



# Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

7A

Agenda Item #

**Requested Meeting Date:** December 20, 2022

**Title of Item:** MN DNR Heritage Forest Project Confirmation Letter

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	<b>Action Requested:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
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<b>Submitted by:</b> DJ Thompson	<b>Department:</b> Land
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<b>Presenter (Name and Title):</b> Brian Leitinger, Aitkin Area Forest Supervisor - MN DNR	<b>Estimated Time Needed:</b> 10 Minutes
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**Summary of Issue:**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is beginning a project to determine if the state should attempt to acquire some of the former Potlatch lands in 14 northern Minnesota counties now owned by The Conservation Fund.

After analyses and consultations are complete, DNR will complete a single appraisal of the carefully chosen lands to determine a fair value and then submit a funding request to the Legislature to acquire them. There are 3 tracts in Aitkin County that are being considered.

Spalding Twp Tract = 318 acres    EMV = \$431,600    Taxes = \$2,108    PILT (County) \$640    PILT (State) \$2,240.57

Balsam Twp Tract = 40 acres    EMV = \$36,900    Taxes = \$176    PILT \$276.75

Unorganized Twp Tract = 645.8 acres    EMV = \$753,300    Taxes = \$4286    PILT \$4532.39

MN DNR at this time is requesting the County Board confirm its support of the project.

**Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:**

**Recommended Action/Motion:**  
Sign MN DNR Heritage Forest Project confirmation letter.

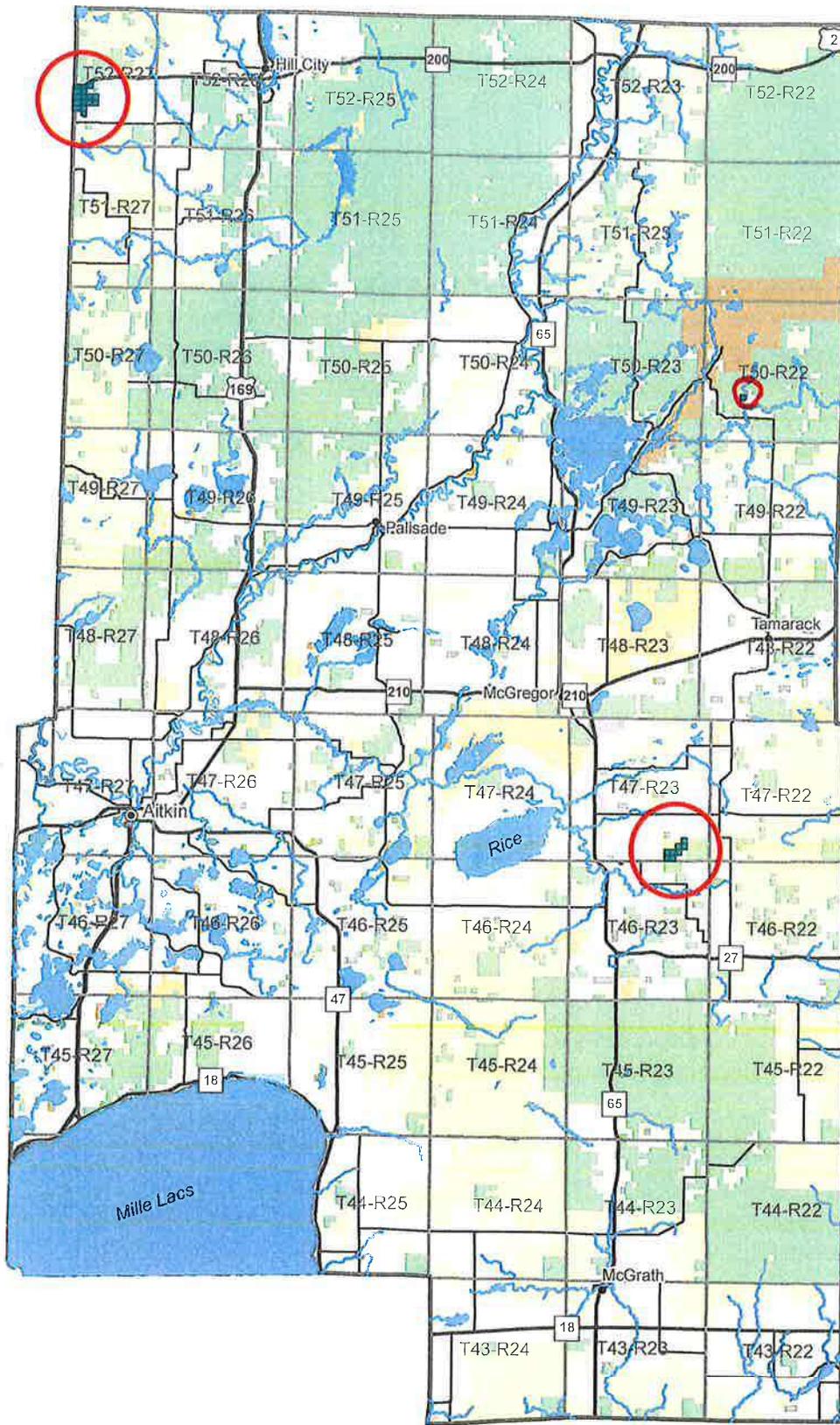
**Financial Impact:**

*Is there a cost associated with this request?*     Yes     No

*What is the total cost, with tax and shipping?* \$ Depends on the acquisitions and PILT payment

*Is this budgeted?*     Yes     No    *Please Explain:*

# DNR Heritage Forest Parcel Analysis - Aitkin



## DNR Heritage Forest Priority Parcels

State Forest

Lakes and Rivers

State Trails

Highways

Townships

## State Fee Surface Interests by Administrator

Ecological and Water Resources

Fisheries

Forestry

Other DNR Units

Parks and Trails

Wildlife

County Administered Tax Forfeit

Tribal Government in Minnesota





## AITKIN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

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December 20, 2022

MN Department of Natural Resources  
Adam Munstenteiger  
MN Heritage Forest Project Manager  
2115 Birchmont Beach Road NE  
Bemidji, MN. 56601

Dear Mr. Munstenteiger

This is to confirm Aitkin County Board of Commissioners supports the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) work to acquire some, or all the properties currently owned by The Conservation Fund in Aitkin County as reflected on the attached map.

It is understood between Aitkin County and the MN DNR that formal County Board approval may or may not be required depending upon the Outdoor Recreation Unit designation and/or the funding source. The Aitkin County Board understands that a representative from MN DNR will notify us once a formal option agreement has been signed and request a formal County Board resolution if required by law.

Sincerely,

J. Mark Wedel  
County Board Chair