Form 1100-001
(R 2/07)

NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Item No. 3.B.4

SUBJECT: Approval of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail Corridor Plan For Waushara County

FOR: AUGUST, 2007 **BOARD MEETING**

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Peter Biermeier / Tom Gilbert (NPS) / Pam Schuler (NPS)

SUMMARY:

The National Park Service, Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation, East Central Planning Commission and the Department have conducted a planning process in Waushara County, Wisconsin, to identify a corridor and possible route options for the Ice Age National Scenic Trail (NST). Depending on the route selected, it is expected that the Waushara County portion of the completed trail will total between 35 and 45 miles in length.. Today, approximately 18 miles of the Ice Age Trail has been built within the county. This proposed trail corridor generally follows the Almond Moraine deposited approximately 16,000 years ago through the townships of Coloma, Richford, Hancock, and Deerfield, Wautoma and Oasis. The corridor has the potential to link four state fishery areas, a state wildlife area, a county park, two city parks, and the Waushara County School Forest.

An extensive public participation effort was undertaken during this planning process involving both public open houses and meetings with individual landowners. Overall, positive support was shown for establishment of the trail corridor including letters of support from Waushara County and State Representative Joan Ballweg.

Estimated costs to complete the Ice Age NST in Waushara County range from $2.1 -3.5 million which is dependent on the willing cooperation of land owners within the corridor.

The goal of the National Park Service, Ice Age Park and Trail Foundation, and the Department is to acquire, develop, operate, maintain and protect, through public and private partnerships, the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

RECOMMENDATION: Board Approval per NR 44.04(3) Master plan development, adoption and public involvement. Plan Approval

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

No	☑	Fiscal Estimate Required	Yes	☐	Attached
No	☐	Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required	Yes	☑	Attached
No	☑	Background Memo	Yes	☐	Attached

APPROVED:

[redacted] Peter Biermeier — Date 7-10-07

Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf — Date 7/13/07

Secretary, Scott Hassett — Date 7/16/07

cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5
Jeff Prey - PR/6