File FO 42/WM 60482 - Vilas County 19.59 Acres

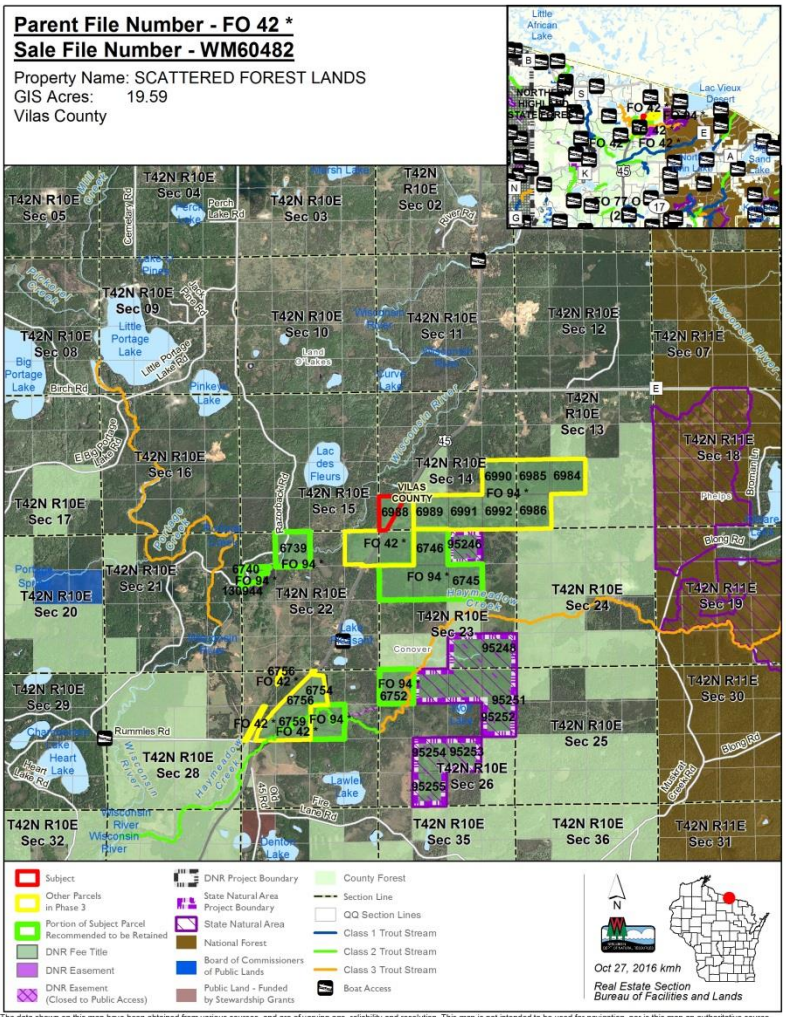
The Department acquired this parcel as a part of an exchange in 1936. It is a Scattered Forest Lands parcel and is located in the Town of Conover in Vilas County.

The Department is recommending to offer for sale a portion of this property on the west side of HWY 45. The portion being recommended to be retained has logging roads, grass parking areas and pullouts for public use. Public use is primarily hiking/foot traffic or winter access, as the property is lowland. The retained parcels provide public access into the Spruce Grouse Swamp State Natural Area, the Wisconsin River, as well as access to Haymeadow Creek, a Class two and three trout stream. The parcel contains approximately 2,844 feet of two bank frontage on Haymeadow Creek and is within a Conservation Opportunity Area within the Wildlife Action Plan.

Public uses of the parcel are deer and turkey hunting and for running hounds for both bear and bobcat. There have been public comments indicating a desire for this larger parcel to remain in public ownership.

The Department has made investments in logging roads, parking areas and hand planted Jack Pine in 1997. The parcel is accessible to the public through HWY 45.

The Department recommends that the Natural Resources Board offer a portion of this land (19.59 Acres) for sale under the authority granted by s. 23.145 Wis. Stats.

Recommendation by the Natural Resources Board at the October 26, 2016 meeting directs the Department to retain this parcel.

Recommendation by the Natural Resources Board at the January 25, 2017 meeting directs the Department to offer this parcel for sale.