



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENT  
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES  
DIRECTOR

May 10, 2010

**TO:** Rebecca A. Humphries, Director

**INFORMATION:** Natural Resources Commission

**Transaction:** Recreation Land Acquisition  
Tahquamenon Falls State Park (TFSP) – Luce County  
The John and Thora Shepard Tract  
Land Transaction Case #20090206

**Purchase Price:** 400 acres – \$240,000.00

**Description:** Luce County, McMillan Township, The E ½ of the NE ¼, the SW ¼ of the NE ¼, the SE ¼ of the NW ¼, the W ½ of the SW ¼, the NE ¼ of the SW ¼, the N ½ of the SE ¼, the SW ¼ of the SE ¼, all in Section 10 T49N, R8W, subject to all easements, restrictions, and reservations of record.

**Sellers:** John P. and Thora Shepard, Moran, Michigan

**Option Expires:** July 23, 2010

**Authority:** Part 5 of Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended

**Notice:** This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources and Environment's (Department) May 24, 2010 Calendar, and is eligible for approval May 31, 2010.

**Comments:** The offered private land is located within the dedicated boundary of TFSP. Bounded on the north, east, and south by State-owned land, this acquisition represents a significant step toward consolidating the Department's ownership and implementing management practices at TFSP. In addition, the acquisition will relieve the Department of having to maintain over three miles of boundary in the park.

The property is 400 acres of vacant, level to gently rolling land. A rich mix of northern hardwoods and conifers cover the property including a band of mature white pine forest around the small lake at the west end of the tract. Approximately 60 percent of the tract exhibits upland soil types and hardwood forests while 40 percent of the parcel exhibits wetland soil types and bog and swamp-type vegetative cover.

May 10, 2010

A rich variety of flora and fauna have been found on the tract, which will nicely enhance the adjacent Betsy Lake Natural Area Preserve, a State-owned designated research area of more than 15,000 acres.

The only improvement on the parcel is a 240-square-foot, wood-frame cabin located 300 feet from the lake shore. This improvement will be used for rental purposes by the Recreation Division after acquisition.

The parcel has ¼ mile of frontage on County Road 506, a seasonally-maintained public road. Access to the interior of the parcel is available via a network of logging trails.

The purchase will not include mineral rights, which were retained by a previous owner.

**Recommendation:** That this tract be approved for purchase with payment to be made from funds appropriated for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Upper Peninsula Eco-Regional Land Consolidation Project, as contained in Act 23, Public Acts of 2009, or the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund, as funds may be available.



David E. Freed, Chief  
Land and Facilities

Lynne M. Boyd, Chief  
Forest Management Division



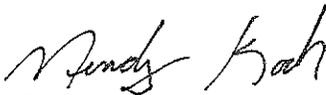
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief  
Wildlife Division



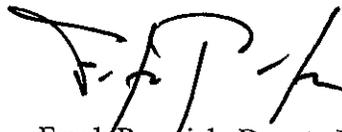
Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Recreation Division



Kelley D. Smith, Ph.D., Chief  
Fisheries Division



Mindy Koch, Deputy Director  
Resource Management



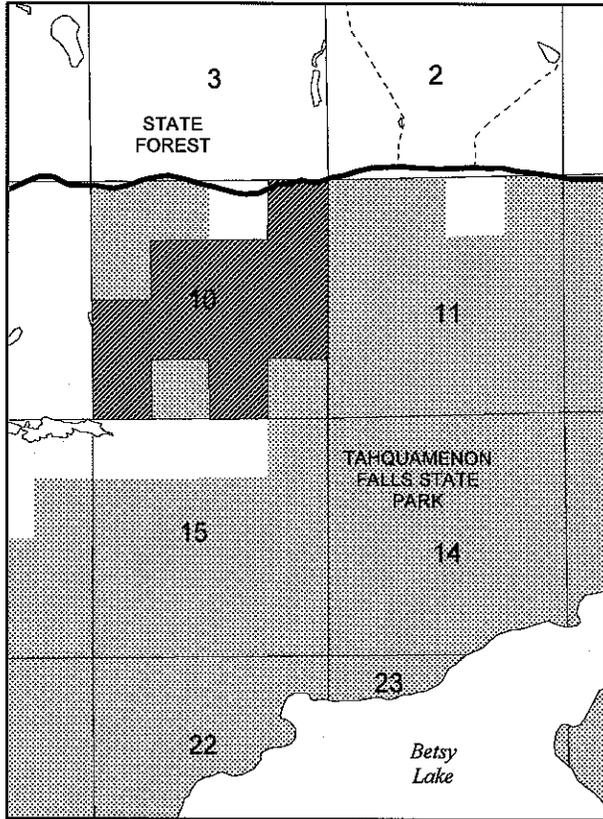
Frank Ruswick, Deputy Director  
Stewardship

I approve the staff recommendation.

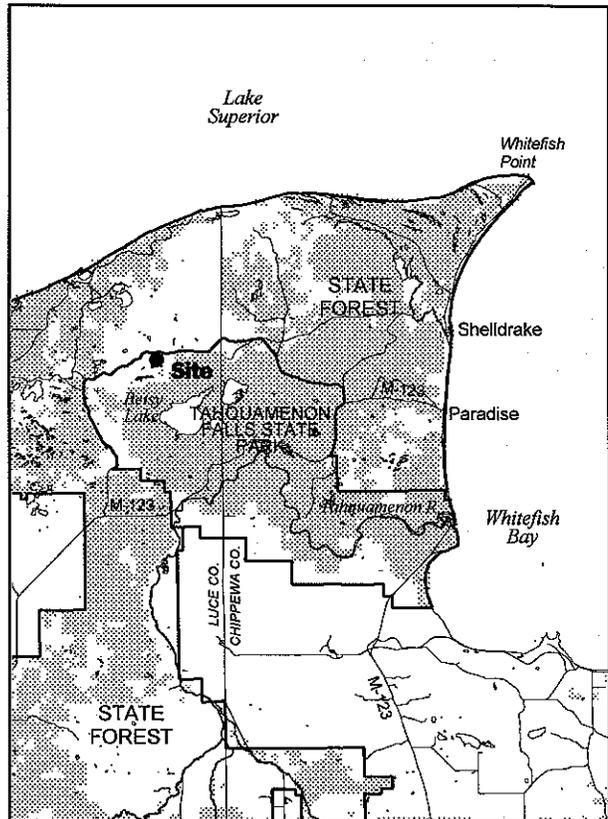
Rebecca A. Humphries  
Director

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

**RECREATION LAND ACQUISITION**  
**Tahquamenon Falls State Park - Luce County**  
**The John and Thora Shepard Tract**  
**Land Transaction Case #20090206**

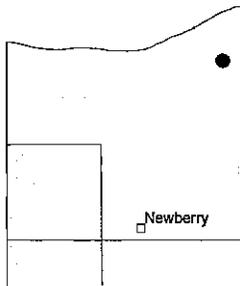


Section 10, T49N, R08W, McMillan Township



Regional Location

- State Park and State Forest boundaries
- Land offered to DNRE (400.00 acres - \$240,000.00)
- State land
- Private land



LUCE COUNTY