

SUBJECT: LAND DONATION - STATEWIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT AREA – ROCK COUNTY

FOR: JANUARY 2010 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: Pheasants Forever has offered to donate 68.84 acres of land for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area program in Rock County to the Department.

This land adjoins the Evansville-Footville Leased Public Hunting Ground in the Town of Plymouth in Rock County. Pheasants Forever acquired the property in 2006 with a Stewardship grant. The 68.84-acre property is primarily grassland cover on terrain that varies from level to rolling. There also are small areas of lowland and scrub brush. The property has large areas of restored prairie and the cover consists of perennial grasses. The property will provide increased opportunities for public recreation, improved wildlife habitat management and will protect the grassland restoration work initiated on this property under the Conservation Reserve Program in cooperation with Pheasants Forever.

The Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area program was established in 1991 to acquire, protect, and develop important habitat for pheasants, waterfowl and other species. In addition, the criteria-based program provides opportunities for public recreation such as hunting, hiking, and bird watching.

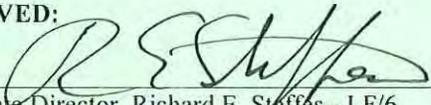
This property is located within the Evansville-Footville Leased Public Hunting Ground and the proposed donation will compliment the existing hunting lease program and the completed habitat restoration work. The Pheasants Forever parcel provides key habitat components that will compliment the existing leased public hunting grounds. Future management of this parcel will include continued management and restoration of native grasses, and establishment of upland nesting cover. Acceptance of this donation will protect and enhance wildlife habitat for a variety of species and will provide additional opportunities for public hunting and recreation.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 68.84 acres of land for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to Pheasants Forever and that an expression of appreciation be made a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

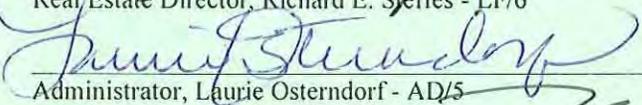
- | | | | |
|--|---|---|----------|
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment of Impact Statement Required | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No <input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

APPROVED:



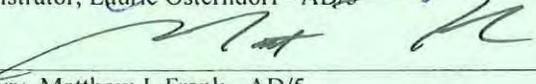
Real Estate Director, Richard E. Steffes - LF/6

12-22-09
Date



Administrator, Laurie Osterndorf - AD/5

12/22/09
Date



Secretary, Matthew J. Frank - AD/5

1/4/10
Date

- cc: S. Miller – LF/6
 R. Steffes – LF/6
 L. Ross – AD/8
 T. Hauge - WM/6
 L. Eagan – SCR/Fitchburg

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 22, 2009
 TO: Natural Resources Board
 FROM: Matthew J. Franz
 SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, Pheasants Forever, Tract, File # WM 60074

FILE REF: WM 60074

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area Program
 Rock County

Grantor:

Kevin Wallenfang
 5102 Sunrise Trail
 Middleton, WI 53562

Acres: 68.84Price: N/A – Gift of LandInterest: Fee TitleImprovements: None

Location: The tract is located in Rock County about nine miles southeast of the Village of Evansville in the Town of Plymouth.

Land Description: The subject land varies from level to rolling terrain.

<u>Covertypes Breakdown:</u>	Type:	Acreeage:
	Upland Woodland	12.00
	Grass	<u>56.84</u>
	TOTAL:	68.84

Zoning: AgriculturalPresent Use: Resource ProtectionProposed Use: Resource Protection and Public Outdoor RecreationTenure: 3 yearsOption Date: December 18, 2009

Stewardship 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:

Pheasants Forever has offered to donate 68.84 acres of land previously known as the Bobbie Johnson Trust property to the Department for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat program. This land adjoins the Evansville-Footville Leased Public Hunting Ground in the Town of Plymouth in Rock County. The property is located about nine miles southeast of the City of Evansville and the Evansville Wildlife Area. Pheasants Forever acquired the property in 2006 with a Stewardship grant. The 68.84-acre property is primarily grassland cover on a terrain that varies from level to rolling. There also are small areas of lowland and scrub brush. The property has large areas of restored prairie and the cover consists of

perennial grasses. The property will provide increased opportunities for public recreation, improved wildlife habitat management and will protect the grassland restoration work initiated on this property under the Conservation Reserve Program in cooperation with Pheasants Forever.

The Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area Program was established in 1991 to acquire, protect, and develop important habitat for pheasants, waterfowl and other species. In addition the criteria based program provides opportunities for public recreation such as hunting, hiking, and bird watching.

This property is located within the Evansville-Footville Leased Public Hunting Ground and the proposed donation will compliment the existing hunting lease program and the completed habitat restoration work. The Pheasants Forever parcel provides key habitat components that will compliment the existing leased public hunting grounds. Future management of this parcel will include continued management and restoration of native grasses, and establishment of upland nesting cover.

The Department recommends acceptance of this donation to protect and enhance wildlife habitat for a variety of species and will provide additional opportunities for public hunting and recreation.

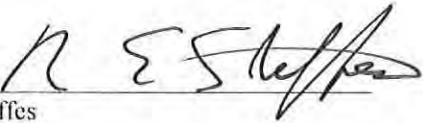
3. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction. Pheasants Forever acquired the parcel with a Stewardship grant.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE STATEWIDE WILDLIFE HABITAT:

Established: 1991
Acres Purchased to Date: 3,849.04
Acquisition Goal: 6,000.00
Percent Complete: 64.15%
Cost to Date: \$2,488,385.00

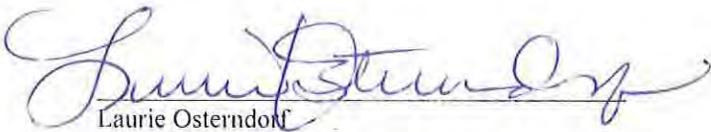
RECOMMENDED:


Richard E. Steffes

12-22-09
Date


Bureau of Legal Services

12/22/09
Date


Laurie Osterndorf

12/22/09
Date

RES:dv

Acknowledgment Of Gift

This is to certify that at its January 2010 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of 68.84 acres of land in Rock County for the Statewide Wildlife Habitat Area from

PHEASANTS FOREVER

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

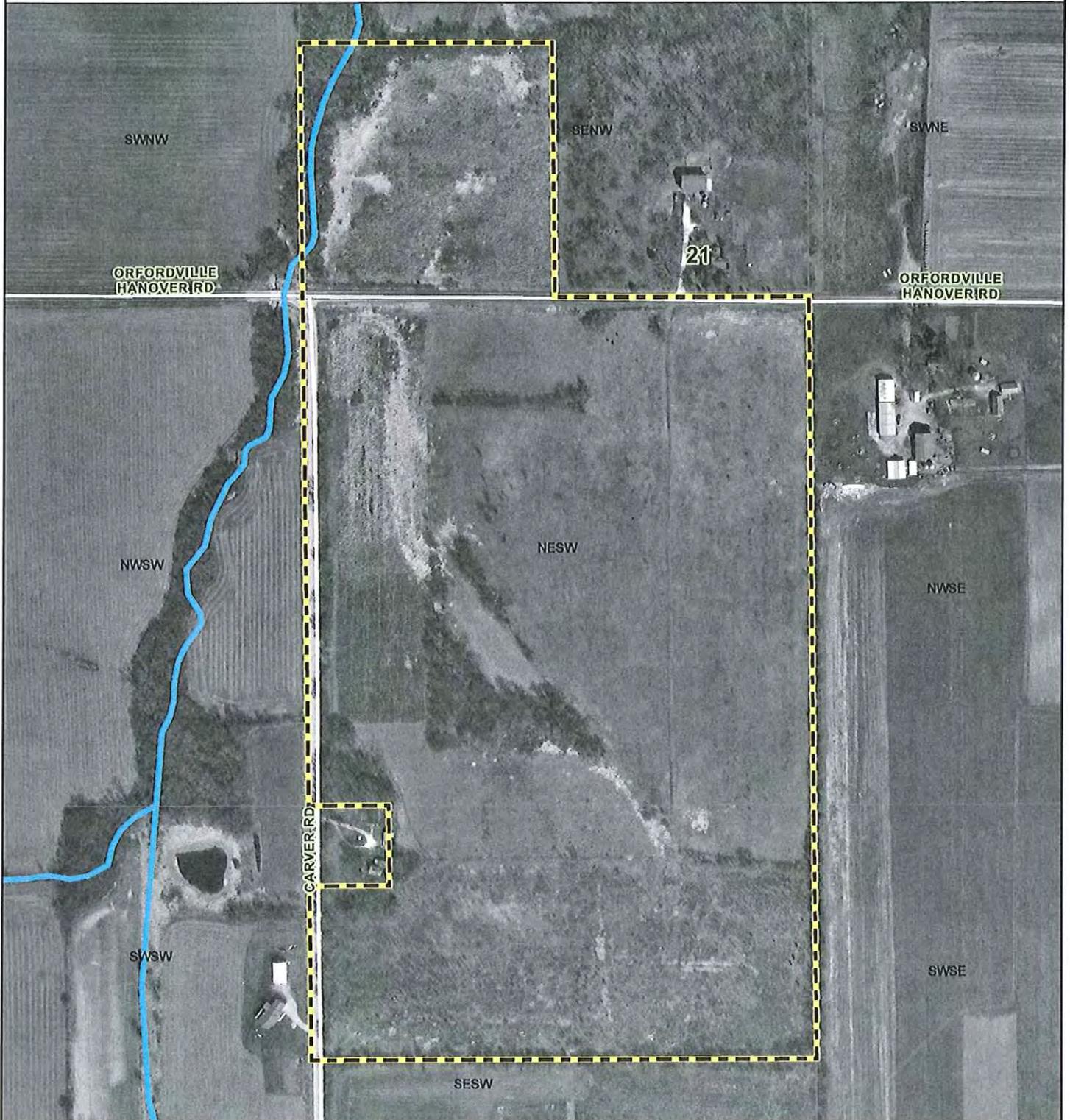
An expression of our appreciation is a part of the official records of the Natural Resources Board. We present this certificate of sincere appreciation on behalf of present and future generations to thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Natural Resources Board

Christine Thomas, CHAIR

Pheasants Forever, Inc. Parcel

T2N R11E Section 21, Town of Plymouth, Rock County, WI (68.84 Acres)



Legend

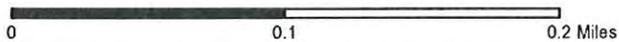
- - - PLSS Section Line
- PLSS Quarter-Quarter
- ▨ DNR Project Boundary
- ▨ County Boundary
- ▨ DNR Eased
- ▨ DNR Owned

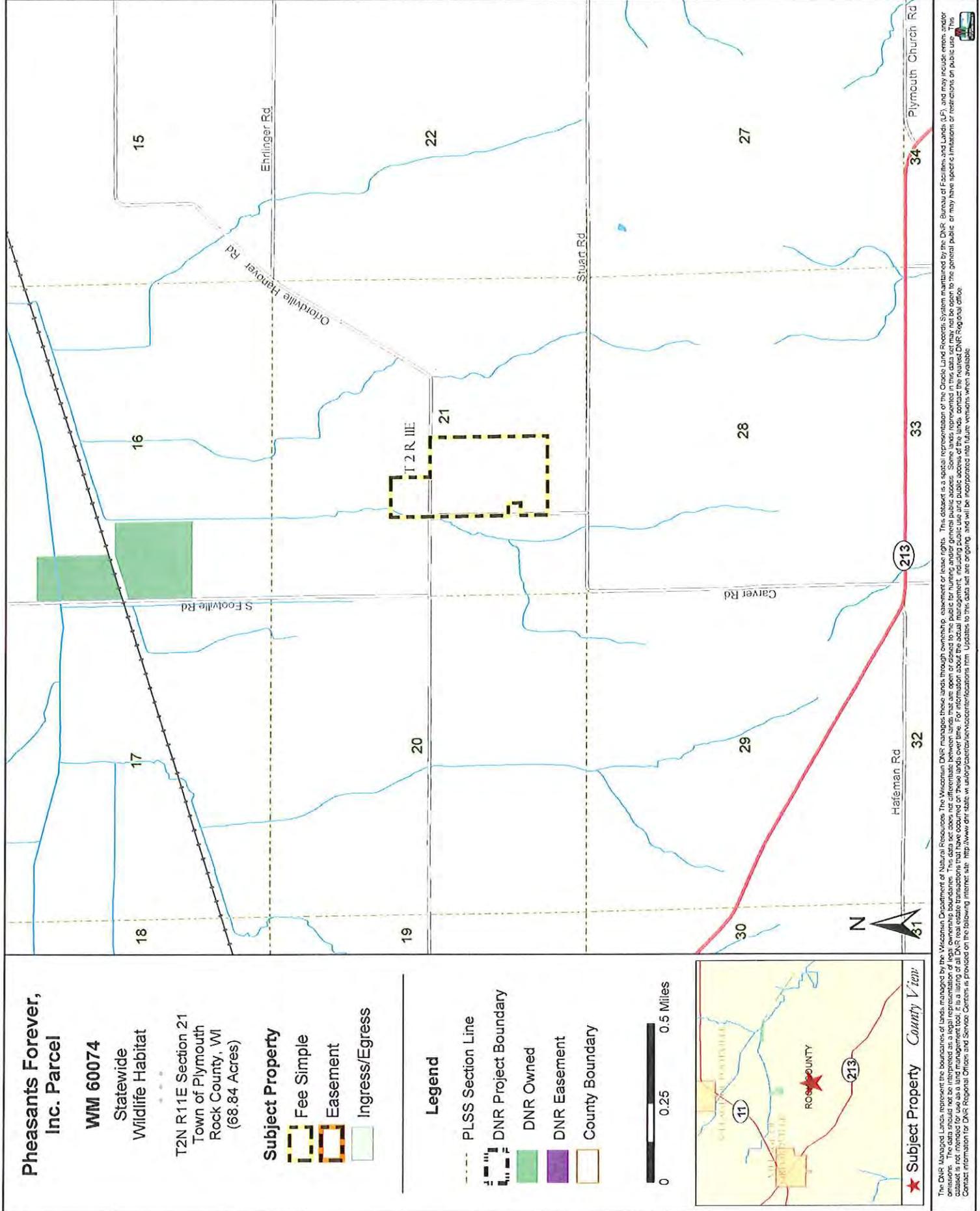
Subject Property

WM 60074

Statewide Wildlife Habitat

- ▨ Fee Simple
- ▨ Easement
- ▨ Ingress/Egress

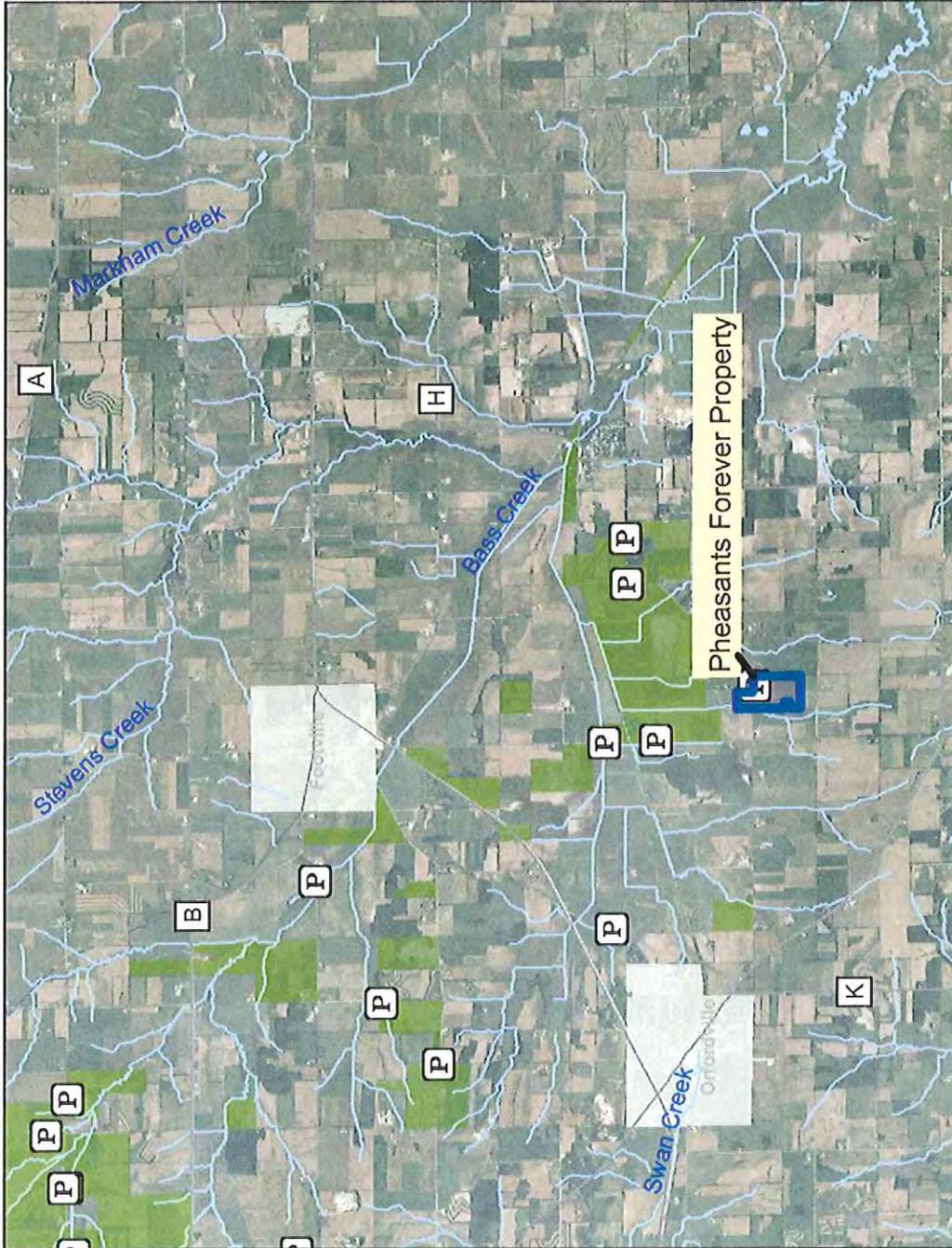




The DNR Managed Lands represent the boundaries of lands managed by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The Wisconsin DNR manages these lands through ownership, easement or lease rights. This dataset is a spatial representation of the Oracle Land Records System maintained by the DNR Bureau of Facilities and Lands (LF), and may include errors and/or omissions. The DNR Managed Lands dataset is not intended for use as a land management tool. It is a listing of all DNR real estate transactions that have occurred or those lands over time. For information about the actual management, including public use and public access of the lands, contact the DNR Regional Office. The DNR Managed Lands dataset is not intended for use as a land management tool. It is a listing of all DNR real estate transactions that have occurred or those lands over time. For information about the actual management, including public use and public access of the lands, contact the DNR Regional Office. Contact information for DNR Regional Offices and Service Centers is provided on the following internet site: <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/ser/viccenter/locations.htm>. Updates to this data set are ongoing, and will be incorporated into future versions when available.



Evansville-Footville Leased PHG



Legend

- Verified Boat Access Sites
 - RAMPS
 - CARRY-IN
 - UNKNOWN
- Un-Verified Boat Access Sites
 - Not Verified
 - Verified Shore Fishing Sites
- County Boundary
- Project Boundary
- 24K Open Water
- Municipalities
 - Village
 - City
- State Natural Areas
- Stewardship Grants
- DNR Leased Lands**
- DNR Managed Lands
 - Fee
 - Easement
 - Lease



Scale: 1:85,799



This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for general reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable. THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.