



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

August 18, 2014

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: State Trail Acquisition
Keweenaw Trail – Houghton County
Land Transaction Case #20020209

Purchase: 50.19 acres, more or less – purchase price to be determined by appraisal

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$650.00
This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 50.19 excluded acres.

Description: Houghton County, Torch Lake Township, T55N, R33W, Section 12; and Schoolcraft Township, T56N, R32W, Section 31: as more completely described in the case file.

Seller: GMO Threshold Timber Michigan Club, Inc. ("GMO"), Boston, Massachusetts

Authority: Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended.

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) September 2, 2014, calendar, and is eligible for approval on September 9, 2014.

Purpose: The offered property will fill two gaps in state ownership along the Keweenaw Trail near the Village of Lake Linden. This will allow the Keweenaw Trail to qualify for funding to develop and maintain the trail. Currently, the trail operates under an annual permit arrangement with GMO at these two locations.

Comments: Houghton and Keweenaw counties are crisscrossed with a vast network of motorized and non-motorized trails. Many of these trails depend on annual one-year agreements with a multitude of property owners for their existence. To address this issue, a Houghton-Keweenaw Recreation Authority was created with the vision to create a permanent trail system connecting communities, providing healthy recreation opportunities, and bringing in much needed tourism recreation revenue. The Department has been engaged with this effort.

Acquisition of this parcel will contribute to achieving Department and Division goals and strategies by providing additional public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: The Department has been working for years with the Houghton and Keweenaw County Boards of Commissioners, Calumet Township, Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce, Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau, Keweenaw Trails Services, Inc., and the Keweenaw ATV Club in an effort to fill a number of challenging gaps along the route of the Keweenaw Trail.

Recommendation: (1) That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, State Trails Initiative, as contained in Act 16 of 2011, and Act 283 of 2012.

(2) That the property be dedicated for public use and administered by the Parks and Recreation Division.



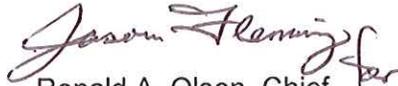
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



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



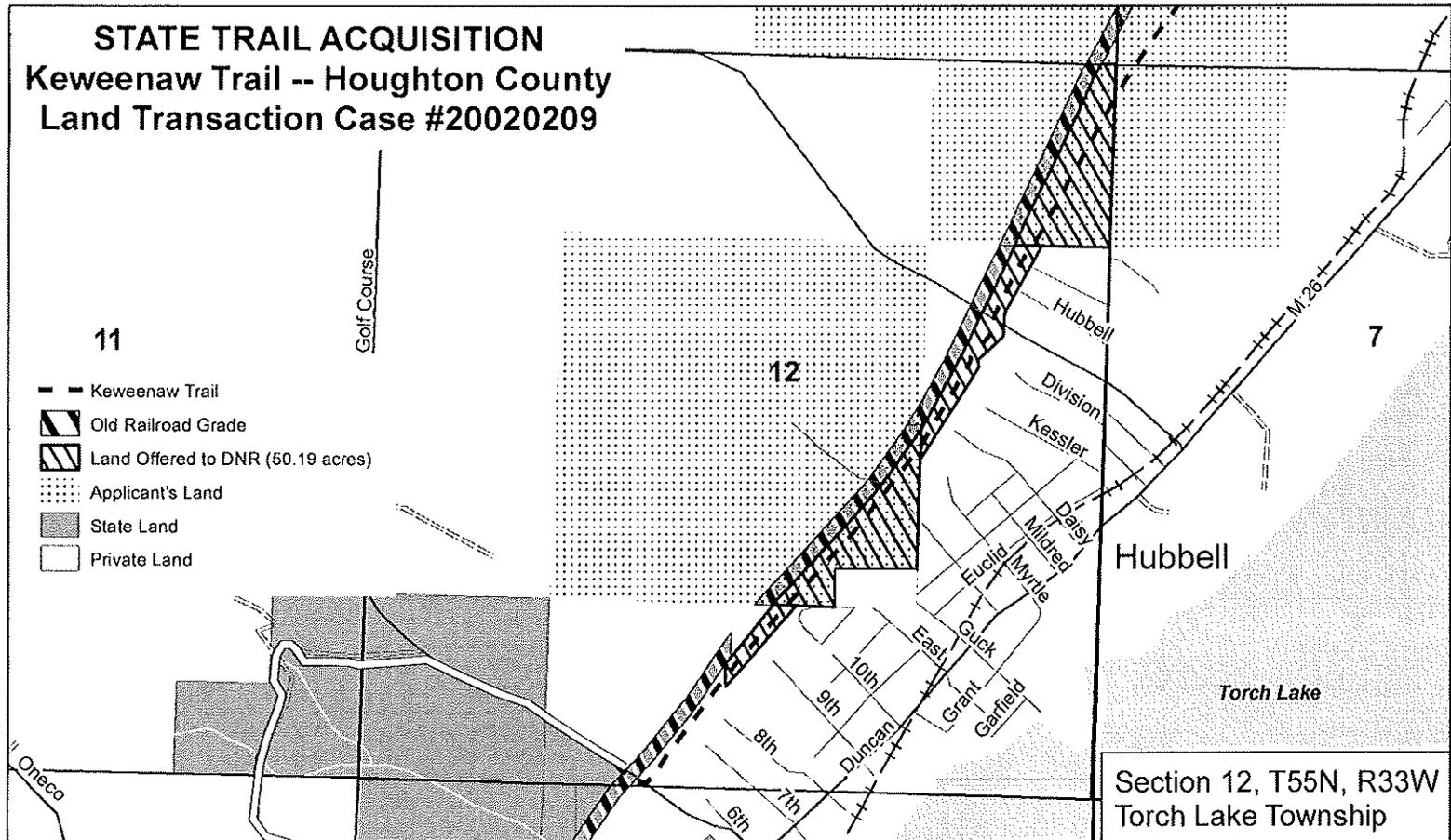
Mark H. Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendations.

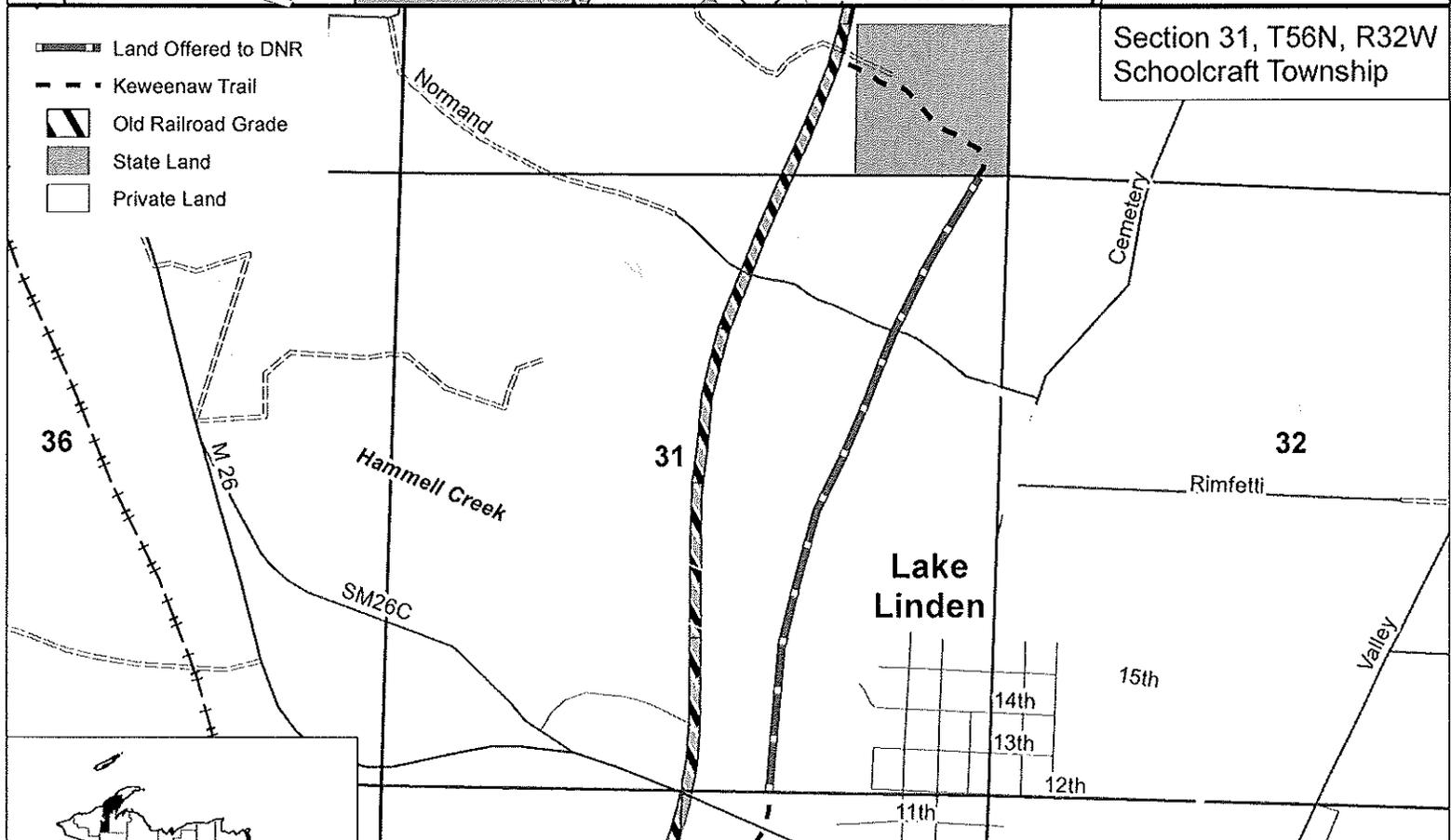
Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved

STATE TRAIL ACQUISITION
Keweenaw Trail -- Houghton County
Land Transaction Case #20020209



Section 12, T55N, R33W
 Torch Lake Township



Section 31, T56N, R32W
 Schoolcraft Township

