



A WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE FRANKLIN LIONS LEGEND PARK STUDY AREA

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Special acknowledgement is due Donald M. Reed, SEWRPC Principal Biologist, Rachel E. Lang, SEWRPC Senior Specialist-Biologist, and Laurie M. Gawin, SEWRPC Research Analyst, for their contribution to the preparation of this report.

**MEMORANDUM REPORT
NUMBER 70**

**A WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR
THE FRANKLIN LIONS LEGEND PARK STUDY AREA**

Prepared by the
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
P. O. Box 1607
Old Courthouse
916 N. East Avenue
Waukesha, Wisconsin 53187-1607

August 1991

Inside Region	\$ 5.00
Outside Region	\$10.00

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SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

916 N. EAST AVENUE

• P.O. BOX 1607

• WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN 53187-1607

• TELEPHONE (414) 547-6721
TELECOPIER (414) 547-1103

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August 25, 1992

The Honorable Frederick F. Klimetz
Mayor, City of Franklin
9229 W. Loomis Road
Franklin, Wisconsin 53132

Mr. Paul Dretzka
Former President
Franklin Lions Club
4032 W. Puetz Road
Franklin, Wisconsin 53132

Gentlemen:

In April 1989, the City of Franklin and the Franklin Lions Club requested the assistance of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in the preparation of a wildlife management plan for the Lion's Legend Park. The plan was to provide guidance and recommendations for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of wildlife habitat and resource-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities. Acting in response to that request, the Regional Planning Commission has now completed the requested management plan.

This report describes that plan. The report provides an evaluation of existing wildlife habitat conditions on the Franklin Lion's Legend Park study area and sets forth recommended wildlife management, preservation, acquisition, and development objectives and standards relevant to the needs and values of the citizens of the City; presents pertinent information concerning visitor access facilities and recommendations for the enhancement of wildlife habitat and outdoor recreational activities; and identifies the roles which the City and other units and agencies of government can and should play in the implementation of the plan.

The recommended management plan sets forth three separate development alternatives, each of which is self-contained. Any one, or a combination, of the three alternatives may be adopted as a final development and management plan for the City of Franklin Lion's Legend Park study area. These alternatives are believed to represent the basic choices practically available to the City of Franklin and the Franklin Lions Club, for the provision of an area with enhanced wildlife habitat and facilities for passive outdoor recreational use. Implementation of the management plan presented in this report would, over time, provide for an increased, expanded, and integrated wildlife-carrying capacity within the City of Franklin, thereby contributing positively to the continued ecologically and environmentally sound development of the City of Franklin.

The Regional Planning Commission is pleased to have been able to be of assistance to the City of Franklin, and the Franklin Lions Club in the preparation of this plan. The Commission stands ready, upon request, to assist the City and Lions Club in presenting the information and recommendations contained in this report to the public and to elected officials for review and evaluation prior to adoption and to assisting over time in the implementation of the plan.

Sincerely,



Kurt W. Bauer
Executive Director

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CITY OF FRANKLIN
LIONS LEGEND PARK WILDLIFE AREA PLAN

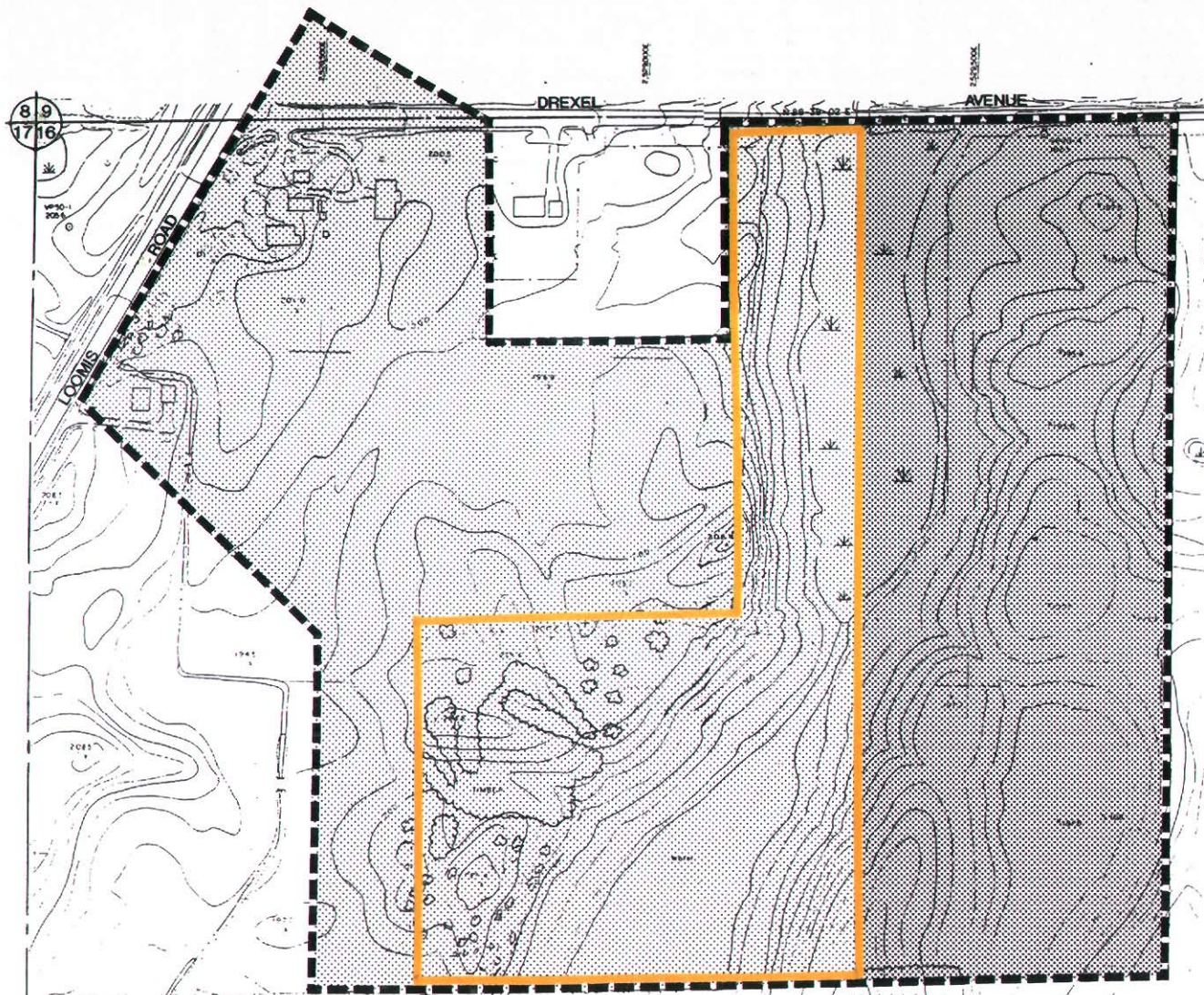
Chapter I

INTRODUCTION

Rural lands in proximity to urban centers are experiencing extensive development within southeastern Wisconsin. After a century and a half of development, the prairies, wetlands, and forests of southeastern Wisconsin have largely been converted to agricultural and urban land uses. As a result, the few remaining areas of good wildlife habitat within the Region have taken on increased importance. The remaining good wildlife habitat areas need to be preserved and restored for wildlife breeding, feeding, and shelter, not only to sustain local and migratory wildlife populations, but to contribute to environmental diversity and ecological stability of the area.

On April 25, 1989, the Franklin Lions Club and the City of Franklin requested the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission to undertake a study of a wetland and environs located near Legend Parkway and Drexel Avenue in the City of Franklin, Wisconsin. The study was to include an assessment of the existing wildlife habitat conditions and to result in recommendations for wildlife habitat improvements and restoration, as well as for the provision of recreational fishing and passive recreational and educational opportunities. Cost estimates for the recommendations were to be provided in the study report.

The City of Franklin's Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area is located within U. S. Public Land Survey Section 16, Township 5 North, Range 21 East, City of Franklin, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. The wildlife area has an area of 11 acres. The study area, delineated for the purpose of this report, has an area of 40 acres, as shown on Map 1. About 25 acres, or 63 percent of the study area, is located within the boundaries of the City-owned land, including Legend Park. The remaining 15 acres, or 37 percent of the study area, are located on privately-owned farmland immediately adjacent to the park. The site is bordered by farmlands to the north and east, parkland and open space to the west, and medium-density residential areas to the south. With proper planning and



MAP 1

FRANKLIN LIONS LEGEND PARK
WILDLIFE AND STUDY AREA OWNERSHIP

LEGEND

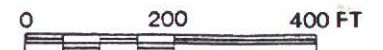
- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- WILDLIFE AREA BOUNDARY
- [Stippled Box] CITY-OWNED LAND
- [Darker Stippled Box] PRIVATELY-OWNED LAND

Source: SEWRPC

TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST



GRAPHIC SCALE



wildlife management, this site can become a refuge for resident and migratory animals and can provide good recreational and educational opportunities.

The findings and recommendations of the requested study are presented in this report. The City of Franklin and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources were asked to review a preliminary draft of this report, and the resulting comments are reflected in this final report. This report is intended to serve as a practical guide for the sound management of wildlife habitat within the Lions Legend Wildlife Area.

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Chapter II

LAND USE

INTRODUCTION

Land use is an important determinant of both the supply of and the need for wildlife habitat. An understanding of the amount, type, and spatial distribution of the various land uses in and near the study area is essential to the development of a sound wildlife habitat management plan and to the provision of passive recreational opportunities for residents of the surrounding communities. This section describes the existing (1985) land use pattern in the study area.

WETLANDS

Wetlands are defined as those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and with a duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands include deep and shallow marshes, sedge meadows, fresh (wet) meadows, shrub-carrs, alder thickets, low prairies, fens, bogs, lowland hardwoods, and conifer swamps.

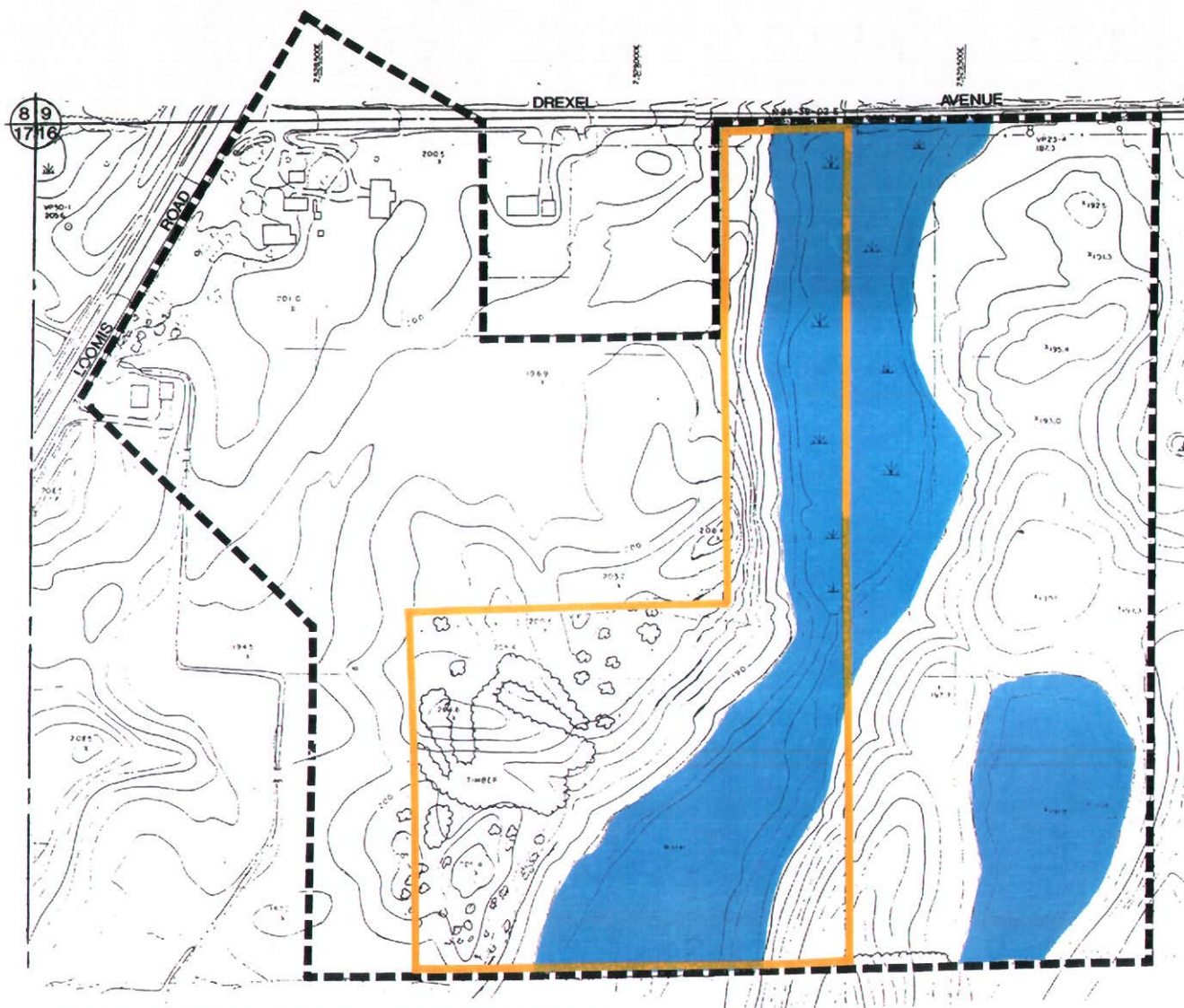
Wetlands form an important part of the landscape in and adjacent to the Lions Legend Wildlife Area and the City of Franklin in that they perform an important set of natural functions that make them ecologically and environmentally invaluable resources. These functions include:

1. Wetlands enhance surface water quality. The aquatic plants which grow in wetlands change inorganic nutrients, such as phosphorus and nitrogen, into organic material, storing it in their leaves and in peat (the plant remains). In addition, the stems, leaves, and roots of these plants slow the flow of water through the wetlands, allowing silt and other sediment with the attached nutrients and other water pollutants to settle out. In this manner, wetlands help protect the downstream or offshore resources from siltation and pollution.

2. Wetlands help to regulate surface water flows and stages. Wetlands act to provide water during periods of drought and hold it back during periods of wet weather, thereby stabilizing streamflows and controlling downstream flooding. At a depth of 12 inches, one acre of marsh is capable of holding more than 300,000 gallons of water and thereby help to protect downstream areas from flooding.
3. Wetlands which are located along the shoreline of lakes and streams help protect the shoreline from erosion.
4. Wetlands may serve as groundwater recharge or discharge areas.
5. Wetlands are important resources for overall ecological health and diversity. They provide essential breeding and feeding grounds, and shelter and escape cover, for many forms of fish and wildlife. The water present in a wetland is attractive to upland birds and other animals. These functions give wetlands recreational, research, and educational values; support activities such as hunting, trapping, and fishing; and add aesthetic value to the community.

Wetlands have severe limitations for residential, commercial, and industrial development. Generally, these limitations are due to the erosive character, high compressibility and instability, high water table, low-bearing capacity, and high shrink-swell potential of wetland soils. In addition, the use of metal conduits in some wetland soil types is constrained because of high corrosion potential. These limitations may result in flooding, wet basements, unstable foundations, failing pavements, and excessive infiltration of clear water into sanitary sewer lines. In addition, there are significant onsite preparation and maintenance costs associated with the development of wetland soils, particularly as they relate to roads, foundations, and public utilities.

As shown on Map 2, in 1985, wetlands within the study area covered 7.3 acres, or 18 percent of the study area. Wetlands within the Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area covered 4.5 acres, or about 41 percent of the wildlife area. The



MAP 2

WETLANDS ON THE FRANKLIN LIONS
LEGEND PARK STUDY AREA

LEGEND

- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- WILDLIFE AREA BOUNDARY
- WETLAND

Source: SEWRPC

specific wetland types include deep and shallow marsh, fresh (wet) meadow, low prairie, southern sedge meadow, and shrub carr.

SOILS

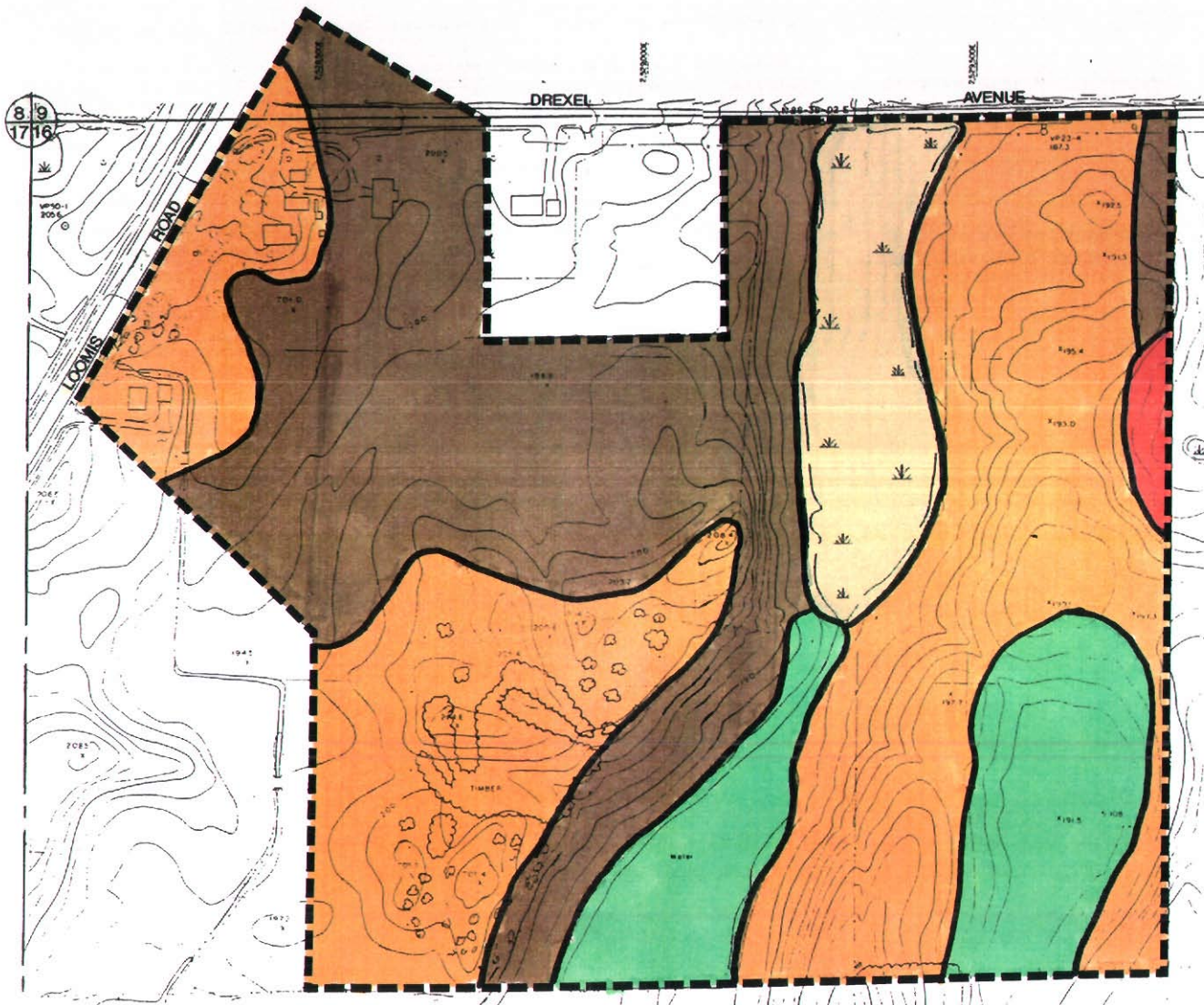
Soil properties exert a strong influence on the manner in which land is used. Soils are an irreplaceable resource, and development pressures upon land continue to make this resource even more valuable. Therefore, any planning program needs to examine not only how land and soils are presently used, but how they can best be used and managed. This requires a detailed soil survey which maps the geographic location of various types of soils; identifies the physical, chemical, and biological properties; and interprets these properties for land use and public facilities planning. Such a survey of the entire Southeastern Wisconsin Region was completed in 1965 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, under contract to the Regional Planning Commission.

Five specific soil types occur in the study area: Houghton muck, Blount silt loam, Morley silt loam, Wallkill silt loam, and Ashkum silty clay loam. The location and extent of the area covered by these soils are shown on Map 3. Table 1 indicates the suitability of these five soil types for recreational and onsite soil and land use. Table 1 also sets forth the limitations of the soil types for various land uses.

ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS

The Environmental Corridor Concept

One of the most important tasks undertaken by the Commission as part of its regional planning effort was the identification and delineation of those areas of the Region having high concentrations of natural, recreational, historic, aesthetic, and scenic resources and which, therefore, should be preserved and protected in order to maintain the overall quality of the environment. Such areas normally include one or more of the following seven elements of the natural resource base which are essential to the maintenance of both ecological balance and the natural beauty of the Region: 1) lakes, rivers, and streams and their associated undeveloped shorelands and floodlands;



TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST

MAP 3

SOIL TYPES ON THE FRANKLIN LIONS
LEGEND PARK STUDY AREA

LEGEND

- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- MORELY SILT LOAM
- BLOUNT SILT LOAM
- WALLKILL SILT LOAM
- ASHKUM SILT CLAY LOAM
- HOUGHTON MUCK

Source: SEWRPC

-5a-



GRAPHIC SCALE

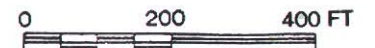


Table 1
SOIL TYPES IN THE FRANKLIN LIONS LEGEND PARK STUDY AREA

Soil Type	Native Vegetation	Limitations of Soil			Acreage	Percent of Coverage
		Limitations for Nature and Hiking Trails	Onsite Soil Absorption Less than 1 Acre	Sewage Disposal Systems for Lots One Acre or More		
Houghton Muck	Marsh	Very severe--high water table; trails soft and wet for long periods; low trafficability; difficult to maintain.	Very severe--high water table; systems will not operate.	Very severe--high water table; systems will not operate.	3	8
Blount Silt Loam	Mesic Southern Hardwoods	Moderate--seasonal high water table; paths and trails will be slippery and muddy when wet; may need surfacing; sloping areas have slight erosion hazard.	Very severe--high water table; slow permeability; systems will not operate.	Very severe--high water table; slow permeability; systems will not operate.	12	30
Morley Silt Loam	Wet Mesic to Mesic Southern Hardwoods	Moderate on 0-12% and severe on steeper slopes. Trails and paths are slippery and muddy when wet; erosion is a hazard on slopes; surface remains wet for short periods after rains due to heavy subsoil.	Severe--high water table; slow permeability; systems will not operate.	Moderate--high water table; slow permeability; systems will not operate.	21	52
Wallkill Silt Loam	Southern Lowland Hardwoods	Moderate--seasonal high water table; frequent overflow; low trafficability; slippery and muddy during most of the year.	Very severe--systems will not operate when flooded.	Very severe--systems will not operate when flooded.	3	8
Ashkum Silty Clay Loam	Southern Lowland Hardwoods	Severe--high water table; surface remains wet much of the time; trails (and paths) are slippery and muddy when wet; may need surfacing.	Very severe--high water table; slow permeability; systems will not operate.	Very severe--high water table; slow permeability; systems will not operate.	1	2

2) wetlands; 3) woodlands; 4) prairies; 5) wildlife habitat areas; 6) wet, poorly drained, and organic soils; and 7) rugged terrain and high-relief topography. While these seven elements constitute integral parts of the natural resource base, there are five additional elements which, although not a part of the natural resource base per se, are closely related to or centered on that base and therefore are important considerations in identifying and delineating areas with scenic, recreational, and educational value. These additional elements are: 1) existing outdoor recreation sites; 2) potential outdoor recreation and related open space sites; 3) historic, archaeological, and other cultural sites; 4) significant scenic areas and vistas; and 5) natural and scientific areas.

The delineation of these 12 natural resource and resource-related elements on a map results in an essentially linear pattern of relatively narrow, elongated areas which have been termed "environmental corridors" by the Commission.

Primary Environmental Corridors: Primary environmental corridors include a wide variety of the above-mentioned resource and resource-related elements and are at least 400 acres in size, two miles long, and 200 feet wide. There are no primary environmental corridors located within the study area or the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area. The nearest such corridor to the study area and Park is that lying along the Root River about one and one-half miles to the east.

Secondary Environmental Corridors: The secondary environmental corridors are generally located along intermittent streams or serve as links between segments of primary environmental corridors. Secondary environmental corridors contain a variety of resource elements, often remnant resources from former primary environmental corridors which have been developed for intensive agricultural purposes or urban land uses. Secondary environmental corridors facilitate surface water drainage, maintain pockets of natural resource features, and provide for the movement of wildlife, as well as for the movement and dispersal of seeds for a variety of plant species. Such corridors should also be preserved in essentially natural, open uses as urban development proceeds, particularly when the opportunity is presented to incorporate the corridors into urban stormwater detention areas, associated drainageways, and

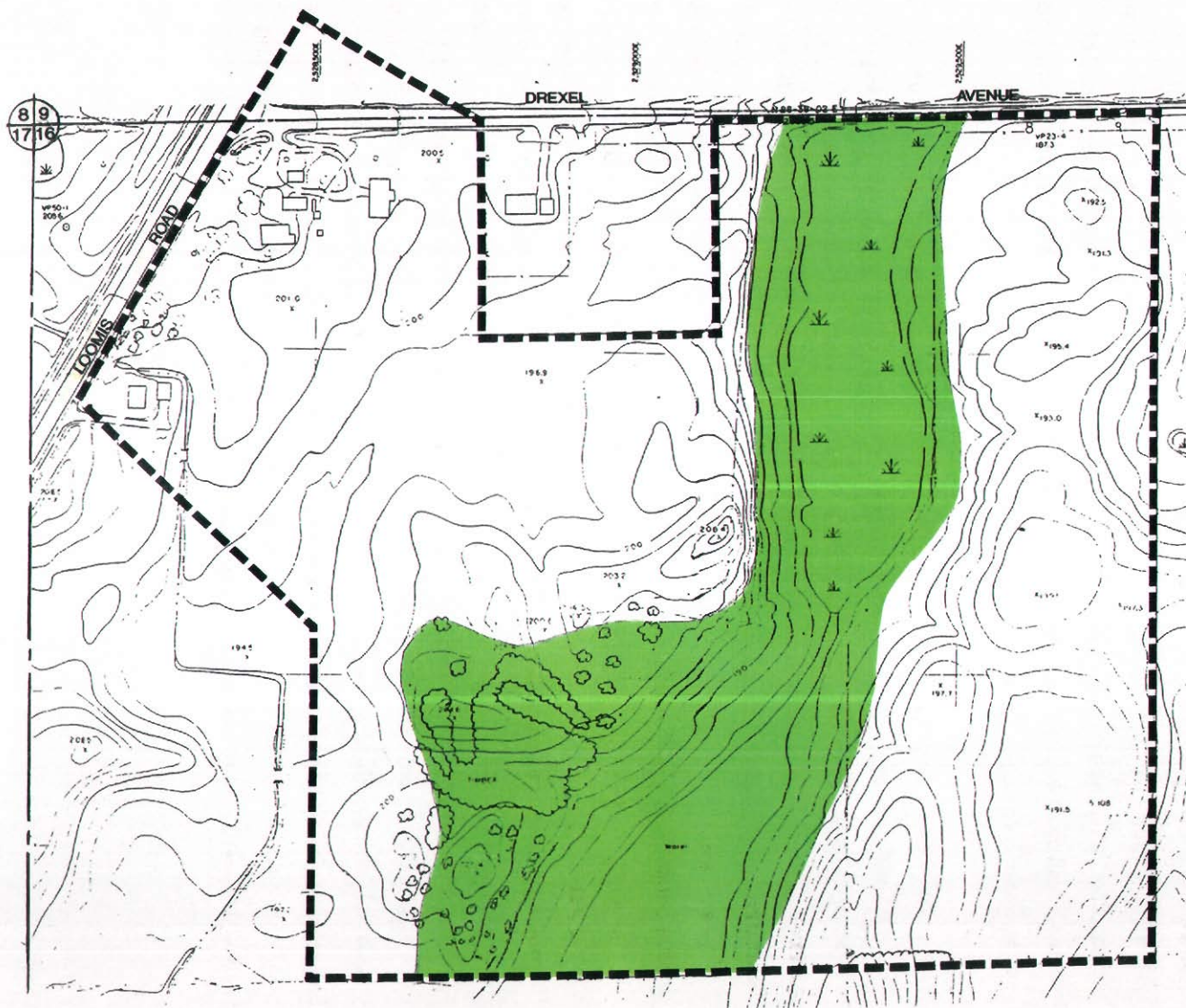
neighborhood parks. As indicated on Map 4, about 12 acres, or 30 percent of the study area, are encompassed within secondary environmental corridors. About 9 acres, or 75 percent of the wildlife habitat area, are encompassed within secondary environmental corridors.

AGRICULTURAL LANDS

Properly managed agricultural lands, in addition to providing food and fiber, can enhance wildlife habitat. This is especially true for those farms that maintain small fields and associated fence rows and which grow a variety of crops. By utilizing the underlying agricultural resource base in a manner consistent with wildlife habitat needs, important nesting and feeding habitat for many forms of wildlife can be supplied, and local conditions for the management of resident or migratory wildlife can be substantially improved. The agricultural fields lying to the east of the study area and to the east of the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area within the study area help to enhance the local wildlife habitat.

WOODLANDS

Woodlands have both economic and ecologic value and under good management can serve a variety of uses. Located primarily on ridges and slopes and along streams and lakeshores, woodlands provide an attractive natural resource of immeasurable value. In addition to contributing to clean air and water, reducing stormwater runoff and flooding, and promoting groundwater recharge, woodlands contribute to the maintenance of a diversity of plant and animal life in association with human life and can thereby provide important recreational and educational opportunities. It is important to note that valuable woodlands can be destroyed through mismanagement in a short time, thereby contributing to the siltation of lakes and streams and the destruction of wildlife habitat areas. Thus, woodlands should be maintained for their total values--scenic, wildlife habitat, educational, recreational, and watershed protection--as well as for their commercial value in producing forest products and in contributing to the increased values of residential and other types of urban development. Woodlands are defined as those areas one acre or more in size having 17 or more deciduous trees per acre, each measuring at least four



TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST

MAP 4

ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDORS ON THE FRANKLIN LIONS LEGEND PARK STUDY AREA

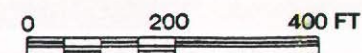
LEGEND

- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- SECONDARY ENVIRONMENTAL CORRIDOR

Source: SEWRPC



GRAPHIC SCALE



inches in diameter at breast height and having 50 percent or more tree canopy coverage. In addition, coniferous tree plantations and reforestation projects are identified as woodlands by the Commission. Approximately four acres, or 10 percent of the study area, and approximately four acres, or about 36 percent of the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area, are covered by woodlands. This woodland cover is classified as a shrub thicket and dry-mesic hardwoods.

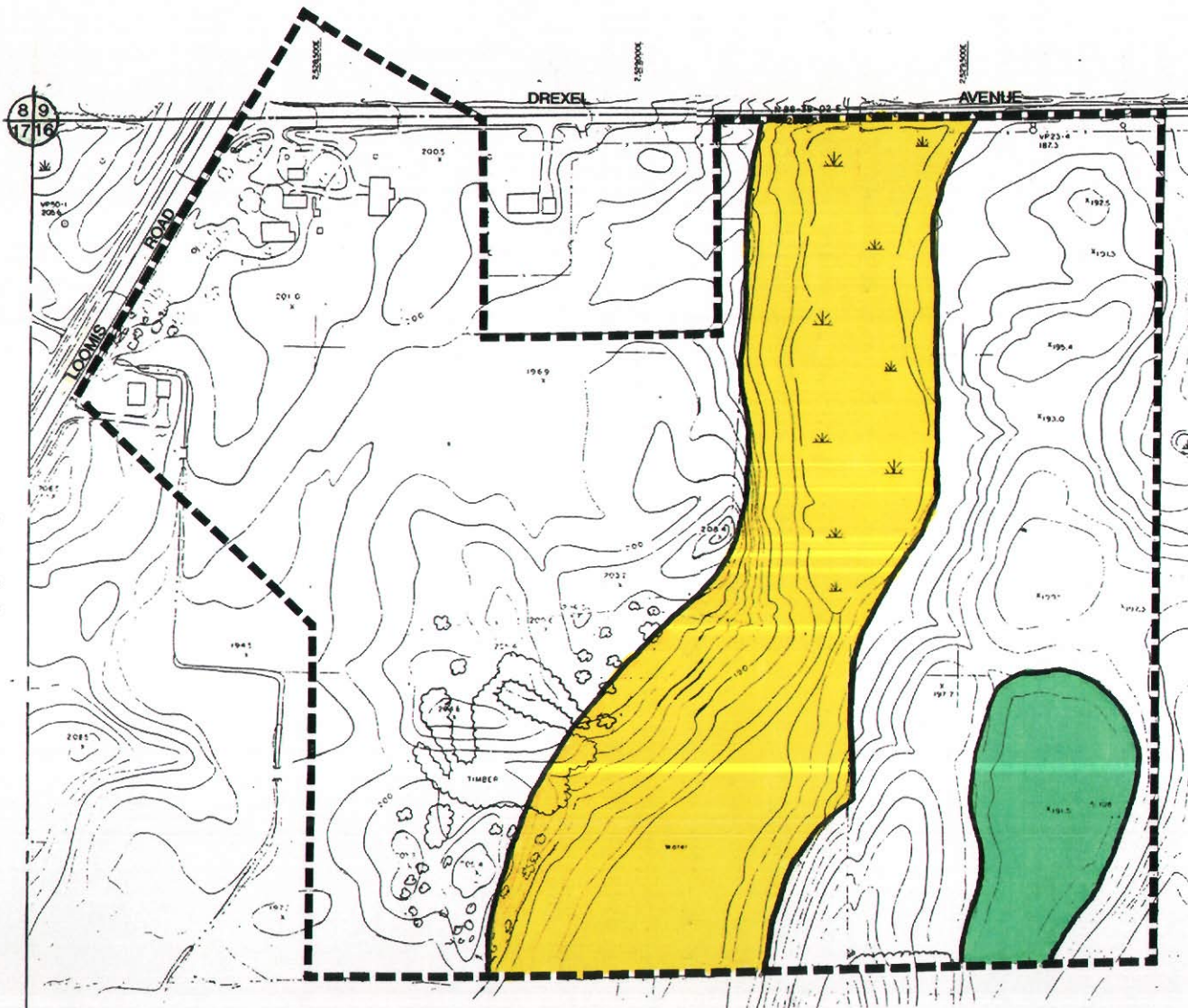
WILDLIFE HABITAT

Wildlife occurring in and adjacent to the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area include pheasants, waterfowl, marsh birds, raptors, and a variety of mammals such as deer, muskrat, rabbit, and fox. The area also provides an area for migratory waterfowl and songbirds. The wildlife habitat area provides valuable recreational opportunities and constitutes an immeasurable aesthetic asset to the City of Franklin.

The complete spectrum of wildlife species originally native to Milwaukee County has, along with its habitat, undergone significant change in terms of diversity and population size since settlement of the area. This change is a direct result of the conversion of the land by the European settlers from natural to agricultural and urban uses, beginning with the clearing of the forest and the prairies and the drainage of wetlands, and ending with the development of extensive land uses. This process, which began early in the nineteenth century, is still operative in the City of Franklin today. Successive cultural uses and attendant management practices, both rural and urban, have been superimposed on the overall land use changes and have also affected the wildlife and wildlife habitat. In agricultural areas, these cultural management practices include land drainage by ditching and tiling and the expanding use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides. In urban areas, cultural management practices that affect wildlife and their habitat include the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides, road salting, heavy motor vehicle traffic which produces disruptive noise levels and damaging air pollution, and introduction of domestic animals.

All wildlife habitat areas remaining in southeastern Wisconsin, including the City of Franklin, were identified and inventoried by the Regional Planning Commission in 1970, and were updated in 1985. These areas were categorized as Class I, Class II, or Class III habitats. Class I habitat areas contain a good diversity of wildlife, are adequate in size to meet all the habitat requirements for the species concerned, and are generally located in proximity to other wildlife habitat areas. Class II wildlife habitat areas generally lack one of three criteria for a Class I wildlife habitat; however, they do maintain a good plant and animal diversity. Class III habitat areas are remnant in nature in that they generally lack two or more of the three criteria for a Class I wildlife habitat, but may, nevertheless, be important if located in proximity to Class I or Class II wildlife habitat areas, if they provide corridors linking Class I or Class II wildlife habitat areas, or if they provide the only available range in the area. The major factors considered in assigning classes to wildlife habitat areas are diversity, territorial requirements, vegetative composition and structure, proximity to other wildlife habitat areas, and disturbance.

As shown on Map 5, wildlife habitat areas in and adjacent to the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area generally occur in association with existing wetland and woodland resources. Existing wildlife habitat areas cover about 10.5 acres, or 26 percent of the total study area; and about 7.5 acres, or about 68 percent of the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area, of which about nine acres, or 23 percent of the total study area, are considered to be Class II wildlife habitat, and about one and one-half acres, or 4 percent of the total study area, are considered to be Class III wildlife habitat.



TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST

MAP 5

WILDLIFE HABITAT ON THE FRANKLIN LIONS LEGEND PARK STUDY AREA

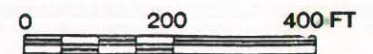
LEGEND

- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- CLASS II WILDLIFE HABITAT
- CLASS III WILDLIFE HABITAT

Source: SEWRPC



GRAPHIC SCALE



Chapter III

ALTERNATIVE AND RECOMMENDED WILDLIFE HABITAT MODIFICATION AND ENHANCEMENT PLANS

The primary purpose of the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area planning program is the preparation of a sound, workable plan to guide the protection, development, and management of the subject land. Specifically, this plan is designed to achieve the following three objectives: 1) a spatial distribution of the various land uses and supporting management activities that will protect, preserve, and enhance the area and encourage the utilization of the area by wildlife; 2) the provision of an area that will result in the protection and wise use of a wetland in the City of Franklin; and 3) the provision of an outdoor recreational facility to allow the resident population of the area adequate opportunity to participate in passive, resource-oriented outdoor recreational activities. This chapter presents a recommended wildlife habitat enhancement and management plan which meets, to the extent practicable, the objectives set forth in this report. In addition, this chapter outlines the steps required to implement that recommended plan.

The first section of this chapter describes the recommended wildlife habitat enhancement plan for the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area. It includes recommendations to enhance the existing natural resource base for wildlife; to purchase lands adjacent to the study area; and to develop the area for passive outdoor recreational activities. The second section of the chapter outlines the actions that must be taken to ensure that the recommended plan is carried out over time. It includes a discussion of specific actions that should be taken by the City of Franklin to facilitate plan implementation, and an estimate of the costs likely to be realized during plan implementation.

The plan consists of improvements intended to enhance the natural resource base of the study area by diversifying existing wildlife habitat. The creation of supporting habitat, along with other habitat modifications, would provide additional quality feeding and nesting habitat and shelter for resident and migratory wildlife. Also, the improvements are designed to encourage

passive outdoor recreation by facilities that will promote the use of nature trails, boardwalks, observation platforms, and recreational fishing.

Alternative One (see Map 6) recommends the construction of; 1,000 feet of nature trails; 1,000 feet of boardwalks; the construction of one observation platform; the construction of a 1.5-acre fishing pond; weed cutting and removal on the existing pond; the acquisition of approximately 2.2 acres of adjacent wetland; and enhancement of the existing prairie.

Alternative Two (see Map 7) includes the actions recommended in alternative one but changes the location of the fishing pond and includes acquisition of 3.5 acres of agricultural lands for the fishing pond and dense nesting cover.

Alternative Three (see Map 8) also recommends the same actions proposed as alternative one and two. However, acquisition of an additional 1.5 acres of agricultural land, 2.0 acres of wetland, an additional 150 feet of trail, and relocation and enlargement of the fishing pond to two acres are recommended. The additional acreage proposed to be acquired would be restored to dense nesting cover. It also would act as a buffer area, thereby protecting the wetland areas and fishing pond from additional agricultural runoff.

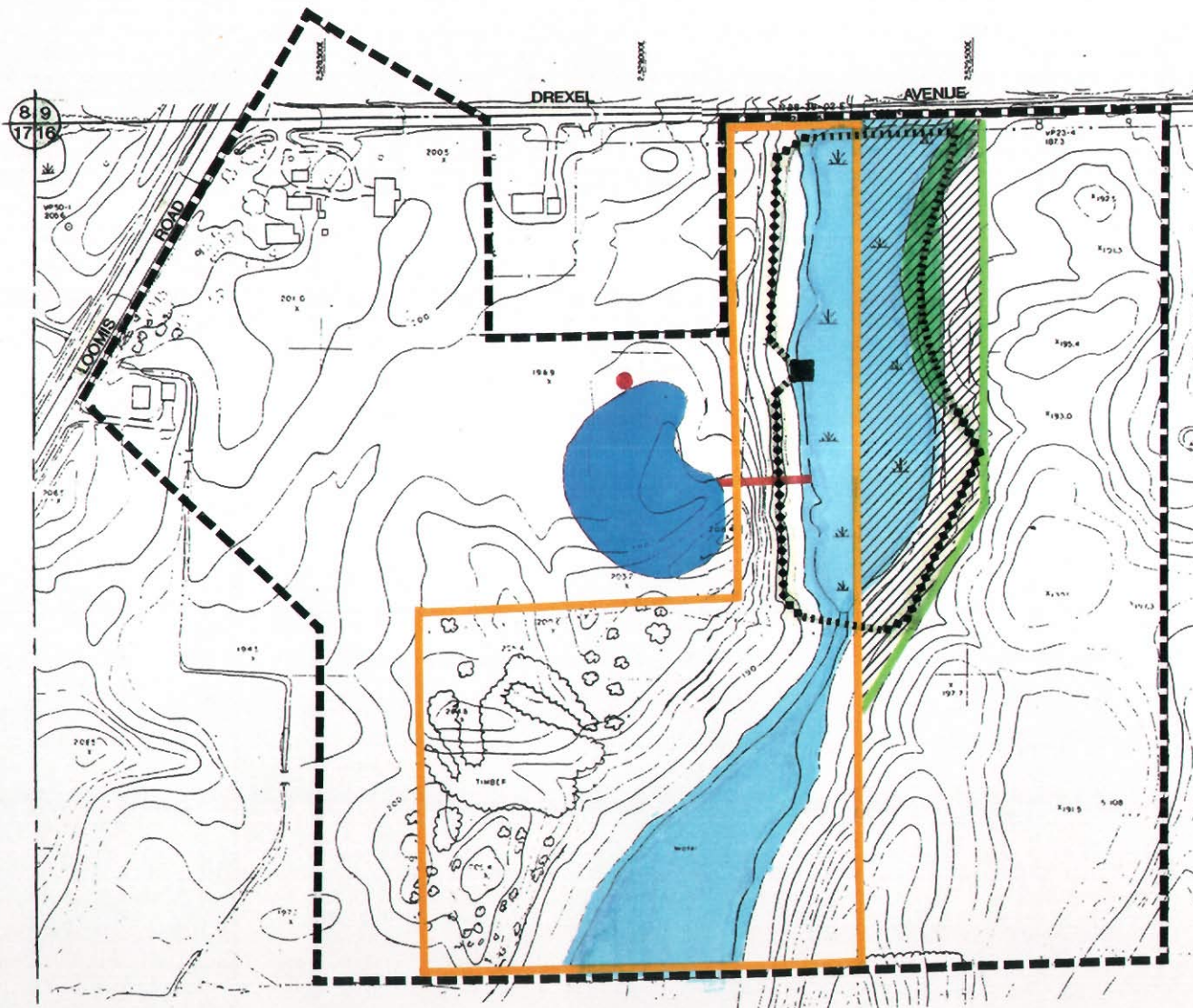
Alternative Four (see Map 9) is similar to Alternative One; however, the proposed fishing pond is located in an instream wetland area.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT MODIFICATION

An evaluation of existing wildlife habitat at the Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area was conducted by the Commission staff to determine the types and amounts of modifications that should be considered to maximize the potential of the preserve for resident and migratory wildlife. Based on that evaluation, the Commission staff recommends that the following modifications to the existing wildlife habitat be implemented.

Wildlife and Fishing Ponds

The enhancement of the existing wildlife ponds through weed control and management of macrophytes will diversify existing habitat and, in turn, provide



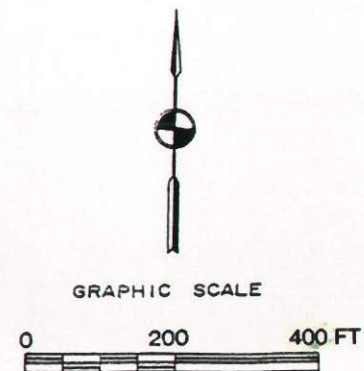
MAP 6 ALTERNATIVE 1 WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

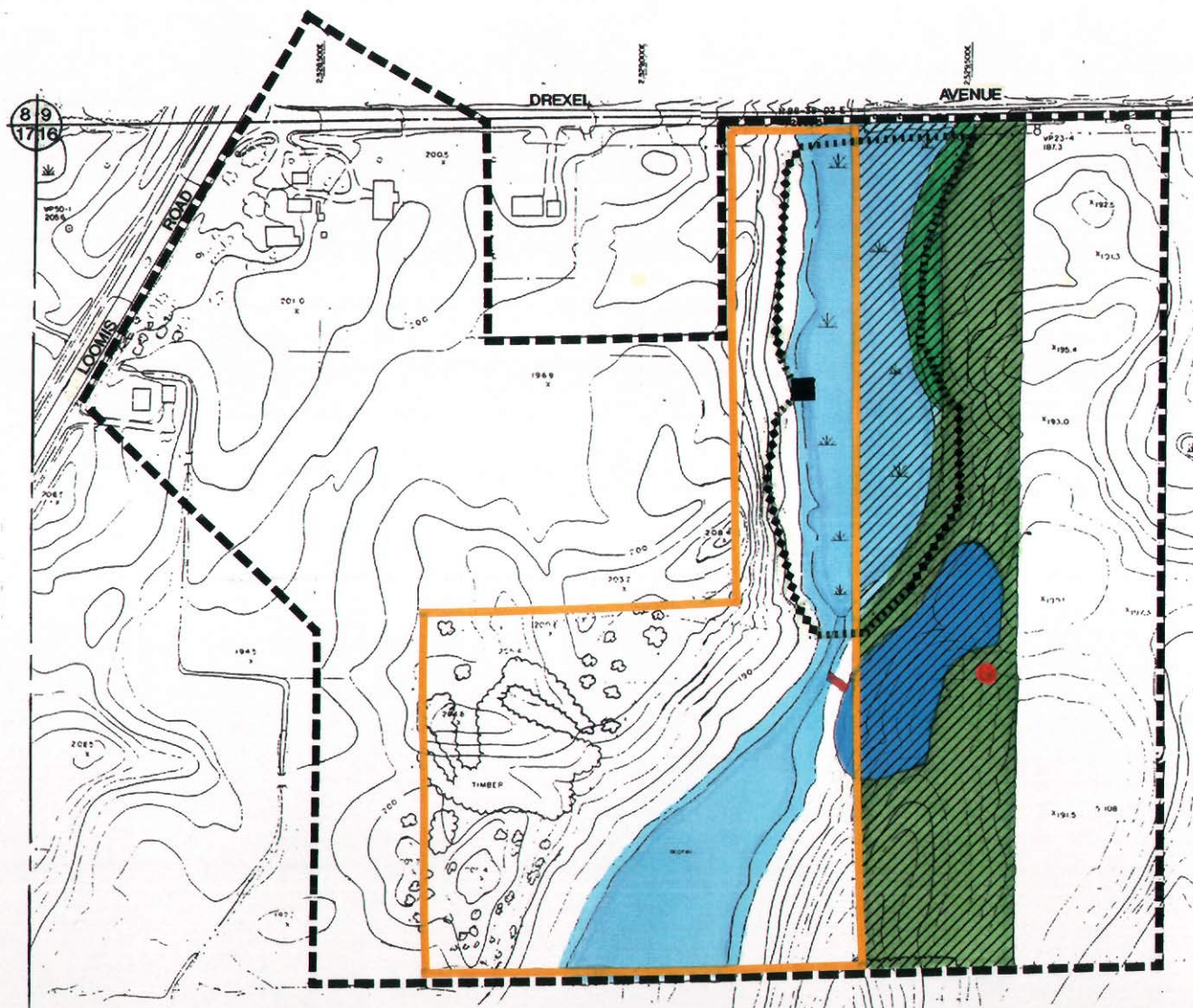
- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- WILDLIFE AREA BOUNDARY
- ▨ PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION
- BUFFER ZONE STRIP
- EXISTING PRAIRIE AREA
- EXISTING POND AND WETLAND
- PROPOSED FISHING POND
- OBSERVATION PLATFORM
- PROPOSED WELL AND PUMP
- POND OVERFLOW PIPE
- PROPOSED TRAIL
- PROPOSED BOARDWALK

Source: SEWRPC

TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST



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TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST

MAP 7 ALTERNATIVE 2 WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PLAN

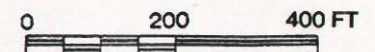
LEGEND

- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- WILDLIFE AREA BOUNDARY
- ▨ PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION
- PROPOSED DENSE NESTING COVER
- EXISTING PRAIRIE AREA
- EXISTING POND AND WETLAND
- PROPOSED FISHING POND
- OBSERVATION PLATFORM
- PROPOSED WELL AND PUMP
- POND OVERFLOW PIPE
- PROPOSED TRAIL
- PROPOSED BOARDWALK

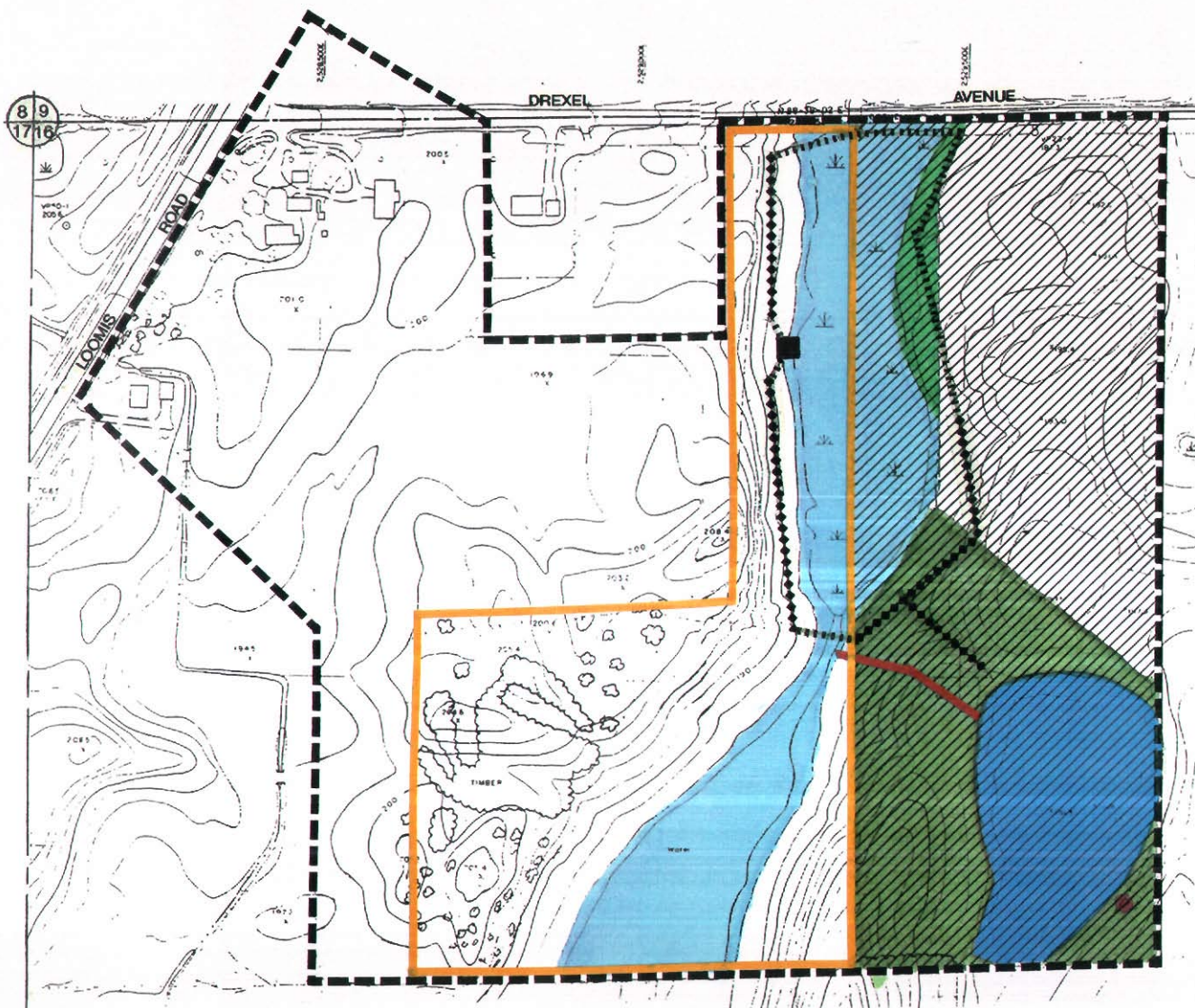
Source: SEWRPC



GRAPHIC SCALE



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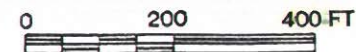
MAP 8 ALTERNATIVE 3 WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PLAN

LEGEND

- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- WILDLIFE AREA BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION
- PROPOSED DENSE NESTING COVER
- EXISTING PRAIRIE AREA
- EXISTING POND AND WETLAND
- PROPOSED FISHING POND
- OBSERVATION PLATFORM
- PROPOSED WELL AND PUMP
- POND OVERFLOW PIPE
- PROPOSED TRAIL
- PROPOSED BOARDWALK

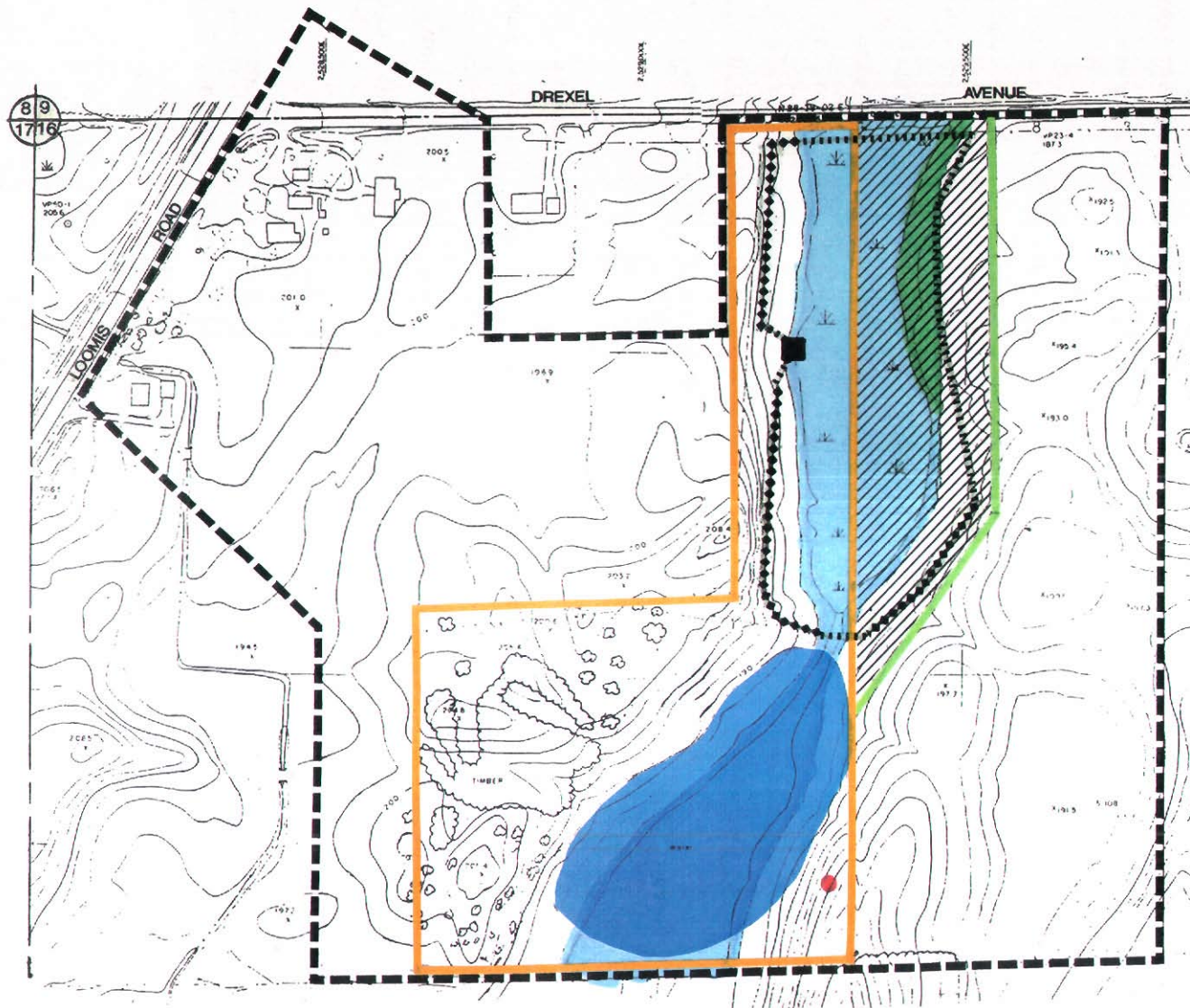
Source: SEWRPC

GRAPHIC SCALE



TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST

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MAP 9 ALTERNATIVE 4 WILDLIFE HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PLAN

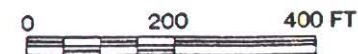
LEGEND

- STUDY AREA BOUNDARY
- WILDLIFE AREA BOUNDARY
- ▨ PROPOSED LAND ACQUISITION
- BUFFER ZONE STRIP
- EXISTING PRAIRIE AREA
- EXISTING POND AND WETLAND
- PROPOSED FISHING POND
- OBSERVATION PLATFORM
- PROPOSED WELL AND PUMP
- POND OVERFLOW PIPE
- ... PROPOSED TRAIL
- - - - - PROPOSED BOARDWALK

Source: SEWRPC

TOWN OF FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP 5 NORTH, RANGE 21 EAST

GRAPHIC SCALE



important components of breeding and feeding habitats for local wildlife species such as mink, muskrat, waterfowl, shorebirds, and various species of reptiles and amphibians. In addition, areas of open water will provide important feeding and resting habitat for migratory birds such as Mallard duck and Blue winged teal. Further, the existing wildlife ponds also serve as sediment catch basins for rain and snowmelt runoff from surrounding agricultural and residential lands, and thus help to maintain local water quality.

Wildlife ponds should have a surface area of approximately one acre, should not exceed five feet in depth, and should be constructed with intentionally gradual, minimum one-on-eight side slopes, as shown in Figure 1. An irregular pond configuration will increase the amount of edge between the water-wetland interface and thereby enhance the value of the pond as wildlife habitat.

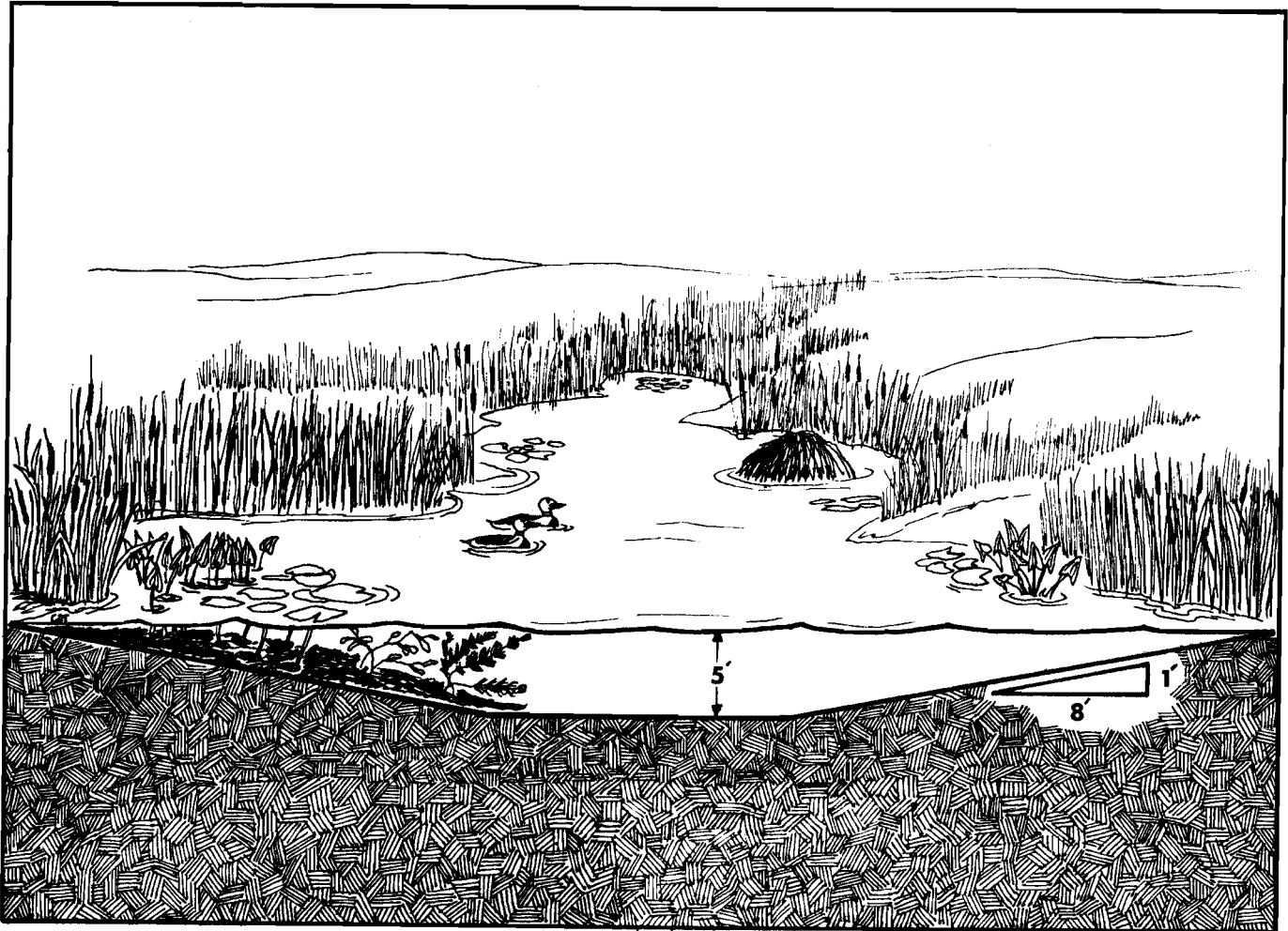
Because of mid-summer low-flow dissolved oxygen concentrations, as well as silt and sediment loadings from upstream construction sites, the existing ponds are unsuitable for the maintenance of sport, game, and pan fish species. Therefore, a separate fish pond is necessary if recreational fishing is to be provided in the park. Such fishing ponds should have a surface area of at least one acre, and 50 percent or more of the pond should have depths of 10 to 15 feet or deeper, and should be constructed with 3 on 1 or 4 on 1 side slopes (see Figure 2). A drainage area for pond overflow must be protected against erosion and allow for peak overflow. In addition, a water level control structure may be desired to allow for periodic drawdown.

To insure water quality and aesthetic appearance, well water may be used in situations where surface water levels are too low or water flows are insufficient to provide adequate water quality and quantity. Under State Statutes, the location of well sites must remain outside the floodplain. Further, well casings, caps, and pumps must be designed to State standards as set forth in NR 112 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

Because of the low dissolved oxygen concentrations, and the silt and sediment loading problems cited above, as well as the likelihood that necessary State approvals for locating a fishing pond in the existing stream channel would

Figure 1

WILDLIFE POND DIAGRAM



Source: SEWRPC.

probably not be forthcoming. Alternative Four was eliminated from further consideration, except for comparison purposes.

Bird Nest Boxes

Many species of birds use abandoned tree cavities for nest sites. These birds are collectively known as secondary cavity nesters because they breed in abandoned cavities that had been excavated and occupied by primary cavity nesters, such as woodpeckers, or created by some other natural phenomenon. Natural tree cavities can act as a limiting factor controlling the abundance of secondary cavity nesting species in an area. Areas that contain suitable foraging habitat but lack appropriate nesting sites are often bereft of cavity nesting species. The placement of artificially constructed nest boxes can help to ameliorate this situation by providing potential nesting sites for species such as eastern bluebirds and tree swallows.

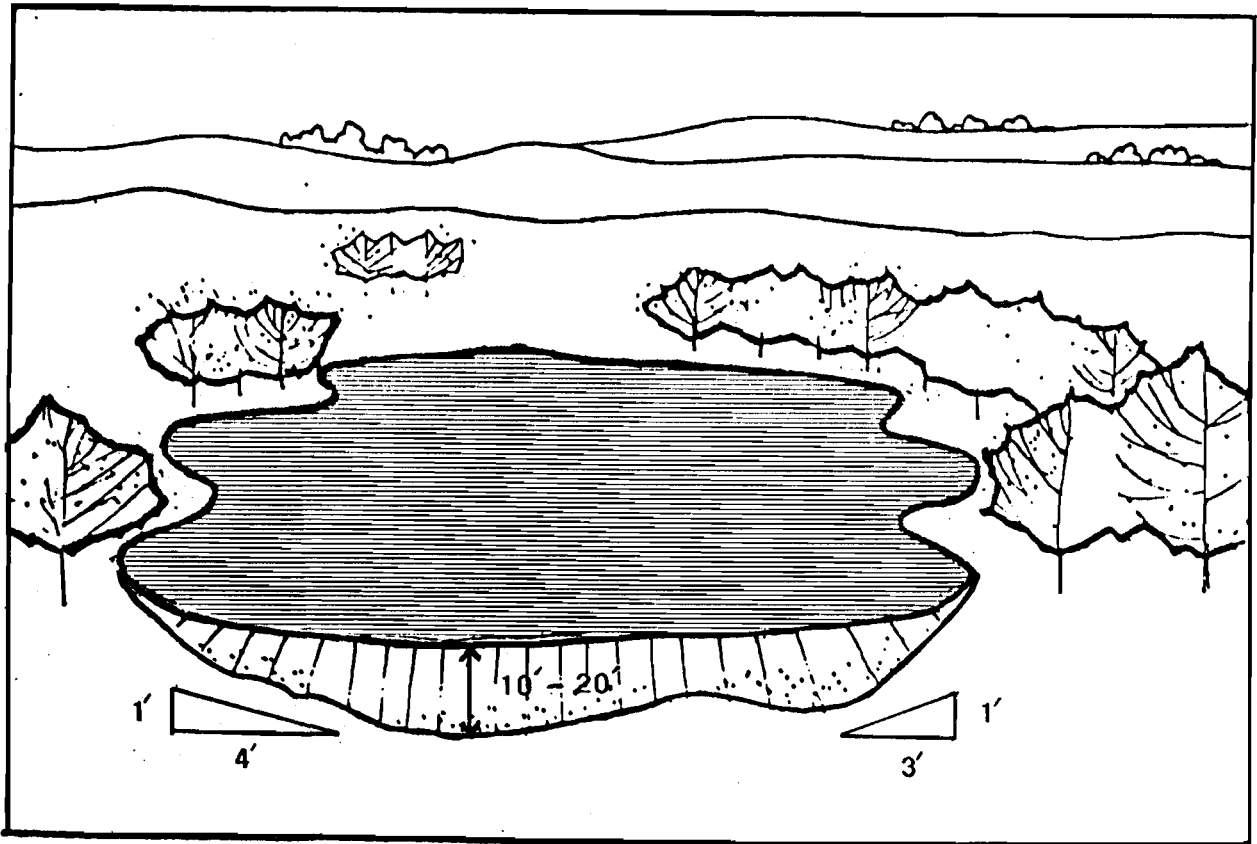
It is recommended that a system of nest boxes be established at the Franklin Lions Legend Park and Wildlife Area to enhance breeding habitat for cavity nesting species. Suggestions for design, construction, and placement of nest boxes have been taken from the University of Wisconsin-Extension publication G2091-Shelves, Houses and Feeders for Birds and Squirrels, and the Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin (1990) are provided in Appendix A of this report.

Prairie Restoration and Dense Nesting Cover

Prairies once covered extensive portions of southeastern Wisconsin. Since presettlement times, native prairies have been reduced to small remnants scattered throughout the Region. Reestablishment of native grass land habitat types on fallow fields and in areas currently used for the production of row crops will return portions of the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area to presettlement-like vegetation conditions. Mammal and bird species such as short-tailed shrew, meadow lark, kestrel, and northern harrier should benefit from the cover and quality nesting habitat that these plantings and restoration efforts will provide. In addition, these vegetative cover types will add aesthetic amenities to the area while contributing to soil stability, thereby reducing erosive potential.

Figure 2

FISHING POND DIAGRAM



Source: Soil Conservation Service and SEWRPC.

Prairie establishment on former agricultural lands and upland areas should follow a prescribed series of steps. Prairie establishment may occur as prairie species seeded on "source strips" gradually establish themselves on "invasion strips." This alternating pattern of plowed source strips and unplowed invasion strips should be established on all plots designated for prairie restoration.

Plowing should occur in late fall prior to the spring planting on 12-foot-wide source strips and to a depth of five inches. The source strips should be left in a plowed condition over winter. A 45-foot-wide unplowed invasion area should separate source strips. Establishment of an oats or annual ryegrass (*Lolium* sp.) cover crop on plowed source strips along with the prairie seed will reduce their erosion potential at planting time the following spring. Spring disking should occur on source strips on two occasions prior to the spring planting. Seed broadcasting should take place during the end of May to mid-June. In order to ensure an even distribution of prairie seed over source strips, the seed mix should be combined with fine moist sand in a one-to-one volumetric ratio. The seed-sand mixture can be mixed in a cement mixer, and broadcasting can be accomplished with cyclone principle fertilizer spreaders. Cultipacking may be done on source strips after seeding to prevent seed and soil loss from erosion. Source strips should be mowed to a height of one-half foot two to three times during the first year to facilitate weed control. Invasion strips should be mowed biennially and burned biennially in alternating years to allow invasion of prairie species from source strips. Mowing and burning should occur from the middle to the end of April. After prairie species are adequately established, a biennial to triennial controlled burning program is suggested to maintain the prairie condition on specified plots. It will take approximately 10 years for prairie plots to develop into mature prairie. Prairie seed mixtures and suggested applications are listed in Table 2.

Restoration may also be accomplished for smaller areas by planting "plugs" of prairie plants. Spring or fall planting of plugs is recommended, with optimum planting periods occurring between April 25 and May 25, and between August 25 and October 7. Plugs should be planted in staggered rows at distances equal to the average foliage height of the species in question, and at depths equal to

Table 2

PRAIRIE RESTORATION AND DENSE NESTING COVER PLANTINGS

I. Recommended Prairie Seed Mixture^a	
A. Grasses	
Big Bluestem	<u>Andropogon gerardi</u>
Indian grass	<u>Sorghastrum nutans</u>
Switch grass	<u>Panicum virgatum</u>
Canadian wild rye	<u>Elymus canadensis</u>
B. Forbs	
Prairie dock	<u>Silphium terebinthinaceum</u>
Prairie coneflower	<u>Ratibida pinnata</u>
Bergamot	<u>Monarda fistulosa</u>
Common milkweed	<u>Asclepias syriaca</u>
Black-eyed Susan	<u>Rudbeckia hirta</u>
Coreopsis	<u>Coreopsis palmata</u>
New England aster	<u>Aster novae-angliae</u>
Western sunflower	<u>Helianthus occidentalis</u>
Blazing star	<u>Liatris aspera</u>
Stiff goldenrod	<u>Solidago rigida</u>
White baptisia ^b	<u>Baptisia leucantha</u>
C. Comments	
1. Volumetric Ratio of Seed Mixture: 1/2 - 2/3 grasses: 1/3 - 1/2 forbs	
2. Application Amounts: 1/4 acre at 15 pounds of seed mix/acre Remaining acreage at seven pounds mix/acre	
II. Dense Nesting Cover Mixture (nonnative species)	
A. Grasses	
Timothy grass	<u>Phleum pratense</u>
Orchard grass	<u>Dactylis glomerata</u>
Barnyard grass	<u>Echinochloa crusgalli</u>
Oats	<u>Avena sativa</u>
B. Forbs	
Red clover	<u>Trifolium pratense</u>
C. Comments	
Each of the grass and clover species should be planted at three pounds of seed per acre. Oats should be applied at one and one-half bushels per acre.	

^aAll seed should be obtained from local genotypic seed sources.

^bSeed of White baptisia (Baptisia leucantha) should be scarified before planting.

one and one-half times the diameter of the plug. Plugs should be watered once weekly for three to four weeks after planting. A companion crop of annual ryegrass should be planted on associated disturbed areas. The maintenance regime is the same as that recommended for the invasion strip/source strip prairie restoration technique.

Areas designated to be planted to dense nesting cover should be plowed and then disced. Seed broadcasting should occur over the entire site. Mowing should occur twice during the first year to suppress weeds and encourage the establishment of desirable grasses and forbs. Maintenance practices should be limited to annual mowing well after the nesting season. Seed mixture and application strategies are also listed in Table 2.

Public Access Recommendations

An evaluation of the public facilities presently available at the Franklin Lions Legend Park and Wildlife Area was conducted by the Commission staff to determine the types and number of modifications that should be considered to facilitate public access to and use of the area by residents. All recommendations are intended to enhance existing opportunities for passive outdoor recreation while providing protection of the existing natural resource base. Accordingly, the Commission staff recommends that the following modifications be implemented.

Hiking Trails and Observation Platforms

A network of hiking trails and observation platforms is intended to encourage passive outdoor recreation use of the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area by providing opportunities for close contact with wildlife and other natural resource amenities at the wildlife area. Hiking trails will serve a dual function by guiding the public to unique or interesting natural resource amenities within the wildlife area while limiting access to other areas considered to be fragile or susceptible to disturbance, and thus ensuring their protection.

The trail network should consist of cleared and maintained wood chip, limestone, and/or mowed trails in suitable upland areas connected by elevated boardwalks in low-lying wetland areas. Boardwalks will permit hiking and

nature study at the wildlife area during periods of high water levels and will facilitate travel through habitat that, under normal circumstances, is difficult to traverse. One wildlife observation platform would be included as part of the boardwalk trail system and would provide opportunities for close observation of wildlife throughout the year. A typical observation platform design is illustrated in Figure 3. Trail and boardwalk locations are shown on Maps 6, 7, 8, and 9.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The alternative improvement proposals represent attempts to provide various levels of wildlife habitat enhancement and opportunities for recreational fishing and passive outdoor recreational activities at the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area. Basic differences between the alternatives are related to the recreational fishing pond location. While variations of the four alternative proposals are possible, they are believed to represent the basic choices practically available to the City of Franklin for the provision of an area with enhanced wildlife habitat amenities and facilities for recreational fishing and passive outdoor recreational use.

Selection of a final plan from among the alternatives should be based upon analysis of which proposal best meets the wildlife habitat enhancement and recreational fishing and passive outdoor recreational use objectives presented in this report. In this regard, the Commission staff recommends that the City of Franklin adopt Alternative One.

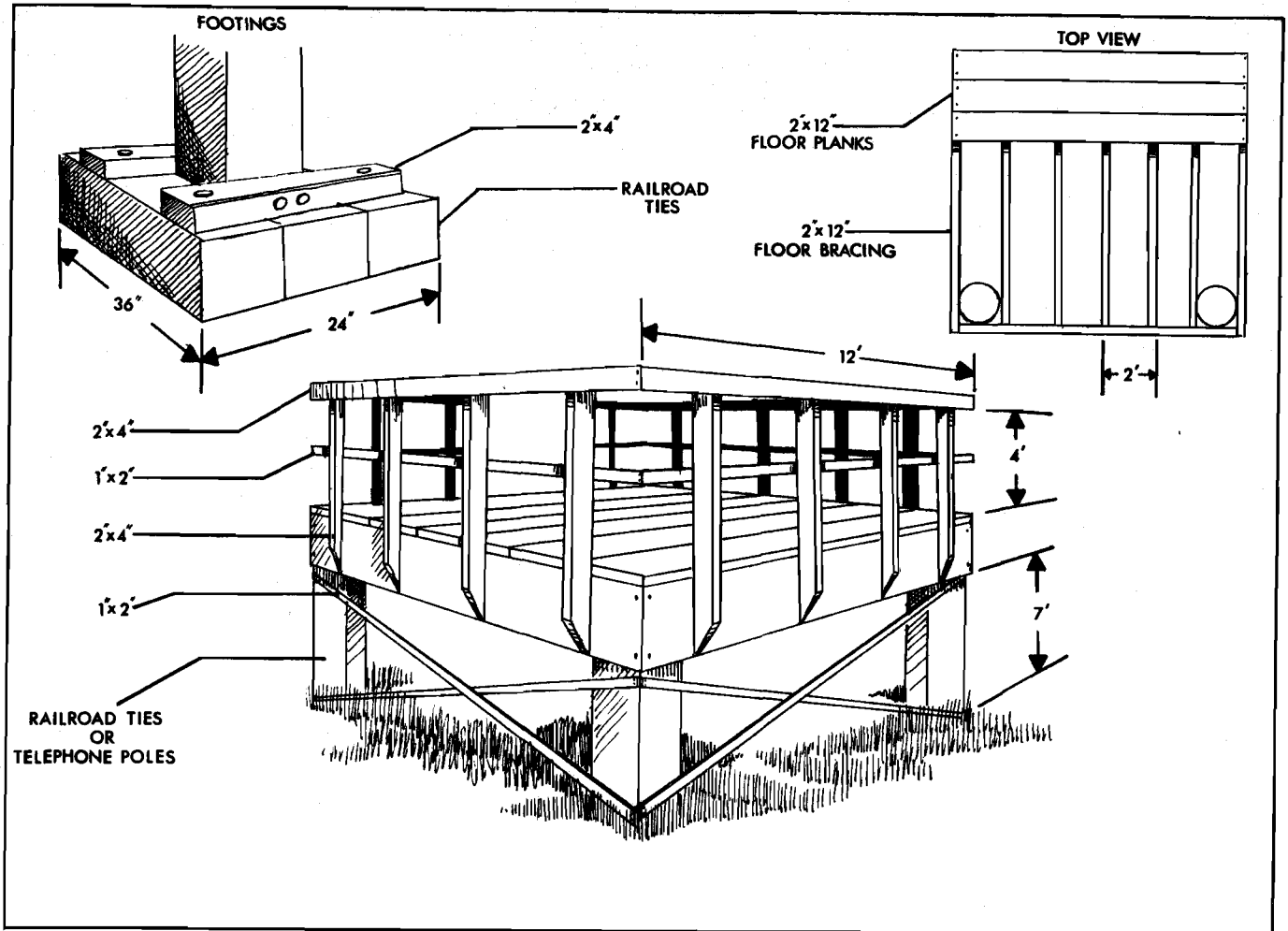
The City of Franklin has the legal authority and the financial capability to implement all of the various elements of a recommended plan for the Franklin Lions Legend Park and Wildlife Area. Accordingly, the Franklin Common Council, and the Franklin Lions Club will be the primary bodies with which the responsibilities for the successful implementation of the recommended plan for the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area would rest.

Land Acquisition

All of the four alternative plans recommend some land acquisition. Such acquisition is intended to serve two purposes. First, it is intended to facilitate

Figure 3

OBSERVATION PLATFORM DESIGN



Source: Sarett Nature Center and SEWRPC.

good management practices at the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area by providing continuous tracts of land on which to implement habitat management or restoration techniques. Second, it is intended to provide protection for important wildlife habitat areas such as wetlands, enhancing the value of the wildlife area as a wildlife habitat management area.

It is important to note that, while the usual manner of acquisition is the purchase of fee simple interest, there are alternative methods of acquiring less than fee simple interests in the land. Acquisition may involve one or more of the following methods: purchase or dedication in fee simple, purchase or dedication of easements, and purchase or dedication of development rights.

Purchase:

1. Purchase of Fee Simple Interest: Purchase of fee simple interest is perhaps the surest way to preserve open space lands. It is what most people normally conceive of when the word "purchase" is used and includes the acquisition of the highest type of estate in land, the complete private bundle of rights which is immune from the control of other persons and is unlimited in duration, disposition, and descendibility.
2. Purchase and Lease Back: Under this method, the City would purchase the fee simple interest in the parcel and then lease use of the parcel back to either the seller or some other party. The lease-back arrangements would provide an income to the City, yet the City would maintain control of the land with respect to subsequent use. The lease could contain conditions for future open space uses which could be enforced.
3. Acquisition Subject to Life Estate: Under this method, the City would acquire the land but allow the present owner to retain use of the land for the duration of his/her lifetime. Upon the owner's death, the City would take possession of the land. The advantage of this method is that the parcel can be acquired for a reasonable purchase price, while at the same time ensuring future public access to the property.

Easements

1. Conservancy Easements: Under this method, the City would buy the rights of public access to private land in order to provide for a public purpose, such as nature study, or for open space preservation purposes. Such easements may also prohibit the current landowner from removing vegetation or filling in wetland areas.
2. Scenic Easements: The City can purchase scenic easements to maintain control of scenic areas and vistas. The easements could include provisions which restrict the landowner's right to build structures, dump trash, or cut timber or brush, or otherwise impair or modify scenic areas.

Other Forms of Acquisition:

1. Acquisition of Development Rights: Under this method, the City would purchase only the right to develop the land. The ownership of the land remains with the original landowner and, therefore, remains on the tax roll. Stipulations can be made which assure that virtually no change in the existing use of the land could occur. Acquisition of such development rights may run for a given number of years or in perpetuity.
2. Gifts or Donations: The City may acquire interest in land through gifts or donations. In many instances, such gifts or donations are made because of the tax advantages which accrue to the owner.
3. Dedication: The City may also acquire the land pursuant to the City's land dedication requirements as land subdivision takes place in the area.

Zoning

Lands presently contained within the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area are zoned general farming and residential, and general farming and holding. It is recommended that the City of Franklin rezone the wildlife area lands to C-1 resource conservancy, which would serve to protect and preserve the character of the existing natural resource base, permit the provision of compatible

outdoor recreational facilities, and prohibit urban and other incompatible uses.

Shoreland Regulation: Section 61.351 of the Wisconsin Statutes requires each city in the State to enact ordinances to regulate shoreland-wetland areas within the corporate boundaries of the municipality. The regulations apply to areas of land within 1,000 feet of a lake, pond, or flowage, and 300 feet of a river or stream or to the landward side of the floodplain, whichever distance is greater. The standards and criteria for the ordinances are set forth in Chapter NR 117 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. Cities are required to keep their regulations current and effective in order to remain in compliance with the Statutes and the minimum standards established by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. In the event that a city fails to meet the established standards, the Department will adopt and administer the required zoning ordinance.

In accordance with NR 117, all cities in the State must place wetlands five acres or larger in size and located within the statutory shoreland zoning jurisdiction area in a shoreland-wetland zoning district to ensure their preservation. Wetlands that lie within 300 feet of a navigable stream and/or to the landward side of the floodplain, whichever distance is greater, are subject to NR 117 zoning regulations. Thus, Chapter NR 117 applies to the wetlands adjacent to the unnamed tributary of the Root River flowing through the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area.

Plan Costs

Implementation of the recommendations directed at the City of Franklin under the recommended Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area plan presented herein would require a total capital expenditure of \$84,700 for Alternative 1, \$100,960 for Alternative 2, \$114,850 for Alternative 3, and \$84,700 for Alternative 4. Table 3 provides more detailed cost analyses for various elements contained in all four alternative plans. It should be noted that, to the extent that acquisition and development proposals become eligible for state or federal aid, costs to the City may be reduced.

Park and Outdoor Recreation Aids: Local units of government, including cities, are eligible to apply for and receive state and federal aid for the acquisition and development of park and open space lands and facilities. The most important aids program for outdoor recreation site acquisition and development is the Land and Water Conservation (LAWCON) fund, created by the federal Land and Water Conservation Act in 1965. Requirements for aids under this program, which cover up to 50 percent of the total acquisition or development costs, include the following: the project must be in accord with a comprehensive park plan adopted by the local government body and approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources; the local unit or agency must have adopted a resolution which constitutes a formal request for the outdoor recreation aids grants; and the local unit must allocate local funds for the project and maintain the area or facility upon acquisition. Acquisition and Development of Local Park (ADLP) funds are also available from the State at a 50/50 cost share basis.

Table 3

FRANKLIN LIONS LEGEND PARK WILDLIFE AREA
COST ANALYSIS

Item	Unit Cost 1989 Dollars	Alternative 1		Alternative 2		Alternative 3		Alternative 4 ^a	
		Number/Size	Cost	Number/Size	Cost	Number/Size	Cost	Number/Size	Cost
Pond (excavated)	\$35,000/pond	1.5 acres	\$ 35,000	1.5 acres	\$ 35,000	2.0 acres	\$ 40,000	1.5 acres	\$ 35,000
Grading/Berm	5,000/pond	--	5,000	--	5,000	--	5,000	--	5,000
Soil Boring	--	--	500	--	500	--	500	--	500
Nesting Cover									
Planting	30/acre	--	--	2 acres	60	5 acres	150	--	--
Prairie Restoration .	Volunteer	--	Volunteer	--	Volunteer	--	Volunteer	--	Volunteer
Well and Pump	--	300-foot depth	8,000	300-foot depth	8,000	300-foot depth	8,000	300-foot depth	8,000
Trails	2/foot	1,000 feet	2,000	1,000 feet	2,000	1,150 feet	2,300	1,000 feet	2,000
Board Walks									
Single Width	13/foot	1,000 feet	(13,000)	1,000 feet	(13,000)	1,000 feet	(13,000)	1,000 feet	(13,000)
Double Width	25/foot	1,000 feet	25,000	1,000 feet	25,000	1,000 feet	25,000	1,000 feet	25,000
Observation Platform.	400/platform	One	400	One	400	One	400	One	400
Weed Harvesting	1,500/pond	--	1,500	--	1,500	--	1,500	--	1,500
Purchase Cost for									
Weed Harvester	25,000	Optional	(25,000)	Optional	(25,000)	Optional	(25,000)	Optional	(25,000)
Land Acquisition									
Agricultural Lands.	5,000/acre	10' buffer strip	1,300	3.5 acres	17,500	5.0 acres	25,000	10' buffer strip	1,300
Wetlands	500/acre	2.0 acres	1,000	2.0 acres	1,000	4.0 acres	2,000	2.0 acres	1,000
Engineering and Contingencies	--	--	5,000	--	5,000	--	5,000	--	5,000
Estimated Total Maximum Cost	--	--	\$ 84,700 ^b	--	\$100,960 ^c	--	\$114,850 ^d	--	\$ 84,700 ^b

^aBecause of mid-summer low flow dissolved oxygen concentrations, as well as silt and sediment loadings from upstream construction sites, the existing ponds are unsuitable for the maintenance of sport, game, and pan fish species. Therefore, a separate fish pond is necessary if recreational fishing is to be provided in the park.

^bWith harvester purchase, total cost increases to \$108,200; total cost with single width boardwalk \$72,700; total cost with single width boardwalk and harvester purchase \$96,200.

^cWith harvester purchase, total cost increases to \$124,460; total cost with single width boardwalk \$88,960; total cost with single width boardwalk and harvester purchase \$112,460.

^dWith harvester purchase, total cost increases to \$138,350; total cost with single width boardwalk \$102,850; total cost with single width boardwalk and harvester purchase \$126,350.

Source: SEWRPC

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Chapter IV

SUMMARY AND CONCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS

The management plan for the Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area, as herein documented, was prepared in response to a request received by the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission from the Franklin Lions Club and the City of Franklin on April 25, 1989. The plan is intended to provide proper planning and management for wildlife habitat enhancement and for the provision of opportunities for recreational fishing, passive outdoor recreation, and educational use.

The study area, including the Franklin Lions Legend Park, adjacent City-owned lands, and adjacent farmlands, has a total area of 40 acres and is shown on Map 1. In 1985, wetlands within the study area covered about 7.3 acres, or about 18 percent of the study area, as shown on Map 2.

About four acres, or about 10 percent of the study area, are covered by soils with high water tables and poor drainage. Another approximately 15 acres, or about 38 percent of the study area are covered by soils with a seasonally high water table. The remaining approximately 21 acres, or about 52 percent of the study area, are covered by soils with a potential for a seasonally high water table, as shown on Map 3.

Environmental corridors in the study area are shown on Map 4. Approximately 12 acres, or about 30 percent of the study area, are encompassed within a secondary environmental corridor as delineated by the Commission.

Wildlife habitat in the study area covers about 10.5 acres, or about 26 percent of the total study area. About nine acres, or about 23 percent of the total study area are considered to be in Class II wildlife habitat; and about 1.5 acres, or about 4 percent, are considered to be in Class III wildlife habitat.

As already noted, the fundamental objective of the Franklin Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area Plan is the enhancement and management of the area for wildlife habitat and recreational use. To achieve this objective, it is recommended that the City of Franklin act to:

1. Establish and enhance the wildlife habitat in the study area, including the provision of prairie and dense nesting cover, wetland buffer strips, aquatic weed harvesting, and avian nesting boxes, all as proposed in Map 6.
2. Provide public recreation facilities including a stocked fishing pond and a trail system which includes a boardwalk, wildlife observation platform, and viewing facilities for the handicapped, as proposed in Alternative One set forth in Map 6.
3. Acquire approximately 2.2 acres of land adjacent to Franklin Lions Legend Park wildlife area for wildlife management and recreation purposes as proposed in Map 6.

As summarized in Table 3, implementation of the management plan would require a public expenditure of about \$84,700 for implementation of Alternative One and Four; an additional \$16,260 for Alternative Two; and an additional \$13,890 for Alternative Three. Alternative One is recommended to be initially implemented at a total cost of \$84,700. To the extent that State or federal aids are available, the actual cost to the City may be reduced. In addition, to the extent that volunteer help is available for activities such as trail clearing and prairie enhancement, cost for specific items may also be reduced. It is envisioned that the recommended actions would serve to enhance, protect, and properly manage the Franklin Lions Legend Park wildlife area and, by doing so, would serve to maintain and enhance environmental quality in the area, protect the natural beauty of the area, and provide invaluable recreational and educational opportunities for the citizens of the City of Franklin.

APPENDICES

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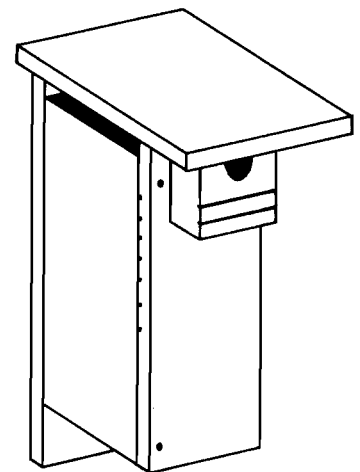
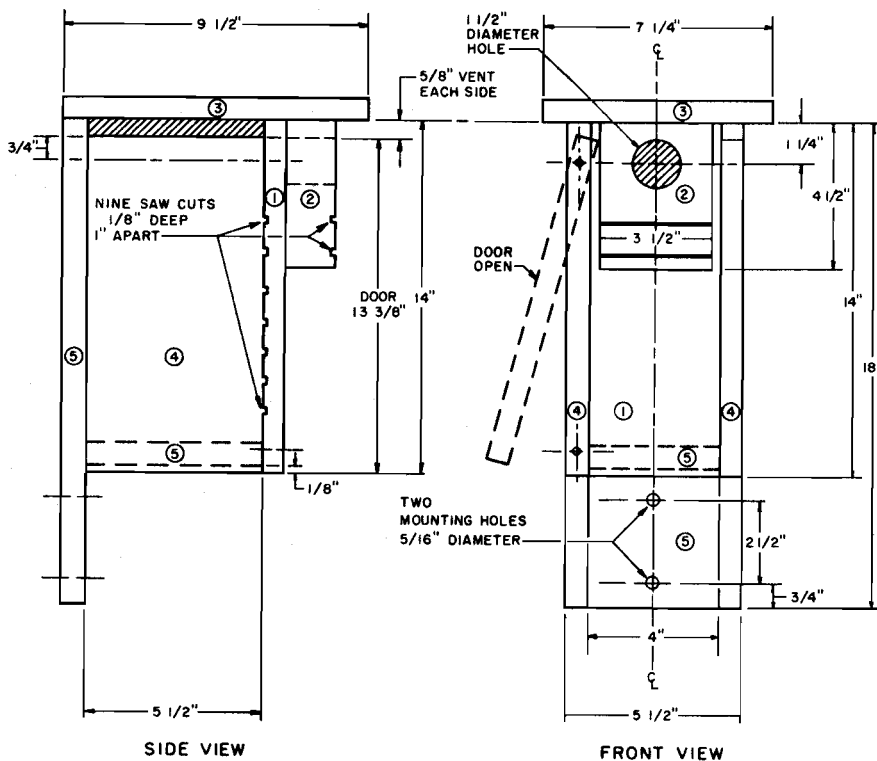
Appendix A

NEST BOX CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

All nest boxes should be constructed of wood. Number 2 or 3 grades of pine or spruce are the most economical overall, and are generally considered easy to work with and durable. The wood should not be treated with creosote, pentachlorophenol, or greenish waterborne salts, since these preservatives may be injurious to wildlife. It is not necessary to finish the interior or exterior of the nest boxes. Unfinished structures made of pine or spruce typically turn gray and last for years. Assembly with rust-resistant nails or screws can be augmented by the use of waterproof glue, preferably liquid resorcinol with catalyst.

Appendix A-1

WREN, BLUEBIRD, OR TREE SWALLOW NEST BOX



TYPE: HILL LAKE

To attract house wrens, place the box near, or actually in, the cover of a bush or small tree. Wrens seek the shade and protection of thick bushes where mated pairs find nesting materials and food for themselves and their young. The box may be placed three to ten feet from the ground. Studies conducted by the University of Wisconsin recommend that the wren boxes be placed at a height of about five feet. If cover is available, wrens will nest as high as 15 feet from the ground.

Bluebirds and tree swallows are more exacting. Bluebird nest boxes should be located in shrubby fencerows or in semi-open areas at least five acres in size, where undergrowth is not thick and shade is not too heavy. Areas of heavy pesticide use or high English sparrow populations should be avoided. Where raccoons are frequent, predator guards should be placed on fenceposts or trees, or nest boxes may be placed on single steel posts located ten feet from fencerows or woody cover. Typically, nest boxes should be placed five to six feet above the ground. If vandalism is a problem, nest boxes should be placed eight to ten feet high.

The tree swallow feeds on the wing and seeks open agricultural fields and meadows or treeless and shrubless wild areas as its nesting place. A nest box for the tree swallow should be placed in the open on a fencepost or special box support. A broad sweep of open country in front of the box opening is the best inducement for the tree swallow to accept the box. This swallow is not particular about the height of its nest cavity, provided the above requirements are met. It is recommended that tree swallow boxes be placed five to six feet above the ground.

Nest box spacing depends on the arrangement of the food and cover and the degree of isolation this arrangement affords. In farmyards or in rural areas, a tree swallow box should be at least 30 feet away from any other box. Boxes 150 feet apart are recommended for bluebirds. Nest boxes for both species should face away from the prevailing wind.

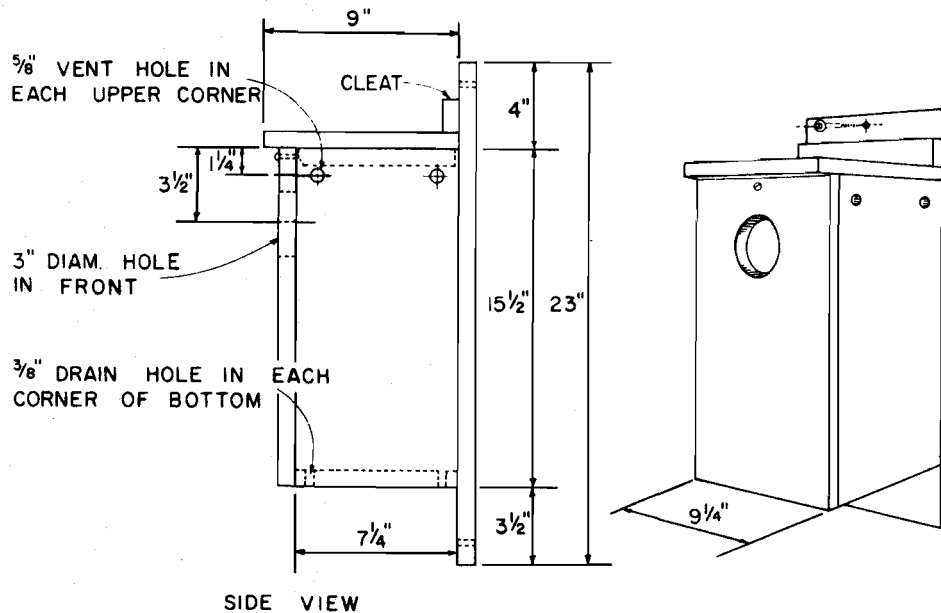
Nest boxes should be in place by March 15, prior to the birds' arrival from the south. Occasionally, unwanted birds such as the English sparrows or European starlings take over boxes. You can discourage them by repeatedly removing their nests. A periodic check will tell you if you have desirable tenants to encourage, or undesirable ones to evict. Always clean out the nest boxes as soon as the young have fledged, as this will encourage both species to renest.

It may take several boxes placed in the most likely sites to attract one pair of birds.

Source: University of Wisconsin-Extension and Bluebird Restoration Association of Wisconsin, Inc.

Appendix A-2

KESTREL OR SCREECH OWL NEST BOX



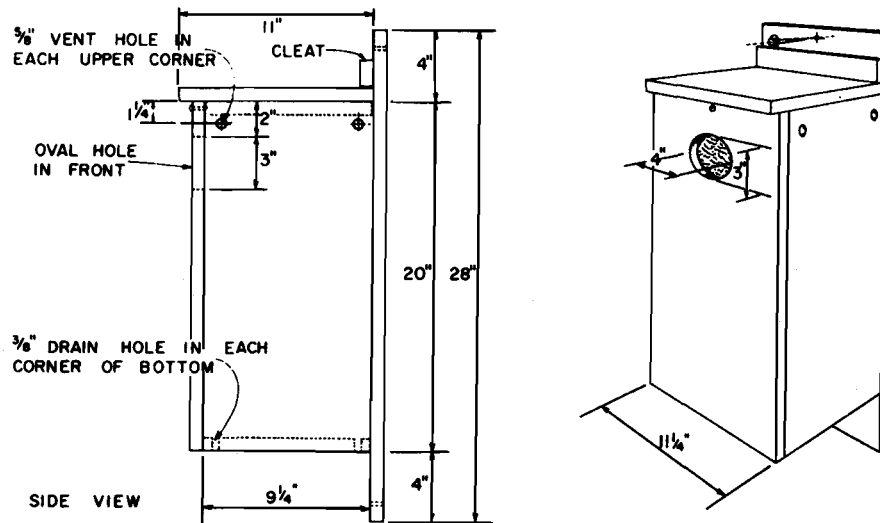
Sparrow hawks are birds of open fields and meadows. Therefore, locate houses on isolated living or dead trees, or possibly on poles. Houses should be at least 12 to 15 feet above the ground, with no obstructions in front of the hole. Place an inch or two of coarse sawdust in the house before putting it up.

Unlike sparrow hawks, screech owls are primarily woodland birds. Therefore, locate houses in wooded areas. Attach them to trees 15 feet or more above the ground. The owls use the houses for shelter during all seasons of the year, as well as for nesting sites during spring. During the winter, the owls often sun themselves at the entrance hole, so a small cleat should be nailed to the inside of the box five inches below the hole. Face the house in a direction where it will get the winter sun. Place several inches of sawdust or dry leaves in the house to make it more attractive to the birds.

Source: University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Appendix A-3

WOOD DUCK NEST BOX



Erect a nest box in marshes by attaching it to a sturdy pole set four or more feet above the high-water level. Nest boxes may also be placed in trees up to one-quarter mile from a suitable water area. When placed in a tree, the house should be no more than 30 feet above ground level. Care should be taken to ensure that the box is plainly visible and that the entrance hole is not obstructed by leaves and branches. The box should be in a vertical position, but if it slants, it must slant forward. A backward slant prevents the young from climbing the sides and leaving the nest box after hatching. Three or four inches of coarse sawdust or shavings should be placed in the house when it is erected.

Wood duck nests are subject to predation by raccoons and tree-climbing snakes, so they should be protected by suitable guards, such as metal shields around the tree trunk or post, wherever these animals are apt to present a problem.

If the inside surface of the front board is smooth, attach a three-inch by one-foot strip of hardware cloth on the inside. Have it extend from the bottom of the hole down 12 inches. Saw-cuts one-eighth inch deep and one-half inch apart in the same area are suitable.

Occasionally, birds such as starlings, flickers, and screech owls will take over wood duck houses; squirrels may also occupy them. Check the houses periodically to evict undesirable tenants or erect additional houses for the ducks.

Source: University of Wisconsin-Extension.

APPENDIX B

PRELIMINARY VEGETATION SURVEY
LIONS LEGEND PARK WILDLIFE AREA

Date: June 6, 1989

Observers: Donald M. Reed, Principal Biologist
Rachel E. Lang, Assistant Biologist
Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Location: City of Franklin in the Northwest one-quarter of U.S. Public
Land Survey Section 16, Township 5 North, Range 21 East, Town
of Franklin, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.

Species List:

EQUISETACEAE

Equisetum sp. --Horsetail

TYPHACEAE

Typha latifolia--Broad-leaved cat-tail

SPARGANIACEAE

Sparganium eurycarpum--Common bur-reed

GRAMINEAE

Bromus inermis¹--Smooth brome grass

Poa pratensis--Kentucky bluegrass

Dactylis glomerata¹--Orchard grass

Spartina pectinata--Prairie cord grass

Phalaris arundinacea¹--Reed canary grass

CYPERACEAE

Scirpus validus--Soft-stemmed bulrush

Scirpus acutus--Hard-stemmed bulrush

Scirpus atrovirens--Green bulrush

Carex stipata--Sedge

Carex granularis--Sedge

Carex stricta--Tussock sedge

Carex lacustris--Lake sedge

LEMNACEAE

Lemna trisulca--Forked duckweed

LILIACEAE

Smilax ecirrhata--Low carrion flower

IRIDACEAE

Iris versicolor--Blue flag iris

Sisyrinchium angustifolium--Stout blue-eyed grass

SALICACEAE

Populus deltoides--Cottonwood
Salix nigra--Black willow
Salix interior--Sand-bar willow
Salix sp. --Willow

JUGLANDACEAE

Carya ovata--Shagbark hickory

FAGACEAE

Quercus macrocarpa--Bur oak
Quercus borealis--Northern red oak

ULMACEAE

Ulmus americana--American elm

URTICACEAE

Urtica dioica--Stinging nettle

POLYGONACEAE

Rumex crispus¹--Curly dock
Polygonum sp. --Smartweed

RANUNCULACEAE

Ranunculus abortivus--Small-flowered buttercup
Thalictrum dasycarpum--Tall meadow rue

ROSACEAE

Fragaria virginiana--Wild strawberry
Potentilla simplex--Old field cinquefoil
Rubus occidentalis--Black raspberry
Agrimonia gryposepala--Agrimony
Rosa multiflora¹--Multiflora rose
Rosa palustris--Swamp rose
Prunus serotina--Black cherry
Prunus virginiana--Choke-cherry
Pyrus malus¹--Apple
Crataegus crus-galli--Cockspur hawthorn
Crataegus sp.--Hawthorn

ANACARDIACEAE

Rhus glabra--Smooth sumac

ACERACEAE

Acer negundo--Boxelder

RHAMNACEAE

Rhamnus catharticus¹--Common buckthorn
Rhamnus frangula¹--European buckthorn

VITACEAE

Vitis riparia--River-bank grape
Parthenocissus quinquefolia--Virginia creeper

VIOLACEAE

Viola (eriocarpa)--Smooth yellow violet

ELAEAGNACEAE

Elaeagnus angustifolia¹--Russian olive

ONAGRACEAE

Oenothera biennis--Evening primrose

UMBELLIFERAE

Daucus carota¹--Queen Anne's lace

Sium suave--Water parsnip

Cicuta maculata--Spotted water-hemlock

Pastinaca sativa¹--Wild parsnip

CORNACEAE

Cornus stolonifera--Red osier dogwood

Cornus racemosa--Grey dogwood

OLEACEAE

Fraxinus pennsylvanica--Green ash

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Asclepias incarnata--Marsh milkweed

Asclepias syriaca--Common milkweed

LABIATAE

Lycopus americanus--Cutleaf bugleweed

SOLANACEAE

Solanum dulcamara¹--Deadly nightshade

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

Viburnum lentago--Nannyberry

Lonicera X bella¹--Hybrid honeysuckle

COMPOSITAE

Achillea millefolium¹--Yarrow

Chrysanthemum leucanthemum¹--Ox-eye daisy

Solidago gigantea--Giant goldenrod

Solidago altissima--Tall goldenrod

Aster sagittifolius--Arrowleaf aster

Aster lucidulus--Swamp aster

Aster simplex--Marsh aster

Arctium minus¹--Common burdock

Cirsium vulgare¹--Bull thistle

Taraxacum officinale¹--Common dandelion

Tragopogon pratensis¹--Common goat's beard

Total number of plant species: 76

Number of alien, or non-native, plant species: 19 (25 percent)

¹Alien, or non-native, plant species.

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Appendix C

CORRESPONDENCE

WE SERVE

FRANKLIN LIONS CLUB of Franklin, WI 53132

SERVING HUMANITY SINCE 1957



April 25, 1989

Mayor Mark E. Miazga and Aldermen of The Common Council
City of Franklin
9229 W. Loomis Rd.
Franklin, WI 53132

Dear Mayor and Aldermen:

As a community service, the Franklin Lion's Club would like to investigate the feasibility of a wilderness area and fishing pond within the City owned lands adjacent to Lion's Legend Park. Along the Northeastern approaches we would like to see the land used as closely as possible to a natural habitat for animals and birds. Under the guidance of naturalists, native seeds and plants would be collected, natural barriers created and an observation platform constructed.

Along the Eastern and Southeastern approaches, the land could be gently sloped and somewhat excavated to create a small but safe pond. The pond would be designed to permit the stocking of fish without having winter kill. Site improvements would be made to blend the area into an expanded Lion's Legend Park. Picnic tables and barbeque pits could be randomly placed.

To move ahead with this project, we need two things from you. First, we need your approval of the concept in general. Second, we need the City to request the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to review what we have in mind and to develop several concepts which are most likely to be approved by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the United States Army Corps of Engineers. Then, before any work is started we would take the selected concept and develop a project plan for your review and approval.

By proceeding in this manner each of us will be assured that the selected concept is sound and workable. It will make it easier for you to monitor the project. It will enable us to gain ongoing access to the advice of SEWRPC's naturalists and other experts and perhaps their help in securing any necessary clearances and permits. This kind of approach should also facilitate the identification and procurement of any federal funds which might be available under federal Public Involvement Program for projects of this kind. Please let us know if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do to move to expedite matters.

Respectfully yours,

Paul Dretzka
President, Franklin Lions

WORK WITH THE BLIND, HEARING IMPAIRED, YOUTH, GOLDEN AGERS

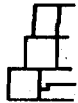
SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY, WIS. LIONS CAMP, LEADER DOG FOR THE BLIND

COPY

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

916 N. EAST AVENUE • P.O. BOX 1607 • WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN 53187-1607 • TELEPHONE (414) 547-6721
TELECOPIER (414) 547-1103

Serving the Counties of KENOSHA
MILWAUKEE
OZAUKEE
RACINE
WALWORTH
WASHINGTON
WAUKESHA



April 20, 1990

Mr. John M. Bennett
City Engineer
City of Franklin
9229 W. Loomis Road
Franklin, Wisconsin 53132

Dear Mr. Bennett:

In response to your expressed concerns about the City of Franklin, Lions Legend Park Wildlife Area Plan as prepared by the staff of this Commission, the Commission staff has reviewed the location proposed in that plan for an in-stream pond, and based upon that review, offers the following comments and recommendations:

1. Alternative No. 4, as shown on the 1 inch equals 400 feet scale topographic map attached hereto, includes a proposed fishing pond located at an on-stream site. That pond location is described on pages 11, 12, and 13 of the plan report.
2. Construction of an on-stream fishing pond would require the use of 3 on 1 or 4 on 1 side slopes. Such steep slopes are less likely to adequately support floating and emergent stands of wetland vegetation, thereby lowering the quality and changing the type of wildlife habitat present in the existing wetland.
3. The on-stream pond site currently supports a shoreland wetland consisting of fresh (wet) meadow and deep and shallow marsh vegetation types. These wetland types serve to help filter out sediment transported from upstream sources and reduce excessive nutrient loading on downstream waters.
4. The high nutrient levels and the associated algae and aquatic macrophyte problems in the existing ponds are causing extremely low mid-summer, low-flow dissolved oxygen concentrations. As a result, the existing pond areas are presently unsuitable for the maintenance of sport, game, and pan fish species. It may be expected that an on-stream fish pond would have the same problems.
5. All of the fishing pond alternatives, including Alternative No. 4, were discussed with the water regulation and fish management staffs of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Accordingly, the discussions in the report of each of the fishing pond alternatives

John M. Bennett
Page 2
April 20, 1990

take into account State rules and policies and the concerns of the Department staff.

Because of the above cited problems, as well as the likelihood that necessary State approvals for the location of a fishing pond on the existing stream channel would not likely be forthcoming, Alternative 4 was not recommended in the plan. The plan review conducted at your request reaffirmed this conclusion. The plan as drafted by the Commission staff is, of course, only advisory and the City and Lions Club can adopt and proceed to implement Alternative 4 if they so choose.

We trust the foregoing comments will be helpful to you. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Kurt W. Bauer
Executive Director

KWB/dmr/ib
Enclosure
H36.rel



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Carroll D. Besadny
Secretary

Box 12436
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212
Fax: (414) 562-1258

February 26, 1991

File Ref: 3500

Bill Crain
Franklin Lions Club
P.O. Box 32005
Franklin, WI 53132

Dear Mr. Crain:

Re: Review of Dredging and Bridge/Spillway Proposal at 9229 West
Loomis Road, City of Franklin - Root River Tributary - Docket No.
3-SE-90-117

During a preliminary review of the proposed project, the Department staff has voiced some major concerns. The Department is concerned with ultimate impacts your project will have on this environmentally sensitive area. It has been recommended by the staff that your dredging proposal be denied. This decision is based on the information you provided to our office.

On February 5, 1991, you came to our office and met with some of the staff. The wildlife and fisheries concerns were addressed at that time. Randy Schumacher, Fisheries, and Mark Anderson, Wildlife, spoke of their concerns. They made it clear that they could not support this project based on the adverse impacts the dredging would have on the wetland. The recommendation is based on the information you provided to our office.

However, the information submitted to our office is not complete at this time. Lacking from the application materials are specifics related to the method of dredging, the amounts of material to be removed, and specific cross-sections of the dredging profile.

Spoil disposal site information and dewatering plans must also be provided. If there is to be any point discharge from dewatering or dredging, a WPDES permit from our Wastewater section may also be required.

A review of the file indicates that Arsenic was the only material tested for in the sediments. Additional sediment analyses will be required for the necessary review.

The well proposed for maintaining water levels during the summer may need a permit from the Water Supply section of the Department.

The proposed bridge and dam/spillway will need more specific designs and specifications. Hydrologic and hydraulic computations will be necessary for the review. The 100 year discharge rate and backwater computations are required for the review of these structures. These computations must be performed by a Professional Engineer.

2.

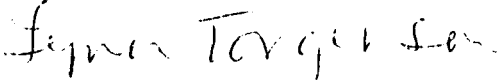
All this information will all have to be provided for our complete review.

Please be aware that we do not foresee altering our decision based on this additional information.

If I do not hear from you within thirty days, I will assume that you do not wish to pursue this application. Your dredging and bridge/dam application will be dismissed.

If you have any questions, please call me at 263-8679.

Sincerely,



Lynn Torgerson
Environmental Engineer

/

c: City of Franklin



City of Franklin

Office of the
Planning and Zoning Administrator

March 26, 1991

Lynn Torgerson
Environmental Engineer
Department of Natural Resources
Box 12436
Milwaukee, WI 53212

RE: Review of Dredging and Bridge/Docket No. 3-SE-90-117

Dear Lynn:

This letter is to confirm our conversation of March 21, 1991, allowing the Franklin Lions Club an extension beyond the 30 days to respond to the comments within your letter of February 26, 1991, to Mr. Bill Crain. The extension will allow me to review the background material on this matter and advise the Franklin Lions Club of the potential courses of action.

Hopefully within 60 days, we will return to you with an answer. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

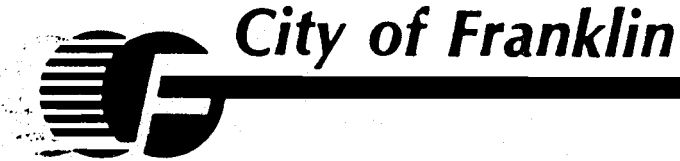
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bruce', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bruce S. Kaniewski
Planning & Zoning Administrator

/par

CC: Mayor Klimetz
Common Council
James C. Payne
John Bennett
Bill Crain



City of Franklin

Office of the
Planning and Zoning Administrator

June 4, 1991

Willard L. Crain
Franklin Lions Club
P.O. Box #32005
Franklin, WI 53132

Dear Bill:

As you know, the Franklin Common Council directed me to review the Franklin Lions Club request to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to improve and dredge the two bodies of water east of City Hall, adjacent to Lions Legend Park. In reviewing the matter, I have looked through your preliminary plan and the preliminary denial letter from the DNR, along with several observations of the site.

The intent of the Franklin Lions Club on this project is very clear. You are attempting to expand and improve upon the fantastic investment the Lions have made in Lions Legend Park, for the benefit of current and future generations of Franklin residents. At the same time, the site is a sensitive environmental wetland, also important to the ecosystem and future enjoyment of nature. DNR's preliminary denial of dredging to create a fishing pond is consistent with their policy in dealing with the same requests from developers.

Therefore, I suggest the Franklin Lions Club continue the proposal by revising and reducing the project scale. The site has tremendous potential for wood chip walkways and benches for viewing nature. Even small signs could be placed describing the vegetation and bird types that the viewer is seeing. It would create the perfect mix of active and passive recreation, and a natural extension of Lions Legend Park.

The Franklin Lion Club still has the option of providing DNR with detailed engineering plans for dredging, at a high cost of plan preparation without assurance of likely approval. Unfortunately, DNR cannot design the project for you since they are a reviewing agency, not a designing agency. This is a similar situation to City Staff reviewing subdivision proposals, and not using tax dollars to design and engineer subdivisions for developers. In this scenario, you are a developer.

In closing, I would be happy to meet with you and other Lions Club representatives to discuss various options. The site is too important to forget. Please share this letter with the Lions Club membership, and I will be anxiously awaiting their response.

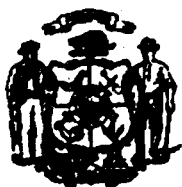
Sincerely,



Bruce S. Kaniewski
Planning & Zoning Administrator

BSK/par

CC: Mayor Klimetz
Alderman David Mayer
Alderman David Radloff
Alderman Elaine Franken
Alderman Peter Evenson
Alderman Judy Roberts
Alderman Mary Thomas
James C. Payne
John Bennett
Lynn Torgerson/DNR, Box #12436, Milwaukee, WI 53212



State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Carroll D. Besadny
Secretary

Box 12436
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212
Fax: (414) 263-8483

June 20, 1991

File Ref: 3500

Bill Crain
Franklin Lions Club
P.O. Box 32005
Franklin, WI 53132

Dear Mr. Crain:

Re: Dredging and Bridge/Spillway Application for Site at 9229 West
Loomis Road, City of Franklin - Root River Tributary - Docket No.
3-SE-90-117

To date, I have not received any of the information required for the complete review of your application. Bruce Kaniewski, Planning & Zoning Administrator for the City, requested an additional sixty days to review the materials. The Department granted that extension of time.

Through a discussion with Bruce on the phone, and later correspondence from his office, it has become clear that the matter will no longer be pursued and the requested information will not be provided. Therefore, I am dismissing your application without prejudice.

If you plan to pursue this matter in the future, the requested information will still be required for review of your proposal.

If you have any questions, please call me at 263-8679.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn Torgerson".

Lynn Torgerson
Environmental Engineer

/

c: Bruce Kaniewski - City of Franklin
Don Reed- SEWRPC
Conservation Warden Bruce Buenning