MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 3 of 2018

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background:

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) annually prescribes migratory bird hunting season frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur and the maximum number of birds that may be taken and possessed. Federal frameworks are negotiated with states via the Flyway Councils. Beginning with the 2016-17 hunting seasons, the USFWS streamlined the process by which it sets annual migratory bird hunting seasons and daily limits. The two-year cycle of regulatory process was compressed into a single annual process. The new approach to set annual migratory bird hunting seasons and bag limits relies on biological data from the previous year to set hunting season dates and project appropriate harvest limits for each game species. This is possible because, for many migratory game bird species, the USFWS and the Department have decades of data from population surveys, banding, and harvest surveys that is used to develop models and harvest strategies to predict population change and inform harvest management decisions. These frameworks are adjusted to influence harvest regulations based on the previous year’s monitoring information and regulatory decisions. This change gives biologists more time to analyze survey data from the USFWS’s regulatory decisions and allows more time for public comment. A major benefit is that State agencies can set their season dates in the early spring, allowing hunters to plan their schedules well before the first hunting seasons open.

The Department’s recommendations for the 2018-19 migratory bird seasons are based on the 2017 State and Federal assessments of waterfowl population status and habitat conditions, and public input including discussion with the Citizens Waterfowl Advisory Committee (CWAC) at their January 6, 2018 meeting.
Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 3 of 2018
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Biological

Since 1991, Michigan has collaborated with other states, the USFWS, and Canadian agencies in conducting aerial surveys of breeding ducks and geese. Spring mallard population estimates from Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin are included in estimates of mid-continent mallard abundance and additionally are needed for establishing annual waterfowl hunting season frameworks for the Mississippi, Central, and Pacific Flyways. The spring 2017 breeding waterfowl survey was conducted in late April and early May and the 2017 estimate of total ducks increased from 502,580 ducks in 2016 to 684,445 ducks in 2017. The 2017 estimate for mallards was 298,120 mallards, which was similar to the 2016 estimate of 278,110 mallards. The 2017 statewide wetland abundance estimate was over 554,000, which was up 11% from the 2016 estimate. The 2017 estimate for Canada geese was down from 332,932 Canada geese in 2016 to 291,658 Canada geese in 2017.

Flyway Councils are advised by flyway technical committees consisting of state and provincial biologists. These technical committees evaluate species and population status, harvest, and hunter-participation data during the development of the Flyway Council recommendations. The USFWS then evaluates the Flyway Councils’ recommendations, considering species status and biology, cumulative effects of regulations, and existing regulatory policy. Likewise, the Department’s Waterfowl Workgroup and the CWAC review information on species status and habitat conditions when developing recommendations for waterfowl hunting seasons.

Social

The Department develops recommendations based on Waterfowl Workgroup discussions with the CWAC. The CWAC met on January 6 to make recommendations for the 2018-19 waterfowl seasons. The Department’s recommendations are the same as those made by the CWAC with an exception to the youth waterfowl season.

The Department’s Waterfowl Workgroup established goals for duck hunting seasons that include maintaining Michigan’s waterfowl hunting heritage by increasing hunter recruitment and retention, balancing regulations simplicity with maximum hunting opportunity, and ensuring that seasons encompass maximum duck numbers and abundant species.

Biannually, the Department mails Waterfowl Harvest Surveys to a sample of waterfowl hunters to estimate hunting activity and determine opinions and satisfaction with hunting regulations.

Economic

In 2012, Michigan waterfowl hunters took about 371,000 waterfowl hunting trips and spent an average of $463 per hunter annually on waterfowl hunting trips. Collectively, waterfowl hunters spent an estimated $22.7 million on hunting trips primarily to hunt waterfowl in Michigan (2012 Waterfowl Harvest Report). The economic value of recreational goose hunting in the Mississippi Flyway was estimated at $185 million in 2006 and the economic costs of goose conflicts was estimated at $2.2 million in 2000. Businesses located in communities near well-known waterfowl hunting areas receive economic benefits from these waterfowl hunting trips.
Youth Waterfowl Season

The Department recommends that the season for the Federal youth waterfowl season be changed to the third weekend in September (September 15 and 16, 2018). These dates were selected so that there would be greater duck abundance during the youth hunting days. While this recommendation differs from that of CWAC, the later hunting dates were discussed at the CWAC meeting and were favorable to most members. There is a desire for the youth waterfowl season and the Liberty Hunt not to overlap and it was incorrectly assumed at the CWAC meeting that the Liberty Hunt was occurring on September 15 and 16. Having the youth waterfowl season on September 15 and 16, 2018 will not overlap with the Liberty Hunt and these dates will provide maximum opportunity for youth hunters.

Early Teal Season

The Department completed three years of evaluation of an experimental early teal season in 2014-2016 and as a result, the USFWS determined that Michigan can sustain an early teal season. An early teal season is now operationalized for teal production states including Michigan and the Department is recommending:
- September 1-16 statewide
- Daily bag limit of 6 teal and a possession limit of 18 which is three times the daily limit
- Hunting hours begin at sunrise

The Department and the CWAC recommend opening the early teal season as early as possible due to the greatest abundance of teal in Michigan during that time. Blue-winged teal are some of the earliest duck species to migrate each fall. Available information on teal migration in Michigan indicates that the peak of fall blue-winged teal migration is late August – early September. The Department and CWAC recommend utilizing the entire 16 days allowed under Federal Frameworks. Recommended season dates include three full weekends of hunting, including the Labor Day weekend.

An estimated 8,784, or approximately 18 percent of waterfowl hunters in 2014, pursued teal during the early teal season in 2014 (2014 Waterfowl Harvest Survey).

To improve waterfowl identification, the Department recommends no change to hunting hours (i.e., early teal season begin at sunrise rather than the usual half hour before sunrise for migratory bird hunting hours). Identifying duck species is difficult under low light conditions. The Canada goose season dates overlap the proposed teal season and goos hunting hours begin one half hour before sunrise. The Wildlife Division and Law Enforcement Division will continue to work together to mitigate hunter confusion through public education and communication with hunters while in the field, while providing maximum recreational opportunity.

The Department will continue to educate hunters on the identification of teal and provide information to help guide them to hunting locations where they are likely to encounter teal to ensure a successful teal season.
Duck Seasons

The USFWS offered a 60-day season and six-duck daily limit based on an adaptive harvest management strategy using 2017 prairie pond numbers and mid-continent mallard abundance as a guide to season length and daily duck limit. The Department developed the following duck season dates for 2018 based on feedback from CWAC, analysis of data on hunter opinions, migration timing, and hunter success.

The recommended dates for the 2018 duck season are:
- North Zone – September 29 to November 25 and December 1 to December 2
- Middle Zone – October 6 to December 2 and December 15 to December 16
- South Zone – October 13 to December 9 and December 29 to December 30

The daily bag limit for ducks will be six ducks with the following species-specific restrictions: four mallards (no more than two hens), two black ducks, two northern pintails, three wood ducks, two redhead ducks, three scaup, and two canvasbacks. In addition to the duck limit, hunters may take five mergansers, only two of which may be a hooded merganser. The possession limit is three times the daily limit for ducks, coots, and mergansers.

Goose Seasons

The Department recommends goose season dates based on Canada goose population goals, feedback from the CWAC, and surveys of waterfowl hunters. Waterfowl hunters expressed their desire for additional opportunities to hunt ducks and geese on the same days. The recommended season dates provide for overlap of goose and duck seasons.

Federal frameworks for the Mississippi Flyway allow for a 107-day Canada goose season with a daily bag limit of five from September 1-30 and three from October 1-February 15, 2019. The possession limit is three times the daily limit for geese.

While few other goose species are harvested in Michigan, the Department makes recommendations that allow goose hunters to take these species if they have the opportunity. The recommended dates for the season for white, blue, and Ross’ geese, white-fronted geese, and brant are the same as the Canada goose seasons in each respective zone and GMU. The daily bag limits for white, blue, and Ross’ geese is 20. To maximize opportunity, the Department is again recommending a dark goose aggregate daily bag limit for Canada geese, white-fronted geese, and brant of five, only one of which can be a brant from September 1-30, only three of which can be Canada geese, and one can be a brant beginning October 1.

The 2017 Michigan Canada goose population estimate was above the goal range of 175,000-225,000. Federal frameworks for Canada geese in the Mississippi Flyway were liberalized to allow for 107 days of hunting, the maximum allowed under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and an increase in bag limits. The recommended season dates and bag limits take advantage of this liberalization. September dates of the Canada goose season are timed so that resident geese are most susceptible to harvest. This is a good tool to maintain Michigan’s Canada goose population at or near the goal range which will help address human-goose conflicts.
The Department recommends the following dates and daily bag limits for Canada goose seasons:

- North Zone regular season: September 1-30 (5-bird daily bag limit) and October 1-December 16 (3-bird daily bag limit)
- Middle Zone: September 1-30 (5-bird daily bag limit) and October 6-December 21 (3-bird daily bag limit)
- South Zone: September 1-30 (5-bird daily bag limit), October 13-December 9 (3-bird daily bag limit), December 29-December 30 (3-bird daily bag limit), and January 26-February 11, 2019 (3-bird daily bag limit)
- Allegan GMU: September 1-16 (5-bird daily bag limit), November 3-November 13 (3-bird daily bag limit), November 22-December 9 (3-bird daily bag limit), and December 15-February 14, 2019 (3-bird daily bag limit)
- Muskegon County Waste Water GMU: October 16-November 13 (3-bird daily bag limit) and December 1-22 (3-bird daily bag limit)

Falconry

For the falconry season, the recommended dates for the additional days outside the gun hunting seasons for ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens are December 31 to January 14, 2019 and February 19 to March 10, 2019. The daily and possession limits remain unchanged. The Department continues to discuss falconry dates with the Michigan Hawking Club.
Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order was submitted for information on February 8, 2018, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department’s January 2018 calendar and may be eligible for approval on March 15, 2018.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, Chief
Forest Resources Division

James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

William O’Neill
Natural Resources Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Keith Creagh, Director

Date

3/15/18
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 3 of 2018

By authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by sections 40107 and 40113a of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.40107 and 324.40113a, it is ordered that effective March 16, 2018, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

3.415 Migratory birds open seasons, possession limit defined, exceptions.

Sec. 3.415. The migratory bird possession limit shall be three times the daily limit. The migratory bird hunting open seasons and exceptions are as shown in table 10:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season and Species</th>
<th>Migratory Bird Open Seasons</th>
<th>Zone or Management Unit</th>
<th>Open Season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ducks (regular season)</td>
<td></td>
<td>North Zone</td>
<td>September 29 to November 25 and December 1 to December 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle Zone</td>
<td>October 6 to December 2 and December 15 to December 16</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>South Zone</td>
<td>October 13 to December 9 and December 29 to December 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merganser</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Same dates as ducks in the respective zones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coots</td>
<td></td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Same dates as ducks in the respective zones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Moorhens (Gallinules)</td>
<td></td>
<td>North Zone</td>
<td>September 1 to November 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada Goose, White-fronted Goose, Brant, Snow Goose, and Ross’ Goose</td>
<td></td>
<td>North Zone</td>
<td>September 1 to December 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Middle Zone</td>
<td>September 1 to September 30 and October 6 to December 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>South Zone, excluding GMUs listed below in the table</td>
<td>September 1 to September 30, October 13 to December 9, December 29 to December 30 and January 26 to February 11, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Allegan County GMU</td>
<td>September 1 to September 16, November 3 to November 13, November 22 to December 9, and December 15, 2018 to February 14, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Muskegon County W.W. GMU</td>
<td>October 16 to November 13 and December 1 to December 22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.415a Youth waterfowl hunting weekend, season established, limits defined, adult requirements, hunting hours; exceptions.

Sec. 3.415a The youth waterfowl hunting weekend shall be 2 consecutive days starting the third Saturday in September and within the guidelines approved by the United States fish and wildlife service. Except for persons taking Canada goose during the September segment of the Canada goose season in each zone, the following rules shall apply to a person taking ducks, mergansers, Canada goose, coot, or common moorhen (gallinule) on the youth waterfowl hunting weekend:

(1) Youth 16 years of age and under may take duck, merganser, Canada goose, coot, or common moorhen (gallinule) provided the youth is licensed to take waterfowl as required by part 435, hunting and fishing licensing, of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451. The daily and possession limit for each species shall be as provided in section 3.416.
(2) A parent or legal guardian shall not allow a youth hunter 10 through 16 years of age to go afield to hunt duck, merganser, Canada goose, coot, or moorhen unless the youth hunter is accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age or older, regardless of property ownership. A youth less than 10 years of age must be accompanied by an adult at least 21 years of age or older and meet the requirements of the mentored youth hunting program. An adult accompanying a youth waterfowl hunter may take other game for which the season is open while the youth is exercising the privileges of the youth waterfowl hunting weekend.

(3) The hunting hours shall be one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, local time.

(4) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this section, all regulations of state law and this order regarding the taking, possession, transportation, and storage of waterfowl, shall apply on youth waterfowl hunting weekend.

3.416 Migratory game birds; daily limit.
Sec. 3.416. The daily limit of migratory game birds for the seasons specified in section 3.415 shall be as follows:

(1) Ducks, daily limit. The daily limit shall be 6 ducks of which no more than 4 may be mallards, no more than 2 may be a hen mallard, no more than 2 may be black ducks, no more than 3 may be wood ducks, no more than 2 may be pintails, no more than 2 may be redheads, no more than 3 may be scaup, and no more than 2 may be canvasbacks.

(2) Merganser, daily limit. The merganser daily limit shall be 5 mergansers of which no more than 2 may be a hooded merganser.

(3) Dark geese (Canada, white-fronted and Brant), north, middle, and south zones, including GMUs, daily limit. During September, in the north, middle, and south zones as described in sections 1.7, 1.8, and 1.9 of this order, respectively, and all GMUs as described in sections 12.702 and 12.703 the daily limit of dark geese shall be 5, only 1 of which can be a Brant. After September 30, the daily limit for dark geese shall be 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a Brant.

(4) Light geese (snow, blue and Ross), daily limit. The daily limit on light geese (snow, blue, and Ross) shall be 20.

(5) Coot, daily limit. The daily limit of coot shall be 15.

(6) Common moorhen (gallinule), daily limit. The daily limit of moorhen shall be 1.

3.422 Migratory birds, falconry, open seasons; daily limit, possession limit.
Sec. 3.422. (1) The open season for taking common snipe (jacksnipe), woodcock, and Virginia and Sora rails by falconry shall be the same dates as the firearm seasons in the respective zones for these species as described in sections 3.415 and 3.420.

(2) The open season for taking geese shall be the same dates as the firearm seasons in the respective zones and goose management units.

(3) The open season for taking duck, merganser, coot and common moorhen (gallinule) shall be the same dates as the firearm seasons in the respective zones for these species, plus the season shall be open statewide December 31, 2018 to January 14, 2019 and February 19 to March 10, 2019.

(4) The daily limit for migratory game birds taken by falconry shall be 3 birds combined, and the possession limit shall be 9 birds combined.

3.424 September teal hunt; open season; areas defined.
Sec. 3.424 (1) The open season for teal shall be September 1 to September 16 statewide.

(2) All state parks shall be closed.
Issued on this 15th day of March, 2018.

Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Vicki J. Pontz, Chair
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Keith Creagh
Director
February 12, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Gaylord Management Unit – Otsego County
Land Transaction Case #20170241

Sale: 28.7 acres

Sale Price: Minimum price to be determined by the Department. Sale price to be determined at auction.

Description: Otsego County, Otsego Lake Township, T29N, R03W, Section 34: 8.68 acres in the NE1/4 of the NW1/4; 10 acres in the NW1/4 of the SE1/4; 5.01 acres in the SW1/4 of the NW1/4; and 5.01 acres in the SE1/4 of the NW1/4, as fully described in the case file.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a decrease of 28.7 acres to the total of DNR-managed lands.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) March 6, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on March 13, 2018. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.


Minerals: The mineral rights will be reviewed when prepared for auction.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcels are all individually surrounded by private ownership and small in size.

The proposed land disposal was recommended for approval as surplus by the Land Exchange Review Committee on December 21, 2017.

Proceeds will be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund (LEFF). The LEFF allows the Department to sell rights in land and deposit the proceeds in a fund which can then be used to acquire replacement property.

Engagement: Local engagement will be completed as part of the auction process.
Recommendation:  

(1) That the land be disposed of as surplus.

(2) That the proceeds of the sale be deposited in the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.

(3) That the state follow the Office of Minerals Management's recommendation regarding mineral rights.

(4) That the state retain aboriginal antiquities.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief  
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, 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: January 15, 2018
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Gaylord Management Unit – Otsego County
Land Transaction Case #20170241

Section 34, T29N, R03/W, Otsego Lake Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (4 parcels, 28.7 acres total)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

Map showing the location and boundaries of the land for sale.
February 12, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Grayling Management Unit – Crawford County
Land Transaction Case #20170239

Sale: 4.98 acres

Sale Price: Minimum price to be determined by the Department. Sale price to be determined at auction.

Description: Crawford County, Lovells Township, T27N, R01W, Section 27: The NE1/4 of the NE1/4.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a decrease of 4.98 acres to the total of DNR-managed lands.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) March 6, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on March 13, 2018. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By gift in 1981.

Minerals: The mineral rights will be reviewed when prepared for auction.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcel is surrounded by private ownership and is adjacent to Big Creek, however, it lacks public access.

At the time the gift was made, the gift grantor agreed that the 4.98 acres could be sold at public auction.

The proposed land disposal was recommended for approval as surplus by the Land Exchange Review Committee on December 21, 2017.

Proceeds will be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund (LEFF). The LEFF allows the Department to sell rights in land and deposit the proceeds in a fund which can then be used to acquire replacement property.

Engagement: Local engagement will be completed as part of the auction process.
Recommendation:

(1) That the land be disposed of as surplus.

(2) That the proceeds of the sale be deposited in the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.

(3) That the state follow the Office of Minerals Management's recommendation regarding mineral rights.

(4) That the state retain aboriginal antiquities.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, Chief
Forest Resources Division

James L. Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division

Rohald 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

March 15, 2018
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Grayling Management Unit - Crawford County
Land Transaction Case #20170239

Section 27, T27N, R01W, Lovells Township

Surplus DNR land to be sold (4.98 acres)

State land
Private land

0
500
02/02/2018

DNR Project Boundaries
February 12, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Gaylord Management Unit – Antrim County
Land Transaction Case #20160182

Sale: 78.69 acres

Sale Price: Minimum price to be determined by the Department. Sale price to be determined at auction.

Description: Antrim County, Custer Township, T29N, R07W, Section 01:
The N1/2 of the NE1/4.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a
decrease of 78.69 acres to the total of DNR-managed lands.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources
(Department) March 6, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
March 13, 2018. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as
required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1939.

Minerals: The mineral rights will be reviewed when prepared for auction.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcel is surrounded by private ownership on
three sides and the Michigan Nature Association (MNA) on the fourth.
The MNA has no interest in this parcel. Cedar Creek runs through the
parcel, however, the state has access to the creek 1/4 mile to the north.

The proposed land disposal was recommended for approval as surplus
by the Land Exchange Review Committee on December 21, 2017.

Proceeds will be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund
(LEFF). The LEFF allows the Department to sell rights in land and
deposit the proceeds in a fund which can then be used to acquire
replacement property.

Engagement: Local engagement will be completed as part of the auction process.
Recommendation:  

(1) That the land be disposed of as surplus. 

(2) That the proceeds of the sale be deposited in the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund. 

(3) That the state follow the Office of Minerals Management’s recommendation regarding mineral rights. 

(4) That the state retain aboriginal antiquities.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief  
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, 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

March 15, 2018  
Date Approved
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Gaylord Management Unit – Antrim County
Land Transaction Case #20160182

Section 1, T29N, R07W, Custer Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (78.69 acres)
- State land
- Private land
February 12, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Escanaba Management Unit – Delta County
Land Transaction Case #20170158

Sale: 0.75 acre
Sale Price: $1,000.00

Description: Delta County, Cornell Township, T41N, R24W, Section 9:
A parcel of land in the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a
decrease of 0.75 acre of counted DNR-Managed lands.

Applicant: George Messner, Novi, 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) March 6, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
March 13, 2018. The transaction will also be posted in a local
newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1939.

Minerals: Mineral rights will be disposed.

Comments: The desired parcel is adjacent to the applicant's land and will resolve a
historical trespass on DNR-managed land.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for
approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on
October 19, 2017.

Proceeds will be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund
(LEFF). The LEFF allows the Department to sell rights in land and
deposit the proceeds in a fund which can then be used to acquire
replacement property.

Engagement: Due to the small size of the parcel, the Land Exchange Review
Committee determined local engagement is not necessary.
Recommendation:  

(1) That the land be sold to the adjacent landowner for $1,000.00.  

(2) That the proceeds of the sale be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.  

(3) That the state retain aboriginal antiquities.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief  
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, 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

March 15, 2018  
Date Approved
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Escanaba Management Unit – Delta County
Land Transaction Case #20170158

Section 9, T41N, R24W, Cornell Township

Surplus DNR land to be sold (0.75 acre)

State land
Private land
February 12, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Traverse City Management Unit – Benzie County
Land Transaction Case #20170167

Sale: 0.19 acre

Sale Price: $2,600.00

Description: Benzie County, Inland Township, T26N, R13W, Section 24:
A parcel of land in the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a
decrease of 0.19 acre of counted DNR-Managed lands.

Applicant: Lina Dean, Interlochen, Michigan.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources
(Commerce) March 6, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
March 13, 2018. The transaction will also be posted in a local
newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1939.

Minerals: Mineral rights will be disposed.

Comments: The desired parcel is adjacent to the applicant’s land and will resolve an
existing trespass on DNR-managed land. The parcel does not hold any
resource value and is not manageable due to its small size.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for
approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on
December 21, 2017.

Proceeds will be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund
(LEFF). The LEFF allows the Department to sell rights in land and
deposit the proceeds in a fund which can then be used to acquire
replacement property.
Engagement: Due to the small size of the parcel, the Land Exchange Review Committee determined local engagement is not necessary.

Recommendation: (1) That the land be sold to the adjacent landowner for $2,600.00.

(2) That the proceeds of the sale be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.

(3) That the state retain aboriginal antiquities.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, 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: March 15, 2018
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Traverse City Management Unit – Benzie County
Land Transaction Case #20170167
February 12, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Forest Resources Land Acquisition
Gaylord Management Unit – Mackinac County
Walter Shumaker Estate - Gift of Land
Land Transaction Case #20170260

Purchase: Gift of 1 subdivision lot

Funding Source: Gift

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: $0.00
This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line. As the subdivision was platted before July 2, 2012, the lot does not contribute to the overall land cap.

Description: Mackinac County, Bois Blanc Island Township, T39N, R01W, Section 3: Lot 14, Block 60, Second Addition to the Bob-Lo Gardens.

Donor: Sandra Karos on behalf of The Walter Shumaker Estate,
Shelby Township, 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) March 6, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on March 13, 2018.

Management Purpose: This property will be managed as part of the Gaylord Management Unit

Comments: The parcel is surrounded by state forest land and provides for management efficiencies, timber and wildlife habitat, public recreation opportunities and consolidates state ownership.

Mineral rights will be included.

Engagement: Certified letters were mailed to Mackinac County and Bois Blanc Island Township on December 21, 2017. None expressed concerns regarding this proposed land transaction.
Recommendation:

1. That the gift of land be approved with appreciation.

2. That the offered property be dedicated as part of the Gaylord Management Unit.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, 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

March 15, 2018
Date Approved
GIFT OF LAND
Gaylord Management Unit – Mackinac County
Land Transaction Case #20170260

Block 60, Lot 14, Second Addition to Bob-Lo Gardens
Bois Blanc Island Township

- Land to be gifted to DNR (1 lot)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

0 100 Feet
12/21/2017

- DNR Project Boundaries

2/8