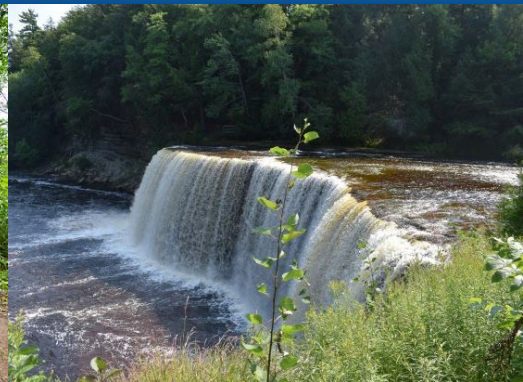
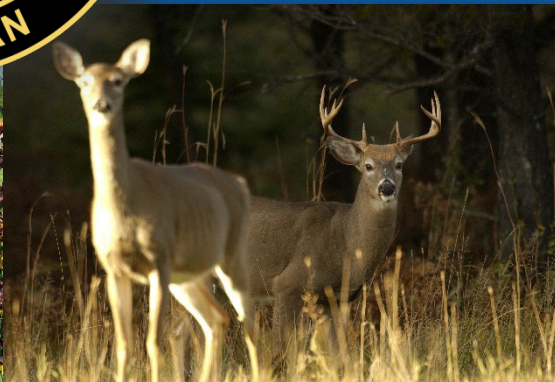




# DNR-Managed Public Lands

## Acquisitions and Disposals





# State Land Overview

**DNR manages 4.6 million acres of public lands and 6.4 million acres of mineral rights on behalf of the residents of Michigan**

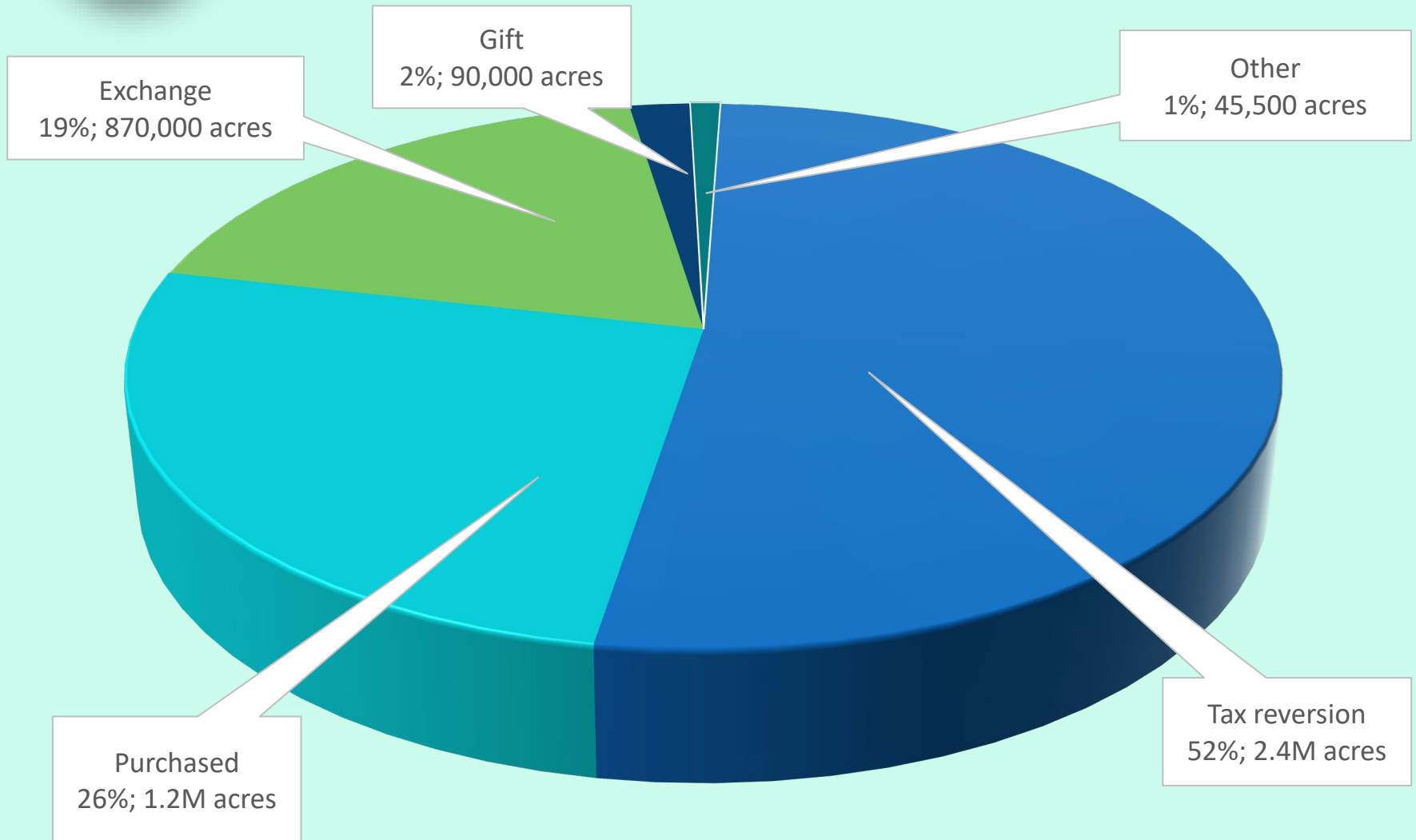
- State forests: 3.85 million acres
- State parks: 363,000 acres
- State game & wildlife areas:  
364,000 acres



*Green on map denotes DNR-managed public lands in Michigan*



# How State Land Was Acquired





# Land Acquisitions

How land is acquired

- Purchase of rights in land
- Exchanges
- Gifts of land
- Conservation easements
- Partnerships
- Tax reversion





# Land Acquisitions

## Strategic Investment

- Guided by project boundaries
- Consolidated blocks of ownership
- Shooting safety zones minimized
- Wildlife habitat less fragmented
- Fewer encroachment issues
- Management efficiencies gained



# Priorities for Public Land Acquisitions Include

- Hunting lands
- Recreation lands
- Permanent trail easements
- Trail connectors
- Water access
- Wildlife habitat
- Land consolidation



# 2013 Managed Public Land Strategy

- PA 240 of 2018 requires implementation of 2013 Managed Public Land Strategy
- Implementation includes a comprehensive review of ~240,000 acres of state-managed lands to determine contribution to DNR mission
  - Includes:
    - Land less than 200 acres in size
    - Blocks of land that due to an irregular shape have extensive private-public boundary interface that is potentially difficult to manage
  - Does **not** include:
    - Trails
    - Developed boat launches
    - DNR facilities



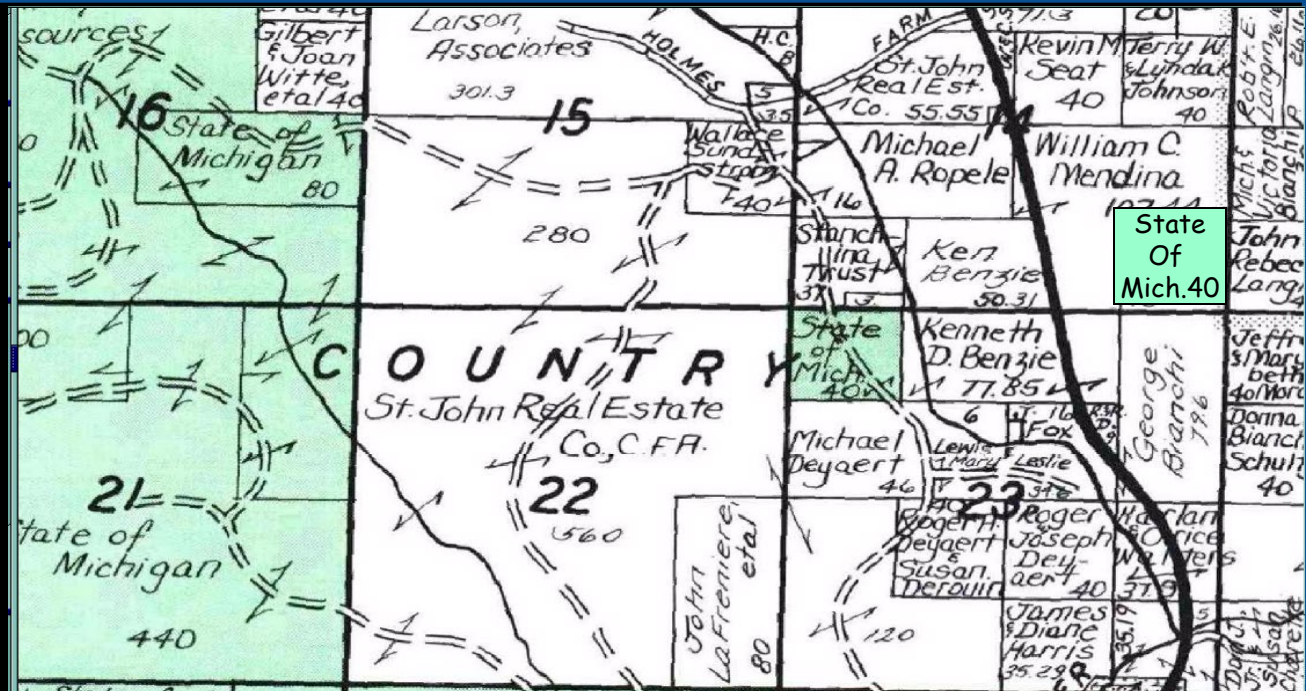
# Review Process

- Review groups of 10 counties at a time
- Internal review for group 1 began in September 2020
- All parcels receive multi-disciplinary and multi-level review to develop recommendations
- Public review is integral part of the overall process

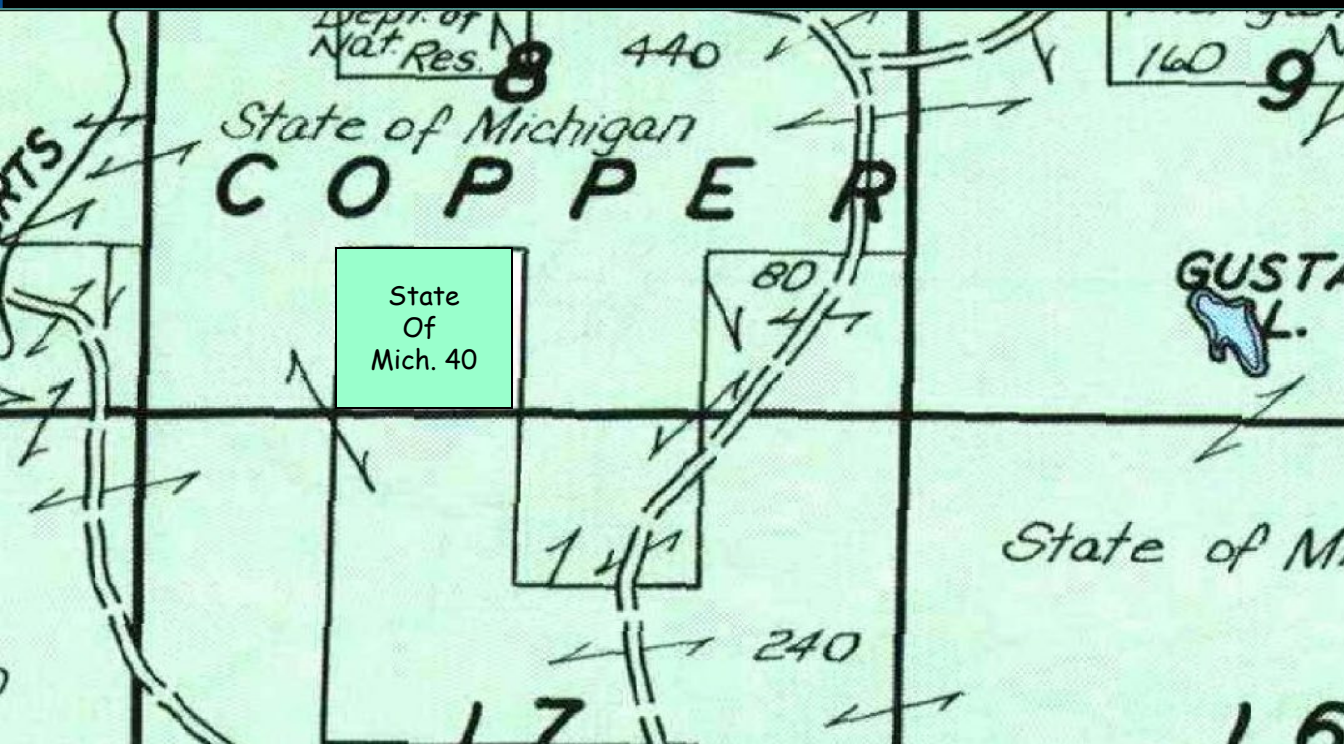




Private  
inholding



Isolated parcels





# Parcel Evaluation

All parcels are evaluated for:

- Pertinence to the DNR mission
- Presence or absence of significant natural and cultural resources or recreation opportunity
- Legal access for public use and DNR management
- Adjacent land use and ownership
- Access to a river, lake or stream
- Meet purposes for which it was purchased (if purchased)







# Parcel Classification

All parcels are classified into one of the following categories:

- Retain under state ownership and DNR administration
- Offer to a local unit of government or alternate conservation organization
- Make available for a land exchange
- Dispose –Surplus Land Auction





# Land Transactions Applications

- [Land transaction application - purchase](#)
- [Land transaction application - exchange](#)

## **Propose an exchange or purchase of state-owned land**

To propose a purchase of state-owned land that is not already identified as surplus land, an application process must be completed as required by [Public Act 238 of 2018](#). We will consider selling such lands if the transaction enhances the management of natural resources or provides other public benefit.

Each application will be evaluated on its own merits.

- [Land transaction application - purchase](#) (Propose a purchase of DNR-managed public land or rights in land.)
- [Land exchange and sales guide](#)



# Land Acquisition and Sale Processes

## Acquisition

- Title Work and Surveys (if needed) are completed
- Appraisal and Appraisal Reviews are completed
- Offer made to the owner(s) subject to DNR Director approval
- Public Notices for acquisitions over 80 acres
- Recommendation to Director to approve acquisition
- Title work and policy is reviewed and approved by AG
- DNR Director approves at monthly NRC meeting
- Closing on property and State is issued a title insurance policy in the amount of the acquisition
- Purchases are placed on the DNR PILT Roll the following year





# Land Acquisition and Sale Processes

## Sales

- Auctions
  - Real Estate Section reviews parcel information and prepares legal description
  - Appraisal and Appraisal Reviews are completed to set minimum bid
  - DNR advertises auction (sealed bid or live)
    - Newspaper ads, social media, notices sent to local governments and abutting property owners, DNR website, press releases
  - Public notices on properties over 80 acres
  - Auction Held
  - Successful bidders are notified and invoiced for bid amount
  - Once payment is received, quit claim deed is issued
- Direct Sale
  - Real Estate Section reviews parcel information and prepares legal description
  - Appraisal and Appraisal Reviews are completed
  - Purchaser enters into a Land Transaction Agreement with department
  - Public notices on sales over 80 acres
  - Recommendation to Director to approve acquisition and placed on NRC Meeting agenda
  - DNR Director approves at NRC meeting
  - Purchaser are notified and invoiced for approved value
  - Once payment is received, quit claim deed is issued



# Proceeds from Land Sales

- Unless specifically required by law dictating where sale proceeds are to be deposited, the proceeds from any sale be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund and used to acquire replacement land.



# Questions?

[Michigan.gov/PublicLands](https://Michigan.gov/PublicLands)

[DNR-LandStrategy@Michigan.gov](mailto:DNR-LandStrategy@Michigan.gov)

