



RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH  
DIRECTOR

December 14, 2015

**TO:** Keith Creagh, Director

**INFORMATION:** Natural Resources Commission

**Transaction:** Forest Resources Land Acquisition  
Cadillac Management Unit – Lake County  
The Weronko Tract  
Land Transaction Case #20140204

**Purchase:** 14.75 m/l acres - \$110,000

**Funding Source:** Michigan Natural Resource Trust Fund – Act 114 of 2014  
Land Exchange Facilitation Fund

**PA 240 of 2012:** PILT Estimate: \$361.16  
This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 14.75 counted acres. There are no excluded acres as a part of this transaction.

**Description:** Lake County, Newkirk Township, T19N, R12W, Section 16:  
As more particularly described in the case file.

**Seller(s):** Mr. and Mrs. David C. Weronko, Luther, 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) January 5, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on January 12, 2016.

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

**Comments:** The Weronko Tract is within the state forest boundary and adjacent to state land on three sides, with 1,200 feet of Little Manistee River frontage. The Little Manistee supports native and wild populations of brook and brown trout, migratory steelhead and Coho salmon. The river is also a critical wildlife travel corridor that provides excellent habitat for game and non-game species. The property contains a year-round home and outbuildings which are currently occupied by the owners. An 11-month occupancy permit will be granted to provide the tenants the time to secure a new home.

Acquisition of this parcel will contribute to the Department's goals of consolidating state ownership, securing wildlife habitat, enhancing forest management, and increasing public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: Newkirk Township has passed a resolution of support for the acquisition of this property and Lake County has expressed no concerns.

Recommendation:

1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Little Manistee River Property Project #13-126, and the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.
2. That the property be dedicated as part of the Cadillac Management Unit.

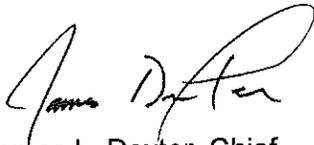
December 14, 2015



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

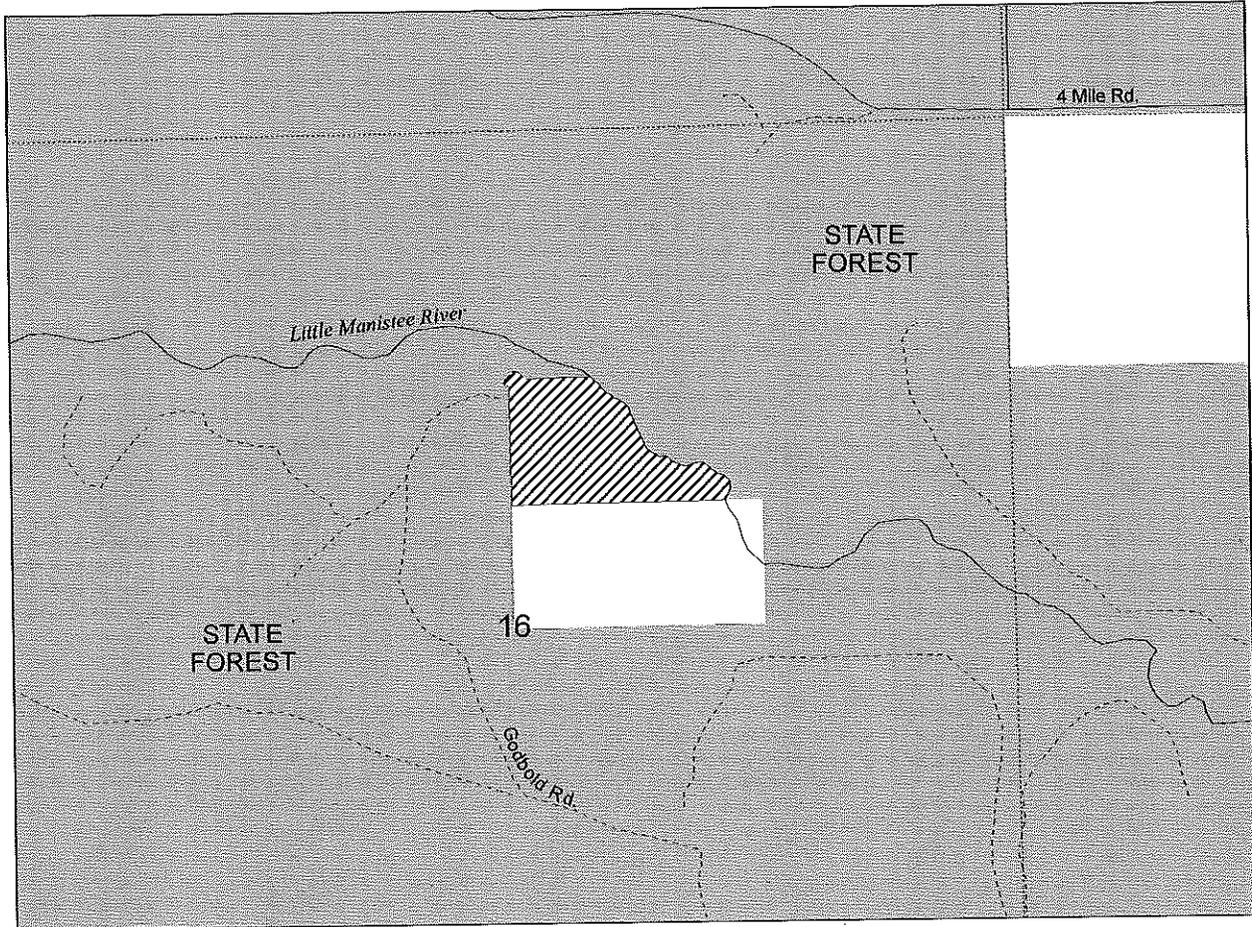
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Date Approved

# FOREST RESOURCES LAND ACQUISITION

Cadillac Management Unit – Lake County

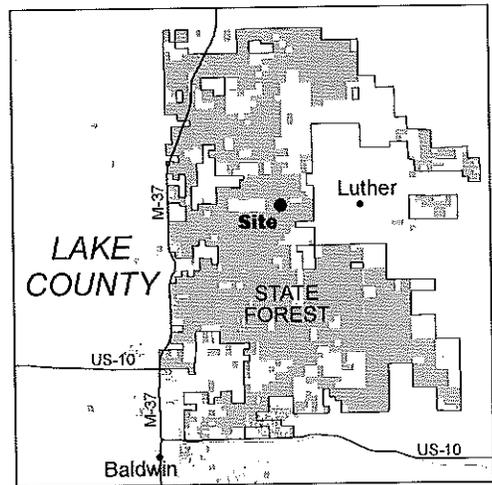
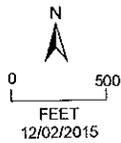
The Weronko Tract

Land Transaction Case #20140204



Section 16, T19N, R12W, Newkirk Township, Lake County

-  Land to be acquired by DNR (14.75 acres)
-  State land
-  Private land



— DNR Project Boundary