

Chippewa Forest Flowages

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Section I: Application Type

Lake Management Planning Grant

Check one:

- Large-scale planning grant
- Small-scale planning grant

Check one:

- Lake education
- Organizational development
- Other study or assessment, or multiple-purpose project

Lake Management Protection Grant

Check one:

- Wetland restoration
- Ordinance development
- Lake improvement
- Lake classification
- Land or easement acquisition

Legislative District Numbers		To determine your legislative district, go to http://165.189.139.210/WAML/ Type in complete address, next screen shows information.
Senate	Assembly	

Section II: Applicant Information

Applicant Chippewa County Land Conservation and Forest Mgmt Dept.			Type of Eligible Applicant		
Lake Name Flowages in County Forest			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Tribe <input type="checkbox"/> Other Governmental Unit <input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary District <input type="checkbox"/> Non Profit Conservation Organization <input type="checkbox"/> Village <input type="checkbox"/> Lake District <input type="checkbox"/> Town <input type="checkbox"/> Lake Association <input type="checkbox"/> School Districts (Planning)		
Size in Acres 400					
Project County/Township/Section/Range Chippewa Cnty Townships of Birch Creek, Cleveland, & Ruby					
Authorized Representative Named by Resolution Michael E. Dahlby			Project Contact Name Same		
Authorized Representative Title County Forest Administrator			Project Contact Title		
Address 711 North Bridge Street			Address		
City Chippewa Falls	State	ZIP Code 54729	City	State	ZIP Code
Daytime Phone (area code) 7157267921	Evening Phone (area code) 7154566458		Daytime Phone (area code)	Evening Phone (area code)	
E-mail Address mdahlby@co.chippewa.wi.us			E-Mail Address		

Mail Check to: (if different from applicant)

Name and Title		Address		
Organization		City	State	ZIP Code

For DNR Use Only

Application Type	Date Received <i>8/1/15</i>	Date Reviewed (LC)	Lake Coordinator Approval / Date
Waterbody ID#	Adequate Public Access <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Environmental Grants Specialist Approval / Date	
Eligible Project <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Eligible Applicant <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Project Priority Rank	
Prior Grant Award(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Fiscal Year(s)	Amount Received To Date \$	Project Awarded <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Section III: Project Information

Project Title Chippewa County Forest Flowage Management Project	Proposed Ending Date 12/31/14
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Other Management Units Around Lake	Letter of Support	Other Management Units Around Lake	Letter of Support
1. Chippewa Valley Outdoor Resource Alliance	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Lake Holcombe Improvement Association	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Section IV: Lake Access

Number of Public Vehicle Trailer Parking Spaces Available at Public Access Sites: 25

Number of Public Access Sites on Lake Including Boat Launches and Walk-ins: 18

Section V: Cost Estimate and Grant Request

Section V must be completed or application will be returned. Details in support of Section V are welcome.	Project Costs		
	Column 1 Cash Costs	Column 2 Donated Value	DNR Use Only
1. Salaries, wages and employee benefits		10263	
2. Consulting services	30000		
3. Purchased services--printing and mailing	1000		
4. Other purchased services (specify):			
5. Plant material			
6. Supplies (specify) Hydraulic investigation field equipment	6000		
7. Depreciation on equipment			
8. Hourly equipment use charges			
9. State Lab of Hygiene (SLOH) Costs			
10. Non-SLOH Lab Costs			
11. Land or easement acquisition value			
12. Associated acquisition costs			
13. Other (specify) Contingency	2000		
14. Subtotals (sum each column)	39000	10263	
15. Total Project Cost Estimate (sum of column 1 plus sum of column 2)	49263		
16. State Share Requested (calculate based on State share listed below)	25000		

Subject to the following maximum grant amounts:

- Large-scale lake planning projects--up to \$25,000 - 67% State share
- Small-scale lake planning projects--up to \$3,000 - 67% State share
- Lake classification and regulation or ordinance development projects--up to \$50,000 - 75% State share
- Lake protection projects (other than lake classification and regulation or ordinance development projects)--up to \$200,000 - 75% State share

Use of Federal funding as match: (check box below if applicable)

We are using or planning to apply for Federal funds to be used as match.

If known, indicate source of funding:

Section VI: Attachments (check all that are included)

A. For all applicants:

- 1. Authorizing resolution
- 2. Letters of support
- 3. Map of project location and boundaries
- 4. Lake map with public access sites identified (per Section IV of this application and page 33 of the guidelines)
- 5. Itemized breakdown of expenses
- 6. For projects that entail sending samples to the State Laboratory of Hygiene (SLOH) only: a completed SLOH Projected Cost Form
- 7. Project scope/description:
 - a. Description of project area
 - b. Description of problem to be addressed by project
 - c. Discussion of project goals and objectives
 - d. Description of methods and activities
 - e. Description of project products or deliverables
 - f. Description of data to be collected, if applicable
 - g. Description of existing and proposed partnerships
 - h. Discussion of role of project in planning and/or management of lake
 - i. Timetable for implementation of key activities
 - j. Plan for sharing project results
 - k. Other information in support of project not described above

B. For applicants that are Lake Management Organizations (LMOs) or Non-profit Conservation Organizations (NCOs):

- 1. For first time applicant LMOs only: A completed Form 8700-226 (Lake Association Organizational Application)
- 2. For first time applicant NCOs only: Copy of IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter and copies of your Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws
- 3. List of national and/or statewide organizations with which you are affiliated
- 4. List of board members' names, including municipality and county of residence. Designate officers
- 5. Documentation of current financial status
- 6. For land or easement acquisition projects: Detailed description of your organization's land management experience
- 7. Brochures, newsletters, annual reports or other information about your organization

C. Wetland Restoration Projects:

- 1. Deed, easement, or land control agreement
- 2. Preliminary engineering plans
- 3. Water regulatory permits
- 4. Map of project location and boundaries

D. Ordinance Development Projects:

- 1. Inventory of applicable existing ordinances
- 2. Description of resources each jurisdiction allocates to enforcement
- 3. Preliminary surveys

E. Lake Improvement Projects:

- 1. Engineering and design plans
- 2. Water regulatory permits
- 3. Map of project location and boundaries

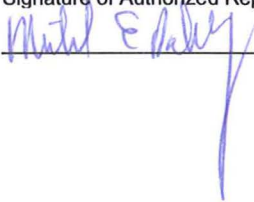
Section VI: Attachments, continued

F. Land or easement acquisition projects:

- 1. DNR Form 1800-1 (Environmental Hazards Assessment Form)
- 2. Legal description of the property
- 3. Project location boundary map
- 4. Property or easement appraisal (if not previously submitted to the Department)
- 5. If escrow closing, the title insurance commitment
- 6. Evidence of compliance with Uniform Relocation Act requirements, if applicable
- 7. Agricultural Impact Statement, if applicable
- 8. Status of acquisition negotiations, including expected time frame for closing
- 9. A land management plan
 - a. Full description of property and conditions
 - b. Description of current and proposed uses of property and adjoining properties
 - c. Management requirements for property
 - d. If roads, piers or grading are proposed, a topographic survey with feature locations, and design cross sections

Section VII: Certification

I certify that information in this application and all its attachments are true and correct and in conformity with applicable Wis. Statutes.

Print/Type Name of Authorized Representative Michael E. Dahlby	Title of Authorized Representative County Forest Administrator
Signature of Authorized Representative 	Date Signed 7/30/13

Attachment D. Anticipated Project Cost

Salaries, wages, and employee benefits

County Forest Administrator (210 hours at \$48.87/hour)	\$10,263.00
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Consulting & Volunteer Services

Project coordination, meetings, research, data collection, and technical writing	\$30,000.00
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Purchased Services

Printing and mailing services	\$ 1,000.00
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Supplies

Hydraulic, ecologic, & biologic field equipment	\$ 6,000.00
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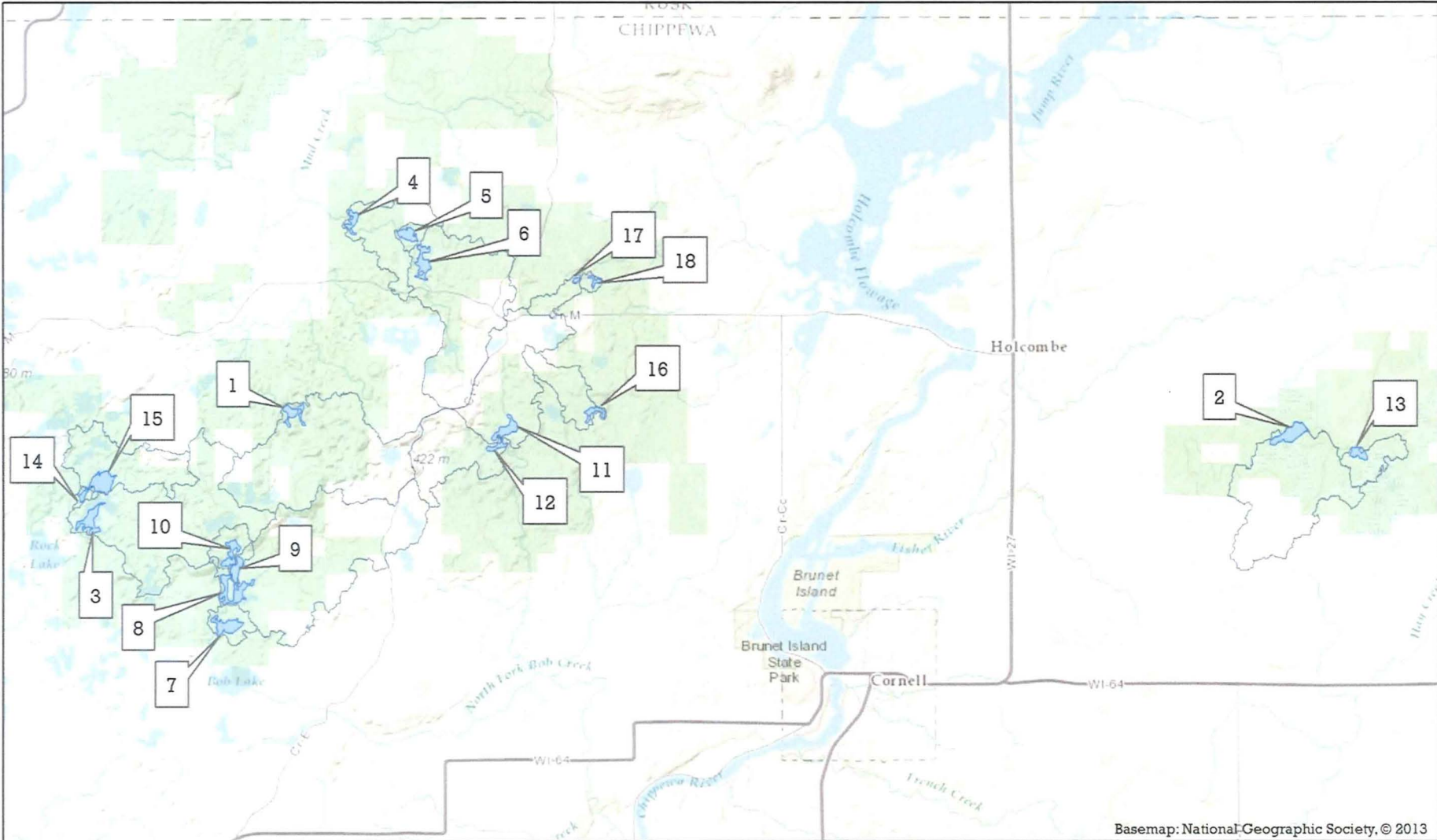
Other Expenses

Contingency	\$ 2,000.00
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<i>Total Expense</i>	<i>\$49,263.00</i>
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State Share	\$25,000.00
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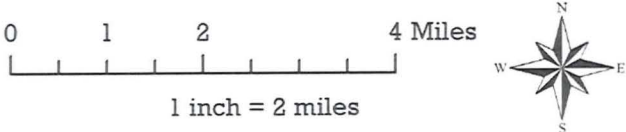
Attachment E. Flowages in the Chippewa County Forest



Descriptions of flowages can be found in Attachment F

Explantion

-  Flowages
-  Flowage Watershed
-  Chippewa County Forest



Attachment F. Characteristics of the Chippewa County Forest Flowages

MAP NO.	NAME	SURFACE AREA (AC)	MAX. DEPTH (FT)	DRAINAGE AREA (AC)	SUB-WATERSHED	TOWN	RANGE	SECTION
1	Vista Flowage	22	8	1,672	Mud Brook	32N	08W	36
2	Mallard Flowage	42	6	1,234	Fischer River	32N	05W	31
3	O'Neil Creek Flowage No. 2	33	9	2,159	O'Neil Creek	31N	08W	3, 4
4	Willow Creek Flowage No. 1	15	9	1,886	Tealey Creek	32N	07W	18
5	Willow Creek Flowage No. 2	19	9	1,406	Tealey Creek	32N	07W	17, 18
6	Willow Creek Flowage No. 3	30	9	1,342	Tealey Creek	32N	07W	20
7	Hay Meadow Flowage No. 1	33	38	2,231	Bob Lake	31N	08W	11, 12
8	Hay Meadow Flowage No. 2	41	10	2,091	Bob Lake	31N	08W	14
9	Hay Meadow Flowage No. 3	19	7	174	Bob Lake	31N	08W	11
10	Hay Meadow Flowage No. 4	23	27	144	Bob Lake	31N	08W	11
11	Spring Creek Flowage No. 1	10	7	1,481	Bob Creek	32N	07W	33
12	Spring Creek Flowage No. 2	26	10	920	Bob Creek	32N	07W	33
13	Willow Bay Flowage	15	9	208	Fischer River	32N	05W	32
14	Beaver Dam Flowage	7	8	25	O'Neil creek	31N	08W	4
15	O'Neil Creek Flowage No. 1	42	10	623	O'Neil creek	31N	08W	3, 4
16	Horseshoe Flowage	13	9	288	Cranberry Creek	32N	07W	34
17	Birch Creek Flowage No. 2	3	7	113	Birch Creek	32N	07W	22
18	Birch Creek Flowage No. 1	6	6	148	Birch Creek	32N	07W	22

Introduction

The Chippewa County Department of Land Conservation and Forest Management is requesting a \$25,0000 Lake Management Planning Grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to fund a subcomponent of a project to improve safety, wildlife habitat, and hydrologic value of public wildlife flowages (i.e. impoundments) within the Chippewa County Forest. Specifically, DNR funding will be utilized for hydrologic and ecologic investigations to develop habitat management objectives.

The Chippewa County Forest contains 18 impoundments (Attachments E and F), all of which are accessible to the public by county forest roads. Most of these impoundments were created in the late 1960s/early 1970s to benefit wildlife, but have not been actively managed for more than a decade. There is a lack of information about the history, physical, hydrological, and biological characteristics of the impoundments and the associated watersheds. Most of the impoundments utilize mechanical water control structures at the outlets, however none of the impoundments have defined management objectives or plans. Lack of management has resulted in significant unmet potential to produce important ecological and environmental functional values, such as habitat for waterfowl and other wetland-dependent wildlife species, including many Natural Heritage Inventory special concern species, as well as maintenance of water quality/quantity. The Chippewa County Department of Land Conservation and Forest Management (LCFM) is working towards a sustainable resolution to the problem described above.

It is believed that implementing a documented management regime, based on a site-specific characteristics gained through comprehensive on-site inventory and long-term monitoring, will substantially increase the ecological, environmental, and cultural functional values provided by these impoundments. If appropriate safety features are installed, and implementation of the management regime is relatively simple, local conservation organizations and school groups may be willing and able to make long-term commitments to management responsibilities. Ideally, these volunteer stakeholder groups will be empowered to sustain base-level management regardless of fluctuations in available public resources.

Current Endeavors

Chippewa County is currently conducting a project to map and conduct a qualitative inventory of the 18 County forest flowages. This project commenced on March 14, 2013 and will continue until November 30, 2013. The current project is intended to identify safety concerns, provide a base-level inventory of the wildlife flowages, and serve as a starting point in identifying

management objectives. Chippewa County- based Olson Environmental Research, LLC has been contracted to complete the current phase of the project.

Products of the 2013 project work will include:

- A comprehensive geographic information system (GIS) database for each flowage
- Up-to-date safety inspections, conducted pursuant to Ch. 31 WI Stats and NR 333 WI Administrative Code
- Complete Inspection, Operation, and Maintenance Plans for each flowage dam, as required by Ch. 31 WI Stats and NR 333 WI Administrative Code, but which do not address wildlife habitat objectives
- Complete Emergency Action Plan(s), for each flowage dam, as required by Ch. 31 WI Stats and NR 333 WI Administrative Code
- Maps showing the bottom contours of each flowage basin (Figure 1)
- Report on results of rapid inventory & assessment of plant response to preliminary moist soil management at four flowages: O’Neil Creek Flowage #2, Hay Meadow Flowage #2, Spring Creek Flowage #2, and Birch Creek Flowage #2 – to serve as a starting point for defining 2014 vegetation study objectives

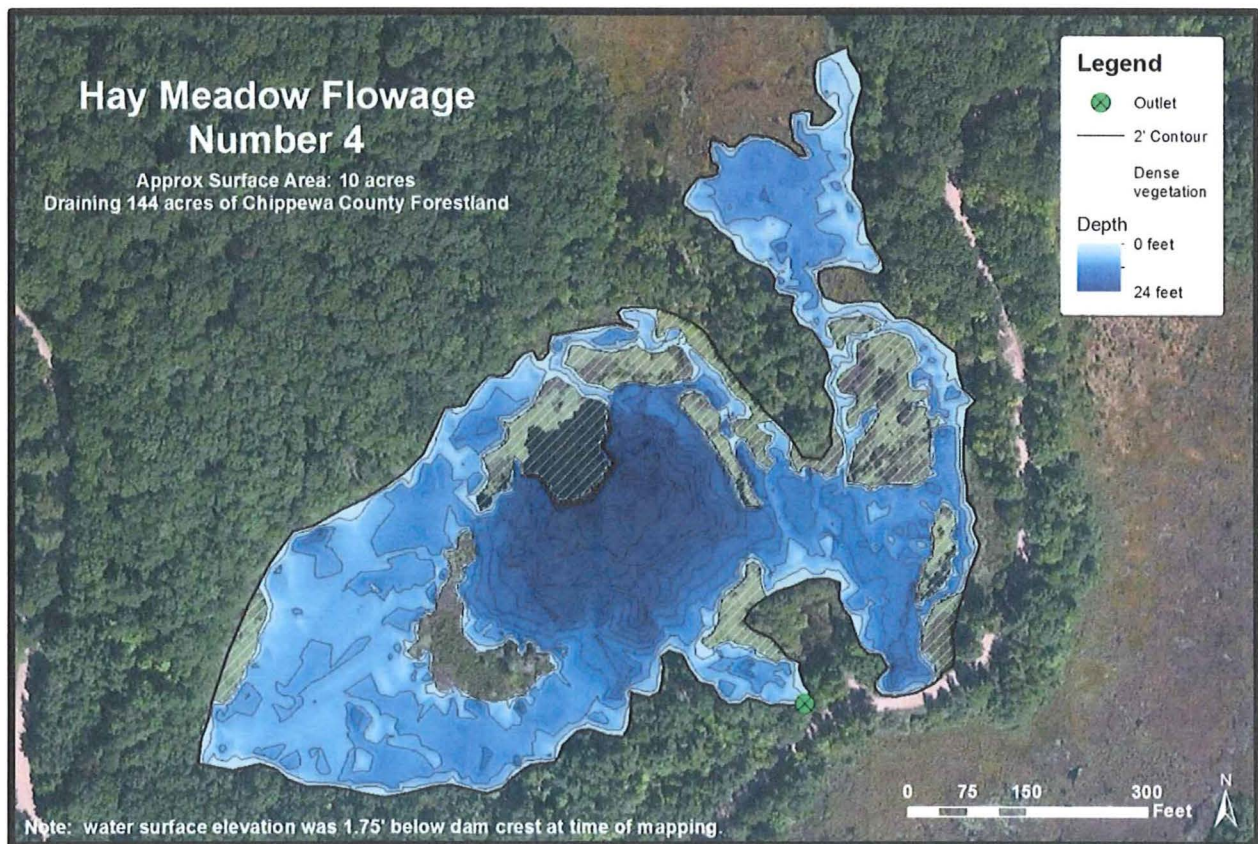


Figure 1. Example bathymetric map of Hay Meadow Flowage No. 4. Maps for all other flowages are in progress for completion as a component of phase 1 of this project.

Project Area

The project focuses on 18 flowages in northern Chippewa County (Appendices E and F). All are located within the Chippewa County Forest and can be found west and east of the cities of Cornell and Holcombe in the towns of Birch Creek, Cleveland, and Ruby. More specifically, they are located in Sections 3, 4, 11, 12, & 14 of Township 31 North, Range 8 West; Sections 31 & 32 of Township 32 North, Range 5 West; Sections 17, 18, 20, 22, 33, & 34 of Township 32 North, Range 7 West; and Section 36 of Township 32 North, Range 8 West. The flowages drain approximately 11,300 acres and have a collective surface area of approximately 400 acres. All 18 of the flowages are accessible by county forest roads and are open to the public. Three of the flowages, O'Neil Creek No. 2, Hay Meadow No. 2, and Willow Creek No. 2, also have boat access ramps.

The flowages are located within the ecological regions of the North Central Forest and the Forest Transitional Zone, north of the Western Coulees and Ridges, and the study area is considered a Legacy Place as identified in the "Wisconsin Land Legacy Report" published by the DNR in 2006. Called the "Chippewa Glacial Lakes," the area features high quality forests and many ephemeral wetlands, bogs, kettle lakes, and large seepage lakes (DNR, 2006). There is almost no development in the study area. Currently, the primary land uses are forestry and recreation including hiking, wildlife viewing, paddling, hunting, and fishing. The Land Legacy Report indicates that the Chippewa Glacial Lakes region is highly ranked for its recreation potential and that there are opportunities to increase its recreational value through conservation and projects such as this project.

Several of the flowage watersheds are also within areas identified by the *Biotic Inventory and Analysis of the Chippewa County Forest* (Epstein et al., 2005) as High Conservation Value Forests. These areas possess unique qualities that make them excellent candidates for conservation efforts. Distinctive qualities include their ability to provide habitat for rare or special concern species and they also provide exceptional opportunities for restoration and conservation, important ecological connections, and are home to high-quality natural communities.

Problem to be Addressed

Recent biological investigations within the Chippewa County Forest conclude that the study area is of high conservation value (Epstein et al., 2005). The study found 16 plants and 45 animal species listed on the Natural Heritage Inventory working list within the Chippewa County

Forest (Attachment G). Most of these species are associated with wetland and aquatic habitat, including the state threatened bog bluegrass and state or federally endangered or threatened Red-shouldered Hawk, Bald Eagle, Osprey, and Blanding's Turtle. Of special note, the researchers found the globally rare Sylvan Hygrotus Diving Beetle, a species that occupies open wetlands and may not have been found in Wisconsin before.

Set within High Conservation Value Forests known to contain a wealth of rare, endangered, or special concern species, the flowages within the Chippewa County forest provide an excellent conservation opportunity. However, the flowages have not been actively managed in decades due to limited staffing and resource availability. Seven of the flowage dams are classified as large and are thus subject to State dam regulations. The activity of bringing the dams up to code has provided a new opportunity to the County to assess habitat value and management in the flowages.

The hydrologic contribution of each flowage to the Lower Chippewa River is currently unknown. If a stage versus discharge relationship is developed for the flowages, volunteers can report the discharge from a given flowage by reading the water level on the staff gauge. This will provide data important for hydrologic management of the flowages and can be useful for downstream management purposes.

Habitat management plans resultant from the Chippewa County Wildlife Flowage Management Project, when complete and implemented, will have a positive impact on surrounding regions as well. The habitat provided by the flowages and surrounding landscapes within the Chippewa County Forest has the potential to increase local and migratory populations by providing life-cycle specific habitat niches. By increasing the quality of habitat crucial to breeding and early life stages of wetland-reliant birds, it is reasonable to expect increased populations of these waterfowl throughout the region. Increased populations of birds and mammals as a result of the flowage management plans will benefit recreationalists, wildlife viewers, conservationists, and sportsmen throughout the area.

Project Goals and Objectives

The ultimate goal of the Chippewa County Wildlife Flowages Management Project is to increase habitat potential and, in turn, species quantity and diversity within the flowages. To reach this goal, the proposed project will:

- Improve understanding of the hydrology and the effects of hydrologic fluctuations of the flowages,
- develop a greater understanding of the habitat potential of the flowages, and
- result in the development of habitat management objectives to be executed in future habitat management plans.

To meet the project goal, the following objectives have been identified:

- A. Acquire baseline inventory of flowages including hydrologic, biologic, and ecologic data sets.
- B. Determine habitat potential and identify key management objectives (The county would intend to develop specific implementation plans to achieve habitat management objectives in the subsequent phase of the project, if funding is available).

Methods

Objective A – Acquire baseline inventory of flowages including hydrologic, biologic, and ecologic data sets.

Objective A will be reached through the completion of a set of activities including:

1. Collaborate with Beaver Creek Reserve Citizen Science Center, Chippewa Valley Outdoor Resource Alliance, and others to incorporate outside expertise and develop management objectives that can be implemented and sustained by the public.
2. Continue to build and consolidate a database for each flowage containing field measurements, GIS analysis, and data from outside sources including previous *DNR Biotic Inventory*¹ of both aquatic and terrestrial species inventories.
3. Collaborate with DNR to establish hydrologic measurement field methods and standards.
4. Install staff gauges or electronic measurement devices and enlist the assistance of volunteers to monitor and report measurements.
5. Develop stage-discharge relationships to determine the hydrologic output of the flowages to better understand the influence of flowage fluctuations on downstream hydrology.
6. Continue moist soil management and document vegetation response at specified flowages.

1. *Chippewa County LCFM has been made aware that data may be available from the 2002 and 2003 DNR biotic inventory work that it does not currently possess. The County intends to coordinate with the DNR to acquire this and any other related external data for use in development habitat management objectives.*

7. Complete watershed analysis that results in GIS datasets, as well as electronic and hard copy charts, and other reporting of variables such as: slope, aspect, glacial geology, soil texture, soil drainage class, forest stand type, etc. for a least 9 of the flowages.
8. Compile electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy reports on characteristics of the bottom substrate at least 9 flowages. Characteristics are to include: texture of benthic layer, depth to mineral soil, and texture of mineral soil.
9. Compile electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy reports on aquatic vegetation within at least 9 flowages.
10. Compile electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy reports on quantity/quality of aquatic macroinvertebrates within at least 9 flowages.

Objective B – Determine habitat potential and identify key management objectives.

Observations and measurements collected in 2013 and 2014 will lead to the development of key habitat management objectives for each of the 18 flowages. These objectives will be outlined with consideration to the habitat value of the flowage, identified species of concern to manage for, and recreation opportunities to the public. Additionally, dam removal will be considered in consultation with the DNR as a potential habitat management objective.

In a subsequent phase of the project (not considered under this grant request), the habitat management objectives will be developed into management plans that contain detailed management activities for success. The written objectives and implementation procedures will be included within the Inspection, Operation & Maintenance Plans produced under previous phase(s) of the project and will also contain strategies for measuring long-term success. It is the County's intention that these plans will be executed by volunteers to ensure long-term success of the plans, regardless of public resource availability.

Project Deliverables

The following project deliverables will be produced if a Lake Management Planning Grant is awarded to the Chippewa County Forest Flowage Management Project:

1. Electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy report on results of rapid inventory & assessment of macrophyte response to LCFM moist soil management at a subset of flowages to be determined.
2. Installation of staff gauges and establishment of stage vs. discharge relationships.

3. Watershed analysis that results in GIS datasets, charts, and other reporting of variables such as: slope, aspect, glacial geology, soil texture, soil drainage class, forest stand type, etc.
4. Electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy report on characteristics of the bottom substrate in flowages. Characteristics to be examined include but are not limited to: texture of benthic layer, depth to mineral soil, and texture of mineral soil.
5. Electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy reports on aquatic vegetation within a subset of flowages to be determined.
6. Electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy reports on aquatic macroinvertebrates within flowages to be determined.
7. Defined habitat management objectives and implementation procedures for all flowages. The written objectives and implementation procedures will be included within the Inspection, Operation & Maintenance Plans produced under phase one of project.
8. Project report available to public through LCFM website (hard copies on request) detailing results of the bio- and ecologic investigations and identified habitat management objectives.
9. An informational presentation for interested conservation organizations and other potential volunteer organizations.

Proposed Partnerships

It is in the intent of Chippewa County that this project be the result of a collaboration between the County and local volunteer organizations, with the input of the DNR. The County intends to seek the DNR's guidance in defining data standards and field methods throughout the course of this project. It is anticipated that expertise from DNR fisheries, wildlife, invertebrate, and other related specialists would be valuable in determining the habitat potential of each flowage and identifying management objectives.

Long-term success of this project is dependent upon strong relationships with local volunteer organizations. It is the County's intention that these partnerships will be fostered and developed over the next phase of the project. Input from local organizations will add value to the project by introducing a variety of viewpoints and expertise about how to manage the flowages. The short and long-term success of the project may be evaluated through studies examining the health, quantity, and diversity of birds, mammals, macrophytes, macro-invertebrates, and aquatic vegetation in response to implementation of the management plans.

It is the County's belief that these studies can be conducted in cooperation with local nonprofit organizations or educational institutes. Communications with local groups such as the Chippewa Valley Outdoor Resource Alliance and the Beaver Creek Reserve Citizen Science Center indicate that there is an interest in supporting this project by these and other groups. Other potential volunteers include the Chippewa Rod & Gun Club, Chippewa Bowhunters, Bloomer Rod and Gun, FFA classes, Lake Holcombe Improvement Association, educational institutions, and others. The partnerships proposed under this project will be mutually beneficial to all those involved.

Role of Project in Planning and Management of Lake

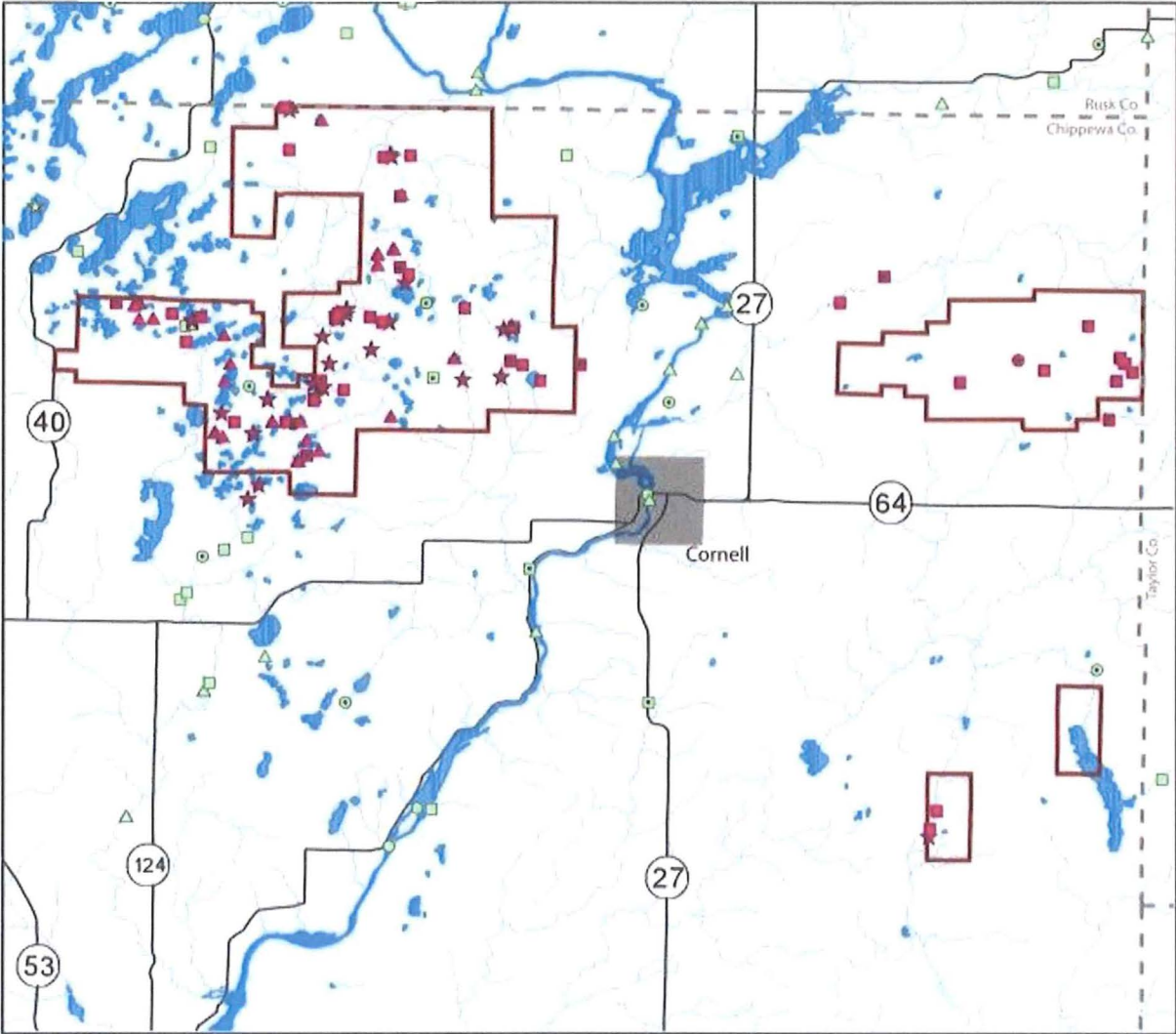
This project seeks to develop management plans for 18 flowages which are currently unmanaged and do not have defined management objectives. The management plans will be developed from scientific observations and measurements collected between 2013 and 2014 and will consider special concern species in their development. The plans will then be incorporated into the Inspection, Operation, and Maintenance Plans for each flowages, developed pursuant to Ch. 31 WI Stats and NR 333 WI Administrative Code. The plans will include short and long-term objectives for management planning.

Timetable for Implementation

The Chippewa County Forest Wildlife Flowage Planning Project was initiated in March, 2013. The current phase of the project will run through November, 2013. This grant seeks to extend the project from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. Additional grants applied for in 2013-2014 are expected to sustain the project to completion by December 31, 2015.

Objective	Activity	Approximate Completion Date
A	Watershed analysis that results in GIS datasets, charts, and other reporting of variables	February, 2014
A	Installation of staff gauges and establishment of stage vs. discharge relationships	March-November, 2014
A	Electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy report on characteristics of the bottom substrate in flowages	July, 2014
A	Electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy reports on aquatic vegetation within a subset of flowages to be determined.	August, 2014
A	Compilation of electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy reports on quantity/quality of aquatic macroinvertebrates	August, 2014
A	Electronic (GIS datasets) and hard copy report on results of rapid inventory & assessment of macrophyte response to LCFM moist soil management	September, 2014
B	Final report outlining defined habitat management objectives for 18 wildlife flowages	December, 2014
B	Outreach and recruitment of volunteers to implement management plans	October-December, 2014

**Attachment G. Occurances of rare plant or animal species near the study area.
From the DNR Natural Heritage Inventory, Epstein et al., 2005.**



Pre-2002 Records	Post-2002 Records
○ Bird	● Bird
□ Community	■ Community
○ Fish	■ Herptile
▣ Herptile	▲ Invertebrate
△ Invertebrate	★ Plant
★ Plant	



Attachment A - Page 1 of 2
STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY FOREST ADMINISTRATOR TO APPLY FOR
A LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANNING GRANT FROM THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

This Chippewa County Land Conservation and Forest Management Committee resolution authorizes the County Forest Administrator to apply for a Lake Management Planning Grant, in the amount of approximately \$15,000, from the State Department of Natural Resources.

The approved 2012-2016 CIP includes annual allocations of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) in 2013 and 2014 for preventative maintenance and improvements to county forest roads and to develop and implement management and safety plans for wildlife flowages within the County Forest. County Board Resolution 24-12 authorized funding for 2013 and directed the County Forest Administrator to pursue opportunities to leverage the allocation to obtain outside grant funding to offset the County's costs related to forest roads and wildlife flowages within the County Forest.

If the application is successful, the Lake Management Planning Grant will be used to hire a private contractor to develop hydrologic and wildlife habitat management objectives, for incorporation within the Inspection, Operation, and Maintenance Plans, for wildlife flowages in the Chippewa County Forest.

The local match funding required by Lake Management Planning Grants was previously allocated as part of the 2013 budget process. This resolution does not require an additional financial obligation.

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY FOREST ADMINISTRATOR TO APPLY FOR
A LAKE MANAGEMENT PLANNING GRANT FROM THE STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

WHEREAS, the Chippewa County Forest contains eighteen (18) wildlife flowages; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Land Conservation and Forest Management is responsible for the management of the wildlife flowages; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Land Conservation and Forest Management is currently developing inspection, operation, and maintenance plans for various wildlife flowages to comply with Wisconsin Statutes §31.19 and improve public safety; and

WHEREAS, the inspection, operation, and maintenance plans required by Wisconsin Statutes emphasize public safety, including hydrologic and wildlife habitat objectives will add ecological and public recreational value; and

WHEREAS, a Lake Management Planning Grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will allow the County to hire a private contractor to develop written hydrologic and wildlife habitat objectives to incorporate into the inspection, operation, and maintenance plans required by Wisconsin Statutes; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that if wildlife flowage infrastructure meets safety requirements, and implementation of management plans is relatively simple, local conservation organizations and school groups will be willing and able to make long-term commitments to implementation of inspection, operation, and maintenance plans to pursue ecological and recreational potential.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Forest Administrator is hereby authorized to:

- Prepare and submit an application for a Lake Management Planning Grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in the amount of approximately \$15,000;
- Sign documents;
- Take necessary action to undertake, direct, and complete the project; and
- Submit reimbursement claims along with necessary supporting documentation within six months of project completion date.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Chippewa County will meet the obligations of the project including timely publication of results and meet the financial obligations, including all required local match funding.

Dated this 17th day of July, 2013.

**LAND CONSERVATION &
FOREST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Michael A. Goettl	x			
Carl Cronquest	x			
Roger Kressin	x			
Lee McIlquham	x			
Henry Shakal	x			
Chuck Wachsmuth	x			

Michael A. Goettl 7-17-13
Michael A. Goettl, Chair Date

Attachment B - Page 1 of 3
STATEMENT OF EXPLANATION

**RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE SALES TAX FUNDS TO CONSTRUCT AND
IMPROVE ROADS AND FLOWAGES IN THE COUNTY FOREST AS PART OF THE
2013 BUDGET**

This resolution authorizes the allocation of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) of sales tax revenue, as part of the 2013 budget, to be used after January 1, 2013, for preventative maintenance and improvements to county forest roads and to develop and implement management and safety plans for wildlife flowages in the County Forest. The County Forest contains 21.4 miles of permanent primary roads which, if maintained to certain standards, are eligible for state road aid from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Current state funding is inadequate to cover all of the County's maintenance costs. If this resolution is approved, several roads including the O'Neil Creek Flowage #1 and High Ridge Trails will be reshaped and built-up with gravel to provide for more efficient, routine maintenance and continue to meet State Standards as required for Wisconsin Department of Transportation Forest Road Aid. In addition, the Dept. of Land Conservation and Forest Management (LCFM) will install water quality best management practices in the road drainage network, where needed to comply with sustainable forestry certification standards. This sales tax funding could also be used for emergency road reconstruction within the County Forest, such as damage from extreme runoff events, or other unforeseen issues.

The County Forest contains 18 wildlife flowages that provide wildlife habitat, high quality aesthetics, ground water recharge, and other hydrologic benefit. , The majority of this sales tax allocation will be used to prepare and implement operation and maintenance plans for each wildlife flowage, install appropriate safety features at each water control structure, completion of back-logged maintenance of emergency spillways, recondition the water control structure at Hay Meadow #2, and other provide other long-term public benefits. Where possible, this sales tax allocation will be used to leverage outside funding from State, Federal, and private sources.

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RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE SALES TAX FUNDS TO IMPROVE ROADS AND FLOWAGES IN THE COUNTY FOREST AS PART OF THE 2013 BUDGET

WHEREAS, Chippewa County Ordinance § 2-476 authorizes using a portion of the 1/2% County Sales Tax for Long Term Capital Projects; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chippewa County Ordinance § 2-476(a)(4)(b), capital improvement projects must be approved by separate County Board resolution prior to the adoption of the annual County Budget; and

WHEREAS, the Land Conservation and Forest Management Department (LCFM) is responsible for the management of roads and wildlife flowages within the County Forest; and

WHEREAS, County Forest roads must meet minimum standards, as defined by Wisconsin Statutes §82.50, to qualify for state aid from the Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, the LCFM, working in collaboration with the Highway Department has determined that various preventive maintenance projects and road surface improvements are required to provide for efficient routine maintenance and to continue to meet minimum Wisconsin Department of Transportation standards; and

WHEREAS, operation and maintenance plans are needed for various wildlife flowage water control structures to comply with Wisconsin Statutes §31.19; and

WHEREAS, there are no operation and maintenance plans for any of the wildlife flowages in the County Forest and most wildlife flowages are lacking adequate safety features; and

WHEREAS, the LCFM and the Land Conservation and Forest Management Committee have identified the above referenced road maintenance and wildlife flowage management needs as capital projects that need to be addressed in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Land Conservation and Forest Management Committee has determined that a transfer of \$100,000.00 in sales tax funds to the LCFM is necessary and appropriate to meet the cost of these capital projects; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 the LCFM plans to complete the capital projects as set out in the "Chippewa County 2012-2016 Capital Improvement Plan" and the above "Statement of Explanation";

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the sum of One Hundred Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00) be transferred from the Sales Tax Fund to a separate Department account established by the Finance Division for tracking the funding source and expenditures for this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Forest Administrator is hereby directed to pursue opportunities to leverage this sales tax allocation to obtain outside grant funding to offset the County's costs related to forest roads and wildlife flowages within the County Forest.

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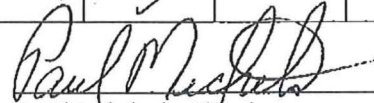
Dated this 21st day of August, 2012.

Recommended for Approval by:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Paul Michels	✓			
Mary Ellen Brehm	✓			
Anson Albarado	✓			
Bill Stoll				✓
Gary Misfeldt	✓			

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 8-15-12
 Paul Michels, Chair Date

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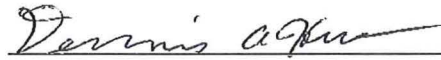
FISCAL IMPACT - There will be a fiscal impact of \$100,000 in sales tax funds for 2013 by passage of this resolution.

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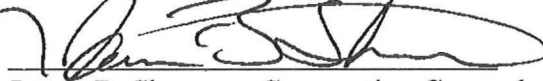
Approved as to Form:



Frank R. Pascarella, Administrator



Dennis A. Hunt, Finance Director



James B. Sherman, Corporation Counsel

Attachment C. Literature Cited

Epstein, E., C. Anderson, W. Smith, and D. Feldkirchner. 2005. *Biotic Inventory and Analysis of the Chippewa County Forest: A Baseline Inventory and Analysis of Natural Communities, Rare Plants and Animals, Aquatic Invertebrates, and Other Selective Features*. Natural Heritage Inventory Program, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Endangered Resources. ER-806 2005.

Pohlman, J. D., G.A. Bartelt, A.C. Hanson III, P.H. Scott, and C.D. Thompson (Editors). 2006. *Wisconsin Land Legacy Report: An Inventory of Places to Meet Wisconsin's Future Conservation and Recreation Needs*. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison, WI.