



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 Forest Land Acquisition  
Gwinn Management Unit– Alger County  
The Plum Creek Tract  
Land Transaction Case #20140181

Purchase: 80 acres, \$56,000.00

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$1,139.63  
This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 80 counted acres.  
Excluded Acres: None

Description: Alger County, Limestone Township, T45N, R21W, Section 36:  
The W1/2 of the SE1/4.

Seller(s): Plum Creek, Tomahawk, Wisconsin

Authority: Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, 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 tract is a targeted acquisition which lies within the AuTrain Basin Waterfowl Refuge and the strategic purchase of this inholding will protect the sensitive refuge habitat within the existing AuTrain Refuge boundary.

Comments: The property is located approximately 10 miles southwest of the city of Munising and is less than 1/4 mile west of the AuTrain River Basin. The property contains the following characteristics which makes it a priority acquisition:

- Adjacent to state-owned land – the tract adjoins state-owned land to the north, west, and south. To the east of the tract is a large contiguous ownership by UPPCO and a priority acquisition for the Department.
- Access – the parcel has no legal access, however has physical road access from a two-track that travels from State-owned land longitudinally north to south.
- Topography and cover – the property is predominately upland with highly productive, well-drained, sandy loam soils.

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Topography is level to gently rolling. The site supports an even-aged, well-stocked high quality aspen stand.

- Improvements – there are no improvements on the property.
- Wildlife - due to its location in the AuTrain Refuge boundary, the quality aspen habitat provides hunting and recreation for upland game species such as ruffed grouse and woodcock, as well as hare and deer.

The acquisition is subject to the seller retaining timber rights for a five (5)-year period. Minerals will be conveyed, if owned.

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:

The Department has received support from Limestone Township and Alger County. Staff continue to provide additional information to Limestone Township regarding Department land transactions.

Recommendation:

(1) That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Upper Peninsula Eco-Regional Land Consolidation project.

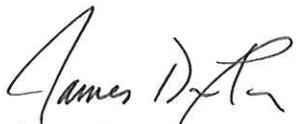
(2) The conveyance of the parcel will be subject to a five (5)-year timber reservation.



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.

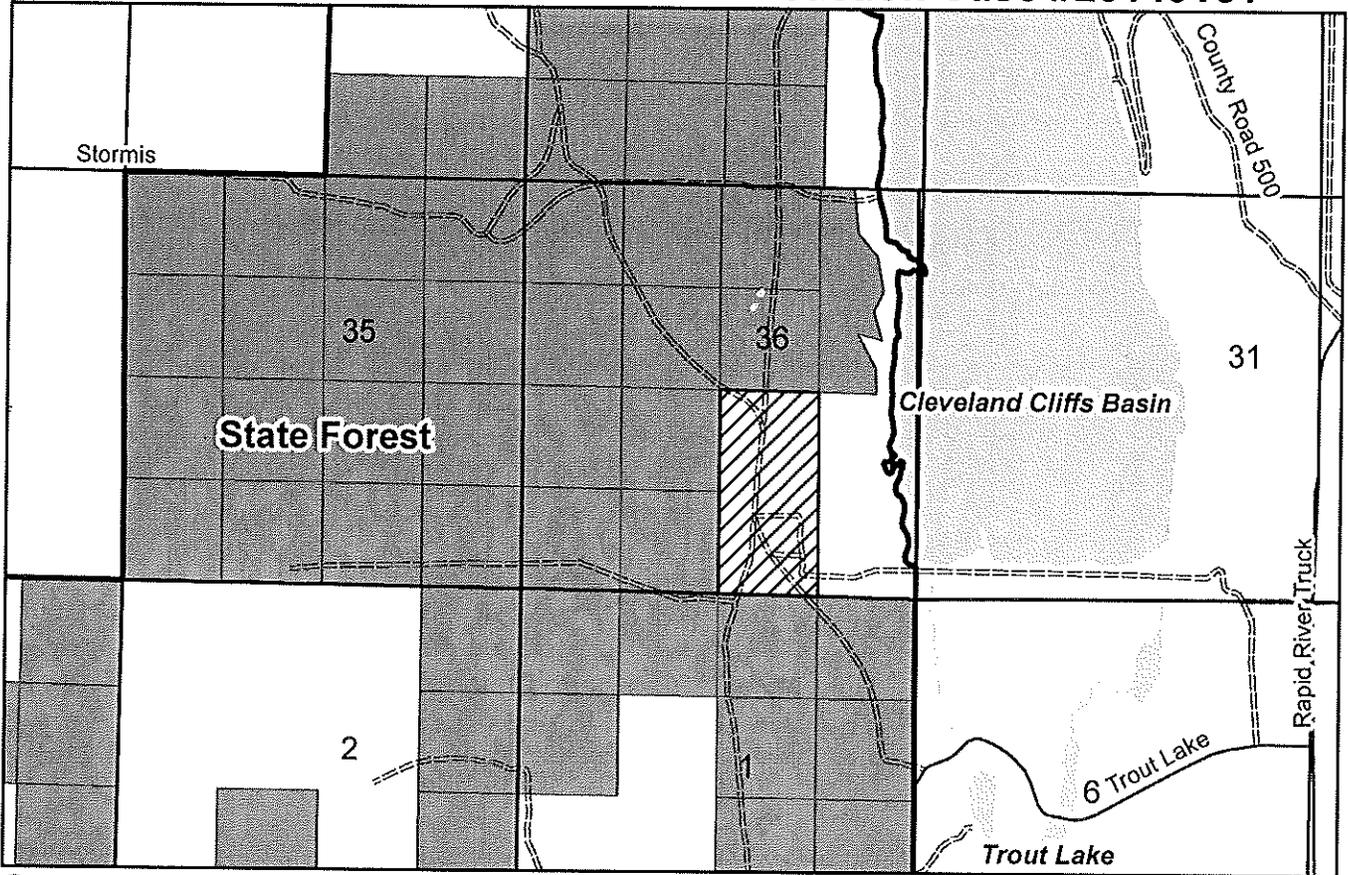
Keith Creagh  
Director

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Date Approved

# STATE FOREST LAND ACQUISITION

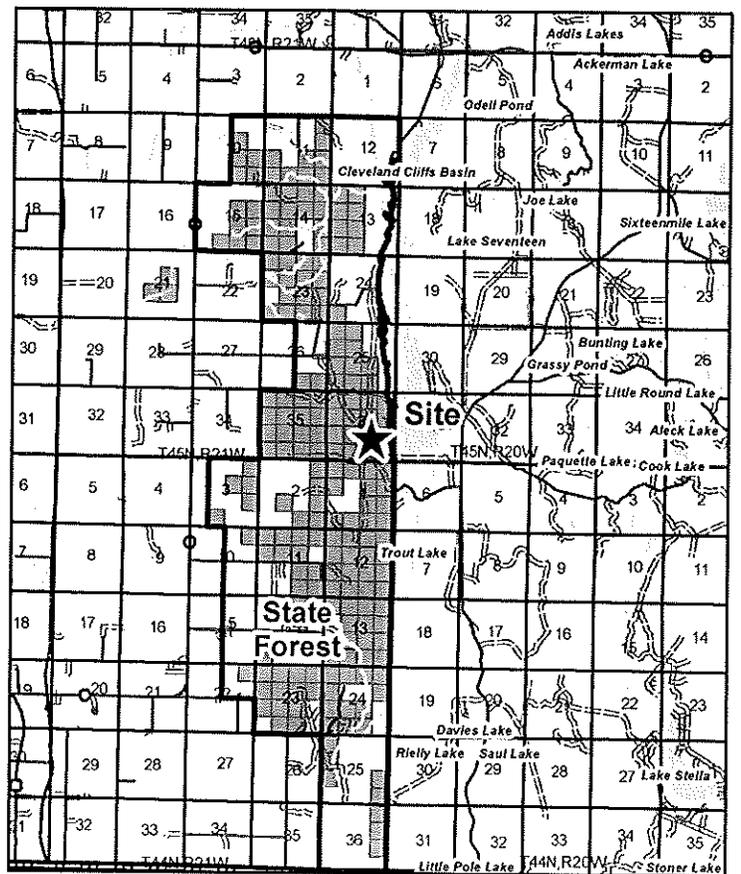
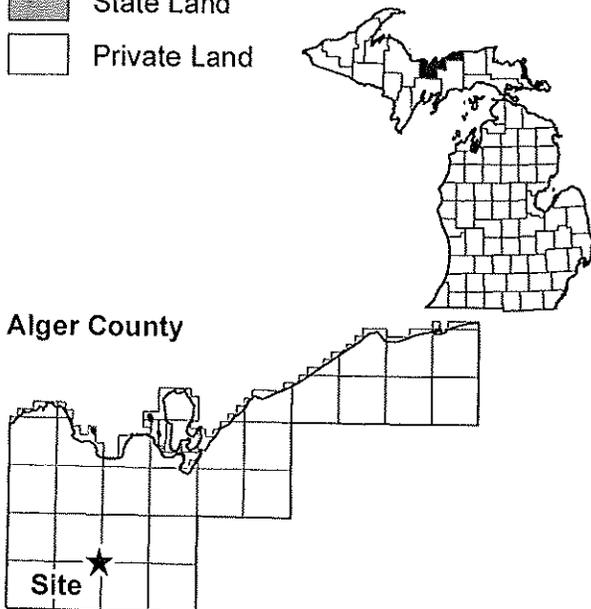
## Gwinn Management Unit -- Alger County

### The Plum Creek Tract -- Land Transaction Case #20140181



### Section 36, T45N, R21W Limestone Township

- State Forest Boundary
- Land to be Acquired by DNR (80 acres)
- State Land
- Private Land



**Regional Location**



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

