conflicts within the pre-selected scoring committee. The proposed rule adds language that requires designation of at least two alternates. The alternates will be available to serve in the place of a primary committee member whenever the primary committee member is directly participating in a grant cycle.

Additionally, a few grant programs have antiquated submission rules, requiring that paper copies be mailed to a particular address. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) began using an electronic grant submission portal in 2020. This new method is easy and cost-effective. The proposed rules require that applications be submitted via a form or a method specified on the Department’s website. This will enable the Department and grant applicants to utilize new systems as technology improves over time.

Finally, many grant programs have fixed deadlines set forth in rule (i.e., March 15). This prevents flexibility on grant deadlines even when extraordinary events may justify accommodations. The proposed amendments mirror existing language in 571--Chapter 30 that allows a submission deadline to be published on the Department's website with a least 90 days' notice. Notably, Chapter 30's publication-based framework has been successfully utilized for 14 years. The proposed rule would allow the Department to change a deadline when circumstances warrant, while still ensuring plenty of public notice.

Michelle Wilson, CRD Executive Officer
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

Attached: Chapter 23, "Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program", Chapter 27, "Lands and Waters Conservation Fund Program," Chapter 29, "Local Recreation Infrastructure Grants Program," Chapter 30, "Waters Cost-share and Grant Programs," Chapter 33, "Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: County, City and Private Open Spaces Grant Programs," and Chapter 35, "Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Boards," – NOIA

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby proposes to amend Chapter 23, "Wildlife Habitat Promotion with Local Entities Program", Chapter 27, "Lands and Waters Conservation Fund Program," Chapter 29, "Local Recreation Infrastructure Grants Program," Chapter 30, "Waters Cost-share and Grant Programs," Chapter 33, "Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: County, City and Private Open Spaces Grant Programs," and Chapter 35, "Fish Habitat Promotion for County Conservation Boards," Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code sections 455A.5(6), 455A.19(1)"b" and "d," and 462A.3.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code sections 452A.79A, 455A.19, 456A.29 through 456A.33, 461A.3, 464A.11, and 483.3A.

Purpose and Summary

The Commission proposes to amend multiple grant programs to add provisions addressing conflicts of interest, electronic filing, and more adaptable filing deadlines.

Several grant programs do not explicitly address conflicts within the pre-selected scoring committee. The proposed rule adds language that requires designation of at least two alternates. The alternates will be available to serve in the place of a primary committee member whenever the primary committee member is directly participating in a grant cycle.

Additionally, a few grant programs have antiquated submission rules, requiring that paper copies be mailed to a particular address. The Department of Natural Resources (Department) began using an electronic grant submission portal in 2020. This new method is easy and cost-effective. The proposed rules require that applications be submitted via a form or a method specified on the Department's website. This will enable the Department and grant applicants to utilize new systems as technology improves over time.

Finally, many grant programs have fixed deadlines set forth in rule (i.e., March 15). This prevents flexibility on grant deadlines even when extraordinary events may justify accommodations, such as the derecho and Covid-19, both of which were experienced within the last several years. The proposed amendments mirror existing language in 571--Chapter 30 that allows a submission deadline to be published on the Department's website with a least 90 days' notice. Notably, Chapter 30's publication-based framework has been successfully utilized for 14 years. The proposed rule would allow the Department to change a deadline when circumstances warrant, while still ensuring plenty of public notice.

Fiscal Impact

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

Jobs Impact

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

Waivers

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

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on November 22, 2022. Comments should be directed to:

Michelle Wilson
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building 502 E 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
Email: michelle.wilson@dnr.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held by conference call. Persons who wish to attend the conference call should contact Michelle Wilson at michelle.wilson@dnr.iowa.gov. A conference call number will be provided prior to the hearing. Persons who wish to make oral comments at the conference call public hearing must submit a request to Ms. Wilson prior to the hearing to facilitate an orderly hearing.

DATE: November 22, 2022 Conference call

TIME: 12:00pm – 1:00pm

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

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

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

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

The following rule-making action proposed:

WILDLIFE HABITAT

ITEM 1. Amend subrule 23.6(2) as follows:

Applications for funds shall be reviewed and selected for funding ~~during January and July of each year at least twice a year. The department shall publish on its website the date and time for submitting a funding proposal, providing at least 90 days' notice. Applications must be received in acceptable form by submitted to the department as described on the website Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319, by the close of business on the last business day of May for consideration at the summer review and the last business day of November for the winter review.~~ Changes to grant applications must be submitted to the department no later than 4 p.m. the day prior to the committee review date. Upon timely notice to eligible recipients, additional selection periods may be scheduled if necessary to expedite the distribution of these funds. In emergencies, local entities can obtain a waiver so that acquisition projects may

be approved for retroactive payments, provided that funds are available and the project meets all other criteria.

ITEM 2. Amend subrule 23.7(1) as follows:

A review and selection committee, hereinafter referred to as the committee, composed of one person appointed by the director to represent the department and designated by the director as chairperson and four persons appointed by the director to represent county conservation boards shall determine which grant applications and amendment requests shall be selected for funding. Additionally, there shall be at least two alternates designated

by the director to represent the county conservation boards in the event of a conflict of interest.

a. Conflict of interest. An individual who is a member, volunteer, or employee of a county conservation board that has submitted a project shall not serve on the scoring committee during that award cycle. Instead, one of the alternates shall review and score in their place.

LANDS AND WATERS CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 27.5(2) as follows:

The following information applies to local projects only. Grant applications and amendment requests which increase the existing grant amount shall be reviewed and selected for funding on an annual basis as provided in subrule 27.2(2). The department shall publish on its website the date and time for submitting a funding proposal, providing at least 90 days' notice. Applications must be submitted to the department as described on the website. Annual reviews shall be held in April on the day announced on the department's website. Applications must be received in acceptable form by the Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034, by the close of business on the work day closest to the fifteenth day of March.

ITEM 4. Amend subrule 27.6(1) as follows:

A five-member review and selection committee, hereinafter referred to as the committee, shall be composed of three staff members of the department as appointed by the director of the department, one member appointed by the director with input from the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards, and one member appointed by the director of the department with input from the Iowa League of Cities and the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association. Additionally, there shall be at least two alternates designated by the director with input from both associations and the league of cities. The committee shall determine which grant applications and amendment requests shall be selected for funding at the local level. A review and selection committee for state projects shall be composed of four staff members of the department as appointed by the director.

a. Conflict of interest. An individual who is a member, volunteer, or employee of an entity that has submitted a project shall not serve on the scoring committee during that award cycle. Instead, one of the alternates shall review and score in their place.

WATER RECREATION ACCESS COST-SHARE PROGRAM & LOW-HEAD DAMS

Division I – WRAC

ITEM 8. Rescind rule 571—30.8(452A) and adopt the following new rule in lieu thereof:

571—30.8(452A) Application procedures. Applications for funds shall be reviewed and selected for funding at least once a year. The department shall publish on its website the date and time for submitting a funding proposal, providing at least 90 days' notice. Applications must be submitted to the department as described on the website

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 452A.79A.

ITEM 9. Rescind and reserve rule 571—30.14(77GA,SF2381).

Division II: Low-head dams

ITEM 10. Amend rule 571—30.51(455A,461A,462A), definition of “*Scoring Committee*,” as follows: “Scoring committee” means the water trails scoring committee, which consists of the coordinator, two other department

staff members appointed by the director, and two representatives and two alternates of the water recreation community selected by the director.

ITEM 11. Amend rule 571—30.57(455A,461A,462A) as follows:

571—30.57(455A,461A,462A) Proposal evaluation. Proposals will be evaluated by the scoring committee. The scoring committee shall evaluate both water trails development program proposals and low-head dam public hazard program proposals.

30.57(1) Conflict of interest. An individual who is a member, volunteer, or employee of an entity that has submitted a project shall not serve on the scoring committee during that award cycle. Instead, one of the alternates shall review and score in their place.

REAP

ITEM 12. Amend subrule 33.5(2) as follows:

Applications for all grant programs shall be made on forms provided by the department. ~~An original and five copies shall be submitted by deadlines as specified in subrule 33.5(4) of this chapter or as otherwise published by the department.~~

ITEM 13. Amend subrule 33.5(4) as follows:

Application deadlines are the same for county, city, and private open space grant programs. Applications will be reviewed and projects selected for funding at least once a year one time each year in September. Applications must be received in acceptable form by the department at least daby the close of business on the fifteenth day of August. The department shall publish on its website the date and time for submitting a funding proposal, providing at least 90 days' notice. Applications must be submitted to the department as described on the website. Upon a 60-day notice to potential applicants, the department may schedule additional review and selection periods to expedite the distribution of grant funds.

ITEM 14. Amend subrule 33.30(3) as follows:

The makeup of this committee is as follows: two representatives of the department appointed by the director; two county conservation board directors appointed by the director of the department with input from the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards; one member selected every three years by a majority vote of the director's appointees. Additionally, there shall be at least two alternates designated by the director with input from the Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards. The members shall select a chairperson at the first meeting during each calendar year. Terms of appointment to the committee shall be on a three-year staggered term basis.

a. Conflict of interest. An individual who is a member, volunteer, or employee of an entity that has submitted a project shall not serve on the scoring committee during that award cycle. Instead, one of the alternates shall review and score in their place.

ITEM 15. Amend subrule 33.40(4) as follows:

The director shall appoint a five-member review and selection committee to evaluate project applications. This committee shall include one member representing each of the three size classes of cities (e.g., one from a city of less than 2,000, one from a city of 2,000 to 25,000, and one from a city of over 25,000). The director shall request a list of candidates from the league of Iowa cities and Iowa parks and recreation association. The remaining two members of the committee shall be a representative of the department and an at-large member. Additionally, there shall be at least two alternates designated by the director from the candidates list provided by the league of Iowa Cities and Iowa parks and recreation association. The committee shall elect its own chairperson from its members.

Members shall serve three-year staggered terms.

a. Conflict of interest. An individual who is a member, volunteer, or employee of an entity that has submitted a project shall not serve on the scoring committee during that award cycle. Instead, one of the alternates shall review and score in their place.

ITEM 16. Amend subrule 33.50(4) as follows:

The director shall appoint a committee to review and score projects. The committee shall include the following: three persons representing the private sector and two alternates selected from a pool of potential names

as submitted to the director by the various private eligible groups; administrator of the conservation and recreation division of the department, or the administrator's designee; and the bureau chiefs of the department's ~~forestry-wildlife~~ bureau and parks, ~~forests~~, and preserves bureau or their designees. The committee shall elect its own chairperson from its members. ~~The director shall request a list of candidates for the private sector members from groups eligible to participate in this program.~~ The committee will report to the director the order in which proposed projects were ranked using criteria as specified in 33.50(5).

a. Conflict of interest. An individual who is a member, volunteer, or employee of an entity that has submitted a project shall not serve on the scoring committee during that award cycle. Instead, one of the alternates shall review and score in their place.

FISH HABITAT

ITEM 17. Amend subrule 35.5(2) as follows:

Applications for funds shall be reviewed and selected for funding at least once a year during January of each year. The department shall publish on its website the date and time for submitting a funding proposal, providing at least 90 days' notice. Applications must be submitted to the department as described on the website. ~~The district designee shall receive an original application and six copies in acceptable form by the close of business on the last business day of November of the previous year for consideration. The district shall forward a copy of all applications to the department's designee by December 15 of the previous year.~~ Upon timely notice to eligible recipients, additional selection periods may be scheduled if necessary to expedite the distribution of funds. In emergencies, a county may request a waiver so that an acquisition project may be approved for retroactive payments if funds are available and the project meets all other criteria.

ITEM 18. Amend subrule 35.6(1) as follows:

Each district shall have a review and selection committee, hereinafter referred to as the committee. Each committee shall be composed of at least five county directors or their designees, with at least two designated alternates. Each district's committee shall determine which grant applications and amendment requests shall be selected for funding. For advisory purposes only, a department biologist or designee shall be present during review and selection of grant applications and amendment requests.

a. Conflict of interest. An individual who is a member, volunteer, or employee of an entity that has submitted a project shall not serve on the scoring committee during that award cycle. Instead, one of the alternates shall review and score in their place.

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

Decision Item

8. REAP City Parks and Open Space Grants (FY23)

The Department requests Commission approval of the recommendations from the Project Review and Selection Committee for REAP City Parks and Open Space Grants as directed by Iowa Administrative Code 571, Chapter 33.

Grant Purpose: The City Parks and Open Space account receives 15% of the REAP funds, after initial distributions are made as outlined in Chapter 33, for competitive grants to help cities establish natural areas, encouraging outdoor recreation and resource management. Three categories have been established to assure grants are distributed to all sizes of cities. Projects considered include development of parks, multi-purpose trails (emphasis on connecting existing trails), park shelters, lake or river shoreline restoration, fishing access, and habitat restoration.

Funding Source(s): Resource Enhancement And Protection Fund – City Park and Open Spaces

Grant Funding Available:

Category	City Population	Funding Available
Small Cities	less than 2,000	\$259,865
Medium Cities	between 2,000 and 25,000	\$623,673
Large Cities	larger than 25,000	\$848,888

Selection Committee Members: As directed by Chapter 33, applications are reviewed by a selection committee consisting of four non-DNR appointees and one DNR staff to ensure consistency with program policy and purposes.

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 33.40, the selection committee reviewed and scored all applications. Examples of criteria considered include the relationship to relevant regional and statewide programs based on comprehensive plans (i.e. SCORP, County Resource Enhancement Plan, or local, state and federal plans), quality of site for land acquisition projects, environmental benefits, public benefit, and local support.

Recommendation: The committee recommends funding the projects listed in the Project Allocation. In the event that any of the grantees are unable to execute their project, 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.

ALLOCATION SUMMARY				
CATEGORY	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED	# OF PROJECTS SCORED	PROJECTS RECOMMENDED FOR FUNDING
SMALL CITIES TOTALS	\$548,611	\$256,865	9	5
MEDIUM CITIES TOTALS	\$1,510,000	\$623,673	16	8
LARGE CITIES TOTALS	\$1,693,890	\$4848,888	8	5
DISTRIBUTION TOTALS	\$3,752,501	\$1,732,426	33	19

PROJECT ALLOCATIONS

REAP City Parks Open Spaces - SMALL CITIES - Population under 2,000

Ranked by Score	City Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
90	City of Lake Park	Tatanka Ska Trace - Phase IV(b)	Tatanka Ska Trace is a multi-phase project to convert the former railroad into a recreational trail that spans 37 miles across Dickinson and Osceola Counties. Phase IV(b) involves construction of a 10-foot wide concrete trail starting in the town of Montgomery and travels west 2.5 miles where it ends at 170th Avenue and joins Phase IV(c) that will be completed this year. This project is the final segment that will connect Lake Park to the entire Dickinson County Trails system.	\$75,000	\$75,000
89.4	City of Wellsburg	Wellsburg City Park Phase I	This application will complete phase I of a multi-phased, City Park enhancement project in Wellsburg, Iowa. Phase I includes the construction of a shelter, concrete pad, and two ADA-accessible picnic tables, as well as native trees and pollinators to create a city park arboretum. The park improvements will enhance the City's main park to encourage children, families, visitors, and all community members to spend more time outdoors.	\$50,000	\$50,000
85.8	City of Donnellson	Westview Park Trail - Phase I	A new 10-foot wide limestone multi-use trail will be constructed within the 28-acre Westview Park at the western edge of Donnellson. As the first in a 2-phase effort to create a trail loop around the park, this segment will extend 0.4 miles through the northwest quadrant of the park, branching off an existing paved trail which connects to a nearby neighborhood. Phase I also involves a new trailhead with parking, interpretive signage and native plantings.	\$50,000	\$50,000
85	City of Bouton	RRVT to HTT Connector Project - City of Bouton Phase	This project consists of the construction of a multi-use recreational paved trail section that is part of the overall 9-mile Raccoon River Valley Trail to High Trestle Trail Connector project. This City of Bouton Phase of the project includes a paved trail approximately 250 ft. long and the development of a Trailhead parking lot. This trail section and trailhead parking lot are located all within the City of Bouton. The trail will be 10 ft. wide concrete or asphalt and 6" thick.	\$50,000	\$50,000
83.2	City of West Point	8th Street-South Park Connector Trail	At the south end of West Point, a 450-foot long, 10-foot wide trail will be built to replace an existing 4-foot wide sidewalk. It will connect 8th Street to a 0.6-mile trail extending eastward from the City's South Park to Lee County Conservation's Pollmiller Park. Thus, it will provide safe, multimodal access to two public multi-use recreational facilities. In addition, an adjacent 0.25-acre plot in South Park will be seeded for native prairie plantings.	\$50,000	\$31,865
80.6	City of Marcus	Marcus Trail Plan-Phase I	Construction of a 1.4 mile, multi-use recreational trail to safely connect residential neighborhoods that are currently lacking sidewalks to amenities such as the elementary and high school campus, Little League	\$75,000	-0-

			athletic fields, high school football and baseball field, swimming pool, and the golf course area. This project will provide safe infrastructure for alternative transportation such as biking and walking, which will help alleviate congestion and pollution from unnecessary vehicle trips.		
80.4	City of Springville	Emmons Park Trail	Quarter-mile PCC Trail that will complete the Emmons Park trail network. The Trail will meander through a forest and around a water quality feature. Project will also include plantings and other amenities.	\$75,000	-0-
70.8	City of Roland	Jacobson Bear Creek Park Trail	Provide the community with a trail through a natural area to enjoy the outdoors while still having access to different activities. Provide individuals no matter their limitations easy access to a community gathering area.	\$73,611	-0-
60.4	City of Sabula	Maude Brooks Park Renovation	The Maude Brooks Park was donated by the family of the late Maude Brooks. It housed a rustic fence, 2 small shelters with benches and a fountain which was beautiful at night because of its colored lights. Over time, the park lost its glory and the fountain was removed. We would like to restore the park back to its grand state, by replacing the fountain, adding new walkways and benches and ADA compliant sidewalks and ramps.	\$50,000	-0-
SMALL CITIES TOTAL				\$548,611	\$256,865

REAP City Parks Open Spaces - MEDIUM CITIES - Population between 2,000 and 25,000

Ranked by Score	City Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
99.2	City of Coralville	Coralville Forest Restoration Project - Dovetail and Colony Open Space Areas	The Coralville Forest Restoration Project seeks to address non-native invasive species in forests in the Dovetail Recreation Area and Colony Open Space Area and to manage stands in a way that encourages native tree populations. Phase I is this request and it will focus on removal of understory growth by manually removing and treating invasive species such as honeysuckle, oriental bittersweet, , multiflora rose, burning bush, white mulberry, and barberry on 62 acres of public lands.	\$100,000	\$100,000
97.6	City of New Hampton	New Hampton Multi-Use Path, Phase 3 of 3	This application will complete the last phase of the New Hampton Multi-Use Path. The project includes one mile of paved trail, native seeding, and plantings to be located between South Linn Ave and the Chickasaw Wellness Center and New Hampton school complex. The new trail will connect existing multi-use paths on the eastern and western sides of the community, resulting in a 5.5-mile cross-city multi-use path for walking, bicycling, and other non-motorized activities.	\$75,000	\$75,000
94.4	City of Prairie City	Red Rock Prairie Trail Paving from Prairie City to Mitchellville	The proposed project will extend Red Rock Prairie Trail by seven paved miles on a former railbed from the edge of Prairie City near Commerce Drive to the edge of Mitchellville at NE 116th Street. This stretch of the trail is located on the former Iowa Interstate	\$75,000	\$75,000

			Railroad which Jasper County Conservation has already secured.		
96.6	City of Mitchellville	Red Rock Prairie Trail Paving from Prairie City to Mitchellville	The proposed project will extend Red Rock Prairie Trail by seven paved miles on the railbed from the edge of Prairie City near Commerce Drive to the edge of Mitchellville at NE 116th Street. This stretch of the trail is located on the former Iowa Interstate Railroad which Jasper County Conservation has already secured.	\$75,000	\$75,000
93.2	City of Clarion	Clarion Greenway Connection	The Clarion Greenway Connection will provide additional opportunities for outdoor recreation and an alternative way for residents and visitors to travel between Lake Cornelia and Clarion. The project will be a city-owned paved trail and will restore native prairie and reduce agricultural runoff into White Fox Creek. Full funding from REAP for this project is vital for the acquisition of 7.29 acres and is crucial to the development of a trail corridor for Clarion.	\$75,000	\$75,000
91.4	City of Epworth	Tower Park Improvements	Improvements to the park include expanding a concrete patio from the existing enclosed pavilion, adding lighting, terracing a hillside for amphitheater seating, and a native plant bed. The terracing will involve segmented block retaining walls, railings, steps, and areas for seating. The proposed project includes installing a 4' wide band of permeable pavers along the base of the retaining wall to provide stormwater detention for the additional impervious area.	\$75,000	\$75,000
91.2	City of Grimes	Grimes Greenway Phase 2	This is an acquisition of approximately 13.3 acres of naturalized area located in the Far Southwest Planning Area (FSP), identified in the Grimes Parks Master Plan. The FSP identifies the preservation of a linear greenway, internally recognized as the Grimes Greenway. The preservation of the naturalized area will provide for a trail/open space corridor, which activates the future adjoining residential developments, while also ensuring the local waterways and other natural features are protected	\$125,000	\$125,000
91.2	City of Bondurant	Park Side to Bondurant Recreational Sports Complex/Lake Petocka Trail Connection	The City is proposing to construct an approximate 1100ft-long by 10ft-wide paved trail connection linking the Park Side and Featherstone neighborhoods to the Bondurant Recreational Sports Complex/Lake Petocka park areas. This trail project will have two distinct project areas, one will be the project area described as part of this current REAP application, while the other project area is associated with the already-awarded LWCF grant fund project.	\$100,000	\$23,673
83.8	City of Fort Madison	Connecting Fort Madison! Phase IV - 48th Street Connector Trail	The fourth in a multi-phase trail construction effort on the west side of Fort Madison, this project involves a new 0.4-mile segment of 10-foot wide trail along 48th Street between Avenue L and River Valley Road. It will close a strategic gap between two recently built trail segments, resulting in a continuous trail system that provides access to Ivanhoe Park, the Baxter Sports Complex, Fort Madison Middle School, and the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center.	\$125,000	-0-

83	City of Conrad	Conrad South Main Trail Extension	The proposed project will extend Comet Trail to the South on Main Street, providing access to residential neighborhoods and the golf course. In addition to the trail extension, the project proposes the development of a trailhead on the north side of Wolf Creek. The trailhead would be constructed of natural elements and create a natural space for resting, relaxing, picnicking, and environmental education. The construction of the trailhead area will also act as a community-building event.	\$75,000	-0-
82.6	City of Tipton	Tipton High School to City Portion of the Sissel-Behrle Memorial Trail	Phase 1 extends 1900ft from Tipton High School to the City Park/Aquatic Center. The paved 10ft-wide trail will connect numerous amenities while making a safe walking/bicycle route along a busy Hwy 130, and provide an alternative way for public access to School athletic events. Sissel-Behrle Memorial Trail is named in memory of two young Tipton men who died in military service and our catalyst trail.	\$75,000	-0-
81.6	City of Huxley	Reestablishing the Heart of the Prairie Where the Sidewalk Ends	The Jefferson Line Connector Trail will connect local/regional trail users from the Heart of Iowa Nature Trail through Huxley to the north city limits. It will be adjacent to services including grocery/convenience and restaurants, and provide important connectivity to recreation, public library and schools. This 600' section establishes a prairie and closes a gap in connectivity complementing private investment on other trail sections and connects our new and long term neighborhoods.	\$135,000	-0-
79	City of Oelwein	Oelwein Municipal Urban Trail - Segment 2	This trail segment is an integral part of the Oelwein Municipal Urban Trail System connecting the two sides of town. Trail segment 2 will be a mixture of off-road construction consisting of eight-foot-wide Concrete trails and on road markings. This extension will create a dedicated continuous trail from the far west side of town to several parks, downtown, sports complex, Oelwein Family Aquatic Center and the entire school system located on the east side of town.	\$100,000	-0-
74.8	City of Altoona	Altoona's South Spring Creek Lake Shoreline Protection	The City of Altoona would like to initiate the development of the Spring Creek land, and this project would kickstart the first phase of this area. The purpose of the project is to stabilize and protect the shoreline on the south lake at Spring Creek, from wind and wave action. This project will reduce siltation amongst the edges of the lake, extending the longevity of the water source by preventing erosion to the shoreline.	\$125,000	-0-
68.2	City of Onawa	Central Park	The project is a multi-use community area consisting of a 4-phase effort including 1) initial preparation 2) Utilities 3) focal point/amenities 4) Landscaping/adult & juvenile apparatus. We are seeking funding to assist with the completion of phase 2 and 3 in the amount of \$75,000.00.	\$75,000	-0-
64.6	City of Denison	City of Denison Safe Trail Project	The City of Denison is applying for REAP funds to build a new trail called The Weiss Family Trail that will connect the northern subdivision of Denison with Denison High School and Denison Middle School. This	\$100,000	-0-

			trail's purpose is to help give kids a safe walking route for going to and from school.		
MEDIUM CITIES TOTAL				\$1,510,000	\$623,673

REAP City Parks Open Spaces - LARGE CITIES - Population larger than 25,000

Ranked by Score	City Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
112.5	City of Ames	McDorman Property Acquisition for New Community Park	The project includes the acquisition of 48-acres of land on the west edge of Ames for a new community park. The McDorman property features a portion of Clear Creek, 12-acre prairie CRP (Conservation Reserve Program), 32 acres of upland, and a 4-acre building site with the homestead and deteriorating buildings. The family has envisioned permanent conservation of the land for many years and have decided now is the time to sell it to the City of Ames.	\$200,000	\$200,000
107	City of Iowa City	Hickory Hill Park Ecological Restoration Phase III	Hickory Hill Park is a 185-acre City park established in 1967. This project will be phase III of ecological restoration and build from previous restoration accomplished through REAP funding, capital projects, and many years of volunteer efforts. The project will consist of improvements to woodland and savanna habitat on 53.5 acres and improvement of three stream crossings for better recreation, emergency, and maintenance access.	\$200,000	\$200,000
104.4	City of Waterloo	Greenbelt Lake Improvements Phase 2 of 2	Phase Two of the Greenbelt Lake Improvements project includes a kayak launch, 20ft x 28ft shelter, interpretive signage around the perimeter of the lake and pollinator planting, information kiosk, dolomite park identification sign, and park entrance sidewalk from the parking lot to the existing paved path.	\$193,890	\$193,890
103.2	City of Marion	Land Acquisition of Lucore Road Property	Purchase of five acres of the 17 total acres for future parkland. The surrounding area will be consumed with urban sprawl in less than a decade. This would be the only public ground in the area with the next closest being 1.5 miles away and the next over 2 miles. The future parkland will be passive and implement native conservation practices while bringing outdoor recreation to the neighborhood.	\$150,000	\$150,000
101.2	City of Sioux City	Land Acquisition - Big Sioux River Campground Development Project	The City of Sioux City will use grant funds to purchase 16.14 acres of land, adjacent to the Big Sioux River on a flood plain at the base of the First Bluffs of the Loess Hills, for development as a 51-campsite RV Campground. The campground will be developed in partnership with the Sioux City Railroad Museum, with land ownership remaining with the City of Sioux City.	\$300,000	\$104,998
98.8	City of Urbandale	Walker Johnston Park Creek Access, Outdoor Classroom and Reforestation Project	Proposed is a creek access point, outdoor classroom, and reforestation along North Walnut Creek in Walker Johnston Regional Park. These features would increase access to outdoor recreation and education opportunities and restore a wooded area that is losing trees due to age, disease and weather. The project includes features such as limestone stair creek access, interpretive signage, an outdoor classroom/learning space and accessible trail, and restoration of the wooded greenbelt.	\$150,000	-0-

94.2	City of Davenport	Credit Island Lagoon Restoration	This project will restore a walking path through the wooded area around the lagoon at Credit Island Nature Preserve and Park. It will also restore habitat for the Pink Turtlehead, which is an endangered species per the State of Iowa. The final phase of the project will establish native pollinator mix areas in the existing Disc Golf Course.	\$300,000	-0-
92.75	City of West Des Moines	Athene Pedestrian Bridge	The grant application is for the Athene Pedestrian Bridge located in the City of West Des Moines. The Athene Pedestrian Bridge is part of the city's Five Waters Project, an initiative focused on protecting and enhancing the Raccoon River Greenway Corridor and other waterways in West Des Moines while providing residents and visitors with new and exciting ways to experience and explore the outdoors. The new bridge will link Raccoon River Park to Walnut Woods State Park.	\$200,000	-0-
				\$1,693,890	\$848,888

Michelle Wilson, REAP Coordinator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item

9. REAP County Grants (FY23)

The Department requests Commission approval of the recommendations of the Project Review and Selection Committee for REAP County grants as directed by Iowa Administrative Code 571, Chapter 33.

Grant Purpose: The county conservation account receives 20% of the REAP funds. After initial distributions outlined in Chapter 33, 40% of the remaining funds are available for competitive grants to counties for increasing outdoor recreation opportunities, land protection, capital improvements, stabilization and protection of resources, repair and upgrading of facilities, environmental education, and equipment. This money is available to counties, only if they are dedicating at least 22¢ per \$1,000 of the assessed value of taxable property in the county for county conservation purposes.

Funding Source(s): Resource Enhancement And Protection Fund – County Conservation Account

Grant Funding Available: \$893,000

Selection Committee Members: As directed by Chapter 33, applications are reviewed by a committee consisting of three non-DNR appointees and two DNR staff to ensure consistency with program policy and purposes.

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 33.30, the selection committee reviewed and scored all applications. Examples of criteria considered include quality of site and project, public need, urgency of project, multiple use potential, and economic benefit.

Recommendation: The committee recommends funding for four projects listed in the table. In the event that any of the grantees are unable to execute their project, 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.

REAP County Projects					
Ranked by Score	County Applicant	Project Name	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
136.0	Marshall	Mann Wetlands Acquisition	MCCB is requesting \$916,891 to acquire the Mann Wetlands, 216.31 acres located in Marshall County between the towns of Albion and Marshalltown. Mann Wetlands is 216.31 acres of wetland, grassland, oxbow, river, and forest habitats, with a portion of the land row cropped. 99% of the property lies in the FEMA 100-year floodplain of the Iowa River, and half of the property lies within the 5-year floodplain.	\$916,891	\$893,000
135.2	Lucas	Chariton River Greenbelt Addition	This acquisition will add 365-acres to the Chariton River Greenbelt which will provide a contiguous corridor of river protection totaling 35,397 acres, making it the second largest contiguous greenbelt in Iowa.	\$812,000	-0-
128.5	Des Moines	Shanstrom Addition to	This project is for the acquisition of 19.44 acres of bottomland hardwood at	\$76,596	-0-

		Hickory Bend	Hickory Bend Conservation Area along Flint Creek, a site that includes documented presence of Indiana Bats.		
124.0	Dickinson	Little Sioux Savanna Addition	This project is for the acquisition of 161 acres adjacent to the County owned Little Sioux Savanna, preserving a rare oak savanna and protecting almost one-half mile of the Little Sioux River. The addition will allow for ecosystem protection, habitat conservation, cropland restoration to pollinator habitat and recreational opportunities.	\$590,000	-0-
120.2	Pottawattamie	Mt. Crescent Ski Area Addition to Hitchcock Nature Center	This request is for \$600,000 to purchase 106 acres containing remnant Loess Hills prairie, bur oak woodland, and downhill skiing to add to Hitchcock Nature Center. Private and federal dollars (totaling \$2.9 million) will acquire the infrastructure and equipment affiliated with the Ski Area. REAP funds will only be used for land acquisition.	\$600,000	-0-
110.4	Plymouth	Newberg Addition to Hillview Recreation Area	This project is for the purchase of 305 acres adjacent to Hillview Recreation Area, composed of native grasses, Bur Oak timber & converted agricultural land.	\$150,000	-0-
105.4	Polk	Fourmile Creek Park	This project is for the acquisition and restoration of 38.46 acres in the City of Alleman to create a new public conservation area - Fourmile Creek Park. Restoration includes prairie and woodland work, and the creation of public recreational amenities that will allow local residents and visitors to enjoy the outdoors in a new public greenspace.	\$500,000	-0-
105.2	Linn	Sieck Acquisition	This acquisition will protect vital cultural and natural resources as well as add to the Cedar River Greenbelt with its important water quality and flood water storage benefits. Acquisition will include 129 acres of floodplain and upland forest including Native American mounds and habitat close to known locations of Central Newt and Blue-spotted Salamander.	\$500,000	-0-
93.4	Buchanan	Lakeside-Prairie Campground and Bison & Prairie Learning Trail	This project develops a new Lakeside-Prairie Campground and Bison & Prairie Learning Trail in Buchanan County's most popular park. The campground and trail connect, and uniquely provide universal use connections to enhanced,	\$362,194	-0-

			extended-stay opportunities for people to engage with natural areas, educational amenities, and healthy outdoor recreation, and connections via a trail system used by all park visitors.		
81.6	Clayton	Osborne Campground	This new construction will return camping amenities to the Clayton County Conservation and Iowa Welcome Center at Osborne Park. It will include twenty full-hookup sites, seven tent sites, a showerhouse, and a sanitary station. A previous campground was removed from the floodplain after several high water events, and the Conservation Board has chosen to relocate and develop the modern campground above the Volga River floodplain at Osborne.	\$140,000	-0-
73.6	Clarke	Clarke County Conservation Education Building	This project is for the development of a space for community events and conservation programming. The conservation education building will include a banquet room, a kitchen, office space, and an open shelter deck. It will be located just south of the campground.	\$250,000	-0-
				\$4,897,681	\$893,000

Michelle Wilson, REAP Coordinator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item

10. REAP Private Public Cost-share Grants (FY23)

The Department requests Commission approval of the recommendations from the Project Review and Selection Committee for the REAP Public/Private Cost-share grants as directed by Iowa Administrative Code 571, Chapter 33.

Grant Purpose: Open Space funds (28% of REAP funds) are allocated to DNR for state acquisition and development of lands and waters. One-tenth of this 28% is set aside to cost-share land acquisitions with private organizations. The cost-share arrangement entails 75% of the acquisition costs coming from REAP and the other 25% coming from private contributions. This program provides an excellent opportunity to cost share with private entities for the purchase of high-quality natural areas that become public property. The DNR manages the property that is jointly purchased.

Funding Source(s): Resource Enhancement And Protection Fund - Private/Public Cost Share

Grant Funding Available: \$597,761

Selection Committee Members: As directed by Chapter 33, applications are reviewed by a selection committee consisting of three representatives of private organizations and three DNR staff to ensure consistency with program policy and purposes.

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 33.50, the selection committee reviewed all applications. Examples of criteria considered include relation to public land, relationship to relevant regional and statewide programs, rare or unique species communities, public benefits, tourism and economic development potential, and multiple use potential.

Recommendation: The committee recommends funding the project listed in the table. Any unused funds will revert to the grant program for distribution in the next grant cycle.

REAP Public-Private Cost Share Projects				
Grant Applicant	Project Name, County	Project Description	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
The Nature Conservancy in Iowa	Dennison tract acquisition in Broken Kettle Bird Conservation Area	The Dennison tract consists of high-quality native timber and remnant tallgrass prairie. Protection of this property would, via a combination of publicly and privately-protected lands, help establish a corridor of permanently protected Loess Hills habitat that extends from War Eagle Park in Sioux City through Stone State Park, Five Ridge Prairie State Preserve and The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Broken Kettle Grasslands Preserve near Westfield. This corridor now encompasses over 12,000 acres.	\$240,000	\$240,000
TOTALS			\$240,000	\$240,000

Michelle Wilson, REAP Coordinator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item

11. Contract with Iowa State University (Shovelnose Sturgeon Research)

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Iowa State University of Ames, Iowa.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$135,401

Dates: January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2025

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

Contract Purpose: Shovelnose Sturgeon populations exist in Iowa's sections of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, and in interior rivers, such as the Cedar, Des Moines, and Iowa rivers. Despite their broad distribution in Iowa's rivers, Shovelnose Sturgeon are listed as a species of greatest conservation need in Iowa's State Wildlife Action Plan due to threats of habitat degradation and overexploitation, primarily from commercial fishing. The Shovelnose Sturgeon is the only sturgeon species that is still harvested commercially for roe (caviar) in North America and the Upper Mississippi River is one of only a few places in the U.S. where they can be commercially harvested.

Shovelnose Sturgeon have a reproductive strategy that makes them particularly vulnerable to overfishing (long lifespan but they do not spawn annually). Harvest rates of Shovelnose Sturgeon vary considerably over time and are sensitive to caviar demand globally. Therefore, effective management of this species requires close monitoring so changes in population status can be detected quickly. The DNR has conducted annual sampling of Shovelnose Sturgeon at a spawning site at Palisades-Kepler State Park in the Cedar River since 2006, resulting in over 20,000 tagged fish and 944 recaptures. Preliminary examination of the data indicates that this river is likely an important source for the Mississippi River sturgeon fishery and this population exhibits some distinct attributes relative to others in the basin. For example, extremely slow growth (less than 1/4 of an inch per year) suggests that the population may be comprised of many old slow growing individuals.

This contract is for a three-year research project at Iowa State University to complete this analysis to:

- 1) Develop incremental growth models using mark-recapture data for Shovelnose Sturgeon in the Cedar River;
- 2) Develop mark-recapture models to estimate annual survival rates of Shovelnose Sturgeon in the Cedar River; and
- 3) Compile results and management recommendations in Final Report for DNR.

The backbone of these models are three dynamic-rate functions: recruitment, growth, and mortality. Estimating these demographic parameters for long-lived fish that are difficult to age using traditional methods can be problematic so more advanced and time-consuming methods must be used. The mark-recapture dataset gathered from these sampling efforts by the DNR has provided a unique opportunity to quantify the dynamic rate functions that are imperative to accurately monitor this population and species.

This in-depth analysis of these data is needed to develop population models that can be used to ensure fishing regulations are sufficient to ensure sustainable management of harvested fishes and avoid overexploitation.

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

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item (*indicates proposed consent)

***12. Timber Sale Contract with Kendrick, Inc. (Big Mill WMA) – Jackson County**

Commission approval is requested for a timber sale contract with Kendrick, Inc. of Edgewood, IA, for Big Mill Wildlife Management Area

Contract Terms

Income: \$25,484

Dates: 11/01/22 to 03/31/24

Fund Deposited to: Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

Contract Purpose: This contract will facilitate a hardwood timber harvest of an estimated 53,540 board feet in 252 mixed hardwood trees at Big Mill Wildlife Management Area in Jackson County. An even-aged management system will be used in accordance with the Big Mill Forest Stewardship plan to allow sunlight to stimulate the growth of oak seedlings already present on the site. A natural areas inventory was conducted and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest area. Harvesting and regenerating this stand will improve the overall health and vigor of the forest.

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

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

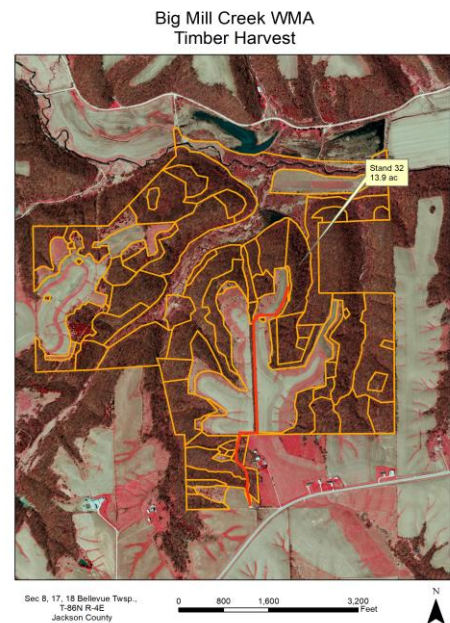
Date bids received: 8/18/22

Number of Bids Received: 2

Recommendation: Kendrick, Inc.

Bidder	City, State	Amount of Bid
Kendrick, Inc.	Edgewood, IA	\$25,484.00
Brian Steines Logging, Inc.	Bellevue, IA	\$22,610.00

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022



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

Decision Item (*indicates proposed consent)

***13. Timber Sale Contract with Ben Bruggeman (YRSF) – Allamakee County**

Commission approval is requested for a timber sale contract with Ben Bruggeman of Monticello, IA, for Yellow River State Forest.

Contract Terms

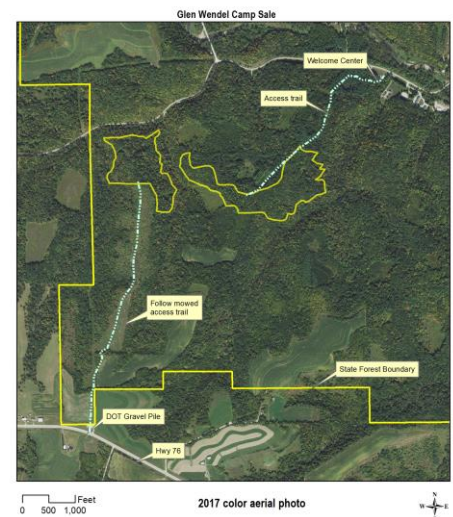
Income: \$99,380.00

Dates: 11/01/22 to 03/15/2024

Fund Deposited to: Conservation Fund - Forestry

Contract Purpose: This contract will facilitate a hardwood timber harvest of an estimated 193,580 board feet in 864 mixed hardwood trees at Yellow River State Forest in Allamakee County. This timber harvest will remove trees in a mixed hardwood stand, which will help to create and maintain an uneven-aged stand structure with well-developed mid-story and understory canopy layers which will benefit certain wildlife species. A natural areas inventory was conducted and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest areas. Harvesting and regenerating this stand will help improve the overall health and vigor of the forest.

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



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

Date bids received: 9/20/22

Number of Bids Received: 3

Recommendation: Ben Bruggeman

Bidder	City, State	Amount of Bid
Ben Bruggeman	Monticello, IA	\$99,380.00
Dan Jones Logging	Waterville, IA	\$68,250.00
Jones Wood Heating and Logging	McGregor, IA	\$65,000.00

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item

14. Contract with Mechanical Comfort, Inc.

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Mechanical Comfort, Inc., of Ames, IA.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$116,475.00

Dates: November 1, 2022 to May 1, 2023

Funding Source(s): REAP Open Spaces

Contract Purpose: The DNR State Forest Nursery has three large coolers for the cold storage of trees and seeds, which are used most of the year. The newest cooler was constructed in the early 1990's. The oldest two coolers are original to the building and were constructed in the mid-1970's. The cooling systems in the oldest coolers are outdated, inefficient, and are often broken down awaiting expensive repairs.

This contract will replace the old equipment in the two oldest coolers. Each cooler is equipped with two cooling systems consisting of a condenser and an evaporator along with all associated electrical, piping, and drain systems. One condenser and one evaporator were recently replaced. This contract will replace the remaining three evaporator units and one condenser unit along with all associated electrical, piping and draining systems. This will include the removal and disposal of the old units and the installation of new units. The contractor will be responsible for the startup, testing, calibration and certification of each cooling system to ensure the coolers are back in service. Since each cooler has two cooling systems, the work can be completed without completely shutting down either cooler.

Process Summary: The Department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and also published a Request for Bids on the Department of Administrative Services website. Criteria reviewed included ability to complete the work and cost.

Proposal Due Date: September 20, 2022

of Proposals Received: 1

Recommendation: Mechanical Comfort, Inc.

Bidder	Location	Amount
Mechanical Comfort, Inc.	Ames, IA	\$116,475.00

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

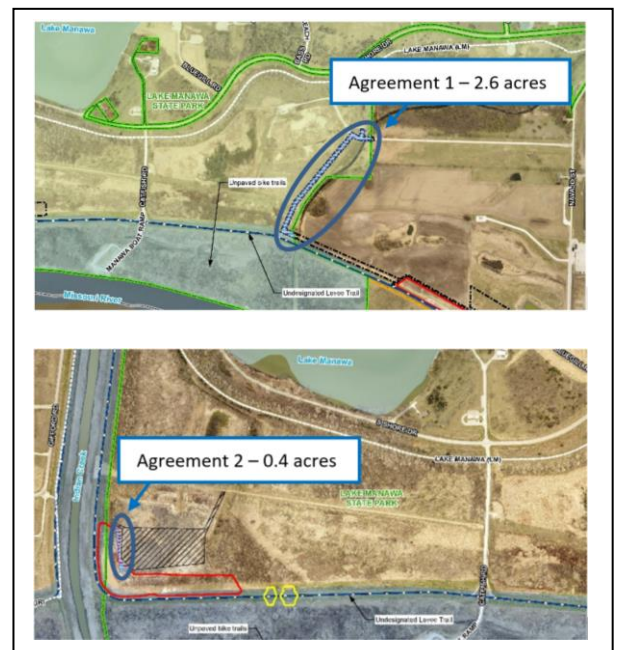
Decision Item (* indicates proposed consent item)

***15. Public Land Management Project: Management Agreements, Lake Manawa State Park Levee – Pottawattamie County – Council Bluffs**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve two management agreements with the City of Council Bluffs for the care and maintenance of two levee areas on the south side of Lake Manawa State Park adjacent to the Missouri River.

Location: Lake Manawa State Park is located on the south side of the City of Council Bluffs.

Site Purpose: The City of Council Bluffs and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are engaged in a large levee project, of which three acres of the levee, in two sections, are located on the south side of Lake Manawa State Park adjacent to the Missouri River. For the two sections (2.6 acre segment and 0.4 acre segment), an agreement for each section transfers the care and maintenance of the sections to the City of Council Bluffs. In collaboration with the USACE, the care and maintenance of the sections are to meet certification requirements of Federal Emergency Management Agency located in 44CFR65.10, and to reduce the number of relief wells in operation along the levee system. Examples of proposed work includes the installation of a seepage berm along the landward side of the levee, and to abandon or replace multiple drainage structures in the levee segments.



Management Agreement Term: The term of the management agreements with the City of Council Bluffs is in perpetuity, unless mutually terminated.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item

16. Public Land Acquisition Projects

16.1 Green Island Wildlife Management Area, Jackson County – Doring Corporation

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: Doring Corporation

Acreage: 160 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$317,000

Appraised Value: \$317,000

Property Description: This property is located seven 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. The entire property will be seeded to native grasses following harvest of the existing row crops. There are no building improvements. The Maquoketa River fronts the north end of the property. The tract is bordered along the west by US HWY 52, bisected by a county, gravel road, and bordered along the east by a county, surface-coated road.

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): \$90,000 Conserving the Upper Mississippi Migration Corridor II NAWCA, \$227,300 Wildlife Habitat Stamp.

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

16.2 Kirke Woods Wildlife Management Area, Madison County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

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

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 240 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$950,000

Appraised Price: \$1,008,000

Property Description: This L-shaped property is located two miles northwest of Bevington in northeastern Madison County. The steep to near level tract lies within and upslope from the North River floodplain. Over 80 percent of the property lies within the floodplain, and the North River meanders through the tract a distance of approximately one mile. Land use includes 14 acres of food plots in two irregular-shaped fields, and the balance reflecting oak timber, grassland, wetlands, creek tributaries, and the North River. There are no building improvements. Access is provided by a 30-foot wide easement for ingress/egress extending west from a county gravel road.

Purpose: This acquisition resides in close proximity to the Des Moines metro area, contains a diversity of habitat types and will allow for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities. A Forest Wildlife Stewardship Plan and prairie reconstruction will be completed as the Wildlife Bureau will oversee management of the property.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): Federal Pittman-Robertson

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

16.3 Riverton Wildlife Management Area, Fremont County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to accept the donation of a tract of land located in Fremont County adjacent Riverton Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Donor: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 83 acres

Property Description: This property is located two miles south of Riverton in south central Fremont County. The near level tract is encumbered by a permanent Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) easement, except for a two-acre building site at the south end of the property. Grassland and trees cover the landscape. Mill Creek borders along the west half of the south boundary of the tract. There is a concrete block house and garage on the property of no value, both of which will be salvaged. Access is provided by a county, gravel road that bisects the property.

Purpose: This donation will allow for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities as part of the larger WMA. Invasive trees will be cleared from the tract to enhance the grassland complex, and the potential exists to enhance the wetlands on the site.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

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

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief

Conservation and Recreation Division

NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item

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

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

Grant Purpose: The purpose of the Water Trails Development Program Grant is to offer funds to water trails infrastructure projects, such as water accesses, parking areas, restrooms, and paddlecraft campsites. Eligible applicants include any local divisions of Iowa government. Although Code does not require cost-share for Development projects, it is strongly encouraged. This grant cycle advertised a 20% minimum cost-share from the applicant. As outlined in rule, grants are issued at least annually if funding is available. The last grants were approved in February 2022.

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

Grant Funding Available: \$500,000

Summary of Selection Process: As directed by criteria under Chapter 30, the grant review and selection committee met on August 31, 2022, to evaluate and score applications and to provide recommendations for the grant awards.

Number of Applications Received: 6

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

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

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

DEVELOPMENT GRANT					
Ranked by Score	Grant Applicant	Project Description	Total Project Cost	Grant Amount Requested	Recommended Award
1	City of Evansdale	Construction of a new concrete boat ramp, parking lot and access road in the town of Evansdale (suburb of Waterloo) along the Cedar River near River Road. Currently there is no developed access, just a steep, muddy, uneven path down to the river. This access will allow motorboats to launch as well as paddlecraft.	\$337,320	\$262,320	\$262,320
2	Mitchell County Conservation	Partial construction of three water accesses, two of which are universally designed and accessible for aging populations, families with children and those with mobility impairments.	\$1,289,210	\$350,000	\$237,680
3	City of Estherville	Construction of a new access and parking area at Midway Access Area along the West Fork Des Moines River Water Trail in Emmet County. This project includes a concrete launch and gravel parking with five stalls for vehicles (1 handicapped) and three stalls for vehicles with trailers.	\$278,000	\$191,640	
4	City of Fort Dodge	Construction of a new concrete carry-down access and medium sized parking lot at Loomis Park in downtown Fort Dodge.	\$223,000	\$178,400	0

5	Jackson County Conservation	Much needed improvements for Bridgeport Access on the Maquoketa River Water Trail near the city of Maquoketa. It's a heavily used access that currently has a steep, uneven natural path down to the river. This phase of the project constructs a concrete ramp only.	\$72,920	\$53,920	0
6	City of Harlan	Construction of a new river access at Highway 44 in the city of Harlan, along the West Nishnabotna River. This amount funds the final need for the project. Project includes concrete ramp, a turn-around lane, staging area, parking lot, and access road.	\$359,950	\$287,960	0
DEVELOPMENT GRANT TOTALS			2,560,400	\$1,324,240	\$500,000

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item

18. Contract Amendment-2 with Rachel Contracting, LLC (Otter Creek Lake)

Commission approval is requested for a service contract amendment with Rachel Contracting, LLC, of Michael, Minnesota.

Amendment-2

Terms:

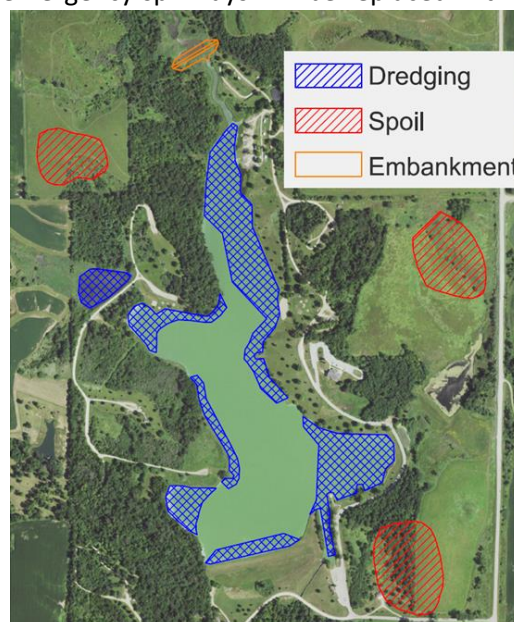
Amendment Amount: \$147,988.45

Amendment Dates: October 14, 2022 to November 30, 2023

Funding Source(s): Lake Restoration Program

Amendment Purpose: The purpose of this amendment is to modify the original wetland water control structure. The wetland water control structure is an earthen embankment located immediately upstream of the lake. The original design consisted of a typical pond design, with a 12" diameter high-density polyethylene principal spillway and an open channel emergency spillway. The principal and emergency spillways will be replaced with an 80' wide weir and a lower embankment height. This change in design will allow for construction without obtaining a permanent flowage easement from the upstream neighbor while providing significant sediment storage and water quality protection to the lake.

Original Contract Purpose: In 2019, Tama County Conservation Board and DNR hired FYRA Engineering, Inc. to evaluate proposed watershed practices and provide a design and planning budget for a restoration project at Otter Creek Lake. This project consists of removing approximately 170,000 cubic yards of deposited sediment and native soil, armoring approximately 7,270 linear feet of shoreline, constructing a wetland water control structure, stabilizing approximately 1,000 linear feet of stream bottom, and placing fish habitat structures in various location in the lake. Sediment is being removed from the lake to improve water quality and improve in-lake habitat.



Original Selection Process: The Department used a formal competitive bid process pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 26 and Iowa Administrative Code 561-8.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$3,425,371.60; Timeframe: November 10, 2021 to June 30, 2021

Amendment 1 Terms: Amount: \$289,045.50; Timeframe: September 23, 2022 to November 30, 2023;

Purpose: Cost and time adjustment due to permitting

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: October 13, 2022

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

Decision Item (*indicates proposed consent item)

19. Construction Projects

19.1 Lake Macbride State Park North Shore Parking Lot Extension – Johnson County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Lake Macbride State Park was opened to the public in 1937. It is Iowa's largest state park, adjacent to Coralville Lake, and located near Cedar Rapids and Iowa City. Its 2,180 acres offers a variety of outdoor activities. Amenities include a 900 acre lake, hiking trails, a multi-use trail that connects to the City of Solon, ADA accessible playground, swimming beach, concessions, 7 boat ramps, ADA accessible fishing pier, fishing jetties, a fish cleaning station, a day use lodge, 4 shelters, modern restrooms and showers, and camping (one group campsite, 32 electric, 11 full hook up, and 56 non electric).

This project will expand the parking lot at the North Shore boat ramp to accommodate the increase in demand for access to the lake. Vehicle-plus-trailer parking spaces will increase from 21 spaces to 40 spaces, and three single vehicle parking spaces will be added. The new pavement will be concrete placed over a rock base.



Engineering Project #: 22-06-52-01

Cost Estimate: \$282,000

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: Federal Coast Guard – Boat Safety

Bid Letting Date: 09/22/2022

Construction Completion Date: 09/29/2023

Number of Bids Received: 11

Bidders

Eastern Iowa Excavating & Concrete LLC	Cascade, IA	\$198,987.90
Triple B Construction	Wilton, IA	\$221,990.50
BWC, Inc.	Solon, IA	\$230,074.25
Midwest Concrete, Inc.	Peosta, IA	\$236,837.00
Boomerang Corp of Iowa	Anamosa, IA	\$247,777.00
All American Concrete, Inc.	West Liberty, IA	\$248,423.00
Rathje Construction Co.	Marion, IA	\$249,374.00
Tschiggfrie Excavating	Dubuque, IA	\$257,818.50
Bockenstedt Excavating, Inc.	Iowa City, IA	\$264,994.25
Jasper Construction Services	Newton, IA	\$285,391.50
OEL Construction Services, Inc.	Steamboat Rock, IA	\$294,355.25

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Eastern Iowa Excavating & Concrete LLC.

19.2 Lake Ahquabi State Park, Beach and Shelter Restrooms – Warren County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

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

Lake Ahquabi State Park's Beach Shelter area was originally built by the CCC in the 1930's and underwent a renovation and redesign in 1998. The current restroom facilities are undersized especially with the crowds of busy holiday weekends. The existing restroom facilities will be expanded by adding a new four-stall restroom to the existing concession building near the beach area, and the existing four stall restroom in the beach shelter complex will be renovated. The beach and picnic shelters will have minor damage repairs made to the masonry (missing stones) and woodwork (dry rot timbers replaced), and the Beach Shelter complex buildings will be professionally cleaned with the woodwork restained.

Beach Shelter Complex

Restroom
(restroom addition)

Beach Shelter
(restain)

Picnic Shelter
(wood & masonry work)



Overview



Engineering Project #: 22-05-91-07

Cost Estimate: \$412,000.00

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: Federal Land and Waters Conservation Fund

Bid Letting Date: 09/22/2022

Construction Completion Date: 05/31/2023

Number of Bids Received: 1

Bidders

Gruss Construction, LLC

Winterset, IA

\$473,199.00

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Gruss Construction, LLC.

19.3 Geode State Park, Reconstruct Beach/Boat Ramp Parking Lot – Henry County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Geode State Park joined the Iowa park system in 1937. The prime attraction of the 1,640-acre park is Lake Geode, a 174-acre lake built in 1950. Amenities include a beach, boating and canoeing, fishing, wildlife watching, cross country skiing, horseshoe pits, picnic areas, picnic shelter, playground, youth group camping area, restrooms, and showers.

The asphalt parking lot servicing the beach area was originally constructed in the 1950's. Age has led to transverse thermal cracking, longitudinal cracking, oxidation, and a few localized pavement failures. This project will remove the existing pavement and install approximately 11,000 square yards of concrete pavement over a rock base.



Engineering Project #: 22-06-29-01

Cost Estimate: \$1,753,000

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: IA DOT Parks and Intuition Road Fund (59%), Infrastructure (23%), 18% Marine Fuel Tax

Bid Letting Date: 09/22/2022

Construction Completion Date: 09/29/2023

Number of Bids Received: 2

Bidders

Jones Contracting Corp.

West Point, IA

\$879,776.92

Wicks Construction, Inc.

Decorah, IA

\$880,055.50

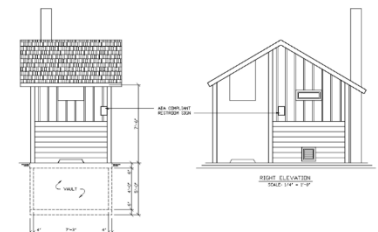
Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Jones Contracting Corp.

*19.4 Beeds Lake State Park – Pit Latrine, Franklin County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Beeds Lake State Park, a CCC era park, is a popular camping area with many amenities including boating, fishing and hiking.

Currently, the park does not have pit latrines in the vicinity of the main boat ramp and fishing pier. This project will install a new precast pit latrine and an accessible parking area will be constructed on the circular drive adjacent to the fishing pier and down the road from the CCC lodge and shelter. This will provide services provide a facility for when the flush toilets are closed for the season and a closer facility for fishing and boating use year-round.



Engineering Project #: 22-02-35-03

Cost Estimate: \$44,935

Operating Bureau: Parks



Funding Source: Marine Fuel Tax
Bid Letting Date: 08/25/2022
Construction Completion Date: 04/28/2023
Number of Bids Received: 2

Bidders

Doyle Construction LLC	Fort Dodge, IA	\$58,790.00
OEL Construction Services, Inc.	Steamboat Rock, IA	\$58,827.50

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Doyle Construction LLC.

***19.5 Beeds Lake State Park – Replace Dump Station, Franklin County**

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Beeds Lake State Park, a CCC era park, is a popular camping area with many amenities including boating, fishing and hiking. The park has one existing dump station that services a campground with 93 back-in, parallel and drive thru campsites.

The existing dump station is very old and has a history of plugging over the last 20 years. The new dump station has been designed to current standards and has a pull off road access allowing vehicles to enter and dump on the correct side of the vehicle, out of the main road traffic lane. This project will pave a new 310 square yard pull off, and replace the existing dump station plumbing.



Engineering Project #: 22-02-35-02
Cost Estimate: \$60,000
Operating Bureau: Parks
Funding Source: Infrastructure
Bid Letting Date: 08/25/2022
Construction Completion Date: 04/28/2023
Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

Larson Contracting Central, LLC	Lake Mills, IA	\$66,200.93
Doyle Construction LLC	Fort Dodge, IA	\$74,950.00
OEL Construction Services, Inc.	Steamboat Rock, IA	\$100,180.00

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Larson Contracting Central, LLC.

***19.6 Botna Bottoms WMA, Tree Clearing, Levee and WCS Repair – Fremont Co**

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Botna Bottoms WMA is 411 acres in size, and consists of forest, wetland, and grassland habitat. This property is approximately 441 Acres and part of the Botna Bottoms Wildlife Management area. Game species of interest include deer, turkey, waterfowl, and pheasant.

The two existing water control structures are rusted out and need to be replaced. This project will replace the existing water control structures with new corrugated metal pipe stop log structures. Also, the dike was damaged in two locations due to overtopping and will be reconstructed, woody vegetation will be removed from the dike system and the dike top will be graded to improve service vehicle access.

Engineering Project #: 21-04-36-01

Cost Estimate: \$54,000

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: REAP Open Spaces (75%), Federal NAWCA (25%)

Bid Letting Date: 09/22/2022

Construction Completion Date: 03/15/2023

Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

Elite Excavating	Omaha, NE	\$63,414.25
Mount Farm Drainage LLC	Riverton, IA	\$72,455.00
Binder Irrigation Inc	Table Rock, NE	\$104,475.84

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Elite Excavating.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 10/13/2022

