

File# G 996 - Dunn County - 21.8 acres

The Department was gifted this property in 1960. This property has approximately 1,650 feet of two bank frontage on South Fork Hay River, a class two trout stream.

The property is accessible from state Hwy 79 and includes a parking lot and property sign and a dilapidated shed. Approximately 1/10 of a mile of county snowmobile trail passes through this property between the river and the highway. There is an annual land use permit issued to the Dunn County Snowmobile Association for the existing snowmobile trail.

Maintenance for the property is minimal, including property boundary signage and mowing of the parking area.

In the past, Dunn County has partnered with the Department, acquiring lands along the Hay River to protect the water quality of the river and to protect trout habitat and provide public access. One such County owned property lies immediately north of this tract, with public access to the County lands being through the State property. Selling this State land would eliminate public access to the County land.

This property is currently used for hunting and fishing and is also part of the Dunn County snowmobile trail system. Sale of this property will potentially create a gap in the County trail system. In addition, public use of the County owned parcel to the north will be cut off.

Under the Streambank Protection Roadmap the headwaters (Class I) of the South Fork was selected as a target area for streambank easement acquisition. In addition, the entire South Fork was identified as a potential brook trout reserve.

The Department recommends retaining this parcel.

