

## Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

### Agenda Item Memo

DATE: Aug. 5, 2014

SUBJECT: DNR Acquisition of tax forfeited land in Pennington County

PRESENTER: Pat Rivers, DNR

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### Background:

Pennington County plans to sell 1,160 acres of tax forfeited lands near the Pembina WMA. Numerous parcels of tax forfeited lands have heritage elements (e.g., western prairie fringed orchid, native prairie, within the Pembina Prairie Core Area) that are at risk under likely land uses if the parcels are sold to a private buyer. The land is classified as conservation land by the county, but the status is changing to non-conservation land to facilitate the sale by the county. Lands south of CR 3 are managed as part of the Pembina WMA; north of CR 3 the land is signed as state lands, but WMA rules are not enforced.

The DNR is seeking approval to proceed with the acquisition of these lands for an addition to the Pembina WMA; the parcels are on the approved list for ML 2013, Ch. 137, Art. 1, Sec. 2, Subd. 2c DNR WMA, SNA, and NPB Easement, Ph. V.

**Agenda Item # 8**



