



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: Wildlife Land Acquisition
Edmore State Game Area – Isabella County
Curtiss Tract
Land Transaction Case #20140162

Purchase: 80 acres, more or less. \$170,000.00

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$1,950.00
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: Isabella County, Fremont Township, T13N, R05W, the W1/2 of the SE1/4 of Section 31.

Seller(s): Clara Bertha Curtiss Trust, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

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: This tract further consolidates the Edmore State Game Area and provides valuable habitat for a variety of species and additional recreational opportunities.

Comments: This rural southern 80-acre parcel is within the boundaries of the Edmore 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 – a county maintained road provides access to the northwest corner of the property.
- Topography and cover – gently rolling topography with a mostly mature, second growth hardwood forest with some lowlands in the southeastern portion of the property along the Pine River.
- 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.

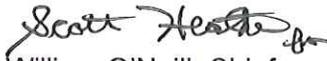
Acquisition of this parcel will contribute to the Department's goals of consolidating state ownership, securing wildlife habitat, and increasing public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: The Department has received written support from Fremont Township. Staff have made repeated attempts to contact representatives from the county but have not received replies; staff are continuing their efforts.

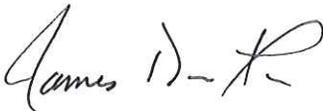
Recommendation: That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Southeast Eco-Regional Land Consolidation project.



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.

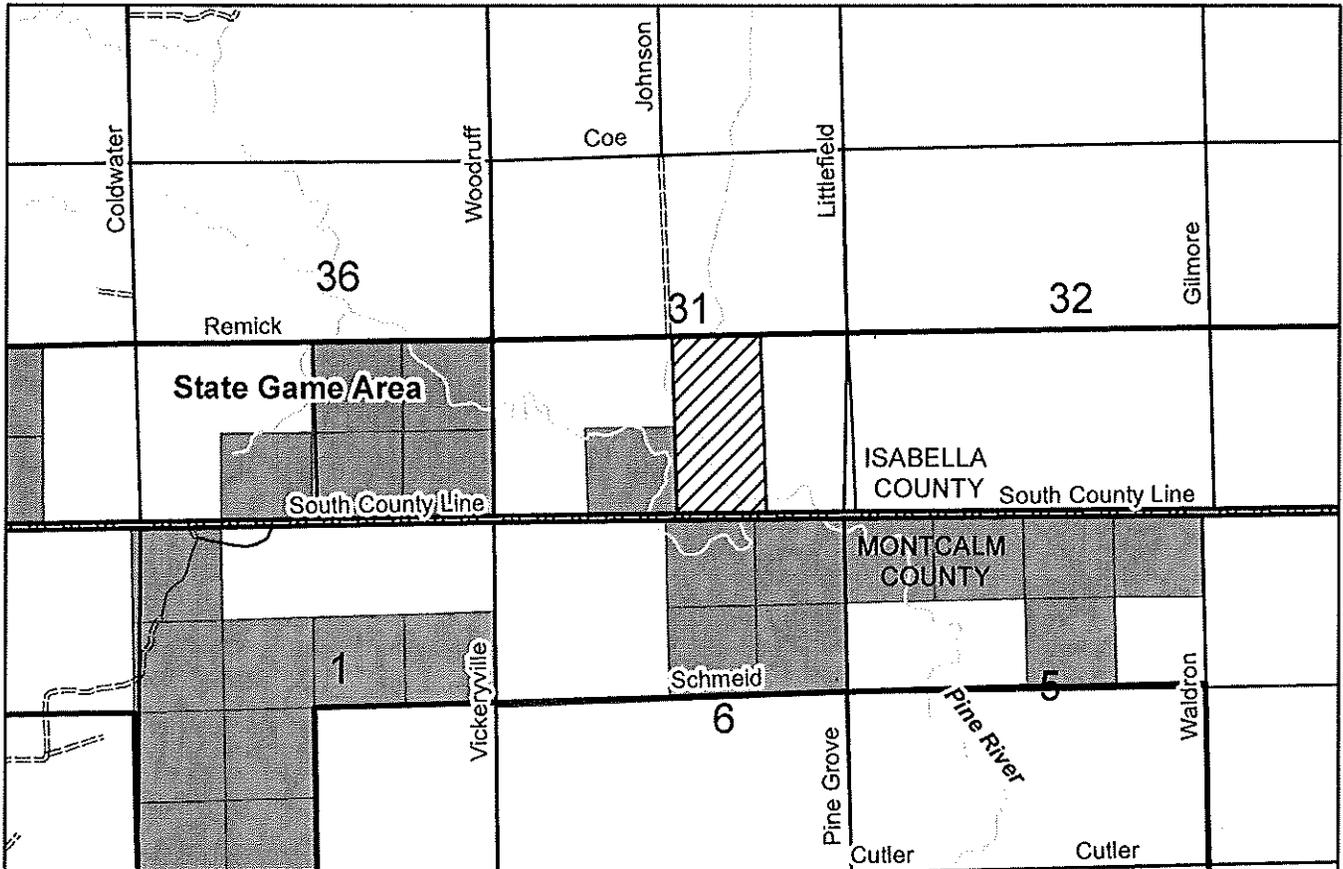
Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved

WILDLIFE LAND ACQUISITION

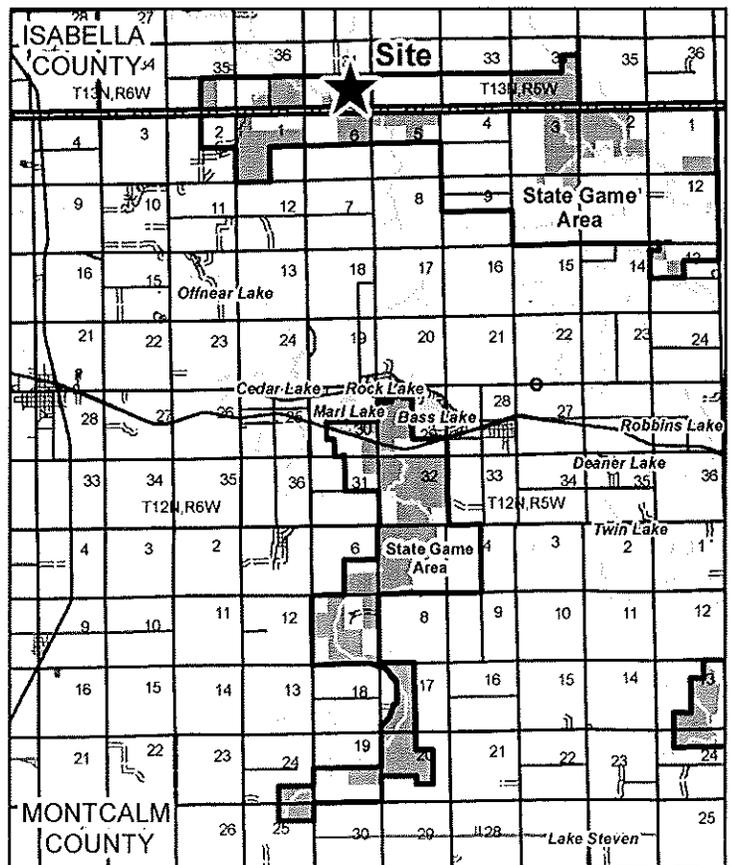
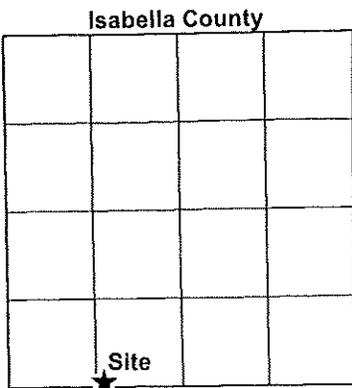
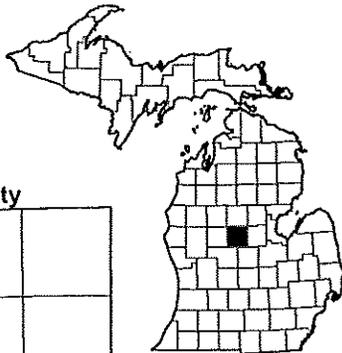
Edmore State Game Area -- Isabella County

The Curtiss Tract -- Land Transaction Case #20140162



Section 31, T13N, R5W Fremont Township

-  State Game Area Boundary
-  Land Offered to DNR
(80 acres -- \$170,000)
-  State Land
-  Private Land



Regional Location



DNR -- Finance & Operations Division
Real Estate Services Section
08/12/2014

