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STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING

REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

September 17, 2007

TO:	Rebecca A. Humphries, Director
INFORMATION:	Natural Resources Commission
Transaction:	Wildlife Land Acquisition Flat River State Game Area – Montcalm County The Michael Gates Trust Tract Land Transaction Case #20070164
Purchase Price:	118.50 acres - $290,000.00
Stipulation:	Seller stipulates that closing shall occur no later than February 14, 2008.
Description:	Montcalm County, Fairplain Township, T09N, R07W, Section 28: SE ¼ of NW ¼ and the N ½ of SW ¼ except a parcel 16 rods square in the southwest corner of the NW ¼ of SW ¼.
Seller:	Michael Gates Trust, Rockford, Michigan
Option Expires:	November 26, 2007
Property Taxes:	The property taxes for 2006 were $4,973.00.
Authority:	Part 5 of Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended
Notice:	This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources' (Department) October 1, 2007 Calendar and is eligible for approval on October 8, 2007.
Comments:	The offered private parcel is located in southwestern Montcalm County, eight miles southeast of Greenville and in association with 8,754 acres of State-owned land managed as the Flat River State Game Area. The offered 118.50-acre vacant parcel exhibits a level to gently-rolling topography with generally well-drained soils except for a small portion of marginally-drained areas in the southeast corner of the tract. Forest cover is predominated by over-mature Christmas tree (Scotch pine) plantations with mixed hardwoods and open areas evident over the remainder of the site.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
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Access is available along Grow Road, a county-maintained roadway, along the western boundary of the property and State-owned land adjoins on three sides.

Acquisition of this private parcel will consolidate ownership, prevent further fractionalization, increase public recreational opportunities, and secure additional wildlife habitat in this heavily utilized portion of the Flat River State Game Area. In addition, one mile of boundary maintenance will be eliminated by this acquisition.

The purchase will include mineral rights owned by the seller.

Recommendation: That this tract be approved for purchase with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF), Wildlife Land Consolidation Initiative, already approved by the MNRTF Board and presently awaiting appropriation by the Michigan Legislature, and/or from the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.

David E. Freed, Chief
Land and Facilities

Douglas A. Reeves, Acting Chief
Wildlife

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management

Arminda S. Koch
Resource Management Deputy

Dennis R. Fedewa
Chief Deputy

I approve the staff recommendation.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

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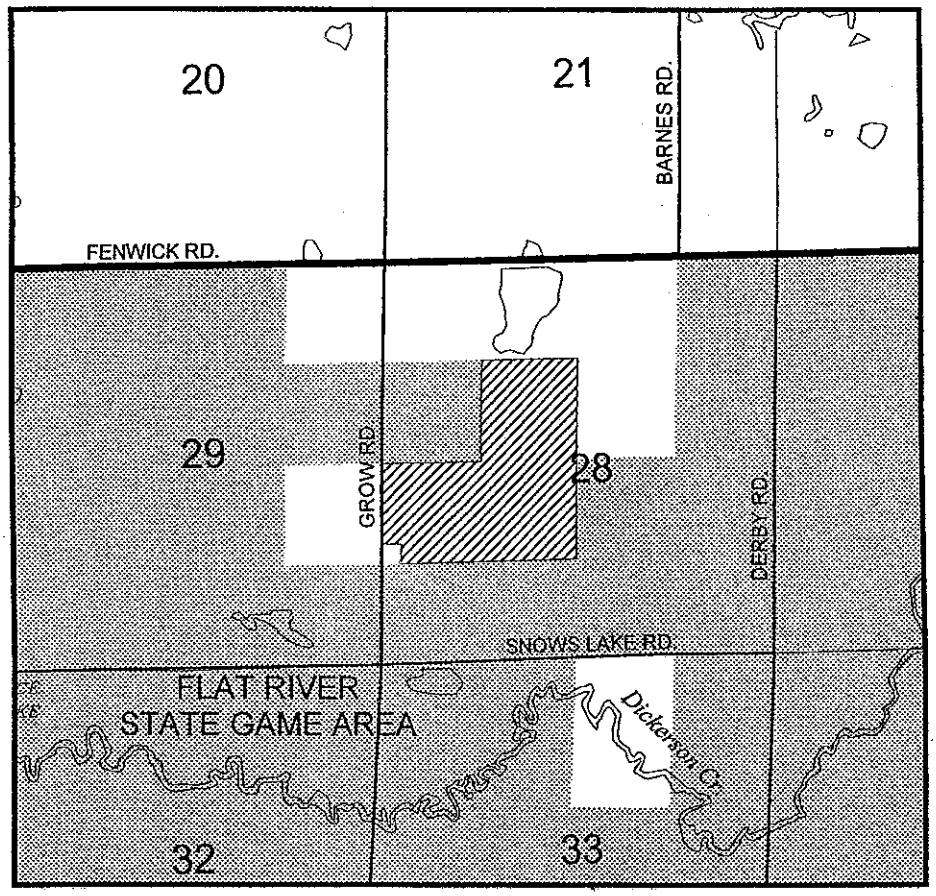
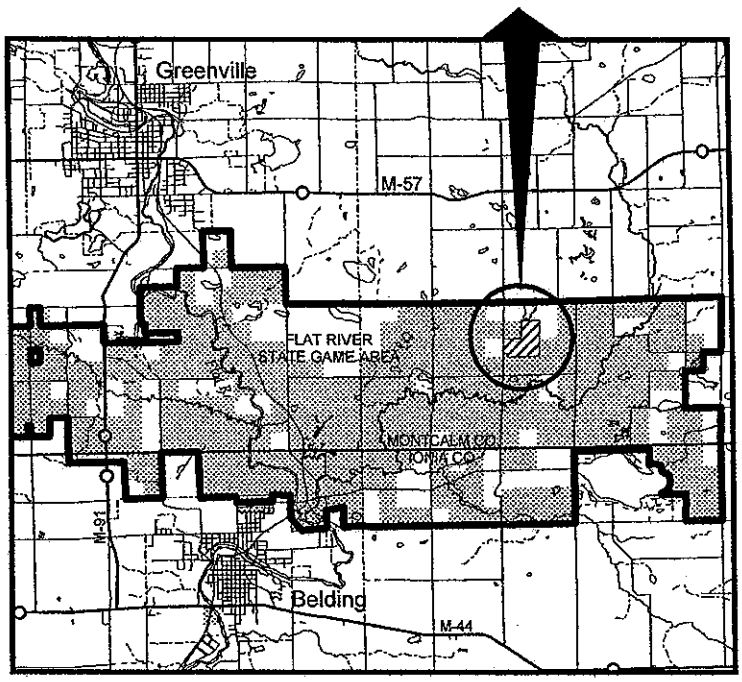
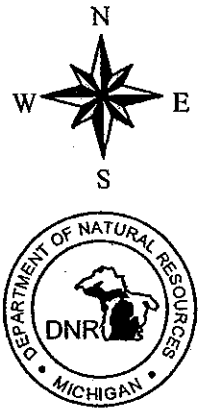
Date Approved

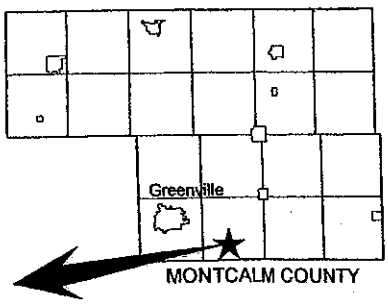
WILDLIFE LAND ACQUISITION
Flat River State Game Area - Montcalm County
The Michael Gates Trust Tract
Land Transaction Case #20070164



Section 28, T09N, R07W, Fairplain Township







- Flat River State Game Area Boundary
- Land Offered to DNR (118.50 acres - $290,000.00)
- State Land
- Private Land

SOURCE

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREST, MINERAL AND FIRE MANAGEMENT

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