

Agenda

Natural Resource Commission

Thursday, May 8, 2025

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

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

6200 Park Ave, Des Moines, IA, 50321

Walnut Woods Conf Room

Thursday, May 8, 2025

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 6200 Park Ave Ste 200, Des Moines IA 50321 up to 24 hours prior to the business meeting.

1.	Approval of Agenda Consent Agenda (*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda item) *7. Donations *9. Contract with JEO Consulting Group, Inc. *11. Public Land Management Projects (11.1-11.3) *15. Contract with Terrain360 LLC-Panoramic Imagery of the Des Moines River Water Trails	Decision	Commission
2.	Natural Resource Commission Oath of Office for New Commissioners		
3.	Election of Officers		
4.	Approval of the Minutes	Decision	Commission
5.	Director's Remarks	Information	Kayla Lyon
6.	Division Administrator's Remarks	Information	Pete Hildreth
*7.	Donations	Decision	Pete Hildreth
8.	Contract with Friends of Lake Darling State Park	Decision	Sherry Arntzen
*9.	Contract with JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
10.	Chapter 33, Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: County, City, Private Open Spaces and Conservation Education Grant Programs –Competitive Grant Program Selection Criteria	Decision	Michelle Wilson
*11.	Public Land Management Projects 11.1 Chapter 17 Lease Renewal, Royal Retreat LLC - Dickinson County 11.2 Chapter 17 Lease Renewal, Guardian Holdings, LLC - Scott County 11.3 Boundary Resolution, Harrison County – Loess Hills State Forest	Decision	Travis Baker
12.	Small Construction Projects-Low Water Crossing Stabilization at Deception Hollow Boat Ramp, Site Repair after Building Removals at Ledges and Viking Lake State Parks	Information	Travis Baker
13.	Large Construction Projects 13.1 Lake Manawa State Park, Rock Reef Habitat and Outlet Pipe Work – Pottawattamie County 13.2 Rathbun Hatchery, Pond Liner Replacement – Appanoose County 13.3 Saylorville Wildlife Management Area, Upper Fraser Boat Ramp Renovation – Boone County	Decision	Travis Baker
14.	Land Acquisition Projects 14.1 Springbrook WMA, Guthrie County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation 14.2 Heritage Valley Forest Legacy Area, Allamakee County – Van Gerpen 14.3 Heritage Valley Forest Legacy Area, Allamakee & Winneshiek County – A.T.M.S. Real Estate LLLP	Decision	Travis Baker

14.4	Heritage Valley Forest Legacy Area, Allamakee & Winneshiek County – A.T.M.S. Real Estate LLLP		
14.5	Loess Hills State Forest, Monona County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation		
*15.	Contract with Terrain360 LLC-Panoramic Imagery of the Des Moines River Water Trails	Decision	Travis Baker
16.	Contract Amendment with Shive-Hattery-Plan and Design of Septic Tank Replacement and Sand Filter at Backbone State Park	Decision	Travis Baker
17.	Contract with Shelby County Conservation Board-Interpretive Services	Decision	Tammie Krausman
18.	General Discussion		
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● June 11-12, Woodbury County Tour ● Thursday, July 10, Des Moines 			

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.

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**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION
MEETING**

April 8, 2025

**Video Teleconference
and
King's Pointe Resort, Storm Lake**

Approved by the Commission **TBD**

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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 2:00 pm on April 8, 2025 via video/teleconference attendees.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Uriah Hansen
Tom Prickett
Tammi Kircher
KR Buck
Marcus Branstad
Laura Foell

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Laura Kudej

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Wilson-Storm Lake Marina Management

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda included:

- *5. Timber Sale Contract with Kendrick, Inc. for Volga River State Recreation Area (stands 13, 14, and 24)
- *6. Timber Sale Contract with John Flanagan for Volga River State Recreation Area (stand 113)
- *7. Timber Sale Contract with John Flanagan for Volga River State Recreation Area (stand 34)
- *8. Contract with Iowa State University-Forest Health Research
- *10. Contract with Bachman Aero Inc.-Helicopter Equipment and Piloting Services for Annual Wildlife Surveys
- *12. Public Land Management Projects (12.1-12.2)
- *16. Contract with the State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa-Lake Water Quality Monitoring
- *21. Chapter 44, "Special Events and Fireworks Displays" – Final Rule
- *24. Chapter 48, "Inspection of Permanently Moored Vessels"- Final Rule
- *25. Chapter 49, "Operation of Motor Vehicles in Meandered Streams, Navigable Streams and Trout Streams"- Final Rule
- *26. Chapter 50, "Regulated Vehicle and Vessel Bonding" – Final Rule
- *27. Chapter 51, "Game Management Areas" – Final Rule
- *28. Chapter 52, "Wildlife Refuges" – Final Rule
- *29. Chapter 54, "Restrictions on Introduction and Removal of Plant Life" – Final Rule
- *30. Chapter 55, "Nonpermanent Structures" – Final Rule
- *32. Chapter 64, "Metal Detector Use in State Areas" – Final Rule
- *33. Chapter 61, "State Parks, Recreation Areas, and State Forest Camping" and Chapter 63, "Keg Beer – Final Rules
- *34. Chapter 66, "Saylorville Multiuse Trail"– Final Rule
- *35. Chapter 67, "Development and Management of Recreational Trails on State Forests, Parks, Preserves and Recreation Areas"– Final Rule
- *36. Chapter 72, "Timber Buyers" – Final Rule
- *37. Chapter 73, "Forest and Fruit-Tree Reservations" – Final Rule
- *38. Chapter 74, "Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP)" – Final Rule
- *39. Chapters 91, 92, 97, 102, "Migratory Game Bird Hunting" – Final Rules
- *40. Chapters 96, 100, 107, "Small Game Hunting" – Final Rule
- *41. Chapters 98 and 99, "Wild Turkey Hunting" – Final Rule
- *42. Chapter 101, "Falconry Regulations" – Final Rule
- *43. Chapter 105, "Deer Population Management Zones – Final Rule

*45. Chapter 114, “Nuisance Wildlife Control” – Final Rule

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

DIRECTOR’S REMARK

- Director Lyon provided an overview of the Outdoors Day that was held at the Capitol, highlighting the presence of several partners, as well as the speakers, activities and displays.
- Director Lyon shared that she recently recognized communities dedicated to urban forestry at the Urban Forestry Award program.
- Director Lyon concluded her remarks by thanking outgoing Commissioners for their service, their willingness to learn, and their dedication to Iowa’s natural resources.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR’S REMARKS

- Division Administrator Pete Hildreth thanked Buena Vista County Conservation Board and DNR staff for hosting the Storm Lake tour.
- DA Hildreth thanked General Counsel Tamara Mcintosh, the legal team, and DNR staff for their hard work with Executive Order 10.
- DA Hildreth provided updates on the Spring wildlife suvey, Spring turkey seasons, and broodstock collection season.
- DA hHildreth finalized his remarks by recognizing outgoing Commissioners for their service, for their unique perspectives and the experiences they brought to the NRC throughout their term(s).

CONTRACT WITH CONSERVATION CORPS OF IOWA/MINNESOTA-CREWS TO ASSIST PARKS, FORESTS, AND PRESERVES WITH NATURAL RESOURCE WORK

Sherry Arntzen requested Commission approval for a contract with Conservation Corps of Iowa/Minnesota.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

SMALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: ELK LAKE WETLAND ENHANCEMENTS, ROOF REPAIR AT RED HAW STATE PARK, SPILLWAY REPAIR AT LAKE OF THREE FIRES STATE PARK, CLEAR LAKE OFFICE WATER CONNECTION ENHANCEMENT, EARTHEN DITCH AND WATER CONTROL CONSTRUCTION AT CLEAR LAKE WMA, AND WETLAND POOL CONSTRUCTION AT WILLIAMS WMA.

Travis Baker presented several small construction projects to the Commission as information.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

INFORMATION

GREEN ISLAND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, LEVEE REPAIR-JACKSON COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a levee repair at Green Island Wildlife Management Area.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

SPRING RUN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, SHOOTING RANGE IMPROVEMENTS-DICKINSON COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for shooting range improvements at the Spring Run Wildlife Management Area.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT WITH STUDIO COMBINE ARCHITECTURE-OFFICE/SHOP BUILDING DESIGN AT GEORGE WYTH STATE PARK AND THE UPPER IOWA RIVER WMA

George Antoniou requested Commission approval for a contract with Studio Combine Architecture for design services. Mr. Antoniou responded to questions regarding the cost estimates for the construction of both buildings.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. Laura Foell-nay.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

LAND ACQUISITION-NORTH RIVER WMA, WARREN COUNTY-IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for the purchase of a tract of land located in Warren County adjacent to North River Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. Laura Foell-nay.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

LAND ACQUISITION- RICE LAKE WMA, WINNEBAGO COUNTY-IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Travis Baker presented Commission approval for the purchase of a tract of land located in Winnebago County adjacent to Rice Lake Management Area (WMA).

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. Laura Foell-nay.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH BARR ENGINEERING COMPANY (PHOSPHORUS INACTIVATION)

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract amendment with Barr Engineering Company for alum application.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH BOLTON AND MENK-ENGINEERING SERVICES

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract with Bolton and Menck for engineering services for Iowa Great Lakes shoreline repair.

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 agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT WITH POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD (BETTER WATER TRAILS PROJECT: PHASE I)

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a contract with Polk County Conservation Board for the first phase of the Better Water Trails Project.

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 the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTER 36, "GREEN VALLEY LAKE SPECIAL WATER ACTIVITY RULES"; CHAPTER 37, "BOATING SAFETY EQUIPMENT,"; CHAPTER 38, "BOAT REGISTRATION AND NUMBERING"; CHAPTER 39, "BOATING PASSENGER CAPACITY"; CHAPTER 40, "BOATING SPEED AND DISTANCE ZONING"; CHAPTER 41, "BOATING NAVIGATION AIDS"; CHAPTER 42, "BOATING ACCIDENT REPORTS"; CHAPTER 43, "MOTORBOAT NOISE"; AND CHAPTER 45, "BOAT MOTOR REGULATIONS" – FINAL RULES

Tammie Krausman requested Commission approval for the final rules for Chapter 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 45.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTER 46, "ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES, OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLES AND OFF-ROAD UTILITY VEHICLES" – FINAL RULE

Jessica Flatt requested Commission approval for a the final rule for Chapter 46.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTER 47, "SNOWMOBILES" – FINAL RULE

Jessica Flatt requested Commission approval for the final rule for Chapter 47.

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 agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTER 56, "SHOOTING SPORTS PROGRAM GRANTS" – FINAL RULE

Tammie Krausman requested Commission approval for the final rule for Chapter 56.

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTERS 108, 109, 110, "WILD FURBEARER TRAPPING AND HUNTING" – FINAL RULE

Chris Ensminger requested Commission approval for the final rules for Chapter 108, 109, and 110.

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 agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

2024-2025 DEER MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT-IOWA CITY

Commissioners reviewed and discussed the 2024-2025 Deer Management Annual Reports submitted by Iowa City. A new management plan will be submitted to the Commission in 2026.

INFORMATION

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Several Commissions shared their recent outdoor experiences, wildlife sightings, and their plans for Spring outdoor activities.
- Commissioners thanked Marcus Branstad and Laura Foell for their outstanding service.
- Marcus Branstad and Laura Foell shared parting thoughts with the Commission.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Marcus Branstad adjourned the Natural Resources Commission meeting at 3:44 pm on May 8, 2025.

ADJOURNED

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

Decision Item

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

Donations

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

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Lake Macbride State Park	\$500.00	Donation for improvements at Lake Macbride State Park.	Martha Anderson
Parks, Forestry, and Preserves	\$77,911.40	Site prep, labor and materials to build the East Lakeview Shelter at Lake Wapello State Park.	Friends of Lake Wapello State Park
Parks, Forestry, and Preserves	\$1,295.00	Removal of an old culvert, new culvert replacement and gravel addition to a parking lot at Lacey-Keosauqua State Park.	Dave Buford
Wildlife Diversity	\$50.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity Fund.	Steve Weaver
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$250.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of Larry Lockey.	Leanna Battreall
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Samual Greene
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	Zach Boesen
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation in memory of my beloved grandson Jake Kruse.	Peggy Calvert
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of John Sunstrum.	Lauren Reinhard
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of John P. Sunstrum.	Chet Johnson and Cammie Callen
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$250.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Calvin Nelson of Madrid.	Continental Manufacturing Chemist
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of John Sunstrum.	Christopher Murray
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of JP Sunstrum.	Joshua Richman
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund.	David Oaks
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in honor of John Porter Sunstrum.	David Deemer
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund as part of the John P Sundstrum memorial.	Sandra & Dave Schutt

Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$202,319.36	Donation for the purpose of restoring and enhancing habitats for grassland birds and other grasslands species of greatest conservation need on public lands with no less than 50% of the funds dedicated toward permanent protection of grassland habitats.	Marion Conover
Parks, Forests, and Preserves	\$4060.90	Donations received through the Iowa State Parks Online Reservation System in March, 2025.	Multiple Donors

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

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

Decision Item

8. Contract with Friends of Lake Darling State Park

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

Contract Terms

Amount: \$80,000

Dates: May 9, 2025 to December 31, 2026

Funding Source(s): 100% Donation

Contract Purpose: The purpose of this Contract is to provide for the construction of a solar array unit on the lodge at Lake Darling State Park. The Friends Group is donating the full cost of the proposed project conditioned upon the use of a private contractor and providing one year of maintenance after the date of installation. The Department is not contributing any funds directly towards the cost of construction.

- The Friends Group will prepare plans for the solar array project and apply and obtain the sovereign lands construction permit.
- The Friends Group will noncompetitively solicit bids for the project and hire the contractor deemed to be the most responsible and responsive. Any determination or judgments required in the design or in the construction oversight and approval of the project shall be made solely by the Department.
- The Friends Group will provide maintenance for one year after the date of installation.

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

Conservation and Recreation Division

NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

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

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***9. Contract with JEO Consulting Group, Inc.**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with JEO Consulting Group of Ankeny, IA.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$57,083.00

Dates: May 12, 2025 to May 31, 2026

Funding Source(s): Woodland Health Initiative and Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Contract Purpose: To assist 13 Iowa communities with planning and managing their urban tree resources, development of response to the presence of Emerald Ash Borer and other tree pests and problems. As a part of the project each eastern Iowa community included in the contract will receive an inventory of street and park trees, a visual survey of forest health symptoms, a summary of benefits those trees, and an urban forest management plan.

Tasks include:

- Inventory street and park trees in identified communities. Collect data for each tree that includes all required categories for data collection, i.e., GPS derived locations for each tree and data elements for each tree.
- Visually survey all trees for signs and symptoms of invasive pest and disease in the identified communities, return data to DNR in shapefile format via e-mail.
- Calculate the benefit of the street and park trees using the most current version of i-Tree and create maps of the trees for each urban forest management plan.
- Finalize urban forest management plans for the identified communities and submit plans to DNR for approval.
- Presentation of the urban forest management plans to each community.

Communities include:

This process was done annually since 2012 for 400 other communities in total. These inventories and plans have aided communities with current information to make tree care and budget decisions. The data collected in these have helped prioritize removal and treatment of ash trees as well as monitored for pests like walnut twig beetle that is necessary for Iowa to continue international sale of wood products.

Selection Process Summary: The Department solicited proposals from 250 in-state arborists and national tree inventory companies. Proposals were scored based on the criteria as described in the RFP which included cost of service and experience conducting street tree inventories and writing urban forestry management plans which includes work plan, past work projects, capacity of respondent and mechanism for GIS collection.

Criteria Reviewed: Cost, brief company overview including your capacity to complete the Statement of Work Work Plan including time frame, experience conducting street inventories and writing urban forestry management plans, experience and references that demonstrate the expertise and ability of the respondent to provide the Statement of Work described in the Informal RFP, the capacity of the respondent to complete responsibilities described in the Statement of Work, and the mechanism for creation and delivery of GIS file geodatabase.

Proposal Due Date: April 11, 2025

of Proposals Received: 5

Recommendation: JEO Consulting Group, Inc

Vendor	Vendor Location (city, state)	Score of 150	Rank	Cost
Eocene Environmental Group	West Des Moines, IA	98	2	\$69,732
Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC.	Johnston, IA	86	3	\$55,752
SavATree	Bedford Hills, NY	73	4	\$105,495
JEO Consulting Group, Inc.	Lincoln, NE	113	1	\$57,083
Clear Path Utility Solutions, LLC	Middleburg Heights, OH	54	5	\$137,547.50

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester, Forestry Section
 Conservation and Recreation Division
 NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

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

Decision Item

10. Chapter 33, Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: County, City, Private Open Spaces and Conservation Education Grant Programs –Competitive Grant Program Selection Criteria

The Commission is requested to approve the competitive grant program selection criteria for Chapter 33, Resource Enhancement and Protection Program: City Parks & Open Spaces and County Conservation Grants.

Purpose: Chapter 33.16(3), 33.17(4) and 33.18(5) require the review and selection committees to establish criteria and scoring systems to be utilized in project evaluation for approval by the Director and the Natural Resource Commission. REAP is funded through a state appropriation and, by law, those funds must protect Iowa’s natural resource heritage of air, soils, waters, and wildlife for the benefit of present and future citizens.

Recommendation: The REAP City Parks & Open Spaces and County Conservation Review and Selection Committees recommend utilizing the same scoring system for both grant opportunities. The Private Open Spaces Cost-Share Review and Select Committee recommends a similar scoring system but specific to the nature of Private Open Spaces Cost-Share grant which does not include development. The rubrics presented will allow for improved transparency for applicants as they prepare applications and for a retrospective review on areas which could be improved on in future applications if not selected for funding.

REAP City Parks & Open Spaces/County Conservation Grant Rubric

Criteria	Exemplary	Adequate	Needs Improvement	Insufficient Evidence
Need/Problem Statement <i>(20 pts)</i> What is the "why" for this project? What information led to this being the right project at this time?	The problem/need is clearly articulated with local information and/or references relevant to the project identified that indicate the need. The need is presented in a compelling manner. <i>(Score of 16-20)</i>	The problem/need is outlined but loosely connected to local information and/or references relevant to the identified project. The project is interesting but not in a compelling manner. <i>(Score of 10-15)</i>	The problem/need is stated but hard to follow with no clear connection to local information and/or references. <i>(Score of 5-9)</i>	The problem/need is not clearly stated. <i>(Score of 0-4)</i>

<p>Project design/planning approach (10 pts)</p> <p>What are the main project tasks and activities and how will it be accomplished? Will proposed plans enhance or compliment recreational activities in the county/community and/or the resource and its proximity to other nearby or adjacent public lands?</p>	<p>The plan is logical and will likely have a significant impact; the plan appears reasonable, scalable, and can be accomplished within the estimated timeline. It builds on other relevant work and distinguishes itself from others.</p> <p>(Score of 8-10)</p>	<p>The plan is likely to have an impact ; The plan appears reasonable and scalable although the estimated timeline is questionable for this type of work. The project appears achievable despite gaps.</p> <p>(Score 5-7)</p>	<p>The plan is likely to have a limited impact; The project plan and budget are unclear and lack sufficient detail and look to be challenging to complete within the timeline.</p> <p>(Score 2-4)</p>	<p>The plan does not appear to have a logical approach. Insufficient information to appropriately gauge feasibility making it unlikely to be completed. Funds do not seem to be secured.</p> <p>(Score of 0-1)</p>
<p>Project Impact/Outcomes (30 pts)</p> <p>How will the resource and/or community change or be protected because of this project? How will they know if they are successful?</p>	<p>The project will profoundly and positively impact natural resources and outdoor recreational use. The project has a broad and significant benefit to enhancement of specific natural communities or the general public.</p> <p>(Score of 22-30)</p>	<p>The project will have a positive impact on natural resources and outdoor recreational use. The project has a narrow scope but will have some benefit to natural resource communities and the general public.</p> <p>(Score of 21-13)</p>	<p>The project will have little impact on natural resources and outdoor recreational use. The project has limited benefit to either specific natural resource communities or the general public.</p> <p>(Score 12 - 6)</p>	<p>The project has no demonstrated impact or benefit.</p> <p>(Score 0-5)</p>
<p>Relationship to organizational strategic vision and/or local, regional and state goals (20 pts - No mention of REAP County Plan automatic 5 pt deduction)</p> <p>Does this project help accomplish goals and objectives at the local level? Does this project help meet the goals and objectives of SCORP, WAP, Iowa Forests Today and their local county REAP 5-Year Plan?</p>	<p>Project outcomes or activities align with local community/county/regional, Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and county REAP 5-Year Plan and the grantee has clearly presented the link.</p> <p>(Score of 16-20)</p>	<p>Project elements align with community/county/regional plans but connect to either the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or county REAP 5-Year Plan, not both.</p> <p>(Score of 10-15)</p>	<p>The project only shows relationship to community/county/regional plans not the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan or the county REAP 5-Year Plan.</p> <p>(Score of 5-9)</p>	<p>No relationship between the project and the goals of other plans are shown.</p> <p>(Score of 0-4)</p>

<p>Budget/Budget Narrative (10 pts)</p> <p>What funds are being used to support this project? Are all funds secured, if not what is the plan for achieving additional resources in the 2-Year timeline of a grant agreement.</p>	<p>Planned expenditures are clearly described and costs seem reasonable. Grantee has documented secured funds or has identified options for remaining funds yet to be secured, within the grant agreement timeline.</p> <p>(Score of 8-10)</p>	<p>Planned expenditures are somewhat described and seem reasonable. Grantee has documented secured funds but it is not clear for remaining funds.</p> <p>(Score of 5-7)</p>	<p>The planned expenditures might support the planned actions, but require more detail or justification. It is not clear if additional funds are secured or plans identified to secure funds.</p> <p>(Score of 2-4)</p>	<p>The planned expenditures do not logically support the planned actions.</p> <p>(Score of 0-1)</p>
<p>Project Sustainability (10 pts)</p> <p>What maintenance systems are in place, or what plans does the community/county have to maintain this project once grant funds have been expended?</p>	<p>The project will have a positive habitat/recreation/economic impact on the community/county. Evidence provided supports the grantee is aware of and has a maintenance plan to ensure sustainability of the project after grant funds have completed.</p> <p>(Score of 8-10)</p>	<p>The project will have adequate habitat/recreation/economic impact on the community/county. Grantee mentioned maintenance support but it wasn't clear sustainability of the project after grant funds have completed.</p> <p>(Score of 5-7)</p>	<p>The project may have some habitat/recreation/economic impact on the community/county. No mention of maintenance or support to ensure the sustainability of the project after grant funds have completed.</p> <p>(Score of 2-4)</p>	<p>No real impact to habitat/recreation or the economy for this project. The project will not be supported in any reasonable way after grant funds are completed.</p> <p>(Score 0-1)</p>
Total Eligible Points - 100				

REAP Private Open Spaces Cost-Share

Criteria	Exemplary	Adequate	Insufficient Evidence
<p>Resource Representation <i>(30 pts)</i></p> <p>The quality of the project site, including but not limited to the size and diversity of the project area and the vegetation and wildlife it supports. It also incorporates land improvements that would support these public uses while having a positive impact on the ecosystem such as bank stabilization, prairie re-establishment, wetland development, etc.</p>	<p>The property value (habitat, recreation, species composition) is a high quality offering that supports the goals and objectives of REAP; It builds on other properties and habitat investments and distinguishes itself from others. Required matching funds are secure.</p> <p><i>(Score of 20-30)</i></p>	<p>The property value is likely to have an impact and does meet the goals and objectives of REAP ; Despite gaps, this property is a good investment for lowans. Matching funds are secured.</p> <p><i>(Score 8-20)</i></p>	<p>The property value appears to have limited impact and peripherally meets the goals and objectives of REAP. Ultimately there is insufficient information to appropriately gauge feasibility. Matching funds are not secured.</p> <p><i>(Score of 0-7)</i></p>
<p>Level of Significance <i>(20 pts)</i></p> <p>The relative rarity of the natural resources found on the project site, including but not limited to native vegetation and documented presence of species of greatest conservation need as defined in the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan. Supporting the Department's goals for habitat conservation.</p>	<p>This property clearly meets the goals of the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan.</p> <p><i>(Score of 15-20)</i></p>	<p>The property meets some of the goals identified in the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan, but it was difficult to assess with the information provided.</p> <p><i>(Score of 7-14)</i></p>	<p>Difficult to assess from information in the application how this property meets the goals of the Iowa Wildlife Action Plan.</p> <p><i>(Score of 0-6)</i></p>

<p>Level of Threat (10 pts)</p> <p>Specific factors and immediate threats to the project area that constitute urgency for acquisition and development, including but not limited to urban expansion, residential development, agricultural activities or clearing.</p>	<p>Property has a broad and significant benefit to enhancement of specific natural communities or the general public and the applicant has clearly demonstrated the need for immediate protection.</p> <p>(Score of 8-10)</p>	<p>Property has some benefit to natural resource communities and the general public. The applicant has not clearly demonstrated a need for immediate action.</p> <p>(Score of 4-7)</p>	<p>Project has not demonstrated a need for immediate action.</p> <p>(Score 0-3)</p>
<p>Relation to Public Land (10 pts)</p> <p>The proximity to existing wildlife management areas, existing parks, and other public recreation or greenbelt areas already under public ownership and management.</p>	<p>This property is adjacent or in close proximity of other public lands</p> <p>(Score of 8-10)</p>	<p>This property is adjacent to other areas that are protected by easements or enrolled in other government (in perpetuity) programs (wetland protection, etc..).</p> <p>(Score of 4-7)</p>	<p>Property is not located close to other protected lands.</p> <p>(Score of 0-3)</p>
<p>Public Benefit and Multiple Use Potential (30 pts)</p> <p>A demonstrated benefit to the public, including but not limited to expanded recreational or educational opportunities, tourism and economic development potential. The project site provides more than one public use, e.g., the project provides hunting, fishing, birding and hiking opportunities to the public.</p>	<p>This property could have a significant impact in increased opportunity for public use through hunting, fishing, birding, hiking and/or other recreational pursuits which could impact local efforts at increased tourism in nearby communities.</p> <p>(Score of 20-30)</p>	<p>This property could have a positive impact on increased recreational opportunity which may impact local efforts in increased tourism.</p> <p>(Score of 8-20)</p>	<p>The application didn't clearly demonstrate the benefit to the public and focused on limited recreational opportunities.</p> <p>(Score of 0-7)</p>
<p>Total Eligible Points - 100</p>			

Michelle Wilson, REAP Coordinator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

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

Decision Item (* indicates proposed consent item)

***11. Public Land Management Projects**

11.1 Chapter 17 Lease Renewal, Royal Retreat LLC - Dickinson County

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Lease (Lease for use of State Owned Land) Number 64-R with Royal Retreat LLC.

Location: The lease covers an area of dedicated public land 15' x 10' and an area 3' x 10' adjacent to Lot 15, in Block 35 of Triboji Beach Addition in Dickinson County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: The site contains a concrete patio and steps maintained by the Tenant.

Lease History: The location has been under lease since 2011.

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.

11.2 Chapter 17 Lease Renewal, Guardian Holdings, LLC - Scott County

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Lease (Lease for use of State Owned Land) Number 70-R with Guardian Holdings, LLC.

Location: The lease covers an area with 360 feet of frontage and 58 feet of depth located at Mississippi River mile 487.0 in Section 27, Township 78 North, Range 4 East of the 5th P.M. in Scott County, just north of Bettendorf.

Site Purpose: The site contains steel sheet pile retention walls, a concrete platform, and two moorings for the purpose of loading and unloading commodities to and from barges.

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

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee is \$1,292.89 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.

11.3 Boundary Resolution, Harrison County – Loess Hills State Forest

The Natural Resource Commission is being requested to approve a Quit Claim Deed transfer to JAR Farms, LTD for 2.87 acres and a Quit Claim Deed transfer to Myrna J. Thomas for 3.15 acres in Harrison County, Iowa.

The Loess Hills State Forest, Little Sioux Unit, containing approximately 3,634 acres, is located one mile east of Little Sioux in Harrison County. On November 10, 2008, William and Shirley Harl ("Harls") executed an offer to sell certain real estate for the sum of \$156,000 to the DNR comprised of the entirety of the S½ of the SW¼ of Section 17, Township 81 North, Range 44 west of the P.M. in Harrison County, Iowa, totaling 80 acres ("Property"). The sales price was based upon an appraisal secured by the department that valued the 80-acre parcel at \$1,950 an acre for a total of \$156,000.

At the time of the purchase, the Harls were record owners of that portion of the Property on both the East and West side of the centerline of Larpenteur Memorial Road ("Road"). At the time of the purchase of the Property by the State of Iowa, the Harls retained certain property West of and adjacent to the purchased Property known as the N ½ of the SE ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 18, Township 81 North, Range 44 West of the 5th P.M. and David and Myrna Thomas owned certain property West of the purchased Property known as the S ½ of the SE ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 18, Township 81 North, Range 44 West of the 5th P.M. (See Exhibit B).

However, the Harls understood the 80-acres they were selling to be located entirely East of the centerline of the Road, but during the acquisition process, the DNR reality staff reached out to the Harrison County Auditor to check the boundaries and were provided a map that showed that a small portion of the Property was West of the Centerline of the Road, and thus, included all of the Road (See Exhibit B). Nonetheless, the DNR decided to move forward with the purchase of that portion of the Property East of the centerline of the Road even though this parcel was necessarily less than the full 80-acres.

The purchase of the Property was closed on the 29th day of December 2008. However, instead of receiving a deed for that portion of the Property East of the centerline of the Road, the State was inadvertently deeded the entirety of the Property.

Subsequently, the Harls sold their retained property on the West side of the Road in 2017 to JAR Farms, LTD. This parcel included an acreage that was located West of the Road. In 2020, JAR Farms, LTD completed a survey to parcel off the house to sell it. During this survey it was discovered that the section line between Sections 17 and 18, contrary to the to the assessor map set out at Exhibit B, was actually 162 feet West of the centerline of the Road. According to this survey, the State was inadvertently deeded the acres West of the centerline of the Road (See Exhibits A and C), including a portion that the Harls did not think they owned but thought that Myrna Thomas owned. After acquiring the entirety of the Property, the State through the DNR never occupied or took any possessory interest in that portion of the Property West of the centerline of the Road, and JAR Farm, LTD and Myrna Thomas have been using and occupying that portion of the Property adjacent to their property in neighboring Section 18.

As JAR Farm, LTD and their predecessors and Myrna Thomas have been possessing and occupying that portion of the Property West of the centerline of the Road adjacent to their Section 18 property since the State was deeded the Property in 2008, they are seeking Quit Claim Deeds from the State for that portion of the Property West of the centerline of the Road totaling 2.87 acres for JAR Farms, LTD and 3.15 acres, more or less, for Myrna J. Thomas. Once the corrective deeds are recorded, the State will be left with approximately 74 acres of property East of the centerline of the Road.

The governor on behalf of the State has the ability to issue a Quit Claim Deed per Iowa Code section 9G.10 – Quitclaim deeds:

Whenever the governor is satisfied by proper record evidence that any tract of land which may have been deeded by virtue of any donation or sale to the state is not the land intended to have been described, and that an error has been committed in making out the transfers, in order that such error may be corrected, the governor is authorized to quitclaim the same to the proper owner thereof, and to receive a deed or deeds for the lands intended to have been deeded to the state originally.

Exhibit A

Goodman and Thomas Quit Claim Map Harrison County

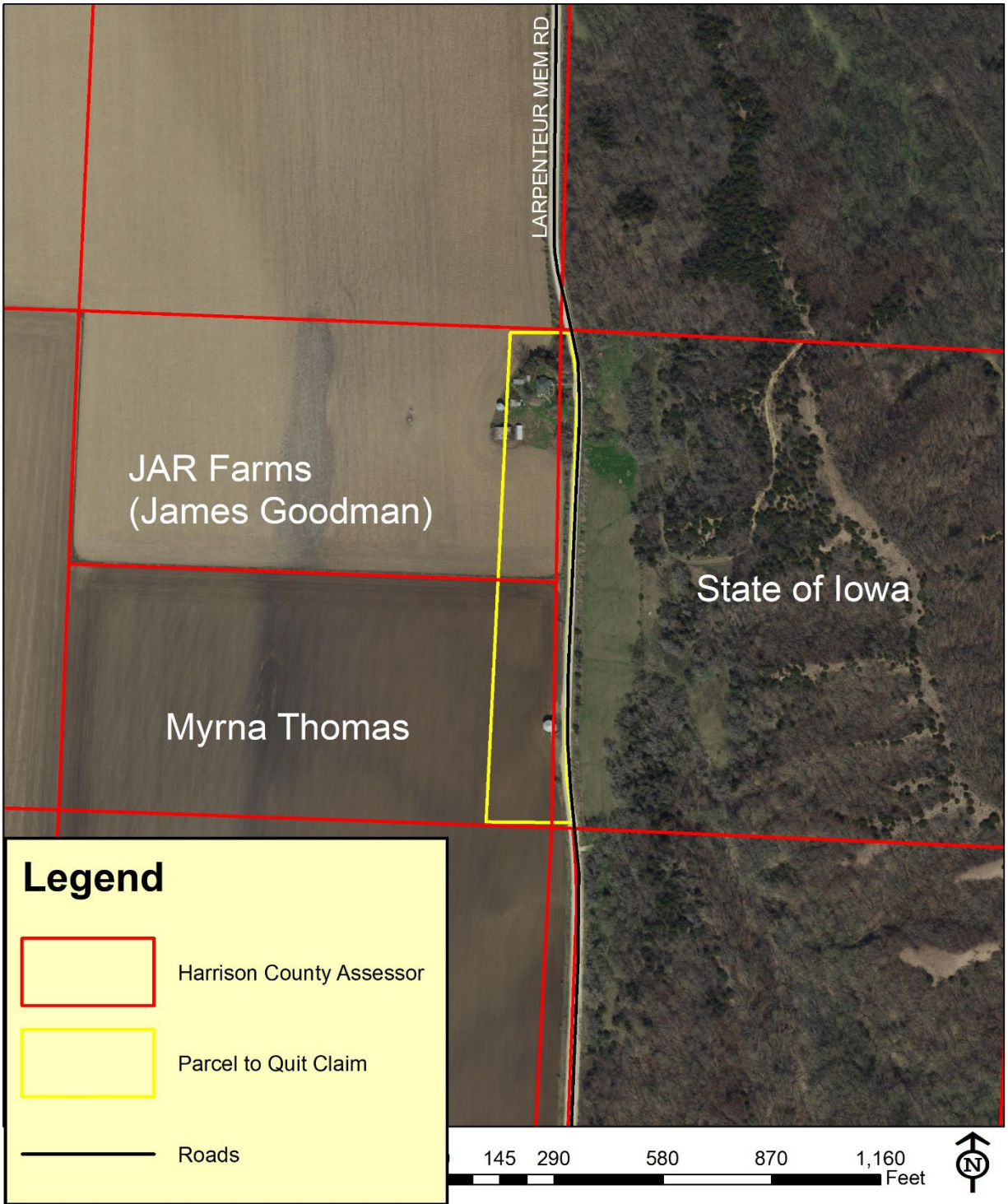
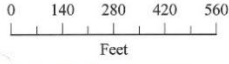


Exhibit B

Harrison County Parcel Map

The Data is provided "as is" without warranty or any representation of accuracy, timeliness or completeness. The burden for determining accuracy, completeness, timeliness, merchantability and fitness for or the appropriateness for use rests solely on the requester. Harrison County makes no warranties, express or implied, as to the use of the Data. There are no implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. The requester acknowledges and accepts the limitations of the Data, including the fact that the Data is dynamic and is in a constant state of maintenance, correction and update. Digital Orthophotography flown on March 1, 2000.

Cadastral Data represents land ownership, but does not define it. This Data does not replace a legal survey.



For more information, contact:
Harrison County Auditor's Office
(712) 644-2401
kpauley@harrisoncountyia.org



Harrison County
GIS & Mapping
111 N. 2nd Ave.
Logan, IA 51546
Phone: (712) 644-1324
Fax: (712) 644-2643
gis@harrisoncountyia.org

Overview Map of Location

(red box indicates area in detail)




Date Printed: 03/04/08



Visit the Harrison County Real Estate & GIS Website at <http://maps.harrisoncountyia.org>

Exhibit C

<p style="text-align: center;">PLAT BOOK</p>		 <p>Book 2020 Page 3046</p>
Location:	SW1/4 17-81-44, JACKSON TWP.	
HARRISON COUNTY, IOWA		<p>Document 3046 Type 06 007 Pages 1</p> <p>Date 11/19/2020 Time 11:18:41AM</p> <p>Rec Amt \$7.00</p>
Requestor:	JIM GOODMAN	
Proprietor:	IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	
Surveyor:	MATTHEW A. FOUTS	
Company:	JEO CONSULTING GROUP INC.	
Return To:	724 SIMON AVE., CARROLL, IA 51401	<p>LORIE A. THOMPSON, COUNTY RECORDER</p> <p>HARRISON COUNTY IOWA</p>

FOR RECORDER'S USE ONLY

PLAT OF SURVEY

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE NORTH HALF OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER ALL IN SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 81 NORTH, RANGE 44 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., HARRISON COUNTY IOWA. MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

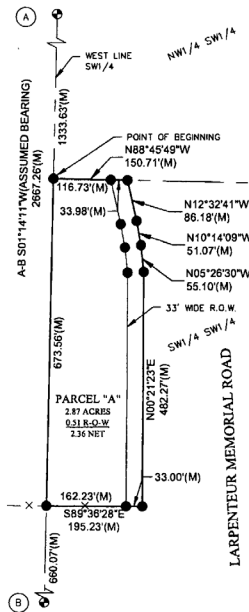
REFERRING AT THE WEST QUARTER CORNER OF SAID SECTION 17, THENCE S01°14'11"W (ASSUMED BEARING) ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 17, 1333.63 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

THENCE CONTINUING S01°14'11"W, 673.56 FEET, THENCE S89°36'28"E, 195.23 FEET TO THE CENTERLINE OF A GRAVEL ROAD; THENCE ON SAID CENTERLINE THE NEXT FOUR (4) COURSES: 1) N00°21'23"E, 482.27 FEET; 2) N05°26'30"W, 55.10 FEET; 3) N10°14'09"W, 51.07 FEET; 4) N12°32'41"W, 86.18 FEET; THENCE N88°45'49"W, 150.71 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

CONTAINING 2.87 ACRES, MORE OR LESS.

SURVEYORS NOTE:

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SURVEY IS TO CREATE A PARCEL, AND ASSOCIATED METES AND BOUNDS DESCRIPTION, LOCATED IN THE N1/2 OF THE SW1/4 OF THE SW1/4, ALL IN SECTION 17-81-44, THAT LIES WEST OF THE CENTERLINE OF LARPEUTEUR MEMORIAL ROAD.



- SECTION CORNERS:**
- (A) W1/4 CORNER 17-81-44, 5/8" REBAR (BOOK 2011-PAGE 1103)
 - (B) SW CORNER 17-81-44, 5/8" REBAR (PLAT BOOK 4 -PAGE 32)

APPROVED FOR REZONING

Approved: *Matthew A. Fouts* 11-19-20
 Planning & Zoning Administrator

- LEGEND**
- MONUMENT FOUND
 - MONUMENT SET (5/8"X3/4" REBAR W/ V.P.C. *23586*)
 - CALCULATED POINT
 - D DEEDED DISTANCE
 - G GOVERNMENT DISTANCE
 - M MEASURED DISTANCE
 - P PLATTED DISTANCE
 - R RECORDED DISTANCE


GRAPHIC SCALE
 0 50 100 200

VICINITY SKETCH
 HARRISON COUNTY
 IOWA
 R44W



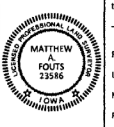
NOTE: ALL BEARINGS ARE ASSUMED.

DATE	9/24/2020
SCALE	1"=200'
DRAWN	MAF
FSB NO.	200169
FIELD BOOK	HARRISON COUNTY
FIELD WORK	MP/R
SHEET	1 OF 1
FILE NO.	



JEO CONSULTING GROUP

800.723.8567
 Carroll, IA 717-792-9711
 Ankeny, Iowa 515-964-5310
 www.jeo.com

	<p>I hereby certify that this land surveying document was prepared and the related survey was performed by me or under my direct personal supervision and that I am a duly licensed Land Surveyor under the laws of the State of Iowa.</p> <p><i>Matthew A. Fouts</i> 9-24-20 (signature) (date)</p>
	<p>Printed or typed name: Matthew A. Fouts</p> <p>License Number: 23586</p> <p>My license renewal date is December 31, 2021</p> <p>Pages or sheets covered by this seal SHEET 1 OF 1</p>
	<p>FILED</p>
	<p>PLAT</p>

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
 Conservation and Recreation Division
 NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

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

Information Item

12. 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
4/17/2025	25-02-94-01	DECEPTION HOLLOW	WEBSTER	The granular-surfaced low water crossing located at the entrance of the Deception Hollow boat ramp has recently been damaged. This project will stabilize the low water crossing	\$25,000.00	\$16,650.00 \$20,130.00 \$21,000.00 \$22,922.95
3/27/2025	25-02-08-02	LEDGES STATE PARK	BOONE	Remaining portions of foundations, floors and miscellaneous items need to be demolished and disposed of offsite. Clean fill material, obtained from within the park, will be used to fill in the excavation.	\$35,000.00	\$15,928.00 \$18,750.00 \$21,575.00 \$24,675.00 \$24,900.00 \$27,900.00 \$28,000.00 \$28,375.00 \$30,000.00 \$30,750.00
3/27/2025	25-04-69-01	VIKING LAKE	MONTGOMERY	Remaining portions of foundations, floors and miscellaneous items need to be demolished and disposed of offsite. Clean fill material, obtained from within the park, will be used to fill in the excavation.	\$24,000.00	\$14,000.00 \$16,750.00 \$22,859.00 \$23,000.00 \$23,850.00 \$24,000.00 \$24,500.00 \$29,300.00

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

13. Large Construction Item

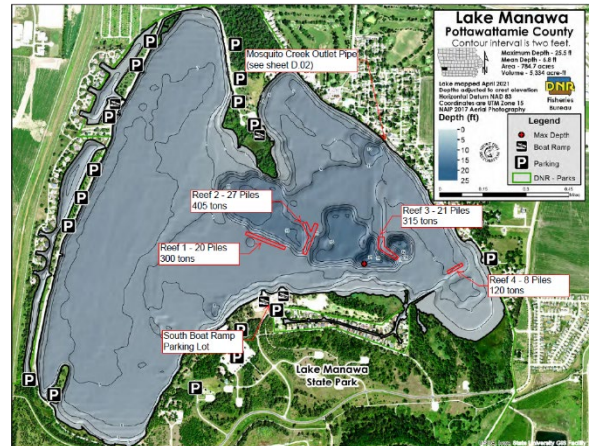
13.1 Lake Manawa State Park, Rock Reef Habitat and Outlet Pipe Work – Pottawattamie County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Lake Manawa State Park was dedicated in 1932. It is located within the city limits of Council Bluffs. The park is 1,529 acres in size that includes a 785-acre Missouri River oxbow lake. Amenities include a beach, beach concession, three boat ramps, various picnic shelters, two playgrounds, walking trails, bikes trails, and a youth campground.

Mosquito Creek is located to the east of Lake Manawa and has a watershed of more than 200 square miles. In 1955, a diversion structure and 48” reinforced concrete subsurface pipeline was constructed to partially direct flow from Mosquito Creek to Lake Manawa by gravity. In 2023, it was observed that water was boiling up through the shoreline armoring at the outlet location on the lake. It is believed that either the CMP outlet section of the pipe has failed or rock has migrated into the outlet pipe opening, causing a significant obstruction and reduced flow into the lake. Because shoreline access is difficult, this project will utilize barge-mounted equipment to clean out the riprap from the pipe outlet. Once free of obstruction, a 40-foot length of HDPE pipe will be slid halfway into the diversion pipe and anchored. Riprap will be replaced along the shoreline.

Additionally, this project will utilize a barge to place approximately 1,140 tons of riprap in 15-ton piles localized in four regions of the lake. These piles will provide improved habitat for game fish.



Engineering Project #: 22-04-78-01

Cost Estimate: \$180,000.00

Operating Bureau: Lake Restoration/Fisheries

Funding Source: 56% Lake Restoration, 44% REAP Open Spaces

Bid Letting Date: 4/17/2025

Construction Completion Date: 12/31/2025

Number of Bids Received: 3

Bidders

Jones Contractors & Associates, LLC

Dubuque Barge & Fleeting Srv. Co. DBA Newt Marine Service

Three Oaks Construction, Inc.

Dyersville, IA

East Dubuque, IL

North Sioux City, SD

\$173,095.55

\$442,680.00

\$759,125.00

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Jones Contractors & Associates, LLC.

13.2 Rathbun Hatchery, Pond Liner Replacement – Appanoose County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: The Rathbun Fish Hatchery is located immediately below the Rathbun Lake dam and was constructed in the late 1970's. It is a warm water fish hatchery, producing more than 100,000 eight-inch fingerling catfish, 75,000 two-inch fingerling catfish, 70 million walleye fry, 225,000 two-inch walleye fingerlings, and 175,000 nine-inch walleye fingerlings annually. On request, Muskellunge are overwintered and other species are raised as needed. Fish produced at this facility are stocked statewide in Iowa ponds, rivers, and lakes.



The outdoor facilities include ten 1-acre ponds and six 0.1-acre ponds. Each pond has a polypropylene liner that was installed in 1999, and they have reached the end of their design life. This project will remove and replace the liners with EPDM (ethylene propylene diene terpolymer). This project will also replace various water control valves that service the ponds.

Engineering Project #: 25-05-04-02

Cost Estimate: \$3,882,500.00

Operating Bureau: Fisheries

Funding Source: 75% Federal Sport Fish Restoration Grant, 25% Fish & Wildlife Trust Fund

Bid Letting Date: 4/17/2025

Construction Completion Date: 12/31/2025

Number of Bids Received: 1

Bidders

Joiner Construction Co., Inc.

Plano, IA

\$3,843,000.00

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to Joiner Construction Co., Inc.

13.3 Saylorville Wildlife Management Area, Upper Fraser Boat Ramp Renovation – Boone County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: The Saylorville WMA is 11,013 acres in size and stretches among Boone, Dallas and Polk counties. The area consists of the Des Moines River valley from Highway 17 in Polk County to the City of Fraser, and includes timber, upland, lake habitat, and numerous parking lots and river boat ramps.

Project Description: The Upper Fraser Boat Ramp is located on the Des Moines River in Boone County near Fraser, Iowa. The existing boat ramp is at risk due to the erosion of the existing riverbank upstream of the boat ramp. The existing gravel parking lot has also experienced flood damage. This project will install three weirs upstream of the existing boat ramp to stop the bank erosion and protect the boat ramp. Damaged areas of the parking lot will receive new granular surfacing and part of the existing gravel parking area will be converted to a concrete ADA parking space and an ADA concrete sidewalk connection to the boat ramp. The existing concrete boat ramp will also have a new concrete approach installed in place of the existing gravel approach.

Engineering Project #: 20-02-08-03

Cost Estimate: \$125,000.00

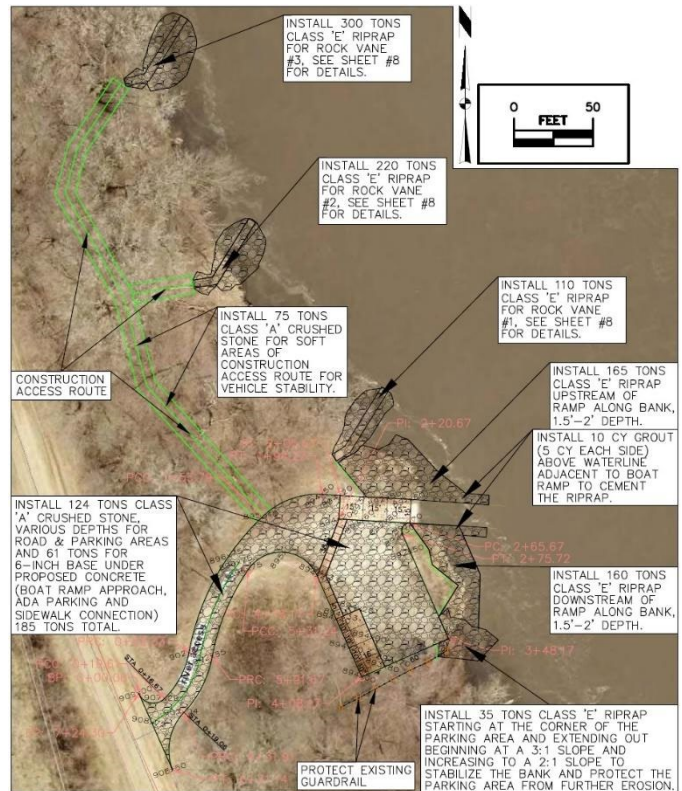
Operating Bureau: Wildlife

Funding Source: 50% MFT, 50% Coast Guard

Bid Letting Date: 4/17/2025

Construction Completion Date: 11/30/2025

Number of Bids Received: 11



Bidders

Richards Construction Co, Inc	Sac City, IA	\$101,683.00
TK Concrete Inc	Pella, IA	\$110,847.00
IA Builders Dirtwork	Albia, IA	\$118,985.00
Con-Struct Inc	Ames, IA	\$131,781.00
Herman Drainage LLC	Woodward, IA	\$137,395.10
Ram Development LLC	Des Moines, IA	\$148,491.00
Portland Construction Company	Ankeny, IA	\$160,801.00
Keller Excavating Inc	Boone, IA	\$161,518.00
Jones Contractors & Associates LLC	Dyersville, IA	\$163,926.88
Absolute Concrete dba Absolute Group	Granger, IA	\$172,837.29
Riley Armstrong Plumbing and Heating	Fort Dodge, IA	\$249,629.00

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

13.4 Loess Hills State Forest and Lewis & Clark State Park, Shingle Roof Replacements – Harrison & Monona Counties

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: On June 12, 2024 severe thunder storms, with hail, hit the headquarters of the Loess Hills State Forest and Lewis & Clark State Park. The hail produced was large enough to damage the roofs of the structures at these two locations. It was determined that the asphalt roofs warranted replacement. This project is only for the replacement of the roofs that have asphalt shingles at these two locations. A second project will be contracted to address steel roofs that were also damaged.

This project will provide new asphalt shingle roofing for three structures at the Loess Hills SF (Visitor Center, Maintenance Building, and Storage Building) and four roofs at Lewis & Clark State Park (Lodge, Picnic Shelters, and Campground Kiosk). All existing roofing will be removed and replaced with new materials as part of this contract.

Engineering Project #: 25-01-43-02
Cost Estimate: \$80,000.00
Operating Bureau: Parks
Funding Source: 100% Executive Council
Bid Letting Date: 4/17/2025
Construction Completion Date: 8/1/2025
Number of Bids Received: 6



Bidders

JC Roofing & Insulating Inc	South Sioux City, NE	\$52,427.00
Nagel Management Group Inc	Truro, IA	\$72,264.00
PG Customs LLC	Harlan, IA	\$78,976.00
Walker Brothers Roofing LLC	Sloan, IA	\$79,956.00
DAOS Construction Inc	Mondamin, IA	\$83,317.00
Titan Roofing & Exteriors	Grimes, IA	\$87,878.40

Upon Engineering’s review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to JC Roofing & Insulating Inc.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
 Conservation and Recreation Division
 May 8, 2025

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

Decision Item

14. Public Land Acquisition Project

14.1 Springbrook WMA, Guthrie County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Guthrie County near Springbrook Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Acreage: 117 acres

Appraised Price: \$622,000.00

DNR Purchase Price: \$445,350.00

Property Description: This property is located in north central Guthrie county about six miles north of Guthrie Center. The property is less than 2 miles west of Springbrook State Park and Springbrook Wildlife Management Area. The property is bordered to the north by 0.6 miles of the Middle Raccoon River. There are over 100 acres of high-quality woodland habitat. In the southwest corner, there exists a brome field that will be restored to native grassland once the property is acquired. Access is provided through 165th Street.

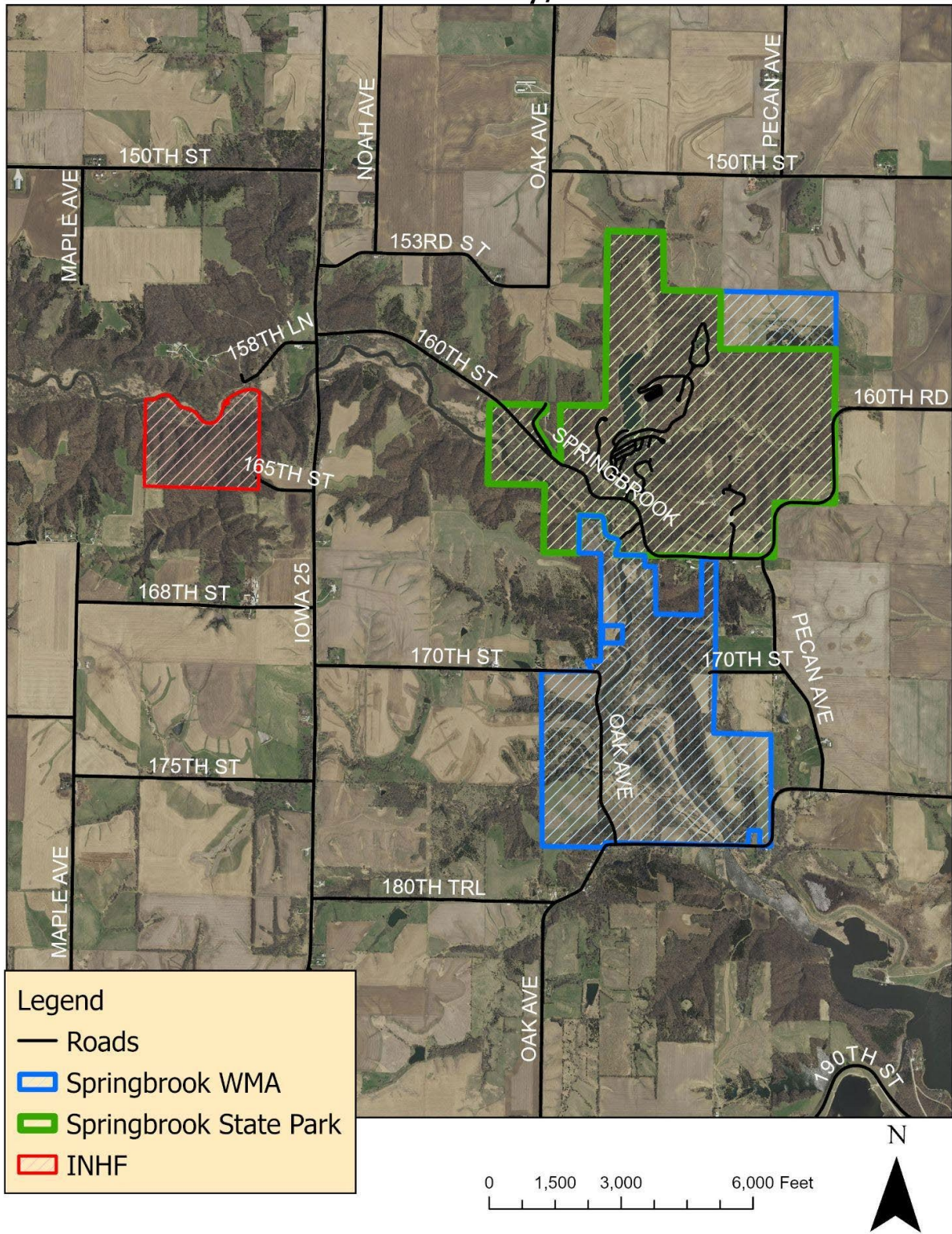
Purpose: This acquisition will protect wildlife populations and water quality in a crucial habitat corridor along the Middle Raccoon River, which supplies drinking water to over 600,000 Iowans in the Des Moines Metropolitan Area. Additionally, it will provide for public access to hunting and other outdoor recreational opportunities.

DNR Property Manager: Wildlife Bureau

Funding Source(s): \$445,350 REAP Private/Public Grant

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

Realty Services/ Springbrook WMA Guthrie County/ INHF



14.2 Heritage Valley Forest Legacy Area, Allamakee County – Van Gerpen

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to acquire a permanent conservation easement on a tract of land located in northwestern Allamakee County.

Seller: Christopher and Gwen Van Gerpen

Acreage: 29 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$54,726.00

Appraised Value: \$72,968.00

Property Description The subject property is located in the Driftless Area of northeast Iowa in Allamakee County, approximately 10 miles northeast of Decorah. The subject property is owned by Chris and Gwen Van Gerpen, who have owned this property since 2007. The conservation easement will encompass two blocks of forestland, located on the north and south sides of a gravel road. The north portion is bounded to the north by Pine Creek WMA. The largest block of mature, heavily wooded forestland within the conservation easement area, is located in the south parcel of the property. The North parcel of the property has a newly established oak tree planting. The wooded areas on the property have a combined area of 23.38 acres (North Parcel= 6.63 acres and South Parcel = 16.75). There are 5.47 acres of agricultural land within the conservation easement area located in the South Parcel. This property has a mix of elevations, including ridgetop, hillside and valley areas. Forest species are primarily hardwoods of oak, walnut, and hickory.

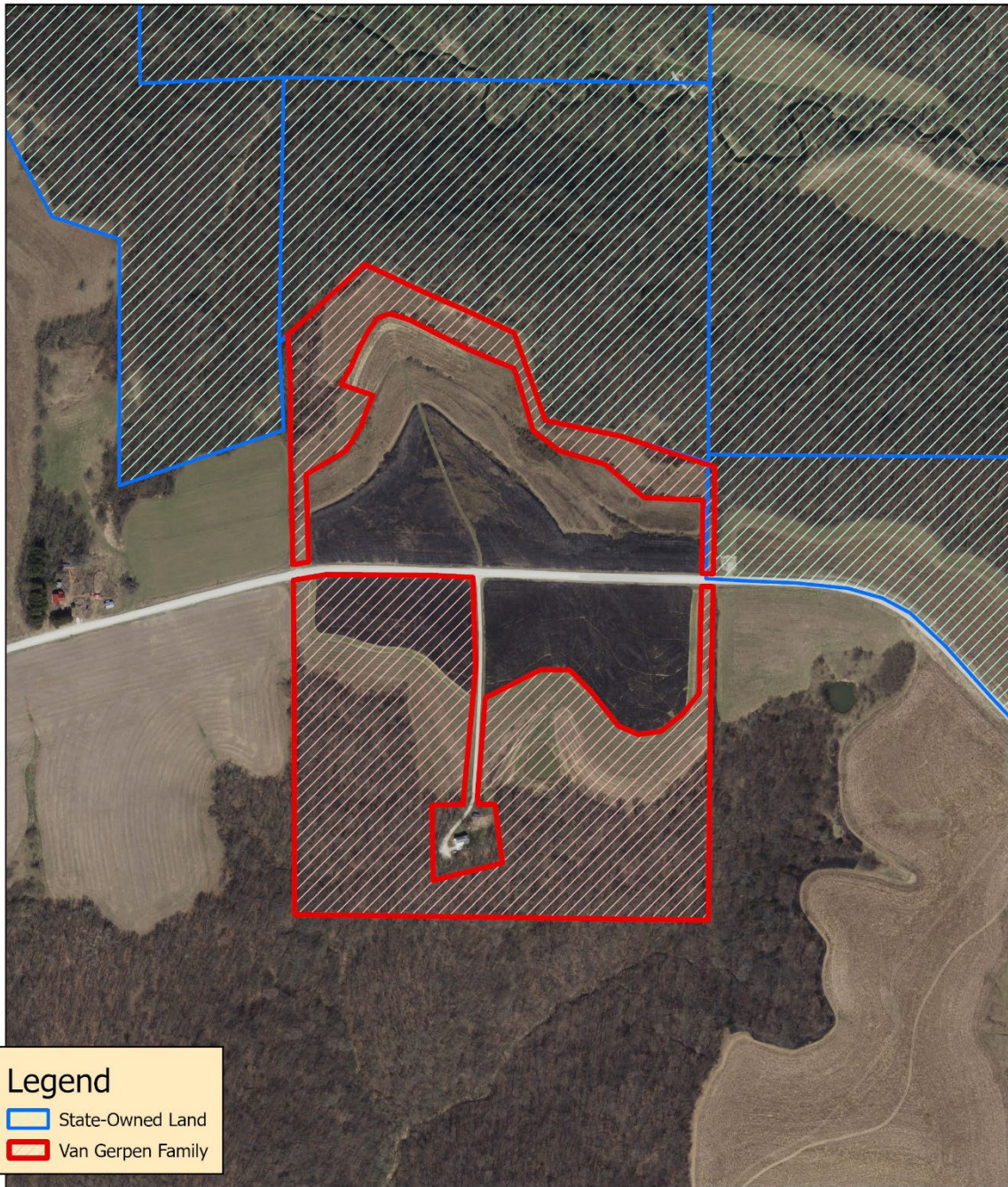
Purpose: The purpose of this conservation easement is to protect environmentally important private forests which are threatened by conversion, and to provide for sustainable management of the working forest. The easement provides for land conservation of the forest land, forest resources, water quality protection, and wildlife habitat all while maintaining the continuity of the forested area. This easement acquisition will also help meet Iowa's 2020 Forest Action Plan and the 2015 Wildlife Action Plan goals, as well as provide for continuous open-space views. The Forestry Section will be responsible for monitoring compliance with the terms of the easement.

DNR Property Manager: Forestry Section

Funding Source(s): Forest Legacy Program grant through USDA Forest Service

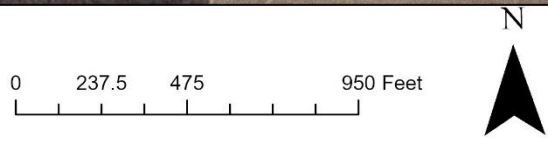
Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the USDA Forest Service.

Realty Services/ Forest Legacy Easement Allamakee County / Van Gerpen



Legend

- State-Owned Land
- Van Gerpen Family



14.3 Heritage Valley Forest Legacy Area, Allamakee & Winneshiek County – A.T.M.S. Real Estate LLLP

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to acquire a permanent conservation easement on a tract of land located in west central Allamakee County.

Seller: A.T.M.S. Real Estate LLLP

Acreage: 203.66 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$420,971.25

Appraised Value: \$561,295.00

Property Description: This property is located ~6 miles northwest of Waukon, in the Driftless Area of northeast Iowa. The tract is one large block of heavily-wooded forestland adjacent to agricultural land. The topography within the easement area varies greatly, approximately 250 ft, reflecting ridgetop, hillside, and valley areas. Patterson Creek runs through the southern portion of the property. Forest species are primarily hardwoods of oak, walnut, and hickory. Within the easement, there are two open areas consisting of grassland cover located between the forest the crops ground and in the far northwest corner of the parcel. The easement will encumber 203 of the 320 acres on this property. The acres outside of the easement are crop land and a homestead site. Patterson Creek Road provides access from the south.

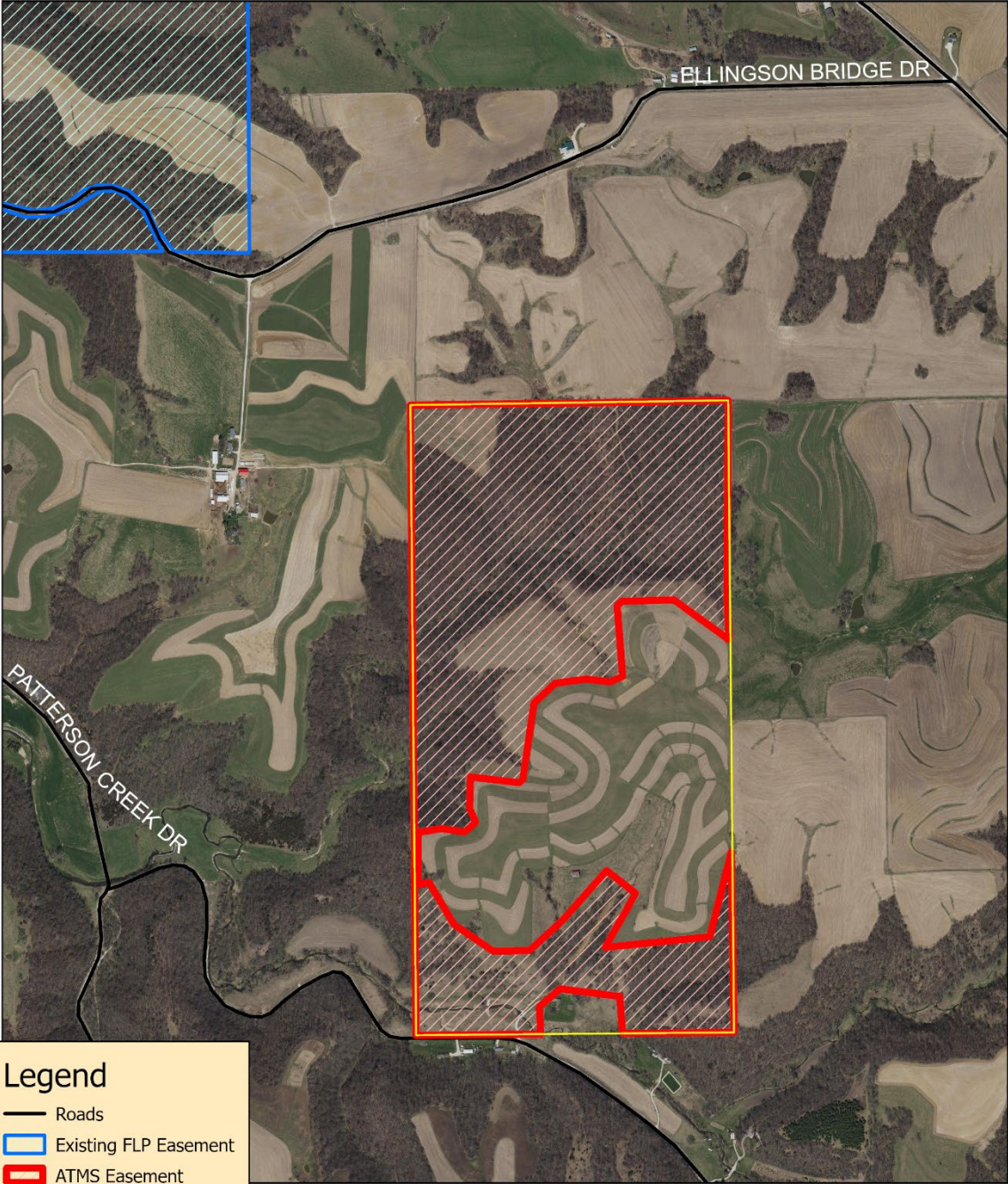
Purpose: The purpose of this conservation easement is to protect environmentally important private forests which are threatened by conversion, and to provide for sustainable management of the working forest. The easement provides for land conservation of the forest land, forest resources, water quality protection, and wildlife habitat all while maintaining the continuity of the forested area. This easement acquisition will also help meet Iowa's 2020 Forest Action Plan and the 2015 Wildlife Action Plan, as well as provide for continuous open-space views. The Forestry Section will be responsible for monitoring compliance with the terms of the easement.

DNR Property Manager: Forestry Section

Funding Source(s): Forest Legacy Program grant through USDA Forest Service

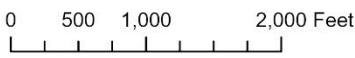
Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the USDA Forest Service.

Realty Services/ Forest Legacy Easement
Allamakee/Winneshiek County / ATMS Real Estate LLLP Tract 14



Legend

- Roads
- Existing FLP Easement
- ATMS Easement
- ATMS Property



14.4 Heritage Valley Forest Legacy Area, Allamakee & Winneshiek County – A.T.M.S. Real Estate LLLP

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to acquire a permanent conservation easement on a tract of land located on the border of Winneshiek and Allamakee County.

Seller: A.T.M.S. Real Estate LLLP

Acreage: 328.45 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$551,250.00

Appraised Value: \$735,000.00

Property Description: This property is located ~10 miles northwest of Waukon, in the Driftless Area of northeast Iowa. The tract is one large block of heavily-wooded forestland with some agricultural land interspersed throughout. The topography within the conservation easement area varies greatly, approximately 330 ft, reflecting ridgetop, hillside, and valley areas. Forest species are primarily hardwoods of oak, walnut, and hickory. There are permitted agricultural areas of approximately 71.81 acres as part of the 7 irregular-shaped fields that are included as part of the easement. There are no building improvements. Ferris Mill Road provides access from the east and West Ridge Road provides access from the west.

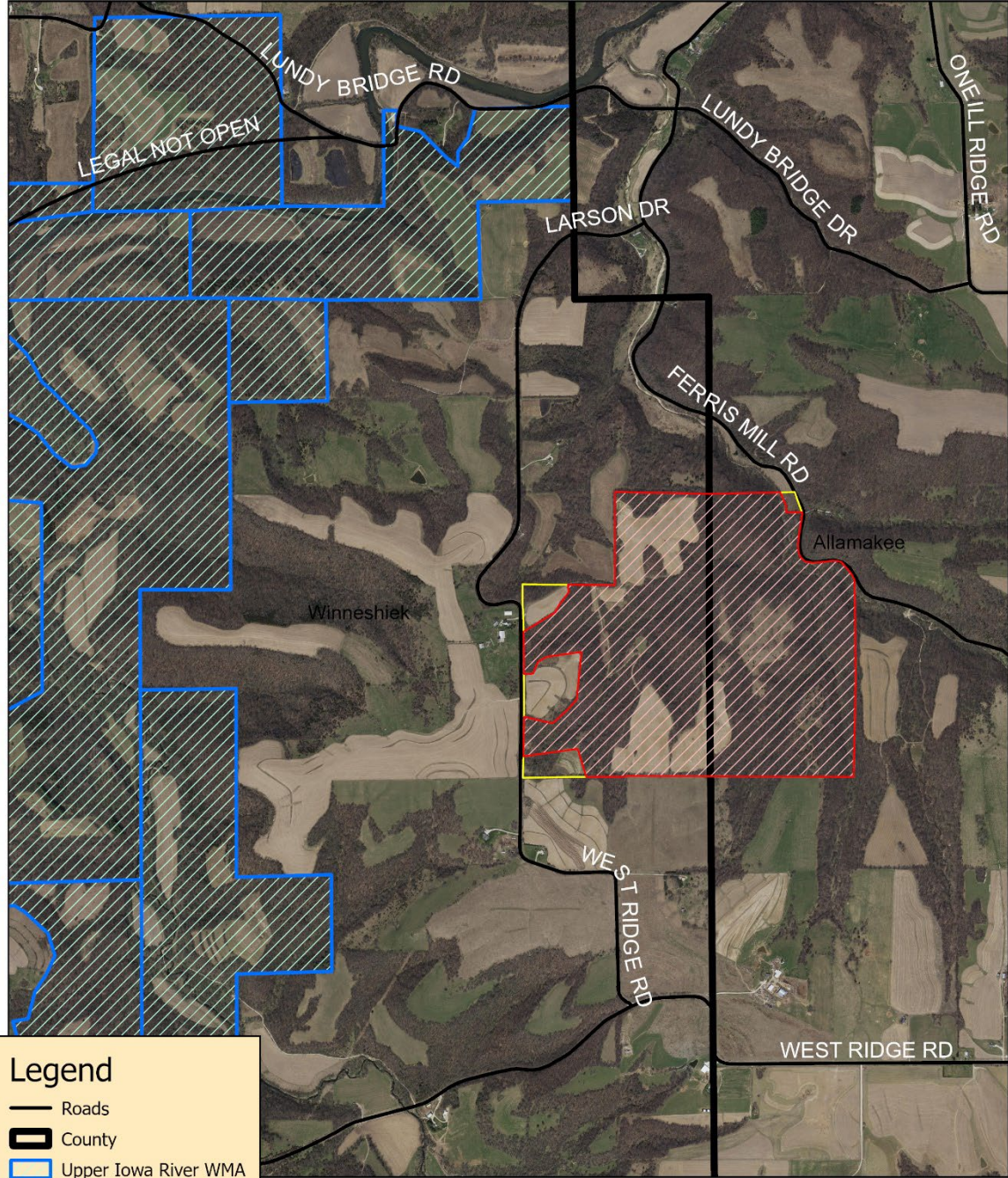
Purpose: The purpose of this conservation easement is to protect environmentally important private forests which are threatened by conversion, and to provide for sustainable management of the working forest. The easement provides for land conservation of the forest land, forest resources, water quality protection, and wildlife habitat all while maintaining the continuity of the forested area. This easement acquisition will also help meet Iowa's 2020 Forest Action Plan and the 2015 Wildlife Action Plan, as well as provide for continuous open-space views. The Forestry Section will be responsible for monitoring compliance with the terms of the easement.

DNR Property Manager: Forestry Section

Funding Source(s): Forest Legacy Program grant through USDA Forest Service

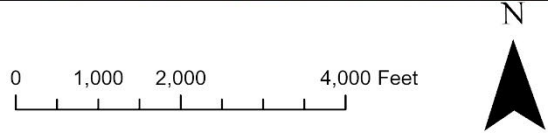
Incidental Costs: Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the USDA Forest Service.

Realty Services/ Forest Legacy Easement
Allamakee/Winneshiek County / ATMS Real Estate LLLP Tract 17



Legend

- Roads
- ▭ County
- ▭ Upper Iowa River WMA
- ▭ A.T.M.S. Easement
- ▭ A.T.M.S. Property



14.5 Loess Hills State Forest, Monona County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Monona County adjacent to Loess Hills State Forest.

Seller: Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF)

Acreage: 1769 acres

DNR Purchase Price: \$5,150,000

Appraised Value: \$8,137,000

Property Description: The subject property is located in the globally unique, Loess Hills of western Iowa in Monona County, approximately 6 miles northeast of Little Sioux, about 50 miles north of Council Bluffs and around 60 miles south of Sioux City. This former Boy Scout Camp is a single block of mostly forested land. The forest species are predominately hardwoods of oak and hickory. The property consists entirely of Loess Hills topography, with a mix of ridgetop, hillside and valley areas. A 20-acre lake is located in the heart of the property. Access is provided from Larpenteur Memorial Road on the West and County Highway E60 on the Northeast. This parcel will connect three separate edges of the Loess Hills State Park, Preparation Canyon Unit, which is currently 4,068 acres. This property is located in the Loess Hills Bird Conservation Area, which is part of the Central migratory flyway, and has documented 249 avian species including 80 Iowa species of greatest conservation need. The property is designated as a Audubon Important Bird Area and is located along the Loess Hills Scenic Byway. The Loess Hills have a rich archaeological heritage. Several Native American tribes lived in the area (the Omaha, Ponca, Iowa, Pottawattamie and the Sioux). A ceremonial burial area for the Sioux is located on a hilltop prairie facing the Missouri floodplain on the property.

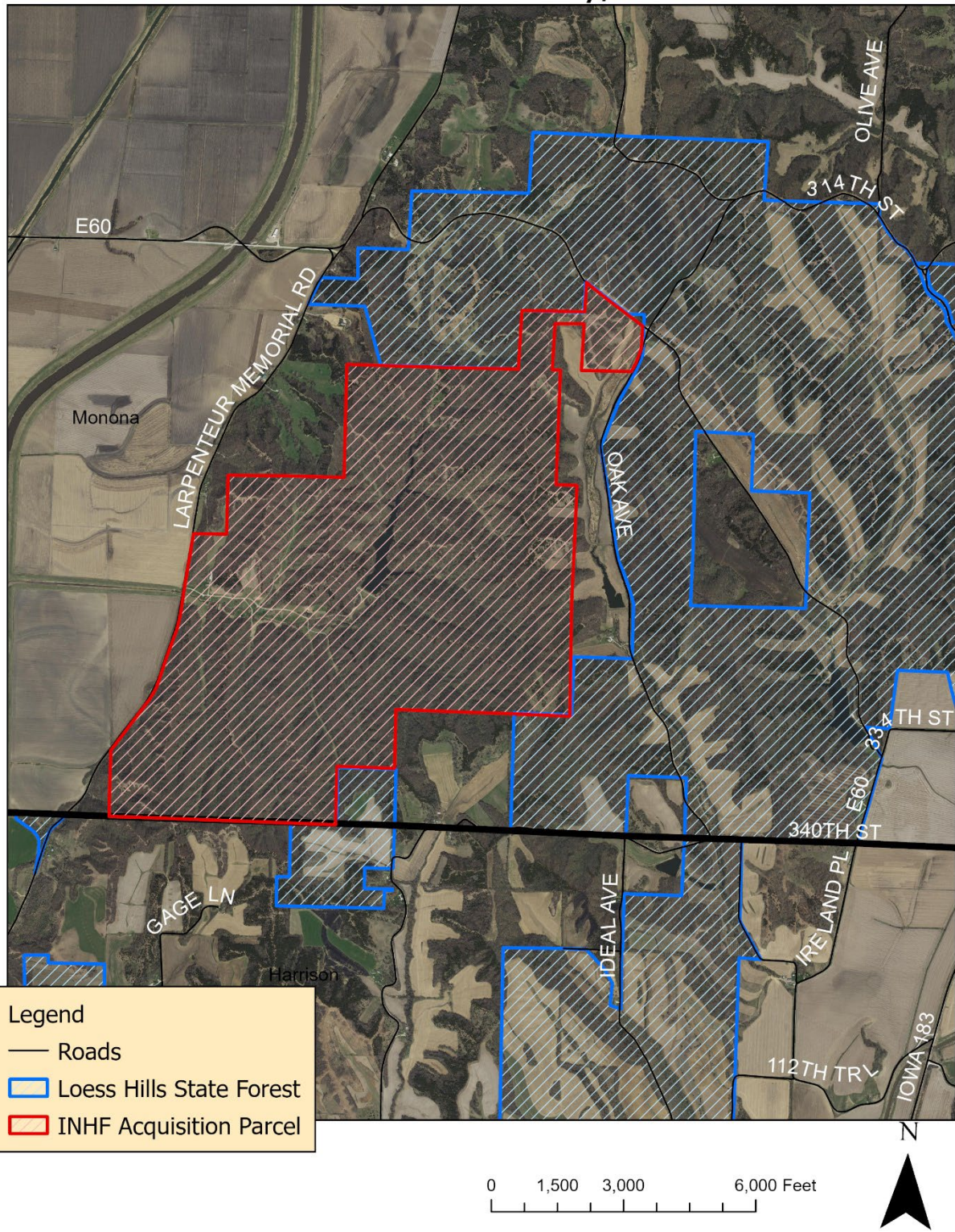
Purpose: This acquisition is an aesthetic tract that will protect one of the largest contiguous regions of forest in western Iowa. It will provide for public access to outdoor recreation and hunting opportunities. This property has about 26 miles of hiking trails that will connect to existing Loess Hills State Forest trails, resulting in over 100 miles of connected public hiking trails. This addition to the Preparation Canyon Unit of the Loess Hills State Forest will provide for land conservation of the forest, water quality protection for the watershed, and wildlife habitat while maintaining the continuity of the forest. This property will provide habitat for several state and federal threatened and endangered species, such as the plains pocket mouse (state endangered), Dusted skipper, Ottoo skipper, Hickory hairstreak (special concern), bullsnake, narrow-leaved milkweed and scarlet globemallow.

DNR Property Manager: Parks, Forest, and Preserves Bureau

Funding Source(s): \$4,650,000 USDA Forest Legacy Grant, \$500,000 REAP Open Spaces

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

Realty Services/Loess Hills State Forest Monona County/INHF



Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
05/08/2025

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

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***15. Contract with Terrain360 LLC**

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Terrain360 LLC of Richmond, VA.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$35,000

Dates: May 09, 2025 to December 31, 2025

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

Contract Purpose: High resolution panoramic imagery of the Des Moines, Boone, and Lizard Creek Water Trails (similar to Google Street View) is needed to greatly enhance our understanding of these recreational trails. The panoramic imagery captured as a part of this contract will help the DNR and our partners gain an excellent understanding of the river resource, identifying potential hazards, such as, major log jams or areas prone to major log jams, and other hazards. It will also allow us to identify needed improvements, if any, at the 64 public access sites along each of the waterways. Further, this imagery will be hosted ongoing and available free to the public to serve as a tool for kayak or canoe trip planning and decision making.

In 2024, the DNR River Programs contracted with Terrain360 LLC to capture panoramic imagery of nearly 200 miles of the Little Sioux River and 30 water accesses. The results were impressive. This contract is for Terrain360 LLC to capture the imagery for all the water trails on the Des Moines River, as well as the Boone River and Lizard Creek water trails.

Contract tasks Include:

- Launch Kick-off meeting and attend three additional meetings with DNR
- Capture on-water high resolution panoramic imagery of 248 miles of water trails
- Capture on-land high resolution panoramic imagery of the 64 water access sites
- Render and host the imagery for planners and public access.
- Develop online interactive map/virtual tour experience

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

Criteria Reviewed: Criteria reviewed for this work included: cost, professional experience, capacity to do work, respondent's work plan, timeline, previous work with DNR.

Proposal Due Date: February 27, 2025

of Proposals Received: 1

Recommendation: Terrain360 LLC

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item

16. Contract Amendment-1 with Shive-Hattery, Inc.

Commission approval is requested for a service contract amendment with Shive-Hattery, Inc., of West Des Moines, Iowa.

Amendment--1

Terms:

Amendment Amount: \$ 57,500.00

Amendment Dates: May 9, 2025 to August 31, 2028

Funding Source(s): Parks Infrastructure

Amendment Purpose:

Backbone State Park currently has a septic tank and sand filter that treats wastewater generated by the cabins and beach area. A new NPDES permit, with updated discharge limits, has been issued for this system. The allowable ammonia concentration of the discharge has been lowered and a new requirement for eliminating E. Coli has been added to the permit. The original contract was for Shive-Hattery to design a tertiary treatment system to work inline with the existing septic tank and sand filter to address ammonia and E. Coli. However, during the review of the existing facilities, it was found that the septic tank and sand filter need replacement. This amendment will add design services to the original contract to include the design of a replacement septic tank and sand filter.

Original Selection Process: The Department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and also published a request of proposals (RFP) on the Department of Administrative Services website. Proposals were scored based on the criteria as described in the RFP, which included their ability to complete the scope within the desired timeline, comprehensive work plan, description and quality of previous and applicable work experience, and cost. Shive-Hattery was selected out of a pool of three submitted proposals.

Contract History:

Original Contract Terms: Amount \$99,300.00; Timeframe: September 20, 2024 to August 31, 2028.

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025

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

Decision Item

17. Contract with Shelby County Conservation Board

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Shelby County Conservation Board of 516 Maple Road, Harlan, Iowa, 51537.

Contract Terms

Amount: Not to exceed \$100,000

Dates: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027

Funding Source(s): General Fund, Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund

Contract Purpose: Since 2015, there has been a successful partnership with the Shelby County Conservation Board for interpretive services and conservation education delivered within communities across Western Iowa, along with Prairie Rose State Park. In addition, assistance has been provided with programming and training to formal and non-formal educators across the state, along with women and family-focused outdoor recreation programming.

The DNR and Shelby County Conservation Board's purpose in entering into this new agreement is to continue to jointly provide conservation and outdoor recreation education to the residents of Shelby County, visitors of Prairie Rose State Park, local communities across Western Iowa, and to assist with training of educators and women and family-focused programming across the state through a full-time interpretive naturalist position with the County Conservation Board.

Contract tasks include:

- Providing public programming in the county, parks, and communities across Western Iowa.
- Assist with training, mentoring, and program development for other seasonal interpreters during the recreation season.
- Participate in and assist with the Take it Outside State Park Camps and Schools of the Wild, in partnership with the University of Iowa.
- Assist with training formal and non-formal educators in partnership with the Iowa DNR, County Conservation, and the Department of Education.
- Coordinate workshops statewide as part of the Becoming an Outdoors Woman/Family Program.
- Attend meetings and training opportunities approved by the Iowa DNR and the County.
- Create video and activity-based content for DNR Take it Outside Google Site, designed for use by formal and non-formal conservation and outdoor recreation educators across the state.

Selection Process Summary: Under 456A.23 and 456A.24 (7), intergovernmental contracting with Shelby County Conservation Board is authorized.

Tammie Krausman, Bureau Chief
Communications, Outreach, and Marketing Bureau

Conservation and Recreation Division

NRC Meeting Date: May 8, 2025