



STATE OF MICHIGAN
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 LANSING



GRETCHEN WHITMER
 GOVERNOR

DANIEL EICHINGER
 DIRECTOR

September 16, 2019

TO: Daniel Eichinger, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

Transaction: Wildlife Land Acquisition
 Potterville State Game Area – Eaton County
 The Speaks Tract
 Land Transaction Case #20180175

Purchase: 444.09 acres - \$1,776,000.00

Funding Source: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (TF17-0211 and TF18-0157)

PA 240 of 2018: PILT Estimate: \$13,499.15
 This parcel is located south of the Mason-Arenac county line and will result in an increase of 444.09 acres in DNR-managed lands.

Description: Eaton County, Benton Township, T03N, R04W
 Part of Sections 15, 21 and 22, as more accurately described in the case file.

Seller(s): Betty J. Speaks, Charlotte, 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) October 2, 2019 calendar and is eligible for approval on October 8, 2019.

Management Purpose: This land will be managed as the Potterville State Game Area.

Comments: The offered property is generally flat and mostly open agriculture fields with productive soils. Intermixed in the agriculture fields are wet areas with some forested/shrub areas. Presently, the southern 120 acres is in pasture grass. Agricultural row crops are planted in fields in the central part of the parcel.

The property also possesses outstanding pheasant and small game habitat hunting opportunities. The property is accessible from Vermontville and Gresham Highways.

Acquisition of this property will contribute to achieving Department and division goals and strategies by providing additional public recreation opportunities at the newly created Potterville State Game Area.

The seller will convey mineral rights relative to this tract of land.

Engagement: As required by PA 240 of 2018, information regarding this transaction was posted on the department's website and published in a local newspaper. Both Benton Township and Eaton County were also notified of this transaction and support this acquisition.

- Recommendation:
1. That the acquisition be approved, with payment to be made from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (TF17-0211 and TF18-0157).
 2. That the land be dedicated as the Potterville State Game Area and administered by the Wildlife 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



Shannon Hanna
Natural Resources Deputy



Mark H. Hoffman
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendations.

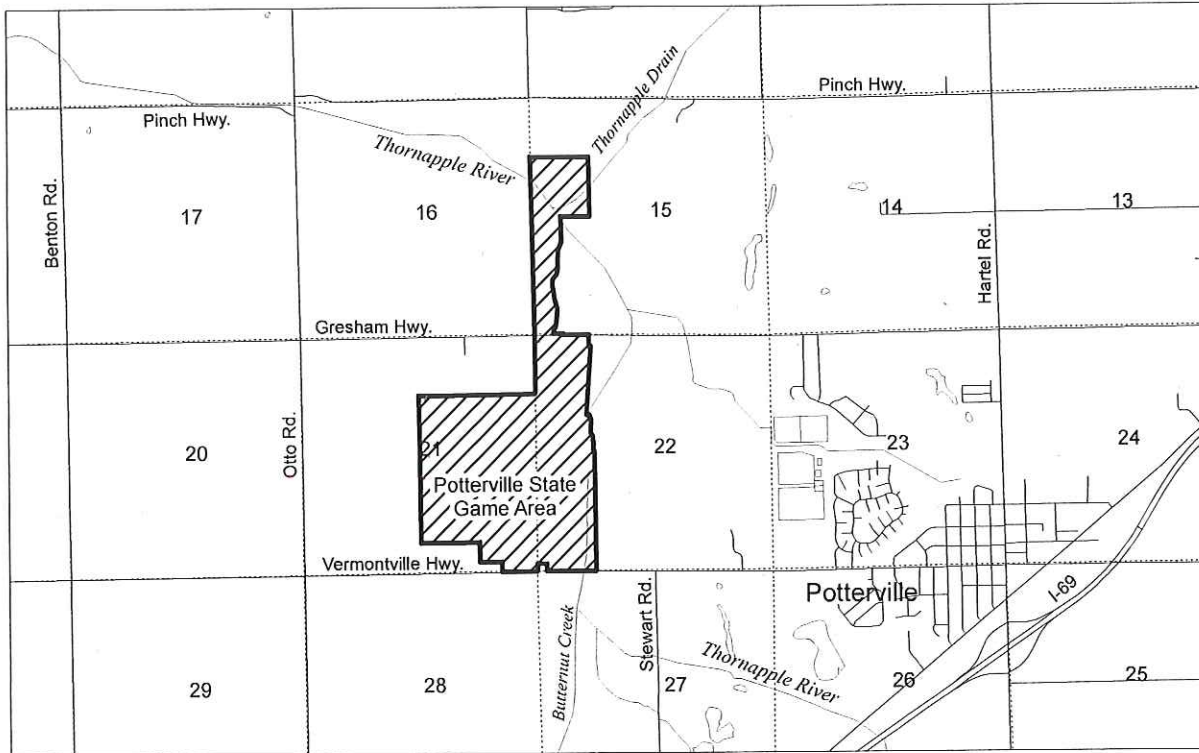
Daniel Eichinger
Director

Date Approved

WILDLIFE LAND ACQUISITION

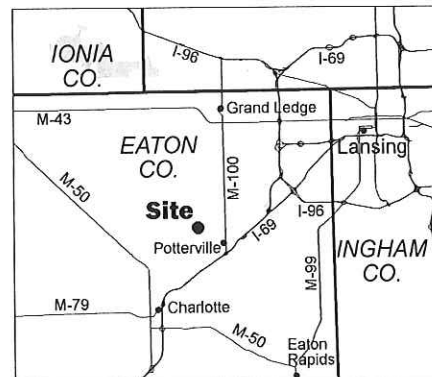
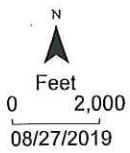
Potterville State Game Area - Eaton County

Land Transaction Case #20180175



Sections 15, 21-22, T03N, R04W, Benton Township

- Land to be acquired by DNR (444.09 acres)
- State land
- Private land



DNR Project Boundaries