



Le Sueur County, MN

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Board Meeting

Item 6

10:20 a.m. Jon Schneider, Ducks Unlimited and Joe Stangel, DNR (15 min)

RE: Sanborn Lake WMA Update

Staff Contact:



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Jon P. Schneider

Manager – Minnesota Conservation Programs

March 15, 2016

Darrell Pettis, Le Sueur County Administrator & Engineer, and Le Sueur County Board of Commissioners
88 South Park Avenue
Le Center, Minnesota 56507

Subject: Notification of land acquired in Sections 35 of Lanesburgh Township (T112N, R23W) in Le Sueur County for donation to State of Minnesota for the Sanborn Lake Wildlife Management Area, ML 2015, First Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 4(b)

Dear Le Sueur County Administrator Pettis and Commissioners:

This letter is to inform you of our recent purchase of a 75-acre parcel of land in Section 35 of Lanesburgh Township in Le Sueur County. This land was purchased for donation to the State of Minnesota for inclusion in the new Sanborn Lake state Wildlife Management Area (WMA) on the south and west side of Sanborn Lake northeast of Montgomery, Minn. Please see the map attached. The land was for sale for over a year prior to our purchase of it from John and Julie Anne Gintner. Ducks Unlimited and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff will attend your March 22, 2016 County Board meeting to discuss this recent land acquisition for the Minnesota DNR, and answer questions.

Ducks Unlimited purchased this parcel of land on December 31, 2016 through our land-holding affiliate organization, Wetlands America Trust. As required by the state Outdoor Heritage Fund appropriation statute above, we are notifying you of these land acquisitions and donations to the Minnesota DNR. The land is comprised of wetland, cropland, and trees. 2016 taxes were paid in full during our brief ownership in 2016, and Minnesota DNR will make "Payment In Lieu of Taxes" (PILT) in future years following the donation.

Funding for this land acquisition was appropriated from the state Outdoor Heritage Fund to Ducks Unlimited in 2015 for our "Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection Program - Phase IV" via M.L. 2015, First Special Session, Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 4(b), as recommended by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. These state "dedicated conservation funds" resulted from passage of the Clean Water, Land, & Legacy Amendment to Minnesota's Constitution by Minnesota voters in November 2008.

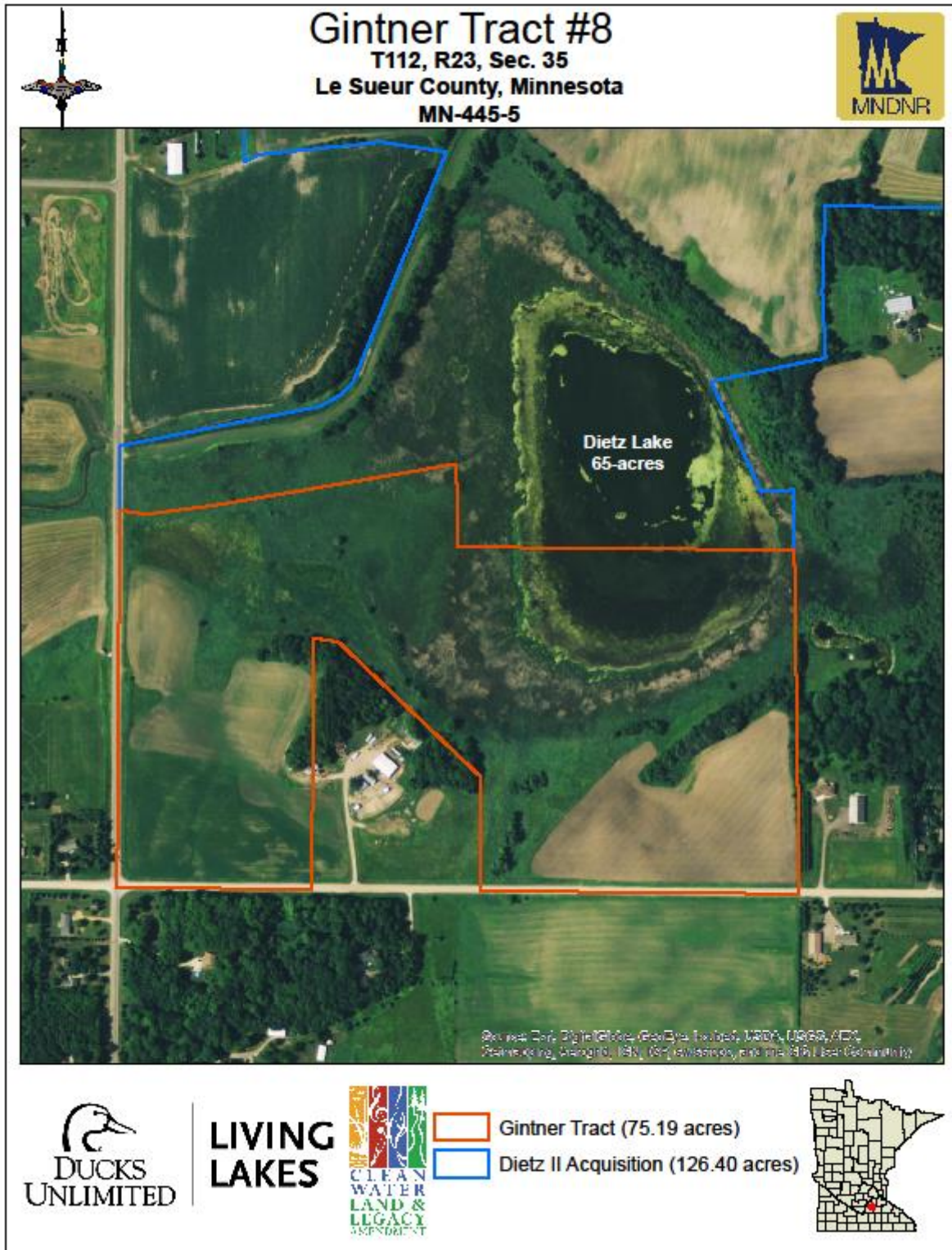
Although a county board resolution is required to approve state Wildlife Management Area acquisitions made directly by the Minnesota DNR, donations of land to the DNR from non-profit conservation groups such as Ducks Unlimited do not require such approval. Donations of land purchased using state OHF grant fund to the Minnesota DNR require only county board notification and discussion. Ducks Unlimited and Minnesota DNR staff will be present in person to discuss this land acquisition on March 22, 2016, and in the future too. In the meantime, please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jon P. Schneider
Manager – Minnesota Conservation Programs

Copies: Joseph Stangel, Nicollet Area Wildlife Manager - Minnesota DNR
Josh Kavanagh, Regional Biologist – Ducks Unlimited

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