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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAUGH
DIRECTOR

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RESUBMITTED: May 14, 2018

APPROVED
June 14, 2018
MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
Cheryl J. Nelson
(ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION)

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Furbearer Regulations
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 7 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:

Furbearer regulations are reviewed on a two-year cycle to provide consistency in regulations. More consistent regulations provide for better understanding by hunters and trappers, as well as facilitate monitoring of the impacts of regulation changes. A two-year cycle also allows for more time to consider potential regulations changes.

For 2018, there are several changes proposed resulting from discussions with stakeholder groups and Department staff beginning in 2017 or earlier. The proposed issues reviewed were selected from a running list of issues developed by the Furtaker User group meeting, from input internally, and from other stakeholders. The main objectives of the proposed changes are to effectively manage furbearer populations and to increase recreational opportunities where feasible. For 2018, the Department selected all of the issues on the list that dealt with either bobcat regulations that impacted the Upper Peninsula (UP) or with marten and fisher regulations. This memo summarizes the review of these items, even if no regulation changes are recommended.

Bobcat Regulations:

Bobcat Bag Limit

Over the past few years, hound hunting organizations have advocated for a statewide one bobcat bag limit. Under current regulations, the season bag limit for bobcat is two per resident; only one bobcat may be taken in Bobcat Management Units (BMU) C, D, E, and F combined; and only one bobcat may be taken from BMU B. After the biological and social review, as described

below, the Department recommends reducing the season bag limit for bobcat from two to one, statewide.

Issues Pros and Cons

Stakeholders have considered and debated a one bobcat bag limit for a number of years. Hound hunting organizations typically prefer a one bobcat bag limit based on their concerns about perceived bobcat population declines. Trapping organizations often oppose the change based on perceived impacts to recreational opportunities and a perception that bobcat populations are satisfactory.

Current data shows that a relatively small number of people take a second bobcat, and it is likely that a one bobcat bag limit would have low impact on recreational opportunities. A one bobcat bag limit would also accommodate a long-requested change by some stakeholder groups but would contradict other stakeholder groups' desires. A one bobcat statewide bag limit would simplify regulations.

Other States

The Department reviewed regulations in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin to determine bobcat bag limits. The results were the following:

- Illinois: The bobcat bag limit in Illinois is 1 bobcat statewide, with a quota allocated by a lottery system.
- Indiana: The bobcat is a protected animal in Indiana.
- Minnesota: The bobcat bag limit in Minnesota is 5 bobcat, statewide.
- Ohio: There is no bobcat hunting/trapping season in Ohio.
- Wisconsin: The bobcat bag limit in Wisconsin is 1 bobcat per permit, with quota allocated by a lottery system.

Biological

There is not a clear biological need for a reduction in the bobcat bag limit. In the UP, bobcat populations appear to have a cyclical population trend. A harvest-effort index is used to evaluate population trends. This index is based on a harvest survey sent to all potential bobcat harvesters. Over the long-term, the UP population appears to be stable. Beginning around 2010, the population may have entered a short-term decline consistent with other short-term declines seen in the past.

A reduction to a one bobcat bag limit statewide is unlikely to have a significant impact on harvest or population levels. From 2013-2016, an average of approximately 50 people took two bobcats each year. Over the same period, bobcats taken on a second tag accounted for an average of 19 percent of the total UP harvest. Harvest levels are near historic lows in recent years, likely due to low pelt prices for most furbearers. Harvest levels could increase if pelt prices were to rebound.

Social

Bobcat bag limits in Michigan are controversial primarily due to competing views and interests between hound hunting organizations and trapping organizations. Both stakeholder groups advocate for bobcats as well as recreate by pursuing bobcats, but the groups have differing views on population status. Most hound hunting activity does not focus on the take of a bobcat or require that everyone in a group take a bobcat. Trappers set multiple traps to capture one bobcat and often view the second bobcat tag as a “safety net” in case they catch more than one bobcat in their trap line. The bag limit reduction could alter how some trappers recreate. Calling bobcats is an increasing segment of those that pursue bobcats. However, bobcat callers are generally not as actively involved in the regulation setting process as organized hound hunting and trapping groups. It is difficult to know how the average bobcat caller feels about regulatory changes.

According to registration data from 2009-2016, an average of 22 percent of bobcats taken on a second kill tag were taken by hunters that harvested both of their bobcats by hunting, and 67 percent by trappers that took both bobcats by trapping. The remainder of bobcats taken on a second kill tag (11 percent) were taken by individuals that took one bobcat by each method.

Trappers in the Lower Peninsula are currently restricted to a one bobcat bag limit and can continue to recreate and harvest bobcats. The one bobcat bag limit is unlikely to significantly impact trapping recreation and will satisfy the request of hound hunting groups and some individual trappers.

Economic

Over the last few years, the number of bobcats registered on a second kill tag have been low. A one bobcat bag limit statewide is also unlikely to significantly reduce the amount of recreation time spent pursuing bobcats. Bobcat kill tags are provided free of charge to anyone with a valid fur harvester license interested in pursuing bobcat. The Department does not expect an economic impact from a reduction to a one bobcat bag limit.

No Recommendation for Change

Nighttime Bobcat Hunting Regulations

The Department discussed expanding bobcat hunting opportunities by allowing the hunting of bobcats at night. While the Department has no objections to the concept of nighttime bobcat hunting, some stakeholder groups have expressed concerns regarding possible declines in the bobcat population. Since an expansion of harvest opportunity may increase harvest, there is no recommended change to the current regulations on nighttime bobcat hunting being brought forward for consideration.

Hunting Bobcats from a Treestand

The Department discussed expanding bobcat hunting opportunities by allowing the hunting of bobcats from a treestand. During discussions, there was no objection to the concept in principle, but stakeholder groups addressed concerns regarding the bobcat population. There is no recommended change to the current regulations on hunting bobcats from a treestand being brought forward for consideration.

Cable Restraints for Bobcats

The Department discussed expanding bobcat trapping opportunities by allowing the use of cable restraints for taking bobcats. Given the amount of controversy surrounding cable restraint use in Michigan, the Department concluded that expanding the use of cable restraints to bobcats is not advisable. In addition, stakeholder groups did not strongly advocate in favor of this change during discussions for the 2018 regulations cycle, partly due to concerns with the bobcat population. There is no recommended change to the current regulations on the use of cable restraints for taking bobcats being brought forward for consideration.

Bobcat Season Structure

The Department discussed expanding bobcat opportunities by allowing for an earlier season for trappers. Some trapping organizations feel strongly that they should be allowed some opportunity to trap or take incidentally trapped bobcat from late October through the start of the current UP bobcat trapping season, December 1, which reflects desire to return to the trapping season length that existed prior to 2009. Most trapping organizations feel the population could sustain additional harvest. Some individual trappers have expressed concerns over the perception that bobcat numbers are declining.

The Department's goal for UP bobcat populations is to remain stable or increase. Hound hunting organizations are advocating for an increase in the UP bobcat population. The Department has reviewed multiple potential season structure modifications that could potentially expand opportunities for trappers without increasing bobcat harvest. The Department concluded that the alternatives considered would not meet those objectives without being overly complex. There is no recommended change to the current regulations to expand the bobcat season structure being brought forward for consideration.

Fisher/Marten Regulations:

Fisher and Marten Bag Limits

In 2011, the Department reduced bag limits for both marten and fisher due to concerns over population declines. Both populations were estimated using a new technique, giving the Department population estimates for the first time. Fisher populations showed significant declines and marten modest declines. Trapping organizations reluctantly accepted the changes although they did not feel the changes were necessary or could have remained more liberal. Since that time, trapping organizations have requested some level of increase in bag limits for these species, particularly marten.

As is typical after regulatory changes, the Department desired to have regulations in place for a number of years to see if they had the intended impact. The Department also is working on new, continuous models that will allow the use of population estimates for both species and aid in management of these species. These models were not developed in the desired timeframe, but the Department decided to evaluate the trapping organizations' request for increased bag limits using harvest-effort information. Trends in harvest-effort are commonly used to evaluate furbearer population trends and represent data sets more detailed than many states use in their evaluations.

Biological information suggests fisher continue to decline while marten populations appear to be stable. The Department recommends an increase in the bag limit for marten by adding a marten only tag to the current one marten or one fisher tag. The Department also recommends a reduction in season length from 15 days to 9 days, with a start date on the first Friday in December. These combined changes provide more marten harvest opportunity while reducing the time for capture, minimizing increases in marten harvest and in incidental fisher harvest.

Issues Pros and Cons

Expanding bag limits will address requests from trapping organizations and allow for expanded harvest of marten. Marten populations could be negatively impacted if harvest levels increase significantly and declining fisher populations may be impacted through incidental harvest from increased marten trapping effort.

Other States

The Department reviewed regulations in Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin to determine marten/fisher bag limits and season dates. The results were the following:

- Illinois: There is no season for fisher/marten in Illinois.
- Indiana: There is no season for fisher/marten in Indiana.
- Minnesota: The trapping season for fisher/marten is November 25 to November 30. The bag limit is 2 fisher, or 1 fisher and 1 marten combined.
- Ohio: There is no season for fisher/marten in Ohio.
- Wisconsin: The trapping season for fisher is October 14 to December 31, with the ability to extend or shorten the season depending on the harvest quota. The bag limit is 1 fisher per permit and there is a preference point system. There is no season for marten in Wisconsin.

Biological

Fisher populations continue to show signs of decline and marten populations appear to be stable based on harvest-effort indices developed with information provided by marten and fisher trappers. A declining trend for fisher remains similar from the time period in which population modeling estimates showed an approximately 70 percent decline in fisher populations in the early 2000s. The marten harvest-effort index suggests populations in the long-term may be stable. Model estimates from the early 2000s indicated a declining marten population. Marten and fisher are both species which can sustain harvest but may be susceptible to declines due to high harvest levels. As such, extra caution with these populations is advisable. In addition, both species are trapped in a similar fashion making separate regulations difficult. While a limited amount of additional marten harvest may be sustainable, fisher populations should not be subjected to additional harvest pressure.

Social

Trapping organizations have requested an increase in bag limits for a number of years. While they will support the proposed bag limit increase, they are likely to oppose a season length reduction. With a 15-day season, trappers currently spend about 7-8 days pursuing marten and fisher. It's unlikely the season reduction will significantly impact recreational activity. Since

fisher and marten are only trapped, few other organizations currently have a vested interest in harvest regulations for these species.

Economic

The Department does not expect an economic impact. Harvest and recreational activity, including travel activity, are not likely to be significantly impacted by the proposed change.

No Recommendation for Change

Fisher Hunting Season and Fisher Season on Drummond Island

The Department discussed expanding the fisher season to Drummond Island. In addition, the Department discussed expanding fisher opportunities to include hunting. During discussions, the Department expressed concern about the fisher populations, and a lack of desire to increase harvest or introduce new harvest methods/locations at this time. There is no recommended change to the current regulations on hunting for fishers or on expanding the fisher season to Drummond Island being brought forward for consideration.

Additional Recommendation:

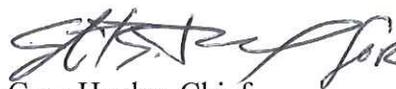
Use of Exposed Bait While Using Foothold Traps

Raptor rehabilitation groups recently expressed concern to the Department over raptors (especially eagles) being caught in foothold traps. These discussions lead the Department to discuss the issue with trapping organizations and consider adding restrictions to the use of foothold traps adjacent to exposed bait to reduce the potential for raptors to get incidentally caught. Regulations to minimize the chance of incidental raptor catch will accommodate stakeholder concerns while minimizing impacts to trapping activity and success. The Department recommends adding language to specify that a person cannot set or maintain any foothold trap within 20 feet of bait located in such a manner that it is visible from 4 feet or more above the bait. This will not apply to completely submerged sets. In addition, the Department recommends adding a definition of "bait" to specify that bait may be any animal or animal parts, including dead fish, except that pieces of less than 36 square inches and comprised of dried hide, fur, feathers, or bones and entirely free of meat may be used as a visible attractant.

Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order was submitted for information on May 10, 2018, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's May calendar and may be eligible for approval on June 14, 2018.



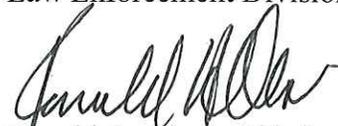
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Ronald A. Olson, Chief
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James Dexter, Chief
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William O'Neill
Natural Resources Deputy

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



Keith Creagh, Director

6/14/18

Date

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 7 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 June 15, 2018, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

3.600 Fur-bearing animals; use of firearms; traps and catching devices; use of bait; unlawful acts.

Sec. 3.600 It shall be unlawful for any person: (1) To use a firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow to take marten, muskrat, beaver, otter, mink, fisher, or badger, except as permitted by authority of a nuisance control permit issued by the department. Rimfire firearms .22 caliber or smaller may be used to kill coyote, fox, raccoon, bobcat, and badger in traps except if the trapper is an individual that cannot lawfully hunt with a firearm, crossbow, or bow and arrow.

(2) Except as provided by subsection (3), to use or have in possession in areas frequented by animals, a catching device of any kind for the taking of animals unless the name and address in legible English or the complete Michigan driver license number or DNR sportcard number of the user or individual possessing the device is permanently etched in the catching device, or there shall be securely fastened to each catching device a metallic plate or tag bearing the name and address in legible English or the complete Michigan driver license number of the user or individual possessing the catching device.

(3) To use, carry afield, or have in possession 1 or more snares or 1 or more cable restraints unless they have attached a metallic tag or plate securely fastened which bears the name and address in legible English or the complete Michigan drivers license number or DNR sportcard number of the user or individual possessing the catching device.

(4) To use or have in possession 1 or more snares or 1 or more cable restraints securely attached to a pole unless the uppermost end of the pole has a metallic plate or tag securely fastened which bears the name and address in legible English or the complete Michigan driver license number or DNR sportcard number of the user or individual possessing the catching device.

(5) To use a multiple catch or colony trap except for the taking of muskrat and provided that the trap is completely submerged below the water. Colony traps must be constructed of steel and shall be no larger than 8 inches in height, 8 inches in width, and 36 inches in depth. This order shall not be construed to prohibit use of colony or multiple catch traps used by nuisance control operators for species other than muskrat.

(6) To stake, put out, or set a catching device of any kind for the taking of a fur-bearing animal at any time preceding the day on which the open season for the taking of such fur-bearing animal begins.

(7) To use a foothold trap with a jaw spread exceeding a number 2 foothold trap for the taking of mink or muskrat except as may be provided by this order for the incidental take of muskrat during the beaver and otter season. It shall also be unlawful to use any kind of a trap other than a foothold or body gripping or conibear type trap to take furbearing animals except as permitted under the provisions of subsection (4).

(8) To use any portion of any protected animal or protected bird as bait for the purpose of trapping any animal in this state. This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit an individual from using the carcasses and parts thereof of game animals or game birds, lawfully taken and possessed during their open season, as bait, except as stated in Section 5.31 of this order.

(9) To set a trap or snare on a beaver dam or lodge unless it meets at least one of the following provisions:

(a) The trap is totally submerged below the water.

(b) The trap is a duffer-type, egg-type, or similarly designed foothold trap which by construction will selectively capture raccoon. This trap may be set above the water.

(c) The trap is a body gripping or conibear type trap 5 inches or less in width as measured inside the jaw hinges. This trap may be set above the water.

(d) The trap is a body gripping or conibear type trap less than 8 inches above the ground at the highest point, and set in a way that does not use bait, lure, or attractant to entice an animal, and the trap is between 5 inches and 6 and one half inches as measured inside the jaw hinges. This trap may be set above the water.

(10) To set a body gripping or conibear type trap larger than 5 and one half inches in width as measured inside the jaw hinges on dry land or over frozen submerged bottomlands, unless the trap is placed as follows:

(a) On private land, except lands open to hunting by the general public under the provisions of Part 511, commercial forests, of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.51101 to 324.51120, and less than 7 and one half inches as measured inside the jaw hinges.

(b) On public or private lands 4 feet or more above dry ground or the frozen surface of ice, as applicable.

(c) On public lands and lands open to hunting by the general public under the provisions of Part 511, commercial forests, of the natural resources and environmental protection act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.51101 to 324.51120, and is:

(i) Less than 8 inches above the ground at the highest point, and in a way that does not use bait, lure, or attractant to entice an animal and the trap is between 5 and one half and 6 and one half inches as measured inside the jaw hinges.

(ii) In a box or similar container that is placed vertically on a tree or other structure so that the trap trigger is at least 4 inches from the container opening and the opening of the container is no more than 6 inches from the ground.

(iii) In a box or similar container with a maximum fixed opening of 6 inches measured from the inside bottom of the container opening to the lower edge of the top of the container opening with 8 inch slots to allow trap placement so that no part of the trap trigger is closer than 6 inches to the opening edge of the container and the trap is between 5 and one half inches and 7 and one half inches as measured inside the jaw hinges.

(11) To set a trap within 50 feet of any water in zone 1 before October 25, or within 50 feet of any water in zone 2 before November 1, or within 50 feet of any water in zone 3 before November 10, except for the following catching devices:

(a) A duffer-type, egg-type, or similarly designed foothold trap which by construction will selectively capture raccoon.

(b) A body gripping or conibear trap placed 4 feet or more above the ground.

(12) To set a catching device designed to hold an animal alive unless:

(a) Any catch is released or removed upon checking the catching device. Restraining type traps set in a manner to hold an animal alive shall be checked at least once daily in zones 2 and 3 and within a 48 hour period in zone 1, except as noted in Section 5.52 (8) or in (ii) below.

(b) Using a live-restraining cage trap, other than a trap designed to catch more than 1 animal at 1 time, for the taking of furbearing animals, in season, by a licensed trapper, or person permitted by the Department.

(i) A person using a live-restraining cage trap, other than a trap designed to catch more than 1 animal at 1 time, shall release or kill an animal captured in a live-restraining cage trap immediately upon finding that animal in a trap.

(ii) A person using a live-restraining cage trap, other than a trap designed to catch more than 1 animal at 1 time, shall tend the trap daily statewide.

(13) To use, carry afield, or set a trap with teeth or serrations.

(14) A person shall not set or maintain any foothold trap within 20 feet of bait located in such a manner that it is visible from 4 feet or more above the bait. This shall not be construed to prohibit the use of completely submerged foothold traps located within 20 feet of any bait.

(a) As used in this subsection, "bait" is any animal or animal parts, including dead fish, except that pieces of less than 36 square inches and comprised of dried hide, fur, feathers or bones and entirely free of meat may be used as a visible attractant.

3.608 Bobcat open seasons, season limit, closed areas, restrictions; kill tags and tagging requirements; registration requirements; unlawful acts.

Sec. 3.608 (1) The open season for taking bobcat by trapping in bobcat management units A and B shall be December 1 to February 1. The open season for taking bobcat by hunting in bobcat management units A and B shall be from January 1 to March 1.

(2) The open season for taking bobcat by trapping in bobcat management units C and D shall be from December 10 to December 20, using foothold traps only. The open season for taking bobcat by hunting in management unit C shall be from January 1 to March 1. The open season for taking bobcat by hunting in management unit D shall be from January 1 to February 1.

(3) The open season for taking bobcat by trapping in bobcat management units E and F shall be from December 10 to December 20, using foothold traps only. The open season for taking bobcat by hunting in management units E and F shall be from January 1 to January 11.

(4) The season limit shall be 2 bobcats per licensed resident fur harvester except an individual shall take not more than 1 bobcat from bobcat management unit B, and not more than 1 bobcat in bobcat management units C, and D, E, and F combined. A licensed resident furharvester taking a second bobcat in bobcat management unit A shall take a bobcat on private land only, excluding commercial forest land.

(5) Through the day before the open bobcat season, a resident issued a fur harvester's license may obtain a free bobcat kill tag. A resident who intends to hunt or trap bobcat shall request and be issued up to 2 free bobcat kill tags. A resident shall not sell, loan, or permit in any manner another individual to use the bobcat kill tag or use or attempt to use another individual's bobcat kill tag. Free bobcat kill tags may be obtained only by a resident who is at least 8 years old, subject to section 2.14. An individual who kills a bobcat shall immediately validate the kill tag by notching out the appropriate information on the tag and attach the kill tag to the hide of the bobcat from the upper jaw to the eye socket or through the lower jaw of the bobcat in a secure and permanent manner. An individual shall not tag a bobcat with a kill tag that is not valid for the unit in which the bobcat is taken. This kill tag shall remain attached to the bobcat until the animal is registered and sealed by the department. An individual shall not possess a bobcat or bobcat hide that is not tagged with a validated kill tag unless a department seal is attached as provided by subsection (6).

(6) An individual that kills a bobcat shall present the pelt and skull of the bobcat to the department to be registered and sealed no later than 10 days following the close of the season in which it was taken. The pelt and skull shall be presented for sealing in person by the resident fur harvester that killed the animal and shall not be presented for sealing or registration by another individual. The individual presenting the bobcat pelt and skull shall display their fur harvester license, including identification used to acquire the license, and shall provide harvest information as requested by the department. The department shall retain at least one tooth or the skull, at the discretion of the department, and attach an official seal to the pelt of each bobcat presented for examination. The seal shall be locked upon the hide in such a manner that it cannot be removed without cutting or ripping the bobcat pelt or damaging the seal. An official seal attached by the department shall not be removed from the bobcat pelt until the bobcat pelt is processed or tanned. Subsequent to 10 days following March 1, it shall be unlawful to possess a bobcat pelt without an official department seal attached unless the pelt has been processed or tanned or the bobcat season is open.

3.620 Fisher, open seasons, closed areas; registration requirements; unlawful acts.

Sec. 3.620 (1) The open season for taking fisher by trapping shall be from the first Friday in December through 9 days after in all of Zone 1 except Drummond island.

(2) The fisher and marten season limit shall be a combined bag limit of 2 animals per licensed resident of which no more than one may be a fisher.

(3) Through the last day of the open fisher season, a resident issued a fur harvester's license may obtain a free fisher kill tag. A resident who intends to trap fisher shall request and be issued 1 kill tag valid for either a fisher or a marten. A resident shall not sell, loan, or permit in any manner, another individual to use the fisher kill tag or use or attempt to use another individual's fisher kill tag. Free fisher kill tags may be obtained only by a resident who is at least 8 years old, subject to section 2.14. An individual who kills a fisher shall immediately validate the kill tag by notching out the appropriate information on the tag and attach the kill tag to the hide of the fisher from the upper jaw to the eye socket or through the lower jaw in a secure and permanent manner. An individual shall not tag a fisher with a kill tag that is not valid for the unit in which the fisher is taken. This kill tag shall remain attached to the fisher until the animal is registered and sealed by the department. An individual shall not possess a fisher or fisher hide that is not tagged with a validated kill tag unless a department seal is attached as provided by subsection (4).

(4) An individual that kills a fisher shall present the pelt and skull of the fisher to the department to be registered and sealed no later than 3 business days following the last day of the season. The pelt and skull shall be presented for sealing in person by the resident fur harvester that killed the animal and shall not be presented for sealing or registration by another individual. The individual presenting the fisher pelt and skull shall display their resident fur harvester license, including identification used to acquire the license, and shall provide harvest information as requested by the department. The department shall retain the skull and attach an official seal to the pelt of each fisher presented for examination and shall lock the seal upon the hide in such a manner that it cannot be removed without cutting or ripping the fisher pelt or damaging the seal. An official seal attached by the department, shall not be removed from the fisher pelt until the fisher pelt is processed or tanned. Subsequent to 3 business days following the close of the season, it shall be unlawful to possess a fisher pelt without an official department seal attached unless the pelt has been processed or tanned or the fisher season is open.

3.630 Marten, open season, exceptions; trapping permit; sealing requirements; unlawful acts.

Sec. 3.630 (1) The open season for taking marten by trapping shall be from the first Friday in December through 9 days after in all of zone 1 except Drummond island.

(2) Through the last day of the open marten season, a resident issued a fur harvester's license may obtain a free marten kill tag. A resident who intends to trap marten shall request and be issued 1 free marten or fisher kill tag and 1 marten only kill tag. A resident shall not sell, loan, or permit in any manner, another individual to use the marten kill tag or use or attempt to use another individual's marten kill tag. A free marten kill tag may be obtained only by a resident who is at least 8 years old, subject to section 2.14. An individual who kills a marten shall immediately validate the kill tag by notching out the appropriate information on the tag and attach the kill tag to the hide of the marten from the upper jaw to the eye socket or through the lower jaw in a secure and permanent manner. This kill tag shall remain attached to the marten until the animal is registered and sealed by the department. An individual shall not possess a marten or marten hide that is not tagged with a validated kill tag unless a department seal is attached as provided by subsection (4).

(3) The fisher and marten season limit shall be a combined bag limit of 2 animals per licensed resident of which no more than one may be a fisher.

(4) An individual that kills a marten shall present the pelt and skull of the marten to the department to be registered and sealed no later than 3 business days following the last day of the season. The pelt and skull shall be presented for sealing in person by the resident fur harvester that killed the animal and shall not be presented for sealing or registration by another individual. The individual presenting the marten pelt and skull shall display their resident fur harvester's license; including identification used to acquire the license, and shall provide harvest information as requested by the department. The department shall retain the skull, and, attach an official seal to the pelt of each marten presented for examination, and lock the seal upon the hide in such a manner that it cannot be removed without cutting or ripping the marten pelt or damaging the seal. An official seal attached by the department, shall not be removed from the marten pelt until the marten pelt is processed or tanned. Subsequent to 3 business days following the last day of the season, it shall be unlawful to possess a marten pelt without an official department seal attached unless the pelt has been processed or tanned or the marten season is open.

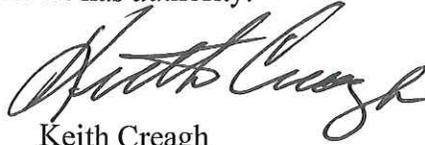
Issued on this 14th day of June, 2018.

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



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: April 16, 2018
RESUBMITTED: May 14, 2018

APPROVED
June 14, 2018
MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
Cheryl Nelson
(ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION)

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Squirrel Season Dates
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 8 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:

Small game hunters have requested that the hunting season dates for fox, black, and grey squirrels be extended to include the entire months of January, February, and March. The current squirrel season opening and closing dates (September 15 to March 1) have remained unchanged since 2003. This change will include an additional 30 days of squirrel season and will also align with the current rabbit season. This will provide additional recreational opportunities for small game hunters.

Issues Pros and Cons

Extending the squirrel season an additional 30 days and aligning the season with the current rabbit season will result in some additional recreational opportunities. Although overharvests of squirrels can occur in small woodlots and public hunting areas, low harvest levels statewide should have relatively little impact on statewide squirrel populations. The number of squirrels taken during the proposed extended season is likely to be minimal.

Other States

The Department polled natural resources professionals in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin to determine squirrel season closing dates. The results were the following:

- Indiana's squirrel season is from August 15 to January 31.
- Illinois' squirrel season is from August 1 to February 15.
- Minnesota's squirrel season is from September 16 to February 28.
- Ohio's squirrel season is from September 1 to January 31.
- Wisconsin's squirrel season is from September 16 to January 31.

Biological

Harvest of squirrels with dependent young has a higher potential to negatively impact populations than harvest at other times of year. Squirrels can produce two litters per year; one in spring and one in late summer. A relatively high reproductive potential may compensate for harvest. If March harvest is minimal, statewide population impacts are unlikely.

Social

The Michigan Hunting Dog Federation requested an extension to squirrel season to provide more opportunity for hunters using squirrel dogs. Extending the squirrel hunting season into a time period when any breeding female has dependent young may be a controversial issue. Some hunters may object to shooting nursing females.

Economic

The Department does not expect an economic impact.

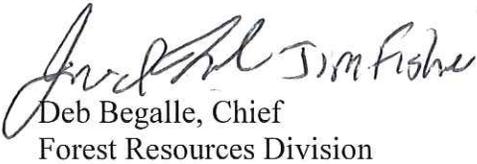
Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order was submitted for information on May 10, 2018, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's May calendar and may be eligible for approval on June 14, 2018.



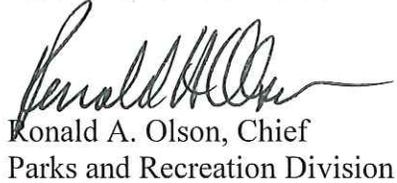
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



Deb Begalle, Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries 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

6/14/18
Date

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 8 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 June 15, 2018, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

3.507 Squirrels, open season; exception; daily and possession limits.

Sec. 3.507 (1) The open season for taking fox, black and grey squirrels shall be September 15 to March 31.

(2) The daily limit shall be 5 fox, black and grey squirrels combined and the possession limit shall be 10 fox, black and grey squirrels combined.

Issued on this 14th day of June, 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



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAMER
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: April 16, 2018
RESUBMITTED: May 14, 2018



MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Open/Closed Deer Management Units
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 9 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:

To provide the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) with greater flexibility in the development of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) regulations, the Department has made administrative changes to the Wildlife Conservation Order to define Deer Management Units (DMUs) that will be open or closed for the 2018 deer hunting season. Open DMUs located outside of the CWD area of concern will continue to be available by lottery and must be identified by June to ensure effective communications and customer service during the antlerless application, drawing, and purchasing process. DMUs under consideration for CWD regulations will not be included in the drawing, allowing regulations for those units to be further deliberated until finalized.

Addressing DMUs that will be open or closed before CWD regulations are finalized will allow for critical customer service and communications with retail agents and hunters in preparation for the July 15 to August 15 antlerless application period and sale of leftover licenses beginning September 10. Providing retail agents and hunters with a list of DMUs that will be open or closed will allow hunters and retail agents to know what DMUs will have antlerless licenses available either through a drawing or over-the-counter. It will allow time for hunters to prepare for their hunt and will allow retail agents to sell applications immediately upon the antlerless application period.

To enable the NRC and the Department to develop CWD regulations that can be flexibly adapted over time, for both public and private land, the Department recommends eliminating multi-county DMUs near where CWD has been identified and reverting to individual county DMUs.

160

Eliminating multi-county DMUs near where CWD has been identified and reverting to DMUs that are defined by individual county boundaries creates a stable, yet adaptive DMU framework for regulations as CWD management strategies change over time. County-based DMUs are expected to be very intuitive for hunters and license agents, enhancing customer service and public understanding of the Department's response to CWD. It will simplify procedures for retail agents and hunters during the antlerless application, drawing, and purchasing process. In addition, it will allow flexibility for the NRC to consider CWD regulations for the public and private lands within individual county DMUs, rather than multi-county DMUs with boundaries that would need to be restructured for regulation changes.

Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order was submitted for information on May 10, 2018, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's May calendar and may be eligible for approval on June 14, 2018.



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



Deb Begalle, Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



Kristin Phillips, Chief
Marketing and Outreach 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

6/14/18

Date

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 9 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 June 15, 2018, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

3.105a Deer management units open to antlerless license quotas.

Sec. 3.105a (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section the status of each deer management unit for antlerless deer licenses shall be as shown in table 4:

TABLE 4
Open and Closed DMU Status

DMU Number	DMU Name	Private Land License	Public Land License
003	Allegan County	Open	Open
005	Antrim County	Open	Open
006	Arenac County	Open	Open
007	Big Bay Unit	Closed	Closed
008	Barry County	Open	Open
009	Bay County	Open	Open
010	Benzie County	Open	Open
013	Calhoun County	Open	Open
014	Cass County	Open	Open
015	Charlevoix County	Open	Open
016	Cheboygan County	Open	Open
017	Sault Ste. Marie Unit	Closed	Closed
018	Clare County	Open	Open
019	Clinton County	Open	Open
020	Crawford County	Open	Open
021	Manistique Unit	Closed	Closed
022	Crystal Falls Unit	Closed	Closed
023	Eaton County	Open	Open
024	Emmet County	Open	Open
025	Genesee County	Open	Closed
026	Gladwin County	Open	Open
027	Watersmeet Unit	Closed	Closed
028	Grand Traverse County	Open	Open
029	Gratiot County	Open	Open
030	Hillsdale County	Open	Open
031	Nissula Unit	Closed	Closed
032	Huron County	Open	Open
033	Ingham County	Open	Open
034	Ionia County	Open	Open
036	Amasa/Michigamme Unit	Closed	Closed
037	Isabella County	Open	Open
038	Jackson County	Open	Open
039	Kalamazoo County	Open	Open
040	Kalkaska County	Open	Open
041	Kent County	Open	Open
042	Keweenaw Unit	Closed	Closed
043	Lake County	Open	Open
044	Lapeer County	Open	Open
045	Leelanau County	Open	Open
046	Lenawee County	Open	Open

DMU Number	DMU Name	Private Land License	Public Land License
047	Livingston County	Open	Open
048	Newberry Unit	Closed	Closed
050	Macomb County	Open	Open
051	Manistee County	Open	Open
053	Mason County	Open	Open
054	Mecosta County	Open	Open
055	Menominee Unit	Open	Open
056	Midland County	Open	Open
057	Missaukee County	Open	Open
058	Monroe County	Open	Open
059	Montcalm County	Open	Open
061	Muskegon County	Open	Open
062	Newaygo County	Open	Open
063	Oakland County	Open	Open
064	Oceana County	Open	Open
065	Ogemaw County	Open	Open
066	Ontonagon County	Closed	Closed
067	Osceola County	Open	Open
069	Otsego County	Open	Open
070	Ottawa County	Open	Open
072	Roscommon County	Open	Open
073	Saginaw County	Open	Open
074	St. Clair County	Open	Open
075	St. Joseph County	Open	Open
076	Sanilac County	Open	Open
078	Shiawassee County	Open	Open
079	Tuscola County	Open	Open
080	Van Buren County	Open	Open
081	Washtenaw County	Open	Open
082	Wayne County	Open	Open
083	Wexford County	Open	Open
115	Beaver Island	Open	Open
117	Drummond Island	Closed	Closed
121	Bay De Noc	Open	Open
122	Norway Unit	Open	Closed
127	Ironwood Unit	Closed	Closed
131	Twin Lakes Unit	Closed	Closed
145	North Manitou Island	Closed	Open
149	Round/Bois Blanc Island	Open	Open
152	Gwinn Unit	Closed	Closed
155	Gladstone Unit	Open	Open
174	St. Clair Flats	Open	Open
245	South Fox Island	Open	Open
249	Trout Lake Unit	Closed	Closed
252	Rock Unit	Closed	Closed
255	La Branche Unit	Open	Open
273	Shiawassee Unit	Closed	Open
311	Keeler Unit (Berrien - Cass - Van Buren)	Open	Open
312	Sherwood Unit (Branch - Kalamazoo - St. Joseph)	Open	Open
332	Greenleaf Unit (Huron - Sanilac - Tuscola)	Open	Open
349	Engadine Unit	Closed	Closed
452	TB Core Area	Open	Open
487	NLP Multi-County Unit	Open	Open

12.62b "Deer management unit 062 (Newaygo county)" defined.

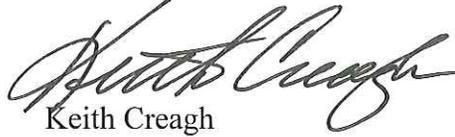
Sec. 12.62b. "Deer management unit 062 (Newaygo county)" means all of Newaygo county.

Issued on this 14th day of June, 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



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAUGH
DIRECTOR

SUBMITTED: April 26, 2018
RESUBMITTED: May 14, 2018

APPROVED
June 14, 2018
MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION
Charles Nelson
(ASSISTANT TO THE COMMISSION)

MEMORANDUM TO THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

Subject: Falconry Season Dates for the Take of Certain Migratory Birds Technical Change
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 10 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:

In February 2018, the Department made recommendations for the migratory game bird hunting seasons. As part of those recommendations, falconry season dates for additional days outside the gun hunting seasons for ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens were proposed to be December 31 to January 14, 2019 and February 19 to March 10, 2019. These proposed dates were approved by the Natural Resources Commission on February 8, 2018 as part of Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 03 of 2018.

Upon completing the migratory bird season selections form for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), an error was found that the Department has exceeded the allowable number of days of hunting ducks. This error occurred because six additional days were added to the teal season as compared to the previous year, which only leaves 29 additional days for the added falconry dates and not 35 days like the 2017-18 dates. The Department recommends making a minor adjustment to the 2018-19 additional falconry dates to December 31 to January 12, 2019 and February 23 to March 10, 2019. This amendment provides the technical correction to assure that the Wildlife Conservation Order is in compliance with the USFWS federal frameworks. In addition, the Department has notified the Michigan Hawking Club of the minor change.

106

Falconry Season Dates for the Take of Certain Migratory Birds Technical Change
Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 10 of 2018

Page 2

May 14, 2018

Relevant Divisions have contributed to the preparation of this order. This order was submitted for information on May 10, 2018, at the Natural Resources Commission meeting. This item appeared on the Department's May calendar and may be eligible for approval on June 14, 2018.



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



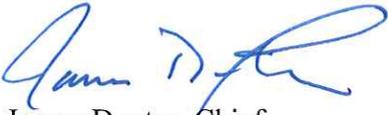
Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division



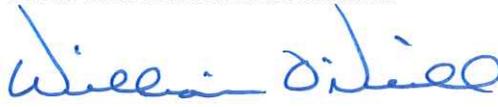
Deb Begalle, Chief
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries 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

6/14/18
Date

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER

Amendment No. 10 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 June 15, 2018, the following section(s) of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

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 12, 2019 and February 23 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.

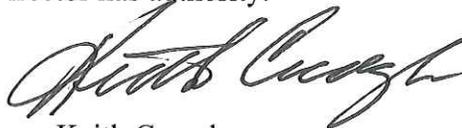
Issued on this 14th day of June, 2018.

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



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

May 14, 2018

To: Keith Creagh, Director

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Oil and Gas Lease Auction – 4,616.57 acres were offered
May 7, 2018

Authority: Part 5, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended

Applicants: The attached auction summary identifies the successful bidders,
the total acreage, and the total revenue paid. There were nine
registered bidders with seven successful bidders.

Mineral Description: The Official Auction Record shows the legal descriptions for each
offering.

Acres Bid: Of the 4,616.57 acres offered, a total of 4,376.57 acres received
successful bids (3,089.81 acres development, 1,286.76 acres
nondevelopment) in 9 counties.

Lease Terms: Five-year primary term with two one-year extension options, 1/6
royalty. Bonus amount of \$223,777.00 and rental amount of
\$28,375.94. Total revenue generated at the auction was
\$252,152.94.

Special Restrictions: In accordance with those described in the Official Auction Record
for each applicable auction description.

Notice: This item will appear on the June 5, 2018, DNR Business
Calendar and will be eligible for approval June 14, 2018.

109

May 14, 2018

Recommendation: That the oil and gas leases be issued to the successful bidders pursuant to the above terms and conditions.



Mark B. Sweatman, Director
Office of Minerals Management



James L. Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division



Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division



William O'Neill
Natural Resources Deputy



Debbie A. Begalle, Chief
Forest Resources Division

I approve the staff recommendation.



Keith Creagh
Director

6/14/18

Approval Date

State of Michigan
Oil and Gas Lease Auction
May 7, 2018

Bidder Number	Lessee	Total Acres	Total Bonus + Total Rental
101	Michael W. Flynn P.O. Box 2104 Traverse City, MI 49686	No Bid	No Bid
102	Savoy Energy, L.P., registered to transact business in Michigan as Savoy Energy Limited Partnership P.O. Box 1560 Traverse City, MI 49685	1,051.00	\$15,289.00
103	West Bay Exploration Company 13685 South West Bay Shore Traverse City, MI 49684	2,730.15	\$226,253.10
104	Gallatin Energy, Inc. P.O. Box 1122 Gaylord, MI 49734	160.00	\$2,240.00
105	Berea Oil & Gas, LLC P.O. Box 301 Jackson, MI 49204	115.42	\$1,970.84
106	Western Land Services, Inc. 1100 Conrad Industrial Drive Ludington, MI 49431	40.00	\$800.00
107	CORE Energy, LLC 1011 Noteware Drive Traverse City, MI 49686	240.00	\$4,800.00
108	Maritz Land Company LLC P.O. Box 4126 Traverse City, MI 49685	40.00	\$800.00
109	Mathew Maritz P.O. Box 4126 Traverse City, MI 49685	No Bid	No Bid
Totals:		4,376.57	\$252,152.94



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

May 14, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Cadillac Management Unit – Lake County
Land Transaction Case #20180063

Sale: 4 platted lots – 0.28 acre

Sale Price: \$500.00

Description: Lake County, Webber Township, T18N, R13W, Section 35:
Lakeland Acres Subdivision No. 2, Block 81, Lots 15-18.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a decrease of 0.33 acre of DNR-Managed lands.

Applicant: Virgil and Sally Currier, Ludington, 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) June 5, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on June 12, 2018. The transaction will also be posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1964 and 1978.

Minerals: To be conveyed.

Comments: The desired parcel was brought to the attention of the department by the applicant and was identified for disposal during the Phase II review. The applicant is the only abutting owner.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on April 19, 2018.

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.

112

- 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 \$500.00.
- (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

6/14/18

Date Approved

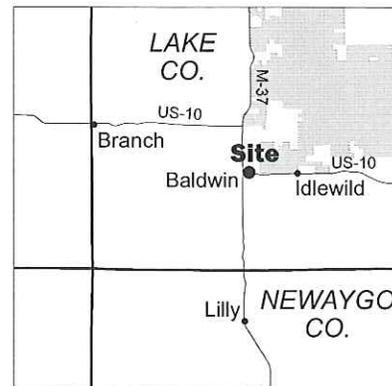
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND

Cadillac Management Unit – Lake County
Land Transaction Case #20180063

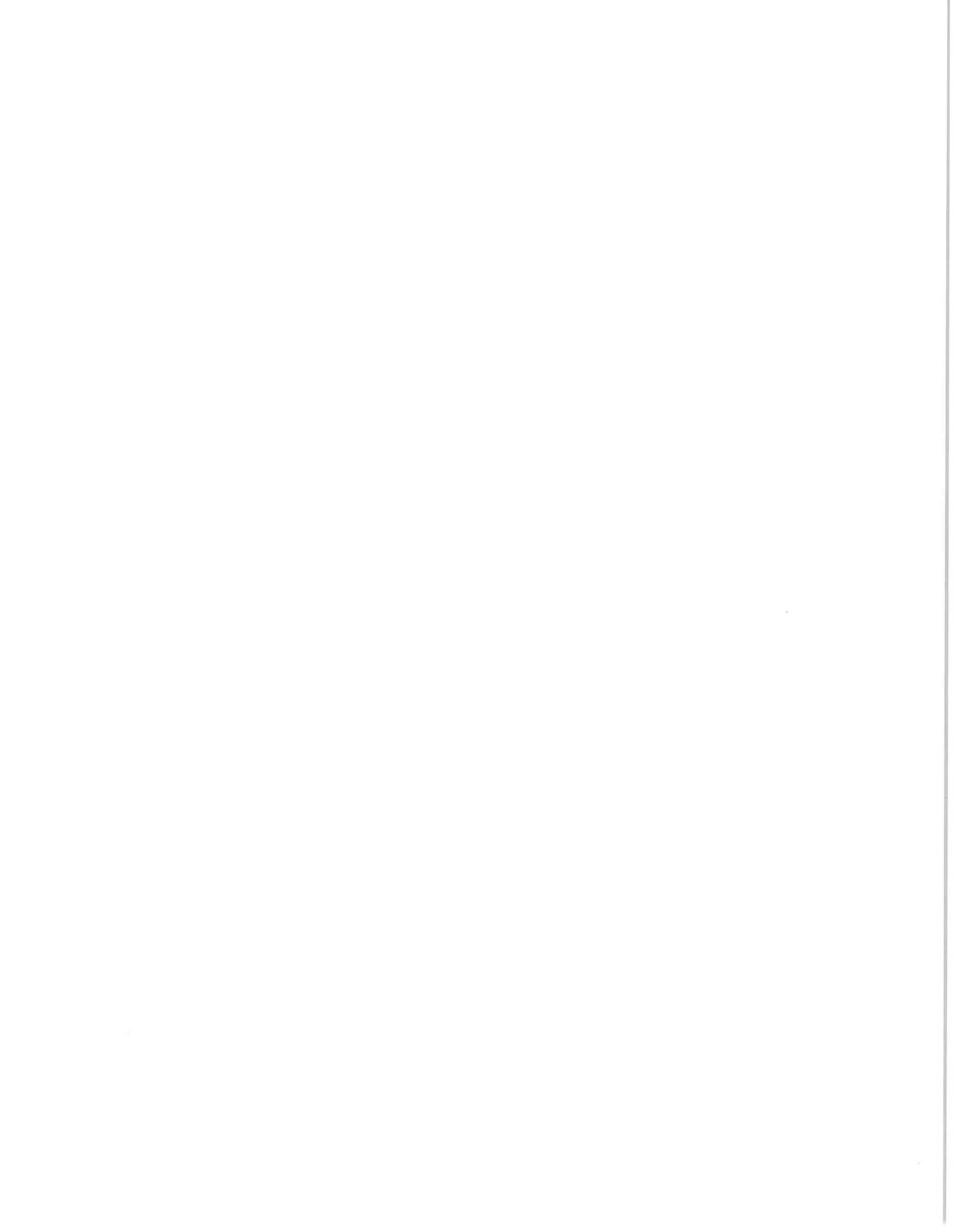


Section 35, T18N, R13W, Webber Township
Lakeland Acres Subdivision

-  Surplus DNR land to be sold (4 lots)
-  Surplus DNR land previously sold
-  Private land



 DNR Project Boundaries





RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

May 14, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Metro District – Oakland County
Land Transaction Case #20160246

Sale: 0.23 acre

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

Description: Oakland County, Waterford Township, T03N, R09E, Section 14:
Lakes View Subdivision, Lot 78.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) June 5, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on June 12, 2018. The transaction will also be posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1994.

Minerals: Mineral rights will be conveyed.

Comments: The desired parcel is an isolated subdivision lot. The parcel does not hold any resource value and is not manageable due to its isolated location and small size.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on April 20, 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 in the next scheduled auction.
 - (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.



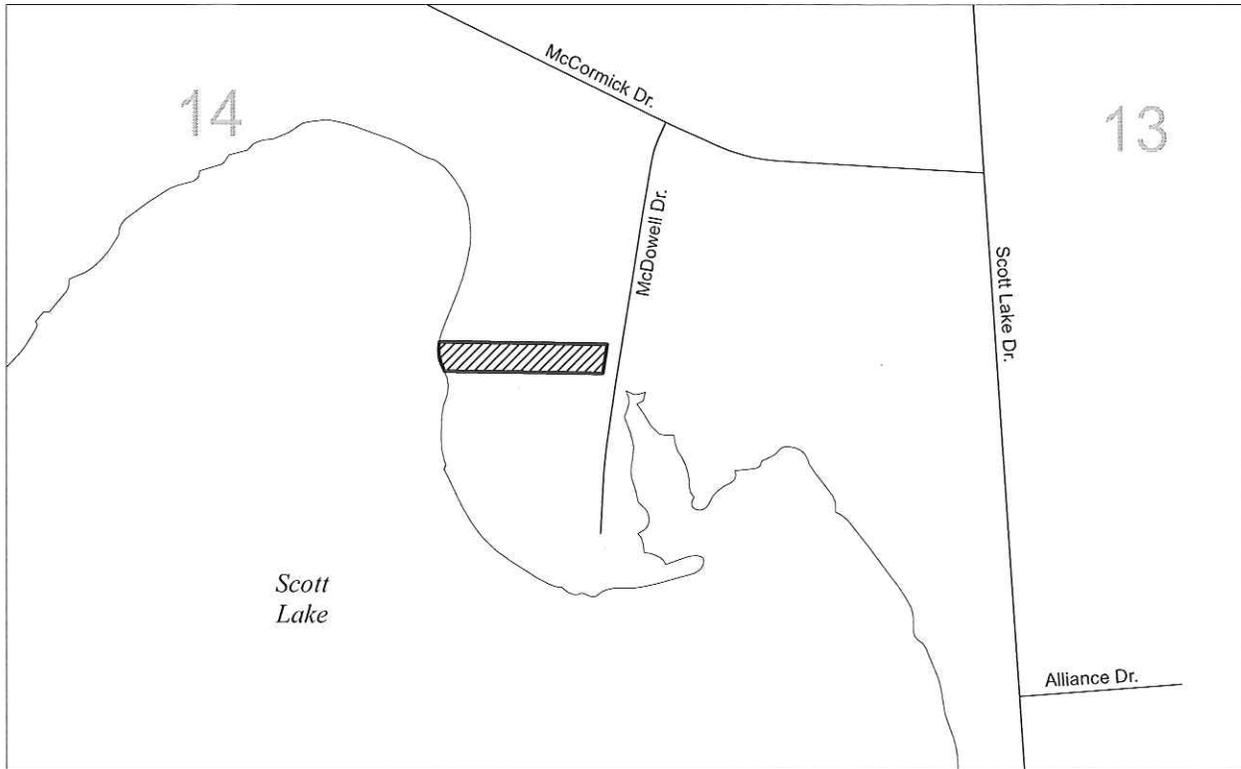
Keith Creagh
Director

6/14/18

Date Approved

SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND

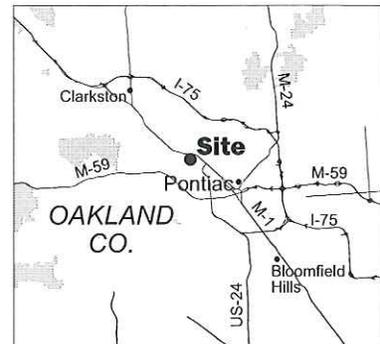
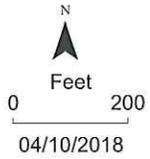
Metro District – Oakland County
Land Transaction Case #20160246



Section 14, T03N, R09E, Waterford Township

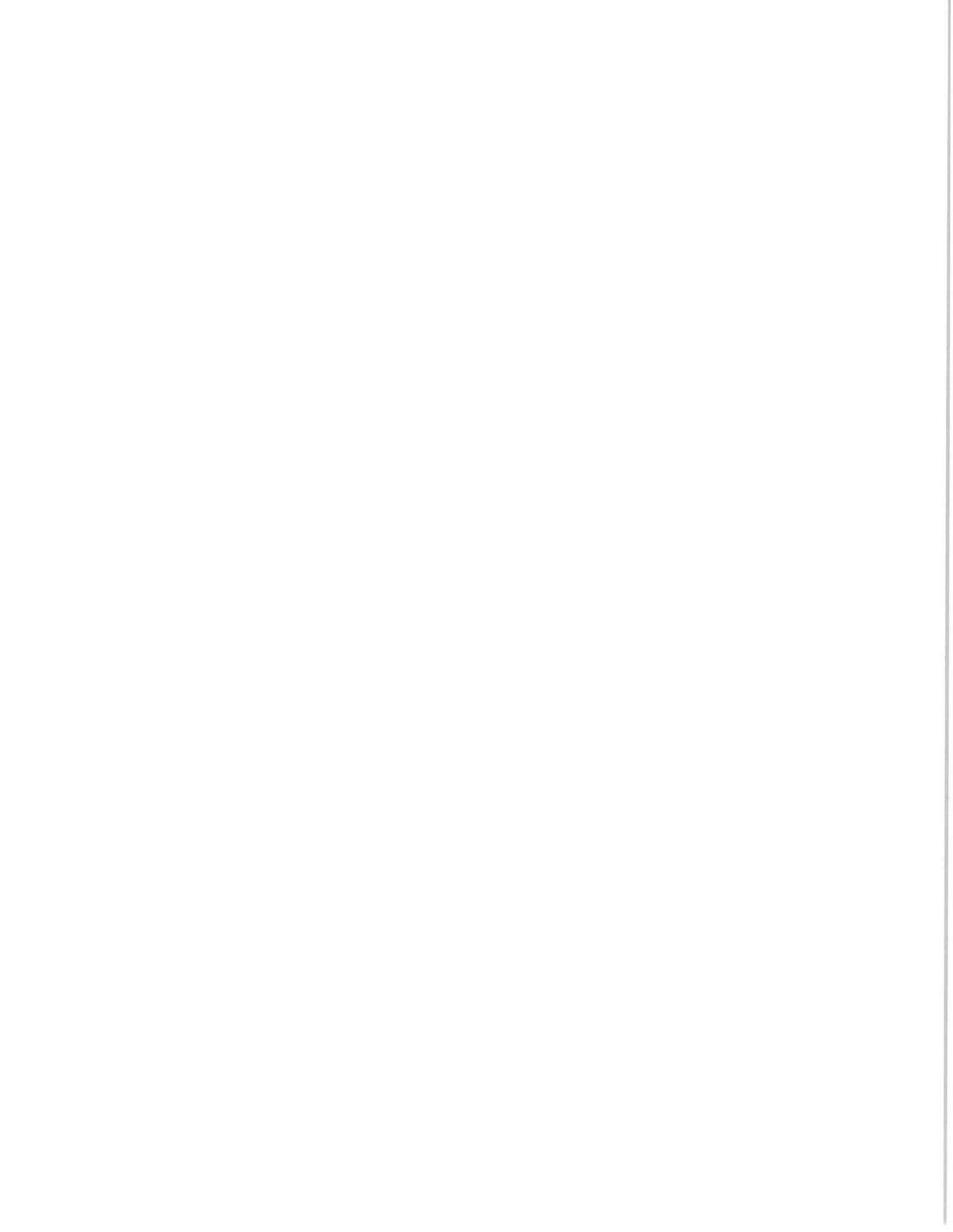
 Surplus DNR land to be sold (0.23 acre)

 Private land



 DNR Project Boundaries

117





RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

May 14, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: State Forest Land Exchange
Sault Ste. Marie Management Unit – Mackinac County
Haske Exchange
Land Transaction Case #20160044

Applicant: Richard Haske, Pickford, Michigan.

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$320.00. The parcels involved in the exchange are north of the Mason-Arenac county line and will result in a decrease of 160 counted acres.

Private Land Offered in Exchange: 80 acres
Location: Mackinac County, Clark Township, T42N, R01W, Section 2:
• The W 1/2 of the NE 1/4

Value: \$ 65,000.00
Payment at Closing: \$ 98,500.00

Total Compensation
To be Provided by
Applicant: \$ 163,500.00

State Land Desired in Exchange: 240 acres
Location: Mackinac County, Marquette Township, T43N, R01W, Section 26:
• The NE 1/4 and the E 1/2 of the NW 1/4

Value: \$ 163,200.00

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) June 5, 2018, calendar and is eligible for approval on June 12, 2018.

Comments: The desired state land was declared surplus as part of Phase II. The applicant was the high bidder at auction and offered to exchange the offered land as part of his bid. The offered land is bordered by state-owned land on two sides, provides increased wildlife habitat, public recreation

opportunity and timber management. The state will be reserving an ingress and egress easement over an existing trail in the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of the desired land, more particularly described in the case file.

The desired state land was acquired by tax reversion in 1928 & 1930 and by exchange for tax reverted parcels in 1970.

The state already owns the mineral rights on the offered parcels. The state will reserve mineral rights on the desired parcels as well as a 50 percent sand and gravel royalty interest.

The proposed land exchange was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on April 21, 2016.

Engagement: Mackinac County and Clark Township were both contacted about this exchange in May 2016. Neither expressed concerns.

Recommendation(s):

1. That the exchange be approved, with the state reserving mineral rights, a 50 percent sand and gravel royalty reservation, an ingress and egress easement, and aboriginal antiquities.
2. That the offered land be dedicated as part of the Sault Ste. Marie 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

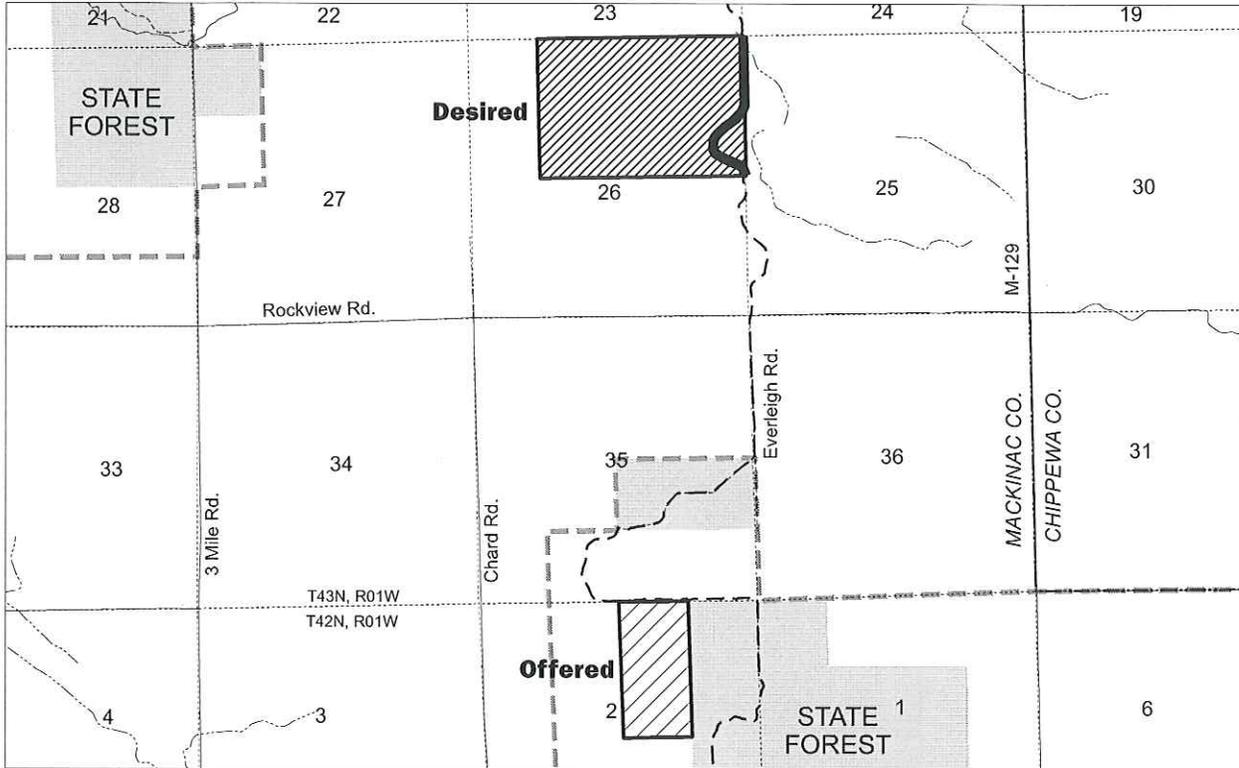
4/14/18

Date Approved

STATE FOREST LAND EXCHANGE

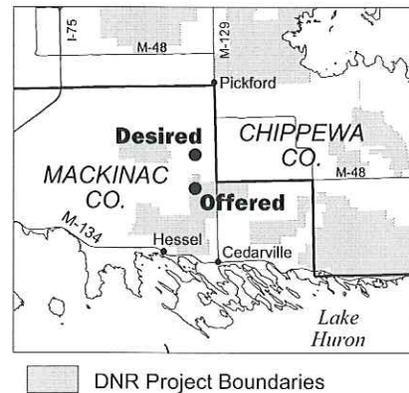
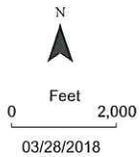
Sault Ste. Marie Management Unit – Mackinac County

Land Transaction Case #20160044



Section 26, T43N, R01W, Marquette Township
 Section 2, T42N, R01W, Clark Township

- State land desired from DNR (240 acres)
- Land offered to DNR in exchange (80 acres)
- State land
- Private land
- Easement to be retained by DNR over desired property
- Snowmobile Trail UP-45
- DNR Project Boundary





RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

May 14, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Release of Reverter and
Conveyance of DNR-Managed Land for Public Use
Cadillac District – Leelanau County
Land Transaction Case #20170218

Sale: 6.0 acres

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: Leelanau County, Village of Northport, T32N, R11W, Section 34:
Part of Lot 2, 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.

Applicant: Village of Northport, Northport, 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) June 5, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on June 12, 2018.

Acquired: The acreage parcels were acquired by tax reversion in 1939, and deeded to the Village of Northport in 1941 by a public use deed.

Minerals: To be conveyed.

Comments: The desired property was conveyed to the Village of Northport in 1941, by a public use deed that is subject to a reverter clause stating that the land is to be used solely for recreational purposes and when it ceases to be used for that purpose, the land shall revert to the state. The Village of Northport is asking for the reverter interest to be released so that the property can be used for public purposes.

122

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

Engagement: The Village of Northport 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.

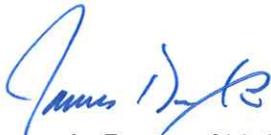
(2) That the state retain aboriginal antiquities.



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.



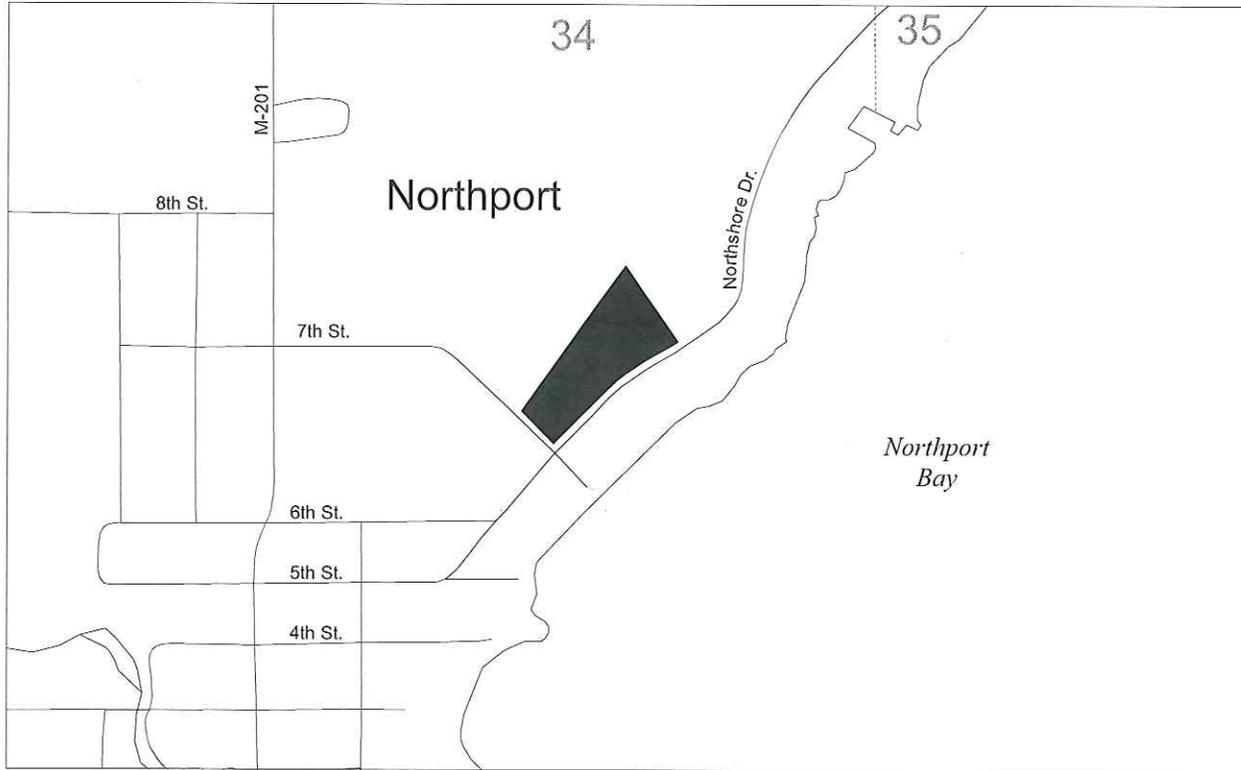
Keith Creagh
Director

6/14/18

Date Approved

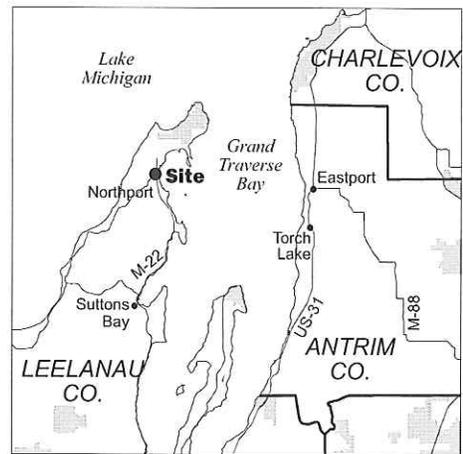
RELEASE OF REVERTER AND CONVEYANCE OF DNR-MANAGED LAND FOR PUBLIC USE

Cadillac District – Leelanau County
Land Transaction Case #20170218

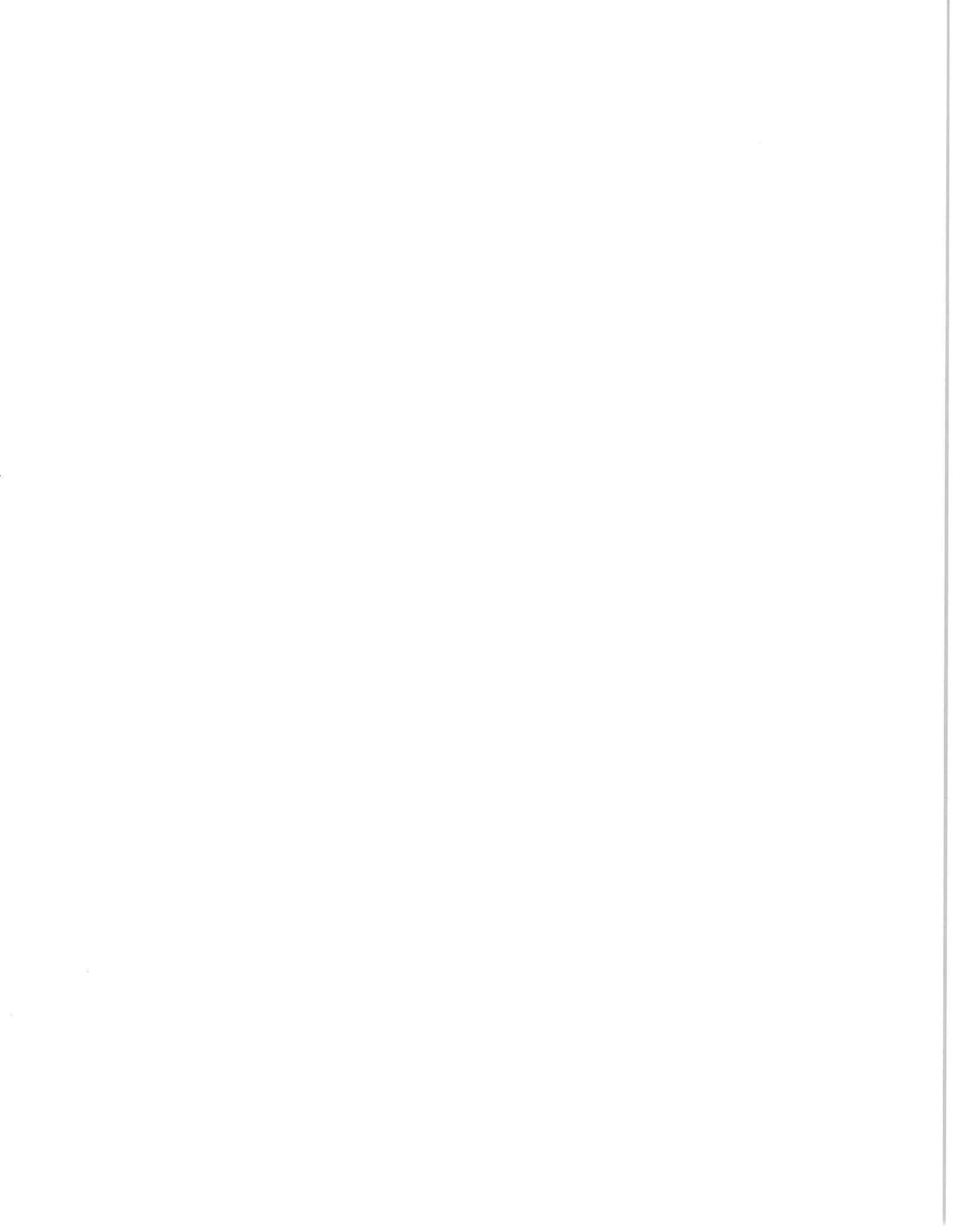


Section 34, T32N, R11W, Village of Northport

- State-owned reverter interest to be released
- Private land



DNR Project Boundaries





RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

May 14, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: State Trail Gift of Easements
Musketawa Trail – Kent County
Land Transaction Case #20180079

Acquisition: 0.25 mile of permanent trail rights, and trailhead parking lot (2.06 acres)

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: None (trail easements)
The trail easements are south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will not result in an increase in counted acres.

Description: Kent County, City of Walker, T7N, R12W, Sections 5 & 6: as more completely described in the case file.

Donor: Irwin Seating Company, Grand Rapids, 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) June 5, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on June 12, 2018.

Management Purpose: The land will be managed by the Parks and Recreation as part of the Musketawa Trail.

Comments: At the August 2009 Natural Resources Commission meeting, the Director approved the purchase of a 20-foot wide recreational trail easement within the right-of-way of an active railroad line of the Coopersville & Marne Railway Company. The trail corridor is now developed within the active railroad corridor, except where the recreational trail easements being offered the Department are located.

The offered easements are the result of a public/private partnership between the Department, Kent County Parks, Kent County Road Commission, and the Irwin Seating Company, and provide:

- trail connectivity, across private land, at a point where the trail and active railroad conflict for space at a bridge crossing;
- access to the trail from a sidewalk along Fruit Ridge Drive, at a point where the trail and railroad go under Fruit Ridge Drive;
- and, a trailhead parking lot to address overcrowding at the 8th Avenue trailhead to the west.

Acquisition of these recreational trail easements will contribute to achieving Department and division goals and strategies to secure continuous access for a portion of our designated trail system.

Engagement: As evidenced by the gift of easements, the Irwin Seating Company, Kent County Parks, and the Board of County Road Commissioners of the County of Kent, strongly support this gift of easements.

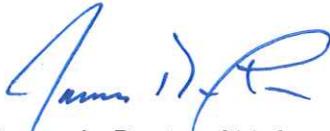
Recommendation: (1) That the gift of easements be accepted with appreciation.
(2) That the land be dedicated as part of the Musketawa Trail and administered by the Parks and Recreation Division.



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

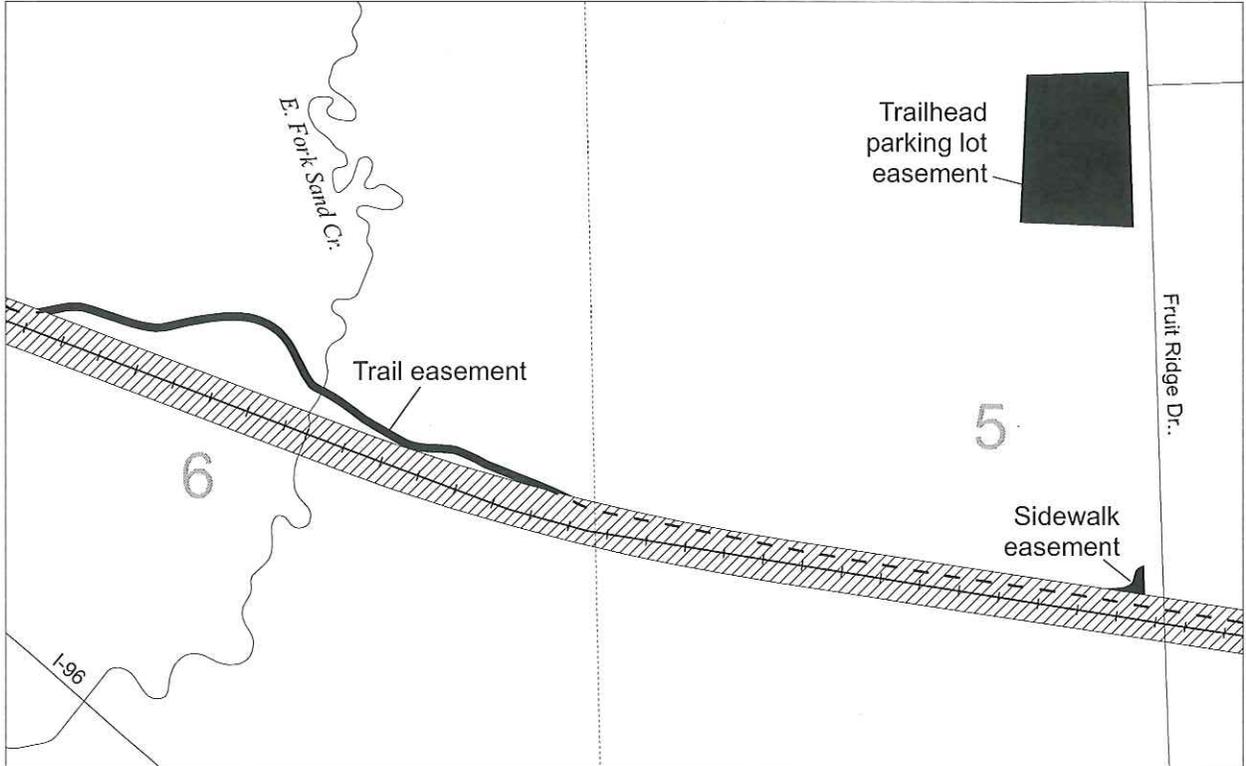
6/14/18

Date Approved

STATE TRAIL GIFT OF EASEMENTS

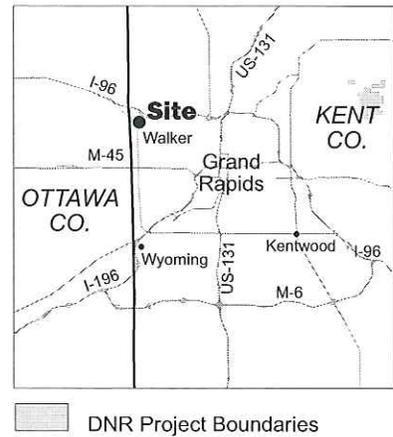
Musketawa Trail – Kent County

Land Transaction Case #20180079



Section 5-6, T7N, R12W, City of Walker

- Easements to be acquired by DNR
- Railroad Right-of-Way
- Private land
- Musketawa Trail
- Active railroad





RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

May 14, 2018

TO: Keith Creagh, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Gift of Land
Metro District – Dodge 4 State Park - Oakland County
Land Transaction Case #20180080

Gift: 38.26 acres of Cass Lake bottomlands and shoreline.

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: \$160.00
This submerged parcel is located south of the Mason-Arenac County line and will not result in an increase in counted acres.

Description: Oakland County, Waterford Township, T03N, R09E, Section 34:
All the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4, as more particularly described in the case file.

Donor: Paul Collom, Englewood, Florida.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) June 5, 2018, calendar, and is eligible for approval on June 12, 2018.

Management Purpose: The property will be managed by the Parks and Recreation Division as part of the Dodge 4 State Park. It will provide additional lands for public outdoor recreation.

Comments: The offered 38.26 acres constitutes the bottomlands of Cass Lake and shoreline within the Dodge 4 State Park. Cass Lake is a significant public resource for water-based recreation. The shoreline portion of the parcel lies within the park boundary and close to public parking and boat launch facilities.

Acquisition of this property will contribute to the Department's goal of consolidating management control of state lands and providing quality outdoor recreation opportunities in close proximity to urban areas.

Engagement: Oakland County and Waterford Township were both informed of the gift and neither expressed concern.

128

- Recommendation:
1. That the gift of land be accepted with appreciation.
 2. That the offered property be dedicated as part of the Dodge 4 State Park.
 3. That the Dodge 4 State Park boundary be adjusted to include the bottomland portions of this parcel.



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.

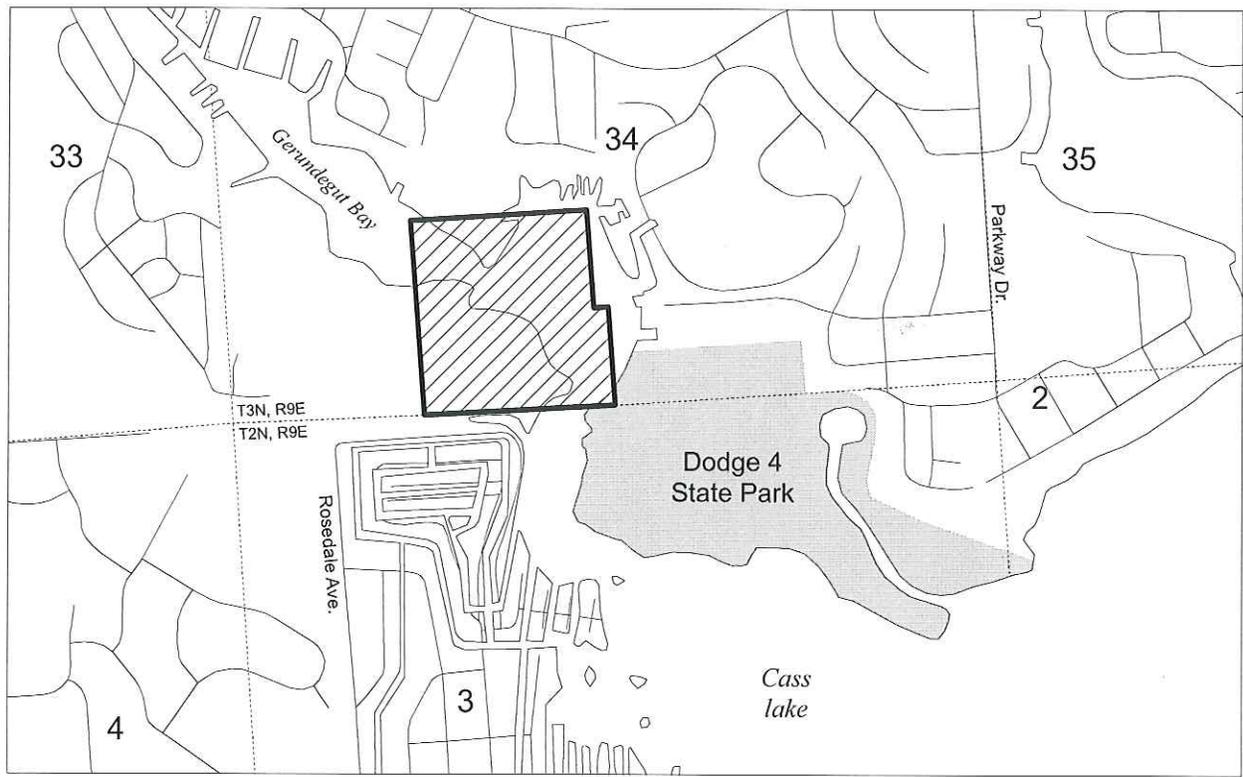


Keith Creagh
Director

6/14/18

Date Approved

GIFT OF LAND
 Metro District – Oakland County
 Land Transaction Case #20180080



Section 34, T03N, R09E, Waterford Township

- Land to be gifted to DNR (38.26 acres)
- State land
- Private land

