

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Board Agenda Item

SUBJECT: Acceptance of Reversionary Land Interest – Lizard Mound County Park – Washington County

FOR: OCTOBER 2021 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY: James W. Lemke, Real Estate Section Chief

SUMMARY:

In 1986 the department quit claimed its interest in the 32.38-acre property now known as Lizard Mound County Park (Park) to Washington County (County) pursuant to 1985 Assembly Bill 85. The quit claim deed contains a deed reservation requiring the lands be used for “public recreational purposes,” and if this purpose ceases for a two-year period, title shall revert back to the state without necessity for re-entry. For the past 35 years, the County has successfully operated and maintained the Park for public enjoyment and use. Improvements have been added over the years, helping improve the public experience of enjoying one of this nation’s greatest examples of Native American effigy mounds.

The Washington County Board of Supervisors signed a resolution authorizing the conveyance of the Park back to the State of Wisconsin on February 2, 2020. The County, in reviewing long term management plans for the Park, recognized its limitation on caring for the effigy mounds and is divesting itself of the Park for that reason. The department is currently engaged in searching for a new owner who can demonstrate they have the appropriate archeological expertise and ecological restoration capabilities and who is capable of caring for the archeological unique effigy mounds.

In a prior action signed by the department on June 28, 2021, a Memorandum of Agreement was executed with the County for the department to take ownership of the Park in October 2021, providing that the County maintain the Park through the 2021 public tourist season. The County has fulfilled this obligation. The request in front of the board today is to formalize this agreement by approving the department’s acceptance of the ownership of Lizard Mound County Park.

The department recommends acceptance of the ownership of Lizard Mound County Park until a new owner can be found with the proper expertise to manage this archeological site.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve the department’s acceptance of the ownership of the Lizard Mound County Park in Washington County pursuant to a reversionary clause in the deed vesting ownership from the department to Washington County in 1986.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS (Check all that are applicable):

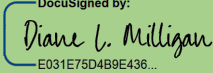
- Background Memo
 Maps and Documents

Approved By	Signature	Date
Terry H. Bay Bureau Director	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>F21082F90846464...</small>	9/27/2021 2:54 PM CDT
Timothy C. Cooke Internal Services Division Administrator	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>D792C5F7A747460...</small>	10/8/2021 12:37 PM CDT
Preston D. Cole, Secretary	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>6793A7BA427C4CD...</small>	10/11/2021 7:15 AM CDT

By: Todd L. Ambs

Form 1100-001N (Rev. 09/14)

Natural Resources Board Agenda Item

Program and reviewer	Signature	Date	Comments
Energy, Transportation and Environmental Analysis N/A Environmental Analyst N/A Economist			
Management and Budget N/A Budget Analyst			
Legal Services Diane L. Milligan Attorney	 DocuSigned by: <i>Diane L. Milligan</i> E031E75D4B9E436...	9/27/2021 2:03 PM CDT	
Other reviewers N/A			

CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 24, 2021 FILE REF: PR 40269

TO: Governor Tony Evers

FROM: Secretary Preston D. Cole

SUBJECT: Proposed Land Acquisition, Lizard Mound County Park Tract, File # 40269,

1. PARCEL DESCRIPTION:

Lizard Mound County Park
Washington County

Grantor:

Washington County
Attn: Donald Kriefall
PO Box 1986
West Bend WI 53095

Acres: 32.38Price: N/A – reversionary interestInterest: Fee simpleImprovements: Blacktop parking area, paved walking trails, educational display areaLocation: The property is located two miles northeast of the City of West Bend in Washington County.Land Description: The subject land is basically level.Coverture Breakdown:

Type	Acreage
Grass/Pasture	4.88
Upland Woodland	27.50
Total:	32.38

Zoning: The site is zoned agricultural.Present Use: Public recreationProposed Use: Public recreationTenure: The department transferred the property to Washington County in 1986 with a reversionary interest.Property Taxes: Tax exempt

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. Physical features of the property may not be conducive to all these activities.

2. JUSTIFICATION:

In 1986 the department quit claimed its interest in the 32.38-acre property now known as Lizard Mound County Park (Park) to Washington County (County) pursuant to 1985 Assembly Bill 85. The quit claim deed contains a deed reservation requiring the lands be used for “public recreational purposes,” and if this purpose ceases for a two-year period, title shall revert back to the state without necessity for re-entry. For the past 35 years, the County has successfully operated and maintained the Park for public enjoyment and use. Improvements have been added over the years, helping improve the public experience of enjoying one of this nation’s greatest examples of Native American effigy mounds.

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3. LAND MANAGEMENT:

The property will be managed by department staff in the parks program until a new owner is found.

4. FINANCING:

No funding is required for this transaction.

RECOMMENDED:

DocuSigned by:
Terry H. Bay
F21082F90846464...

9/27/2021 | 2:54 PM CDT

Terry H. Bay, Bureau Director, Bureau of Facilities and Lands

Date

DocuSigned by:
Diane L. Milligan
E031E75D4B9E436...

9/27/2021 | 2:03 PM CDT

Diane L. Milligan, Bureau of Legal Services

Date

DocuSigned by:
Timothy C. Cooke
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10/8/2021 | 12:37 PM CDT

Timothy C. Cooke, Internal Services Division Administrator

Date

Lizard Mound County Park

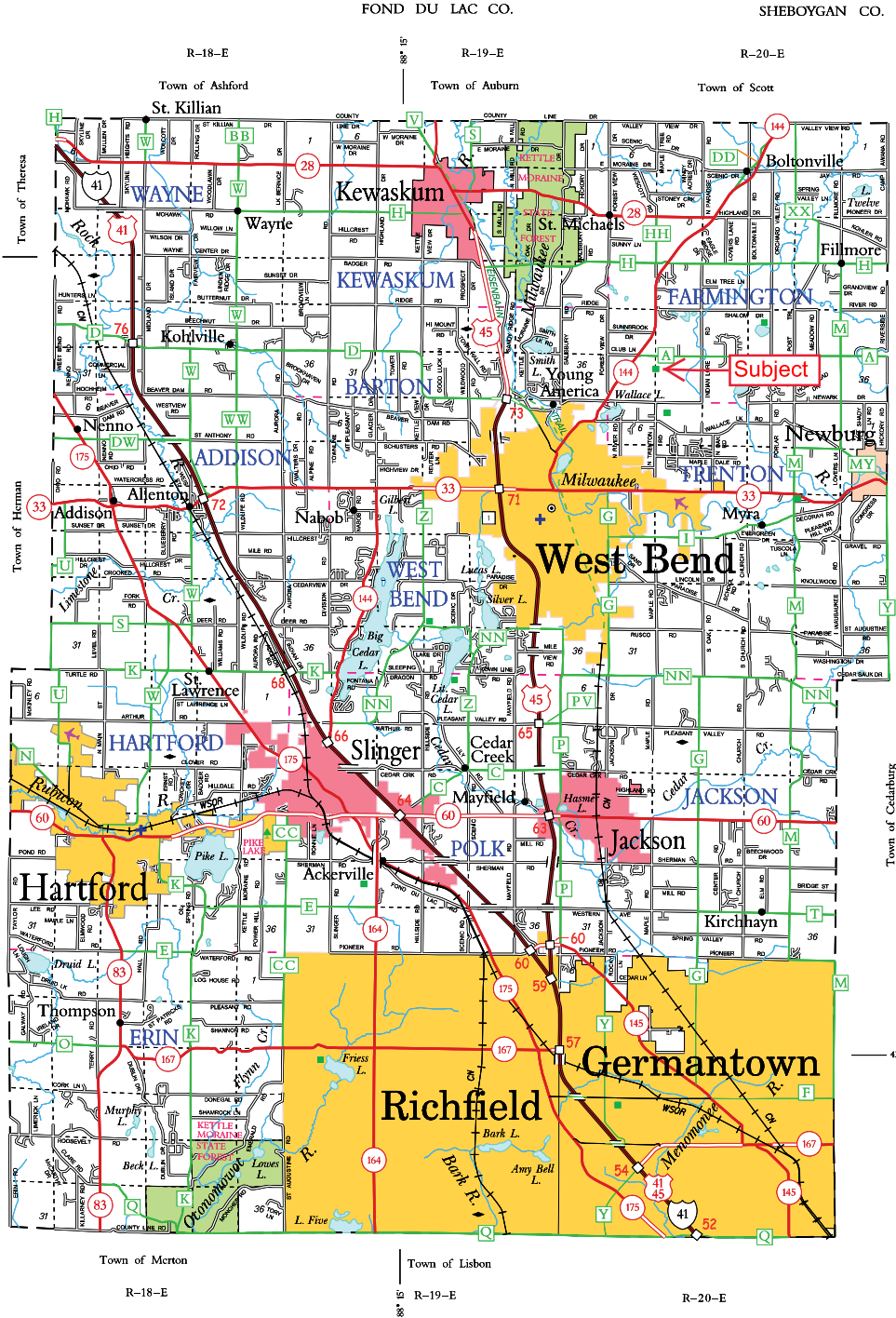
WASHINGTON 66-SE

DODGE CO.

T-11-N

T-10-N

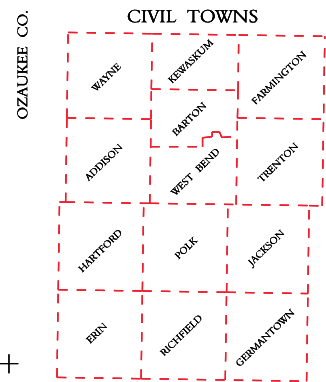
DODGE CO.



LEGEND

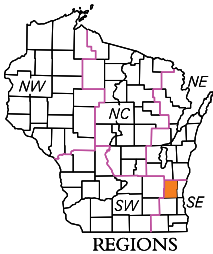
- Freeway -----
- Multilane Divided -----
- U.S. or State Hwy -----
- County Trunk Hwy -----
- Town Road -----
- Firelane -----
- Railroad -----
- State Trail -----
- Interchange -----
- Highway Separation -----
- Interstate Highway No. -----
- U.S. Highway No. -----
- State Highway No. -----
- County Highway Letter -----
- State Boundary -----
- Civil Town Boundary -----
- Section Line -----
- Dam -----
- Hospital -----
- Airport -----
- County Seat -----
- Unincorporated Village -----
- Fish Hatchery -----
- Game Farm -----
- Public Hunt or Fish Grds. -----
- Public Camp & Picnic Grds. -----
- Ranger Station -----
- State Park -----
- County Park -----
- Without Facilities -----
- Rest Area -----
- Modern Facilities -----
- Wayside -----
- Rustic Facilities -----
- Univ. of Wisconsin -----
- Washington Co. -----

◆ For boundaries of public hunting and fishing grounds please contact the Department of Natural Resources



WAUKESHA CO.

WAUKESHA CO.



MILES OF HIGHWAY as of Dec. 31, 2019

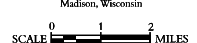
STATE	382
COUNTY	178
LOCAL ROADS	1186
OTHER ROADS	0
TOTAL FOR COUNTY	1546
Land Area (2010 Census)	430 sq mi
Population (2010 Census)	131,887
County Seat	West Bend

SECTION NUMBERING OF A TOWNSHIP

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

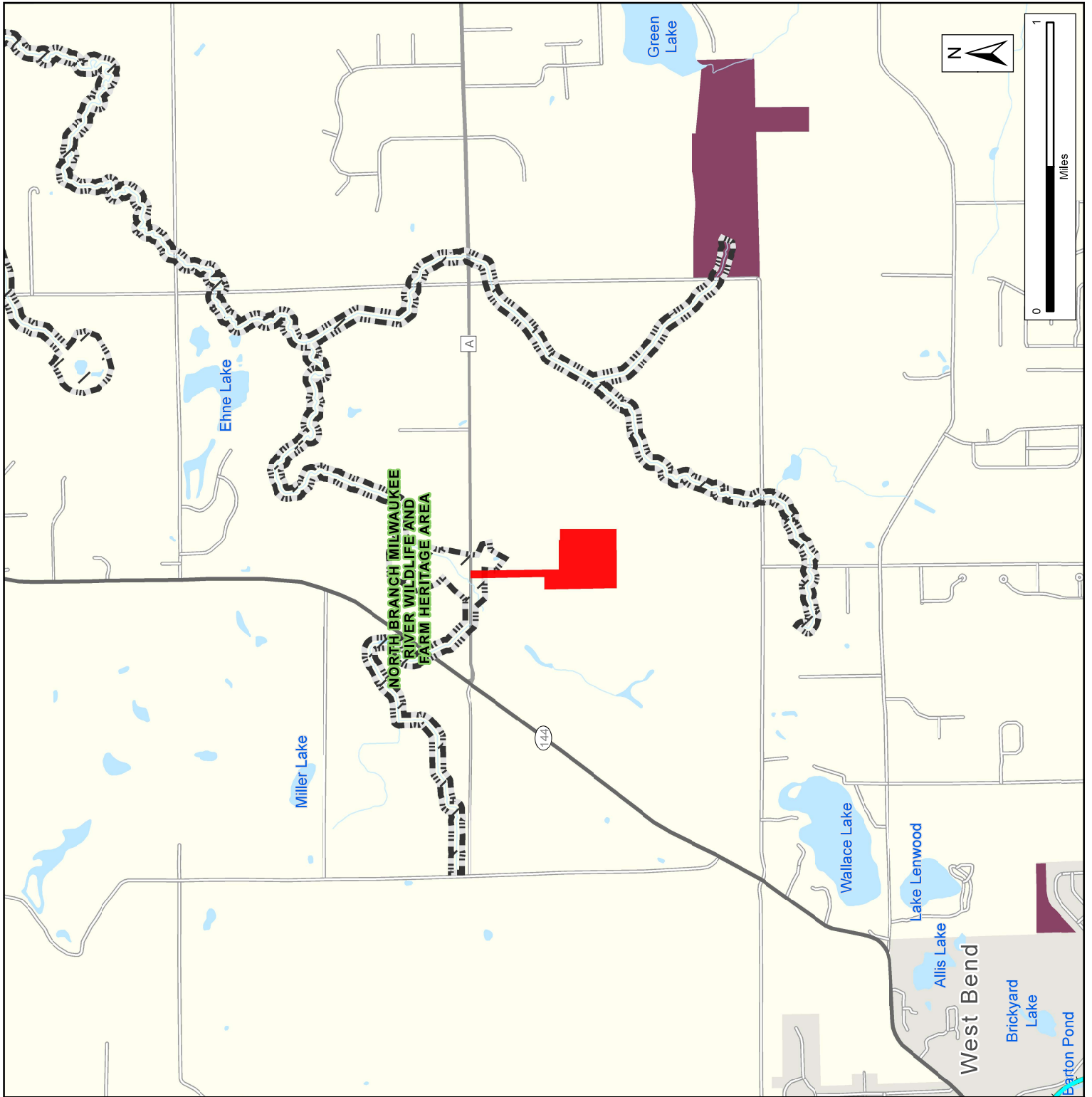
WASHINGTON CO.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Madison, Wisconsin



Corrected for
JAN. 2021

Base compiled from U.S.G.S. Quadrangles
1:100,000 Series







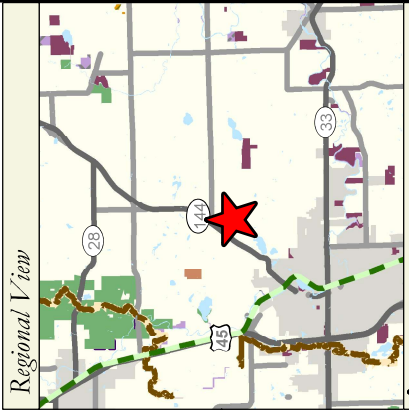
NRB Item:
Washington County
Fee
 . . .
Lizard Mound
County Park

T12N R20E Sec 31 & 32
 Town of Farmington
 Washington County

Subject

 PR 40269

-  DNR Fee Title
-  Current DNR Project Boundary
-  Stewardship Grant Lands (Open to Public Access)
-  State Recreation Trail



Location of Property

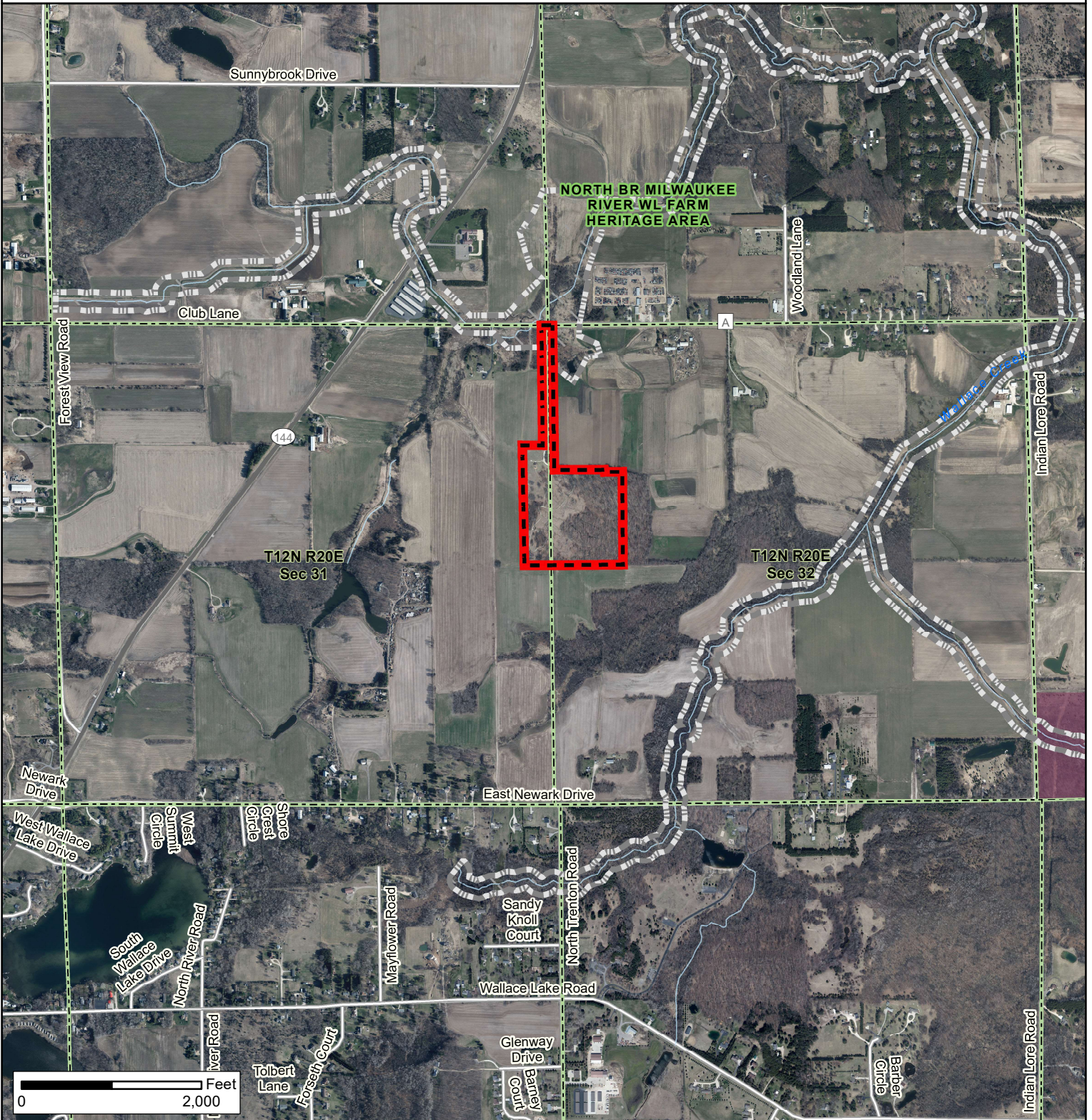
 WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 Bureau of Facilities of Lands
 Map Created: Sep 23, 2021 .msm

The data shown on this map have been obtained from various sources, and are of varying age, reliability and resolution. This map is not intended to be used for navigation, nor is this map an authoritative source of information about legal land ownership or public access. Users of this map should confirm the ownership of land through other means in order to avoid trespassing. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding accuracy, applicability for a particular use, completeness, or legality of the information depicted on this map.

NRB Item: Washington County

Fee

T12N R20E Sec 31 & 32, Town of Farmington, Washington County



**Lizard Mound
County Park**



Subject



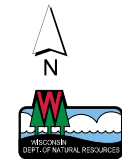
Original Pre-2013 Project
Boundary - Not Subject to
JFC Review



Stewardship Grant Lands
(Open to Public Access)



Section Boundary



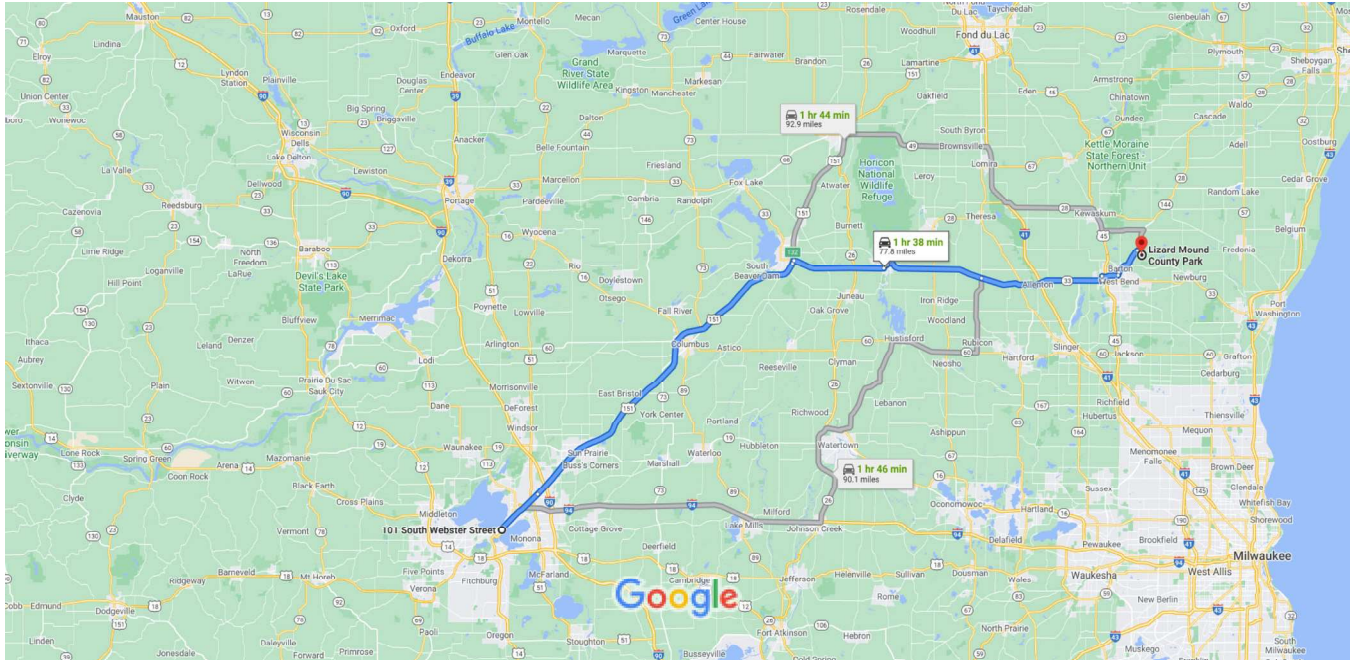
Sep 23, 2021 msm

Real Estate Section
Bureau of Facilities and Lands



101 South Webster Street, Madison, WI to Lizard Mound County Park

Drive 77.8 miles, 1 hr 38 min



Map data ©2021 Google 5 mi

101 S Webster St

Madison, WI 53703

↑ 1. Head northwest on S Webster St toward E Main St
24 s (0.1 mi)

Take US-151 N to State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E in Beaver Dam. Take exit 132 from US-151 N
47 min (40.6 mi)

➤ 2. Turn right at the 2nd cross street onto E Washington Ave
Pass by Burger King (on the right in 2.5 mi)
4.9 mi

➤ 3. Keep right to continue on US-151 N/E Washington Ave
Continue to follow US-151 N
35.3 mi

➤ 4. Take exit 132 toward State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E
0.3 mi

- 5. Keep right at the fork, follow signs for WI-33 E and merge onto State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E
135 ft

Continue on State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E to your destination in Farmington

52 min (37.2 mi)

- 6. Merge onto State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E
8.9 mi
- 7. Turn left onto Main St
0.3 mi
- 8. Continue onto Hwy St
466 ft
- 9. Continue onto Barstow St
0.2 mi
- 10. Continue onto Vine St
0.1 mi
- 11. Turn right onto State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E/E Lake St
[Continue to follow State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E](#)
9.5 mi
- 12. At the traffic circle, take the 2nd exit and stay on State Hwy 33 Trunk E/WI-33 E
12.1 mi
- 13. Turn left onto Wildwood Rd
0.4 mi
- 14. Turn right onto Park Ave
1.6 mi
- 15. Turn left onto N Main St
0.3 mi
- 16. Turn right onto State Hwy 144 N/Barton Ave
[Continue to follow State Hwy 144 N](#)
2.9 mi
- 17. Turn right onto Co Hwy A
0.4 mi
- 18. Turn right
0.3 mi

Lizard Mound County Park

West Bend, WI 53090