



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: Wildlife Land Acquisition  
Port Huron State Game Area – St. Clair County  
The Burch Tract  
Land Transaction Case #20150017

Purchase: 80 acres - \$240,000.00

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

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$2,560.00  
This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 80 counted acres. There are no excluded acres as a part of this transaction.

Description: St. Clair County, Grant Township, T08N, R16E, Section 32: the W 1/2 of the SE 1/4.

Seller(s): Richard and Jeannette Burch, Jeddo, 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: This property will be managed as a part of the Port Huron State Game Area for hunting, trapping, and wildlife-related recreational opportunities as allowed under State Land Rules for Wildlife and Game Areas.

Comments: This rural southern Michigan 80-acre parcel is within the boundaries of the Port Huron State Game Area. The property contains the following characteristics:

- Adjacent to state-owned land – the parcel abuts a large block of existing state-owned land on two sides.
- Access – the parcel will be accessed from the adjacent state-owned lands. An undeveloped, unmaintained portion of the county-owned Metcalf Road right-of-way traverses the southern border of the property.

- Topography and cover – the property is generally level with a steep decline along the bisecting, spring-fed creek. Coverage consists of minor cropland, scrub, and densely populated deciduous and evergreen tree varieties.
- Water – a small pond is located in the southwest corner of the property. The Black River is located less than one-half mile to the west, across state-owned land.
- Improvements – there are no improvements on the property.
- Wildlife – this parcel provides quality wildlife habitat for a variety of wildlife species including deer, turkey, and grouse.

As a result, this property will provide quality opportunities for dispersed public recreation in southern Michigan and will support Michigan's \$1.3 billion hunting industry by increasing the amount of hunting land.

The seller will convey mineral rights relative to this tract, if owned.

Engagement: The Department has received resolutions of support from Grant Township, and the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners.

Recommendation:

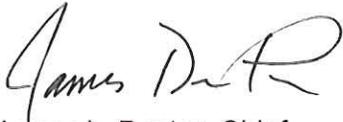
1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Southeast Eco-Regional Land Consolidation project.
2. This land is to be dedicated as a part of the Port Huron State Game Area.



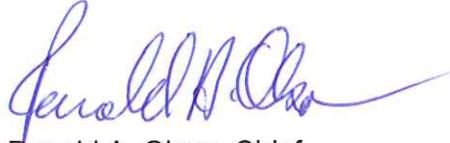
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief  
Wildlife Division



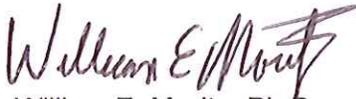
William O'Neill, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



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

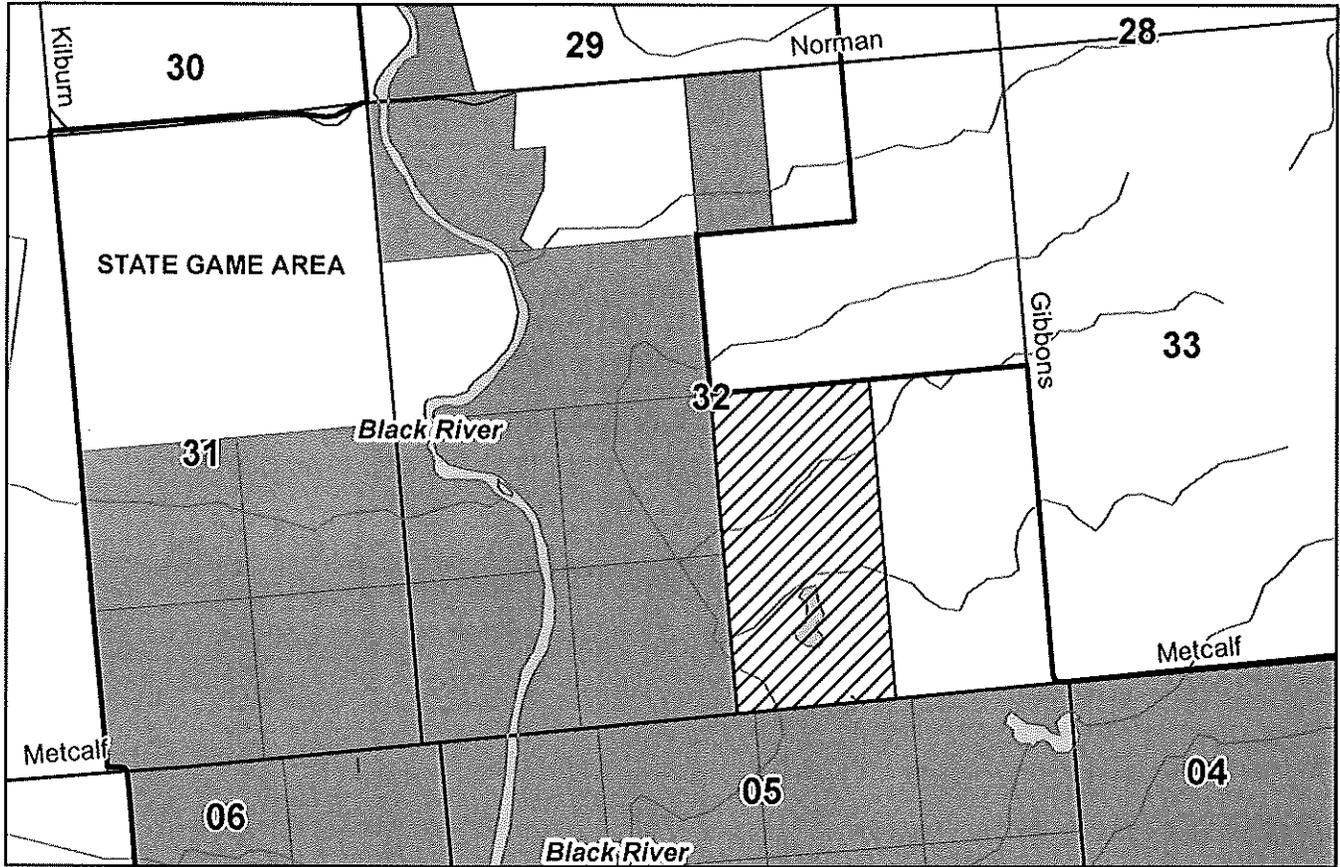
Keith Creagh  
Director

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Approved

# WILDLIFE LAND ACQUISITION

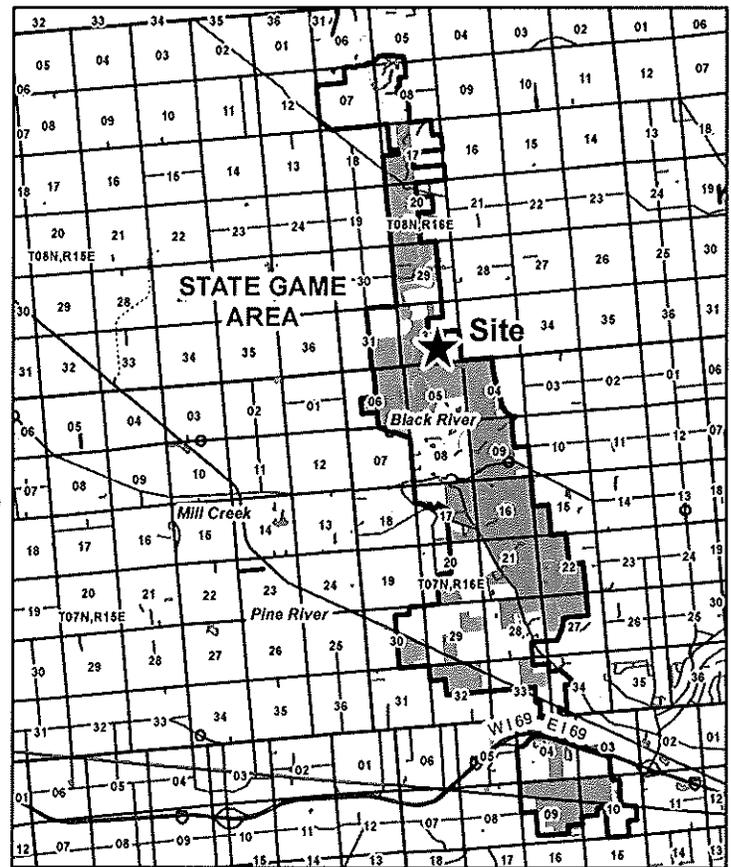
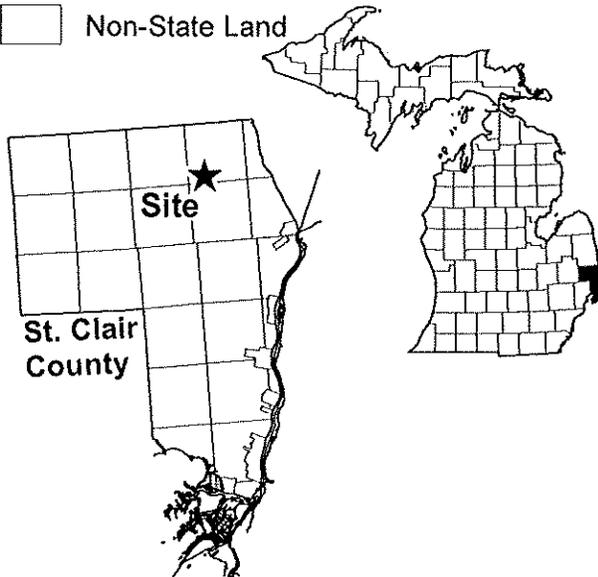
## Port Huron State Game Area -- St. Clair County

### The Burch Tract -- Land Transaction Case #20150017



**Section 32, T8N, R16E**  
**Grant Township**

-  State Game Area Boundary
-  Land to be Acquired by DNR (80 acres)
-  State Land
-  Non-State Land



**Regional Location**



DNR -- Finance & Operations Division  
 Real Estate Services Section  
 06/23/2015

