

DESCRIPTION: Applicant requests NR-C zoning to facilitate transfer of the ~33 acre property to Groundswell Land Trust for long term preservation. If the petition is approved, Groundswell plans to tear down the existing house and buildings, restore a field to prairie, and put in a small gravel parking area and gate.

OBSERVATIONS: The property adjoins the DNR-owned land comprising part of the Hook Lake / Grass Lake Wildlife and Natural Area. Existing uses of the property are agriculture / open space and residential. Surrounding land uses include agriculture / open space and residential uses in the Dunnwood Heights subdivision. A small area of steep slope topography is present on the property. No development proposed.

TOWN PLAN: The property is located in the town's agricultural preservation area.

RESOURCE PROTECTION: There is a small area of resource protection corridor associated with steep slope topography over 12% grade.

STAFF: The proposal is consistent with town plan policies and will result in additional land preservation and outdoor passive recreational uses. Staff recommends approval of the petition with the following condition:

1. The existing residence shall be removed from the property within 120 days of rezoning approval.

TOWN: Pending.