MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Order to Add Designated State Game and Wildlife Areas
Land Use Orders of the Director Amendment No. 5 of 2016

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Director to issue orders to implement land use rules.

Discussion and Background:

The Department recommends adding a complete list of State Game Areas and State Wildlife Areas that have been designated, as defined by R 299.921 of the Michigan Administrative Code, by the Director to Chapter 3 of the Land Use Orders of the Director. This will allow for the Department to uniformly identify and manage these designated areas and provide basic regulations across all State Game Areas (SGAs) and State Wildlife Areas (SWAs). For the purposes of this designated list, State Game and Wildlife Areas include public land managed by the Wildlife Division and referred to as a SGA, SWA, State Fish and Wildlife Area (SFWA), and State Wildlife Research Area (SWRA). There are 111 designated areas listed.

There are other wildlife managed or co-managed areas which occur in the State, but are not formally designated to the Wildlife Division, and therefore are not listed.
Order to Add Designated State Game and Wildlife Areas  
Land Use Orders of the Director Amendment No. 5 of 2016  
Page 2  
July 18, 2016

Recommendation:

This order was submitted for information on July 14, 2016, at the Natural Resources Commission Meeting. This item appeared on the Department’s June 2016 calendar and may be eligible for approval on August 11, 2016.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief  
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, Acting Chief  
Forest Resources Division

James Dexter, Chief  
Fisheries Division

Gary Hagler, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division

Bill O’Neill  
Natural Resources Deputy
LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Amendment No. 5 of 2016

By authority conferred on the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by Section 504 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.504, and in accordance with R 299.921 to R 299.933, the Director of the Department of the Natural Resources orders the following:

3.1a State game areas and wildlife areas listed.

Sec. 3.1a The designated state game areas and wildlife areas are: Adams township state game area - Hillsdale county; Allegan state game area - Allegan county; Almer township state game area - Tuscola county; Augusta creek state fish and wildlife area - Kalamazoo county; Backus creek state game area - Roscommon county; Barry state game area - Barry county; Beaver islands state wildlife research area (Beaver island group and Fox island group) - Charlevoix and Leelanau counties; Betsie river state game area - Benzie county; Blencoe township state game area - Ottawa county; Boyle lake state wildlife area - Berrien county; Brookfield township no. 1 state game area - Huron county; Brookfield township no. 2 state game area - Huron county; Brownstown prairie state wildlife area - Wayne county; Cannonsburg state game area - Kent county; Cass city state game area - Sanilac and Tuscola counties; Charlotte (Eaton township) state game area - Eaton county; Chelsea state game area - Washtenaw county; Chesterfield township state game area - Macomb county; Clark lake state wildlife area - Tuscola county; Columbia township state game area - Tuscola county; Cornish state game area - Van Buren county; Crane pond state game area - Cass county; Crow island state game area - Bay and Saginaw counties; Cusino state wildlife research area - Alger county; Dansville state game area - Ingham county; Davison state game area - Oakland county; Deford state game area - Sanilac and Tuscola counties; Denmark township state game area - Tuscola county; Edmore state game area - Montcalm and Isabella counties; Elmwood township state game area - Tuscola county; Erie state game area - Monroe county; Fabius township state game area - St. Joseph county; Fish point state wildlife area - Tuscola county; Flat river state game area - Ionia and Montcalm counties; Flynn township state game area - Sanilac county; Fraser township no. 1 (Townline road) state game area - Bay county; Fraser township no. 2 (Kitchen road) state game area - Bay county; Fuller woods state game area - Van Buren county; Fulton state game area - Kalamazoo county; Gagetown state game area - Tuscola and Huron counties; Gladwin state game area - Gladwin county; Goose lake state game area - Washtenaw county; Gourde state game area - Kalamazoo county; Grand Haven state game area - Ottawa county; Grand river state game area - Ionia county; Grand river Gale road state game area - Ingham county; Grass lake state game area - Jackson county; Gratiot-Saginaw state game area - Gratiot and Saginaw counties; Gregory state game area - Livingston county; Haymarsh lake state game area - Mecosta county; Hillcrest state game area - Livingston county; Horseshoe lake state game area - Oakland county; Houghton lake state wildlife research area - Roscommon and Missaukee counties; Hubbard lake state game area - Alcona county; Keeler state game area - Van Buren county; Lake Interlake (Windsor township) state game area - Eaton county; Langston state game area - Montcalm county; Lapeer state game area - Lapeer county; Leidy lake state game area - St. Joseph county; Lost nation state game area - Hillsdale county; Manistee river state game area - Manistee county; Maple river state game - Clinton, Gratiot, and Ionia counties; Maple-River - Gratiot-Saginaw connector state game area - Gratiot county; Martiny lake state game area - Mecosta county; Middleville state game area - Barry county; Minden city state game area - Sanilac county; Murphy lake state game area - Tuscola county; Muskegon state game area - Muskegon and Newaygo counties; Muskrat lake state game area - Clinton county; Nayanquing point state wildlife area - Bay county; Oak grove state game area - Livingston county; Olive township state game area - Ottawa county; Oliver township state game area - Huron county; Onsted state game area - Lenawee county; Osceola-Missaukee grasslands state game area - Osceola and Missaukee counties; Pentwater river state game area - Oceana county; Pere Marquette state game area - Mason county; Petersburg state game area - Monroe county; Petobego state game area - Grand Traverse and Antrim counties; Pinconning township (Cody-Estry road) state game area - Bay county; Pointe Aux Peaux state wildlife area - Monroe county; Pointe Mouillee state game area - Monroe and Wayne counties; Port Huron state game area - St. Clair county; Portland state game area - Clinton and Ionia counties; Quincassee state wildlife area - Bay and Tuscola counties; Rogue river state game area - Kent county; Rose lake state wildlife area - Clinton and Shiawassee counties; Rush lake state game area - Huron county; Salt river marsh state wildlife area - Macomb county; Sandusky state game area - Sanilac county; Sanilac state game area - Sanilac county; Saranac-Lowell state game area - Kent and Ionia counties; Sharonville state game area - Jackson and Washtenaw counties; Shiawassee river state game area - Saginaw county; Somerset state game area - Hillsdale county; Spring creek state game area - St. Joseph county; St. Clair flats state wildlife area, St. Clair township state game area, and St. John's marsh state wildlife area - St. Clair county; Stanton state game area -
Montcalm county; Tamarack lake state game area – Eaton county; Three rivers state game area – Cass and St. Joseph counties; Tuscola state game area – Tuscola county; Unadilla state wildlife area – Livingston and Washtenaw counties; Vassar state game area – Tuscola county; Verona state game area – Huron county; Vestaburg state game area – Montcalm county; Webster lake (Berrien township no. 1) state game area – Berrien county; Wigwam bay state wildlife area - Arenac county; Wildfowl bay state wildlife area – Huron county; and Windsor township state game area – Eaton county.

This order shall be posted on or after the 12th day of August, 2016.

Issued on this 11th day of August, 2016.

[Signature]
Keith Creagh
Director
MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Order to Regulate Target Shooting on State Game and Wildlife Areas

Land Use Orders of the Director Amendment No. 6 of 2016

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Director to issue orders to implement land use rules.

Discussion and Background:

The Department has recommended that the Director create a complete statewide list of designated State game areas and wildlife areas through a Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 5 of 2016. For purposes of this memorandum, the term State Game Areas and State Wildlife Areas means designated State Game Areas (SGAs), State Fish and Wildlife Areas (SFWAs), and State Wildlife Research Areas (SWRAs). The purpose of this Land Use Order of the Director is to take proactive steps to address recurrent problems associated with target shooting on designated State wildlife/game areas. The Department recommends that a person shall not do any of the following on state lands listed in order 3.1a of Land Use Orders of the Director Amendment No. 5 of 2016, subject to any additional provisions:

- Target shoot before 9:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earliest, or as posted without the written permission of the Department.
- Target shoot at other than a paper, cardboard, or commercially-produced portable target designed and manufactured for the specific purpose of target shooting.
- Use or attempt to use incendiary or explosive targets, as well as incendiary, explosive, armor piercing or tracer ammunition.
- Possess or be under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol or a combination of a controlled substance and alcohol while target shooting.
- Use a firearm, other than a pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, hand-held firearm, or a muzzle-loading firearm.
  - A muzzle-loading firearm shall not exceed .80 caliber.
- When skeet and trap shooting, use other than clay targets and shot size BBB or smaller, unless posted otherwise.
The Department also recommends repealing order 3.2 of the Land Use Orders of the Director. This order prohibits a person from using or possessing any fireworks in state game area campgrounds. This regulation is covered by R 299.922 of the Michigan Administrative Code.

The Department further recommends making administrative changes to the target shooting regulations at the Flat River SGA target shooting area in Montcalm County. This will eliminate redundancy between the target shooting regulations at this area and the proposed target shooting regulations.

Target shooting is one of the many activities that the Department may allow on wildlife/game areas as part of the Department’s obligation to manage for wildlife and wildlife-based recreation. The Department recognizes that target shooting is a traditional, well-established, and legitimate use of these areas and integrates hunting heritage, shooting sports, and general recreational opportunities. The Department may allow target shooting, provided that it does not interfere with the primary use of these lands which are dedicated for wildlife restoration. With the increasing numbers of recreational shooters at many wildlife/game areas, the Department recommends basic target shooting regulations to facilitate responsible use across all designated wildlife/game areas.

Target shooting on some wildlife/game areas has resulted in user conflict and management issues due to the congestion of people, unsafe use of targets, late night shooting, and damage to wildlife habitat and restoration efforts. Trees are seriously damaged when used to support targets, and Department signs have been destroyed. Litter and residue from incendiary or explosive targets, as well as incendiary, explosive, armor piercing, or tracer ammunition results in public fire hazards and damage to wildlife habitat. The Department recommends prohibiting the use of incendiary and explosive targets, as well as incendiary, explosive, armor piercing and tracer ammunition. By prohibiting the use of these targets and ammunition, the Department is ensuring that the primary use of wildlife/game areas funded by USFWS Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and State Game and Fish funds remain consistent with the primary purpose for which they were established.

The Department also recommends that an individual shall not target shoot before 9:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earliest, or as posted without the written permission of the Department. The Department further recommends that an individual shall not possess or be under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol or a combination of a controlled substance and alcohol while target shooting. This recommendation will allow for consistency among all target shooting areas.

The Department further recommends that an individual shall not use a firearm, other than a pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, hand-held firearm, or a muzzle-loading firearm. A muzzle-loading firearm shall not exceed .80 caliber. When skeet and trap shooting, an individual shall only use clay targets and shot size BBB or smaller, unless posted otherwise. As well, the Department recommends that a person shall only use paper, cardboard, or commercially-produced portable targets designed and manufactured for the specific purpose of target shooting. This will provide basic regulations on target shooting among the wildlife/game areas.
These regulations do not apply to Designated Shooting Ranges. Designated Shooting Ranges are regulated by R 299.671 to R 299.678 of the Michigan Administrative Rules Code.

These provisions will allow the Department to manage use of wildlife/game areas and will aid in law enforcement efforts and communication with the public regarding target shooting.

Recommendation:

The Department recommends that a person shall not do any of the following on state lands listed in order 3.1a of Land Use Orders of the Director Amendment No. 5 of 2016, subject to any additional provisions:

- Target shoot before 9:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earliest, or as posted without the written permission of the Department.
- Target shoot at other than a paper, cardboard, or commercially-produced portable target designed and manufactured for the specific purpose of target shooting.
- Use or attempt to use incendiary and explosive targets, as well as incendiary, explosive, armor piercing and tracer ammunition.
- Possess or be under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol or a combination of a controlled substance and alcohol while target shooting.
- Use a firearm, other than a pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, hand-held firearm, or a muzzle-loading firearm.
  - A muzzle-loading firearm shall not exceed .80 caliber.
- When skeet and trap shooting, use other than clay targets and shot size BBB or smaller, unless posted otherwise.

This order was submitted for information on July 14, 2016, at the Natural Resources Commission Meeting. This item appeared on the Department’s June 2016 calendar and may be eligible for approval on August 11, 2016.

Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Deb Begalle, Acting Chief
Forest Resources Division

James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

Bill O’Neill
Natural Resources Deputy
LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Amendment No. 6 of 2016

By authority conferred on the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by Section 504 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.504, and in accordance with R 299.921 to R 299.933, the Director of the Department of the Natural Resources orders the following:

Publishers note: The repealed section pertained to Fireworks in state game area campgrounds, prohibited.

3.2a State game areas and wildlife areas, target shooting, prohibited conduct.
Order 3.2a A person shall not do any of the following on those state lands named in the list in order 3.1a, subject to additional provisions as may be provided in these orders:

(1) Target shoot at other than a paper, cardboard, or commercially-produced portable target designed and manufactured for the specific purpose of target shooting.

(2) Use or attempt to use:

(a) Incendiary or explosive targets.

(b) Incendiary or explosive ammunition.

(c) Armor piercing ammunition, as defined by section 224c of 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.224c.

(d) Tracer ammunition.

(e) A firearm, other than a pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, hand-held firearm or a muzzle-loading firearm.

(i) A muzzle-loading firearm shall not exceed .80 caliber.

(3) When skeet and trap shooting, use other than clay targets and shot size BBB or smaller, unless posted otherwise.

(4) Target shoot before 9:00 a.m. or after 7:00 p.m. or sunset, whichever is earliest, or as posted without the written permission of the department.

(5) Possess or be under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol or a combination of a controlled substance and alcohol while target shooting.

(6) This section does not apply to designated shooting ranges, as defined in order 3.19.

3.14a Flat river state game target shooting area, Montcalm county, prohibited conduct.
Order 3.14a 1) For the purposes of this order, the flat river state game target shooting area shall mean the range established upon state-owned lands in the SE1/4 of Section 29, T9N R8W, Montcalm county.

(2) A person shall not do any of the following at the flat river state game target shooting area:

(a) Use or discharge a firearm containing more than 1 round without the written permission of the department.

(b) Use any device for target practice other than:

(i) A hand-held rifle.
(ii) A muzzle-loading rifle not exceeding .70 caliber.

(iii) A shotgun with slug load or buckshot.

(iv) A pistol or revolver.

(c) Possess a loaded firearm, subject to section 504, subsection (3), of Part 5, as amended, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, MCL 324.504, except at an established shooting station on the firing line.

(d) Discharge a firearm, except down range from an established shooting station and at a paper target.

(3) Possess or be under the influence of a controlled substance or alcohol or a combination of a controlled substance and alcohol.

(4) The district wildlife biologist may appoint a range officer. If appointed, the range officer shall have the authority to close the area when, in the range officer’s opinion, the safety of persons or property is endangered.

This amended order shall be posted on or after the 12th day of August, 2016.

Issued on this 11th day of August, 2016.

Keith Creagh
Director
MEMORANDUM TO THE DIRECTOR

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Subject: Order to Designate Watkins Lake as a Michigan State Park, Jackson County Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 8 of 2016

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Director to issue orders to implement land use rules.

Discussion and Background:

The intent of this order is to:

- Officially designate the Trozle tract as outlined in Land Transaction Case #20120036 as a state park "Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve."

The Trozel tract is a 717 acre parcel located in Jackson County, Norvell Township, T4S, R2E Sections 12, 13 and 14. The property consists of rolling land covered in a mixture of open meadows, mixed hardwoods and low wet areas, including in part, Watkins Lake.

The acquisition was made possible through a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant. Increasing outdoor recreation areas in Southern Michigan is a priority of the Department and this property has unique features making it well suited for multiple outdoor recreational opportunities. This new park and county preserve provides an opportunity for the Department to combine this acquired property with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission's 405 contiguous acres to establish the state's first jointly managed state and county park and allows for the sharing of resources over the whole of the property.

This property provides additional public recreation opportunities and wildlife habitat including fishing, hunting and trail-based activities. Watkins Lake is a significant stop-over for waterfowl and other water based birds and currently draws large number of watchable wildlife enthusiasts each year. The Division will be seeking a future Wildlife Conservation Order to open portions of the property to hunting and trapping as other portions of the property, including Watkins Lake will be closed to hunting as a seasonal waterfowl refuge. In addition, passing east-west within the property, an abandoned rail corridor well suited for trail development continues onto land in Washtenaw County being purchased by Washtenaw County Parks thus creating a 4.5 mile corridor as the beginning of a regional trail connection between the Villages of Brooklyn and Manchester.

The property also includes historical and cultural significance attached to the original owners of the property and their involvement with the Underground Railroad.
Both Norvell Township and Jackson County support the Department’s efforts to acquire and designate this property for public recreation. Additional support for this designation comes from the Villages of Brooklyn and Manchester, and the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

The property will be managed and maintained as the Watkins Lake State Park and County Preserve, and administered out of the W.J. Hayes State Park in collaboration with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Recommendation:

This order is being submitted for information and consideration. This item appeared on the Department’s August 2016 calendar and may be eligible for approval on August 11, 2016.

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

Gary Hagler, Chief
Law Enforcement Division

Debbie Begalle, Acting Chief
Forest Resources Division

Russ Mason, Ph. D., Chief
Wildlife Division

James Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division

William O’Neill
Natural Resources Deputy
LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Amendment No. 8 of 2016

By authority conferred on the Director of the Department of Natural Resources by Section 504 of the Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.504, and in accordance with R 299.921 to R 299.933, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources orders the following:

5.16a Entry, use and occupancy of certain state parks, recreation areas and scenic sites, prohibited conduct.
Order 5.16a (1) A person shall not do any of the following:

(a) Enter any of the following state-owned lands with a motor vehicle unless a valid Michigan recreation passport has been purchased and affixed to the vehicle:

(1) Agate falls scenic site, Ontonagon county.
(2) Algonac SP, St. Clair county.
(3) Aloha SP, Cheboygan county.
(4) Bald mountain RA, Oakland county.
(6) Bass river RA, recreation area lands located in sections 1 and 12, T7N, R15W, in Robinson township; and in sections 7 and 8, T7N, R14W in Allendale township north and west of bass river and SW of grand river, Ottawa county.
(7) Bay city RA, Bay county.
(8) Belle Isle SP, Wayne county.
(9) Bewabic SP, Iron county.
(10) Bond falls scenic site, Ontonagon county.
(11) Brighton RA, Livingston county.
(12) Brimley SP, Chippewa county.
(13) Burt lake SP, Cheboygan county.
(15) Cheboygan SP, Cheboygan county.
(17) Coldwater lake SP, Branch county.
(18) Craig lake SP, all state park designated lands located in sections 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 28, 27, 26, 25, 21, 22, 23
and 24, T49N, R31W, Baraga county.

(19) Dodge #4 SP, Oakland county.

(20) Duck lake SP, Muskegon county.

(21) Fayette SP, Delta county.

(22) Fort Custer RA, Kalamazoo county.

(23) Fort Wilkins SP, Keweenaw county.

(24) Fisherman’s island SP, Charlevoix county.

(25) Grand haven SP, Ottawa county.

(26) Grand Mere SP, Berrien county.

(27) Harrisville SP, Alcona county.

(28) Hartwick pines SP, Crawford county.

(29) Hayes SP, Jackson, Lenawee, and Washtenaw counties.

(30) Highland RA, Oakland county.

(31) Hoeft SP, Presque is/e county

(32) Hoffmaster SP, Ottawa and Muskegon counties.

(33) Holland SP, Ottawa county.

(34) Holly RA, all recreation area land in sections 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32, and 33 T5N, R8E north and east of highway M-54 (Dixie highway), west of Wildwood road and south of grange hall road. Recreation area land in sections 13, 14, 23, 24, 25 (remote control aircraft flying field only) and 26 (north of grange hall road only), T5N, R7E west of I-75, Oakland county.

(35) Indian lake SP, Schoolcraft county.

(36) Interlochen SP, Grand Traverse county.

(37) Ionia RA, Ionia county.

(38) Island lake RA, Oakland and Livingston counties.

(39) Keith J. Charters Traverse City SP, Grand Traverse county.

(40) Lake Gogebic SP, Gogebic county.

(41) Lake Hudson RA, Lenawee county.

(42) Lakeport SP, St. Clair county.

(43) Laughing whitefish falls scenic site, Alger county.

(44) Leelanau SP, Leelanau county.
(45) Lime Island RA, Chippewa county.
(46) Ludington SP, Manistee county.
(47) Maybury SP, Wayne county.
(48) McLain SP, Houghton county.
(49) Mears SP, Oceana county.
(50) Menominee river RA, Menominee county.
(51) Metamora-Hadley RA, Lapeer county.
(52) Mitchell SP, Wexford county.
(54) Muskegon SP, Muskegon county.
(55) Newaygo SP, Newaygo county.
(56) Negwegon SP, Alcona and Alpena counties.
(57) North Higgins lake SP, Crawford county.
(58) Onaway SP, Presque isle county.
(59) Orchard beach SP, Manistee county.
(60) Ortonville RA, Oakland and Lapeer counties.
(61) Otsego lake SP, Otsego county.
(62) Palms book SP, Schoolcraft county.
(63) Petoskey SP, Emmet county.
(64) Pinckney RA, Washtenaw and Livingston counties.
(65) Pontiac lake RA, Oakland county.
(66) Porcupine mountains wilderness SP, Ontonagon and Gogebic counties.
(67) Port crescent SP, Huron county.
(68) Proud lake RA, Oakland county.
(69) Rifle river RA, Ogemaw county.
(70) Rockport RA, Presque isle and Alpena counties.
(71) Saugatuck SP, Allegan county.
(72) Seven lakes SP, Oakland county.
(73) Silver lake SP, Oceana county.
(74) Sleeper SP, Huron county.

(75) Sleepy Hollow SP, Clinton county.

(76) South Higgins lake SP, Roscommon county.

(77) Sterling SP, Monroe county.

(78) Straits SP, Mackinac county.

(79) Tahquamenon falls SP, Luce and Chippewa counties.

(80) Tawas point SP, Iosco county.

(81) Thompson’s harbor SP, Presque isle county.

(82) Tippy dam RA, Manistee county.


(84) Van Buren SP, Van Buren county.

(85) Van riper SP, Marquette county.

(86) Wagner falls scenic site, Alger county.

(87) Warren Dunes SP, Berrien county.

(88) Warren woods SP, Berrien county.

(89) Waterloo RA, lands in Jackson and Washtenaw counties, with the exception of section 2, 3, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, T1S, R2E, Jackson county.

(90) Watkins Lake SP and County Preserve, Jackson county.

(90)(91) Wells SP, Menominee county.

(91)(92) Wetzel RA, Macomb county.

(92)(93) Wilderness SP, Emmet county.

(93)(94) Wilson SP, Clare county.

(94)(95) Yankee springs RA, Barry county.

(95)(96) Young SP, Charlevoix county.

This amended order shall be posted on or after the 12th day of August, 2016.

Issued on this 11th day of August, 2016.

Keith Creagh
Director
July 18, 2016

To: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

Information: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Mineral Audit Program Fees – For Action

Authority: Part 5, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, authorizes the Director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to enter into contracts for mineral extraction.

Discussion: The State of Michigan (State) owns 4.1 million acres of combined surface and mineral rights, and an additional 2.3 million acres of mineral rights only. Under the provisions of 1994 PA 451, the DNR is responsible for managing these lands and mineral resources to ensure protection and enhancement of the public trust.

In 1997, the DNR established an audit program to examine lessee royalty payments and post-production cost deductions to assess whether the State was receiving its proper economic share under the terms of the lease. A fee was established to cover the cost of the audit program, including the hiring of independent contractors who would review the lessees’ records and report their findings to the DNR.

The fee was established by increasing the minimum bonus bid of $10 to $13 per acre, with the first $3 (Audit Fee) over $10 going to the audit fund.

On August 9, 2012, after staff completed an assessment of the audit program, the Director approved staff’s recommendation to temporarily suspend the Audit Fee for implementation at the anticipated auctions to be held October 2012, May 2013, October 2013, and May 2014. This temporary suspension was the result of sufficient fund balances to support related expenditures of the program. The Director further called for staff to reevaluate the audit program every two years and bring a recommendation forward regarding the scope of the program and the proposed Audit Fee for subsequent four anticipated auctions.

In April 2016, staff completed an analysis of the audit expenditures for the program over the past two years finding that:

The program only incurred costs of $114,696. The amount of revenues collected in excess of costs incurred at this time is $1,098,461.
3. In early 2018, staff will provide specific recommendations for the anticipated October 2018, May 2019, October 2019, and May 2020 auctions.

Notice: This item appeared on the July 5, 2016, DNR Business Calendar for information only. It will be published again on the August 2, 2016, DNR Business Calendar for action and will be eligible for approval August 11, 2016.

Recommendation: Proceed with submitting the Audit Fee proposal to the Director for action at the August 11, 2016, NRC meeting. Upon approval of the Director, the Audit Fee temporary suspension to $0 per acre in additional bonus will be extended, effective September 1, 2016, for the four anticipated auctions to be held October 2016 through May 2018. Thereafter, every two years staff will reevaluate the audit program, bringing additional recommendations to the Director regarding the scope of the program and the proposed Audit Fee for the subsequent four anticipated auctions.

I approve the staff recommendation.

Keith Creagh
Director

Approval Date
The cost of the program has decreased from its inception for various reasons, including:

1. Competitive bidding for audit contracts.
3. Settlements being reached without the need for litigation.
5. The pre-qualified auditor contract has expired. A request for proposal for a new pre-qualified auditor contract is in process. A new contract is expected to be complete by the end of FY 2016. No audit contracts associated with this program are anticipated to be issued for FY 2016. One audit contract was issued in FY 2014 and two audit contracts were issued in FY 2015.
6. A new auditor position was created in FY 2016 and an auditor has been hired. The auditor started in February 2016. Work has been primarily on existing audits while becoming familiar with the program.
7. The auditing specialist position has been vacant for FY 2016.

The DNR anticipates contracting for audits by the first quarter of FY 2017 and expenditures to increase to pre-FY 2013 levels beginning in FY 2017. Therefore, after completion of the program analysis, staff recognized there is sufficient balance in the audit fee revenues to enable a recommendation that the temporary suspension of the Audit Fee be extended.

The audit program and proposed temporary suspension of the Audit Fee was reviewed with representatives of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, and Michigan Oil and Gas Association. Mutual agreement was reached on recommendations that the Director could:

- Extend the temporary suspension of the Audit Fee to $0 per acre for the anticipated auctions to be held October 2016, May 2017, October 2017, and May 2018.

Direct staff to evaluate the audit program every two years with the reevaluation to include the scope of the program, analysis of the audit fee revenue balance and expenditures, and presentation of recommendations to the Director regarding:

1. Any changes to the audit program objectives.
2. What the proposed Audit Fee amount would be, based upon anticipated costs and existing fee revenue balance, for the subsequent four anticipated auctions.
TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Gladwin Management Unit – Arenac County
Land Transaction Case #20160037

Sale: 17.75 acres

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

Description: Arenac County, Clayton Township, T20N, R04E, Section 31:
The W 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, excluding flowage rights on that part fronting the Rifle River.

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources (Department) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on August 9, 2016. The transaction will also be posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By tax-reversion in 1939.

Minerals: To be retained for high oil and gas value.

Comments: This parcel is isolated, surrounded by private ownership, lacks access and does not provide for good management opportunities or public use. It is therefore surplus to the Department's needs.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on June 16, 2016.

Proceeds from the sale of this tax-reverted parcel 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 from the sale of the land that was acquired by tax-reversion be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.

(3) That the state retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Debbie Begalle, Acting Chief
Forest Resources Division

James L. Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

William O'Neill
Natural Resources Deputy

Mark H. Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR - MANAGED LAND
Gladwin Management Unit – Arenac County
Land Transaction Case # 20160037

Section 31, T20N, R04E, Clayton Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (17.75 acres)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary
July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Sault Ste. Marie Management Unit – Chippewa County
Land Transaction Case #20150199

Sale: 8± acres

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

Description: Chippewa County, Superior Township, T46N, R02W, Section 2:
All that land north of the river in the SE 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 8 acres of counted 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) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on August 9, 2016. The transaction will also be posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By tax-reversion in 1928.

Minerals: To be disposed.

Comments: This parcel is not accessible by foot or motorized vehicle and is only accessible to the public via watercraft. The management for timber production is limited by lack of access, low ground and low productivity. It is therefore surplus to the Department’s needs.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on June 16, 2016.

Proceeds from the sale of this tax-reverted parcel 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 from the sale of the land that was acquired by tax-reversion be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.  

(3) That the state retain aboriginal antiquities.
I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved
8/11/16
SALE OF SURPLUS DNR-MANAGED LAND
Sault Ste. Marie Management Unit – Chippewa County
Land Transaction Case #20150199

Section 2, T46N, R02W, Superior Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (8 acres, more or less)
- State Land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

DNR Project Boundaries
July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Sale of Surplus DNR-Managed Land
Sault Ste. Marie Management Unit – Chippewa County
Land Transaction Case #20130222

Sale: 2.85 acres

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

Description: Chippewa County, Drummond Island Township, T41N, R05E, Section 7:

PA 240 of 2012: This parcel is north of the Mason-Arenac County line and will result in a decrease of 2.85 acres of counted 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) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on August 9, 2016. The transaction will also be posted in a local newspaper as required by statute.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1922.

Minerals: To be disposed.

Comments: This parcel has no access by foot or motorized vehicle for the public or for management purposes. It is surrounded by private ownership to the north and by water to the south. It is therefore surplus to the Department’s needs.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on June 18, 2015.

Proceeds from the sale of this tax-reverted parcel 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 lands be offered via auction to the highest bidder.

(2) That the proceeds from the sale of the land that was acquired by tax-reversion be deposited into 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
Sault Ste. Marie Management Unit - Chippewa County
Land Transaction Case # 20130222

Section 7, T41N, R05E, Drummond Island Township

- Surplus DNR land to be sold (2.85 acres)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

DNR Project Boundaries
July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Conveyance of DNR-Managed Land for Public Use
Gogebic County Forestry and Parks Commission – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case #20130195

Sale: 120 acres

Sale Price: Land to be conveyed for a nominal fee, subject to the condition that if the
lands are 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: Gogebic County, Wakefield Township, T49N, R45W, Section 25:
The N 1/2 of the NW 1/4; AND the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4.

PA 240 of 2012: These parcels are north of the Mason-Arenac County line. Due to this
property currently being part of the Municipal Forest Program, this
transaction will not change the number of acres of counted DNR-
managed lands.

Applicant: Gogebic County Forestry and Parks Commission, Bessemer, Michigan.

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources
(Deadline) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
August 9, 2016.

Acquired: By tax reversion in 1939 and deeded to Gogebic County in 1947 by a
municipal forest deed.

Minerals: To be retained.

Comments: The desired property is part of a 640-acre block of tax reverted land that
was conveyed to Gogebic County in 1947 by a municipal forest deed
and does not have legal access. Gogebic County is asking to have 120
acres of the original block deeded to it by a public use deed so the
county can trade that land for a 200-acre parcel in Erwin Township,
which will provide improved access to thousands of acres of municipal
forest lands.
Gogebic County has agreed to manage this property as municipal forest land as described in MCL 324.52702, and to allow public access across the 200-acre parcel to the state's Black River Lake property.

The proposed land disposal was reviewed and recommended for approval by the Land Exchange Review Committee on December 17, 2015.

Engagement: Gogebic County Forestry and Parks Commission 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, 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.

2. That the state retain mineral rights and aboriginal antiquities.
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Debbie Begalle, Acting Chief
Forest Resources Division

James L. Dexter, Chief
Fisheries Division

Ronald A. Olson, Chief
Parks and Recreation Division

William O'Neill
Natural Resources Deputy

Mark H. Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved
CONVEYANCE OF DNR-MANAGED LAND FOR PUBLIC USE
Gogebic County Forestry and Parks Commission – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case #20130195
(Map 1 of 2)

Section 25, T49N, R4E W, Wakefield Township

- Surplus DNR land to be conveyed (120 acres)
- County Municipal Forest land
- Private land

DNR Project Boundaries
CONVEYANCE OF DNR-MANAGED LAND FOR PUBLIC USE
Gogebic County Forestry and Parks Commission – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case #20130195
(Map 2 of 2)

Section 34, T46N, R46W, Erwin Township

- Private land to be acquired by Gogebic County in exchange
- County Municipal Forest land
- State land
- Private land

DNR Project Boundaries
July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Wildlife Land Acquisition and Boundary Modification
               Unadilla State Wildlife Area – Livingston County
               The Pybus Tract
               Land Transaction Case #20160011

Purchase: 24 acres - $82,000.00

Funding Source: Waterfowl Capital Outlay funds

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: $440.00
               This parcel is located south of the Mason-Arenac County line.

Description: Livingston County, Unadilla Township, T01N, R03E, Section 31:
              The south 24 acres of the West 1/2 of the NW fractional 1/4.

Seller(s): Todd and Jodi Pybus, Stockbridge, 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) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
        August 9, 2016.

Management Purpose: This property will be managed as a part of the Unadilla State Wildlife Area for
                     ecological and recreational values.

Comments: The acquisition of this 24-acre parcel is a targeted, strategic investment that
           strongly supports the Department’s mission of enhancing, restoring, and
           conserving the state’s wildlife resources, natural communities, and
           ecosystems for the benefit to Michigan’s citizens, visitors and future
           generations. This property contains the following characteristics:

           • Adjacent to publicly-owned land – the north and east boundaries of
             this property are adjacent to the Unadilla State Wildlife Area.
           • Proximity to population centers – this acquisition is two miles east of
             Stockbridge and eight miles northwest of Chelsea.
           • Access – the parcel has frontage on a county-maintained gravel road.
           • Waterfrontage – the parcel has frontage on Portage Creek, which is
             used for accessing McConachie Lake, a popular lake for hunting,
             trapping and fishing.
- Topography and cover – primarily emergent marsh that is dominated by cattail and areas of wet-mesic prairie and southern wet meadow. There are also several acres of upland oaks along Rockwell Road.
- Wildlife – this parcel is valuable for waterfowl species, whitetail deer, ruffed grouse and non-game species.
- Improvements – none.

As a result, this property will provide quality opportunities for dispersed public recreation in southern Michigan and will support Michigan’s $1.3 billion hunting industry by increasing the amount of public hunting land.

The seller will convey mineral rights relative to this tract, if owned.

Acquisition of this parcel will contribute to the Department’s goals of securing wildlife habitat and increasing public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: The Unadilla Township Board has no objections to the proposed acquisition.

Recommendation:
1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from Waterfowl Capital Outlay funds.

2. This land is to be dedicated as part of the Unadilla State Wildlife Area.

3. That the boundary of the Unadilla State Wildlife Area be modified as shown on the attached map.
Russ Mason, Ph.D., Chief
Wildlife Division

Debbie Begalle, Acting 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

8/11/16
Date Approved
WILDLIFE LAND ACQUISITION AND BOUNDARY MODIFICATION
Unadilla State Wildlife Area – Livingston County
The Pybus Tract
Land Transaction Case #20160011

Section 31, T01N, R03E, Unadilla Township

- Land to be acquired by DNR (24 acres)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary
- Proposed Project Boundary modification

INGHAM CO.
LIVINGSTON CO.
JACKSON CO.
WASHTENAW CO.

DNR Project Boundaries
July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Wildlife Land Acquisition
Muskegon State Game Area – Muskegon County
The River Ridge Tract
Land Transaction Case #20160026

Purchase: 41.14 acres - $40,000.00

Funding Source: Waterfowl Capital Outlay funds

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: $271.00
This parcel is located south of the Mason-Arenac County line.

Description: Muskegon County, Muskegon Charter Township, T10N, R16W, Section 15:
As more particularly described in the purchase option.

Seller(s): River Ridge Properties LLC, Muskegon, 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) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
August 9, 2016.

Management Purpose: This property will be managed as a part of the Muskegon State Game Area
for wildlife and fish habitat while providing recreational access opportunities
along the Muskegon River.

Comments: The acquisition of this 41.14-acre parcel is a targeted, strategic investment
that strongly supports the Department’s mission of enhancing, restoring, and
conserving the state’s wildlife resources, natural communities, and ecosystems for the benefit to Michigan’s citizens, visitors and future
generations. This property contains the following characteristics:

- Adjacent to publicly-owned land – the east side of the property is
  bordered by an existing Muskegon State Game Area property.
- Proximity to population centers – this acquisition is one mile east of
  Muskegon.
- Access – the parcel does not have frontage on a public road. Access
  will be by the adjacent public land and by boat.
- Waterfrontage – the parcel has one-quarter mile of frontage on both
  sides of the Muskegon River.
- Topography and cover – the Muskegon River crosses the northern part of the parcel where a floodplain wetland habitat with shallow marsh emergent and floodplain species is dominant. The southern portion of the property is characterized by an upland ridge that has an oak/conifer cover.
- Wildlife – this parcel supports mallard, pileated woodpecker, and wood ducks.
- Improvements – none.

As a result, this property will provide quality opportunities for dispersed public recreation in southern Michigan and will support Michigan's $1.3 billion hunting industry by increasing the amount of public hunting land.

The seller will convey mineral rights relative to this tract, if owned.

Acquisition of this parcel will contribute to the Department's goals of securing wildlife habitat and increasing public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: The Muskegon Charter Township believes that the inclusion of this property into the Muskegon State Game Area will benefit the township and county residents by providing additional recreation access opportunities, especially waterfowl hunting, trapping, bank fishing and wildlife viewing. As a result, they have provided a resolution which provides full support for this land acquisition.

The Muskegon County Administrator has provided a letter of support for this acquisition because it will provide additional recreation access opportunities, especially waterfowl hunting, trapping, bank fishing and wildlife viewing.

Recommendation:
1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from Waterfowl Capital Outlay funds.
2. This land is to be dedicated as part of the Muskegon State Game Area.
I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director
WILDLIFE LAND ACQUISITION
Muskegon State Game Area – Muskegon County
The River Ridge Tract
Land Transaction Case #20160026

Section 15, T10N, R16W, Muskegon Charter Township

Land to be acquired by DNR (41.14 acres)
- State land
- Consumers Energy right-of-way
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

DNR Project Boundaries
July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Wildlife Land Acquisition
Holly State Recreation Area – Oakland County
Sherlock Storage, LLC Gift of Land
Land Transaction Case #20160096

Purchase: Gift of 0.05 acre

Funding Source: Gift

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: $0.20
This parcel is south of the Mason-Arenac County line.

Description: Oakland County, Groveland Township, T05N, R08E, Section 7:
As more completely described in the case file.

Donor: Sherlock Storage, LLC, Monroe, 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) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
August 9, 2016.

Management Purpose: This property will be managed as part of a parking area for the Wildlife
Unit of the Holly State Recreation Area.

Comments: A small section of a DNR gravel parking lot was inadvertently
constructed on land owned by Sherlock Storage, LLC. Sherlock Storage
had graciously agreed to donate a 0.05 acre part of their property to the
state in order to resolve the encroachment.

Engagement: Wildlife Division is working with Groveland Township on the required
parcel split.

Recommendation: (1) That the gift of land be approved with appreciation.

(2) That the property be dedicated as a part of the Holly State
Recreation Area.
I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved
GIFT OF LAND
Holly State Recreation Area – Oakland County
Land Transaction Case # 20160096

Section 7, T05N, R08E, Groveland Township

- Land to be gifted to DNR (0.05 acre)
- State land
- Private land
- DNR Project Boundary

DNR Parking Lot
Dixie Hwy.

DNR Project Boundaries
July 18, 2016

TO: Dr. William E. Moritz, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: State Trail Acquisition
State Line Trail – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case #20160103

Purchase: 29.65 acres (2.00 linear miles) more or less - $44,475.00

Funding Source: ORV Fund

PA 240 of 2012: PILT Estimate: $583.00
The five parcels included in this transaction are north of the Mason-
Arenac County line and will result in an increase of 29.65 excluded
acres.

Description: Gogebic County, Wakefield Township, T47N, R45W, Sections 18, 22, &
24; and Bessemer Township, T47N, R46W, Sections 12, & 18:
As more completely described in the case file.

Seller: Union Pacific Railroad Company, Omaha, Nebraska

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

Notice: This item will appear on the Department of Natural Resources
(Department) August 2, 2016, calendar, and is eligible for approval on
August 9, 2016.

Management Purpose: The land will be managed as part of the State Line Trail.

Comments: Running along a former Chicago & North Western (C&NW) Railroad
corridor, the five offered parcels will fill a total of 2.00 miles of gaps in
public ownership on the State Line Trail.

When abandoned in the 1980s, the C&NW railroad corridor in western
Gogebic County was not publically acquired at that time. Now, working
in cooperation with trail advocates and local governmental
representatives, the Department is attempting to stitch the corridor back
together in an effort to connect the communities of Wakefield,
Bessemer, Ironwood, and the state of Wisconsin to the State Line Trail.
When complete, the trail will stretch from Iron Mountain to Ironwood.
Acquisition of these five parcels will contribute to achieving Department and division goals and strategies by providing additional public recreation opportunities.

Engagement: Wakefield and Bessemer Townships support the acquisition of the five parcels, and are represented on the committee of local, state, and federal representatives that meet periodically with Department staff to address regional trail matters.

Recommendation: (1) That the recreational trail acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the ORV Fund.

(2) That the land be dedicated as part of the State Line Trail and administered by Parks and Recreation Division.
I approve the staff recommendations.

Keith Creagh
Director

Date Approved

3/14/16
STATE TRAIL ACQUISITION
State Line Trail – Gogebic County
Land Transaction Case #20160103

Cities and townships of Ironwood, Bessemer and Wakefield

- Land to be acquired from Union Pacific Railroad
  (29.65 acres, 2 miles, $44,475)
- Future trail acquisition
- Existing State Line trail
- Existing State Line Trail connectors

Note: Trail lands not drawn to scale on map

DNR Project Boundaries