



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN  
DIRECTOR

July 15, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Forest Resources and Parks and Recreation Land Exchange  
Western UP District – Ontonagon and Gogebic County  
Baraga Management Unit – Baraga and Iron County  
Escanaba Management Unit – Dickinson and Menominee County  
The Keweenaw Land Association Mineral Exchange  
Land Transaction Case #20220065

Applicant: Keweenaw Land Association, Limited, a Michigan Corporation, Michigan

PA 240 of 2018: PILT Estimate: \$0.00  
The parcels involved in this exchange are north of the Mason-Arenac county line and will result in no net change of DNR-managed lands.

**Private Land Offered in Exchange:**

Acreage: 8,431.77 acres m/l – Mineral Rights Only

Location: Ontonagon County, Carp Lake Township  
Gogebic County, Wakefield Township  
Dickinson County, Norway Township

A full list of parcel descriptions can be found in the case file.

Value: \$310,000

**State Land Desired in Exchange:**

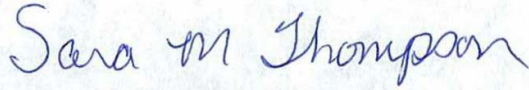
Acreage: 9,551.15 acres – Mineral Rights Only

Location: Dickinson County, Sagola, Breen, Norway, and Breitung Townships  
Gogebic County, Ironwood Township  
Menominee County, Spalding Township  
Baraga County, L’Anse Township  
Iron County, Bates, Iron River, Hematite, and Crystal Falls Townships  
Ontonagon County, Carp Lake Township

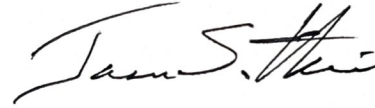
A full list of parcel descriptions can be found in the case file.

Value: \$265,000

- Authority:** Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.
- Notice:** This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) July 30, 2024, calendar and is eligible for approval on August 6, 2024.
- Comments:** The applicant desires state-owned minerals rights in a number of areas in the Upper Peninsula to expand their mineral operations. Most of the desired mineral rights are state-owned mineral rights under private surface. In exchange, the applicant is offering valuable mineral rights beneath state-owned surface in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park and a bat hibernaculum in Dickinson County. This exchange will unify surface and mineral ownership in a sensitive area.
- Mineral rights will be transferred as outlined in this memo.
- The desired mineral rights were acquired by tax reversion from 1907 through 1942 and 2000 and by federal government exchange in 1957.
- The proposed land exchange was recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on April 18, 2022, with an amendment recommended for approval on September 15, 2022, and an additional amendment recommended for approval on December 21, 2023.
- Recommendations:**
1. That the exchange be approved.
  2. That the offered lands in Ontonagon and Gogebic County be dedicated as part of the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park
  3. That the offered lands in Dickinson County be dedicated as part of the Escanaba Management Unit.



Sara Thompson, Chief  
Wildlife Division



Jason S. Haines, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division



Jeffery J. Stampfly, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division



Randall M. Claramunt, Chief  
Fisheries Division



Jon Spieles, Chief  
Marketing and Outreach Division



Dan Lord, Chief  
Finance and Operations Division



Shannon Lott  
Natural Resources Deputy



Kristin Phillips  
Chief Administrative Officer

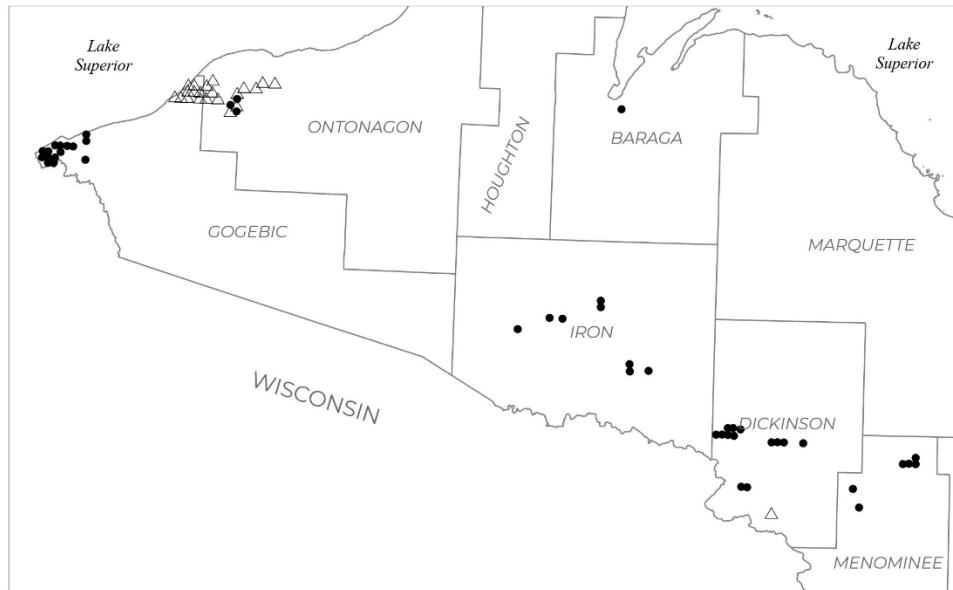


M. Scott Bowen  
Director

Date Approved: August 8, 2024

## STATE FOREST MINERAL RIGHTS EXCHANGE

Baraga and Escanaba Management Units  
Western Upper Peninsula District  
Land Transaction Case #20220065



Ontonagon County : Carp Lake Township

Gogebic County: Ironwood and Wakefield Townships

Iron County: Bates, Iron River, Hematite, and Crystal Falls Townships

Dickinson County: Sagola, Breen, Norway, and Breitung Townships

Menominee County: Spalding Township

Baraga County: L'Anse Township

- State-owned mineral rights desired from DNR (9,551.15 acres)
- △ Mineral rights offered to DNR in exchange (8,431.77 acres)





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LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN  
DIRECTOR

July 15, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

**Information:** Natural Resources Commission

**Transaction:** Forest Resources Division Land Acquisition  
Pigeon River Country Forest Management Unit – Montmorency and  
Cheboygan Counties  
Land Transaction Case #20220163

**Purchase:** 8,844.11 acres

**Purchase Price:** \$17,000,000.00

**Description:** Montmorency County, Montmorency Township, T32N, R01E, Sections  
3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21 and 22  
AND  
Cheboygan County, Forest Township, T33N, R1E, Sections 27, 28, 29,  
32, 33, and 34; as completely described in the case file.

**Funding Sources:** 63% Forest Legacy Program, The Black River Ranch Grant Award  
31% Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, TF20-0205 and  
TF23-0208  
6% A \$1,000,000 donation from Little Traverse Conservancy, Rocky  
Mountain Elk Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy.

**PA 240 of 2018:** PILT Estimate: \$150,400.00  
This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac county line and will result in  
an increase of 8,844.11 acres of DNR-managed land.

**Seller(s):** BRR Merger LLC, Southfield, MI

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

**Notice:** This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources  
(Department) July 30, 2024, calendar and is eligible for approval on  
August 6, 2024. Public notice of this proposed transaction will also be  
published in the Cheboygan Daily Tribute on July 12, 2024, and the  
Montmorency County Tribute on July 17, 2024, and is posted on the  
department's webpage at [www.michigan.gov/publiclandnotices](http://www.michigan.gov/publiclandnotices).

**Management Purpose:** Acquisition of this parcel will allow it to be managed as part of the  
Pigeon River Country State Forest.

Comments:

The property is one of the last remaining large, intact, forested, privately-owned tracts of land in Michigan’s Lower Peninsula. The property includes over 14 miles of the Black River, the East Branch of the Black River, and Stewart Creek, all world-class cold-water trout streams. The property also includes three lakes, including 150-acre Silver Lake. The property is adjacent on three sides to the Pigeon River Country State Forest. It is home to several threatened and endangered species and provides habitat for a variety of wildlife, including elk. Acquisition will eliminate the possibility of fragmentation, ensure sustainable forestry practices, and offer public recreational access to this unique tract of land.

BRR Merger LLC is providing a \$1 million donation in the form of a bargain sale. The property has an appraised fair market value of \$18 million and the DNR will be acquiring the property for a purchase price of \$17 million.

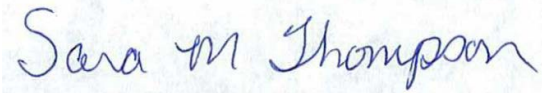
Little Traverse Conservancy provided a valuable partnership throughout the acquisition process for this tract of land, which includes a generous donation of \$1,000,000, provided in partnership with Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and The Nature Conservancy.

Closing is anticipated to be completed by December 31, 2025.

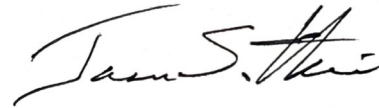
Mineral rights are not owned by the seller.

Recommendation:

1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Forest Legacy Program, Black River Ranch Grant Award and Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, TF20-0205 and TF23-0208.
2. That the donation generously provided by Little Traverse Conservancy, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and The Nature Conservancy be accepted with gratitude.
3. That the bargain sale generously provided by the seller be accepted with gratitude.
4. That this land be dedicated as part of the Pigeon River Country State Forest.



Sara Thompson, Chief  
Wildlife Division



Jason S. Haines, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division



Jeffery J. Stampfly, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division



Randall M. Claramunt, Chief  
Fisheries Division



Jon Spieles  
Marketing and Outreach Division



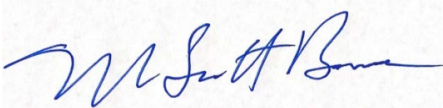
Dan Lord, Chief  
Finance and Operations Division



Shannon Lott  
Natural Resources Deputy



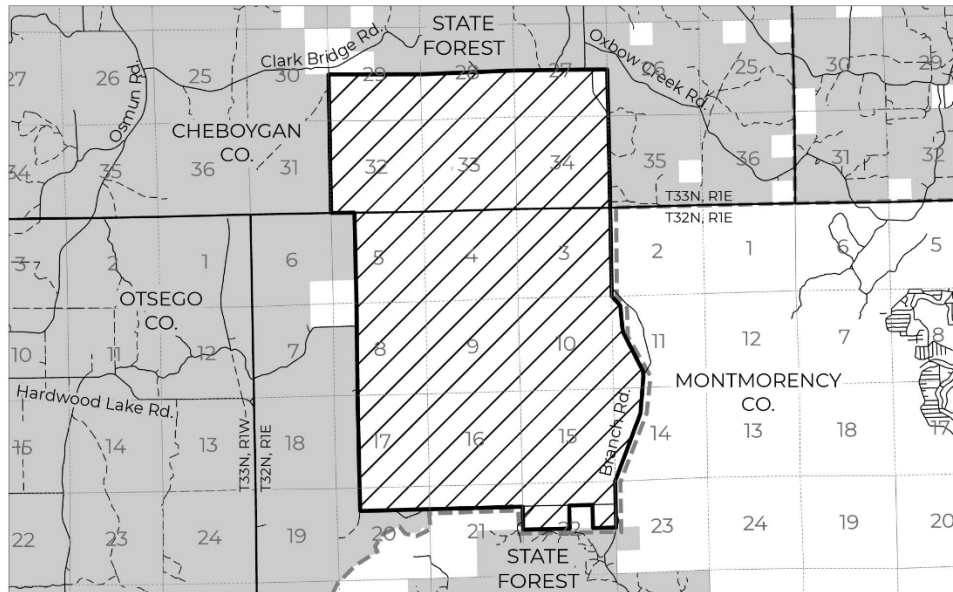
Kristin Phillips  
Chief Administrative Officer






M. Scott Bowen  
Director

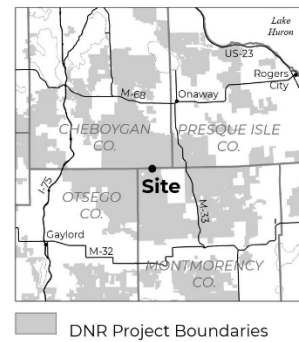
Date Approved: August 8, 2024

**FOREST RESOURCES LAND ACQUISITION**  
 Pigeon River Country State Forest  
 Cheboygan and Montmorency Counties  
 Land Transaction Case #20220163



Sections 27-29 and 32-34, Forest Township, Cheboygan County  
 Sections 3-5, 8-11, 14-17, 20-22, Montmorency Township, Montmorency County

-  Land to be acquired by DNR (8,844.11 acres)
-  State land
-  DNR Project Boundary







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GOVERNOR

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN  
DIRECTOR

July 15, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

**Information:** Natural Resources Commission

**Transaction:** Parks and Recreation Land Acquisition  
Western Upper Peninsula District – Marquette County  
Land Transaction Case #20230126

**Purchase:** 40.32 acres

**Appraised Fair Market Value:** \$265,000.00

**Purchase Price:** \$291,500.00

**Description:** Marquette County, Negaunee Township, T48N, R26W:  
S 1/2 of SE 1/4 of SE 1/4 of Section 29, & S 1/2 of SW 1/4 of SW 1/4, in  
Section 28 Township 48 North, Range 26 West, Michigan.

**Funding Source:** Land Exchange Facilitation Fund (LEFF)

**PA 240 of 2018:** PILT Estimate: \$3,438.00  
This parcel is North of the Mason-Arenac county line and will result in  
an increase of 40.32 acres of DNR-managed land.

**Seller:** Superior Watershed Partnership, Marquette, MI

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

**Notice:** This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources  
(Department) July 30, 2024, calendar and is eligible for approval on  
August 6, 2024.

**Management Purpose:** Acquisition of this parcel will provide waterfall viewing, access, and  
interpretive opportunities of this historic location in association with the  
Michigan Iron History Museum and Iron Ore Heritage Trail.

**Comments:** The offered parcel is vacant land along the Carp River and hosts a  
regionally significant waterfall and historic site of early iron mining in the  
upper peninsula. This property will be integrated into the Michigan Iron  
History Museum to enhance trail access throughout the site and  
facilitate interpretation of the natural and cultural history of the region.

Acquisition of this parcel would create public access to the Carp River, Carp River Falls and the historic resources associated with Michigan's iron mining industry.

It is the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Division and the Michigan History Center that the Department support this acquisition at the identified purchase price, which is above the appraised fair market value of the property.

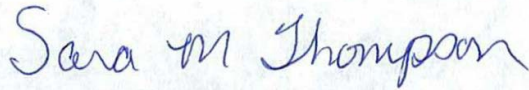
Minerals:

The mineral rights will be conveyed to the State of Michigan.

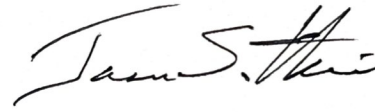
Recommendation:

1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund (LEFF).
2. That this land be dedicated as part of the Michigan Iron History Museum.
3. That the dedicated boundary for Michigan Iron History Museum be modified to include this property.

July 15, 2024



Sara Thompson, Chief  
Wildlife Division



Jason S. Haines, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division



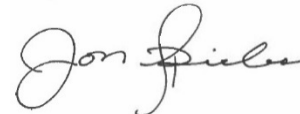
Jeffery J. Stampfly, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division



Randall M. Claramunt, Chief  
Fisheries Division



Jon Spieles, Chief  
Marketing and Outreach Division



Dan Lord, Chief  
Finance and Operations Division



Shannon Lott  
Natural Resources Deputy



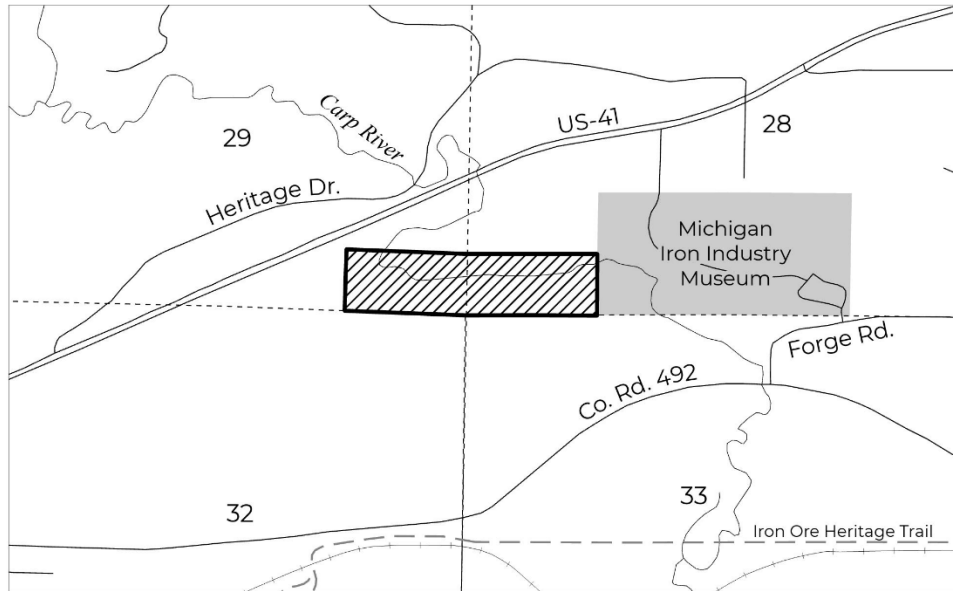
Kristin Phillips  
Chief Administrative Officer





M. Scott Bowen  
Director

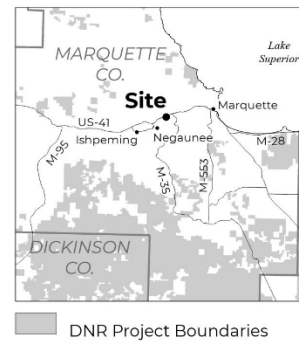
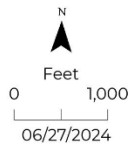
Date Approved: August 8, 2024

**PARKS AND RECREATION LAND ACQUISITION**  
Western Upper Peninsula District – Marquette County  
Land Transaction Case #20230126



Sections 28 and 29, T48N-R26W, Negaunee Township

-  Land to be acquired by DNR (40.32 acres)
-  State land





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LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN  
DIRECTOR

July 15, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

**Information:** Natural Resources Commission

**Transaction:** Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land  
Grayling Management Unit – Oscoda County  
Land Transaction Case #20230162

**Sale:** 0.50 acre

**Sale Price:** \$2,200.00

**Description:** Oscoda County, Greenwood Township, T27N, R01E, Section 02:  
Part of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 2, T27N, R01  
E, Greenwood Township, Oscoda County, Michigan, described as:  
Beginning S00°05'00"E, along the North-South 1/4 line, 1398.25 feet  
from the North 1/4 corner of said Section 2; thence continuing  
S00°05'00"E, along said North-South 1/4 line, 273.00 feet; thence  
S89°27'18"W, parallel to the North 1/16 line, 80.00 feet; thence  
N00°05'00"W, parallel with said North-South 1/4 line, 273.00 feet to said  
North 1/16 line; thence N89°27'18"E, along said North 1/16 line, 80.00  
feet back to the point of beginning. Said parcel containing 0.50 acre  
more or less.

**PA 240 of 2018:** This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a  
decrease of 0.50 acre of DNR-managed lands.

**Applicant:** Christopher & Audrey Forbush, Fenton, 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) July 30, 2024, calendar and is eligible for approval on  
August 6, 2024.

**Acquired:** Tax Reverted in 1910.

**Minerals:** Mineral rights will be conveyed.

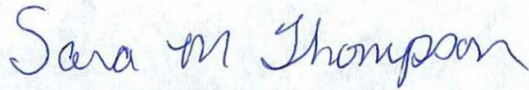
July 15, 2024

Comments: The direct sale of this State of Michigan owned land to the applicants will resolve a man-made pond trespass. DEQ/EGLE issued a permit for this pond to be constructed back in 2016. The applicants used an old fence line to determine the property boundary, rather than having the land surveyed prior to digging a man-made pond partially on state land. Due to the potential for land use issues in the future if left as is, conveyance is the best option. Applicants were required to obtain a survey and then to clearly identify new property boundary lines by fence or metal posts.

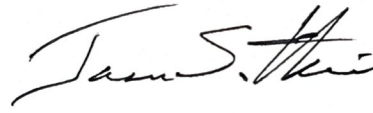
The proposed sale was recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on December 21, 2023.

- Recommendations:
1. That the land be sold to the applicants for \$2,200.00.
  2. That the proceeds of the sale be deposited in the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund (LEFF) Game & Fish Sub Fund.
  3. That the state retains aboriginal antiquities.

July 15, 2024



Sara Thompson, Chief  
Wildlife Division



Jason S. Haines, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division



Jeffery J. Stampfly, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division



Randall M. Claramunt, Chief  
Fisheries Division



Jon Spieles, Chief  
Marketing and Outreach Division



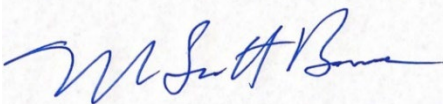
Dan Lord, Chief  
Finance and Operations Division



Shannon Lott  
Natural Resources Deputy



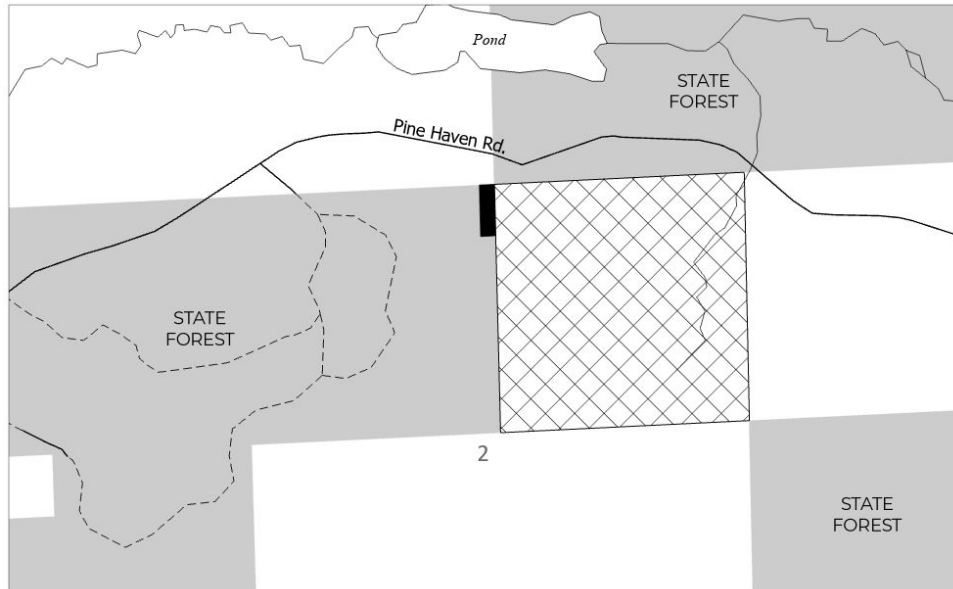
Kristin Phillips  
Chief Administrative Officer






M. Scott Bowen  
Director

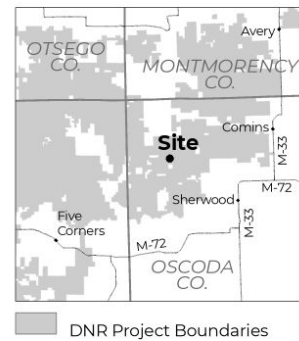
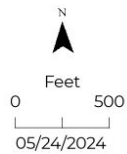
Date Approved: August 8, 2024

SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND  
Grayling Management Unit – Oscoda County  
Land Transaction Case #20230162



Section 2, T27N-R01E, Greenwood Township

-  Surplus DNR land to be sold (0.50 acres)
-  Applicant land (Forbush)
-  State land







GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN  
DIRECTOR

July 15, 2024

MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Conveyance of Land for Public Purposes  
Grayling Management Unit – Crawford County  
Land Transaction Case #20240134

Sale: 55.02 acres

Sale Price: Land to be conveyed without monetary compensation. It is to be used solely for a public roadway and if not constructed within five years, will revert to the state.

Description: Crawford County, Grayling Township, T26N, R03W, Sections 20 and 29; as completely described in the case file.

PA 240 of 2018: This parcel is North of the Mason-Arenac county line and will result in a decrease of 55.02 acres in DNR-managed lands.

Applicant: Crawford County Road Commission, Grayling, Michigan

Authority: Part 21 of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended.

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) July 30, 2024, calendar and is eligible for approval on August 6, 2024.

Acquired: By government exchange in 1940 and by tax reversion in 1907, 1927, 1930, 1932, and 1939.

Minerals: To be retained.

Comments:

In 2000, the DNR entered into a MOU with Grayling Township and the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce for the development of 1,850 acres of DNR managed land into the Grayling Four Mile Industrial Park. The MOU was updated in 2012. In 2018, the DNR conveyed a public use deed (PUD) to the Crawford County Road Commission (CCRC) via Land Transaction Case #20160095 of 44.62 acres of land so that the CCRC could construct a roadway passing through the center of the Industrial Park. The roadway remains undeveloped by the CCRC.

In order to facilitate a separate MOU related transaction that is currently under negotiation, the CCRC is requesting that the roadway PUD be relocated to the east.

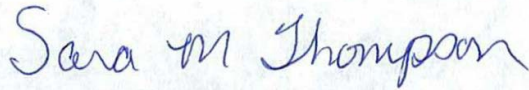
To complete the transaction, the CCRC will be required to deed the land that was conveyed to them in 2018 back to the DNR. The DNR will then deed the new property to the CCRC.

The Land Exchange Review Committee recommended approval of the proposed transaction on July 16, 2024, pursuant to Subpart 1, Part 21, Act 451, Public Acts of 1994, as amended, which provides for the transfer of tax-reverted state land for public purposes to any department, board, or commission of the state.

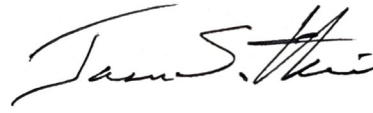
Recommendations:

1. That the applicant conveys the land that was conveyed to it by public use deed in 2018 to the state.
2. That the requested land be conveyed to the applicant for public roadway. If the roadway is not constructed within five years, the property will revert to the state.
3. That the state retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.

July 15, 2024



Sara Thompson, Chief  
Wildlife Division



Jason S. Haines, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division



Jeffery J. Stampfly, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division



Randall M. Claramunt, Chief  
Fisheries Division



Jon Spieles, Chief  
Marketing and Outreach Division




Dan Lord, Chief  
Finance and Operations Division



Shannon Lott  
Natural Resources Deputy



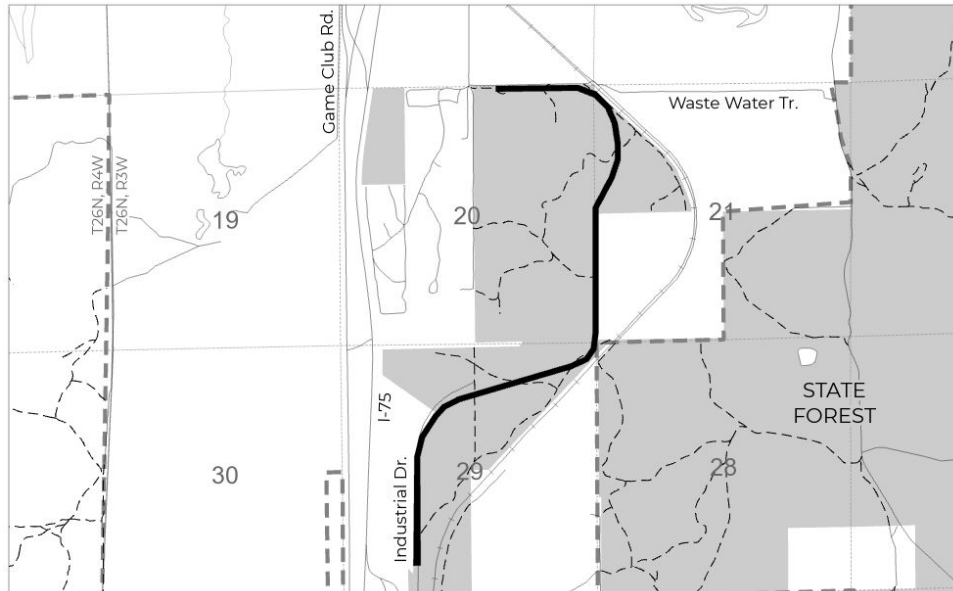
Kristin Phillips  
Chief Administrative Officer






M. Scott Bowen  
Director

Date Approved: August 8, 2024

CONVEYANCE OF DNR-MANAGED LAND FOR PUBLIC USE  
Grayling Management Unit – Crawford County  
Land Transaction Case #20240134



Sections 20 and 29, Grayling Township

-  DNR land to be conveyed (55.02 acres)
-  State land
-  DNR Project Boundary

