



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH  
DIRECTOR

July 13, 2015

**TO:** Keith Creagh, Director

**INFORMATION:** Natural Resources Commission

**Transaction:** Parks and Recreation Land Acquisition  
Metro District – Lapeer and Oakland Counties  
The Bess Tract  
Land Transaction Case #20140259

**Purchase:** 31.75 acres - \$255,000.00

**Funding Source:** Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Act 283 of 2012, Southeast Eco-Regional Fund.

**PA 240 of 2012:** PILT Estimate: \$700.65 in Oakland County and \$2,320.43 in Lapeer County. This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 31.75 counted acres, there are no excluded acres as a part of this transaction.

**Description:** Lapeer County, Hadley Township, T06N, R09E, Section 31:  
The East 54 rods (more or less) of the South 75 acres of the SW 1/4.

Oakland County, Brandon Township, T05N, R09E, Section 6:  
Beginning at a point distance North 87 degrees 36 minutes 00 seconds West 600 feet from the North 1/4 corner; thence North 87 degrees 36 minutes 00 seconds West 165.41 feet; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East 142.28 feet; thence North 43 degrees 27 minutes 05 seconds East 26.64 feet; thence North 47 degrees 27 minutes 23 seconds East 55.08 feet; thence North 59 degrees 18 minutes 49 seconds East 59.67 feet; thence North 72 degrees 11 minutes 46 seconds East 56.45 feet; thence North 02 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds East 31.08 feet to beginning.

**Seller(s):** Kirby and Susan Bess, 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) August 4, 2015, calendar, and is eligible for approval on August 11, 2015.

**Management Purpose:** The property will be maintained as part of the Ortonville State Recreation Area and provides additional fishing, waterfowl hunting and recreational opportunities as allowed under State Land Rules for Park and Recreation Areas.

Comments: The Bess tract consists of rolling land covered in a mixture of conifer and hardwood forest over the northerly two thirds of the property and a lake and open field along the southerly one third where the property has frontage on Sawmill Lake Road. The parcel abuts state land along its easterly boundary. Private land abuts the parcel on the north and west. The property is host to a single family residence that is uninhabitable and will be removed by Parks and Recreation Division shortly after the property is purchased.

The Bess tract provides for additional wildlife habitat and public recreation opportunities including fishing and hunting.

Engagement: Both Hadley Township and Lapeer County support the Department's efforts to acquire this property for public outdoor recreation and the immediate demolition of the existing structures.

Recommendation:

1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Act 283 of 2012, Southeast Eco-Regional Fund.
2. That the property be dedicated as part of the Ortonville State Recreation Area and that it's boundary be modified to include this purchase.



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.

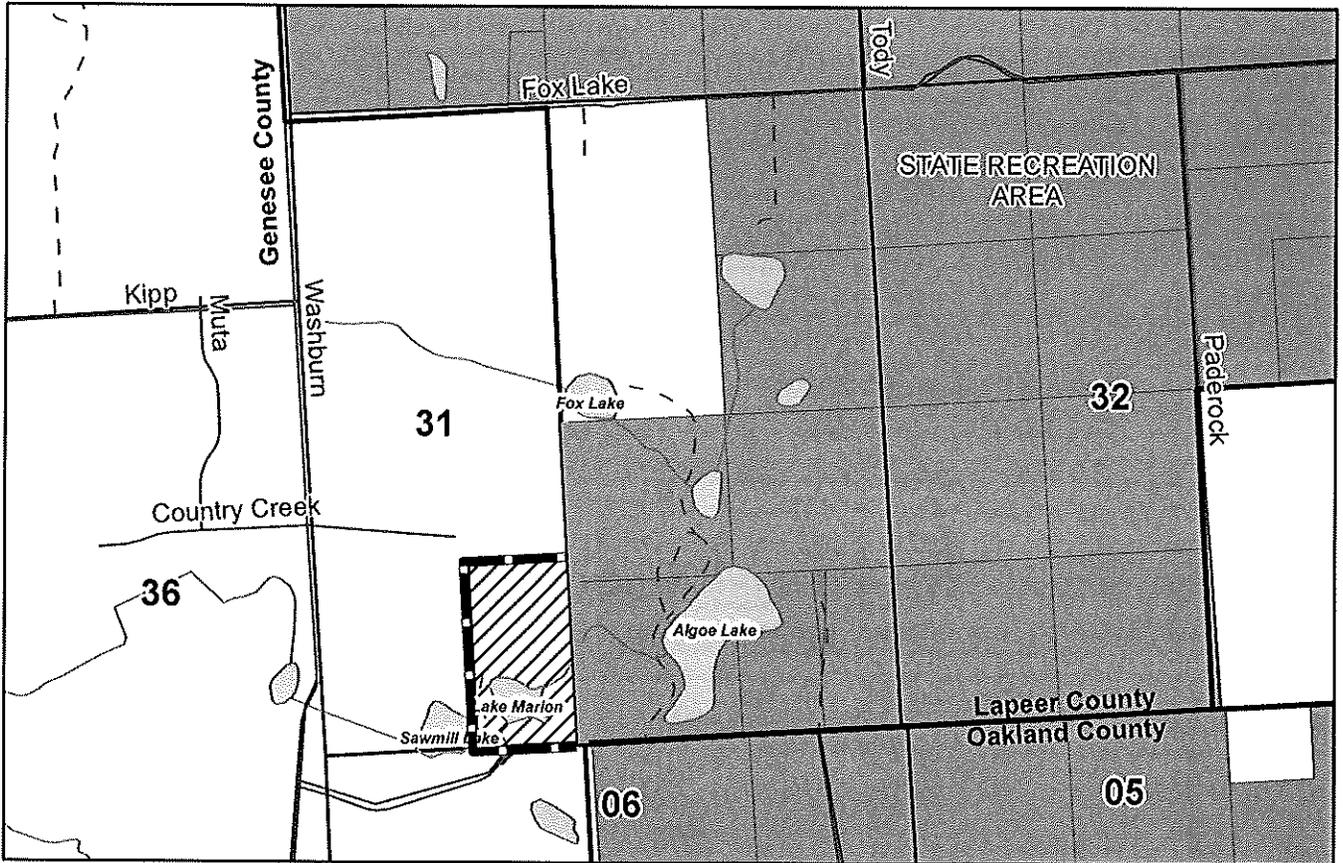
Keith Creagh  
Director

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Date Approved

# PARKS AND RECREATION LAND ACQUISITION

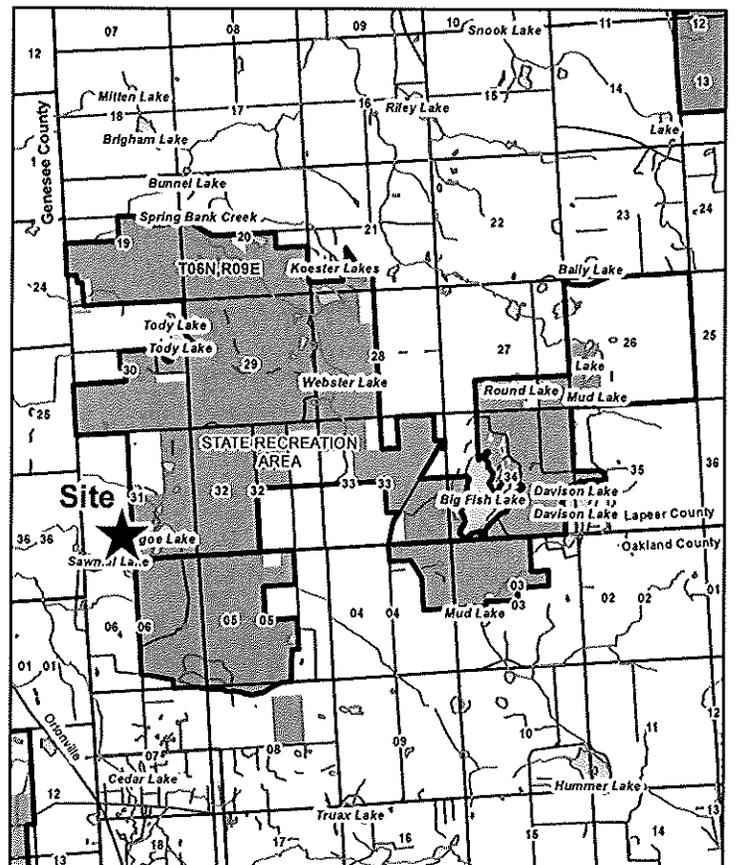
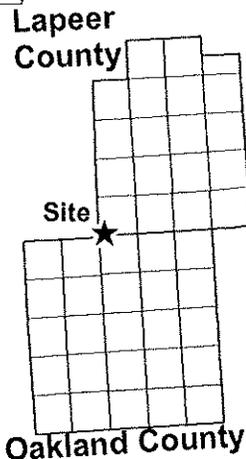
## Metro District -- Lapeer and Oakland Counties

### The Bess Tract -- Land Transaction Case #20140259



**Section 6, T5N, R9E**  
**Brandon Township, Oakland County**  
**Section 31, T6N, R9E**  
**Hadley Township, Lapeer County**

- State Recreation Area Boundary
- Boundary Modification
- Land to be Acquired by DNR (31 acres m/l)
- State Land
- Non-State Land



**Regional Location**

