



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

June 15, 2015

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Forest Management Land Acquisition
Gladwin Management Unit – Clare County
The Heath Tract
Land Transaction Case #20140241

Purchase: 136.75 acres - \$240,000.00

Funding Source: Land Exchange Facilitation Fund

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$2,969.30
This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 136.75 counted acres. There are no excluded acres as a part of this transaction.

Description: Clare County, Summerfield Township, T20N, R05W, Section 19:
PARCEL A: Government Lot 2, containing 47.60 acres.
PARCEL B: Government Lot 7, except the East 200 feet thereof, containing 21 acres, more or less.
PARCEL C: Government Lot 8, containing 36.30 acres.
PARCEL D: Government Lot 9, containing 31.85 acres.

Seller(s): Clare Heath, Summerfield, Michigan

Authority: Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) June 30, 2015, calendar, and is eligible for approval on July 7, 2015.

Management Purpose: Provide for working forest activities, recreational access to the Muskegon River, enhanced wildlife habitat management and consolidation of state ownership. There are no management restrictions associated with the recommended funding source.

Comments: The Heath tract consists of a mix of upland and floodplain along the Muskegon River. The cover includes a mixture of jack pine, red pine and oak in the northwestern portion of the property with the floodplain along the river dominated by red maple and ash. The remainder of the property is comprised of a mix of white pine, balsam, red maple and spruce. Approximately 5,000 feet of frontage on the Muskegon River runs through the property. The parcel is nearly surrounded by state forest land and the Muskegon River, with just the very eastern portion of the property bordering on private ownership. The parcel is accessed off Otter Drive, a county road.

Acquisition of the Heath tract consolidates state ownership and provides for significant management efficiencies, excellent public access to the Muskegon River, timber and wildlife habitat, and public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: Forest Resources Division representatives contacted Clare County and Summerfield Township but received no formal response regarding this transaction. In October and November of 2014, Clare County and Summerfield Township were contacted regarding this purchase through direct phone conversations, email correspondence and certified US mail. No written response has been received from either unit of government. The Summerfield Township Supervisor indicated verbally they had no concerns with this purchase and would follow up in writing.

Recommendation:

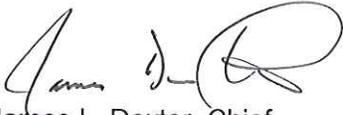
1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.
2. That the property be dedicated as part of the Gladwin Forest Management Unit.



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



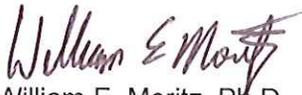
William O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division



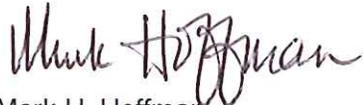
James L. Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



William E. Moritz, Ph.D.
Natural Resources Deputy



Mark H. Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendations.

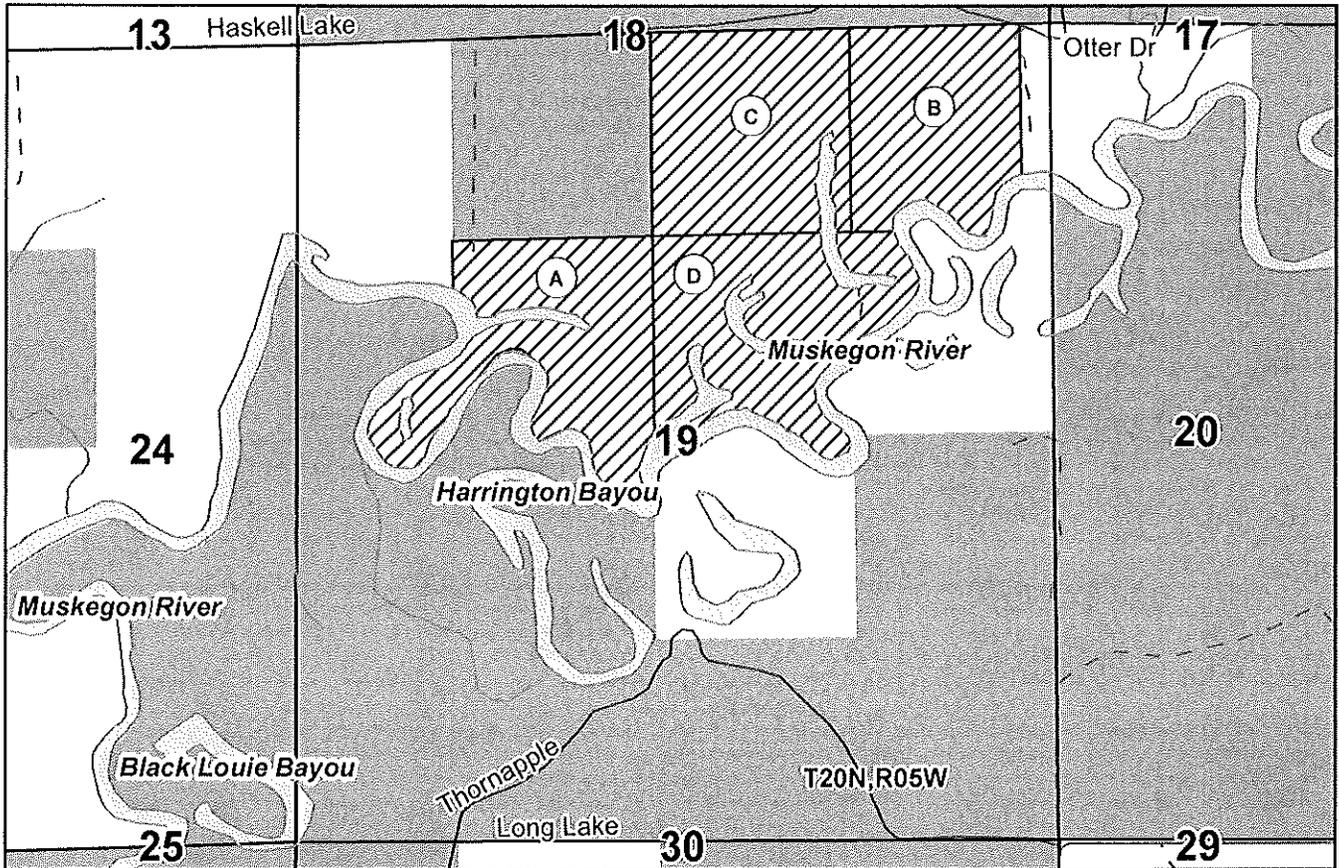
Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved

FOREST MANAGEMENT LAND ACQUISITION

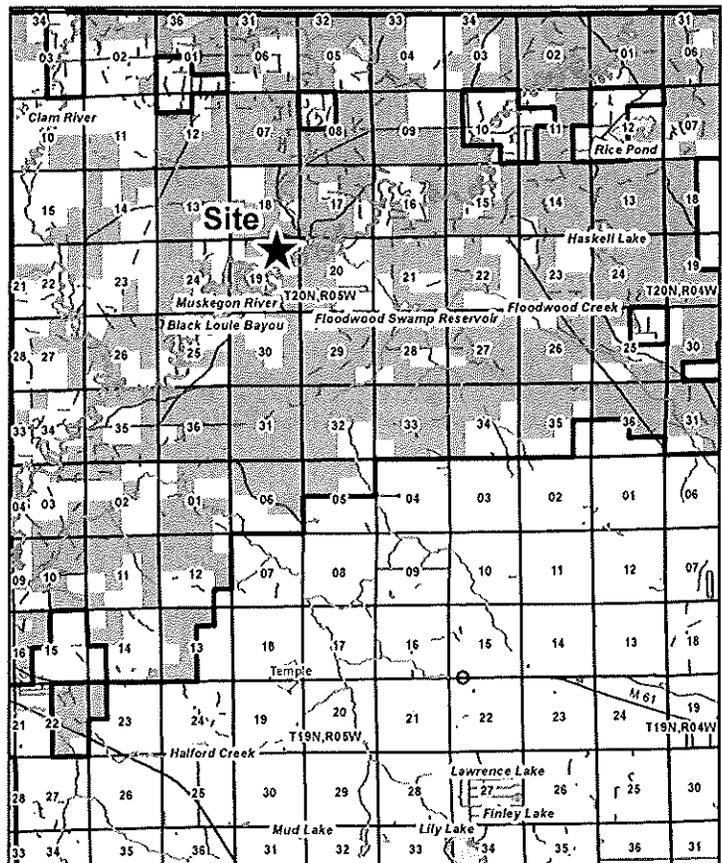
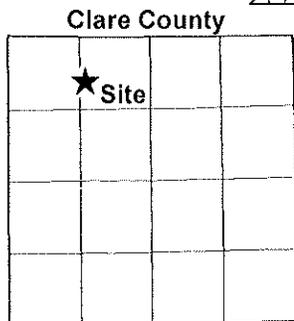
Gladwin Management Unit -- Clare County

The Heath Tract -- Land Transaction Case #20140241



Section 19, T20N, R5W Summerfield Township

- State Forest Boundary
- Land to be Acquired by DNR (136.75 acres)
 - A - 47.60 acres
 - B - 21.00 acres
 - C - 36.30 acres
 - D - 31.85 acres
- State Land
- Non-State Land



Regional Location



DNR -- Finance & Operations Division
Real Estate Services Section
05/29/2015

