

SUBJECT: LAND TRANSFER AND PROJECT BOUNDARY MODIFICATION – WILLOW CREEK FISHERY AREA – RICHLAND COUNTY

FOR: JUNE 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: The Department proposes to accept a transfer of 93.07 acres of land from Wisconsin Department of Transportation for \$1 for the Willow Creek Fishery Area in Richland County. The item is being submitted because the parcel is outside of the project boundary; it would be an excellent addition.

The parcel in question adjoins state land and the project boundary. This property was acquired by DOT in 2001 and restored as a wetland mitigation site. It is primarily wetland consisting of lowland grasses and brush. It includes several wetland scrapes, drainage tributaries and approximately 1,980 feet of frontage on Willow Creek. In addition, this property contains unique archaeological resources which are documented in an archaeological survey report completed in 2000. This transfer of land from DOT will contain deed restrictions to protect the archaeological resources and the wetland hydrology of the site.

The subject is located along Highway 58 approximately 8 miles northeast of Richland Center adjacent to but outside of the Fishery Area Boundary. The Fishery Area was established in 1986 and includes significant adjacent wetland areas. Willow Creek is classified as a Class II trout stream and is located about 40 miles west of Madison. The creek is managed primarily as a Brown Trout fishery and it is popular with anglers from all parts of the state. Willow Creek is one of the longest trout streams in southwest Wisconsin. The state land in the area also is heavily used for hunting and other types of outdoor recreation.

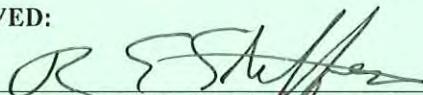
Acceptance of this transfer of land for the Willow Creek Fishery Area will provide increased opportunities for the management of fisheries habitat and will provide for additional public recreational access to the Willow Creek Fishery Area. If approved, this parcel will be added to the boundary of the Willow Creek Fishery Area.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve the transfer of 93.07 acres of land from Wisconsin DOT, for \$1 for the Willow Creek Fishery Area and approve project boundary modification to include the parcel.

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 |

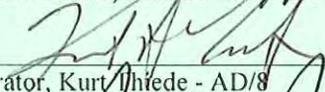
APPROVED:



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

5-20-11

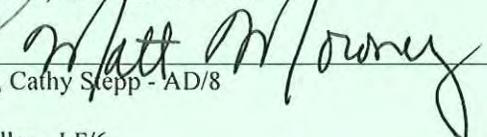
Date



Administrator, Kurt Thiede - AD/8

5-25-11

Date



Secretary, Cathy Sepp - AD/8

5-26-11

Date

- cc: S. Miller – LF/6
- R. Steffes – LF/6
- L. Ross – AD/8
- M. Staggs – FH/4
- L. Eagan - Fitchburg

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 20, 2011 FILE REF: FM 10126
 TO: Natural Resources Board
 FROM: Cathy Stepp *in Matt*
 SUBJECT: Proposed Land Transfer, Wisconsin Department of Transportation Tract, File FM 10126,

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Willow Creek Fishery Area
 Richland County

Grantor:

WI DOT
 Attn: Greg Messling
 3550 Mormon Coulee Road
 LaCrosse, WI 54601

Acres: 93.07
Price: \$1
Interest: Transfer
Improvements: None

Location: The property is located in Richland County about 8 miles northeast of Richland Center.

Land Description: The subject land is low, level land which has been restored as wetland

Covertypes Breakdown:

	Type	Acreage
Wetland		93.07

Zoning: Wetland / Conservancy
Present Use: Wetland Mitigation
Proposed Use: Resource protection and recreation
Tenure: 10 years
Option Date: October 27, 2010

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:

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) has offered to transfer a 93.07 acre parcel adjacent to the Willow Creek Fishery area in Richland County. The parcel falls immediately outside of the project boundary. This property was acquired by DOT in 2001 and restored as a wetland mitigation site. This parcel is primarily wetland consisting of lowland grasses and brush. It includes several wetland scrapes, drainage tributaries and approximately 1,980 feet of frontage on Willow Creek. In addition, this property contains unique archaeological resources which are documented in an archaeological survey report completed in 2000. This transfer of land from DOT will contain deed restrictions to protect the archaeological resources and the wetland hydrology of the site.

The subject is located along Highway 58 approximately 6 miles northeast of Richland Center adjacent to but outside of the Fishery Area Boundary. The Fishery Area was established in 1986 and includes significant adjacent wetland areas with very little uplands. Willow Creek is classified as a Class II trout stream and is located about 40 miles west of Madison. The creek is managed primarily as a Brown Trout fishery to improve the fishery to a Class I status and it is popular with anglers from all parts of the state. Willow Creek is one of the longest trout streams in southwest Wisconsin.

The Department recommends acceptance of this transfer of land for the Willow Creek Fishery Area to provide increased opportunities for the management of fisheries habitat and will provide for additional public recreational access to the Willow Creek Fishery Area. If approved this parcel will be added to the boundary of the Willow Creek Fishery Area.

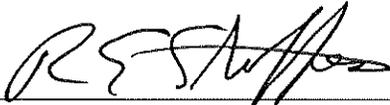
3. FINANCING:

No funds are required for this transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE WILLOW CREEK FISHERY AREA:

Established: 1986
Acres Purchased to Date: 823.26
Acquisition Goal: 874.25
Percent Complete: 94.17 %
Cost to Date: \$429,646.48

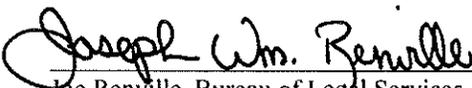
RECOMMENDED:



Richard E. Steffes, Real Estate Director

5-20-11

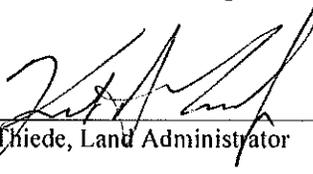
Date



Joe Renville, Bureau of Legal Services

5-20-11

Date

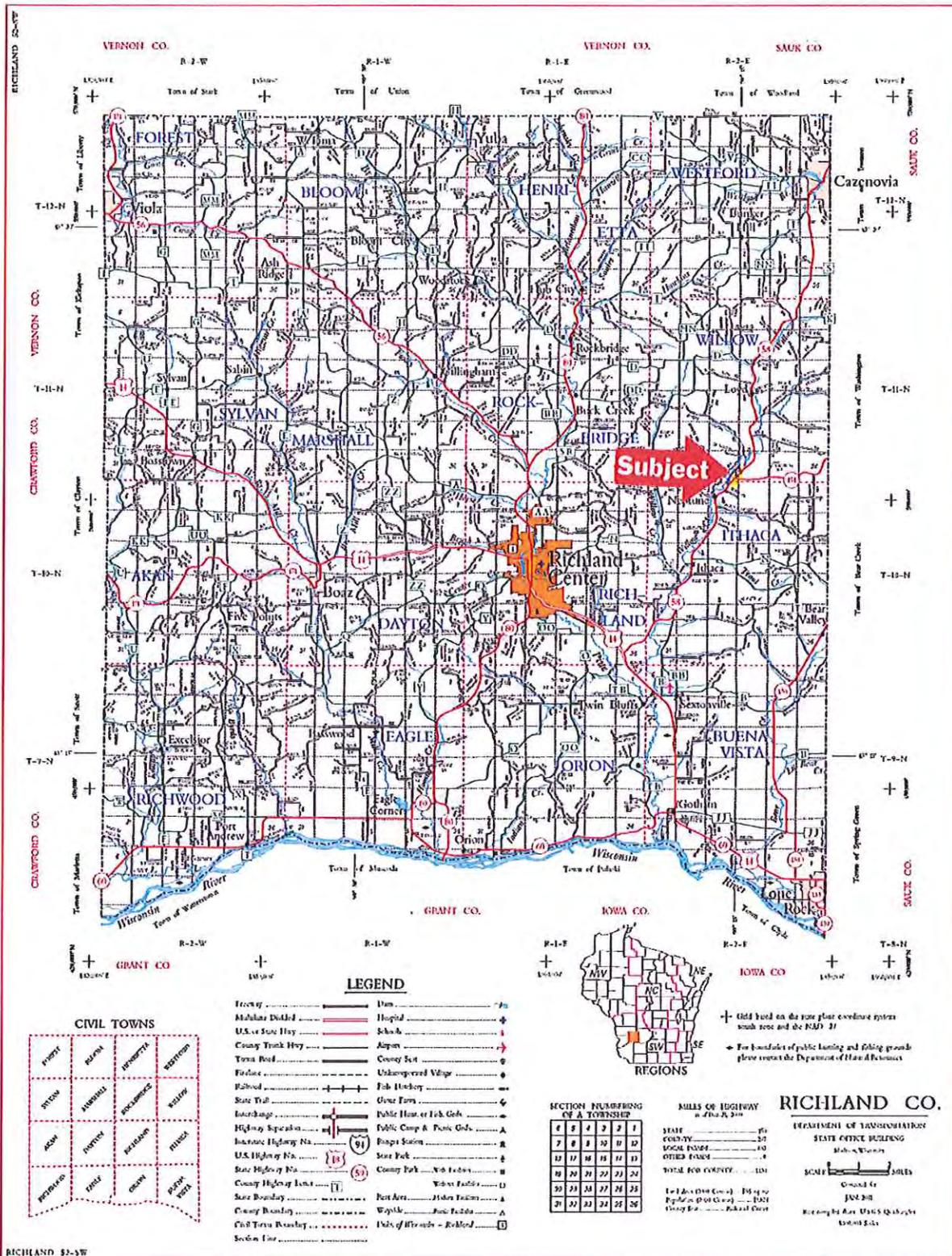


Kurt Thiede, Land Administrator

5-25-11

Date

RES:dv



CIVIL TOWNS

Forest	Bloom	Henry	Westford
Sylvan	Marshall	Richland	Winnow
Marshall	Dayton	Richland	Winnow
Richwood	Eagle	Oron	Buena Vista
Richwood	Eagle	Oron	Buena Vista

- LEGEND**
- Tracing
 - Mahar Dotted
 - U.S. State Hwy
 - County Trunk Hwy
 - Town Road
 - Footc
 - Railroad
 - State Tral
 - Interchange
 - Highway Separation
 - Interstate Highway No.
 - U.S. Highway No.
 - State Highway No.
 - County Highway Let
 - State Boundary
 - County Boundary
 - City Town Boundary
 - Section Line
 - Dam
 - Hospital
 - School
 - Airport
 - County Seat
 - Unincorporated Village
 - Fish Hatchery
 - Game Farm
 - Public House or Fish Goh
 - Public Camp & Park Goh
 - Bus Stop Station
 - State Park
 - County Park
 - Winter Facility
 - Hiker Facility
 - Public Facility
 - Indiv. of Records - R-M-Mod



SECTION NUMBERING OF A TOWNSHIP

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36

MILES OF HIGHWAY

STATE	10
COUNTY	10
LOCAL	10
OTHER	10
TOTAL	10

RICHLAND CO.
 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
 STATE OFFICE BUILDING
 Des Moines, Iowa
 SCALE 1:50,000
 JUNE 1968
 Reprinted by AEC U.S.G.S. Q1545-1-68

WI DOT Transfer (Neptune Wetland Mitigation)

Willow Creek Fishery Area

FM 10126

T11N R02E Secs 33 & 34

Town of Willow

Richland County

93.07 acres-deed

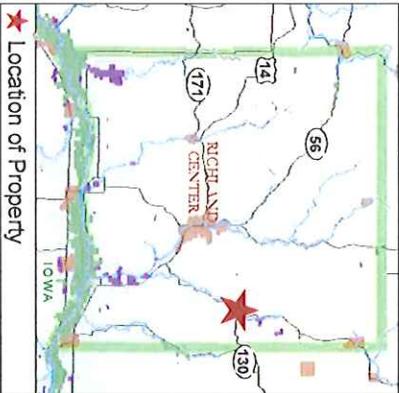
-  Neptune Mitigation Site
-  Archaeological Site

-  WDNR Owned
-  DNR Project Boundary
-  QQ Section Boundary

-  PLSS Section Line

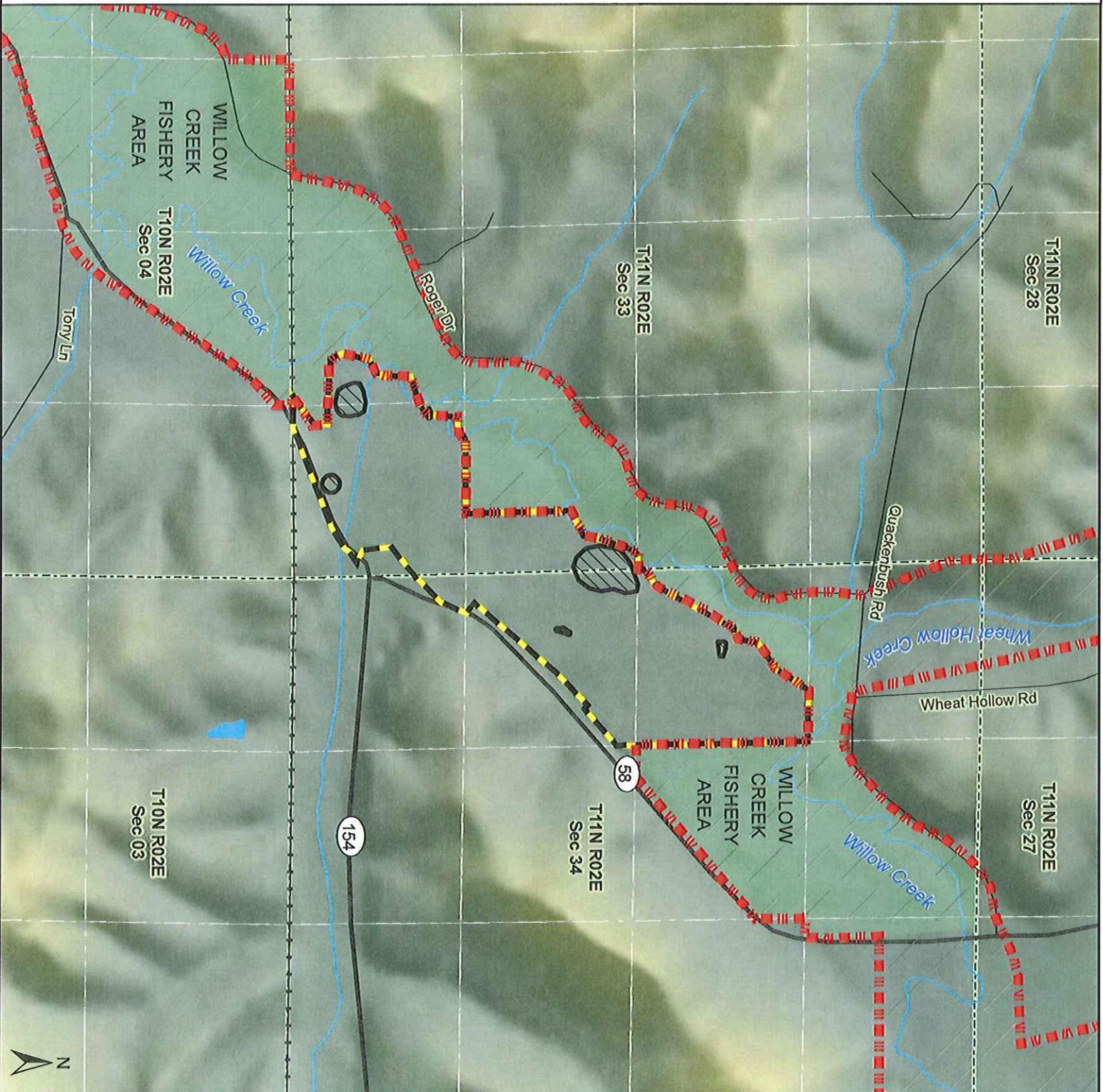


Richland County View



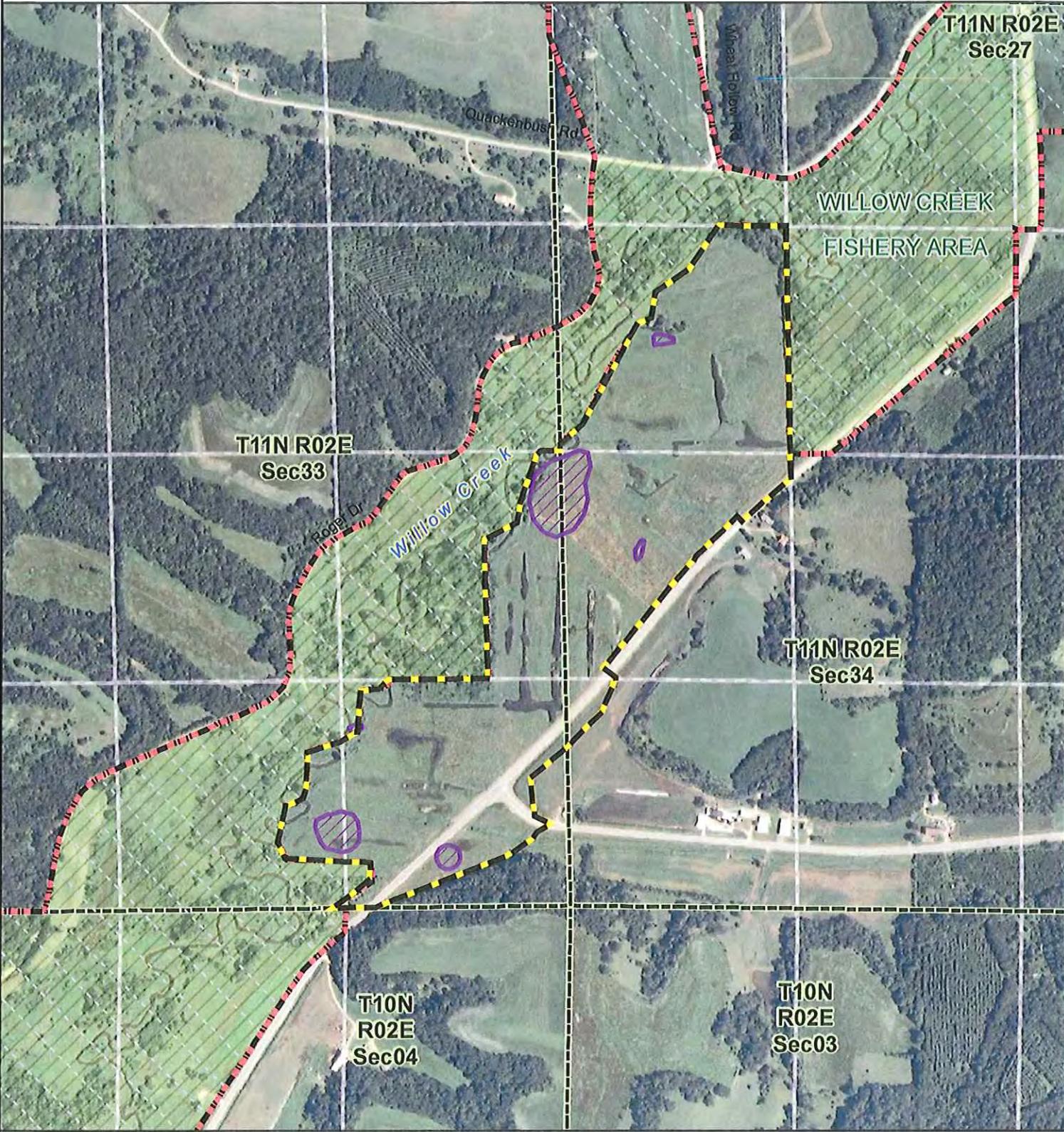
★ Location of Property


 WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
 OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 Bureau of Facilities of Lands
 Map Created: May 19, 2011 acf



WI DOT Transfer (Neptune Wetland Mitigation Site)

T11N R02E Sections 33 & 34, Town of Willow, Richland County



Willow Creek Fishery Area FM 10126

-  Neptune Mitigation Site
-  Archaeological Site

-  DNR Project Boundary
-  Section Line
-  1/4-1/4 Section Line





N



May 19, 2011
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

