



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE**  
**STATE OF IOWA**

Rob Sand  
Auditor of State

State Capitol Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0004  
Telephone (515) 281-5834

September 11, 2025

Kristi Onstot  
Executive Council  
L O C A L

Subject: Damages at Loess Hills State Forest and Preparation Canyon State Park due to  
Significant Wind Storm on August 9, 2025  
Department of Natural Resources  
Claim dated August 27, 2025  
AOS Claim ID: 4141

In accordance with Executive Council policy, we have examined the claim for 29C.20 funds for the above-mentioned damage. It is our conclusion that the above-mentioned damage incurred by the Department of Natural Resources is covered by Chapter 29C.20 of the Code of Iowa. Therefore, we recommend an Executive Council allocation in the amount of \$60,000.00, subject to an audit of actual invoices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brian R. Brustkern".

Brian R. Brustkern, CPA  
Deputy Auditor of State

cc: Sherry Arntzen, Bureau Chief, Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau, Department  
of Natural Resources  
Kara Bryant, Budget and Finance, Department of Natural Resources  
Heather Hackbarth, Department of Management

8/27/2025

Victoria Newton  
Executive Council  
State Capitol  
LOCAL

Tammy Hollingsworth  
Auditor's Office  
Lucas Building  
LOCAL

RE: Storm Damage at Loess Hills State Forest and Preparation Canyon State Park

Dear Victoria and Tammy:

On Saturday August 9, 2025, a significant wind storm struck Loess Hills State Forest and Preparation Canyon State Park, causing trees and limbs to fall on roads, trails and along crop field edges. Seth Moore sent an initial e-mail notification of the damages on August 11, 2025. A cost estimate of \$60,000.00 is attached.

The supporting documents include:

- Estimated cost of repairs

This information is being submitted to the Executive Council as a request for allocation of \$60,000.00 for AOS ID #4141.

I thank you and the Executive Council members for your time and consideration in reviewing this material. Please inform me if it would be advantageous to participate in the Executive Council meeting in order to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

Sherry L. Arntzen, Bureau Chief  
Parks, Forests and Preserves Bureau

Cc: Kara Bryant, DNR Budget and Finance

Attachments: 1

ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COSTS					
Loess Hills State Forest and Preparation Canyon State Park					
Storm Damage Debris Removal					
8/20/2025					
		Full Project			
Item No.	Description	Quant	Unit	Unit Cost	Cost
1	Storm Debris Removal from Roads/Trails	1	Each	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
2	Storm Debris Removal from Field Edges	1	Each	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00
			Total		\$60,000.00
			Allocation Request Total		\$60,000.00