

Agenda

Natural Resource Commission

Thursday, April 13, 2023

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

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

502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319

DNR 2 North Conf Room

Thursday, April 13, 2023

9:30 AM – NRC Business Meeting

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

1.	Approval of Agenda Consent Agenda (*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda item) *9 Contract Amendment with Jacob Lahr, State Forest Nursery Mowing Services *10 Contract with Gill Hauling, Inc., Stone State Park Waste Management Services *12 Public Land Management Projects (12.1-12.5) *16 Contract Amendment with Waste Management of Iowa, Inc., Big Creek Waste Management Services	Decision	Commission
2.	Approve Minutes of 3/9/23 NRC Public Meeting	Decision	Commission
3.	Director's Remarks	Information	Kayla Lyon
4.	Division Administrator's Remarks	Information	Pete Hildreth
5.	Donations	Decision	Pete Hildreth
6.	28E with Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Honey Creek Operations	Decision	Adam Steen, DAS
7.	Adopted and Filed-Chapter 12, "Conservation Education," Chapter 15, "General License Regulations," and Chapter 94, "Nonresident Deer Hunting"	Decision	Tamara McIntosh
8.	Adopted and Filed-Chapter 108, "Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons"	Decision	Todd Bishop
*9.	Contract Amendment with Jacob Lahr, State Forest Nursery Mowing Services	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
*10.	Contract with Gill Hauling, Inc., Stone State Park Waste Management Services	Decision	Sherry Arntzen
11.	Public Land Acquisition Projects North Cedar/Sny Magill Wildlife Management Area, Clayton County	Decision	Travis Baker
*12.	Public Land Management Projects	Decision	Travis Baker
12.1	Chapter 18 Lease Renewal, Allamakee County- Interstate Power and Lights Co.	Decision	Travis Baker
12.2	Chapter 18 Lease Renewal, Muscatine County- RGL, LLC.	Decision	Travis Baker
12.3	Chapter 17 Barge Fleeting Lease Renewal-Mississippi River, Clayton County-Lease No. 47-R	Decision	Travis Baker
12.4	Chapter 18 Lease Renewal, Dickinson County-George and Mary Wandling	Decision	Travis Baker
12.5	Water Well Easement-Storm Lake, Buena Vista County-City of Storm Lake	Decision	Travis Baker
13.	Construction-Small Projects: Rathbun Fish Hatchery, PH Transformer Maintenance; Nine Eagles State Park, Septic System Replacement;	Information	Travis Baker

	Twin Lakes, Boat Ramp Replacement; Lake Manawa, Wayfinding Signage Installation		
14.	Construction-Large Projects	Decision	Travis Baker
14.1	Green Valley State Park, Union County-Spillway Structure Maintenance	Decision	Travis Baker
14.2	Iowa River Wildlife Unit, Johnson County-Swan Lake Road Culvert Replacement	Decision	Travis Baker
15.	Contract with Wildlife Management Institute, Forestry Specialists	Decision	Todd Bishop
*16.	Contract Amendment with Waste Management of Iowa, Inc.-Big Creek State Park Waste Management Services	Decision	Sherry Arntzen
17.	General Discussion		
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Thursday, May 11, 2023, Wallace BuildingThursday, June 8, 2023, Wallace Building			

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.

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION
MEETING**

March 9, 2023

**Video Teleconference
and
Wallace State Office Building**

Approved by the Commission **TBD**



Digitally signed by Kayla Lyon
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Kayla Lyon, Director

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Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission (Commission or NRC) was called to order by Chairperson Marcus Branstad at 9:30 a.m. on March 9, 2023 via a combination of in-person and video/teleconference attendees. DNR General Counsel Tamara McIntosh noted for the record that the meeting qualified as an electronic meeting under Iowa Code section 21.8. The “impractical” legal standard for an electronic meeting was satisfied by the winter storm warning forecasted for a majority of Iowa.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Laura Foell (virtual)
 Uriah Hansen (virtual; (9:30-10:45 a.m.))
 Laura Hommel (virtual)
 Margo Underwood (virtual)
 Tammi Kircher (virtual)
 Marcus Branstad

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Tom Prickett

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Name:	Address/County:	Representing:	Topic:
None	NA	NA	NA

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the following agenda items:

- Contract with Waste Connections of Iowa, Inc.-Waste Management Services, Gull Point State Park Complex
- Contract with Audas Supply Co.-Waste Management Services, Rock Creek State Park
- Contract with MLS Landscape and Design, Inc., Herbicide Application and Hydro Seeding Prairie on North Shoreline of Silver Lake
- Public Land Management Projects
- Contract with Windstream Fiber Optic Line Burial and Internet Service at Red Haw State Park Fish and Wildlife Station

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the agenda and consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Laura Foell.

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

AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED AS PRESENTED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Margo Underwood to approve the February 9, 2023 NRC minutes as presented. Seconded by Laura Hommel.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

- Director Lyon reported that she presented to the House Ag and Natural Resources Committee. During her presentation she highlighted the work being done at Lake Ahquabi State Park, hunting and fishing license sales data, DNR educational programming, State Forestry Nursery data, and some of the success we have seen in recent water quality improvement projects.
- Director Lyon also gave a recap of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) state tournament that was held the first weekend in March. She reported that there were around 2200 students that participated from 125 different schools in both the Bullseye and 3D Shoot categories. Director Lyon extended her gratitude to all the staff and volunteers that made the event possible and congratulated students on their success at the tournament.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

- Division Administrator Pete Hildreth provided an update on the Law Enforcement Bureau, Fisheries Bureau, and Wildlife Bureau statewide meetings held at the end of February and the first week of March. Mr. Hildreth also provided an overview of the hunter listening sessions that took place in 15 different locations throughout Iowa. He mentioned that Spring Turkey season is quickly approaching, with Youth Season taking place April 8th-9th and the first season opening up on April 10.
- General Counsel Tamara McIntosh responded to questions regarding the status of the raccoon rules and updated the Commissioners on the amended Notice of Intended Action, which included the addition of one more public hearing before proceeding to the next step in the rulemaking process.

DONATIONS

Pete Hildreth requested Commission approval of donations received by the DNR from the following individuals and organizations: Bob and Mary Seidl, David Long, Ann Sammon Long, Wayne and Kathy Bemisdarfer, Mark Woodward, Donna Boyle, Janis and Stanley Hurst, Michael and Kathleen Strattan, Mary Ann and David Patrick Fleming, Suellen and John Lathrum, Rhonda and Kevin Heim, Wes Devaney, BSA Troop 34, Humboldt County Pheasants Forever, Kossuth County Pheasants Forever, Palo Alto County Pheasants Forever, Michael and Jeanette Kirkpatrick, Scott Polittle, David Collier and Aimee Beckman-Collier, Dyanne Schulze, E.D. Wolfe, Lora Signs, Michael Bricker, Susan Burney, Arthur Hazell, Max and Kathi Decamp, David Oaks, Alice Wilkinson, Susan Jones, Kayla Pattschull, Kathy Jackson, Larry Kaeding, Allan Gates, Sheryl Ochs, Thomas Criswell, Deb Chehak, and Brian Humphrey. Commissioners discussed alternative avenues to promote donations to the agency.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

Motion was made by Margo Underwood to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT WITH MILES SCHULTE

Jeff Goerndt requested Commission approval for a contract with Miles Schulte to do an understory planting of 22,600 seedlings over 50 acres within the Volga River State Recreation Area. Mr. Goerndt explained that the project, funded by Alliant Energy Grant Funds, aligns with the Alliant Energy One Million Trees Initiative.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

Motion was made by Margo Underwood to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION (NOIA)-CHAPTER 106, DEER HUNTING BY RESIDENTS

Chris Ensminger requested Commission approval of the NOIA for Chapter 106, Deer Hunting by Residents. Mr. Ensminger explained how the DNR depredation program staff were involved in the rulemaking process. In addition, Division Administrator Pete Hildreth clarified that the research mandated in 2022 Iowa Acts, Senate File 581 was not utilized in this rulemaking as the study is won't be completed until Fall of 2024.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

LEO GRAU WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA), BUENA VISTA COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to purchase a tract of land located in Buena Vista County near Leo Grau WMA. Mr. Baker responded to questions on how the acquired land would be managed and if DNR would pursue acquisition of additional land in the drainage ditch area of the property. Commissioner Foell congratulated the DNR on their management of the Leo Grau Wildlife Management Area.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Laura Foell-nay, Uriah Hansen-aye, Laura Hommel-nay, Tom Prickett-absent, Margo Underwood-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

LITTLE LOST ISLAND LAKE/DEWEY'S PASTURE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to purchase a tract of land located in Clay County at Little Lost Island Lake/Dewey's Pasture WMA. Mr. Baker explained the plans for the buildings that are located onsite and responded to questions regarding the appraisal process for the property, noting that it was appraised based on its potential for development. Mr. Baker also highlighted plans to construct a boat ramp on the property near existing parking that would help with user access to Little Lost Island Lake.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

Motion was made by Margo Underwood to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.

The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Laura Foell-nay, Uriah Hansen-aye, Laura Hommel-nay, Tom Prickett-absent, Margo Underwood-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

LEDGES AND PINE LAKE STATE PARK-SIGN INSTALLATION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to contract with Pillar, Inc. to install wayfinding signage at Ledges and Pine Lake State Parks. Parks Bureau Chief, Sherry Arntzen, explained that the signs are being fabricated by Iowa Prison Industries and that the installation of signage at Ledges and Pine Lake State Parks is part of a larger, full re-signing project of Iowa's State Park System. Director Lyon further explained the funding source appropriation that will be utilized for this project.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

Motion was made by Margo Underwood to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

BACKBONE AND PIKES PEAK STATE PARK-SIGN INSTALLATION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval to contract with Pillar, Inc. to install wayfinding signage at Backbone and Pikes Peak State Parks.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

<i>Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.</i>
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<i>The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes. Motion passes.</i>

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT WITH THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHEOLOGIST (OSA) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract with the OSA at the University of Iowa. She explained that the contract would allow DNR staff ready access to contract with OSA to complete archeological and architectural investigations by issuing work orders for individual projects under a master agreement.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

<i>Motion was made by Laura Foell to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Margo Underwood.</i>
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<i>The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the motion by saying aye. There were no nay votes.</i>
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APPROVED AS PRESENTED

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE (ALJ) PROPOSED DECISION REVIEW (DIA No. 23DNRL0003)-IN THE MATTER OF STUART HAGEN

Chairperson Brandstad announced that Stuart Hagen had 15 minutes for oral argument regarding the ALJ Proposed Decision in the matter of Stuart Hagen. Mr. Hagen delivered his oral argument. DNR Attorney Aaron Brees presented an overview of the ALJ Proposed Decision and requested that the Commission affirm the ALJ Proposed Decision as presented. Mr. Hagen provided his rebuttal. After the rebuttal concluded, Commissioners went into closed session to discuss their decision.

<i>Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to go into closed session to discuss the Commission decision regarding the ALJ Proposed Decision as presented. Seconded by Margo Underwood.</i>

<i>The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Laura Foell-aye, Uriah Hansen-absent, Laura Hommel-aye, Tom Prickett-absent, Margo Underwood-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.</i>

The closed session started at 11:18am and Commissioners concluded their closed session at 11:42am.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

<i>Motion was made by Laura Foell to uphold and affirm the ALJs decision in the matter of Stuart Hagen. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.</i>
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<i>The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Laura Foell-aye, Uriah Hansen-absent, Laura Hommel-aye, Tom Prickett-absent, Margo Underwood-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Marcus Branstad-aye. Motion passes.</i>

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

GENERAL DISCUSSION**ADJOURN**

<i>The Chairperson adjourned the Natural Resource Commission meeting at 11:47am on March 9, 2023.</i>

ADJOURNED

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

Decision Item

5. Donations

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

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust fund in memory of Clyde Seago.	Robert and Joan Anthony
Wildlife Diversity	\$50.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity program for the conservation of non-game species.	Michael Stephnowski
Wildlife Diversity	\$350.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity program for the conservation of non-game species.	Jane Overland
Wildlife Diversity	\$25.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity fund through the Chickadee Checkoff program.	Herman Lenz
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Donation to support Parks and Forestry.	Carlyann Mucha
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Clyde Seago.	Bill and Connie Funk
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Clyde Seago.	Johnathan Swanson
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Clyde Seago.	Donald and Kathy Brees
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Clyde Seago.	Norene and Michel Nelson
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Clyde Seago.	Sheryl and Christopher Bakkie
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Crawford Family Farms
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Conna and Rick Bral
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Jylene and David Wright
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Patricia Kooiker
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Scotty Ray and Jill Kurtz
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Barbara Reese
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$235.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Gary and Joye Baze
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$570.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Fred Baze.	Daniel and Pamela Honken

Wildlife Diversity	\$10.00	Donation to support Wildlife Diversity.	Ann Baumgartner
Wildlife Diversity	\$25.00	Donation to support Wildlife Diversity.	Cheryl Hanway
Parks and Forestry	\$100.00	Donation to support Parks and Forestry.	Nick Pribyl
Wildlife Diversity	\$25.00	Donation to support Wildlife Diversity.	Brian Moore
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$1.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Jess Evers
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Steve Caryl.	Corinne Grass

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
 Conservation and Recreation Division
 NRC Meeting Date: 4/13/23

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

Decision Item**6. 28E with** Department of Administrative Services

Commission approval is requested for a 28E with the Department of Administrative Services.

Terms

Amount: No Cost

Dates: April 14, 2023 to April 13, 2038

Purpose: Honey Creek Resort State Park (Honey Creek) is Iowa's premier destination resort located within the Rathbun Lake recreation complex. Rathbun Lake was built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to address the Chariton River Valley's susceptibility to cycles of drought and flood. This popular recreation complex includes the 11,000-acre lake, Iowa's largest; and eight public parks, 155 miles of shoreline, two marinas, and 21,000 acres of public land. Honey Creek was placed in south-central Iowa because Rathbun Lake's picturesque setting and diverse recreational opportunities provides an ideal gateway into Iowa's state park system. Honey Creek was completed in October 2008 and is the only full-service resort property on the lake. The current concession operator gave notice of its intent to vacate the property this spring. DAS and DNR mutually agreed that DAS would take over responsibility for Honey Creek, and this 28E formally captures that arrangement.

In detail: The DNR's purpose in entering into this 28E is to delegate its authority in operating Honey Creek to DAS. DAS's purpose in entering into this 28E is to operate Honey Creek through a concessionaire contract obtained through a competitive procurement process (Achieva Enterprises LLC).

Tamara McIntosh, General Counsel
Legal Services

NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

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

Decision Item

7. Chapter 12, “Conservation Education,” Chapter 15, “General License Regulations,” and Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting – Final Rule

The Commission is requested to adopt a Final rule to amend Chapter 12, “Conservation Education,” Chapter 15, “General License Regulations,” and Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting.”

Basic Intent of Current Rule: This rule updates the listed chapters to comply with recent legislation.

NOIA Process: The Notice of Intended Action was approved by the NRC on December 12, 2023.

2022 Iowa Acts, House File 803, allowed physician assistants to perform various duties that are within their undisputed scope of practice. The legislation specifically directed agencies to add physician assistants to rules that are currently limited to physicians. Chapters 12, 15, and 94 each contain provisions that reference physicians. This proposed rule making amends these chapters as required by the legislation.

The rule includes other medical professionals, too; specifically, doctors of osteopathy and nurse practitioners. Authorizing a suite of medical professionals to complete certain tasks enables a volunteer instructor and/or hunter to utilize the volunteer instructor’s or hunter’s preferred care provider.

The Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 11, 2023, as ARC 6816C. No public comments were received.

Changes from NOIA: The modifiers “attending” and “prescribing” were removed from the Final version. Those terms were unnecessary and could create confusion.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 7, 2023

Tamara McIntosh, General Counsel
NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

Attachment: Chapter 12, “Conservation Education,” Chapter 15, “General License Regulations,” and Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting” - Final Rule

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Adopted and Filed

The Natural Resource Commission (Commission) hereby adopts Chapter 12, “Conservation Education,” Chapter 15, “General License Regulations,” and Chapter 94, “Nonresident Deer Hunting,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is adopted under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 147.77 as amended by 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 803, and sections 321G.2, 321I.2, 462A.3(2) and 483A.27(8).

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 147.77 as amended by 2022 Iowa Acts, House File 803, and sections 321G.23, 321I.25, 462A.12(6), 462A.12A, 483A.8(8), 483A.24(12) and 483A.27(4).

Purpose and Summary

2022 Iowa Acts, House File 803, allowed physician assistants to perform various duties that are within their undisputed scope of practice. The legislation specifically directed agencies to add physician assistants to rules that are currently limited to physicians. Chapters 12, 15, and 94 each contain provisions that reference physicians. This proposed rule making amends these chapters as required by the legislation.

The Commission also amends the rules to include other medical professionals: specifically, doctors of osteopathy and nurse practitioners. Authorizing a suite of medical professionals to complete certain tasks enables a volunteer instructor and/or hunter to utilize the volunteer instructor’s or hunter’s preferred care provider.

Public Comment and Changes to Rule Making

Notice of Intended Action for this rule making was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 11, 2023, as **ARC 6816C**.

No public comment was received.

The modifiers “attending” and “prescribing” were removed from the Final version. Those terms were unnecessary and could create confusion.

Adoption of Rule Making

This rule making was adopted by the Commission on April 13, 2023.

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.

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).

Effective Date

This rule making will become effective on June 7, 2023.

The following rule-making action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—12.25(321G,321I,462A,483A) as follows:

571—12.25(321G,321I,462A,483A) Grounds for revocation or suspension of instructor certification. The department may, at any time, seek to revoke or suspend the instructor certification of any person who:

1. to 7. No change.

8. Participates in a course while under the influence of alcohol or any illegal drug or while ingesting prescription medication in a manner contrary to the dosing directions given by the prescribing physician. The physician shall be a licensed physician, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner.

9. to 13. No change.

ITEM 2. Amend subrules 15.22(2) and 15.22(4) as follows:

15.22(2) Application for authorization card. An individual requesting use of a crossbow for hunting deer or turkey must submit an application for an authorization card on forms provided by

the department. The application must include a statement signed by the applicant's physician declaring that the individual is not physically capable of shooting a bow and arrow. The physician shall be a licensed physician, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner. A first-time applicant must submit the authorization card application no later than ten days before the last day of the license application period for the season the person intends to hunt.

15.22(4) *Validity and forfeiture of authorization card.* A card authorizing the use of a crossbow for hunting deer and turkey will be valid for as long as the person is incapable of shooting a bow and arrow. If a conservation officer has probable cause to believe the person's handicapped status has improved, making it possible for the person to shoot a bow and arrow, the department may, upon the officer's request, require the person to obtain in writing a current physician's statement. The physician shall be a licensed physician, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner.

If the person is unable to obtain a current physician's statement confirming that the person is incapable of shooting a bow and arrow, the department may initiate action to revoke the authorization card pursuant to 571—Chapter 7.

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 94.10(1) as follows:

94.10(1) *Licenses.* A nonresident meeting the requirements of Iowa Code section 321L.1(8) may apply for or purchase a nonresident deer hunting license to participate in a special deer hunting season for severely disabled persons. Nonresidents applying for this license must have on file with the department of natural resources either a copy of a disabilities parking permit issued by a state department of transportation or an Iowa DNR form signed by a physician that verifies their disability. The physician shall be a licensed physician, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner.

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

Decision Item**8. Chapter 108, “Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons” – Final Rule**

The Commission is requested to adopt a Final rule to amend Chapter 108, “Mink, Muskrat, Raccoon, Badger, Opossum, Weasel, Striped Skunk, Fox (Red and Gray), Beaver, Coyote, River Otter, Bobcat, Gray (Timber) Wolf and Spotted Skunk Seasons”.

Basic Intent of Current Rule: Chapter 108 sets the season dates, bag limits, possession limits, and areas open to hunting or trapping furbearers.

NOIA Process: The Notice of Intended Action was approved by the NRC on December 8, 2022. This rule making extends the regular furharvest season by one month. The season will end on the last day of February (February 28), rather than the last day of January (January 31). This rule making also adopts a continuous open season statewide for raccoon hunting and trapping. This rule is biologically responsible, as required by law. It will also increase recreational opportunities for Iowa fur harvesters while reducing negative social issues associated with high raccoon and other furbearer densities.

The Notice of Intended Action for this rule making was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 11, 2023, as ARC 6815C. An Amended Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on March 8, 2023, as ARC 6948C.

Public hearings were held on February 2, 2023, at 12 noon at Conference Room 4E Wallace State office building and on March 28, 2023, at 12 noon via a virtual meeting. Two people attended the in-person meeting and no one attended the virtual meeting.

117 total comments were received. 75 comments were in support of the amendments, 2 were partially supportive, and 40 opposed the amendments. The majority of commenters supporting the amendments believed a change should be made to limit the continuous hunting and trapping of raccoons to private lands. These commenters believe there is a potential for negative interactions on public lands and roadways during non-traditional hunting or trapping seasons.

Changes from NOIA: Changes to the NOIA limit the continuous open season for hunting and trapping raccoons to private lands. A majority of the rule proponents made this request and the department agrees with the logic behind it. This change will not impact the biological effect of the rule on Iowa’s raccoon population and does not significantly affect the intent of the amendment.

Effective Date of Final Rule: June 7, 2023

Todd Bishop, Chief, Wildlife Bureau
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

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

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]**Adopted and Filed**

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

Legal Authority for Rule Making

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

State or Federal Law Implemented

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

Purpose and Summary

Chapter 108 sets the season dates, bag limits, possession limits, and areas open to hunting or trapping furbearers. This rule making extends the regular furharvest season by one month. The season will end on the last day of February (February 28), rather than the last day of January (January 31). This rule making also adopts a continuous open season statewide for raccoon hunting and trapping. This rule is biologically responsible, as required by law. It will also increase recreational opportunities for Iowa fur harvesters while reducing negative social issues associated with high raccoon and other furbearer densities.

Public Comment and Changes to Rule Making

Notice of Intended Action for this rule making was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on January 11, 2023, as **ARC 6815C**.

An Amended Notice of Intended Action was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on March 8, 2023, as **ARC 6948C**.

Public hearings were held on February 2, 2023, at 12 noon at Conference Room 4E Wallace State office building and on March 28, 2023, at 12 noon via a virtual meeting. Two people attended the in-person meeting and no one attended the virtual meeting.

117 total comments were received. 75 comments were in support of the amendments, 2 were partially supportive, and 40 opposed the amendments. The majority of commenters supporting the amendments believed a change should be made to limit the continuous hunting and trapping of raccoons to private lands. These commenters expressed concern for negative interactions on public lands and roadways during non-traditional hunting or trapping seasons.

The Commission understands the concerns expressed by stakeholders and has made the change to limit the continuous hunting and trapping of raccoons to private lands.

Adoption of Rule Making

This rule making was adopted by the Commission on April 13, 2023.

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 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 of Natural Resources 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.

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).

Effective Date

This rule making will become effective on June 7, 2023.

The following rule-making action is adopted:

ITEM 1. Amend rule 571—108.1(481A), introductory paragraph, as follows:

571—108.1(481A) Mink, muskrat and weasel. Open season for the taking of mink, muskrat and weasel shall be from 8 a.m. on the first Saturday in November through ~~January 31~~ February 28 of succeeding year. Entire state open. No bag or possession limit.

ITEM 2. Amend rule 571—108.2(481A) as follows:

571—108.2(481A) ~~Raccoon, badger~~ Badger, opossum and striped skunk. Open season for the taking of ~~raccoon~~, badger, opossum, and striped skunk shall be from 8 a.m. on the first Saturday in November through ~~January 31~~ February 28 of succeeding year. Entire state open. No bag or possession limit.

ITEM 3. Renumber rules **571—108.3(481A)** to **571—108.9(481A)** as **571—108.4(481A)** to **571—108.10(481A)**.

ITEM 4. Adopt the following new rule 571—108.3(481A):

571—108.3(481A) Raccoon.

108.3(1) Hunting. Continuous open season on private lands and from 8 a.m. on the first Saturday in November through February 28 of the succeeding year on public lands. Entire state open. No bag or possession limit.

108.3(2) Trapping. Continuous open season using cage traps and dog-proof traps on private lands year-round. Trapping limitations described in 571—Chapter 110 apply to trapping raccoons from 8 a.m. on the first Saturday in November through February 28 of succeeding year on all lands. Entire state open. No bag or possession limit.

ITEM 5. Amend renumbered rule 571—108.4(481A) as follows:

571—108.4(481A) Red and gray fox. Open season for the taking of red and gray fox shall be from 8 a.m. on the first Saturday in November through ~~January 31~~ February 28 of succeeding year. Entire state open. No bag or possession limit.

ITEM 6. Amend renumbered subrule 108.6(2) as follows:

108.6(2) Trapping. Open season for trapping coyote shall be 8 a.m. on the first Saturday in November through ~~January 31~~ February 28 of succeeding year. Entire state open. No bag or possession limit. Any conservation officer or wildlife biologist may authorize a landowner, tenant or designee to trap coyotes causing damage outside the established trapping season dates.

ITEM 7. Amend renumbered subrule 108.8(4) as follows:

108.8(4) Season dates. The season for taking river otters and bobcats opens on the first Saturday in November and closes on ~~January 31~~ February 28 of the following year.

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

***9. Contract Amendment-2 with Jacob Lahr**

Commission approval is requested for a service contract amendment with Jacob Lahr, of Manchester, IA .

Amendment-2

Terms:

Amendment Amount: \$ 14,250

Amendment Dates: April 22, 2023 to April 21, 2024

Funding Source(s): Seedling Sales cost center 8911

Amendment Purpose: To extend the State Forest Nursery mowing contract for an additional year. The turf areas at the State Forest Nursery need to be maintained during the growing season.

Original Contract Purpose: The State Forest Nursery has approximately 16 acres of turf grass that needs to be mowed and trimmed on a regular basis. By mowing and trimming we are able to keep our facility looking neat and well-kept while also preventing grass and weed species from putting out seed that will move into our fields causing weed issues and impacting the growth of nursery crops.

Original Selection Process: In 2021 the DNR published a Request for Quote (RFQ) and reviewed bids for services requested. Jacob Lahr was awarded the bid due to him having the necessary equipment and manpower to perform the service in a timely manner as well as being cost effective.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$ 10,650; Timeframe: April 26, 2021 to April 25, 2022

Amendment- 1 Terms: Amount: \$14,250; Timeframe: April 25, 2022 to April 24, 2023; Purpose: Extend contract for 1 year

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

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

Decision Item***10. Contract with Gill Hauling, Inc.**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Gill Hauling, Inc. of South Sioux City, NE.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$28,555.20*

Dates: April 15, 2023, to April 14, 2025

Funding Source(s): General Fund

*Does not include on-call services costs

Contract Purpose: This contract provides services for year-round collection, hauling, and disposal of garbage from Stone State Park.

Gill Hauling is located in South Sioux City, Nebraska, and is the current service provider for these areas and has responded to service requests and fulfilled them promptly.

The Stone State Park Complex has 5 areas where dumpsters are present. During peak season, trash removal service is essential for general park users, renters of our day-use facilities, and campers. This service is vital for continuing to provide the quality and standards that park users have come to expect from Iowa State Parks while also allowing park staff to maintain their facilities and grounds.

Contract tasks include:

- Delivery of 8 dumpsters
- Summer Collection services to empty all 8 dumpsters once per week
- Winter Collection services to empty 1 dumpster located at the Park Office as needed, per the Park Manager's request
- Holiday Collection services to empty all 8 dumpsters as needed, due to excess waste, per the Park Manager's request
- On-call services, providing extra pick-ups in case of an emergency

Selection Process Summary: The Department solicited proposals by publishing a Request for Quote (RFQ) on the Department of Administrative Services Bid Opportunities website.

Criteria Reviewed: Criteria reviewed for this work included adhering to the tasks as laid out in the bullet points above, completing and timely submission of the RFQ Cost Proposal, as well as being a responsive and responsible bidder.

Proposal Due Date: 1/19/2023

of Proposals Received: 1

Recommendation: Gill Hauling, Inc.

Sherry L. Arntzen, Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau Chief

Conservation and Recreation Division

NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

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

Decision Item

11. Public Land Acquisition Projects

North Cedar/Sny Magill Wildlife Management Area, Clayton County – Livingston

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Clayton County adjacent North Cedar/Sny Magill Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Kay Livingston

Acreage: 20 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$85,000

Appraised Value: \$85,000

Property Description: This property is located five (5) miles north of Garnavillo in northeastern Clayton County. The unimproved tract is steep, forested land with two deep ravines. The timber is a mix of mature oak-hickory with slopes toward the coldwater streams watershed. Access is gained through the state-owned and managed land (WMA) adjacent west.

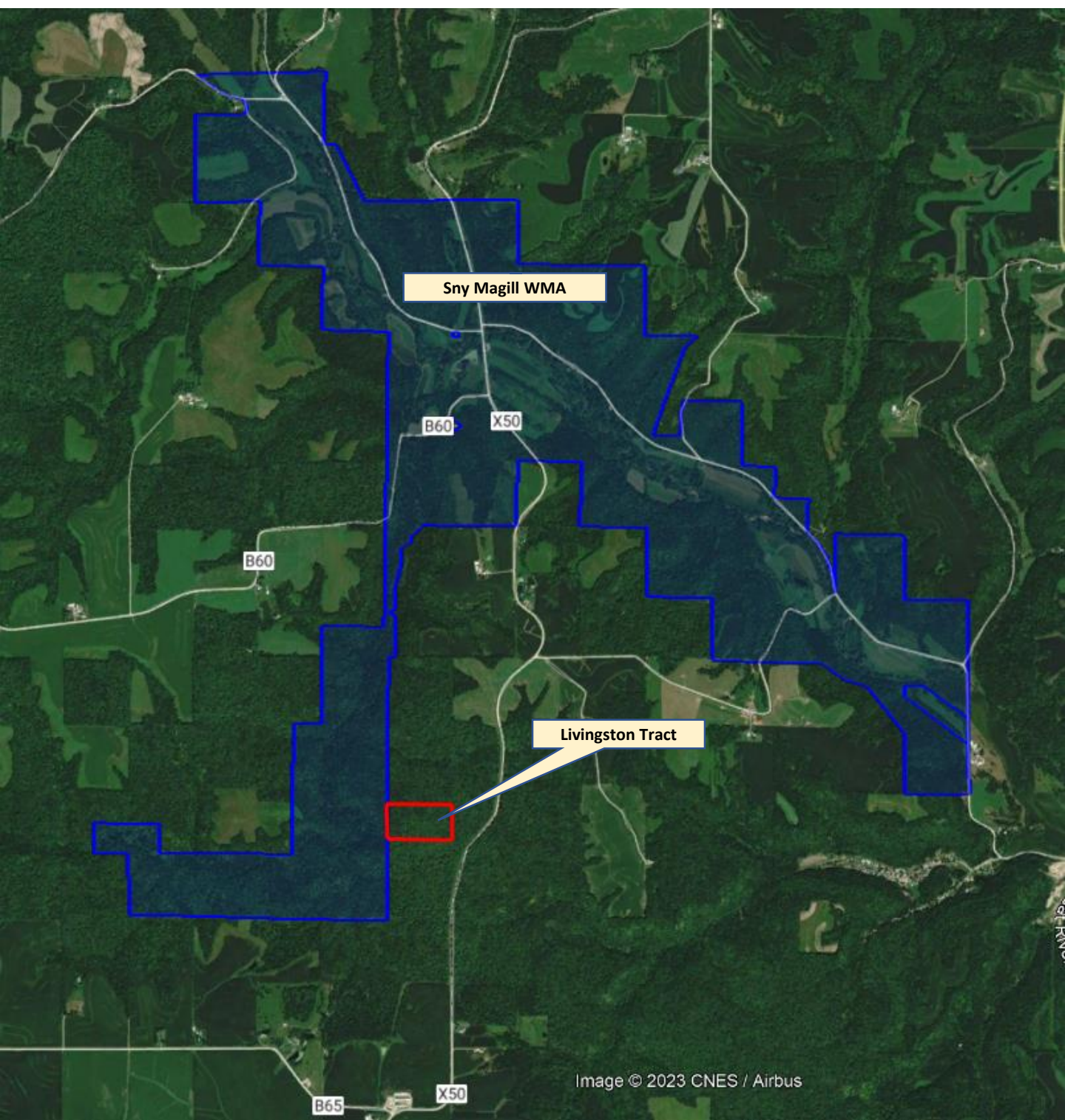
Purpose: This tract will provide for improved management of the oak-hickory forest stands through the established Forest Wildlife Stewardship Plan, as well as providing benefit to many neotropical migratory bird species within the larger block of mature forest. The property will provide public access to hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): \$80,900 Pittman-Robertson, \$3,800 Marlene Michel, \$300 from Upper Iowa Audubon Chapter

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

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023



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

Decision Item

***12. Public Land Management Projects**

12.1 Chapter 18 Lease Renewal – Allamakee County – Interstate Power and Lights Company

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 18 lease 10-R with Interstate Power and Lights Company.

Location: A portion of the bed of the Mississippi River approximately 600 feet of frontage by 400 feet of depth located in Sections 2&3, Township 98 North, Range 3 East of the 5th P.M. at Mississippi River Mile 660 in Allamakee County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This site is utilized to pile coal in association with a coal power plant.

Lease History: The location has been under a 50-year lease since 1974. This lease is being renewed to allow additional time for Interstate to decommission the coal plant.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is \$9,000.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. The term of the lease will be less than five years.

12.2 Chapter 18 Lease Renewal – Muscatine County – RGL, LLC.

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 18 lease 11-R with RGL, LLC.

Location: A parcel 100 feet of frontage by 100 feet of depth located at Mississippi River mile 451.1 in Muscatine County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: The leased area is for a dock structure consisting of 50' face and two (2) 25' wing walls. These structures facilitate the loading and unloading of barges.

Lease History: The location has been under lease since 2016.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is \$600.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. The term of the lease will be five years.

12.3 Chapter 17 Barge Fleeting Lease Renewal - Mississippi River, Clayton County

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Lease No. 47-R with Consolidated Grain and Barge Company of Clayton, Iowa

Location: The leased area is described as a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River including approximately 4000 feet of frontage by 175 feet of depth located on Mississippi River Miles 622.28-624.1 in Clayton County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This area is used for barge fleeting and has been under lease since 1982. A Public Notice was printed in a local newspaper and no comments were received.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is \$30,666.70 and will be increased annually based on the percentage increase of the consumer price index. The term of the lease will be five years.

12.4 Chapter 18 Lease Renewal – Dickinson County – George and Mary Wandling

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 18 lease 65-R with George R. and Mary B Wandling.

Location: Dedicated public land approximately 5'x 10' adjacent to Lots 16 & 17 Block A, Triboji Beach, Dickinson County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This site is a concrete storage building and pump house.

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

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is \$150.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. The term of the lease will be five years.

12.5 Water Well Easement – Storm Lake – Buena Vista County – City of Storm Lake

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve an easement for a new water well located in Frank Starr Park, Storm Lake, Buena Vista County.

Project Description: The City of Storm Lake is requesting an easement to install a municipal water well in Frank Starr Park in Storm Lake. This easement is located on a historic dredge-fill site within the sovereign waters of Storm Lake below the Ordinary High-Water mark.

The size of the easement will be .043 acres in total. This easement will allow the City construct, operate, inspect, repair, restore, maintain, and remove a municipal water well, lines for the transmission of water, electrical power and control circuits and other appurtenances to all such improvements, either overhead or underground, an above-ground well house enclosing some or all such improvements, and access to and from such improvements.

Local wildlife staff have reviewed the request and given their approval.

Compensation: \$0.00 (Mutual Benefit)

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

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

Information Item

13. 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
3/2/2023	22-05-04-10	Rathbun Fish Hatchery	Appanoose	This project will replace a 75 KVA 3-ph transformer.	\$40,000	\$35,000.00 \$59,805.00
3/9/2023	23-05-27-01	Nine Eagles State Park	Decatur	This project consists of replacement of a septic system including new 1250 gallon tank and sand filter.	\$20,000	\$11,944.00 \$15,600.00 \$16,450.00 \$17,000.00 \$18,823.00 \$20,947.00
3/9/2023	22-01-13-01	Twin Lakes	Calhoun	This project consists of removing two lanes of existing boat ramp and replacing them with a standard PCC Boat Ramp.	\$38,000	\$43,883.50 \$65,010.00
3/9/2023	23-04-78-03	Lake Manawa	Pottawattamie	This project shall be for the installation of all Parks wayfinding signage at Lake Manawa State Park.	\$40,000	\$33,825.00 \$38,000.00

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 04/13/2023

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

Decision Item**14. Construction-Large Projects**

14.1 Green Valley State Park – Union County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Green Valley State Park is located north of Creston, and was dedicated in 1953. Amenities includes a campground, three camping cabins, two picnic shelters, a beach, four boat ramps, and hiking trails.

The DNR owns and operates the Green Valley Lake dam facility with a water surface area of approximately 390 acres. The spillway structure consists of a primary service facility made up of a 135-foot long “L” shaped weir that spills into a 30-foot wide spillway chute. The spillway was constructed in the 1950’s.

A visual inspection of the spillway structure in August 2021 showed that number of areas of the concrete slab, especially at joints, has deteriorated and have shifted creating opening for the water to enter and go under the slab. There is flaking and cracking along many portions of the surface exposing portions of the reinforcing bars. Additionally, 30 ft portion of the west wall near the end of the chute has collapsed and needs to be rebuilt. The lake will be lowered approximately 1 foot below crest to keep the spillway dry during construction.

Engineering Project #: 21-04-88-03

Cost Estimate: \$540,000

Operating Bureau: Parks

Funding Source: Infrastructure 27%, Lake Restoration 73%

Bid Letting Date: 03/23/2023

Construction Completion Date: 08/15/2023

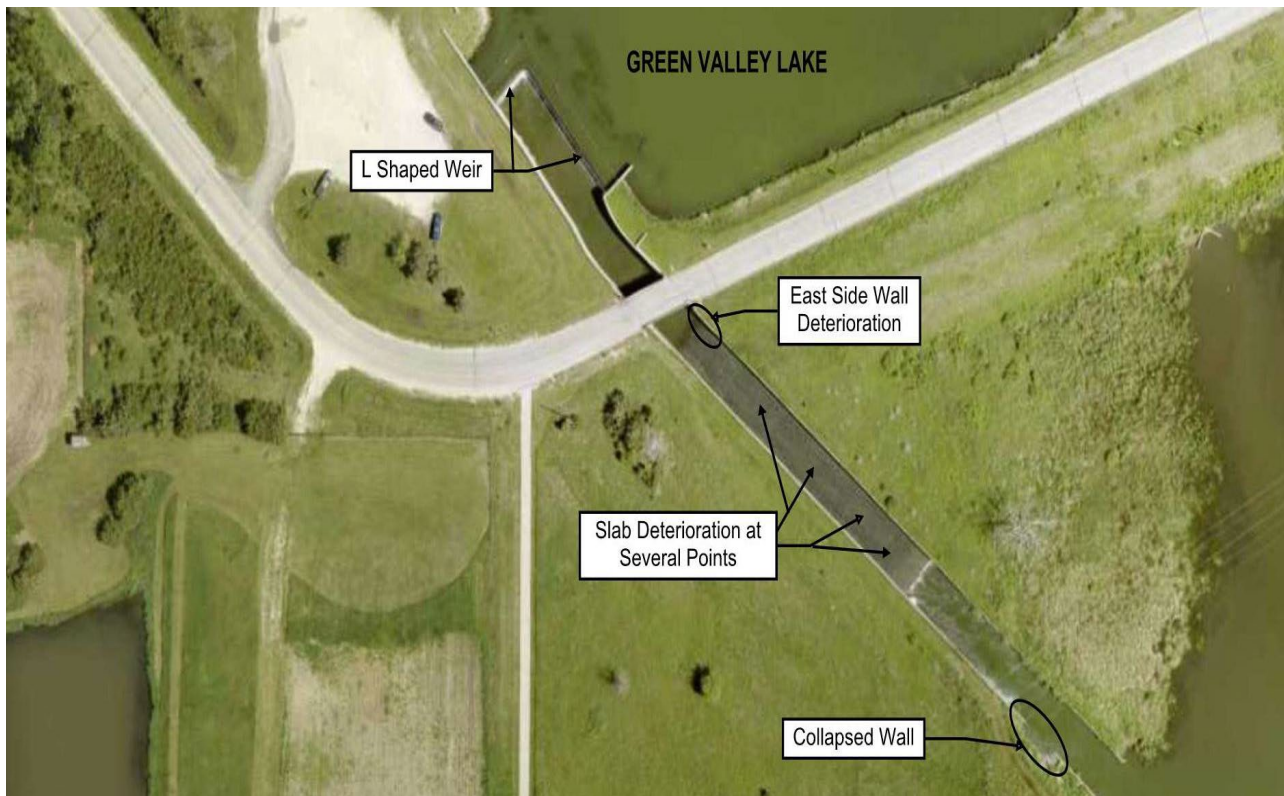
Number of Bids Received: 2

Bidders

Structural Concrete Inc	Sioux City, IA	\$507,346.00
Engineering & Construction Innovations, Inc.	Oakdale, MN	\$885,845.00

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

AERIAL VIEW OF GREEN VALLEY SPILLWAY



DAMAGED SLABS





COLLAPSED WALL

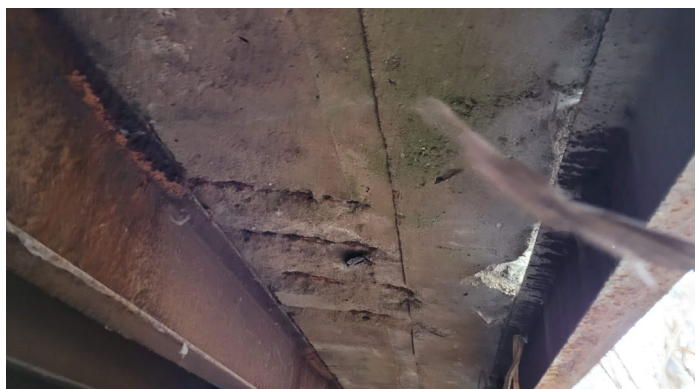


COLLAPSED WALL**14.2 Iowa River Wildlife Unit, Swan Lake Road Culvert Replacement – Johnson County**

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: The Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area is located northwest of North Liberty, and consists of 13,708 acres of timber, upland, and marsh habitat. project site is located approximately 4 miles west of I-380 on Swan Lake Road, NW of North Liberty. The 13,705-acre area is made up of timber, upland and marsh and is hunting ground for deer, squirrel, pheasant, waterfowl and dove. Popular game species in this area include deer, squirrel, pheasant, waterfowl, and dove.

The existing bridge is estimated to have been constructed in the 1970's or 1980's, and is in need of replacement. The outer longitudinal steel support beams have rusted to the point of near-failure, and the steel reinforcing of the bridge deck are exposed along the underside of the deck. This project will remove the existing bridge and abutments, and replace it with a 16' x 4' reinforced concrete box culvert.





Engineering Project #: 21-06-52-04

Cost Estimate: \$155,000

Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: Parks and Institutional Roads

Bid Letting Date: 3/23/2023

Construction Completion Date: 8/15/2023

Number of Bids Received: 5

Bidders

Ardo Schmidt Construction Inc.	Preston, IA	\$143,320.00
Rock N Load	Decorah, IA	\$152,310.00
Peterson Contractors Inc.	Reinbeck, IA	\$161,896.75
Boomerang Corp of Iowa	Anamosa, IA	\$167,000.00
Connolly Construction Inc	Peosta, IA	\$196,665.70

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

Decision Item

15. Contract with Wildlife Management Institute

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Wildlife Management Institute of Cabot, Vermont.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$1,807,680.60

Dates: 5/1/2023 to 6/30/2028

Funding Source(s): U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Grant, state forestry enhancement funds, and USDA Forest Service funding.

Contract Purpose: Since 2018, DNR has partnered with the Wildlife Management Institute to provide up to six Forest Specialists to deliver conservation programs and provide technical assistance to private landowners. This agreement continues that very successful partnership. Primary funding for this agreement continues to be provided through an agreement with the Iowa Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Iowans are facing a need for forest management technical assistance. This agreement will increase the number of foresters on the ground with the technical skills to provide much-needed assistance to private landowners in existing contracts, as well as those interested in enrolling in conservation programs.

Under this contract, WMI will continue to hire and employ up to 6 Forestry Specialists from May 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028. Private Lands Forestry Specialists will provide direct, no-cost technical assistance to private landowners. They will work with landowners to apply for tree planting cost-share assistance at local USDA offices to reduce the cost to the landowner for tree planting, forest stand improvement, and wildlife habitat improvements. Landowners can receive stewardship plans for their existing woodlands to help them keep these woodlands healthy and productive. Private landowners will also be provided information on conservation and biological need for forest management, as well as information about how to implement management practices that will help them meet their goals for their property. WMI will continue to manage staffing and provide oversight. The DNR will continue to provide the structure of a Private Lands Program within which these specialists will work as well as coordinate collaboration with DNR field staff. The agreement can also provide forestry specialists to work on related projects such as public lands forestry work or implementation of U.S. Forest Service grants, as needed.

Since 2018, this agreement has employed twelve bright individuals committed to forestry and natural resources. It has helped the department train early career professionals and identify potential talent. Every individual who has held one of these positions is either still in their position, pursuing an advanced degree, or was hired by a natural resource agency (including DNR) into a permanent, professional position.

Selection Process Summary: Development of agreements is authorized under Iowa Code section 455A.4(6).

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023

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

Decision Item***16. Amendment 2 21CRDPBBMARC-0013 with Waste Management of Iowa, INC**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Waste Management of Iowa, INC. of Des Moines, Iowa.

Amendment 2 Terms

Amendment 2 Amount: Not to exceed \$27,577.49

Amendment 2 Dates: April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024

Funding Source(s): General Fund

Amendment 2 Purpose: This amendment extends the contract 21CRDPBBMARC-0013 for one more year. The tasks are updated to remove outdated service of dumpster pick up at the park residence and the DNR Project Manager is updated to the new Park Manager.

Original Contract Purpose: This amendment provides trash collection service to Big Creek State Park in Polk County. Currently, Waste Management of Des Moines provides the service. Trash collection is an essential operational function at Big Creek, particularly at the beach & marina area where thousands of visitors may gather over any given weekend during the recreation season.

Original Selection Process: In 2021, the DNR published a Request for Quote (RFQ) and reviewed bids for services requested. Two quotes were received and Waste Management was awarded the bid due to the lower bid.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$9,476.06; Timeframe: April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022

Amendment 1 Terms: Amount \$9,433.00; Timeframe: March 30, 2022 through March 31, 2023

Amendment 2 Terms: Amount \$8,668.43; Timeframe: April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024

Sherry Arntzen, Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau Chief

Conservation and Recreation Division

NRC Meeting Date: April 13, 2023