Form 1100-1
Rev. 5-91

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 3.B.17

SUBJECT: EASEMENT DONATION - GIFT LANDS PROGRAM – WAUPACA COUNTY

FOR: JUNE BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: Suzanne Woods has offered to donate a conservation easement on 191.52 acres of land in Waupaca County to the Department for the Gift Lands program.

The Conservation Area Easement area is located in an area of pitted outwash moraine topography in the Town of Scandinavia. The property includes ½-mile of frontage on Marl Lake, ½-mile of frontage (both sides) of a tributary of Sannes Creek, a lowland forest, open wetland, and cropland.

Marl Lake is an 11-acre, 65-foot deep seepage lake with clear, hard water. Fish present are perch, bluegill, black crappie, northern pike, largemouth bass, carp, and white sucker. An outlet of the lake flows into Sannes Creek.

A spring pond on the southwest side of Marl Lake drains into the lake. Much of the shoreline around Marl Lake and the spring pond is boggy. Plants found include bog birch, tamarack, pitcher plant, bog bean, bladderwort, lousewort, and a wide variety of sedges and ferns.

The tributary to Sannes Creek provides habitat for spawning brook trout. Brown trout are also present. The Department acquired 119 acres to the southwest and northwest of the Woods' property as part of the Peterson and Sannes Creek Remnant Fishery Area.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of an easement on 191.52 acres of land for the Gift Lands program, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to Suzanne Woods and that an expression of appreciation be made a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

No ☒	Fiscal Estimate Required	Yes ☐	Attached
No ☒	Environmental Assessment of Impact Statement Required	Yes ☐	Attached
No ☐	Background Memo	Yes ☒	Attached

APPROVED:

Richard E. Steffes (MP) — 6/5/08
Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6 — Date

Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/8 — Date

6/9/08
Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/8 — Date

cc: S. Miller – LF/6
R. Steffes – LF/6
L. Ross – AD/8
R. Kazmierczak – NER/Green Bay

State of Wisconsin

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 5, 2008 FILE REF: O-80001

TO: Natural Resources Board

FROM: Matthew J. Frank

SUBJECT: Proposed Conservation Easement Donation, Suzanne Woods Tract, File # O-80001

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Gift lands -- Conservation Easement
Waupaca County

Grantor:

Suzanne Woods
c/o Richard Carlson
331 East Washington Street
Appleton, WI 54911

Acres: 191.52
Price: N/A - Donation
Interest: Donation of Conservation Easement
Improvements: None

Location: The tract is located in Waupaca County in the Town of Scandinavia.
Land Description: The subject land is low and includes a ½-mile of lake frontage.

Covertype Breakdown:

Type	Acreage
Woodlands	100.00
Agriculture/Open space	91.52
TOTAL:	191.52

Present Use: Conservancy and Recreation
Proposed Use: Resource Protection
Tenure: 48 years
Option Date: March 21, 2008

2. JUSTIFICATION:

Suzanne Woods has offered to donate a conservation easement on 191.52 acres of land in Waupaca County to the Department for the Gift Lands program. The Natural Resources Board established the Gift Lands project in 1982 to hold parcels of land donated to the Department that would be resold or that required more study before placement in conservation projects.

The Conservation Area Easement area is located in an area of pitted outwash moraine topography in the Town of Scandinavia. The property includes ½-mile of frontage on Marl Lake, ½-mile of frontage (both sides) of a tributary of Sannes Creek, a lowland forest, open wetland, and cropland.

Marl Lake is an 11-acre, 65-foot deep seepage lake with clear, hard water. Fish present are perch, bluegill, black crappie, northern pike, largemouth bass, carp, and white sucker. An outlet of the lake flows into Sannes Creek.

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A spring pond on the southwest side of Marl Lake drains into the lake. Much of the shoreline around Marl Lake and the spring pond is boggy. Plants found include bog birch, tamarack, pitcher plant, bog bean, bladderwort, lousewort, and a wide variety of sedges and ferns.

The tributary to Sannes Creek provides habitat for spawning brook trout. Brown trout are also present. The Department acquired 119 acres to the southwest and northwest of the Woods property as part of the Peterson and Sannes Creek Remnant Fishery Area.

The tributary is on the west side of the property and flows through an open canary grass wetland and a larger lowland forest. The forest borders a small pond and is dominated by basswood, ash, swamp white oak, and red maple along with a few yellow birch, hemlocks, and large white pine. The forest contains few shrubs, but has a diverse ground layer including wild geraniums, sensitive fern, royal fern, maidenhair fern, and May apple.

The property provides habitat for sandhill cranes, pileated woodpeckers, bald eagles, river otters, and probably the state-threatened wood and Blanding's turtles.

Skunk and Foster Lakes State Natural Area contains five undeveloped glacial pothole lakes and is 1.5 miles to the west of the Woods' property. The Bureau of Endangered Resources is evaluating the lowland forest and Marl Lake as part of a unit of the Skunk Foster Lakes State Natural Area project.

The Department recommends accepting this conservation easement gift to protect this wilderness property with lakefront from development.

3. FINANCING:

No land acquisition funding is needed for this conservation easement donation.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE GIFT LANDS PROGRAM:

Established: 1982
Acres Purchased to Date: 1,155.7
Acquisition Goal: 1,131.0 Acres
Percent Complete: 102%
Cost to Date: N/A

RECOMMENDED:

Richard E. Steffes (p)
Richard E. Steffes

6/5/08
Date

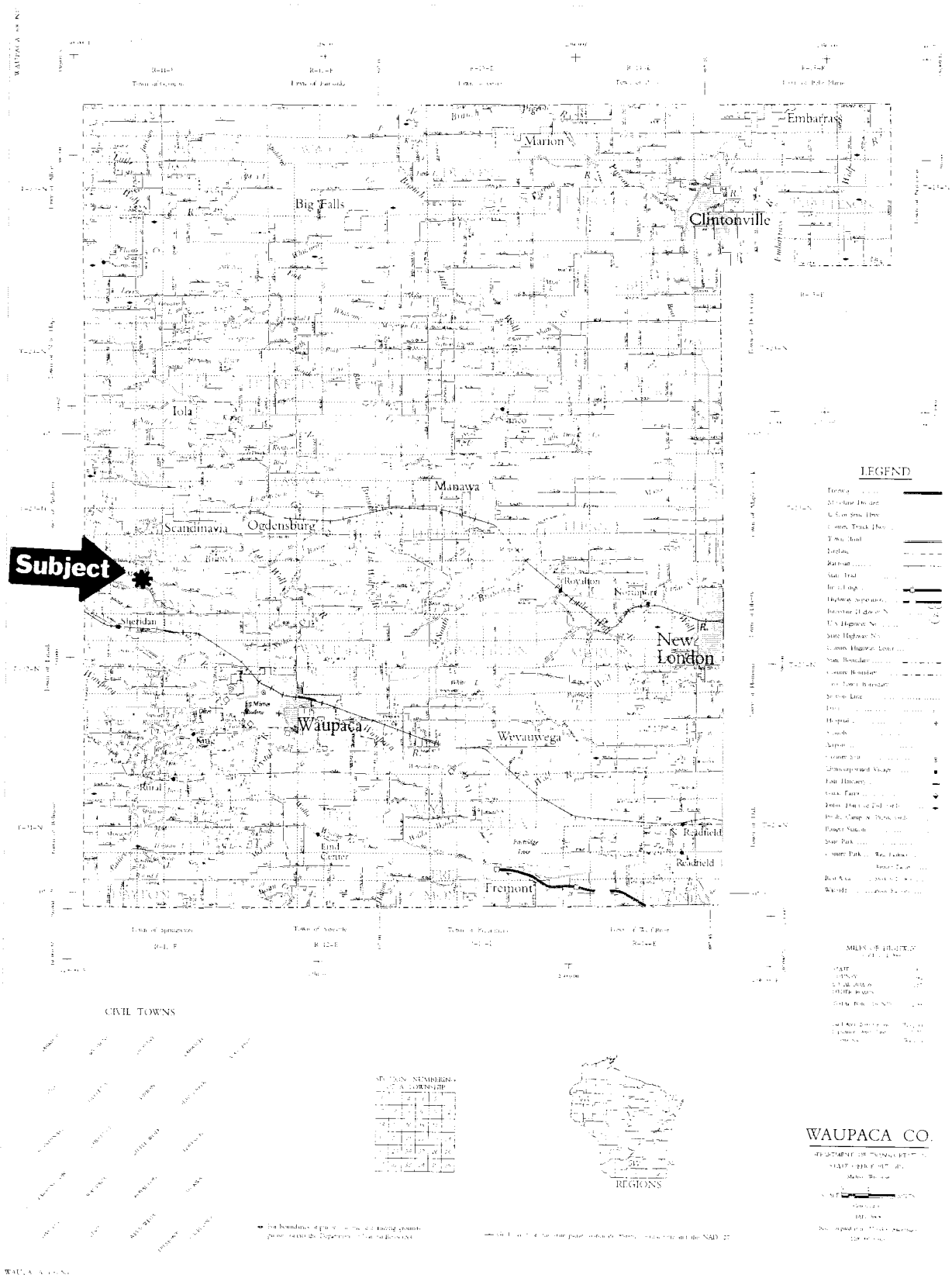
Joseph Wm. Renville
Bureau of Legal Services

6/5/08
Date

Laurie Osterndorf

Date

RES:dv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WAUPACA CO.

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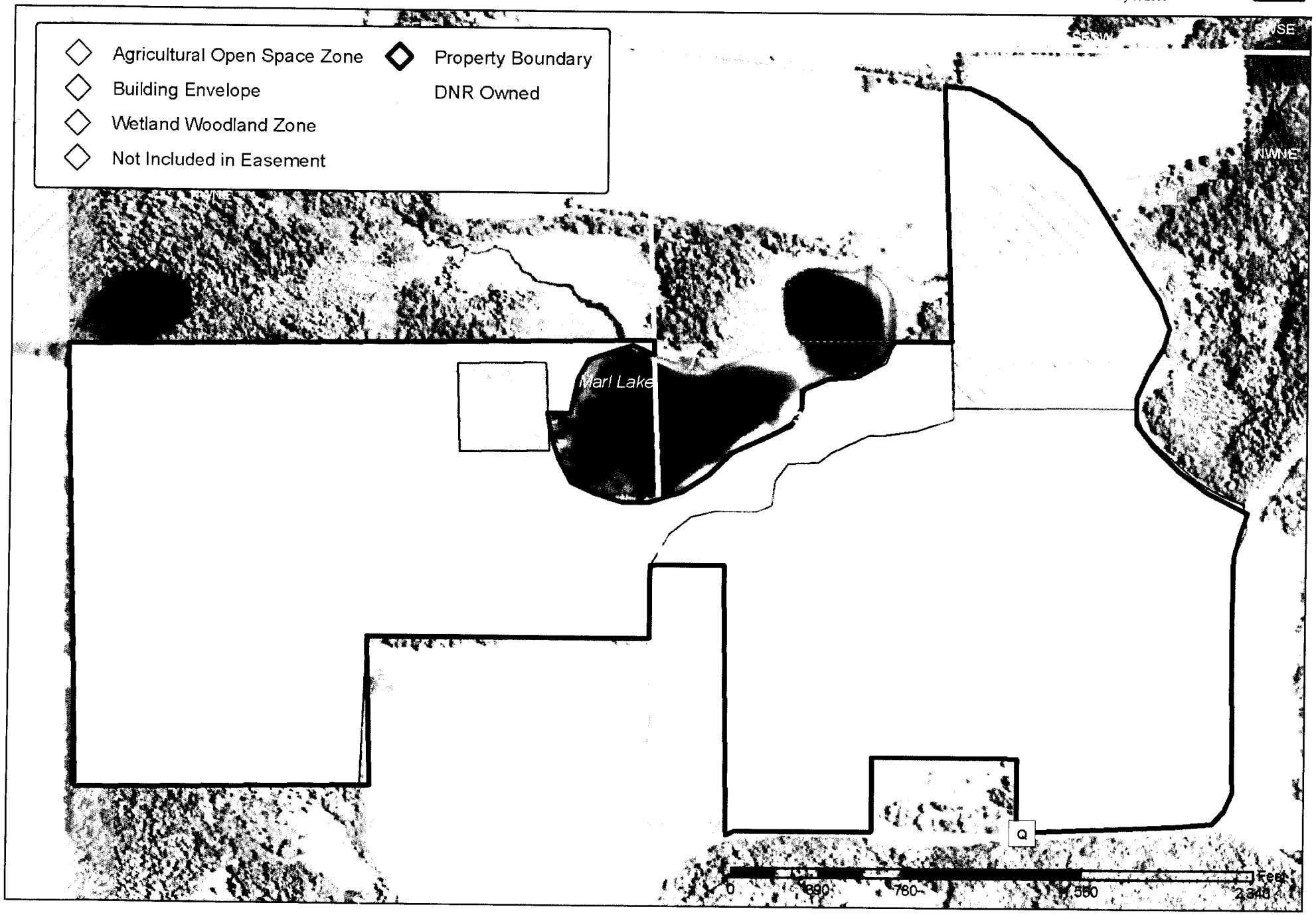
Woods Property

T 23N R 11E Sections 32 & 33, Town of Scandinavia, Waupca County

Created by Bureau of Facilities and Lands
Real Estate Section
May 5, 2008



Acknowledgment Of Gift

This is to certify that at its June 2008 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of a 191.52-acre conservation easement in Waupaca County for the Gift Lands Program from

SUZANNE WOODS

It is significant that organizations such as yours are interested in helping protect Wisconsin's natural heritage and contribute materially toward this end.

An expression of our appreciation is a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board. We present this certificate of sincere appreciation on behalf of present and future generations to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIRMAN