

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION
MEETING**

November 13, 2025

**6200 Park Ave
Des Moines, IA, 50321**

Approved by the Commission December 11, 2025

RECORD COPY	
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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 Tom Prickett at 9:30 am on October 9, 2025 via video/teleconference attendees.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Uriah Hansen
Tom Prickett
Tammi Kircher
Bill Moritz
Collin Brecher
Laura Kudej
KR Buck

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Terry Thompson, Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club- in support of a license fee increase
- Fred Long, Iowa Conservation Alliance-in support of a license fee increase
- Ben Gleason (written), not in favor of license fee increase
- Koch Fertilizer Weaver (Amber Conlee, Erick Dohmen, Marc Oddo, Grani Vokshi, Allison Pearson-Chapter 17 lease request
- David Bulman (written), Iowa NWTF Chapter President-in support of a license fee increase
- Loren Wakemen (written), Iowa Bowhunters Association-in support of a license fee increase
- Matt Smith (written), NWTF board member-in support of a license fee increase
- Mike Hagen (written), NWTF board member-in support of a license fee increase
- Dan Rosauer (written) and Jed Siegwarth (written), American Fisheries Society President and Secretary-in support of a license fee increase
- The Board of Directors for the Iowa Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (written)-in support of a license fee increase
- Executive Board of the Iowa Chapter of The Wildlife Society (written)-in support of a license fee increase

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda included:

- *5. Donations
- *6. Chapter 30: Water Cost Share Grant Programs, Water Recreation Access Cost-Share Grant Recommendations for FY 2026
- *13. Contract Amendment, Nagel Construction, LLC
- *14. Public Land Management Projects (14.1-14.3)

<i>Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.</i>

<i>The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda by saying aye. There were no nay votes.</i>
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APPROVED AS AMENDED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the October 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Bill Moritz.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

- Director Lyon shared about her ride along with a DNR conservation officer for the opening day of pheasant hunting season. Director Lyon also shared about her recent experiences helping with the winterization process at Pine Lake State Park and planting trees at Viking Lake State Park.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

- Division Administrator (DA) Pete Hildreth gave a report out on the current deer harvest trends, noting a slight increase from the 2024 hunting season.
- DA Hildreth also shared about his pheasant opener ride along experience and his field experiences at Viking Lake and Pine Lake State Parks.
- DA Hildreth highlighted a few of the donations received and presented to the Commissioners.
- DA Hildreth concluded his remarks by providing several updates including the status of CWD in Iowa, the status of invasive species treatments taking place at Clear Lake, and an announcement regarding the upcoming good neighbor meeting to be held in Monona County.

CONTRACT WITH IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY-DATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH OF THE EASTERN MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE, TIMBER RATTLESNAKE, AND PLAIN BELLIED WATER SNAKE

Karen Kinkead requested Commission approval for a contract with Iowa State University for data collection and research assistance.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

Motion was made by Bill Moritz to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT WITH THE IOWA CHAPTER OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY-EASTERN MASSASAUGA RATTLESNAKE HABITAT MANAGEMENT, POPULATION MANAGEMENT, AND TISSUE SAMPLING

Karen Kinkead requested Commission approval for a contract with the Iowa Chapter of The Nature Conservancy for habitat and population management.

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. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT WITH SOLITUDE LAKE MANAGEMENT-ALUM APPLICATIONS AT GREEN VALLEY LAKE, AND LAKE OF THREE FIRES

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract with Solitude Lake Management for alum applications at Green Valley Lake and Lake of Three Fires. Ms. Balmer discussed benefits of alum and the results received to date with alum application in Iowa.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.

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

George Antoniou presented a variety of small construction projects to the Commission as information items: Road and Culvert repair at Rock Creek State Park; Bellevue State Park lodge roof replacement; dike construction at Hogsback WMA; and erosion repair at Harmon Lake WMA

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

INFORMATION

PINE LAKE STATE PARK, PARKING IMPROVEMENTS

George Antoniou requested Commission approval for parking improvements at Pine Lake State Park.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CLEAR LAKE STATE PARK, BEACH SIDE RESTROOM REPAIRS

George Antoniou requested Commission approval for restroom repairs at Clear Lake State Park.

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. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CONTRACT WITH ENDEAVOR CIVIL ENGINEERING-GREEN ISLAND AND PRINCETON FLOOD REPAIR PROJECT

George Antoniou requested Commission approval for a contract with endeavor civil engineering for design work for flood damage repair at Green Island and Princeton Wildlife Areas.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

Motion was made by Collin Brecher 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 ENDEAVOR CIVIL ENGINEERING-GREEN ISLAND AND PRINCETON FLOOD REPAIR PROJECT

George Antoniou requested Commission approval for a contract with endeavor civil engineering for design work for flood damage repair at Green Island and Princeton Wildlife Areas.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

<i>Motion was made by Collin Brecher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.</i>

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTER 17 LEASE-KOCH FERTILIZER WAVER LLC-LEE COUNTY

Pete Hildreth requested Commission approval for a Chapter 17 lease for Koch Fertilizer Weaver in Lee County. Commissioners held a robust discussion on the fee rate for leases and their interest in exploring changes to the rule that sets fee rates for such leases. Assistant Attorney General Eric Dirth was present and responded to Commissioner questions regarding their options regarding the lease fees.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

<i>Motion was made by Bill Moritz to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.</i>

<i>The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Tammi Kircher-aye, KR Buck-aye, Collin Brecher-aye, Bill Moritz-aye, Laura Kudej-nay, Uriah Hansen-nay, Tom Prickett-aye. Motion passes.</i>

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTER 17 LEASE-ZEN-NOH AMERICAN HOLDING CORPORATION -DES MOINES COUNTY

Pete Hildreth requested Commission approval for a Chapter17 lease with Zen-Noh American Holding Corporation.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

<i>Motion was made by Bill Moritz to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.</i>

<i>The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote. Tammi Kircher-aye, KR Buck-aye, Collin Brecher-aye, Bill Moritz-aye, Laura Kudej-nay, Uriah Hansen-nay, Tom Prickett-aye. Motion passes.</i>

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

2026 NRC MEETING DATES

Pete Hildreth requested Commission approval for the 2026 meeting dates and tour. Commissioners discussed adding additional tours, four in total. Commissioners decided to approve the dates and table the tour schedule until the December NRC meeting

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

<i>Motion was made by Bill Moritz to approve the 2026 meeting dates with the request to see a final tour schedule to approve at the December NRC meeting. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.</i>

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

APPROVED AS AMENDED**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- Commissioners shared their recent outdoor experiences and gave Communications staff kudos for their recent Northern Lights promotion on social media. Commissioners discussed the upcoming First Gentleman's pheasant hunt and comments on the pheasant opener.
- Commissioners briefly discussed the 2025 NRC report and concurred that it will be finalized in December.
- Commissioners discussed, in length, the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund report that the Department is completing that will outline the income and expenses through FY25 and projection through FY30. The report will be filed no later than December 15th. Director Lyon, General Counsel McIntosh and DA Hildreth responded to several questions regarding the report, contents of the report and steps involved in increasing license fees. Commissioners highlighted stakeholder support that they have received for a license fee increase. Assistant Attorney General Eric Dirth also responded to questions regarding the process to change license fees. Commissioner Brecher, Commissioner Moritz and Chair Prickett volunteered to be on a Commission subcommittee to focus on pursuing an adjustment in license fees.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Tom Prickett adjourned the Natural Resources Commission meeting at 12:05 pm on November 13, 2025.

ADJOURNED

Agenda

Natural Resource Commission

Thursday, November 13, 2025

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

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

6200 Park Ave, Des Moines, IA 50321

Conf Room: Walnut Woods

Thursday, November 13, 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) *5. Donations *6. Chapter 30: Water Cost Share Grant Programs, Water Recreation Access Cost-Share Grant Recommendations for FY 2026 *13. Contract Amendment, Nagel Construction, LLC *14. Public Land Management Projects (14.1-14.3)	Decision	Commission
2.	Approval of the Minutes	Decision	Commission
3.	Director's Remarks	Information	Kayla Lyon
4.	Division Administrator's Remarks	Information	Pete Hildreth
*5.	Donations	Decision	Pete Hildreth
*6.	Chapter 30: Water Cost Share Grant Programs, Water Recreation Access Cost-Share Grant Recommendations for FY 2026	Decision	Tyler Stubbs
7.	Contract with Iowa State University-Data Collection and Research of the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, Timber Rattlesnake, and Plain-bellied Watersnake	Decision	Todd Bishop
8.	Contract with Iowa Chapter of The Nature Conservancy- Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Habitat Management, Population Management, and Tissue Sampling	Decision	Todd Bishop
9.	Contract with Solitude Lake Management-Alum Applications at Green Valley Lake, Prairie Rose Lake, and Lake of Three Fires	Decision	Michelle Balmer
10.	Small Construction Projects: Road and Culvert Repair at Rock Creek State Park; Bellevue State Park Lodge Roof Replacement; Dike Construction at Hogsback WMA; Erosion Repair at Harmon Lake WMA	Information	George Antoniou
11.	Large Construction Projects	Decision	George Antoniou
	11.1 Pine Lake State Park, Parking Improvements-Hardin County		
	11.2 Clear Lake State Park, Beach Side Restroom Repairs-Cerro Gordo County		
12.	Contract with Endeavor Civil Engineering-Green Island and Princeton Flood Repair Project	Decision	George Antoniou
*13.	Contract Amendment, Nagel Construction, LLC	Decision	George Antoniou
*14.	Public Land Management Projects	Decision	George Antoniou
	14.1 Management Agreement – Swan Lake State Park – Carroll CCB - Carroll County	Decision	Pete Hildreth
	14.2 Management Agreement – Ashton Pits – Osceola CCB - Osceola County		

14.3	Management Agreement – Sutton Lake – Osceola CCB - Osceola County		
15.	Public Land Management Projects	Decision	Pete Hildreth
15.1	Chapter 17 Lease — Koch Fertilizer Wever LLC – Lee County		
15.2	Chapter 17 Lease - Zen-Noh American Holdings Corporation – Des Moines County		
16.	2026 NRC Meeting Dates	Decision	Pete Hildreth
17.	General Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025 NRC Report • License Fee Adjustment Discussion 		
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday, December 11, Des Moines • Thursday, January 8, 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.

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

**MINUTES OF THE
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION
MEETING**

October 9, 2025

**Video Teleconference
and
Cobblestone Inn & Suites, Marquette, IA**

Approved by the Commission **TBD**

RECORD COPY

File Name Admin 01-05

Sender's Initials ap

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Approved as Presented	4
General Discussion	4
Adjourn	5
Adjourned	5

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission (Commission or NRC) was called to order by Chairperson Tom Prickett at 9:30 am on October 9, 2025 via video/teleconference attendees.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Uriah Hansen
Tom Prickett
Tammi Kircher
Bill Moritz
Collin Brecher
Laura Kudej
KR Buck

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Chair Prickett invited Kelli Boylen with the Yellow River State Forest Friends Group to speak to the Commission regarding their investment into Yellow River including, but not limited to, the development of an ADA accessible trout fishing area in Little Paint, solar array, soil bank improvements, and printed maps.
- Larry Stone expressed concerns regarding the DNR budget, advocating for an increase in funding. Mr. Stone also expressed his opinion on state laws that he would like to see changed, referencing proximity of agricultural operations near Iowa's streams.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda included:

- *5. Contract with J.D. Weed, Inc.-Waste Management Services at Lake of Three Fires State Park
- *7. Contract with Eric Brenden (IHAP)
- *9. Timber Sale Contract with Brad Anthony Logging, LLC for White Pine Hollow State Preserve
- *12. Public Land Management Projects (12.1-12.4)

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to removed items 12.1 and 12.2 from the consent agenda. Motion was made by Bill Moritz to approve the agenda and consent agenda with the removal of items 12.1 and 12.2. Seconded by Laura Kudej.

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

APPROVED AS AMENDED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Bill Moritz to approve the October 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Uriah Hansen.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

- Director Lyon Director thanked staff for the tour on October 7th and shared her gratitude for the natural resources in the area.
- Commissioner Buck expressed his appreciation of the Little Sioux Boy Scout Camp event.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS

- Division Administrator (DA) Pete Hildreth also shared his gratitude for the tour on October 7th. DA Hildreth thanked staff for their assistance and complimented the resource.
- DA Hildreth also made mention of the hunting and fishing opportunities currently underway in Iowa.

CONTRACT WITH IOWA GREAT LAKES SANITARY SEWER DISTRICT (IGLSD)

Sherry Arntzen requested Commission approval for a contract with the Iowa Great Lakes Sanitary Sewer District for sewer line improvements to Templar State Recreation 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 the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

FY 2027 BUDGET REQUEST

Jennifer Nelson presented the DNR's Fiscal Year 2027 budget request, which is a status quo budget, as an information item to the Commission. Ms. Nelson provided background information on various fund accounts, including the general fund. Ms. Nelson, Director Lyon, and General Counsel McIntosh responded to several Commissioner questions regarding the sustainability of the budget, the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund, and the rule change that removed the annual budget request as an action item before the Commission.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments-None

INFORMATION

SMALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS: DIKE REPAIR AT CRYSTAL HILLS WMA; GATE REPAIR AT PILOT KNOB STATE PARK; WATER CONTROL STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT AT RATHBUN WILDLIFE UNIT

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

INFORMATION

LARGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS-RED HAW STATE PARK, ROAD MAINTENANCE-LUCAS COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a road maintenance project in Red Haw State Park.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

Motion was made by Tammi Kircher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Bill Moritz.

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

LARGE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS-CLEAR LAKE STATE PARK, RESTROOM AND SHOWER BUILDING-CERRO GORDO COUNTY

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for the construction of a restroom and shower building at Clear Lake State Park.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

<i>Motion was made by Laura Kudej to approve the item as presented. Seconded by KR Buck.</i>
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<i>The Chairperson asked for the Commissioners to approve the agenda item by saying aye. There were no nay votes.</i>

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

CHAPTER 17 LEASE-KOCH FERTILIZER WEVER LLC, AND CHAPTER 17 LEASE-ZEN-NOH AMERICAN HOLDINGS CORPORATION

Travis Baker requested commission approval for a lease with Koch Fertilizer Wever LLC. Commissioners discussed lease fees and interest in the process for adjusting lease fees in the future. Commissioners also discussed risks of the nature of business under the lease in relationship to the nearby resource. Miss McIntosh responded to questions regarding the process of updating the fee formula in Rule. Commissioners decided to table the agenda item, along with 12.2, a lease with Zen-Noh American Holdings Corporation.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

<i>Motion was made by Tom Prickett to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Bill Moritz. A follow up motion was made by Tammi Kircher to table the agenda items until the November 2025 Commission meeting until a representative from the Attorney General's office is present to answer additional questions. Seconded by Laura Kudej.</i>

<i>The Chairperson asked for a roll call vote to table the agenda item by saying aye. Collin Brecher-aye, Uriah Hansen-aye, Laura Kudej-aye, Bill Moritz-aye, KR Buck-aye, Tammi Kircher-aye, Tom Prickett-aye. Motion passes.</i>
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ITEMS TABLED

CONTRACT WITH IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY (ISU)-STUDY OXYGEN AND TEMPERATURE DYNAMICS IN RESERVOIRS; MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF FUTURE RESTORATION PROJECTS

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract with ISU to study oxygen and temperature dynamics in reservoirs. Ms. Balmer responded to questions regarding the budget outline within the contract.

Public Comments – None

Written Comments – None

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Commissioners shared their recent outdoor experiences and thanked staff for the tour of Pikes Peak State Park and Yellow River State Forest. Several Commissioners commented on the local resources. Commissioner Kircher requested additional tours focusing on each quadrant of the state for Commissioners. Commissioner Moritz provided an update on the monarch migration based on the Monarch Watch website.

ADJOURN

Chairperson Tom Prickett adjourned the Natural Resources Commission meeting at 10:45 am on October 9, 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:
Ledges State Park	\$482.63	6' memorial bench to be placed outside the new campground restroom building.	Keith & Joan Gedler
Ledges State Park	\$482.63	6' memorial bench to be placed outside the new campground restroom building.	Andy & Traci Furstenau
Bellevue State Park	\$994.80	Two 8 ft picnic table frames with boards for Bellevue State Park.	Susan Lucke
Bellevue State Park	\$150.00	Eastern Redbud tree for Bellevue State Park.	Anne Schneider
Templar Park State Recreation Area	\$36,000.00	Fishing dock with benches.	John Smelzer, President
General Donations Fund	\$500.00	Donation to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources from the Dale Ball Estate.	Dale Ball Estate
Donations to Stone State Park	\$129.00	Donations made by park visitors to Stone State Park.	Multiple Donors
Parks, Forestry, and Preserves	\$6,086.00	Round up total through the Parks Reservation System for August 2025.	Multiple Donors
Fisheries	\$5,000.00	Memorial contribution to the Iowa DNR Musky Barrier project in honor of Dennis Blume.	Debora Blume
General Donations Fund	\$5,000.00	Donations to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources	Anonymous
DNR Fire Program	\$62,092.00	One 2025 Ford F-550 Chassis to be used by the fire program as a Type 6 engine aiding in prescribed fire, wildfire and training.	Joey Gallion
Wildlife Diversity	\$150.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity Program in lieu of a speaker honorarium.	Prairie Rapids Audubon Society
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	David and Kimberly Keller
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Legacy Asset Management Inc.
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	J.W. and S.M. Laing
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Linda Edwards

Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Sue Ellen and Randy Edwards
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Kathy Batterson
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Michael and Eileen May
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$2,015.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Patricia Mayhew
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Rusty and Julie Stansbery
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Charles and Becky Kakac
Walnut Woods State Park	\$1,063.90	Donation of two plastic 6' park benches for Walnut Woods State Park.	Walnut Woods Friends Group
Parks, Forestry, and Preserves	\$4,872.00	Round up total through the Parks Reservation System for September 2025.	Multiple Donors
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$8896.55	Round up total through the Iowa Outdoors System for June and July 2025.	Multiple Donors

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

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

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***6. Chapter 30 - Waters Cost-Share and Grant Programs, Water Recreation Access Cost-Share (WRAC) Grants (FY 2026)**

The Commission is requested to approve funding for the recommended Water Recreation Access Cost-Share (WRAC) Grant applications pursuant to Iowa Administrative Code Chapters 571-30.

Grant Purpose: The Water Recreation Access Grants are awarded annually to assist governmental entities in providing or improving water access for recreation purposes. State cost-share funding is provided at 75% with the local 25% contribution coming from in-kind or monetary match if the project is not under a management agreement with the State of Iowa. Grantees can receive cost-share funding at 100% if they are managing the property under an agreement on behalf of the State of Iowa.

Funding Source: Marine Fuel Tax

Grant Funding Available: \$400,000

Summary of Selection Process: Grant applications are scored through a two-part process. Initially, grants are reviewed by district staff and are given a general overall rank. The grants are then submitted to the central scoring committee who review each grant and make final selections based on eligibility, justification, work plan and district ranking. Grant applications were reviewed and scored by a committee who met on October 28, 2025, according to rules provided for in Iowa Administrative Code chapter 571-30.

Selection Committee Members: The review committee consists of 7 members:

Fisheries Bureau (6)

Land & Waters Bureau (1)

Number of Applications Received: 21, 1 ineligible.

Recommendations: The committee recommends funding to the top ranked projects in the table. If an awardee declines their award the Department returns those funds to the Marine Fuel Tax Fund.

Project Rank	Applicant	Title	Project Summary	Total Cost	MFT Request	Recommended Grant Award
1	Benton County Conservation Board	Accessible Riverfront Restroom Replacement at Minne Estema State Park	Replacement of the storm-damaged restroom at Minne Estema State Park's boat ramp on the Cedar River. The project will rebuild the facility with two ADA-compliant stalls over the existing vault, add accessible parking and surfacing, and extend electrical service for lighting and accessibility. This investment restores safe, sanitary, and equitable year-round access.	\$88,300	\$88,300	\$88,300
2	Carroll County Conservation Board	Swan Lake Boat Ramp Area Improvement	Includes the replacement of the current boat ramp dock and also install a concrete vault toilet in the same area. Both aspects of this project will service not only the boat ramp area, but also the fish house, fish cleaning station and kayak/paddleboat rental area of this multi-use area of Swan Lake State Park.	\$54,186	\$54,186	\$54,186

3	Iowa County Conservation	Gateway Park Improvement Project	Planned upgrades include installation of a new boat ramp, construction of a parking lot for additional boat trailer parking, addition of handicap-accessible parking stalls, a sidewalk connection to improve accessibility, as well as adding a nearby restroom for users.	\$247,710	\$185,783	\$185,783
4	Des Moines County Conservation Board	Sullivan Slough Boat Docks	Replacement and expansion of 20+ year old 2-section boat docks at Sullivan Slough Boat Ramp south of Burlington, Iowa with new 3-section docks.	\$17,486	\$13,100	\$13,100
5	Allamakee County Conservation	Harpers Ferry Courtesy and Transient Dock	This grant is to provide funding for a permanent attachment point and access ramp extension for a 6 stall courtesy and transient dock at the Harpers Ferry Public Boat Landing in Harpers Ferry on the Mississippi River, Pool 10.	\$94,500	\$9,500	\$9,500
6	Buena Vista County Conservation	Casino Bay/Storm Lake Marian – Boat Ramp Parking Lot Rehabilitation	To improve public boating access and safety at Casino Bay/Storm Lake Marina by rehabilitating failing parking surfaces, installing storm-water management features, upgrading ADA accessibility, and stabilizing adjacent public access shoreline areas.	\$483,500	\$241,752	\$0 declined partial funding
7	City of Orleans	Beach Ave and Sunset Park Improvements	The project improves visibility and supports activities like kayaking and fishing. Near the State Fish Hatchery, this site is well-positioned for partnerships and possible trail extensions west and eastward, expanding recreational options.	\$597,788	\$300,000	\$49,131 (accepted partial funding)
8	Des Moines County Conservation Board	Tama Boat Docks	Replacement and expansion of 20+ year old 2-section boat docks at Tama Boat Ramp north of Burlington, Iowa with new 3-section docks that require less staff time to move with fluctuating water levels.	\$17,486	\$13,100	\$0
9	City of Storm Lake	East Lakeshore Drive Project	The City of Storm Lake along with the LPA will replace unsafe shoreline rubble (jagged concrete and exposed rebar) with natural native fieldstone, stabilize erosion, and add two walkout docks for safe, barrier-free fishing and loading/unloading of passengers and equipment from boats.	\$146,480	\$106,480	\$0
10	City of Afton	Pit Latrine at Afton Lake	The primary objective of this project is to provide and maintain sanitary restroom facilities at the Afton Lake. At this time there are no restrooms at the Afton Lake.	\$23,650	\$17,738	\$0
11	Webster County Conservation	Moorland Pond Access Improvement	This request is to improve boating access at Moorland Pond. This request is to construct a concrete boat ramp with floating dock, parking lot expansion to accommodate the boat ramp along with a handicap concrete parking area to aid in the loading and unloading of wheelchairs.	\$65,300	\$41,475	\$0
12	Clinton County Conservation	Dredging Project on the Mississippi River Backwater at	The slough that connects Rock Creek Campground and Marina to the Mississippi River has become silted in	\$147,500	\$100,000	\$0

		Rock Creek Marina	and, when the river is at normal stage or lower, has become difficult or impossible to access for many boats.			
13	Hamilton County Conservation	Little Wall Lake South Access Parking and Restroom	To create usable parking space for trucks and boat trailers for public use and to have an accommodating restroom facility at this location.	\$94,706	\$94,706	\$0
14	City of Bondurant	The Garden-ADA Accessible Boardwalk and Kayak Launch at Lake Petocka	The City of Bondurant seeks funding to construct an ADA-accessible boardwalk and floating kayak launch at Lake Petocka.	\$416,000	\$100,000	\$0
15	Floyd County Conservation	Seter's Landing River Access Improvement	Improving Seter's Landing will enhance safe, modern access to the Cedar River	\$224,745	\$168,559	\$0
16	Howard County Conservation	Lake Hendricks Park & Campground boat dock access	The project involves the partial replacement of the concrete boat ramp and adding a concrete retaining wall at Lake Hendricks.	\$53,876	\$40,406	\$0
17	Greene County Conservation	Spring Lake Boat Launch Rehab	Replaces deteriorated boat ramp and dredging area near launch and fishing areas.	\$65,000	\$48,750	\$0
18	Clayton County Conservation	Turkey River Access 39A	A project to grade the slope, extend the compacted gravel path from the parking area, add a 10-foot-wide concrete access ramp for easier entry and exit (especially for emergency crews), and install rip rap for bank stabilization.	\$27,500	\$20,625	\$0
19	Pottawattamie County Conservation	Rahel Pond at Hitchcock Nature Center	This project removes an old dock and replace with a new dock suitable for public access.	\$20,000	\$18,845	\$0
20	City of Ottumwa	Bridgeview Boat Ramp Project	This project involves the removal of the existing boat ramp below the Bridgeview Center in Ottumwa and replacement with a new concrete boat ramp.	\$45,000	\$36,500	\$0
	Totals			\$2,935,978	\$1,699,805	\$400,000

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

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

ITEM

#7

DECISION

Contract with IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Recommendation:

Commission approval is requested for a service contract, which is a Subrecipient Agreement, with Iowa State University, Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management. This Subrecipient Agreement designation has occurred due to the nature of ISU's work on the project, which is being conducted as a part of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant application.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$165,000

Dates: January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028.

Funding Source(s): Federal USFWS State Wildlife Grant Program Competitive Funds.

Statutory Authority: This Subrecipient Agreement is an intergovernmental contract authorized by 11 Iowa Administrative Code Section 118.4. Also, Iowa Code section 455B.103(3) allows DNR to enter into contracts, with approval of the commission, with public agencies of this state to provide laboratory, scientific field measurement, and environmental quality evaluation services.

Contract Purpose: The parties propose to enter into this Subrecipient Agreement to retain ISU to: work towards a larger Competitive State Wildlife Grant application titled "Priority Monitoring, Research and Habitat Management Activities to Conserve the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, Timber Rattlesnake, and Plain-bellied Watersnake" with Illinois DNR and Wisconsin DNR. The overall grant will allow for habitat work to help the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, and monitor their numbers along with examining genetic diversity compared to snake fungal disease prevalence in all three snake species.

This Subrecipient Agreement will allow ISU to collect genetic and skin swabs from all three species of the snakes, ISU will process those samples to determine genetic health of the species in Iowa and whether there are any correlations between genetic health (i.e. inbreeding) and disease prevalence. In addition, there is some confusion as to the true species of the Plain-bellied Watersnake (previously Copper-bellied and also Yellow-bellied) in Iowa and DNR hopes to be able to determine which species occurs here and how it is related to the same or sister species of the same (Plain-bellied) complex. The goal is to examine the genetic health of all three of the populations and assess them for impacts from the fungus, looking to see if there is a relationship between in-breeding and disease prevalence.

The total cost for this agreement is \$220,000. The DNR will provide funding (up to \$165,000) for ISU to complete the genetic and disease testing. ISU will provide up to \$55,000 in matching funds for the project. This three-year contract will support a graduate student and an undergraduate research assistant.

ISU tasks include:

- Working with TNC to collect blood, skin, and fungal samples from Eastern Massasauaga Rattlesnakes
- Collecting blood, skin, and fungal samples from Plain-bellied Watersnakes and Timber Rattlesnakes
- Processing those samples
- Analyzing the data provided from the samples to determine health of the populations
- Re-examining the species status of Iowa's Plain-bellied Watersnakes

Contractor Selection Process:

- Intergovernmental contracting is authorized by 11 IAC 118.4, and Iowa Code section 455B.103(3) allows DNR to contract with ISU for this purpose. Iowa State University was chosen for this project because they were a partner on the grant application and have the experience and knowledge to do the work.

Todd Bishop, Bureau Chief, Wildlife Bureau
Conservation and Recreation Division
November 13, 2025

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

ITEM #8

DECISION

Contract with IOWA CHAPTER OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Recommendation:

Commission approval is requested for a service contract, which is a Subrecipient Agreement, with The Nature Conservancy. This Subrecipient Agreement designation has occurred due to the nature of TNC's work on the project, which is being conducted as a part of a Competitive State Wildlife Grant application.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$45,000

Dates: January 1, 2026 to December 30, 2028.

Funding Source(s): Federal USFWS State Wildlife Grant Program Competitive Funds.

Statutory Authority: This subrecipient agreement is authorized by Iowa Code 455B.103(3) and 481B.4.

Contract Purpose: The parties propose to enter into this Sub-recipient Agreement to retain TNC to: work towards a larger Competitive State Wildlife Grant application titled "Priority Monitoring, Research and Habitat Management Activities to Conserve the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, Timber Rattlesnake, and Plain-bellied Watersnake" with Illinois DNR and Wisconsin DNR. The overall grant will allow for habitat work to help the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, and monitor their numbers along with examining genetic diversity compared to snake fungal disease prevalence in all three snake species.

This sub-recipient agreement will allow The Nature Conservancy (a partner on the grant application) to manage habitat on their land specifically for the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake as well as monitoring that population and collecting blood samples and snake fungal disease swabs from these federally protected snakes. TNC already holds the required Federal permits to be able to collect the samples from this species. The goal is to examine the genetic health of the population and assess it for impacts from the fungus, looking to see if there is a relationship between in-breeding and disease prevalence.

Vegetational succession, habitat fragmentation, and habitat loss and modification are primary threats for EMR. The three State Agencies partnering on this grant contain all known extant populations in the Eastern Massasauga's Western Conservation Unit. The largest population in each State is being targeted for actions under this grant.

Contractor Selection Process:

- The Nature Conservancy was chosen for this project because they have substantial experience with the federally protected Eastern Massasauaga Rattlesnake. They were a partner on the grant application and will be providing \$15,000 (25% of their total project costs) towards the matching funds needed for the grant. Iowa Code 481B.2 and 481B.4 provide the statutory authority for the DNR to spend money on habitat work and research for an endangered or threatened species. Iowa Code 455B.103(3) allows for scientific field measurement and Iowa Code 481B.4 allows for the habitat management and other tasks due to the State of Iowa Endangered status (Federally Threatened) of the Eastern Massasauga.

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief, Wildlife Bureau
Conservation and Recreation Division
November 13, 2025

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

Decision Item

9. Contract with Solitude Lake Management

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Solitude Lake Management, Little Rock, AR

Contract Terms:

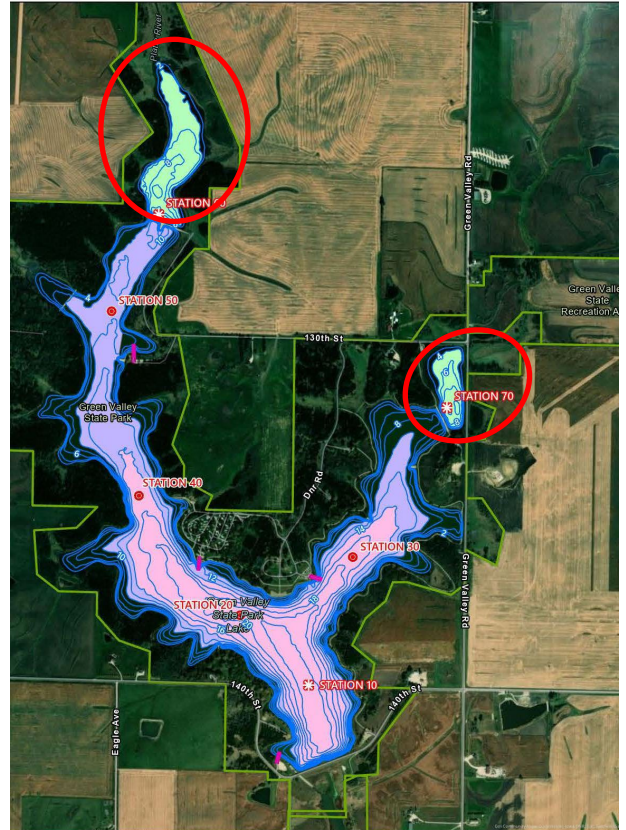
Amount: Not to exceed \$681,741.85

Dates: December 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026

Funding Source(s): Lake Restoration Program

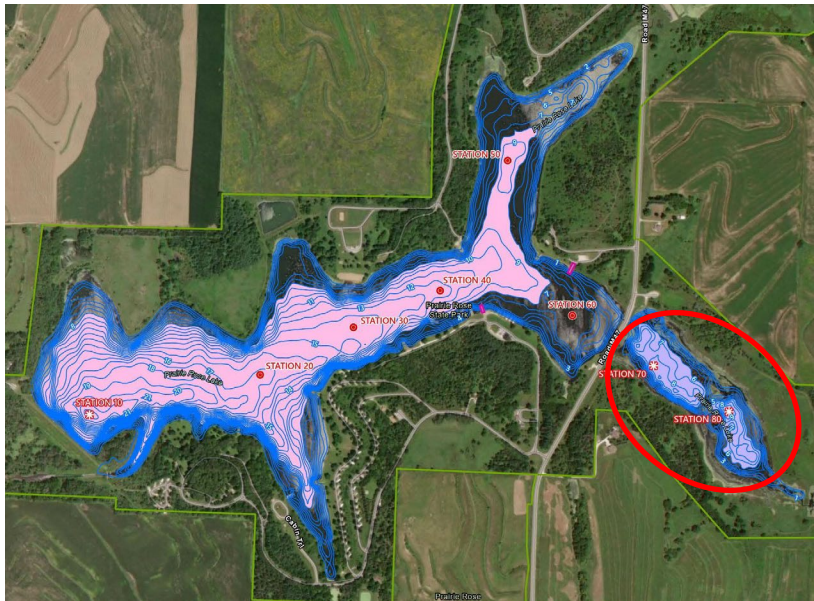
Contract Background: High nutrient loading in Iowa Lakes, particularly phosphorus, has accelerated eutrophication of lakes and consequently degraded their water quality, impacted their ecological health and diminished recreational opportunities. Frequent and pervasive algal blooms, low water transparency, noxious odors, depletion of oxygen, and fish kills have been observed and are even common in Iowa lake systems during the open water season.

The Lake Restoration Program (LRP) has been working to develop new tools for managing phosphorus in lakes over the past five years, particularly those that are effective at treating internal phosphorus recycling. The LRP first worked with researchers from Iowa State University and the University of Wisconsin – Madison (Contracts 18CRDLWBMBALM-0013 and 22CRDLWBMBALM-0002) to better understand mechanisms for internal loading in Iowa Lakes (2020-2023 study) and develop strategies for managing different pathways of internal loading.



In 2023, the LRP hired Barr Engineering to investigate the utility of alum as a tool in nine Iowa Lakes, including Lake of Three Fires, Green Valley Lake, and Prairie Rose Lake. As a part of this study, sediment cores were collected and analyzed for each lake to estimate internal loading rates and develop a dosing strategy and cost benefit analysis for treating each lake. Green Valley Lake and Prairie Rose Lake, both of which were excellent candidates for an alum application, were treated in the spring and fall of 2025. Lake of Three Fires was also identified as a good candidate, and additional water quality monitoring was completed in 2025 to ensure that it would be a good place for an alum application program.

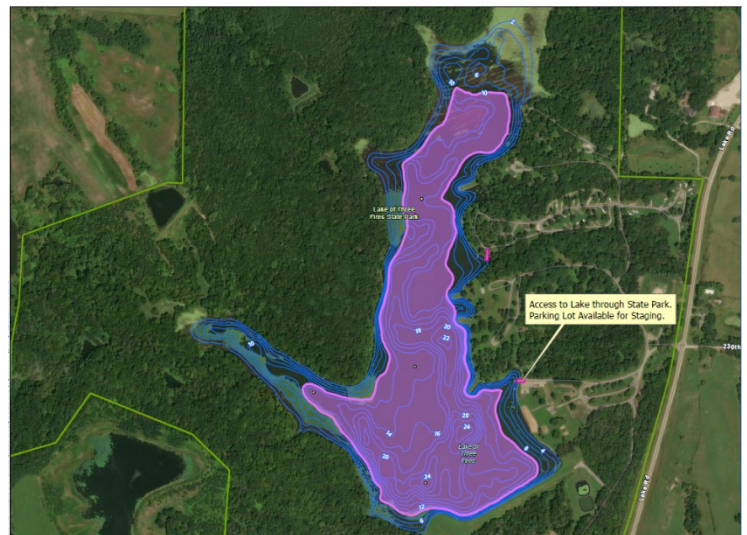
Green Valley Lake (top): Located in Union County, Green Valley Lake is a 390-acre lake that has a long history of frequent algae blooms and high phosphorus concentrations. Following the spring 2025 application, water quality improved dramatically, and phosphorus concentrations in the lake remained lower than observed in previous years throughout the summer, in spite of high rainfall. Only green areas of the lake in the photo above (in-lake sediment basins) will be treated as a part of this contract)



Prairie Rose Lake: Prairie Rose Lake is a 173-acre constructed lake with a watershed to lake area ratio of 24:1. Low fish populations, siltation, and poor water quality plagued the lake in recent years, thus watershed and lake improvements were planned to bring this popular recreation destination back to life. Many watershed and in-lake practices were completed between 2010 and 2015, however; phosphorus concentrations in the bottom waters of the lake remained high, which led to substantial internal loading. While the lake is reputed as being one of the best fishing lakes in the state and has become an extremely popular recreation destination, reducing the

internal load is key to maintain long term water quality benefits. The alum treatment in the spring of 2025 led to 20ft water clarity shortly after the treatment and numerous anglers reported being able to site fish around the shoreline. Phosphorus concentrations were lower than previous years as well. Water quality has remained good throughout the summer, with the lake experiencing only one algae bloom following a heavy rainfall event. Only the purple area (in-lake sediment basin) will be treated in the spring of 2026 as a part of this contract.

Lake of Three Fires: A 97-acre lake, located in Taylor County, Lake of Three Fires is a popular local destination and was one of the earliest restoration projects in Iowa. While the lake supports a variety of popular recreation opportunities, water quality is diminished by internal loading. It's small size and small watershed, coupled with its large internal load, make it a good candidate for alum. The lake will be treated, both in the spring and fall of 2026 with alum, similar to the approach previously utilized at Green Valley Lake and Prairie Rose Lake.



Contract Purpose: The purpose of this project is to hire a qualified firm to complete alum applications at Green Valley Lake (Union County) in-lake sediment basins, and Prairie Rose Lake (Shelby County) in-lake sediment basin, and at Lake of Three Fires (Taylor County). Applications will be completed both in the spring of 2025 at all three locations and the fall of 2025 (Lake of Three Fires only) to inactivate sediment phosphorus and improve water quality.

Selection Process Summary: The department solicited proposals from targeted small businesses and published a Request for bids (RFB) on the Department of Administrative Services website.

Proposal Due Date: October 1, 2025

Scoring Criteria: Proposals were scored based on meeting technical specifications for the project at cost.

Proposals Received: 2

- Solitude Lake Management
- Aquatic Control

Recommendation: Solitude Lake Management

Bid Price: \$ 681,781.85

Bid Price: \$ 866,752.44

Travis Baker, Engineering, Land and Waters Bureau Chief

Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

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

Information Item

10. Construction - Small Projects

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

Bid Date	Project No.	Location	County	Summary	Cost Estimate	Bids
10/16/2025	26-05-50-02	ROCK CREEK STATE PARK	JASPER	Replacing a 18" CMP with 24" RCP. Asphalt road will be removed over the culvert and replaced with concrete.	\$24,000	\$21,957.70 \$23,460.00 \$24,994.00 \$28,720.00 \$31,436.00 \$37,090.00
10/9/2025	25-02-95-01	HOGSBACK WMA	WINNEBAGO	Constructing two dikes, shallow water excavation, installation of tile intakes, a tile outlet, and installation of dual-wall non-perforated tile.	\$41,000	\$36,907.50 \$70,048.10
10/2/2025	25-02-95-02	HARMON LAKE WMA	WINNEBAGO	Repairing erosion and muskrat damage to two existing dikes by stripping vegetation and placing compacted earth fill.	\$10,000	\$7,500.00 \$8,300.00 \$8,459.00 \$8,500.00 \$13,400.00 \$35,300.00

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

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

Decision Item

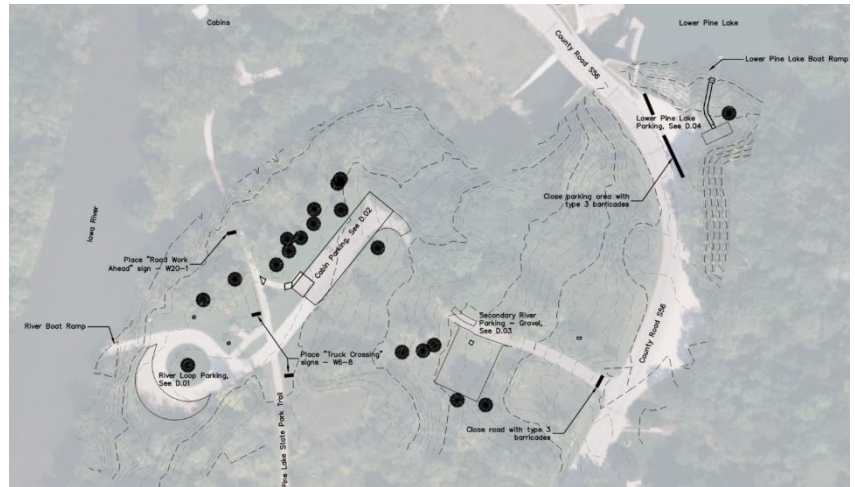
Construction Item

11.1 Pine Lake State Park, Parking Improvements – Hardin County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Pine Lake State Park is located northeast of Eldora, and borders the Iowa River. The park contains wooded trails, deep ravines, and scenic views of Upper and Lower Pine Lake. Historic structures built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Works Progress Administration (WPA) can be found throughout the park, including the Pine Lodge, beach house and stone cabins, which have been carefully restored. Boat ramps on the Iowa River and both lakes provide opportunities for recreation.

Design Summary: The existing cabin parking lot is in poor condition and there is not enough parking near the Iowa River boat ramp. These parking areas frequently overflow due to the large number of visitors in the summer. To solve these issues, the project will replace the existing cabin parking lot, and add gravel parking for river-goers. The project also includes accessible parking at the Lower Pine Lake boat ramp.



Engineering Project #: 24-02-42-01

Cost Estimate: \$228,000

Operating Bureau: Parks, Forests and Preserves

Funding Source: 45% Marine Fuel Tax, 45% Infrastructure, 10% Coast Guard

Bid Letting Date: 10/23/2025

Construction Completion Date: 05/15/2026

Number of Bids Received: 12

Bidders

Gehrke, Inc	Eldora, IA	\$153,972.06
OEL Construction Services, Inc	Steamboat Rock, IA	\$159,687.30
Vieth Construction Corp	Cedar Falls, IA	\$172,347.25
Boulder Contracting, LLC	Grundy Center, IA	\$179,106.75
A&A Concrete	Marshalltown, IA	\$180,342.40
TK Concrete, Inc	Pella, IA	\$182,995.80
Owen Contracting, Inc	Cedar Falls, IA	\$190,221.20
Con-Struct, Inc	Marshalltown, IA	\$210,623.66
Jenson Builders, Ltd	Fort Dodge, IA	\$217,206.50
Shekar Engineering, P.L.C.	Des Moines, IA	\$221,604.10
K & M Enterprises	Shell Rock, IA	\$221,661.00
Matt Construction, Inc	Sumner, IA	\$223,345.85

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

11.2 Clear Lake State Park, Beach Side Restroom Repairs – Cerro Gordo County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

Project Summary: Clear Lake State Park is located on the southeast corner of the 3,643-acre Clear Lake, and was established in 1941. Amenities include a beach, modern campground, picnic areas, two picnic shelters, and a Works Progress Administration (WPA) constructed day-use lodge.

Design Summary:

This project will address maintenance and repair work needed on a restroom building at Clear Lake State Park. Work includes a new standing seam metal roof, exterior and interior concrete masonry wall painting, new door panels and hardware, concrete cleaning, new ventilation system, replacement of an outdoor shower unit, updating lighting fixtures to LED, new urinal fixture, new vanity countertops and sinks, replacing ADA stall grab bars, new bottle filling station, and installing sensors and timers.



NORTHWEST ELEVATION



SOUTHEAST ELEVATION

Engineering Project #: 23-03-17-11

Cost Estimate: \$99,000

Operating Bureau: Parks, Forests and Preserves

Funding Source: 47% Park Infrastructure/47% Fed - Land and Water Conservation Fund/6% Executive Council

Bid Letting Date: 10/16/2025

Construction Completion Date: 05/15/2026

Number of Bids Received: 5

Bidders

Kingland Construction Services	Forest City IA	\$113,000.00
S.M.G. LLC	Sioux City IA	\$118,272.00
Larson Contracting Central, LLC	Lake Mills IA	\$145,257.00
Henkel Construction Company	Mason City IA	\$148,750.00
Dean Snyder Construction Co	Clear Lake IA	\$181,607.00

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

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
11/13/2025

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

Decision Item

12. Contract with Endeavor Civil Engineering (Green Island and Princeton Flood Repair Project)

Commission approval is requested for a contract with Endeavor Civil Engineering (Endeavor) of Delhi, IA.

Contract Terms:

Amount: Not to exceed \$154,620.00

Dates: December 1, 2025 to December 1, 2027

Funding Source(s): 75% FEMA; 25% Executive Council

Contract Background: The DNR Seeks to procure engineering services from Endeavor for the design of flood damage repair work at Green Island (Jackson Co.) and Princeton (Scott Co.) Wildlife Management Areas (WMA's). The project is needed to repair damage sustained under FEMA declared disasters DR4732 (2023) and DR4796 (2024). Funds have been obligated by FEMA for these repairs.

Contract Purpose: Endeavor will prepare final designs, including drawings, specifications, and cost estimates. The firm will be responsible for all aspects of design from developing the facility plans through assisting with the construction bidding process, and will be retained to provide construction administration support during the construction. The firm will also be responsible for coordinating the design process with DNR staff, obtain all permits, perform needed topographic survey, provide a written assessment and recommendations for best repair practices, prepare bid documents, answer pre-bid questions, conduct/attend pre-bid and pre-construction meetings, conduct onsite construction inspection assistance, and be available during construction for any clarifications from the DNR Field Engineer.

The DNR will incorporate final plans and technical specifications into the standard DNR construction contract; and, facilitate the bidding process and all the day-to-day construction inspection duties.

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

Proposal Due Date: 10/22/2025

Scoring Criteria: Proposals were scored based on the criteria as described in the RFP, which included their ability to complete the scope of work within the desired timeline, comprehensive work plan, description and quality of previous and applicable work experience, and cost.

Proposals Received: 5

Recommendation: Endeavor Civil Engineering

Consultant	Location (City, State)	Total Score (100 pts)	Cost
Endeavor Civil Engineering	Delhi, IA	61	\$154,620.00
Shive-Hattery, Inc.	West Des Moines, IA	57	\$315,000.00
Barr Engineering Co.	Minneapolis, MN	52	\$483,170.00
Snyder & Associates, Inc.	Ankeny, IA	47	\$497,700.00
MSA Professional Services	Dubuque, IA	42	\$582,900.00

Travis Baker, Engineering, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Natural Resource Commission

Decision Item (**indicates proposed consent item*)

***13. Contract Amendment, Nagel Construction, LLC**

Commission approval is requested for a contract amendment with Nagel Construction LLC, of Allerton, Iowa.

Change Order Terms:

Engineering Project #: 23-05-59-02

Change Order Amount: \$19,298.35

Funding Source: 100% Executive Council

Original Project Summary:

Red Haw State Park, a 649-acre park in south-central Iowa near Chariton, first opened in 1939. Amenities include a 70-acre lake, a modern campground with electric sites, a hiking trail, a beach, and a CCC stone picnic shelter.

On March 5, 2022, a tornado significantly damaged the campground. As part of the rebuild, the Iowa DNR reconfigured 34 campground sites to meet current design standards. This included reconstructing a road along the shower building that was damaged during cleanup, paving three ADA-accessible sites, and installing 34 new 50-amp electric outposts.

Amendment Purpose:

During a recent inspection, the electrical inspector required an upgrade to an 800-amp electrical panel with a main shutoff. The previous panel lacked a main shutoff, and one could not be retrofitted. This upgrade will also include a CT cabinet, which is required by Alliant Energy. An electrical CT cabinet is a metal enclosure designed to house current transformers, safely measure large electrical currents, protect users from electric shocks, and safeguard transformers from harsh environmental conditions.

Original Selection Process Summary: The DNR used a formal competitive bid process. Nagel Construction, LLC was awarded the contract as the low bidder. Any change order which increases the amount of the original contract by more than \$25,000 or 10 percent of the original contract, whichever is greater, requires commission approval.

Contract History:

Original Contract Amount: \$409,152.50

Previous Change Orders: \$40,584.04

Current Change Order: \$19,298.35

Contract Total: \$469,034.89

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

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

Decision Item (** indicates proposed consent item*)

Public Land Management Projects

***14.1 Management Agreement – Swan Lake State Park – Carroll CCB - Carroll County**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the Management Agreement with the Carroll County Conservation Board for Swan Lake State Park located in Carroll County.

Location: This property is located less than a mile south of Carroll in Section 6, Township 83 North, Range 34 West and Sections 31 and 32, Township 84 North, Range 34 West of the 5th P.M. in Carroll County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This 516.456-acre property is used as a public access in the same manner as state owned parks.

Management History: This property has been under a management agreement with Carroll County Conservation Board since 1995. The previous Management agreement expires December 31, 2025.

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

This agreement was approved by the Carroll County Conservation Board on October 13, 2025.

***14.2 Management Agreement – Ashton Pits – Osceola CCB - Osceola County**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the Management Agreement with the Osceola County Conservation Board for Ashton Pits located in Osceola County.

Location: This property is located 1.5 miles east of Ashton in Section 11, Township 98 North, Range 42 West of the 5th P.M. in Osceola County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This 99.64-acre property is used for outdoor recreation and hunting in the same manner as state wildlife areas.

Management History: This property has been under a management agreement with Osceola County Conservation Board since 1998. The previous Management agreement expired December 31, 2022.

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

This agreement was approved by the Osceola County Conservation Board on October 14, 2025.

***14.3 Management Agreement – Sutton Lake – Osceola CCB - Osceola County**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the Management Agreement with the Osceola County Conservation Board for Sutton Lake located in Osceola County.

Location: This property is located 2 miles southeast of Ocheyedon in Section 12, Township 99 North, Range 40 West of the 5th P.M. in Osceola County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: This 51.88-acre property is used for outdoor recreation and hunting in the same manner as state wildlife areas.

Management History: This property has been under a management agreement with Osceola County Conservation Board since 1999. The previous Management agreement expired December 31, 2023.

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

This agreement was approved by the Osceola County Conservation Board on October 14, 2025.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

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

Decision Item

Public Land Management Projects

15.1 Chapter 17 Lease — Koch Fertilizer Wever LLC – Lee County

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve a Chapter 17 Lease (Lease for use of State Owned Land) Number 138-N with Koch Fertilizer Wever, LLC.

Location: The lease covers a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River containing an area with 575 feet of frontage and of 38.75 feet of depth located at Mississippi River Mile 389.6 in Section 34, Township 68 North, Range 3 West of the 5th P.M., Lee County, Iowa,

Site Purpose: The site will be used for the loading and unloading of commercial fertilizer transportation.

Lease History: This is a new application for a Chapter 17 lease.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee of the lease is \$1,421.40. The term of the lease will be five years.

15.2 Chapter 17 Lease - Zen-Noh American Holdings Corporation – Des Moines County

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve a Chapter 17 Lease (Lease for use of State Owned Land) Number 140-N with Zen-Noh American Holdings Corporation.

Location: The lease covers a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River containing an area of 925 feet of frontage and 75 feet of depth at Mississippi River Mile 418.3 in Section 10, Township 71 N, Range 1 W of the 5th P.M., Des Moines County, Iowa.

Site Purpose: The site will be used for the loading and unloading of grain and soybeans.

Lease History: This is a new application for a Chapter 17 lease.

Lease Fee and Term: The annual fee of the lease is \$4,424.57. The term of the lease will be five years.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: November 13, 2025

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

Decision Item

16. 2026 NRC Meeting Recommendations

Month	Meeting Date / Day / Time			Meeting Location (County)
January	01/8/26	Thu	9:30am NRC Business Meeting	Polk
February	02/12/26	Thu	9:30am NRC Business Meeting	Polk
March	03/12/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk
April	04/9/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk
May	05/14/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk
June	06/10/26	Wed	12:00pm Field Tour	Cerro Gordo County
	06/11/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Cerro Gordo County
July	07/9/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk
August	08/13/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk
September	09/10/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk
October	10/7/26	Wed	12:00pm Field Tour	Webster County
	10/8/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Webster County
November	11/12/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk
December	12/10/26	Thu	9:30am Business Meeting	Polk

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
NRC Meeting Date: 11/13/26