

# Agenda

## Natural Resource Commission

Thursday, January 8, 2026

Teleconference: 361-245-0121 PIN: 803 292 109#

Video Conference: [meet.google.com/smw-cnju-drz](https://meet.google.com/smw-cnju-drz)

Virtual Meeting

**Thursday, January 8, 2026**

**9:30 AM – NRC Business Meeting (virtual)**

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](mailto: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 *10. Public Land Management Projects (10.1-10.4) *12. Contract Amendment with Siegel Lawn Care, LLC-Bark Beetle Monitoring Project *13. Contract Amendment with Foth Infrastructure & Environment- Spongy Moth Pheromone Traps	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.	Contract with Iowa State University (Ambient Lake Monitoring)	Decision	Travis Baker
7.	Contract Amendment with Bolton and Menk	Decision	Travis Baker
8.	Small Construction Projects: Road Repair at Springbrook State Park; Septic Tank Replacement at Summerset State Park	Information	Travis Baker
9.	Large Construction Projects 9.1 McIntosh Woods State Park, Campground Project – Cerro Gordo County 9.2 Wapsipinicon State Park, Road Maintenance – Jones County 9.3 Bellevue, Lodge Roof Replacement - Jackson County 9.4 Lost Grove, Boat Storage Facility – Jackson County 9.5 Lake Wapello State Park, Lift Station Rehabilitation – Davis County	Decision	Travis Baker
*10.	Public Land Management Projects 10.1 Management Agreement – Dickcissel Recreation Area – Boone County Conservation Board 10.2 Management Agreement – Des Moines River Oxbow – City of Algona 10.3 Management Agreement – Twin Springs – City of Decorah 10.4 Storm Lake Marina – Buena Vista County	Decision	Travis Baker
11.	Land Acquisition Projects 11.1 Palisades Kepler State Park, Linn County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation 11.2 North Bear Creek WMA, Allamakee County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation	Decision	Travis Baker
*12.	Contract Amendment with Siegel Lawn Care, LLC-Bark Beetle Monitoring Project	Decision	Jeff Goerndt
*13.	Contract Amendment with Foth Infrastructure & Environment- Spongy Moth Pheromone Traps	Decision	Jeff Goerndt

14.	Contract with Bachman Aero, Inc.-Canada Geese and White-tailed Deer Aerial Surveys	Decision	Todd Bishop
15.	General Discussion		
<b>Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thursday, February 12, Des Moines</li> <li>● Thursday, March 12, Des Moines</li> </ul>			

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**

**December 11, 2025**

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

**Approved by the Commission TBD**

<b>RECORD COPY</b>	
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## Meeting Minutes

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Natural Resource Commission (Commission or NRC) was called to order by Acting Chairperson Uriah Hansen at 9:32 am on December 11, 2025 via video/teleconference attendees.

### COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Uriah Hansen  
Tom Prickett (9:30am-10:40am)  
Tammi Kircher  
Collin Brecher  
Laura Kudej  
KR Buck

### COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Bill Moritz

### PUBLIC COMMENT

- David Kerr: Requests the DNR to institute a small game nonresident license for a fixed number of days; Consider raising the bobcat harvest in counties where it has been established; Consider removing hen harvest for the Fall turkey season
- Roy Russell: Requests that all kayaks be licensed in Iowa; Register bicycles in Iowa that utilize bicycle trails; Kudos to officer Eric Hoffman
- Wally Taylor, Sierra Club: Species of special concerns should be recognized in Chapter 77; Wildlife Action Plan doesn't address challenges of funding, and other challenges for the expansion of betterment of wildlife habitat on private and public land in Iowa

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda included:

- \*5. Timber Sale Contract with Kendrick, Inc. for French Creek Wildlife Management Area
- \*7. Subrecipient Grant Agreement with Upper Iowa University-Wildlife Monitoring in Driftless Region of Northeastern Iowa
- \*13. Contract with Engineering Consulting Services (ECS) Midwest, LLC (Pammel State Park, Harmon Tunnel Repairs)
- \*14. Public Land Management Projects (14.1-14.6)

*Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the agenda and consent agenda. Seconded by Tammi Kircher.*

*The Acting 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 Tammi Kircher to approve the November 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Laura Kudej.*

*The Acting 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 provided an overview of the State Parks report which outlined several changes and updates for the 2026 calendar year. Director Lyon highlighted that campsites will now be 100% reservable, noted rate changes for camping, dynamic pricing updates, planned renovations, and several other park updates.

**DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR'S REMARKS**

- Division Administrator (DA) Pete Hildreth announced that recreational ice activities are underway in Iowa with the northern 2/3 of the states developing ice. DA Hildreth highlighted ice safety tips.
- DA Hildreth gave an update on the deer season harvest to date, stating that nearly 60,000 deer have been taken during the 2025 deer season. DA Hildreth also provided CWD and EHD updates in Iowa.
- DA Hildreth invited Waterfowl biologist Orrin Jones to give a waterfowl season update to the Commission. Mr. Jones showed harvest trends as well season dates trends among midwestern states. Mr. Jones responded to questions regarding duck stamp sale trends in Iowa.
- DA Hildreth invited General Counsel Tamara McIntosh to present on EO10 and all of the steps in the process leading up to the Notices of Intended Action (NOIAs) presented on the agenda today. Ms. McIntosh outlined the steps to follow the approval of the NOIAs, noting that the Final rules will likely come before the Commission in April or May of 2026.
- Commissioner Buck highlighted his experience with the First Gentleman's hunt.

**2026 NRC MEETING TOUR SCHEDULE**

Pete Hildreth requested Commission approval the 2026 NRC Meeting tour schedule. Commissioners thanked staff for the variety of locations represented in the schedule.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments – None**

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

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

**APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**CONTRACT WITH THE DICKINSON COUNTY WATER QUALITY COMMISSION**

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract with the Dickinson County Water Quality Commission.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

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

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

**APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**CONTRACT WITH THE POWESHEK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD (DIAMOND LAKE PARK)**

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract with the Poweshiek County Conservation Board for lake restoration efforts at Diamond Lake Park.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

*Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.*

*The Acting 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 (EASTER LAKE)**

Michelle Balmer requested Commission approval for a contract with Polk County Conservation Board at Easter Lake for lake restoration efforts. Commissioners commented that Easter Lake would be a good tour location for the future. Ms. Balmer responded to questions regarding publicizing lake restoration efforts, including signage onsite.

**Public Comments – Roy Russel: restroom access for boat users could be improved**

**Written Comments-None**

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

**BUILDING DEMOLITION AND SITE RESTORATION-LAKE OF THREE FIRES (INFORMATION)**

Travis Baker presented a building demolition and site restoration project at Lake of Three Fires to the Commission as an information item.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

INFORMATION

**HAWKEYE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA, SWAN LAKE RD. & JAMES AVENUE RD. MAINTENANCES-JOHNSON COUNTY**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for road maintenance at the Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

**PIKES PEAK STATE PARK, OFFICE ROAD PAVEMENT REHABILITATION-CLAYTON COUNTY**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for road pavement work at Pikes Peak State Park. Commissioner Buck made note of the ADA campsite at Pikes Peak State Park.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

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

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

**EASTER LAKE, SHORELINE STABILIZATION-POLK COUNTY**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a shoreline stabilization project at Easter Lake. Mr. Baker responded to questions on how funding is broken down for the project. Ms. Balmer responded to questions about the counters used to determine visitation rates at the lake.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

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

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

**APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**WAUBONSIE STATE PARK, WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS-FREMONT COUNTY**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for water system improvements at Waubonsie State Park.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

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

*The Acting 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, EAST RESTROOM AND SHOWER BUILDING-CERRO GORDO COUNTY**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a project to restore the restroom and shower building at Clear Lake State Park.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

*Motion was made by Collin Brecher to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Laura Kudej.*

*The Acting 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, LODGE REPAIRS-CERRO GORDO COUNTY**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a project to repair the lodge at Clear Lake State Park.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

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

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

**APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**SPRING BRANCH 319 RESTORATION PROJECT-DELAWARE COUNTY**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a project to repair the stream bank at Spring Branch. Mr. Baker responded to questions regarding the cash donation for the project.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

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

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

**APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECT-COPELAND BEND WMA, FREMONT COUNTY PHEASANTS FOREVER**

Travis Baker requested Commission approval for a land acquisition for a property near Copeland Bend WMA.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

*Motion was made by KR Buck to approve the item as presented. Seconded by Collin Brecher.*

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

**APPROVED AS PRESENTED**

**RULEMAKING: AGENDA ITEMS 16-41**

Uriah Hansen made a motion to address all rulemaking agenda items at once, including items 16-41, in lieu of addressing each rule package individually. Seconded by KR Buck.

Chapter 80: Commissioner Buck commented that he has received feedback from the public of the negative effects of allowing shed hunting for nonresidents without a license.

Chapter 77: Mr. Baker explained why the list of species of special concern were removed from Chapter 77. Kelly Poole explained the differences among the list of species of special concern, threatened species list, and endangered species list. Commissioners discussed opportunities to better educate the public on where the list of species of special concern are located.

Chapter 80: Mr. Bruner clarified the definition of highway within the rule referencing the collection of road kill game.

Chapter 113: Commissioner Kircher would like to increase the trip value outlined in the rule, when applicable, outside of EO10.

Chapter 16: Commissioners discussed the change in rule to allow hard covers on docks. The dock fee for a hard top is the same as a dock fee with a soft top. Attorney Aaron Brees noted that dock owners who have a hard top on their dock will need to show proof of liability insurance when seeking their dock permit.

General: Commissioners discussed the level of detail staff went into to answer questions on the rule packages. Commissioners commented on how staff can better educate the public on the rulemaking process.

**Public Comments – None**

**Written Comments-None**

*Motion was made by Uriah Hansen to approve all rulemaking agenda items at once, including items 16-41.*

*Seconded by KR Buck.*

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

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION

- Commissioners approved the 2025 NRC report.
- Commissioner Brecher expressed his gratitude for his ride along opportunity with Conservation Officer Eighmy.
- Commissioners discussed their upcoming outdoor experiences and swan sitings.
- Commissioner Buck spoke about his experience speaking at the Great Lakes Fishing Club meeting and his experience at the First Gentleman's Hunt.
- DA Pete Hildreth presented on the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund report that was filed by the Department. DA Hildreth provided a quick overview and highlighted the recommendation at the end of the report requesting a 5% increase in license fees. DA Hildreth announced that the next step for the Department is to initiate the rulemaking process to increase the license fees.
- Commissioners requested projections for park revenue based on the recently announced fee increases starting in 2026.
- Commissioners requested projections for the impact on revenue if all kayaks were required to be registered in Iowa.
- Communications Director, Tammie Krausman, spoke about various geofencing projects that are underway in some of our public areas to help get valuable data regarding users of the state's public areas.

#### ADJOURN

*Acting Chairperson Uriah Hansen adjourned the Natural Resources Commission meeting at 12:05 pm on December 11, 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:

<b>Donation to:</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Donation Provided by:</b>
Lake Keomah	\$320.00	Donation of 106 pallets to be used for fish habitat structures as part of the Lake Keomah lake renovation.	Simmons Building Materials
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory or James K. Mayhew.	Patricia Mayhew
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory or James K. Mayhew.	Richard and Jennie Dawson
Ledges State Park	\$500.00	Reimbursement for picnic table lumber.	Friends of the Ledges
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory or James K. Mayhew.	Claire B Patin Trust
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory or James K. Mayhew.	Patricia Mayhew
Wildlife Diversity	\$3,000.00	Donation to the Wildlife Diversity Program in honor of Robert Lee Hoehle II.	Ann Detlefsen-Hoehle
Ledges State Park	\$6,000.00	Approximately 60 tons of glacial stone and boulders for Ledges State Park.	Kyle Chestnut, Chestnut Farms
Lake of Three Fires State Park	\$482.00	Corral Panels	Gerry Lundgren, BCHIA
Green Valley State Park	\$14,014.00	HD Brush Cutter -High Flow 86" Skid Steer Attachment	High Lakes Outdoor Alliance
Cold Springs State Park	\$850.00	Taylor County Bobcat Mount	Dennis Herring
Pikes Peak State Park	\$1,846.00	Landon Weller Memorial Bench	Monica Tiffany
Lake Darling State Park	\$25,000.00	Funds to purchase and install a park portal entrance sign.	Dr. Fay A. Vittetoe
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust fund in memory of John William Tullis II.	Paul and Brittany
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support 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 support the Fish and Wildlife Trust fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Legacy Asset Management

Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$40.00	Donation to support 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 support the Fish and Wildlife Trust fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Linda Edwards
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to support 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 support the Fish and Wildlife Trust fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Kathy Batterson
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to support 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 support the Fish and Wildlife Trust fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Patricia Mayhew
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00	Donation to support 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 support the Fish and Wildlife Trust fund in memory of James K. Mayhew.	Charles and Becky Kakac
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$20.00		Bob and Carol Grimm
Parks and Forestry	\$25.00	Donation to the Parks and Forestry Fund.	Gregory Roll
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of John "Jack" William Tullis II.	Rebecca Cox
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of John William Tullis II.	Corey Rubin
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jack Tullis.	Elijah Waterman
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$100.00	Donation to the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of James Kimm Mayhew.	Sharon Squibb
Parks and Forestry	\$50.00	Donation to support the Parks and Forestry Fund in dedication of Syd Barrett.	John Argires

Pete Hildreth, Division Administrator  
 Conservation and Recreation Division  
 NRC Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

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

6.

**Decision Item**

**Contract with Iowa State University (Ambient Lake Monitoring)**

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

**Contract Terms:**

**Amount:** Not to exceed \$1,741,680.00

**Dates:** February 1, 2026, to June 30, 2029

*DNR shall have the option to extend this Contract for up to six years from the beginning date of the original contract by executing a signed amendment prior to the expiration of this Contract.*

**Funding Source(s):** Environment First Fund \$936,907 (54%), Lake Restoration Program \$804,773 (46%)

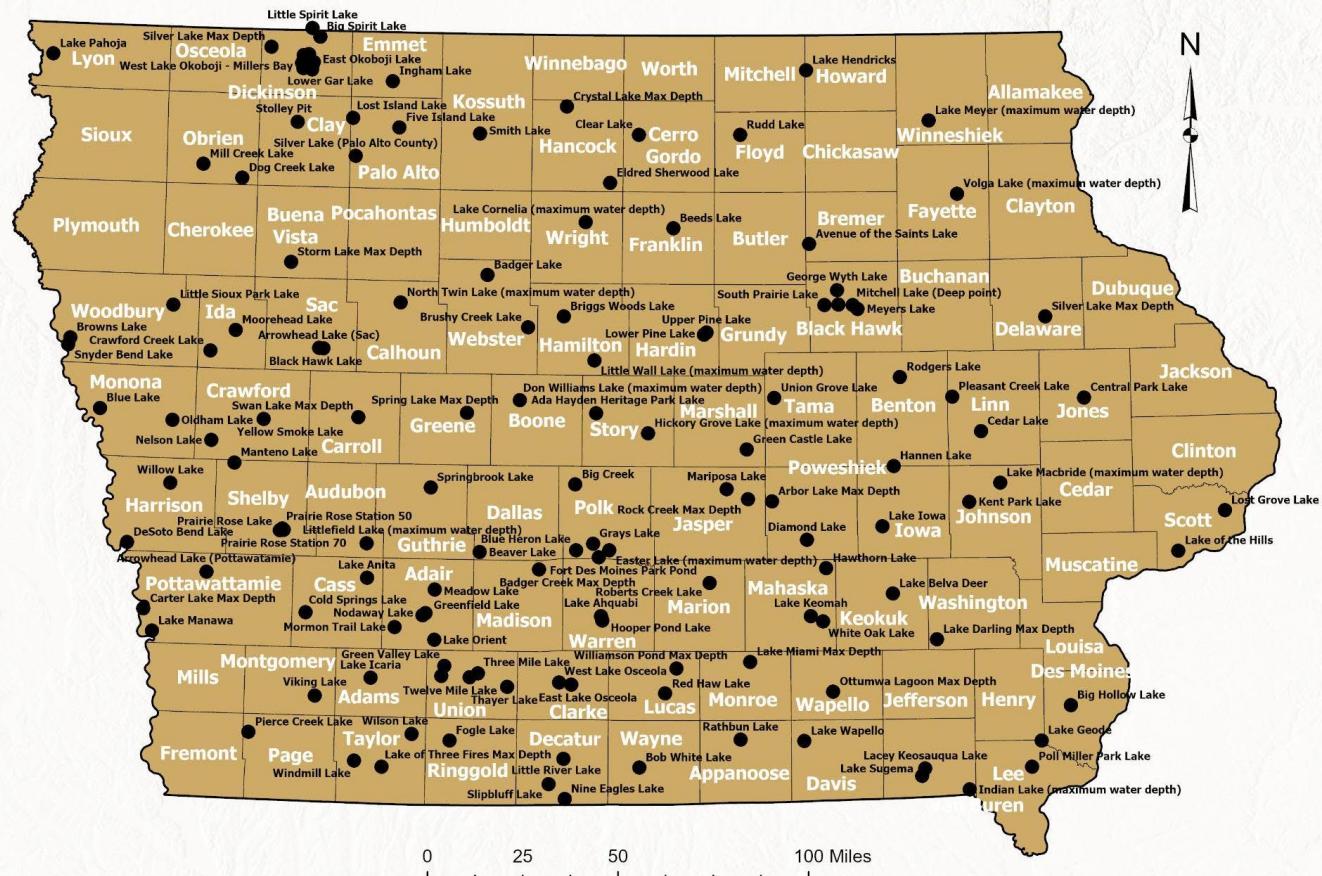
**Contract Background:** This contract encompasses the majority of lake water quality monitoring conducted as part of the state-wide water monitoring program and is the primary basis for assessing the state's lake water quality. The purpose of this program is to define the condition of Iowa's lakes, characterize the existing and emerging issues, measure changes or trends in water quality, and provide information to citizens and decision-makers. Specific ways the DNR intends to utilize the information gathered and analyzed in this contract include: to fulfill Clean Water Act requirements of the department which includes biennial reports on the status of lake water quality, impaired waters listing, and total maximum daily load reports. Data are also utilized to manage and evaluate candidate lakes for the lake restoration program and monitor the success of restoration practices implemented at priority lakes. The lake restoration program also utilized data collected through this contract to more intensively monitor specific lakes with active restoration projects, mainly evaluating the success of ongoing alum applications at several high priority lakes. DNR maintains a public facing database (AQmA) where data are housed and made available for use to the general public.

The Ambient Lake Monitoring Program (ALM) began in 2000 and is one of the longest running and most robust lake monitoring programs in the United States. DNR has contracted frequently with Iowa State University (ISU) to conduct monitoring, and the Lake Restoration Program has been a partner on this monitoring effort since the program's inception.

**Contract Purpose:** The purpose of this contract is to provide statewide lake monitoring for publicly owned lakes in Iowa. This contract represents an ongoing joint effort between the Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Section (within the Environmental Services Division of DNR) and the Lake Restoration Program. ISU will provide field and analytical support for monitoring on 141 (see map below) of Iowa's significant publicly owned lakes. The majority lakes will be monitored three times during the field season for basic water chemistry, nutrients, plankton composition, algal toxins, and clarity. A subset of lakes will be monitored more intensively for a total of six times over the field monitoring season. Additionally, ISU will provide analytical support for an additional 15 lakes sampled by DNR to assess water quality.

**Contract History:** DNR has entered into contracts with Iowa State University on a regular basis since 2000. Iowa State University has completed similar lake monitoring to activities described in contracts with DNR from 2000 to 2025. The purpose of the contracts with Iowa State University is to have Iowa State University provide DNR with lake monitoring data, including water chemistry, biological and limnological analysis of Iowa's lakes.

## Lake Monitoring Locations



Esri, CGIAR, USGS

### Budget:

Environment First Fund – DNR ESD Funding (54%): \$ 936,907  
Lake Restoration Program (46%): \$ 804,773  
 Total Cost: Not to exceed \$ 1,741,680

**Selection Process Summary:** Intergovernmental contracting with Iowa State University is authorized under 11 IAC 118.4. Also contracts with state universities and other public agencies for laboratory work, scientific field measurement and environmental quality evaluation services necessary to implement Iowa Code Chapter 455B is authorized under Iowa Code section 455B.103(3). Iowa State University was chosen for this project because of extensive previous lake monitoring experience with DNR.

Travis Baker, Land and Water Bureau Chief  
 Conservation and Recreation Division  
 NRC Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

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

**Decision Item**

**7. Contract Amendment with Bolton and Menk**

Commission approval is requested for Contract Amendment 5 with Bolton and Menk of Spencer, IA.

**Contract Amendment Terms:**

**Amount:** Contract Amendment not to exceed \$103,400; Original Contract Value was \$559,922.75; Total value of Contract and Amendment is not to exceed \$1,188,477.25

**Dates:** January 8, 2026 to December 31, 2026

**Funding Source(s):** Lake Restoration Program

**Contract Background:** Historic flooding in June 2024 caused a number of bank collapses along lake shorelines in Dickinson County, Iowa, (West Okoboji Lake, East Okoboji Lake, Big Spirit Lake, and Silver Lake). The number of collapses and scale of this event is a result of a combination of high water and storm events, which destabilized the toe (base) of the bank, and a heavy rainfall event that saturated soils on the lakeshore.

Shoreline erosion can result in diminished water quality and habitat for wildlife. Sedimentation from erosion alters the ecosystem by removing or damaging plants that provide stability and critical habitat, nutrient loading from eroding shorelands, and reduced in-lake water clarity. Shoreline erosion also creates other issues, including potential damage to near-shore infrastructure and safety concerns.

DNR completed an inventory of all the major shoreline collapses and issued an RFP in the fall of 2024 to begin to provide engineering design and cost estimates for repairing the toe slope of the 66 sites (about 2,500 feet of shoreline) identified with shoreline erosion from flooding. DNR contracted with Bolton and Menk to provide an assessment of the extent of the damage of the shorelines, preliminary engineering designs and cost estimates to repair the toe of the slope, summarizing their findings in a final report that was completed in March 2025. As a part of the original RFP, the Department reserved the right to move forward with additional engineering design services that included final design, permitting assistance, construction easement acquisitions, and some limited construction oversight and geotechnical services. DNR amended this contract in 2025 to fund engineering design to stabilize the toe of the slope for 33 areas around the Iowa Great Lakes to stabilize collapsed banks.

Breakdown of Slope Stability Risk along Pillsbury Point		
Risk Level	Length of Shoreline (feet)	Percent of Shoreline
Urgent Risk	330	26.9
High Risk	460	37.5
Moderate Risk	335	27.2
Low Risk	103	8.4



Pilsbury Point, located in Pilsbury Point State Park (see graphic above), on West Okoboji Lake, experienced seven bank failures during the 2024 flood. Bolton and Menk completed an assessment of the entire point in 2025 to better understand the stability of all of the publicly-owned slopes around the point and determine where we were at risk for future bank collapses, as well as determine needs to repair the seven collapsed bank sections.

**Contract Amendment Purpose:** The purpose of this contract amendment is to fund additional engineering services described in the original RFP that include final engineering design and some limited construction oversight to stabilize the shoreline around Pilsbury Point State Park. Seven locations around the point failed during the 2024 flood and 64% of the shoreline around the point is considered as an urgent or high priority for stabilization to prevent future bank collapses and erosion.

**Anticipated Future Work:** Construction is slated for the fall of 2026 and spring of 2027 to repair and stabilize Pilsbury Point. Total anticipated construction costs are \$1.9 Million and will include funding Lake Restoration and MFT.

**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. As a part of the original RFP, at the completion of Phase 1 (completed March 2025), the Department reserved the right to move forward with Bolton and Menk for additional engineering design and construction services as described in this amendment.

Travis Baker, Engineering, Land and Waters Bureau Chief

Conservation and Recreation Division

January 8, 2026

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

**Information Item**

**8. Construction - Small Projects**

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

<b>Bid Date</b>	<b>Project No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Bids</b>
12/11/2025	25-04-39-03	SPRINGBROOK	GUTHRIE	Full depth asphalt road patches in Springbrook campground.	\$28,000.00	\$22,808.52 \$23,186.00 \$26,907.80 \$30,245.13 \$36,888.18 \$49,290.15
11/20/2025	26-05-91-01	SUMMERSET STATE PARK	WARREN	Remove an existing 2,000 gallon holding tank. Install a 1,250 gallon enclosed septic tank system; including, a connection to electrical.	\$25,000.00	\$18,900.00 \$19,500.00 \$20,500.00 \$20,577.00 \$21,862.00 \$22,000.00 \$23,000.00 \$25,000.00 \$25,416.00 \$30,892.12

Travis Baker, Land and Waters Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
NRC Meeting Date: January 8, 2026

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

**Decision Item**

**Construction Item**

**9.1 McIntosh Woods State Park, Campground Project – Cerro Gordo County**

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

**Project Background:** McIntosh Woods State Park is a popular 60-acre destination on the northwest shore of Clear Lake, offering activities such as fishing, boating, kayaking, and winter sports like cross-country skiing and ice fishing. The park also features a sandy beach, a playground, and shoreline picnicking areas.

**Design Summary:** The primary goal of this project is to upgrade the existing campground infrastructure. Key improvements will include:

- Utility upgrades to the sanitary sewer, water mains, and electrical infrastructure.
- Drainage improvements.
- Reconstruction of many campsites for easier access, including the addition of three ADA-compliant sites.
- Construction of new parking areas.

Upon completion, the campground will feature 37 full-hookup campsites (down from 49), all equipped with 50-amp electric service.

The scope of work for the project also includes:

- Removal of the existing shower building, gravel camp pads, and outdated utility infrastructure (e.g. electric boxes, hydrants).
- Installation of new gravel camp pads, a new shower building, new electric services, water services, and sanitary sewers.
- Seeding and mulching of all disturbed areas.

**McIntosh Woods Campground**



**Engineering Project #:** 26-03-17-01

**Cost Estimate:** \$1,700,000.00

**Operating Bureau:** Parks, Forests and Preserves

**Funding Source:** 50% Park Infrastructure / 50% Fed - Land and Water Conservation Fund

**Bid Letting Date:** 12/18/2025

**Construction Completion Date:** 10/31/2026

**Number of Bids Received:** 4

**Bidders**

Sadler Construction Inc	Eagle Grove IA	\$1,640,781.75
Bob McKinney Excavating and Grading, Inc	Mason City IA	\$1,728,628.31
Dean Snyder Construction Co	Clear Lake IA	\$1,784,523.39
Graves Const Co, Inc	Spencer IA	\$1,799,847.26

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

## 9.2 Wapsipinicon State Park, Road Maintenance – Jones County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

**Project Background:** Wapsipinicon State Park, established in 1921, currently covers approximately 400 acres and features steep limestone bluffs and rolling hills. The original roads and bridges throughout the park were constructed by prisoners from the Anamosa State Penitentiary.

**Design Summary:** The existing paved roadways, constructed in the 1970s and 1980s, are showing significant degradation, including rutting and cracking.

To address these issues, the necessary maintenance items include:

- Replacing culverts
- Asphalt patching and overlaying
- Crack cleaning and sealing
- Double chip sealing
- Rocking shoulders on approximately four miles of asphalt pavement of varying widths
- Adding rock to approximately 0.3 miles of existing rock roads



**Engineering Project #:** 22-06-53-01

**Cost Estimate:** \$886,000

**Operating Bureau:** Parks, Forests and Preserves

**Funding Source:** 100% Parks and Institutional Roads Fund

**Bid Letting Date:** 12/18/2025

**Construction Completion Date:** 8/14/2026

**Number of Bids Received:** 2

### **Bidders**

River City Paving	Dubuque IA	\$796,910.37
L.L. Pelling Company Inc.	North Liberty IA	\$821,051.07

Upon Engineering's review of bids, DNR recommends awarding the contract to River City Paving.

### 9.3     Bellevue, Lodge Roof Replacement - Jackson County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

**Project Background:** Establishment of the 770-acre Bellevue State Park began in 1925 and was dedicated in 1928. The park features a 45-site campground with full hook-ups. There are several hiking trails that offer stunning views of the Mississippi River and the historic city of Bellevue. There is also a one-acre open butterfly garden sanctuary.



**Design Summary:** This project will replace the existing composition roof, which is nearing the end of its 25-year life, with a ribbed metal panel roof that has a 50-year life expectancy.

The majority of the lodge's interior has a vaulted ceiling with little insulation. Therefore, we have added insulation to help minimize future heating and cooling costs. To reduce maintenance for park staff, all rake and fascia boards will be replaced and wrapped with aluminum. Additionally, this project will replace all metal trim work, gutters, downspouts, and rubber flashings on the vent pipes.

**Engineering Project #:** 26-06-49-02

**Cost Estimate:** \$45,000

**Operating Bureau:** Parks, Forests and Preserves

**Funding Source:** 100% Special Appropriations

**Bid Letting Date:** 12/04/2025

**Construction Completion Date:** 5/15/2026

**Number of Bids Received:** 3

#### Bidders

QC Roof Drs. Inc.	Davenport IA	\$53,546.10
KAT Construction	Annadale MN	\$77,831.00
GV Builders Inc	Lakeville MN	\$91,933.30

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

#### 9.4 Lost Grove, Boat Storage Facility – Jackson County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

**Project Background:** This DNR building primarily serves as a storage facility for Law Enforcement vehicles and equipment. The building was donated to the Iowa DNR many years ago by a local supporter and has received minimal upgrades since. It currently stores Law Enforcement boats, ATVs, side-by-sides, equipment, and tools.

**Design Summary:** This project is essential for safety and efficiency, and will involve the following upgrades:

- Siding and Roofing Replacement: Removing and replacing all existing metal siding, roofing, and associated trim. The existing roof leaks in several locations, creating a slipping hazard due to ice on the floor during the winter months.
- Structural Modification: Installing a new interior column to accommodate a new, taller and wider sectional garage door. This will allow for improved ingress/egress and more efficient use of the facility.
- Electrical Upgrade: Bringing the out-of-compliance electrical service entrance up to code and installing a new service panel.



**Engineering Project #:** 26-06-82-01

**Cost Estimate:** \$50,000

**Operating Bureau:** Law Enforcement

**Funding Source:** 100% Marine Fuel Tax

**Bid Letting Date:** 12/04/2025

**Construction Completion Date:** 4/30/2026

**Number of Bids Received:** 2

#### Bidders

Ihrig Works LLC	Long Grove IA	\$53,744.00
QC Roof Drs. Inc.	Davenport IA	\$67,308.40

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

## 9.5 Lake Wapello State Park, Lift Station Rehabilitation – Davis County

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction project:

**Project Background:** Lake Wapello State Park, established in the 1930s, is a significant recreational area containing a campground, beach house, docks, hiking trails, and outdoor shelters.

**Design Summary:** The park's current lift station, which transports wastewater from the campground, lodge, and other structures to the treatment facility, was installed in 2001 and last received maintenance in 2016. During a recent inspection, we have determined that the current piping has a leak and the valves are severely corroded. The scope of work will involve:

- Replacement of all piping and valves
- Sealing the valve vault
- Installation of a drain to keep the valve vault dry and prevent future corrosion

**Engineering Project #:** 25-05-26-02

**Cost Estimate:** \$41,000

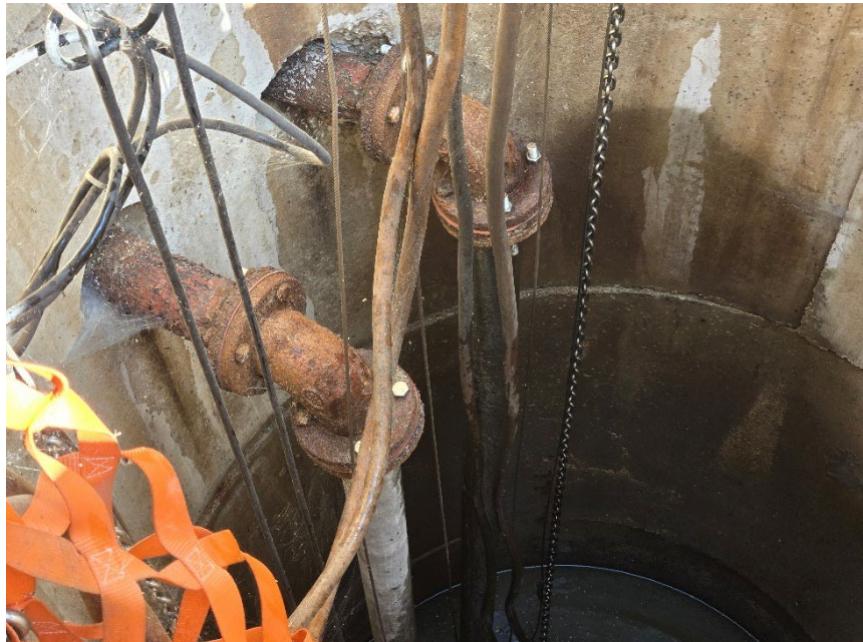
**Operating Bureau:** Parks, Forests and Preserves

**Funding Source:** 100% Infrastructure

**Bid Letting Date:** 12/18/2025

**Construction Completion Date:** 5/1/2026

**Number of Bids Received:** 2



*Existing lift station piping in poor condition*

### Bidders

Leffler Dirtworks LLC	Oskaloosa, IA	\$50,875.00
Ground Line Company LLC	Onslow, IA	\$56,413.00

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

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
1/8/2026

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

**Decision Item** (\* indicates proposed consent item)

**\*10. Public Land Management Projects**

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**\*10.1 Management Agreement – Dickcissel Recreation Area – Boone County Conservation Board**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the Management Agreement with the Boone County Conservation Board for Dickcissel Recreation Area located in Boone County.

**Location:** This property is located four miles southeast of Boone in Section 36, Township 84 North, Range 26 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M. in Boone County, Iowa.

**Site Purpose:** This 41.15-acre property is used for outdoor recreation in the same manner as state wildlife management areas.

**Management History:** This property has been under a management agreement with the Boone County Conservation Board since 1999. The previous management agreement expired December 31, 2024.

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

This agreement was approved by the Boone County Conservation Board on December 16, 2025.

**\*10.2 Management Agreement – Des Moines River Oxbow – City of Algona**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the Management Agreement with the City of Algona for Des Moines River Oxbow located in Kossuth County.

**Location:** This property is located in the abandoned channel lying South of the present Upper Des Moines River channel in Section 2, Township 95 North, Range 29 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M. in Kossuth County, Iowa.

**Site Purpose:** This 1 plus acres, more or less, property is used for outdoor recreation and access in the same manner as state recreation areas.

**Management History:** This property has been under a management agreement with the City of Algona since 1975. The previous management agreement expired December 31, 2025.

**Management Agreement Term:** This standard Management Agreement is with the City of Algona for 25 years.

This agreement was approved by the City Council of Algona on December 1, 2025.

### **\*10.3 Management Agreement – Twin Springs – City of Decorah**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the Management Agreement with the City of Decorah for Twin Springs located in Winneshiek County.

**Location:** This property is located a half mile west of Decorah in Section 20, Township 98 North, Range 8 West of the 5<sup>th</sup> P.M. in Winneshiek County, Iowa.

**Site Purpose:** This 6.279-acre property is used for outdoor recreation in the same manner as state recreation areas.

**Management History:** This property has been under a management agreement with the City of Decorah since 1976. The previous management agreement expired December 31, 2025.

**Management Agreement Term:** This standard Management Agreement is with the City of Decorah for 25 years.

This agreement was approved by the City Council of Decorah on December 1, 2025.

### **\*10.4 Storm Lake Marina – Buena Vista County**

**Receiver:** Buena Vista County

**Acreage:** 17.51 acres m/l

**Conveyance without Consideration**

The Board of Supervisors of Buena Vista County has formally requested the State of Iowa to transfer title of the land currently used as **Casino Bay Access** on Storm Lake to the County. This request was made through **Resolution No. 2023-08-01-A**, adopted on **August 1, 2023**.

In response, the **Natural Resource Commission** is asked to find in its judgment it is desirable to transfer such public lands to Buena Vista County, and if the Natural Resource Commission finds as such, it is requested that the Natural Resource Commission recommends to the Executive Council approval of the transfer of title of such public lands to Buena Vista County, pursuant to the authority granted under **Iowa Code section 461A.32(2)**. Upon approval by the Executive Council, title to the property will be transferred to Buena Vista County.

No part of the property requested to be transferred is public trust property. Instead, this property was originally acquired as two parcels, one acquired in 1966 and the second in 1967 for the purpose of developing a public marina. Over time, the marina has been operated either directly by the Department of Natural Resources ("DNR") or through management agreements with the City of Storm Lake or Buena Vista County. Since March 2024, Buena Vista County has been managing the area under a management agreement with the DNR.

As part of this transfer, a reversion clause will be included in the patent. Per Iowa Code section 461A.32(2) the patent "shall contain a provision that when such lands cease to be used as public park by said city or county such lands revert to the state, and such park shall, within one year after such land has reverted to the state, be restored, as nearly as possible, to the condition it was in when acquired by such city, county, or legal agency of the city or county at the expense of such city, county, or legal agency."

About 7.5 acres on the north side of the property will remain under DNR ownership. This area contains a building currently used by both the Fisheries and Law Enforcement Bureaus. A one-acre parcel of the retained land will continue to be managed by Buena Vista County through separate Management Agreement, to be executed in the same time frame as the Patent. The patent to the county shall reserve an easement over the property to be transferred to allow the DNR access to the above-referenced property retained by the state.

Buena Vista County intends to continue managing the property in that same manner as it has under the current agreement. The DNR supports this conveyance as it aligns with the DNR's long-term management objectives and strengthens collaboration with local stakeholders. Closing costs will be the responsibility of Buena Vista County.

Exhibit A  
Land Patent Map  
Storm Lake Marina



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

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

**Decision Item**

**11. Public Land Acquisition Project**

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**11.1 Palisades Kepler State Park, Linn County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located adjacent to Palisades Kepler State Park in Linn County.

**Seller:** Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF)

**Acreage:** 10 acres

**DNR Purchase Price:** \$58,681.00

**Appraised Value:** \$100,000.00

**Property Description:**

This rectangular property is located approximately 13 miles southeast of Cedar Rapids in south-central Linn County. Palisades-Kepler State Park surrounds the parcel on three sides. A north-south ravine bisects the property. The western portion consists of a flat ridgetop that slopes eastward toward the ravine. East of the ravine, the land rises to a narrow ridgetop near the eastern boundary. The entire parcel is forested, with a species composition similar to that of the adjacent state park. Dominant upland hardwood species include white oak and shagbark hickory.

**Purpose:**

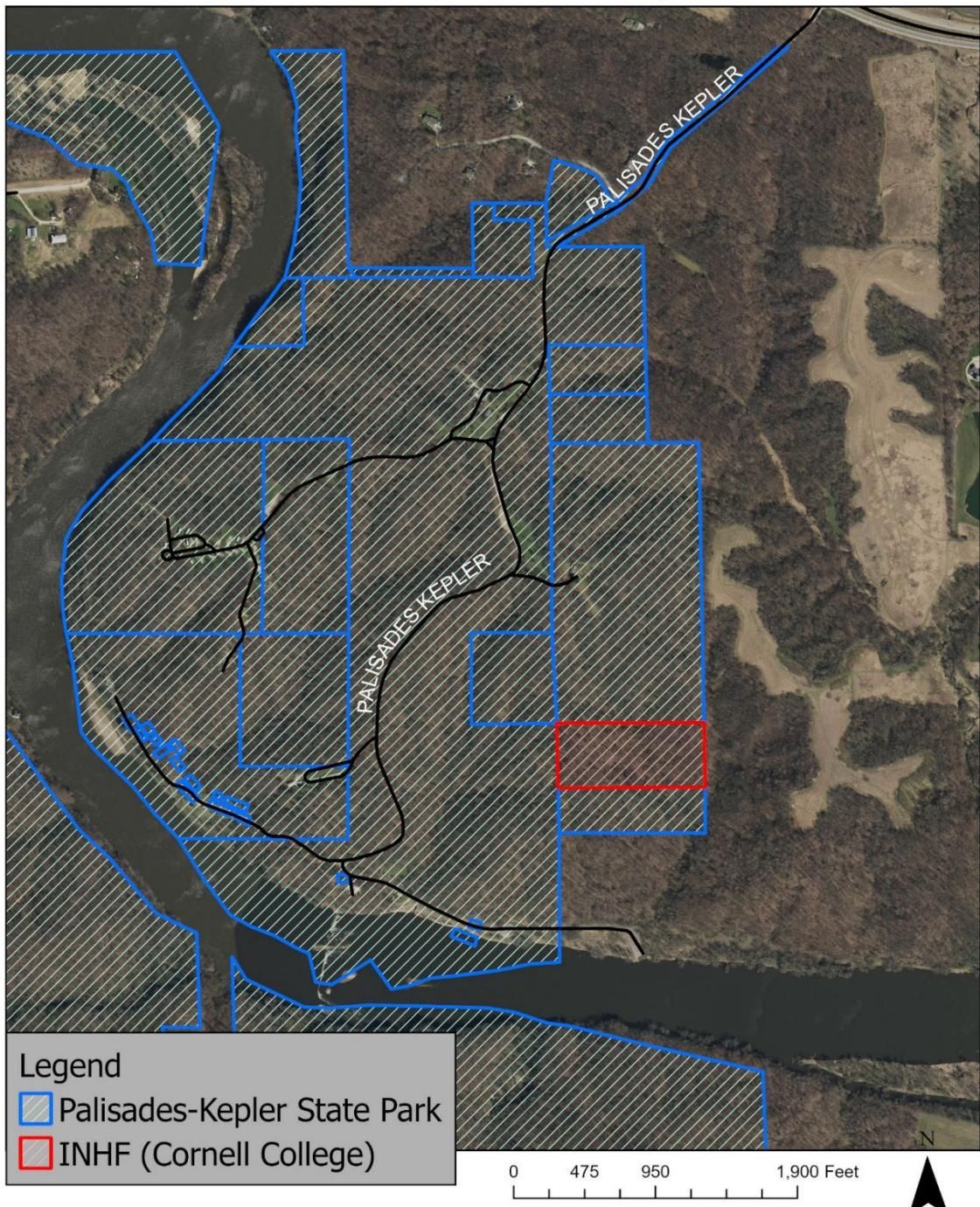
Due to its proximity to the Cedar Rapids metro area and its diverse habitat types, this acquisition will provide additional public access for outdoor recreation. Incorporating this parcel into the State Park will also help square up a portion of the eastern boundary, improving boundary maintenance and simplifying management. The parcel will remain on the tax rolls, and access will be provided through existing State Park land.

**DNR Property Manager:** Parks, Forest, and Preserves Bureau

**Funding Source(s):** \$58,681 REAP Public/Private Grant, \$41,319 Donated Value

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

Realty Services / Palisades-Kepler State Park  
Linn County/ Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation



## **11.2 North Bear Creek WMA, Allamakee County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located adjacent to North Bear Creek WMA in Allamakee County.

**Seller:** Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (INHF)

**Acreage:** 21.1 acres

**DNR Purchase Price:** \$180,000.00

**Appraised Value:** \$243,000.00

### **Property Description:**

This irregular shaped property is located approximately 3.5 miles east of Highlandville in northwest Allamakee County. North Bear Creek WMA borders the west side of this parcel. This property is a combination of reestablished native prairie, bluff woodlands, and 0.33 miles of North Bear Creek running through the middle.

### **Purpose:**

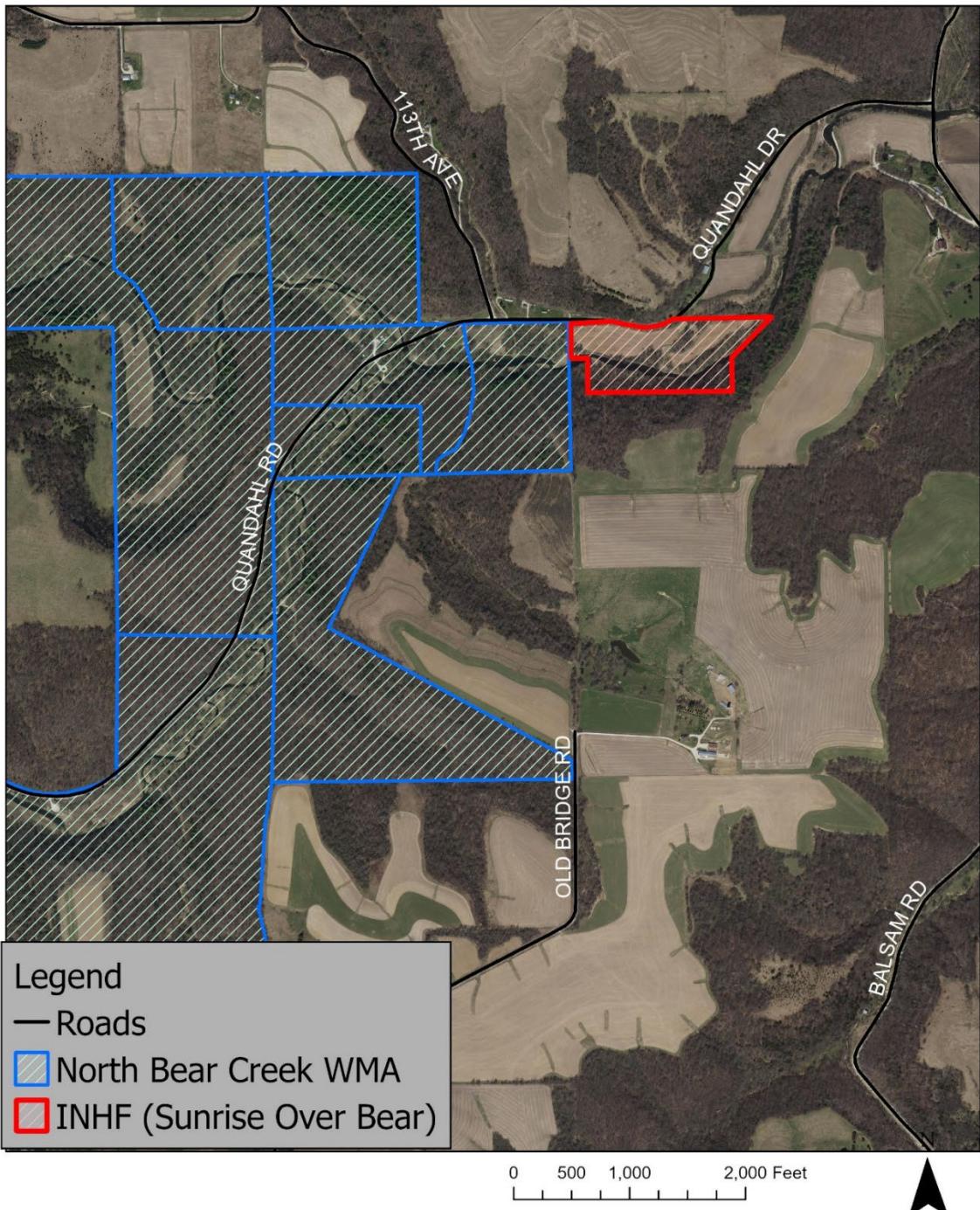
North Bear Creek was one of the earliest streams to document wild brown trout reproduction in Iowa and continues to have a population. Rainbow stock have been stocked since 1940. The native reconstructed prairie and the bluff woodlands provide a buffer against stream-side erosion and provide habitat for many species of birds and pollinators, including the recently confirmed sighting of the Federally Endangered Rust Patch Bumblebee. This access will increase access to Bear Creek for anglers. Hunting will be permitted on this property. The parcel will remain on the tax rolls, and access will be provided off Quandahl Drive.

**DNR Property Manager:** Wildlife Bureau

**Funding Source(s):** \$180,000 REAP Public Private, \$63,000 Donated Value

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

Realty Services / North Bear Creek WMA  
Allamakee County/ INHF



Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
1/8/2026

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission/Environmental Protection Commission**

**Decision Item (\*indicates proposed consent item)**

**\*12. Contract Amendment-25CRDFRBRUNKE-0004**

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Commission approval is requested for a service contract amendment with Mike Siegel, Siegel Lawn Care L.L.C. , of Adel , IA.

**Amendment- 25CRDFRBRUNKE0004-Amendment 2**

**Terms:**

**Amendment Amount:** \$28,495.00  
**Amendment Dates:** Dec 31, 2025- Dec 31, 2026  
**Funding Source(s):** M008-FH (Federal Grant)

**Amendment Purpose:**

An amendment is needed for this contract because the scope and timeline of the original agreement no longer fully align with the program's updated needs for the 2025 exotic bark beetle survey. As planning has progressed, adjustments are required to ensure that the contractor's work, deliverables, or timelines accurately reflect the operational realities of the survey and allow the Department to meet federal reporting and funding requirements. Updating the contract through an amendment ensures all expectations remain clearly defined and enforceable for both parties.

In addition, any change to the statement of work, service dates, compensation structure, or other contractual terms must be formally documented through an amendment in order to remain compliant with state procurement rules. Completing this amendment allows the project to move forward smoothly while maintaining transparency, proper oversight, and accountability within the contract.

**Original Contract Purpose:** Siegel Lawn Care L.L.C. will carry out an exotic bark beetle monitoring project at twelve sites across Story, Tama, and Polk counties by installing 36 Lindgren funnel traps, servicing them every two weeks, and collecting insect samples following USDA Forest Service protocols. The Contractor will filter and preserve all specimens, deliver samples to the Iowa DNR within required timelines, and keep all materials properly labeled and stored. At the end of the survey period, Siegel Lawn Care will remove all traps, return equipment, and provide required documentation. These services support the DNR's effort to detect and respond to any non-native bark beetles that may pose a threat to Iowa's forests.

**Original Selection Process:** In 2023, the DNR issued a competitive solicitation to secure a contractor capable of conducting an exotic bark beetle survey using Lindgren funnel traps across Story, Tama, and Polk counties. Siegel Lawn Care L.L.C. was selected based on their ability to meet all field-survey, trapping, and sample-collection requirements outlined in the solicitation, as well as their capacity to complete the work within the required timeline. Their proposal was determined to be the most advantageous and cost-effective option for fulfilling the survey objectives

**Contract History:**

**Original Contract Terms:** Amount \$ 13,900.00 ; Timeframe: May 9th, 2025 - December 31st, 2025

**Amendment - 1 Terms:** Amount \$14,595.00; Timeframe: 12/2025 -12/2026; Purpose: 2026 exotic bark beetle trapping

Jeff Goerndt, **State Forester**  
January 8, 2026



**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission/Environmental Protection Commission**

**Decision Item** (\*indicates proposed consent item)

**\*13. Contract Amendment- 24CRDFRBTFEEL-0002**

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Commission approval is requested for a service contract amendment with Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC. , of Johnston, IA.

**Amendment- 24CRDFRBTFEEL-0002 Amendment 2**

**Terms:**

**Amendment Amount:** \$25,925  
**Amendment Dates:** January 1- Dec 31st, 2026  
**Funding Source(s):** 894C (USDA APHIS-PPQ Federal Grant)

**Amendment Purpose:**

An amendment is needed because the DNR has competitively bid this project annually for multiple years and the current Contractor has been the successful bidder. The work covered by this amendment is identical to the work contracted for in the previous year. DNR has elected to employ this amendment to extend the contract for one additional season instead of entering into an entirely new contract. The contractor will be paid \$8,925 for the 2026 trapping season.

**Original Contract Purpose:** Foth Infrastructure & Environment, LLC will have a contract renewal for the purpose of retaining the Contractor to placement of up to, but not exceed 250 spongy moth pheromone traps at designated locations within C. These are high risk locations for the potential introduction of spongy moth and survey traps will be placed to ensure the pest has not been moved into the area. All funding is through USDA-APHIS-PPQ via Farm Bill agreements.

**Original Selection Process:** In 2023, the DNR issued a competitive solicitation to secure a contractor capable of conducting the spongy moth traps survey within Des Moines, Henry, Jefferson, Keokuk, Lee, and Louisa counties. Foth Infrastructure & Environment, was selected based on their ability to meet all field-survey, trapping, and sample-collection requirements outlined in the solicitation, as well as their capacity to complete the work within the required timeline. Their proposal was determined to be the most advantageous and cost-effective option for fulfilling the survey objectives.

**Contract History:**

**Original Contract Terms:** Amount \$ 8,500.00; Timeframe: January 1, 2024 - December 31st, 2024

**Amendment - 1 Terms:** Amount \$17,000.00; Timeframe: 1/1/2025 -12/31/2025; Purpose: 2025 Spongy Moth Trapping. (\$8,500 original contract and \$8,500 amendment

Jeff Goerndt, State Forester  
January 8, 2026



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

**Decision Item**

**14. Contract with Bachman Aero, Inc.**

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**Commission approval is requested for a contract with** Bachman Aero, Inc., **of** Green Oaks, IL.

**Contract Terms**

**Amount:** Not to exceed \$400,000.00

**Dates:** 1/11/2026 to 1/11/2029

**Funding Source(s):** Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund and federal grant awards when available.

**Contract Purpose:**

Iowa's waterfowl populations are monitored annually via a statewide aerial (helicopter) survey for Canada geese and a breeding pair count on selected wetlands for ducks. Population status is used to determine appropriate hunting regulations each year. Federal regulations also require the Canada goose population be monitored annually to use lethal control methods in Iowa. Waterfowl surveys have been conducted annually since 1993 in northern Iowa to assess population responses to habitat restoration and management initiatives. These survey data are used to develop biologically sound wildlife management and harvest programs.

White-tailed deer surveys are flown over select deer management zones and disease zones to aid in establishing quotas and monitor success of prior harvest.

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

**Criteria Reviewed:** Criteria reviewed for this work included professional experience, direct wildlife survey experience, aircraft offered, and cost.

**Proposal Due Date:** December 1, 2025

**# of Proposals Received:** 4

**Recommendation:** Bachman Aero, Inc.

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Vendor Location (city, state)</b>	<b>Score (100 pts total)</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Bachman Aero	Green Oaks, IL	98	1	\$89,775
Chemair Helicopters, Inc.	Jefferson, WI	85	2	\$128,800
Helicopters Inc.	Cahokia Heights, IL	70	3	\$174,325
Johnson Flying Service	Exira, IA	25	4	NA

Todd Bishop, Wildlife Bureau Chief  
**Conservation and Recreation Division**  
**NRC Meeting Date:** January 8, 2026