Management Plan
Dear Property

The Dear property is located along Blue Mill Road, east of Dickson's Mill Road. The property was acquired in 2017 and is 10.6 acres comprised of hayfields and wetlands. The hayfields comprise the upland portion of the property. The wetland portion of the property runs along Great Brook from Blue Mill Road to property owned by the Harding Land Trust. The purchase of this property was originally contracted for in the name of the Harding Land Trust and a Management Plan was prepared for the Harding Land Trust by Ronald Farr. This plan is intended to supplant the previous Farr Management Plan. Public access to this property is from Blue Mill Road and Dickson's Mill Road through the Harding Land Trust property to the south. Parallel parking is available across from the property on Cherry Lane.

Goals

Goal 1 - The upland portions of the property are currently and will be maintained as hayfields.
Goal 2 - The wetland portion of the property will be maintained as wetlands.
Goal 3 - Preserve the streetscape of this property along Blue Mill Road.
Goal 4 - Attempts will be made to stabilize and improve the stream banks along Great Brook.
Goal 5 – Provide boundary markers to identify the limits of public property.
Goal 6 – Encourage public access.

Methods to Achieve Goal

Goal 1 - The upland hayfields on either side of the private driveway will be mowed annually after July 15th to permit fledglings to develop before the first cutting. Mowing will be done to control invasive plants. The

farmer mowing the property will be encouraged to bale the hay and remove the bales of hay from the property promptly. At the discretion of the farmer mowing the field, the field may be mowed a 2nd time if the hay is baled and removed promptly or alternatively the Township may request that the property be mowed a second time in the fall, without baling the hay, to further control invasive plants. Any dead, diseased or invasive tree species shall be removed. Trees posing a danger to the public shall be trimmed as necessary.

Goal 2 - The wetland portion of the property will be mowed twice (2x) a year initially, if feasible, to control invasive plants. The initial mowing shall occur after July 15th to permit fledglings to develop before the first cutting. Due to the wet nature of the property, it may not be feasible to mow twice a year, in which case mowing will be done when feasible. Any dead, diseased or invasive tree species shall be removed. Trees posing a danger to the public shall be trimmed as necessary.

Goal 3 – To preserve the streetscape, mowing of the hayfields and wetlands shall be performed as noted above. Trees along the perimeter will be assessed annually and any dead, diseased or invasive tree species shall be removed. Trees and limbs posing a danger to the public shall be trimmed as necessary.

Goal 4 – Request assistance from NCRS or other conservation authorities to identify bank stabilization practices that are feasible and cost effective for this property. Identify bank vegetation that will held in avoiding erosion of the stream bank and slow the water current during heavy periods of water flow in the stream.

Goal 5 – Identify a suitable boundary marker to identify the limits between the private property owner and the public lands.

Goal 6 – If feasible, beginning in spring mow bi-monthly a [4]' wide path along the perimeter of the wetland properties to the upland hayfield west of the private driveway and along the eastern edge of the hayfield to Blue Mill Road to encourage public access to the property particularly along the stream corridor.

The property will be walked annually to assure that no dumping occurs on the property.

No other maintenance on this property is contemplated.