PROPERTY TASK FORCE

Leader - Dennis Kulhanek, Planning Coordinator
Bruce Falley - Wildlife Mgr.
Clifford Brynildson - Area Fish Mgr.
Reynold Zeller - Green Co. Work Unit Mgr.
Pual Pingrey - Area Forester

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Submitted: June 25, 1979

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MADISON, WISCONSIN
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BROWNTOWN-CADO SPRINGS STATE RECREATION AREA CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN

SECTION 1 - ACTIONS

A. Goal and Objectives

1. Goal: To manage and develop the project as a State Recreation Area, to improve wildlife, fishery, and recreational use.

2. Objectives:
   a. Provide 1,500 man days of small game and waterfowl hunting activity.
   b. Provide 6,000 man days of fishing to include both trout and warmwater species.
   c. Maintain an estimated annual park attendance of 76,000 users.
   d. Maintain 80 acres of oak opening prairie and 60 acres of dry southern forest to provide good game habitat and an interesting landscape.

B. Recommended Management and Development Program

1. Development:
   a. Develop a picnic area and associated play area adjacent to the northeast corner of Zander Lake. Trimming and cutting some parts of pine plantations there will be necessary. Classifying road from northeast corner of Zander Lake east through pine plantation to town road will also be necessary.
   b. Erect fencing along that portion of the town road adjacent to the use area to discourage the public from parking on the roadside and walking into the park. Seek the cooperation of the township roads and enforce no parking along this road.
   c. Develop a northern pike rearing pond in the southeast portion of Beckman Lake. Pike construction of approximately 600' required.

2. Management:
   a. Fisheries
      If feasible, a northern pike rearing pond will be constructed on the property and pike introduced to Beckman Lake to reduce the panfish population.
      Consideration will be given to prohibiting or strictly limiting the harvest of both northern pike and largemouth bass on Beckman Lake. Harvest may be controlled by either a size limit on the fish type or limit on the amount of natural reproduction. To promote production of largemouth bass, consideration should also be given to installing an aerator system in Beckman Lake to prevent winter freeze-out.
      Zander Lake will continue to be managed as a Trout fishery.

   b. Wildlife
      A waterfowl rest area may be created to include Zander Lake, the southeast portion of Beckman Lake and lands adjacent to these waters. This area will be closed to waterfowl hunting, until such time as other management may be warranted.
      The wildlife portion of the property will continue to be managed for public hunting, but numbers of hunters could be limited in accordance with the carrying capacity of the land as authorized by State Statute 23.091 in order to maintain good cover and provide quality hunting.

   c. Vegetative
      Improvement of the area's grasslands to improve wildlife nesting habitat will be pursued.
      Good wildlife habitat and an interesting landscape will also be maintained by providing 80 acres of oak opening prairie and 60 acres of dry southern forest. Adequate protection of the Brownstown DA Forest Scientific Area will be provided and the quality of the site environment will be monitored at reasonable intervals.
NAME OF AREA: Brown town Oak Forest

IN S PECTION DATE: May 9, 1976 (latest)

QUARTER: SW COUNTY: Green Township: IN RANGE: 6R SECTIONS: 3

BOUNDARIES AND ACREAGE of
proposed or established area and buffer:

Scientific zone: N 900 feet of lot 9, and the N 900 feet of the east 600 feet of lot 10, including about 40 acres.

Buffer zone: woods to the southwest in lot 10.

ACCESS TO AREA: The oak forest is located in southwestern Green County between Monroe and Brown town. From the Highway 11 and 61 junction in Monroe, follow Highway 11 west 5.9 miles, then south 1/4 mile on a town road to the eastern boundary of the site.

DESCRIPTION OF AREA: Outstanding features, primary and secondary biotic communities, dominant, understory and life species, topography, soils, geology and archaeology.

Brown town Oak Forest occupies the north facing slope along a St. Peter sandstone ridge in southwestern Wisconsin's "driftless area." On the ridge top and slopes the soil type is a shallow Dodgenville silt loam. The slope varies from one percent near the top to nine percent at the lower edge. Here the sandstone outcrops and falls steeply 50 feet to a low plain of Northfield sandy loam soil. This variation in soil type and topography fosters a range in plant communities from southern dry-mesic forest on the upper slope dominated by red oak to the southern dry forest on the sandstone outcrops and lower plain dominated by white and black oaks. The five most important canopy trees of the dry-mesic forest, in decreasing order of importance values, are: red oak (age of 122-148 years), white oak, red elm, ironwood, and sugar maple. Largest amount of bitternut hickory, basswood, black cherry and walnut are present. Basal area is 114 square feet per acre; density is 129 trees per acre. The presence of numerous sugar maple saplings and seedlings indicates a gradual shift in forest tree composition to one of a more mesic nature. Common shrubs present include gray dogwood, gooseberries, hazel nut, choke cherry and downy arrowwood. The sandstone escarpment provides low, shaded cliffs.

HISTORY OF LAND USE AND LIMITING FACTORS:

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION: L. Henderson and administrator, revised and proposed amendments, degree of scientific, educational and recreational use of area, adjacent lands and compatibility. The tract is managed by the Department of Natural Resources; the property manager's address: Manager, Caledonia State Park, Green County, Agricultural Building, Monroe, 53566. Surrounding land use: pasture and old field to the north and south, road and agricultural lands to the east, buffer zone on west. It is used by hikers, bikers and classes from local schools.

REFERENCE INFORMATION: Person recommending area, reference, quadrangle and other publications and date of action taken toward designation of area. Recommended by John T. Curtis and designated as a state scientific area in November, 1959. See Brown town 7.5' Quadrangle; plant species list and forest inventory quantitative data in Council files.

REPORT BY: William Tans


Figure 6
BROWNTOWN OAK FOREST
SCIENTIFIC AREA

LOCATION MAP - GREEN COUNTY

Figure 6
a. **Location:**
The 629.88 acre Browntown State Wildlife Area and the 18.04 acre Cadiz Springs State Park are located in Green County, (Figure 1) and occupies part of Sections 3, 5 and 4 in the Town of Cadiz, (THA-H6E). The Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad (CMPP) between Monroe and Mineral Point borders the southern boundary of the project area for approximately one mile.

b. **Relationship to Highways:** Access to the park is by State Highway 11 from both east and west, and State Highway 99 leads into the area of the park from both north and south.

c. **Relationship to Population Centers:** Distances from population centers to project area are given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Distance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>8 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeport</td>
<td>72 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elsberry</td>
<td>41 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janesville</td>
<td>46 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oshkosh</td>
<td>34 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>53 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockford</td>
<td>58 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>107 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>130 miles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **History of Area:**
The first Northwest trail to Oregon went through this area. Mountain man Jim Bridger was active in the area as a fur buyer around 1800. Pioneer settlers in this area came from west Virginia and Virginia. Many references exist concerning a large cave northeast of the park residence which was used by Indians. Today its location is not known. Its entrance has probably been obliterated by rock fall and growth.

Located in the wildlife area by Cadiz Springs was the site of the Michael School, which was the first school in Green County. Part of the school is incorporated into the residence on the Foley farm which the state now owns.

The present park residence was a family cheese factory in the late 1800's.

3. **Chronology of Property's Establishment and Development:**

1949 - Browntown Wildlife Area was established in response to interest shown by a local sportsmen's group. Initial purchase was 18.6 acres from Ralph Guell in September of 1949. Zander Lake was included in the purchase.

1952 - Olive construction added 9 acres to Zander Lake.

1953 - Browntown Oak Forest Scientific Area was established.

1958-59 - Olive enlargement on Zander Lake adds an additional 6 acres of land.

1965 - a) Beckman Lake, a 7.4-acre impoundment, was created. Many hours of labor were donated by the Green County Conservation League to this project.

b) A 34-acre wooded parcel was acquired along the western edge of the scientific area.

1970 - Cadiz Springs State Park (18 acres) was established within the Browntown Wildlife Area.

4. **Past and Present Management Activities:**

In the past, the Browntown Wildlife Area was managed for farm game, waterfowl and fur-bearing. In the early 1950's, thousands of trees and shrubs were planted, and prairiegrass were converted to meadows as the open areas. Initially, the Browntown Public Hunting Zone was leased covering approximately 4,000 acres of land. Because of the lack of good hunting cover on the leased area and concentration of hunting activity on the state-owned portion, all but 80 acres of the leased area have been cancelled. An estimated 1,170 participant days of hunting now on the area.
The fly in Lancer Lake were chemically eradicated twice in 1933 and 1946. In 1937, five pairs of adult largemouth bass and five pairs of adult bluegill were stocked into the lake, and provided good fishing until the early 1960's when the large forage fish became too abundant. The bass population was then maintained by natural predation and no positive benefits resulted. In 1937, after the chemical eradication treatment of the lake, rainbow trout were successfully stocked in Lancer Lake, which is managed primarily as a trout fishery. The current annual stocking quota is 4,000 rainbow and 1,000 brown trout. The resident population of largemouth bass, bluegill, pumpkinseed and green sunfish provide fishing after June 15 when the trout population has been cropped to a low level.

Fishing pressure has decreased primarily due to the earlier opening of the trout fishing season, loss of the bass fishery and the presence of small bluegills. Fishing pressure is estimated at 100 angling hours per surface acre per year.

Beckman Lake has been stocked next years with 2-4 D and Aquasid Ponds to cut back the exposure growth of macrophytes and algae but with only modest success. In June, 1976, 1,000 male carp were stocked into the lake to reduce aquatic vegetation by their feeding action and by increasing the turbidity of the water. Positive results were evident for only one year. Natural mortality depleted the carp population in a few years.

Castle Springs State Park is managed to meet the recreational day use needs of the area and currently has an annual attendance of approximately 70,000. Its facilities consist of the following (See Figure 3):
1. A swimming beach with associated picnic areas (parking 71 cars)
2. Picnic areas (parking 42 cars)
3. Picnic shelters
4. Set of vault toilets
5. Well
6. Boat landing on Beckman Lake (parking for 11 cars and 35 cars with trailers)
7. Hiking trail (1.1 miles)

The recreation area consists of the Brownstone Wildlife Area and Castle Springs State Park and is part of the Green County Work Unit. The work unit includes the Sugar River State Trail, New Glarus Woods and Castle Springs State Parks, New Glarus Public Hunting Grounds and the Albany, Liberty Creek and Brownstone Wildlife Areas.

The following personnel are employed annually at the project area and may have secondary job responsibilities in the Green County Work Unit.
1. Permanent
2. Limited Term Employees, 10 months total time (includes 1 lifeguard)

3. Resource Capabilities and Inventory

1. Geology

The project area lies at the southwestern edge of the driftless area in Wisconsin. Its site was subject to the action of former glacial Lake Anechionis. This lake once covered most of the project area. The glacial dam was just west of the project area and was across of this lake deepened the floor of valleys above this dam.

Much of the park, therefore, at the edge of glaciation is covered by alluvium. On higher elevations, these deposits have been etched away to expose St. Peters sandstone. This sandstone and Silurian formation-sable are the base rock of the project area. As the Silurian formation overlies the St. Peters sandstone, it is found only under the higher elevations within the project area.

2. Soils

The top of ridges and upper slopes within the project area are all loam soils. The New Glarus and Ellwood are the main soils found in the north and west portion of the basin at these elevations. The Durkeston and Emmeren series, also silt loam, are found in the southeast, portion of the park on upland areas. All of these soils are well drained and tend to be found in the shallow phases within the project area. They have limitations for agriculture and forestry. Erosion and runoff are their main hazards.
In the lowlands surrounding the west portions of Zender's and Skinner's Creek are found the Orion, Otter and Areopile soil series. These deep silt soils are not to be wet and have good agricultural potential when drained. On the upper reaches of Zander's Creek (within the project) and in the Northfield, Hixton, Boone Gothen and Oaquen series. They are low in fertility and not suitable for crops or forestry (Figure 4).

3. Water Resources:

Skinner Creek and Zander's Creek flow through the project area. Two man-made lakes, Zander and Beckman, are in the project area. Zander Lake was originally 10 acres in extent but now covers 19 acres with 4,000 feet of frontage. Approximately 60% of the frontage on Zander Lake is available for fishing. It averages 6 feet in depth with a maximum of 12 feet. Water is derived from a spring fed by the large Cadiz Spring which has a flow of 382 gpm. Trout are stocked and bluegills, largemouth bass, pumpkinseed, and black sunfish reproduce naturally. Beckman Lake is a 74-acre impoundment with a maximum depth of 17 feet with 11,200 feet of frontage. It has a watershed that is mainly agricultural. The lake is also supplied from the spill-over of Zander Lake and Zander's Creek plus small drainage systems and one large spring of 700 gpm in the swalebed. There is continuous outflow from the lake.

Beckman Lake contains bluegills, green sunfish, pumpkinseed, bullheads, and largemouth bass. Northern pike have been introduced but natural reproduction has been slow. Aquatic plants have become a nuisance because of high fertility of runoff that feeds into the lake. Dikes on both lakes are stocked to prevent muskrat damage. In all there are 2,200 feet of diking.

4. Vegetative Cover (Figure 5):

The project area is a mixture of open grassland, wooded and lowland brushy areas, cultivated and wooded farmlands, oak woods, and some pine plantations.

The diversity of plant communities found reflects the varying exposures of slopes, the variety of soil types and the degrees of wetness and dryness found within the project area. Plant communities found are largely of the dry southern forest type. But, white and black oak and hickory are characteristic tree species of the site. The common shrubby species found are gray dogwood,挽救, and various species of honeysuckle.

Some transition to mesic southern forest plant communities is taking place where red oak has come to dominate the canopy. This situation is found in the north facing slope of the northern part of the project, an area of exceedingly arid land. Pitch pine is a problem species where there is a considerable number of other mesic species invading such as beech, maple and elm. Outcroppings of St. Peters sandstone furnish a common cliff habitat in this area which has a rich heathlike flora. Wet lowlands and dry lowlands also present a great variety of herbaceous plants such as asters, milkweeds and goldenrods.

The only timber stand landing itself to economic forestry is in the scientific areas and under this description it will be harvested. There are pure plantations at the northeast end of Zander Lake and the northwest end of Beckman Lake.

Historically this area of Green County was oak opening; that is groves of oak, mostly but oak, interspersed with prairie.

5. Wildlife:

Deer, rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, oppossum, fox, muskrat and mink are the main game mammals found within the project area. Blinds include waterfowl. (Various quack which rest here or stop in passage) as well as shoreland and upland species. Ringneck pheasant is stocked on an annual basis and some reproduction takes place on the area.

6. Site Inventory:

a. Brownlow Wildlife Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Area</th>
<th>Remaining Islands</th>
<th>Beckman Lake</th>
<th>Zander Lake</th>
<th>Remaining Lowland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>39.68 acres</td>
<td>234.70 acres</td>
<td>19.00 acres</td>
<td>238.30 acres</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific Area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>625.66 acres</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D. Cadiz Springs State Park

- Picnic and Open Play Area  4.50 acres
- Beach and Sunning Area  0.75 acres
- Residence and Service Bldg.  3.04 acres
- Roads and Parking Areas  1.38 acres
- Pipe Plantation  4.00 acres
- Undeveloped Area  4.27 acres
- Total  18.04 acres

7. Land Use Potential:

Lands within the proposed recreation area are classified as Wildlife Development Area (WDA), Intensive Recreation Development (IRD) and Scientific (S). The location of these areas is illustrated on the development plan (Figure 2).

Intensive Recreational Development (IRD) accounts for approximately 18 acres. Thirteen acres are presently developed for picnic area, beach, boat landing and hiking trail. The remaining five acres will be developed as an additional picnic and play area on Zaneze Lake.

The 40-acre Brownstone Oak Forest was designated as a State Scientific Area in November, 1953 (Figure 4).

Approximately 866 acres are classified as Wildlife Development Area (WDA).

8. Historical and Archaeological Features:

There are no known historical or archaeological features on either the park or wildlife area property. Contact will be made with the State Historical Society, Historical Preservation Division, in advance of any proposed development.

C. Management Problems

1. Public Roads Within Project Area:

Persons and partiesrequesting on these roads and walking to use the park. This usually occurs when the parking lots are full and has resulted in overuse of the park facilities, notably the swimming beach and in loss of user fees.

Higher concentrations of town loads in the eastern portion of the project area have made that portion of the public hunting ground more accessible and is a factor leading to undesirable hunter concentration.

2. Private Invasions:

Private property within the project boundary precludes the abandonment of through town roads and of making a single entrance to the project area which would aid effective patrol and law enforcement, and collection of user fees. These invasions also block effective in-park circulation patterns as regards service roads, hiking trails and the like.

3. Beach Location:

It is felt because of the location of the swimming beach at the park's extreme western end, poor distribution of use within the park has resulted.

4. Hunting Pressure:

Hunting pressure in the Brownstone Wildlife Area has become concentrated within the state-owned portion. Factors tending to produce high hunter concentrations are as follows: (1) the size of the wildlife area; (2) location of state park in such a way as to effectively divide the wildlife area into two small units further compounding the size problem; the eastern unit, being more accessible, receives the bulk of hunter pressure; (3) the Department's programs of cut and take principals stocking; (4) the absence of other lands suitable for public hunting in this portion of the county. These factors have led to deterioration of the hunting quality.
5. Fishery:

Stunted perch in both Zander and Beckman Lakes because of overpopulation have reduced the attractiveness of this fishery. Periodic winterkill offish, especially largemouth bass, makes it difficult to establish a diversified sport fishery. Establishing northern pike population in Beckman Lake has met with poor success.

6. Water Quality:

Zander and Beckman Lakes together comprise only 93 acres and, therefore, are limited in their capacity to accommodate use. Beckman Lake is highly eutrophic and has a profuse growth of macrophytes and algae. Water-dependent activities like fishing, boating and swimming have been severely affected by the dense growth of high aquatic plants, and offer little additional water use potential without rectifying this situation.

D. Recreation Needs and Justifications

The Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Plan of 1977 cited the following needs for additional recreational facilities for Planning Region A9 (comprised of Sauk, Richland, Grant, Iowa, Lafayette and Green Counties) by 1985.

- Developed camping
- 1,977 campsites
- Picnicking
- 1,522 tables
- Hiking trails
- 360 kilometers (222 miles)
- Horseback riding trails
- 50 kilometers (31 miles)
- Snowmobiling trails
- 360 kilometers (222 miles)
- Bicycling trails
- 60 kilometers (37 miles)
- Primitive camping
- 105 sites

As six counties are covered in this analysis, it cannot be applied with reasonable certainty to the needs of the region more immediate to the project area. As the properties are located close to the western edge of Green County near Lafayette County, an analysis of the recreational needs of these two counties gives a more reliable indication as to needs that should be considered relative to the project area. They follow.


Recreation Needs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facilities</th>
<th>1978 Supply</th>
<th>1990 Needs</th>
<th>1990 Surplus or Deficit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campsites</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>+13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic tables</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>+200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming beach (acres)</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf courses (9-hole equivalent)</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>+1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canoe streams (miles)</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>+51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horseback riding trails (miles)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>+11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobiling trails (miles)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State Wildlife Areas and Public Hunting Grounds - Green County 1978

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>State-owned</th>
<th>Leased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>1,467</td>
<td>802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brohead</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>1,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brownstown</td>
<td>640</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberty Creek</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Glarus</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2,873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,260</td>
<td>5,357</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Leased acres are privately owned and can vary in quality and quantity from year to year. The report also stated that even though attendance data from existing campgrounds showed no need for additional camping in Green County, the amount of camping on uncontrolled sites within the county indicated that there is a need for quality camping areas. The report further states that Green County should provide additional hunting opportunity by acquiring more public lands and increasing game abundance by improving game habitats.

Population 1970 census - 17,456, predominantly rural down 4% from 1960 census.

Recreational Needs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facilities</th>
<th>1970 Existing</th>
<th>1990 Needs</th>
<th>1990 Surplus or Deficit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family camping sites</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic tables</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sledding beaches (acres)</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golf course (9-hole equivalents)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campground sites (miles)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horseback riding trails (miles)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobile trails (miles)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Area</th>
<th>State-Owned</th>
<th>Leased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appaloosa</td>
<td>2,196 acres</td>
<td>943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellowstone</td>
<td>2,196 acres</td>
<td>943</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Leased acres are privately owned and can vary in quality and quantity from year to year. Lafayette County is considered to have an insufficient acreage in public hunting grounds and also to have a need for additional fishing opportunities.

Both counties are short of surface waters and consequently activities dependent on this resource are curtailed. Both counties need additional picnic capacity and trails of all kinds. Although hilly trail need has not been ascertained from existing use patterns, a need for this activity is felt to exist. Green County is very low in camping facilities but Lafayette County has a surplus, most of which is within 10-15 miles of the project area. Cross-country skiing is another activity for which there is no public facility in either county. This sport is rapidly gaining in popularity and public cross-country ski trails would in all probability be well used.

E. Analysis of Alternatives

1. No Change - Status Quo:

This alternative would provide that the properties continue operating as they are now. No organized attempt would be made to overcome the listed management problems and there would be little change in the degree of resource protection. Any development would be one as it became necessary or desirable, if and when funds became available.

2. Convey All of Remaining into a State Park:

Phasing out the wildlife area and conveying the entire property into a state park would provide additional facilities for picnicking, camping and canoeing to help meet the recreational needs of the southeastern region of the state. However, this would reduce the amount of public hunting areas that is in short supply in this region.

3. Phase out State Park and Convert it to Wildlife Area:

Phasing out the park would remove the barrier that now exists between the eastern and western portions of the wildlife area and would provide better hunter distribution in time and space. However, this change would not entirely solve the problem of heavy hunter concentrations. The openness of park facility removal, loss of park-oriented recreation and wildlife habitat restoration would exceed the benefits.

4. Redevelopment as a State Recreation Area:

Redevelopment to a recreation area would permit hunting and park-type recreational use to continue in the project area with the best possible mix of State. Statute 23.09(1) authorized the establishment of use areas within the project area to provide for a full range of recreational uses, including hunting and fishing. The DRM may adopt rules to control uses within zones and may limit the number of persons using any zone.
5. **Expand the Property Boundary:**

   The project boundary would be expanded to the north and east to provide additional acreage for public hunting.

6. **Recommended Management and Development Alternative**

   The management and development alternative that seems to be the most appropriate for the park and wildlife area is alternative A4 - Redesignate to a "State Recreation Area."

   In summary, as a State Recreation Area the wildlife area and state park will be managed as a single unit. The wildlife area portion will continue to be managed for public hunting and fishing with no increase in acreage. Constructing a northern pine rearing pond in the southeast portion of Beckman Lake is the only improvement proposed. A wetland wet pond area may be created.

   Also under this alternative, Casita Springs will continue to be operated as a day-use park with no increase in size. Improvements will consist of developing a small 3 acre picnic and play area near the northeast corner of Sande Lake. Fencing will be placed along the town road adjacent to the use area to discourage the public from parking on the roadside and walking into the park. Some additional hiking trail construction is also planned.
APPENDIX I

Comments by Advisory Councils
And Department Response
D. J. Mackie  
Bureau of Parks  
Box 7921 DNR  
Madison, WI 53707  

Dear Don:  

A fundamental question "Why is the Bureau of Parks much more up-to-date and realistic in their Master Planning?" Milt's program is very good but some of the others are in the middle ages and too often they completely disregard Manual Code 1031.1.  

The Browntown--Cadiz Springs State Recreation Area Master Plan is innovative and realistic. The Task Force has diagnosed the project characteristics and use potential honestly and thoroughly. The Wild Resources Advisory Council's remarks and suggestions are in no way intended to discredit a very worthy Task Force document. The Council wishes to supply the dimension of a neutral wild resource interested group opinions to the process.  

Sincerely,  

[Signature]

Henry J. Kolka, Chairperson  
Wild Resources Advisory Council  

yp
Comment #6

Mentioning the necessity of protecting the Browntown Oak Forest Scientific Area and monitoring the quality of the site environment at reasonable intervals is agreeable, but rather than listing as a fifth objective it will be added to the Land Use Potential section on page 4.

If the recommended fisheries management proposal fails, other management options are available such as prohibiting or strictly limiting the harvest of both northern pike and bass on Beckman Lake. Utilizing an aeration system in Beckman Lake to prevent freeze out was considered as a management alternative but not recommended because of the high cost. However, if all other management proposals fail and because of the high demand for fishing opportunities in Green County, installation of the aeration system may be justified.

Thank you for the Council's review and comments on the Browntown - Cudiz Springs Master Plan.

DJK:je

cc: J. L. Treichel - P&R/4
Date: December 20, 1979
To: R. Lindberg - PLN/6
From: D. J. Mackie

Subject: WRAC Comments on Browntown - Cadiz Springs Master Plan

The following is our Bureau's reaction to the review comments of the Wild Resources Advisory Council on the Browntown - Cadiz Springs Master Plan.

Comment #1

The number of acres of leased lands were reduced to 80 acres (current figure) for two reasons. First, changes in ownership and the resultant loss of some leases caused gaps in blocks of land leased for hunting. These gaps created management problems because of the difficulty in proper signing of the boundaries to prevent trespassing on unleased land. Secondly, the leased lands were primarily monotypic agricultural lands with little if any game cover.

Comment #2

The Department will continue to keep owners of private inholdings aware that it is a willing buyer in the event that the owner wants to sell. Closing of any town road requires the cooperation and approval of the town board. Until legislation gives the Department the power to close town roads within its project boundaries no other means are available.

Comment #3

If the Department continues to provide game food patches upslope from the Browntown Oak Forest Scientific Area, proper agricultural practices will be used to prevent any erosional impact on the scientific area.

Comment #4

We appreciate WRAC's endorsement of the recommended "Recreation Area" designation.

Comment #5

Relocating the swimming beach to the north shore of Zander Lake was a development alternative considered as part of the master planning process, but not recommended. It was recognized that relocating the beach would violate environmental protection standards including being very costly. The present beach will remain as is.
Overview -

The Wild Resources Advisory Council is impressed with the Property Task Force presentation of the trials and tribulations and the assessment of the property's use capabilities, since its feeble conception thirty years ago. The Council recognizes the wisdom of the Task Force in changing its primary goal from wildlife game emphasis to state recreation area emphasis. This shift, based on past records, will serve the majority of present and future users more completely and more satisfactorily. The WRAC strongly supports the Task Force recommendation of expanding the present property holdings of 643.92 acres to 957.95 acres in order to (quote--pp, paragraph 4 under Land Acquisition) "consolidate state ownership within the recreation area boundaries, insure protection of the watershed in the northwest portion of project area and increase management possibilities. The Council also considers this additional acquisition as essential in preserving the integrity and providing legitimate control of the recreation area. This process will also provide another chunk of public land to a county that is basically low in this category.

Review, Comments and Recommendations:

1. pp. 3 under E Browntown Public Hunting Area and Browntown Wildlife Area -

Considering the increase of no trespass signs on private wild areas, throughout Wisconsin, the WRAC doesn't understand why all but a skimpy 128 acres of leased approximately 4,000 acres of Public Hunting Area has been cancelled. With over paucity of public use land in Green County this step is considered incomprehensible by the Council.

2. pp. 4 item E Recreational Potential

WRAC recognizes the incompatibility of private inholding and the town road servicing these properties to the goal and objectives of the Task Force master plan. The Council recommends and urges stiffer measures to solve this dilemma. The Council supports the Task Force recommendation of excluding the so called inappropriate recreational activities listed under item E.

3. pp. 4 item F Land Use Potential, paragraph 3

The Evaluation and Education Committee of the Scientific Areas Preservation Council expresses some concern regarding agricultural practices on higher private lands fringing the Browntown Oak Forest Scientific Area (Designated number 23). WRAC recommends that the superintendent of the Green County Work Unit direct a staff person to assess the potential erosional impact from agricultural lands fringing the Scientific Area. If a problem does exist SAPC would be indebted and very appreciative of your conclusions and recommendations regarding the scientific area.
4. pp. 7 item 3 under heading A Management

WRAC endorses the alternative "Redesign the Browntown Wildlife Area and Cadiz Springs State Park as a recreation area under Section 23.091, Wis. Stats."

5. pp. 8 item C under heading Development Alternatives

WRAC recommends the reassessment of the proposal to relocating the swimming beach to the north shore of Zauer Lake. It doesn't seem a very wise move of the project planners to recommend violation of DNR and NRB environmental protection guidelines. A better alternative would be to expand the present site or, if that is impossible, to restrict and regulate number of users.

6. pp. 8, 9 and 10 headings VI, VII and VIII

The WRAC endorses the topics; Recommended Alternatives, Goals and Objectives and Proposed Action. In these categories the Task Force shows sensible and innovative levels of project use assessment and solution. The Council recommends that item 5 be added to the objectives (top of page 9). 5- Provide adequate protection for Browntown Oak Forest Scientific Area and to monitor the quality of the site environment at reasonable intervals.

The Council agrees that flatwater fishing sites in Green County are rare and at premium. However if the proposed management of fisheries (item 1 under Management and Operations) fails, as it has in the past, the Council recommends that a different use alternative be considered.

Reviewed by Henry W. Kolka
Chairperson, Wild Resources
Advisory Council