

RE - Michigan
Kirtland's Warbler

Dr. Ronald O. Skoog, Director
Department of Natural Resources
Box 30028
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Dr. Skoog:

Since 1978, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have been working cooperatively to acquire, protect, and manage certain lands in central Michigan for the Kirtland's Warbler. To date, the FWS has obtained purchase agreements or title to approximately 3,635 acres of land. These areas, intermingled with state lands, are managed by your agency under the terms of the cooperative agreement, dated September 14, 1978.

At the initiation of the project, the goal acres for land acquisition was set at 4,500 acres. We estimate that we have sufficient funds to acquire the remaining acres to meet this goal and expect to have approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000 of project funds left over.

During the past several months, we have informally discussed with your staff, the possibility of increasing the goal acres. To date, we have not received a definite indication that you believe there is a need to go beyond the 4,500 acre goal. Therefore, we plan to complete our acquisition efforts sometime this year when we reach the 4,500 acre goal.

Once acquisition of the land is complete, the next step would be to

initiate the land exchange that would transfer the 4,500 acres to the State as noted in Mr. Tody's letter of November 13, 1979 (letter enclosed).

We look forward to continuing this cooperative venture with you in the interest of the protection, conservation, management, and restoration of the Kirtland's Warbler.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

bcc: Chief, Div. of Endgangered Species (SE)
Sr. Wildlife Biologist, E. Lansing, MI

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RE Reading

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