

SUBJECT: LAND DONATION AND PROJECT BOUNDARY MODIFICATION - CHIPPEWA MORaine STATE RECREATION AREA- CHIPPEWA COUNTY

FOR: AUGUST 2009 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: David J. Johnson has offered to donate 40 acres of land to the Department for the Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area in Chippewa County.

The Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area is located in west central Wisconsin about 20 miles north of the Eau Claire/Chippewa Falls area. The project, a cooperative venture with the National Park Service, was established in 1974 as one of the nine units of the Ice Age National Scientific Reserve, to protect the unique glacial features of the Wisconsin Ice Age. The recreation area consists of a large area along the terminal moraine known as the Chippewa Moraine and contains numerous kettle lakes and ponds. The area is managed to protect the scenic resources and geological values of the Chippewa Moraine area and for a variety of recreational, educational, and scientific purposes. The property is used for picnicking, hiking, nature and geological studies, Ice Age trail-based recreation, cross-country skiing, and other outdoor recreational activities.

The 40-acre subject is presently outside of the boundary. Its north side abuts the southeast boundary of the Chippewa Moraine. It abuts state land and its wooded characteristics and kettle ponds make it attractive for addition to the project.

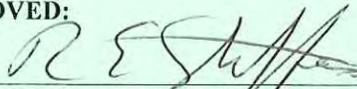
The parcel is heavily wooded with main species trees of red oak, red maple and big tooth aspen. As with most of the Chippewa Moraine, this parcel's rolling topography is a very nice combination of glacially significant hummocky terrain and glacial debris-filled ridges. There are a fair number of small glacial kettle lakes and ponds scattered among the property. Species seen or heard included wood ducks, mallard ducks, sand hill cranes, hermit thrush, veery, eastern phoebe and red-winged blackbirds. The ponds and small kettle lakes provide homes for turtles, frogs, toads, small amphibians, and reptiles. Acorns, blueberries, blackberries and mushrooms found growing provide food for larger mammals. If accepted as a donation, the Johnson parcel will provide 40 acres of additional hunting of white-tailed deer, black bear, and land and waterfowl birds. Birding enthusiasts would have expanded opportunities to see both local and migratory songbirds. Passive recreationists would be able to hike, pick berries, and enjoy a quiet refuge.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 40 acres of land for the Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area program, that the project boundary be expanded to include this 40-acre parcel, and that a certificate of appreciation be sent to David Johnson and that an expression of appreciation be made a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

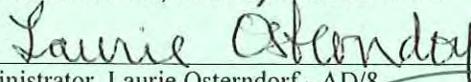
- | | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment of Impact Statement Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

APPROVED:



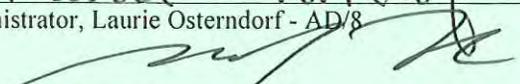
Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6

7-9-09
Date



Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/8

7/10/09
Date



Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/8

7-28-09
Date

- cc: S. Miller – LF/6
 R. Steffes – LF/6
 L. Ross – AD/8
 D. Schuller – PR/6
 S. Humrickhouse – WCR/Eau Claire

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 9, 2009
 TO: Natural Resources Board
 FROM: Matthew J. Frank 
 SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, David J. Johnson Tract, File # PR 40059

FILE REF: PR 40059

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area
 Chippewa County

Grantor:

David Johnson
 521 Gray Street, #1
 Eau Claire, WI 54701

Acres: 40Price: \$0Appraised Value: NoneInterest: Fee Title PurchaseImprovements: NoneLocation: The tract is located in Chippewa County 12 to 15 miles west of the City of Cornell.Land Description: The land is rolling

<u>Covertypes Breakdown:</u>	Type:	Acreage:
	Upland Woodland	35
	Water	<u>5</u>
	TOTAL:	40

Zoning: No comprehensive zoningPresent Use: RecreationProposed Use: Scenic Protection and Public RecreationTenure: 37 yearsDonation Offer Date: June 17, 2009Stewardship Land Access: This property will be open to the public for all nature-based outdoor recreational activities to include hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking and cross-country skiing.2. JUSTIFICATION:

David Johnson has offered to donate to the Department a 40-acre property for the Chippewa Moraine State Recreational Area. The parcel will provide opportunities for public recreation, protect nationally significant glacial features, and prevent further incompatible development. Acceptance of this donation will allow public use and consolidate state ownership within the area.

The Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area is located in west-central Wisconsin about 20 miles north of the Eau Claire/Chippewa Falls area. The project, a cooperative venture with the National Park Service, was established in 1974 as one of the nine units of the Ice Age National Scientific Reserve, to protect the unique glacial features of the Wisconsin Ice Age. The recreation area consists of a large area along the terminal moraine known as the Chippewa Moraine and contains numerous kettle lakes and ponds. The area

is managed to protect the scenic resources and geological values of the Chippewa Moraine area and for a variety of recreational, educational, and scientific purposes. The property is used for picnicking, hiking, nature and geological studies, Ice Age Trail-based recreation, cross-country skiing, and other outdoor recreational activities.

The 40-acre subject is presently outside of the boundary. Its north side abuts the southeast boundary of the Chippewa Moraine. Along with the donation acceptance, the Department is also requesting that the project boundary be expanded to include this 40-acre Johnson parcel. A landlocked property, it is currently accessible through state-owned land to the north or with neighboring land owner permission.

The parcel is heavily wooded with main species trees of red oak, red maple and big tooth aspen. Scattered intermittently are white pine, white birch, and on a much lesser degree, black cherry, tamarack, and ironwood. Tree diameter varies from saplings, up to 18 feet, with a good majority in the 12 to 14-foot range. As with most of the Chippewa Moraine, this parcel's rolling topography is a very nice combination of glacially significant hummocky terrain and glacial debris-filled ridges. There are a fair number of small glacial kettle lakes and ponds scattered among the property. Species seen or heard included wood ducks, mallard ducks, sand hill cranes, hermit thrush, veery, eastern phoebe and red-winged blackbirds. The ponds and small kettle lakes provide homes for turtles, frogs, toads, small amphibians, and reptiles. Acorns, blueberries, blackberries and mushrooms found growing provide food for larger mammals. If accepted as a donation, the Johnson parcel will provide 40 acres of additional hunting of white-tailed deer, black bear, and land and waterfowl birds. Birding enthusiasts would have expanded opportunities to see both local and migratory songbirds. Passive recreationists would be able to hike, pick berries, and enjoy a quiet refuge.

Acceptance of this donation is recommended to provide additional resources to hike fish, snowshoe and hunt as well as continued educational and scientific purposes. Acquisition of this property would also preseve a continuous wildlife corridor and provide an additional trail corridor/buffer for the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

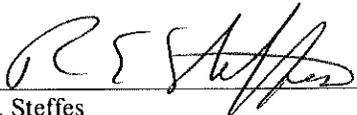
3. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE CHIPPEWA MORAIN STATE RECREATION AREA:

Established: 1974
Acres Purchased to Date: 3,248.03
Acquisition Goal: 4,587 acres
Percent Complete: 70.81%
Cost to Date: \$2,459,850.00

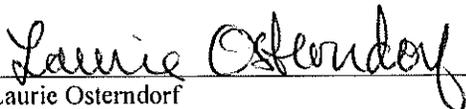
RECOMMENDED:


Richard E. Steffes

7-9-09
Date


Bureau of Legal Services

7/10/09
Date


Laurie Osterndorf

7/10/09
Date

Acknowledgment of Gift

This is to certify that at its August 2009 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of 40 acres of land in Chippewa County for the Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area from

DAVID J. JOHNSON

It is significant that individuals such as you 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

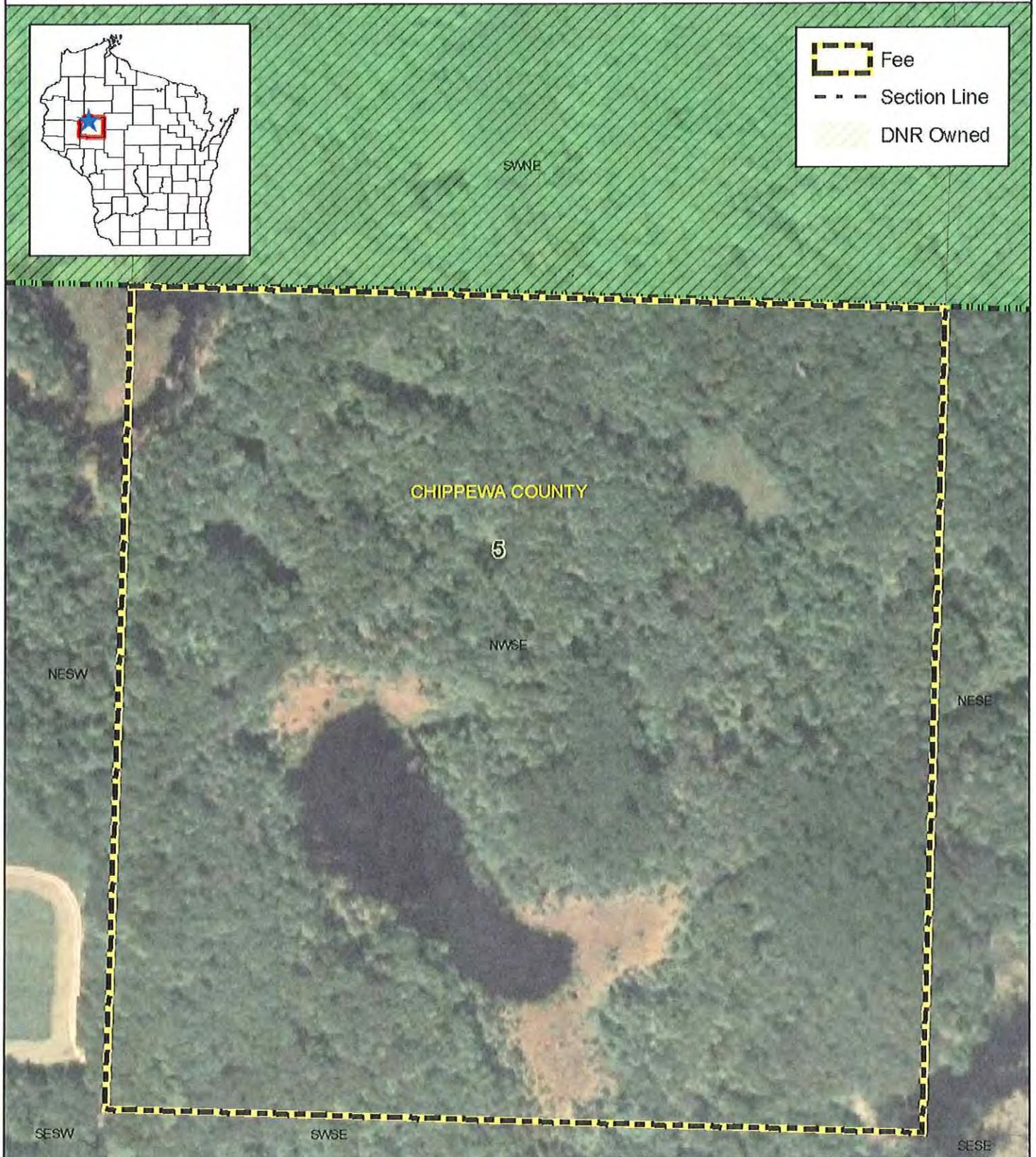
Christine Thomas, CHAIRMAN

David J. Johnson Fee

T35N R8E Sec. 5, Town of Bloomer, Chippewa County, WI

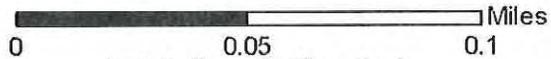


 Fee
 Section Line
 DNR Owned



PR 40059
Orthophoto

Chippewa Moraine
Recreation Area



Created by Bureau of Facilities and Lands
Real Estate Section
July 6, 2009



David J. Johnson Fee

T31N R8W Sec. 5
Town of Bloomer
Chippewa County, WI

PR 40059

Chippewa Moraine
Recreation Area



PLSS Section



Fee



WDNR Owned



WDNR Easement



Project Boundary



The DNR Managed Lands represent the boundaries of lands managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The Wisconsin DNR manages these lands through ownership, easement or lease rights. This data set is a representation of the State of Wisconsin's Geographic Information System maintained by the DNR. It is not intended for use as a legal document or for legal purposes. The data should not be interpreted as a legal representation of legal ownership boundaries.

This data set does not differentiate between lands that are open or closed to the public for hunting and/or general public access. Some lands represented in this data set may not be open to the general public, or may have specific limitations or restrictions on public use. This data set is not intended for use as a land management tool. It is a listing of all DNR real estate transactions that have occurred on these lands over time.

For information about the actual management, including public use and public access of the lands, contact the nearest DNR Regional office. Contact information for DNR Regional Offices and Services Centers is provided on the following internet site:

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/bare/serve/centerlocations.htm>

Updates to this data set are ongoing, and will be incorporated into future versions when available.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Bureau of Facilities and Lands
July 6, 2000

