



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



DR. WILLIAM E. MORITZ
DIRECTOR

July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: State Trail Acquisition
State Line Trail – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case #20160103

Purchase: 29.65 acres (2.00 linear miles) more or less - \$44,475.00

Funding Source: ORV Fund

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$583.00
The five parcels included in this transaction are north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 29.65 excluded acres.

Description: Gogebic County, Wakefield Township, T47N, R45W, Sections 18, 22, & 24; and Bessemer Township, T47N, R46W, Sections 12, & 18:
As more completely described in the case file.

Seller: Union Pacific Railroad Company, Omaha, Nebraska

Authority: Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on August 9, 2016.

Management Purpose: The land will be managed as part of the State Line Trail.

Comments: Running along a former Chicago & North Western (C&NW) Railroad corridor, the five offered parcels will fill a total of 2.00 miles of gaps in public ownership on the State Line Trail.

When abandoned in the 1980s, the C&NW railroad corridor in western Gogebic County was not publically acquired at that time. Now, working in cooperation with trail advocates and local governmental representatives, the Department is attempting to stitch the corridor back together in an effort to connect the communities of Wakefield, Bessemer, Ironwood, and the state of Wisconsin to the State Line Trail. When complete, the trail will stretch from Iron Mountain to Ironwood.

Acquisition of these five parcels will contribute to achieving Department and division goals and strategies by providing additional public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: Wakefield and Bessemer Townships support the acquisition of the five parcels, and are represented on the committee of local, state, and federal representatives that meet periodically with Department staff to address regional trail matters.

Recommendation: (1) That the recreational trail acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the ORV Fund.

(2) That the land be dedicated as part of the State Line Trail and administered by Parks and Recreation Division.

July 18, 2016



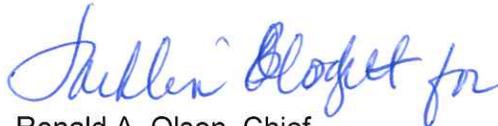
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



Debbie Begalle, Acting Chief
Forest Resources Division



James L. Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



William O'Neill
Natural Resources Deputy



Mark H. Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer

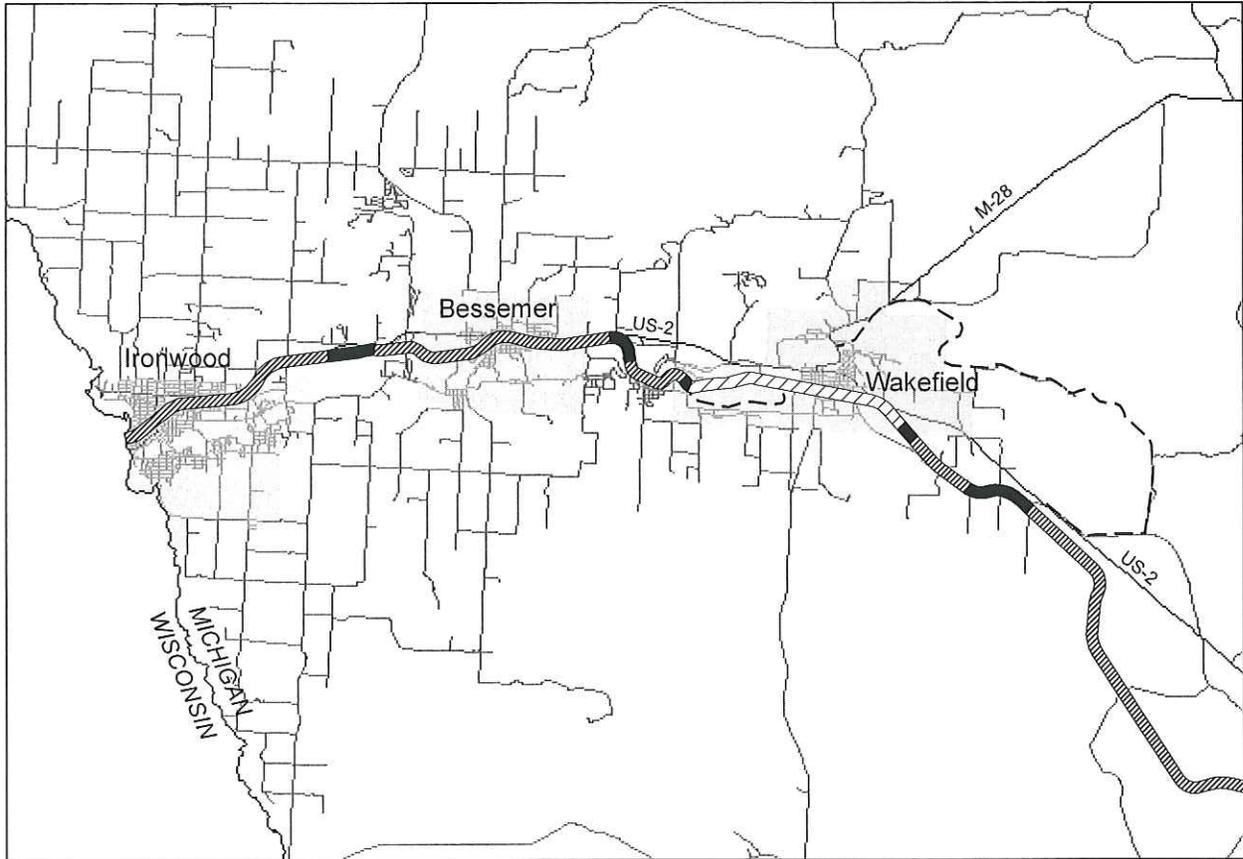
I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved

STATE TRAIL ACQUISITION

State Line Trail – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case # 20160103



Cities and townships of Ironwood, Bessemer and Wakefield

 Land to be acquired from Union Pacific Railroad
(29.65 acres, 2 miles, \$44,475)

 Future trail acquisition

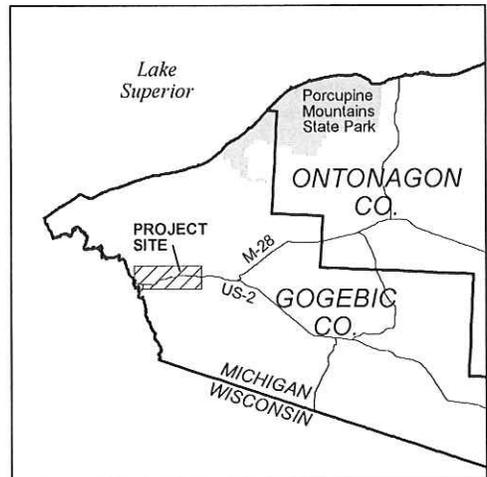
 Existing State Line trail

 Existing State Line Trail connectors

Note: Trail lands not drawn to scale on map



07/06/2016



 DNR Project Boundaries