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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LANSING



REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES
DIRECTOR

July 13, 2009

TO: Rebecca A. Humphries, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Parks and Recreation Land Exchange and Boundary Modification
Craig Lake State Park – Baraga County
Land Transaction Case #20080249

Applicant: Baraga Land and Timber Co., Minnetonka, Minnesota

Private Land Offered In Exchange: Baraga County, Spurr Township, T49N, R31W
The SE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 14
The N ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 14
The SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 14
The S ½ of the SE ¼ of Section 14
The W ½ of the NW ¼ of Section 23
The SE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 23
The SW ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 23
400 acres, more or less

Exchange Value: The offered land is 120 acres larger than desired State-owned land. In addition, comparative analysis of appraisal data indicates an estimated value in excess of the value of the desired land.

State Land Desired: Baraga County, L'anse Township, T49N, R32W
The NE ¼ of the NE ¼ Lot 1 of Section 12
Baraga County, Spurr Township, T49N, R31W
The W ½ of the NE ¼ and the E ½ of the SW ¼ of Section 15
The N ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 19
280 acres more or less

Appraised Value: \$91,800.00

Authority: Part 21 of Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources' (Department) August 3, 2009 Calendar, and is eligible for approval on August 10, 2009.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Keith J. Charters, Chair • Mary Brown • Hurley J. Coleman, Jr. • John Madigan • Timothy L. Nichols • J. R. Richardson • Frank Wheatlake

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July 13, 2009

Comments:

This transaction benefits the Department by consolidating the Department's ownership and enhancing resource management capabilities at Craig Lake State Park (CLSP). The offered parcels serve to block in State land at the northern boundary and add additional backcountry recreation opportunities to this wilderness park. Combined with current State-owned land, the offered parcels consolidate protection on the confluence of two branches of the Peshekee River and surrounding upland. The North Country National Scenic Trail (NCT) runs through the park just south of the offered land in Section 23, affording the opportunity to expand the park's concurrent trail network into Section 14 to the Peshekee River. Trail loops off the NCT will enable the expansion of backcountry camping opportunities into an area previously blocked by the private ownership of the offered parcels.

The offered and desired parcels share similar rolling upland topography covered in mixed northern hardwoods, and wetland areas where cedars and black spruce predominate. Both the offered and desired lands include frontage on streams or small lakes.

The desired parcels were reviewed during Phase II of the Land Consolidation Strategy and were designated as Class 3 – dispose properties. Disposal of these parcels was approved by the Director on November 13, 2006. The desired State-owned lands tax-reverted to the Department in 1939 and 1943. As a result, the offered land will assume tax-reverted status.

The proposed exchange was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on February 19, 2009.

The requirements for a land exchange are well satisfied in this transaction. The Department is obtaining 120 acres more than it is conveying, and based on the Department's appraisal and comparative valuation analysis, the State is receiving land with a value approximately \$38,000.00 greater than the State land desired. The State is conveying 280 acres in four widely dispersed parcels in exchange for 400 acres of land within and immediately adjacent to CLSP. In addition, 10.5 miles of private/public boundary interface and associated maintenance will be eliminated by this exchange.

July 13, 2009

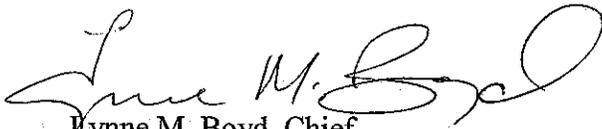
- Recommendations:
- (1) That the exchange be approved, under authority of Part 21, Act 451 of 1994, as amended.
 - (2) That minerals be exchanged as part of the transaction provided that offered minerals are available. If offered minerals are not available, State mineral rights are to be retained.
 - (3) That the dedicated boundary of CLSP be modified to include all of Section 14, and the SE ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 15.



David E. Freed, Chief
Land and Facilities



Russ Mason, Chief
Wildlife



Lynne M. Boyd, Chief
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation



Kelley D. Smith, Chief
Fisheries



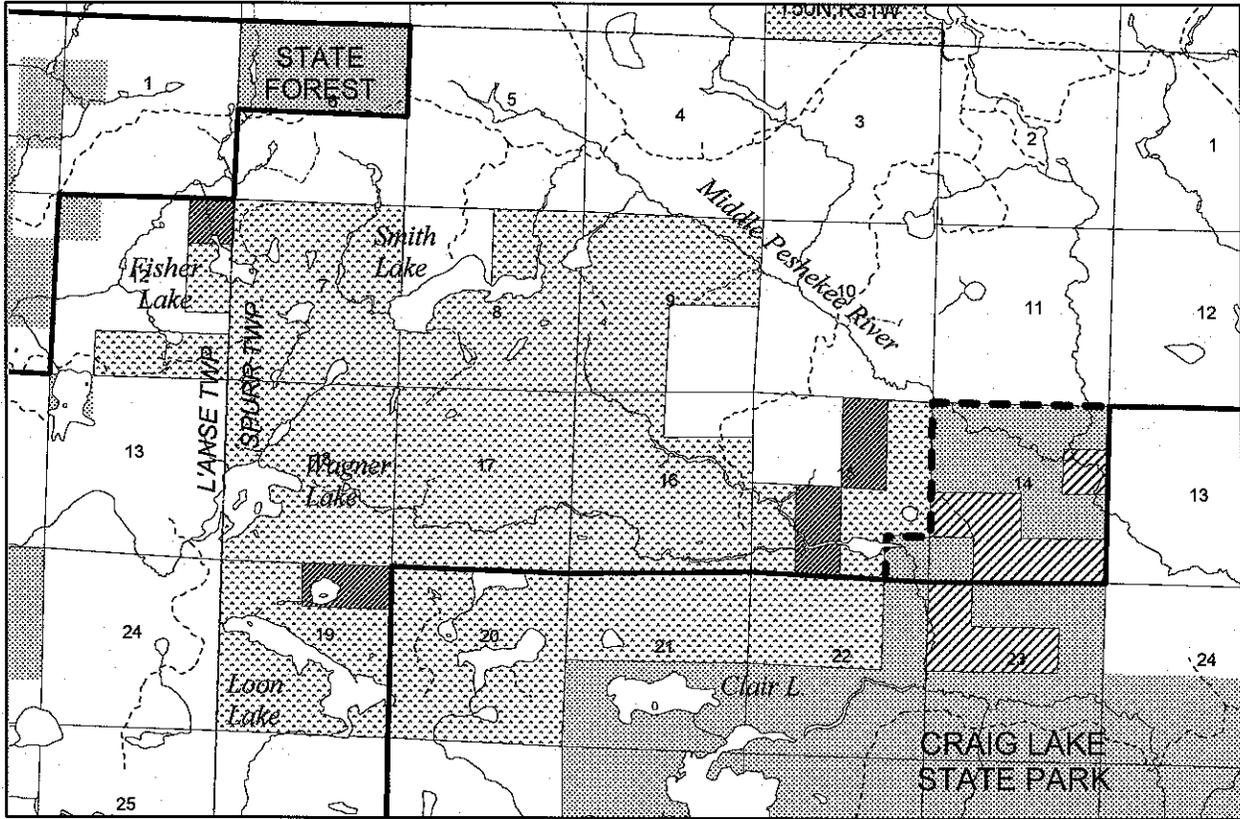
Arminda S. Koch
Resource Management Deputy

I approve the staff recommendations.

Rebecca A. Humphries
Director

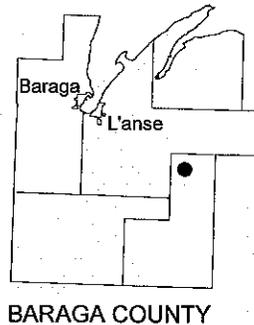
Date Approved

**PARKS AND RECREATION
 LAND EXCHANGE AND BOUNDARY MODIFICATION
 Craig Lake State Park - Baraga County
 Land Transaction Case #20080249**



Sections 14, 15, 19 and 23, T49N, R31W, Spurr Township
 Section 12, T49N, R32W, L'Anse Township

- State Forest and state park boundary
- - - Proposed boundary modification
- State land desired from DNR (280.00 acres)
- Private land offered to DNR in exchange (400.00 acres)
- Applicant's land
- State land
- Private land



DNR-FMFM
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