

**NATURAL RESOURCES BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

**SUBJECT:** Henrici's Management Corporation/Ishnala Supper Club will donate \$10,000 to help fund a trail development project at Mirror Lake State Park.

**FOR:** MARCH 2008 BOARD MEETING

**TO BE PRESENTED BY:** Matt Frank

**SUMMARY:**

In 1998 the Department purchased a parcel known as the "Ishnala" property near Wisconsin Dells. In Ho Chunk language, "Ishnala" means "stand alone." This property, which is approximately 90 acres in size, is now part of Mirror Lake State Park and surrounds the Ishnala Restaurant, a private business. The property consists mainly of forested hillsides and ravines providing many opportunities for hiking and ski trail expansion into this scenic and challenging area.

Currently a trail development project, which is consistent with the 2003 Mirror Lake State Park Master Plan, is being implemented within this area. The scope of this project includes constructing a 155-foot clear span foot bridge spanning Mirror Lake Gorge between Echo Rock hiking trail and the Ishnala property, developing a 2.5-mile cross-country ski/hiking trail linking the Ishnala and Mirror Lake State Park properties, and renovating a 596-square foot cottage to serve as a trail shelter providing a rest area, scenic overlook, and ski warming house.

The Henrici's Management Corporation, owner and operator of the historic 1950's "Ishnala Restaurant," would like to partnership with the State of Wisconsin by donating \$10,000.00 to this project. This project presents an opportunity for both the park and restaurant to enhance their product. A short 1/4 mile hike from the campground to one of the finest restaurants in the Wisconsin Dells area is anticipated to be heavily used by park visitors and tie into the trail system. This project will truly be a unique addition to Mirror Lake State Park and the entire Wisconsin State Park System.

This project has overwhelming support from the Mirror Lake Association and the Wisconsin Dells area residents and business owners as witnessed during the public hearing for the property boundary expansion that enabled the purchase of this property.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Board accept this donation.

**LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:**

- No  Fiscal Estimate Required
- No  Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required
- No  Background Memo

- Yes  Attached
- Yes  Attached
- Yes  Attached

**APPROVED:**

*Bill Smith* *pb*

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Bureau Director, Bill Smith, Acting Director

3/14/08  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*Laurie Osterdorf*  
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Administrator, Laurie Osterdorf

3/14/08  
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Date

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Secretary, Matt Frank

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Date

- cc: Laurie J. Ross - AD/5
- L. Osterdorf-AD/8
- L. Eagan-SCR
- M. Aquino-SCR
- P. Zajackowski-Mirror Lake S.P.

- W. Smith-PR/6
- P. Biermeier-PR/6
- L. Netzer-PR/6

## *Acknowledgment Of Gift*

This is to certify that at its March 2008 meeting, the Natural Resources Board gratefully accepted a gift of \$10,000.00 from

### **Henrici's Management Corporation**

to be used towards a trail development project, which is consistent with the Mirror Lake State Park master plan, linking the Ishnala and Mirror Lake State Park properties.

Our expression of appreciation on behalf of Wisconsin's citizens is hereby recorded in the official records of the Natural Resources Board. We acknowledge this generous contribution.

*Natural Resources Board*

Christine Thomas, CHAIR