

SUBJECT: LAND DONATION - SCATTERED WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM – LA CROSSE COUNTY

FOR: MAY 2011 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: Richard Steffes

SUMMARY: J.B. Hengel Enterprises, Inc. offered to donate 26.93 acres of land for the Scattered Wildlife Habitat Program in La Crosse County to the Department.

The land contains mature floodplain timber in the Mississippi River floodplain less than a mile west of the City of La Crosse. This gift would be a good addition to the collection of islands surrounded by high quality wetland that are already in state ownership. It will provide recreational opportunities for hunting, trapping, nature study, fishing and other activities. The property provides high quality habitat for ducks, muskrats, raccoons, herons, egrets, shorebirds, numerous turtles and frogs. These islands could be traded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the future, in an effort to consolidate their ownership in the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge and to allow the Department to acquire federal land in State Wildlife Areas and State Natural Areas. The Scattered Wildlife Habitat Program was established in 1996 to acquire, restore and protect important wildlife habitat.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board accept the donation of 26.93 acres of land for the Scattered Wildlife Habitat Program, that a certificate of appreciation be sent to the donor 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:

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

4-7-11
Date

Kurt Thiede
Administrator, Kurt Thiede - AD/5

4-7-11
Date

Cathy Stepp
Secretary, Cathy Stepp - AD/5

4-8-11
Date

- cc: S. Miller – LF/6
 R. Steffes – LF/6
 L. Ross – AD/5
 T. Hauge - WM/6
 S. Humrickhouse – WCR



CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 6, 2011 FILE REF: WM 60134
 TO: Natural Resources Board
 FROM: Cathy Stepp
 SUBJECT: Proposed Land Donation, J.B. Hengel Enterprises, Inc. Tract, File WM 60134

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Scattered Wildlife Habitat Program
 La Crosse County

Grantor:

J.B. Hengel Enterprises, Inc
 Attn: Joseph Hengel
 P.O. Box 2997
 La Crosse, WI 54601

Acres: 26.93Price: \$0Interest: Fee title gift of landImprovements: None

Location: The tract is located in La Crosse County less than a mile west of La Crosse in the Town of Shelby.

Land Description: The subject land is level.

Covertypes Breakdown:

Type	Acreage
Lowland Woodland	12.00
Wetland	6.48
Water	8.45

Total: 26.93

Land Description: The subject land is floodplain timber and wetland

Zoning: AgriculturePresent Use: RecreationProposed Use: Resource protection and public outdoor recreationTenure: 29 yearsOption Date: February 12, 2011

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 Department has been offered a 26.93-acre parcel of land that contains mature floodplain timber in the Mississippi River floodplain. This is a proposed donation by the J.B. Hengel Enterprises, Inc. for the Scattered Wildlife Habitat Program located in La Crosse County less than ½ a mile west of the City of La Crosse. This gift would be a good addition to the collection of islands surrounded by high quality wetland that are already in state ownership and provide recreational opportunities for hunting, trapping, nature study, fishing and other activities. The property provides high quality habitat for ducks, muskrats, raccoons, herons, egrets, shorebirds, numerous turtles and frogs. These islands could be traded to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the future, in an effort to consolidate their ownership in the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife Refuge and to allow the Department to acquire federal land in State Wildlife Areas and State Natural Areas. The Scattered Wildlife Habitat Program was established in 1996 to acquire, restore and protect important wildlife habitat.

The Department recommends the acceptance of this gift to protect excellent wildlife habitat in the Mississippi River floodplain, provide additional lands for recreation and consolidate state ownership.

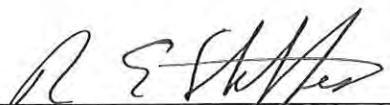
3. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction.

4. ACQUISITION STATUS OF THE SCATTERED WILDLIFE HABITAT PROGRAM:

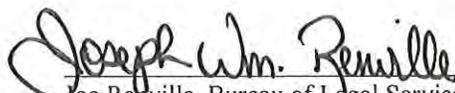
Established: 1996
Acres Purchased to Date: 11,310.97
Acquisition Goal: 11,458.55
Percent Complete: 98.71 %
Cost to Date: \$979,498.84

RECOMMENDED:



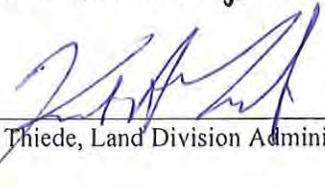
Richard E. Steffes, Real Estate Director

4-7-11
Date



Joe Revilla, Bureau of Legal Services

4-7-11
Date



Kurt Thiede, Land Division Administrator

4-7-11
Date

Acknowledgment Of Gift

This is to certify that at its April 2011 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted gift of 26.93 acres of land in La Crosse County for the Scattered Wildlife Habitat Program from

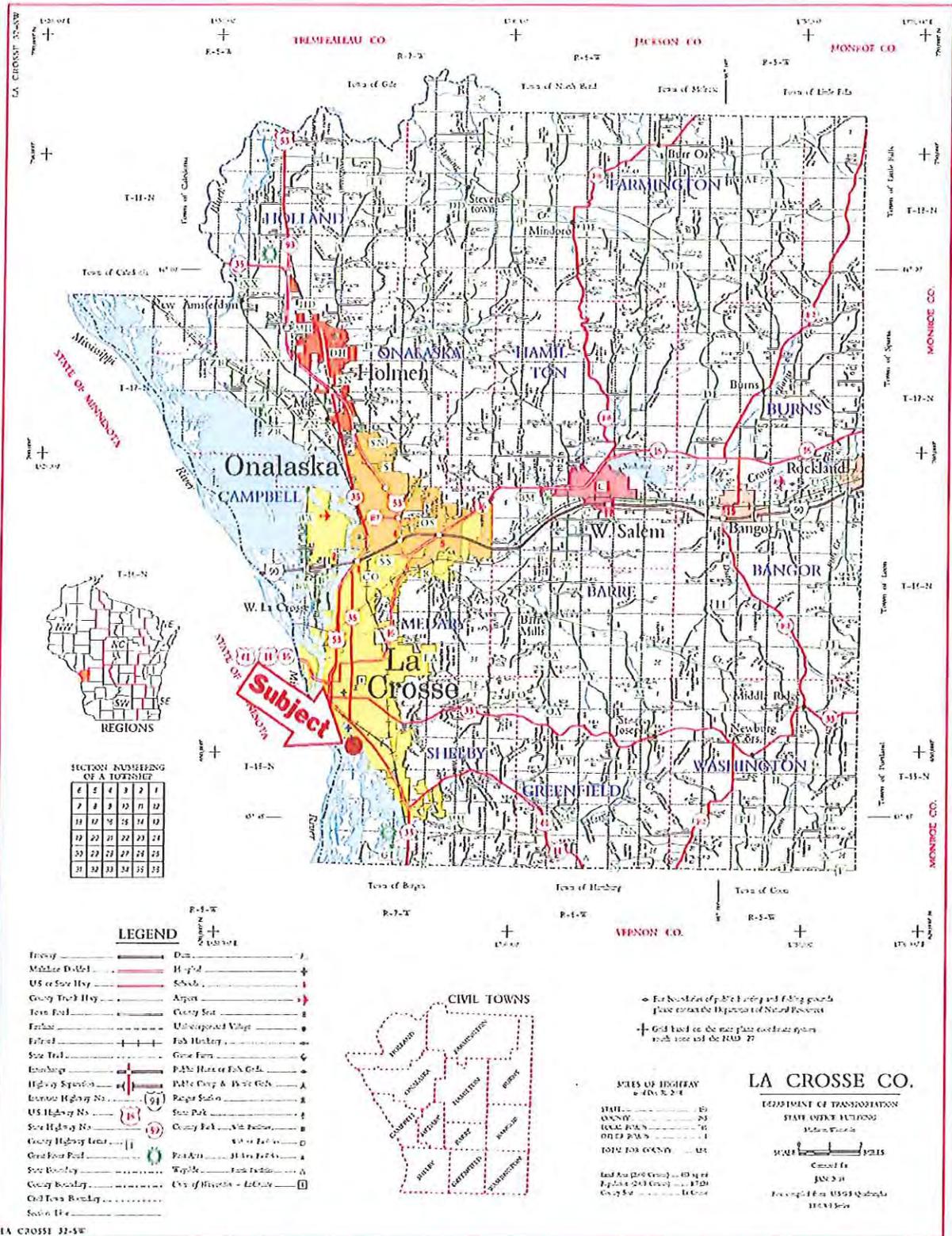
J.B. Hengel Enterprises, Inc.

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.

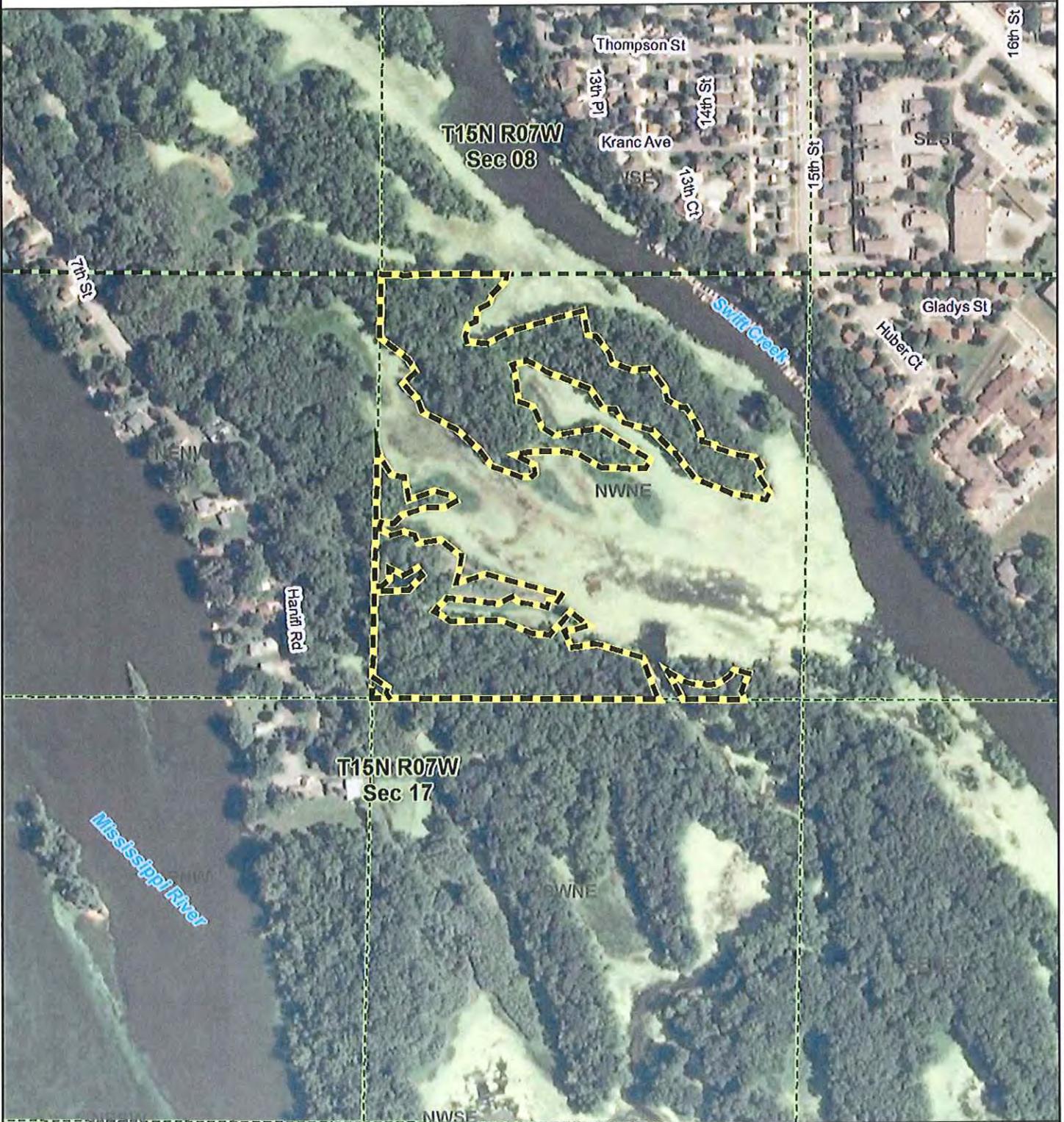
Natural Resources Board

Jonathan P. Ela, CHAIR



J.B. Hengel Enterprises, Inc. Gift Lands

T15N R07W Section 17, Town of Shelby, La Crosse County



**Scattered Wildlife Area
WM 60134**

 Subject Parcel

--- PLSS Section Line
--- QQ Section Line





March 30, 2011
Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands

J.B Hengel Enterprises, Inc. Gift Lands

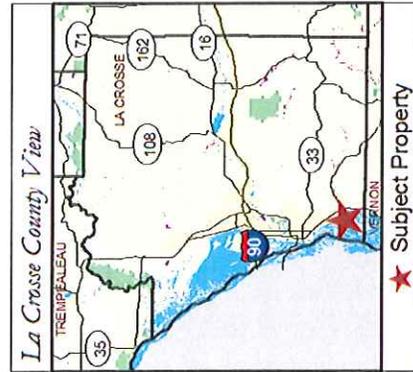
Scattered Wildlife Area

WM 60134

T15N R07W Section 17
Town of Shelby
La Crosse County
(26.93 acres--deed)

Subject Parcel

-  PLSS Section Line
-  QQ Section Boundary
-  Railroad
-  Wisconsin State Line



 Subject Property

