MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Certain Rifle Use with Straight-walled Cartridges and Case Length Restrictions in the Limited Firearms Deer Zone Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 3 of 2017

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:

In June 2014, the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) established the limited firearms deer zone and approved the use of certain rifles with a straight-walled cartridge and certain air rifles to take deer in the limited firearms deer zone. It was recommended that this provision be allowed for three years for evaluation with a 2017 sunset clause.

Current regulations allow firearm deer hunters to use the following firearms in the limited firearms deer zone:

- A shotgun with a smooth or rifled barrel and may be of any gauge.
- A .35 caliber or larger pistol capable of holding no more than nine shells at one time in the barrel and magazine combined and loaded with straight-walled cartridges.
- A .35 caliber or larger rifle loaded with straight-walled cartridges with a minimum case length of 1.16 inches and a maximum case length of 1.80 inches.
- A .35 caliber or larger air rifle or pistol charged only from an external high-compression power source.
- A muzzleloading rifle or black-powder pistol loaded with black-powder or a commercially manufactured black-powder substitute.

The Law Enforcement Division (LED) has evaluated the use of rifles capable of using .35 caliber or larger ammunition, loaded with straight-walled cartridges with a minimum case length of 1.16 inches and a maximum case length of 1.80 inches to take deer in the limited firearms deer zone. The LED proposes that the NRC reauthorize this regulation and remove the sunset entirely.
Certain Rifle Use with Straight-walled Cartridges and Case Length Restrictions in the Limited Firearms Deer Zone
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Issues Pros and Cons
Allowing an additional type of hunting apparatus (certain centerfire rifles) will provide more opportunity for hunters. These types of firearms have the capability to effectively take down a deer and may increase accuracy and maximum effective range as compared to a short-barreled pistol. These firearms are not as heavy nor have as much recoil as shotguns and ensure that a firearm is sized appropriately to fit physical abilities of young and new hunters. In addition, the availability of these rifles may aid in the recruitment of young and new hunters, as well as retain and reactivate other hunters that cannot support the larger framed or handle the recoil of shotguns. This regulation may also increase the number of hunting licenses and firearms purchased.

Restrictions in the limited firearms deer zone are intended to prevent the use of rifles in an area with high population densities based on concern for public safety during firearm deer seasons. There is a safety concern that inexperienced hunters may use these rifles without proper training and may take inappropriate shots at game, causing stray bullets near more populated areas. From an enforcement perspective, officers will need to continue examining the different firearms and ammunition and may have to carry a measuring tool to measure overall case lengths. In addition, officers will continue to respond to public complaints of hearing “rifle shots” in a formerly restricted zone.

Other States
Indiana allows the use of certain rifle calibers for deer hunting, with regulations similar to those proposed in this memorandum. Indiana first allowed use of these rifles in 2007, and to date, has not experienced an increase in hunter injuries or fatalities attributable to the use of these rifles. The use of rifles accounts for approximately 10% of the Indiana deer harvest.

The Ohio Wildlife Council allows certain rifles with straight-walled cartridges in specifically named calibers from .357 to .500. A new proposal to allow the use of any straight-walled cartridge rifles from .357 to .500 caliber in the taking of deer will be reviewed for this fall deer hunting season.

In Missouri, hunters may use air-powered firearms, .40 caliber or larger, charged only from an external high compression power source (hand pump, air tank, or air compressor) to take deer.

Biological
There is no expected biological impact.

Social
In 2014, the Department received requests from deer hunters to allow for the use of .35 caliber or larger rifles capable of using certain traditional pistol cartridges to take deer in the limited firearms deer zone. Some user groups and hunters feel that allowing the use of these rifles in the limited firearms deer zone may attract and recruit additional hunters. Youth or small-statured hunters and hunters with limited upper body strength may prefer to use these lighter rifles with less recoil than a shotgun.
There is concern by some citizens and political subdivisions in the limited firearms deer zone that the use of rifles in densely populated areas may increase the likelihood of people, homes or buildings being struck by errant rounds traveling long distances. Michigan law does allow the Department to prohibit hunting and the use of firearms through a process prescribed in statute under PA 451 of 1994, Part 419, Hunting Area Control. There is some concern that continuing to allow the use of these certain centerfire rifles, utilizing straight-walled cartridges, for deer hunting in the limited firearms deer zone could result in more interest by local political subdivisions to request hunting area controls (closures).

The LED routinely receives requests from local political subdivisions expressing interest in hunt area controls. As of February 15, 2017, LED has not seen an increase in local hunting area control requests due to the 2014 allowance of certain centerfire rifles with straight-walled cartridges and case length restrictions in the limited firearms deer zone. During the 2014-2017 evaluation period, there was no documented increase in hunting casualty incidents or a significant increase in complaints or confirmed incidents involving these firearms and property damage.

The Michigan United Conservation Clubs supports reauthorizing the limited use of certain rifles capable of using .35 caliber or larger ammunition, with a straight-walled cartridge that has a minimum case length of 1.16 inches and a maximum case length of 1.80 inches to take deer in the limited firearms deer zone.

*Economic*

There is no perceived economic effect other than the possible increase of interest in certain makes and models of rifles.
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Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order was submitted for information on April 13, 2017, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department’s March calendar and may be eligible for approval on May 11, 2017.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Bill O'Neill, Chief
Forest Resources Division

James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

William E. Moritz, Ph.D.
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

5/11/17
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 3 of 2017

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 May 12, 2017, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

3.100 Take of deer; prohibited firearms, legal weapons, “bait” and “baiting” defined, conditions for baiting established in certain area(s); unlawful acts.

Sec. 3.100 (1) “Take” means the same as defined in section 40104, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.40104.

(2) An individual must possess while hunting deer the unused kill tag issued with the deer license, pursuant to section 3.103, and provide it to a conservation officer upon request.

(3) Unless otherwise specified in this order, an individual shall not do any of the following:

(a) Take a deer without possessing a valid license with kill tag.

(b) Take a deer other than during the open seasons established in this order.

(c) Take a deer outside of lawful hunting hours.

(d) Take a deer by any method other than by firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow.

(e) Take a deer with a rimfire firearm .22 caliber or smaller.

(f) Take a deer during any firearm deer season in the “limited firearms deer zone,” with a firearm other than a shotgun with a smooth or rifled barrel, a .35 caliber or larger pistol capable of holding no more than nine shells at one time in the barrel and magazine combined and loaded with straight-walled cartridges, a .35 caliber or larger rifle loaded with straight-walled cartridges with a minimum case length of 1.16 inches and a maximum case length of 1.80 inches, a .35 caliber or larger air rifle or pistol charged only from an external high-compression power source, or a muzzleloading rifle or black-powder pistol loaded with black-powder or a commercially manufactured black-powder substitute.

(g) Take a deer, or have in possession while hunting deer, a semiautomatic shotgun or rifle, capable of holding more than six shells in the magazine and barrel combined, or use a cartridge containing a tracer or explosive bullet, or a firearm capable of firing more than one shot with a single pull or activation of the trigger.

(h) Take a deer using an arrow, bolt, or quarrel with a broadhead hunting type of point less than 7/8 of an inch wide and/or a length less than 14 inches.

(i) Take a deer with a crossbow or a modified bow in zone 1 from December 1 to March 31 unless issued a disability crossbow permit by the department.

(j) Take a deer while the deer is swimming in a pond, lake, stream, or other body of water.

(k) Make use of a dog in hunting a deer, except as noted in section 2.1a of this order.

(l) Use aircraft to aid in the taking of a deer.

(m) Set afire or assist in setting afire any land for the purpose of driving out a deer, or take or attempt to take a deer so driven out of any land.

(n) Purchase a deer license unless the individual holds a current base license.
(4) For the purposes of this section and sections 3.100a, and 3.205, “bait” means a substance composed of grains, minerals, salt, fruits, vegetables, hay, or any other food materials, whether natural or manufactured, which may lure, entice or attract deer. “Bait” does not include the establishment and maintenance of plantings for wildlife, foods found scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural planting or harvesting practices, foods available to deer through normal agricultural practices of livestock feeding if the area is occupied by livestock actively consuming the feed on a daily basis, or standing farm crops under normal agricultural practices. For the purposes of this section, “baiting” means to place, deposit, tend, distribute, or scatter bait to aid in the taking of a deer.

(5) It shall be unlawful for a person to make use of bait to aid in the taking of a deer within the core CWD area and CWD management zone as defined in chapter XII of this order, and within Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Oscoda counties.

(6) In remaining portions of Michigan not described in subsection (5), a person may engage in baiting only if all of the following conditions apply:

(a) The baiting occurs only from September 15 to January 1.

(b) The bait material may be of any food type.

(c) The bait is scattered directly on the ground by any means, including mechanical spin-cast feeders, provided that the spin-cast feeder does not distribute on the ground more than the maximum volume allowed as described in subdivision (d) of this subsection. “Scattered” means that the bait is dispersed or thrown over a minimum of a 10-foot by 10-foot or equivalent area so that individual pieces of bait are separated and not placed in piles. The purpose of scattering is to mimic natural feeding conditions.

(d) The volume of bait used at any 1 point in time shall not exceed 2 gallons at any 1 hunting site.

(e) Subsection (6) is subject to Section 3.100a (2) of this order.

(7) It shall be unlawful for a person to make use of bait to aid in the taking of a deer if the bait and baiting does not meet all of the conditions specified in subsection (6) unless specifically authorized.

Issued on this 11th day of May, 2017.

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

John Matonich, Chairman
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Keith Creagh
Director
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Atlanta Management Unit – Alpena County
Land Transaction Case #20170006

Sale: 0.50 acre

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

Description: Alpena County, Alpena Township, T30N, R8E, Section 30:
Part of the NW1/4 of the SW1/4 lying west of Spruce Road and east of
the west section line.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a
decrease of 0.50 acre 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
(Deartment) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
May 9, 2017. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as
required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1939.

Minerals: The state will retain mineral rights.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcel is small and separated from other state-
owned land by Spruce Road. The parcel is used by four land owners to
access their property.

The proposed land disposal was recommended for approval as surplus
by the Land Exchange Review Committee on February 16, 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 retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.

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 Croagh Director

5/12/17 Date Approved
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Atlanta Management Unit – Alpena County
Land Transaction Case #20170006

Section 30, T30N, R08E, Alpena Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (0.5 acre)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land Traverse City Management Unit – Kalkaska County Land Transaction Case #20170005

Sale: 1.08 acres

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

Description: Kalkaska County, Bear Lake Township, T26N, R5W, Section 10: Part of SE1/4 of the SW1/4.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a decrease of 1.08 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on May 9, 2017. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: Purchased in 1964, with Game & Fish Funds.

Minerals: The state will retain mineral rights.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcel is a small isolated parcel that adjoins the center channel of the Manistee River and has no land access.

The proposed land disposal was approved by the Land Exchange Review Committee on March 28, 2017.

Proceeds will be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund (LEFF) – Game and Fish Sub-Fund. 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 offered via auction to the highest bidder.

(2) That the proceeds of the sale be deposited in the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund – Game and Fish Sub-Fund.

(3) That the state retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.
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

5/12/17
Date Approved
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Traverse City Management Unit – Kalkaska County
Land Transaction Case #20170005

Section 10, T26N, R05W, Bear Lake Township

- Sale of surplus DNR land. (1.08 acres)
- State land
- Private land

03/02/2017

DNR Project Boundaries
TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Traverse City Management Unit – Kalkaska County
Land Transaction Case #20170004

Sale: 12 acres

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

Description: Kalkaska County, Coldsprings Township, T28N, R6W, Section 1:
The E1/2 of the E1/2 of the NE1/4 of the SW1/4, and the W'ly 66 ft. of
the NW1/4 of the SE1/4.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a
decrease of 10 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
May 9, 2017. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as
required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1939, and by exchange for tax reverted property in
1998.

Minerals: The state will retain the mineral rights and gas storage rights.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcel is an isolated parcel that is surrounded by
private ownership and holds no real value for the Department.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for
approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on
February 16, 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 offered via auction to the highest bidder.

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

(3) That the state retain mineral rights, gas storage rights, and aboriginal antiquities.
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

Date Approved
5/12/17
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Traverse City Management Unit – Kalkaska County
Land Transaction Case #20170004

Section 1, T28N, R06/W, Coldsprings Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (12 acres)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

0 Feet 980 Feet
03/03/2017
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Roscommon Management Unit – Roscommon County
Land Transaction Case #20160234

Sale: 8.71 acres

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

Description: Roscommon County, Richfield Township, T23N, R01W, Section 26:
The NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, except the N 80 feet thereof.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a
decrease of 8.71 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
May 9, 2017. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as
required by statute.

Acquired: By federal government exchange in 1921.

Minerals: To be conveyed.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcel is part of a larger contiguous block of state
ownership, however, it has had previous trespass issues and will likely
experience trespass issues in the future. It is not available for public
hunting due to the safety zone setback and is difficult to manage.

The proposed land disposal was recommended for approval as surplus
by the Land Exchange Review Committee on February 16, 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 retain aboriginal antiquities.

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

5/12/17  
Date Approved
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Roscommon Management Unit – Roscommon County
Land Transaction Case #20160234

Sectin 26, T23N, R01W, Richfield Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (8.71 acres)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Gaylord Management Unit – Cheboygan County
Land Transaction Case #20160069

Sale: 10 acres

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

Description: Cheboygan County, Hebron Township, T38N, R03W, Section 2:
The N 1/2 of the N 1/2 of the NE 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 10 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
May 9, 2017. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as
required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1939.

Minerals: To be conveyed.

Comments: The proposed surplus parcel is isolated from other state land and is
adjacent to multiple private landowners.

The proposed land disposal was recommended for approval as surplus
by the Land Exchange Review Committee on February 16, 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 retain aboriginal antiquities.
I approve the staff recommendations

Keith Creagh
Director
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Gaylord Management Unit – Cheboygan County
Land Transaction Case #20160069

Section 2, T38N, R03W, Hebron Township

/// Surplus DNR land to be sold (10 acres)

- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

[Map showing land parcels and section numbers]

MACINAC
CO.

Emmet
CO.

CHEBOYGAN
CO.

Lake Michigan
Lake Huron
S nostalgia

03/23/2017
April 17, 2017

To: Keith Creagh, Director

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Gregory State Game Area – Livingston County
Land Transaction Case #20130315

Sale: 0.22 acre

Sale Price: $1,000.00, Minimum Transaction Fee

Description: Livingston County, Putnam Township, T01N, R04E, Section 3:
As more completely described in the case file.

Applicant(s): Michael and Sharon Bugaski, Pinckney, Michigan.

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

Acquired: With State Game Funds in 1951.

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources
(Department) May 2, 2017, calendar and is eligible for approval on
May 9, 2017. The transaction is also posted in a local newspaper as
required by statute.

Comments: The desired parcel is a trianually shaped parcel that is located
between the main part of the applicants' house and Bentley Lake Road.
The house was built in 1980, with the front porch, driveway and lawn on
the desired parcel. The land is considered to be surplus by the
Department. Disposal of the public land would resolve a long standing
encroachment and afford the applicant ownership of all of their house,
driveaway and yard.

Encroachment Resolution Initiative transactions are not reviewed by the
Land Exchange Review Committee.

Engagement: Local engagement was not needed due to the small size of the parcel
and the fact that it's existing use is not changing.

Recommendation: (1) That the desired public land be sold to the applicant and that the
proceeds from the sale be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation
Fund's Fish and Game subfund.

(2) That the state retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.
Land Transaction Case #20130315, Gregory State Game Area – Livingston County
Page 2 of 2
April 17, 2017

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

5/12/17
Date Approved
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Gregory State Game Area – Livingston County
Land Transaction Case #20130315

Section 3, T01N, R04E, Putnam Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (0.22 acre)
- Applicant's land
- State land
- Private land
- Applicant's driveway
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Release of Reverter and Conveyance of DNR-Managed Land for Public Use Gaylord Management Unit – Emmet County Land Transaction Case #20150134

Sale: 129.1 acres and 32 platted lots

Sale Price: Land to be conveyed for a nominal fee, subject to the condition that if the lands are subsequently sold, the proceeds from the sale be accounted for to the state, county, township, and school district in which the land is situated pro rata.

Description: Emmet County, Wawatam Township, T39N, R04W, Sections 22 and 23: As more particularly described in the case file.

PA 240 of 2012: These parcels are north of the Mason-Arenac County line. This transaction will not change the number of acres of counted DNR-managed lands because the acreage surface rights are currently owned by the applicant and the platted lots were acquired by the Department before July 2, 2012.

Applicant: Wawatam Township, Mackinaw City, 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on May 9, 2017.

Acquired: The acreage parcels were acquired by tax reversion in 1939 and deeded to Wawatam Township in 1941 by a public use deed. The platted lots were acquired in 1939 and have been held by the Department ever since.

Minerals: To be retained.

Comments: The desired property is part of a 129-acre block of tax reverted land that was conveyed to Wawatam Township in 1941, by a public use deed that is subject to a reverter clause stating that the land is to be used solely for park purposes and when it ceases to be used for that purpose, the land shall revert to the state. Wawatam Township is asking for the
reverter interest to be released so that they can build a township hall and fire garage on the property.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on October 20, 2016 and December 15, 2016, with the condition that the state retain legal access over French Farm Lake Road.

Engagement: Wawatam Township is the applicant and supports this transaction.

Recommendation: (1) That the land be conveyed to the applicant for public purposes for a nominal fee, but subject to the condition that if the land is subsequently sold, the proceeds from the sale be accounted for to the state, county, township, and school district in which the land is situated pro rata.

(2) That the state retain legal access over French Farm Lake Road, mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.
I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

5/12/17
Date Approved
RELEASE OF REVERTER AND CONVEYANCE OF DNR-MANAGED LAND FOR PUBLIC USE
Gaylord Management Unit – Emmet County
Land Transaction Case #20150134

Sections 22 and 23, T39N, R04W, Wawatam Township

☐ State-owned reverter interest to be released (129.1 acres)
☐ DNR land to be conveyed (32 platted lots)
☐ State land
☐ Private land

03/26/2017

DNR Project Boundaries
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Release of Reverter
Crystal Falls Management Unit - Dickinson County
Land Transaction Case #20160034

Sale: 6 platted lots

Sale Price: Land to be conveyed for a nominal fee, subject to the condition that if the lands are subsequently sold, the proceeds from the sale be accounted for to the state, county, township, and school district in which the land is situated pro rata.

Description: Dickinson County, City of Kingsford, T39N, R31W, Sections 1 and 12: As more particularly described in the case file.

PA 240 of 2012: These parcels are north of the Mason-Arenac County line. This transaction will not change the number of acres of counted DNR-managed lands because the platted surface rights are currently owned by the applicant.

Applicant: City of Kingsford, Kingsford, 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on May 9, 2017.

Acquired: This platted lots was acquired by tax reversion in 1939 and deeded to the City of Kingsford in 1940, by a public use deed with a reverter clause stating that they could be used for park and recreation purposes only.

Minerals: To be conveyed.

Comments: The desired lots were conveyed to the City of Kingsford in 1940, by a public use deed that is subject to a reverter clause stating that the land is to be used for park and recreation purposes only, and when they cease to be used for that purpose, the land shall revert to the state. The City of Kingsford is asking for the reverter interest to be released.

CONSTITUTION HALL • 525 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30628 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48009-7528
www.michigan.gov/dnr • (517) 284-MDNR(6367)
The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on February 16, 2017.

Engagement: The City of Kingsford is the applicant and supports this transaction.

Recommendation: (1) That the land be conveyed to the applicant for public purposes for a nominal fee, but subject to the condition that if the land is subsequently sold, the proceeds from the sale be accounted for to the state, county, township, and school district in which the land is situated pro rata.

(2) That the state convey mineral rights and retain aboriginal antiquities.
Land Transaction Case #20160034, Crystal Falls Management Unit – Dickinson County
Page 3 of 3
April 17, 2017

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

Date Approved
5/12/17

117
RELEASE OF REVERTER
Crystal Falls Management Unit – Dickinson County
Land Transaction Case # 20160034

Sections 1 and 12, T39N, R31W, City of Kingsford

- State-owned reverter interest to be released (6 platted lots)
- Reverter interest released in 1989 (2 platted lots)
- Private land

\[\text{Diagram of parcel locations}\]

\[\text{Map of Michigan showing location of parcel}\]

03/25/2017

\[\text{Site location marked on map}\]

\[\text{Legend: DNR Project Boundaries}\]
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Release of Reverter
Undedicated Land – Mackinac County
Land Transaction Case #20160247

Sale: 1 platted lot

Sale Price: Land to be conveyed for a nominal fee, subject to the condition that if the land is subsequently sold, that the proceeds from the sale be accounted for to the state, county, township, and school district in which the land is situated pro rata.

Description: Mackinac County, City of St. Ignace, Private Claim 17:
As more particularly described in the case file.

PA 240 of 2012: These parcels are north of the Mason-Arenac County line. This transaction will not change the number of acres of counted DNR-managed lands because the platted surface rights are currently owned by the applicant.

Applicant: City of St. Ignace, St. Ignace, 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on May 9, 2017.

Acquired: This platted lot was acquired by tax reversion in 1941, and deeded to the City of St. Ignace in 1950, by a public use deed with a reverter clause stating that it could be used for public park purposes only.

Minerals: To be retained.

Comments: The desired lot was conveyed to the City of St. Ignace in 1950, by a public use deed that is subject to a reverter clause stating that the land is to be used for public park purposes only, and when it ceases to be used for that purpose, that the land shall revert to the state. In 1986, the city conveyed this parcel to the First National Bank of St. Ignace, in exchange for a parcel on which the city built a road and parking lot. The city recently discovered the reverter clause and submitted this application in order to correct the error.
The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on February 16, 2017.

Engagement: The City of St. Ignace is the applicant and supports this transaction.

Recommendation: (1) That the land be conveyed to the applicant for public purposes for a nominal fee, but subject to the condition that if the land is subsequently sold, the proceeds from the sale be accounted for to the state, county, township, and school district in which the land is situated pro rata.

(2) That the state retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.
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

5/12/17
Date Approved
RELEASE OF REVERTER
Undedicated Land – Mackinac County
Land Transaction Case # 20160247

Private Claim 17, City of St. Ignace

- State-owned reverter interest to be released (1 lot)

- Private land

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April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Conveyance of DNR-Managed Land for Public Use Grayling Management Unit – Crawford County Land Transaction Case #20160095

Sale: 44.62 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 more particularly 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 44.62 counted acres.

Applicant: Crawford County Road Commission, Grayling, 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on May 9, 2017.


Minerals: To be retained.

Comments: For the past seventeen years, the Department has worked under an MOU agreement 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 desired 44.62 acres of land is within the boundaries of this project and will be used by the Crawford County Road Commission to construct a roadway passing through the center of the property. This roadway will significantly improve access to the park and make the lands significantly more desirable for purchase by interested developers.
The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on February 16, 2017.

Engagement: The Crawford County Road Commission is the applicant and supports this transaction.

Recommendation: (1) That the land be conveyed to the applicant for a public roadway. If the roadway is not constructed within five years, the property will revert to the state.

(2) That the state retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.
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

5/12/17
Date Approved
CONVEYANCE OF DNR-MANAGED LAND FOR PUBLIC USE
Grayling Management Unit – Crawford County
Land Transaction Case #20160095

Sections 20 and 29, T26N, R03W, Grayling Township

- DNR land to be conveyed (44.62 acres)
- Previous conveyance
- State land
- Private land
- Grayling Four-Mile Industrial Park boundary
April 17, 2017

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Gift of Easement
Shingleton Management Unit – Schoolcraft County
Land Transaction Case #20170073

Purchase: Gift of an easement for road and recreational trail purposes.

Funding Source: Gift

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: $0.00
This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 0 counted acres.
Excluded Acres: There are no excluded acres as a part of this transaction.

Description: Schoolcraft County, Seney Township, T47N, R14W, Section 4:
DeGraaf Easement;
Within the South 300 feet of the North 1,020 feet of the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4; a strip or parcel of land 9 feet in width along the centerline of the existing forest road running East to West, lying Easterly of the center thread of the Fox River.
AND
A strip or parcel of land 18 feet in width along the centerline of the existing forest road running East to West, lying Westerly of the center thread of the Fox River. (1,570.64 linear feet)

Greenwood Easement;
A strip or parcel of land 9 feet in width along the centerline of the existing forest road running East to West, as now located over and across the Southern 300 foot of the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4, lying Easterly of the center thread of the Fox River. (1,371.12 linear feet)

Donee(s): Clarence J. DeGraaf, Newaygo, 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) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on May 9, 2017.
Management Purpose: To retain public use over an existing trail road that runs across property owned by the donors.

Comments: Acquisition of this easement will allow the Department to retain public access along an existing forest trail road. This trail is currently being managed as Snowmobile Trail 43.

These easements were granted to the Department in September 2007, and never formally accepted.

Engagement: None needed.

Recommendation:

1. That the gift of easement be accepted with appreciation.

2. That the property be dedicated for public use and administered by the Forest Resources Division with assistance from the Parks and Recreation Division's Trails Program.
I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

5/12/17
Date Approved
GIFT OF EASEMENT
Snowmobile Trail 43 – Schoolcraft County
Land Transaction Case # 20170073

Section 4, T47N, R14W, Seney Township

- DeGraaf easement gift (1,570.64 linear feet)
- Greenwood easement gift (1,371.12 linear feet)
- Private land
- Future route of snowmobile trail

Note: Easement widths not to scale on map
State of Michigan
Department of Natural Resources
Lansing

April 17, 2017

To: Keith Creagh, Director

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Parks and Recreation Land Exchange
Highland State Recreation Area – Oakland County
Vector Pipeline Exchange
Land Transaction Case #20150191

Applicant: Vector Pipeline, Inc., Livonia, Michigan.

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: $831.28
This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 13.51 counted acres. There are no excluded acres as a part of this transaction.

Private Land Offered in Exchange: 13.88 acres
Location: Oakland County, White Lake Township, T3N, R8E, Section 31:
Part of the SW 1/4 of Section 31, as more completely described in the case file.

Total Compensation To be Provided by
Applicant Equal value

State Land Desired in Exchange: 0.37 acre
Location: Oakland County, Highland Township, T3N, R7E, Section 36:
Part of the SW 1/4 of Section 36, as more completely described in the case file.

Value: Equal Value

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) May 2, 2017, calendar, and is eligible for approval on May 9, 2017.

Comments: The offered 13.88 acres will increase road frontage along Cooley Lake Road giving additional access to back land, assist in consolidating state ownership, and decrease the amount of private property line.
administration. The cover on the desired state-owned land is largely open along the route of the existing pipeline easement with some scattered trees. The cover on the offered private land is fully wooded.

Mineral rights on the offered private land will be conveyed to the state. Mineral rights will be retained on the parcel to be conveyed to the applicant.

The proposed land exchange was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on October 20, 2016.

Engagement: White Lake and Highland Townships, and Oakland County were all contacted and expressed support for this transaction.

Recommendation(s): 1. That the exchange be approved.

2. That the offered land be dedicated as part of the Highland Recreation Area.
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

5/12/17
Date Approved
PARKS AND RECREATION LAND EXCHANGE
Highland State Recreation Area – Oakland County
Land Transaction Case #20150191

Section 36, T03N, R07E, Highland Township
- State land desired from DNR (0.37 acre)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary
- Pipelines

Section 31, T03N, R08E, White Lake Township
- Land offered to DNR in exchange (13.88 acres)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

0 Feet
0
100

0 Feet
500

03/28/2017

DNR Project Boundaries

OAKLAND
CO.
M-59
I-75

Desired
Offered

Orchard
Lake

I-94
I-696

I-96
I-75