

ARTICLE R 63

SECTION R 63.01 NATURAL AREA CONSERVATION DISTRICT ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO REGULATE ACTIVITIES ON THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED
HEREIN.

THE TOWNSHIP OF FRUITLAND, MUSKEGON COUNTY, MICHIGAN ORDAINS:

SECTION R 63.02 INTENT

It is reasonable, necessary and desirable to establish a Natural Area Conservation District within the confines of Fruitland Township, Muskegon County Michigan, hereinafter called "District" and to establish an ordinance governing the public use of, and activities within the District and to regulate and control the travel on all paths, driveways and parking facilities within the District, and to prohibit certain uses within the District and to establish rules and regulations in order to provide: for the safe and peaceful use of the Natural Area Conservation District; for the education of the public; for the protection and preservation of the property, facilities, flora and fauna of the Natural Area Conservation District and to set forth such fines and penalties for the violation of this ordinance.

SECTION R 63.03 PUBLIC USE

The Natural Area Conservation District is for use by the general public and to provide year-round outdoor recreation opportunities. The district's mission is to protect, conserve, enhance, and promote Fruitland Township's natural heritage for the educational and environmental benefit of present and future generations.

SECTION R 63.04 THE DISTRICT

The Natural Area Conservation District is located on property legally defined as:

The size and dimensions of the district are set forth on **Exhibit 1** as can be seen on Exhibit A, the District has been divided into two defined areas Area A and Area B.

SECTION R 63.05 HOURS OF USE

The District shall be open to the public from May 1st – September 30th 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. and October 1st – April 30th 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. unless otherwise specifically posted, signed, or in accordance with established public safety or snow removal procedures and as may be determined by the Fruitland Township Board of Trustees from time to time.

SECTION R 63.06 ALLOWABLE USES IN AREA A

The property south of Duck Creek (designated as Area A on attached **Exhibit 1**) may be used for access from Duck Lake Road, parking, picnic areas, nature education center or facility, pavilion, bathroom facilities, playground area, and other valid scientific purposes or sustainable uses such as hiking, geocaching, trail, cross country skiing.

SECTION R 63.07 ALLOWABLE USES IN AREA B

In the northern region of the property (designated as Area B on attached **Exhibit 1**), may be used for archery and archery-related activities, including hunting with crossbow or bow and arrow, in accordance with Hunting Regulations of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

During the firearm hunting season typically running from November 15 – November 30 annually, regular firearm hunting in Area B will be allowed, in accordance with Hunting Regulations of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Except for the provision in the preceding sentence no other firearm hunting activities are permitted in any other areas of the entire District. Other than allowed here firearms and muzzleloaders are completely banned from the entire District.

In addition, all allowable uses of Area A are allowable in Area B.

SECTION R 63.08 PROHIBITED USES IN ALL AREAS

All uses not specifically allowed in Area A and Area B are hereby prohibited in the district. Further, the following uses are hereby specifically prohibited in Area A and Area B:

- A. Bicycles, electric powered vehicles and motorized vehicles except as specifically allowed for such vehicle traffic on surfaces designated for vehicle traffic and designated parking areas as posted at the entrance of the district;
- B. Horses;
- C. Ground fires, fireworks, sparklers or incendiary devices;
- D. Camping;
- E. Activities such as baseball, football, soccer or the like;
- F. Fundraisers of any kind, without a permit issued by the Township; and

- G. Large group gatherings except as may be specially allowed by permit in posted and designated areas.

SECTION R 63.09 DESTRUCTION/ MISUSE OF PROPERTY AND STRUCTURES

No unauthorized person shall upon or in connection with any property of the district:

- A. Destroy, deface, paint, alter, change or remove any monument, stone, marker, benchmark, stake, post or blaze marking or designating any boundary line, survey line or reference point;
- B. Cut, break, mark upon or otherwise damage, destroy or remove any post, building, shelter, latrine, picnic table, bench, bridge, drain, well, fountain, pump, telephone, lamp post, fence, gate, refuse container, exhibit, display, tool storage box, utility outlet, movie screen, flag post or any other structure or parts thereof;
- C. Deface, destroy, cover, damage or remove any placard, notice or sign, or parts thereof, whether permanent or temporary, posted or exhibited by the Fruitland Township within the District to announce the rules, regulations and warnings or any other information to the public necessary or desirable to the proper use of the Natural Area Conservation District;
- D. Take, appropriate, excavate, injure, destroy or remove any historical or prehistorical ruin or parts thereof, or any object of antiquity;
- E. Throw, carry, cast, drag, push or deposit any refuse container, picnic table, barricade or any other movable or non-movable property into any stream or to otherwise move, stack or hide such property in such a way as to render it unavailable to the general public for its intended use, to cause a hazard to public safety or to damage or destroy such property;
- F. Occupy or inhabit, or cause to be occupied or inhabited, any facility, shelter, shed or other structure;
- G. Enter into or upon the Natural Area Conservation District or areas thereof or structure closed or posted against trespass; or
- H. Misuse any refuse container or receptacle by depositing into it any garbage, trash, refuse or other unwanted material that was not generated on the site in the course of normal, lawful use of the Natural Area Conservation District facilities.

SECTION R 63.10 DESTRUCTION/ MISUSE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

No unauthorized person shall upon or in connection with any property of the district:

- A. Cut, remove, uproot or wantonly destroy any tree, sapling, seedling, bush, shrub, flower or plant, whether alive or dead; or chip, blaze, box, girdle, trim or otherwise deface or injure any tree, shrub or bush; or break or remove any branch or foliage thereof; or pick or gather any seed of any tree or other plant;
- B. Remove or cause to be removed any sod, earth, humus, downed timber, wood, chips, peat, fossil, rock, sand or gravel; or remove or cause to be removed any other natural material of the forest floor or earth;
- C. Hunt, pursue, trap, catch, capture, molest, poison, wound or kill or attempt to hunt, trap, catch, capture, molest, poison, wound or kill any invertebrate, animal, mammal, bird, reptile or amphibian; disturb, molest or rob the nest of any mammal, bird, insect, reptile or amphibian or the lair, den or burrow of any mammal, bird, reptile or amphibian, except as may be specifically provided for in Area B or for valid scientific purpose;
- D. Fishing guidelines shall be followed and may be viewed within the Michigan Fishing Guide
https://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/FishingGuide2020_684742_7.pdf
catch and release is encouraged and no spearing or bow fishing will be allowed;
- E. Release or cause to be released any wild, domestic or pet animal, bird, fish or reptile or bring in or plant or distribute the seeds or spores of any flowering or nonflowering plant brought into or upon District lands or waters from any outside source whatsoever;
- F. Use or cause to be used any chemical or biological pesticide or any other substance, measure or process designated to alter the anatomy or physiology of any organism for the purpose of directly manipulating their populations; and
- G. Deposit, dump, throw, cast, lay or place, nor cause to be deposited, dumped, thrown, cast, laid or placed any fill, sediment, ashes, medical waste, hazardous materials, trash, rubbish, paper, garbage, refuse, debris or junk. However, on site produced garbage can be deposited in designated containers or removed from site as indicated or instructed.

SECTION R 63.11 DESTRUCTION BY OR MISUSE OF FIRE

No unauthorized person shall upon or in connection with any property of the district:

- A. Set fire, or cause to be set on fire, any tree, forest, brushland, grassland, meadow, prairie, marsh, slash, refuse, container or structure;
- B. Build a fire anywhere, for any purpose, except as specifically allowed in designated and posted areas;
- C. Build a fire or cause a fire to start in or out of receptacle close to or in any structure whatsoever or close to any tree or other plants in such a way as to deface, damage or destroy that structure or scar, injure or destroy any tree or plants or their foliage;
- D. Drop, throw away or scatter any burning, lighted or hot coals, ashes, cigarette, cigar, firecracker or match;
- E. Build any fire whatsoever for any purpose in or out of a designated and posted receptacle and leave it unattended, unless such fire is properly extinguished. For the purpose of this Ordinance, a fire shall be deemed properly extinguished when its ashes, residue, coals and unburned substance are cold to the human touch; and
- F. Set fire, or cause to be set on fire, in or out of a receptacle, any materials not for burning, including, but not limited to, metal objects, chemicals, wood with metal pieces such as nails, etc.

SECTION R 63.12 PET EXERCISING

Dogs are predators by nature and often mark their territory in order to keep competitors away. This scent marking can infringe on the terrain of wide-ranging wild predator species such as coyotes, bobcats, lynx, foxes, deer or rare cases black bears, cougars or wolves and interrupt essential contiguous wildlife corridors.

Pets that run loose can also harass or kill wildlife. Deer, birds, rabbits and other animals are sometimes chased and killed by off-leash pets. Nests can be disturbed in forested areas where some species lay their eggs on the ground or where ground nesters can be found.

The following rules apply to pets exercising:

- Pets must be on a 6-foot leash and under your immediate control at all times;

- Always clean up after your pet;
- Please carry a waste bag with you at all times;
- Pets should not be tied up unattended;
- Keep pets from interacting with wildlife; and
- Keep pets from disturbing visitors.

SECTION R 63.13 TRAIL USE AND ETIQUETTE

While using trails, treat others the way you would want to be treated and know your right of way. Check signage for the trail you are hiking and follow the correct right of way yields. Further:

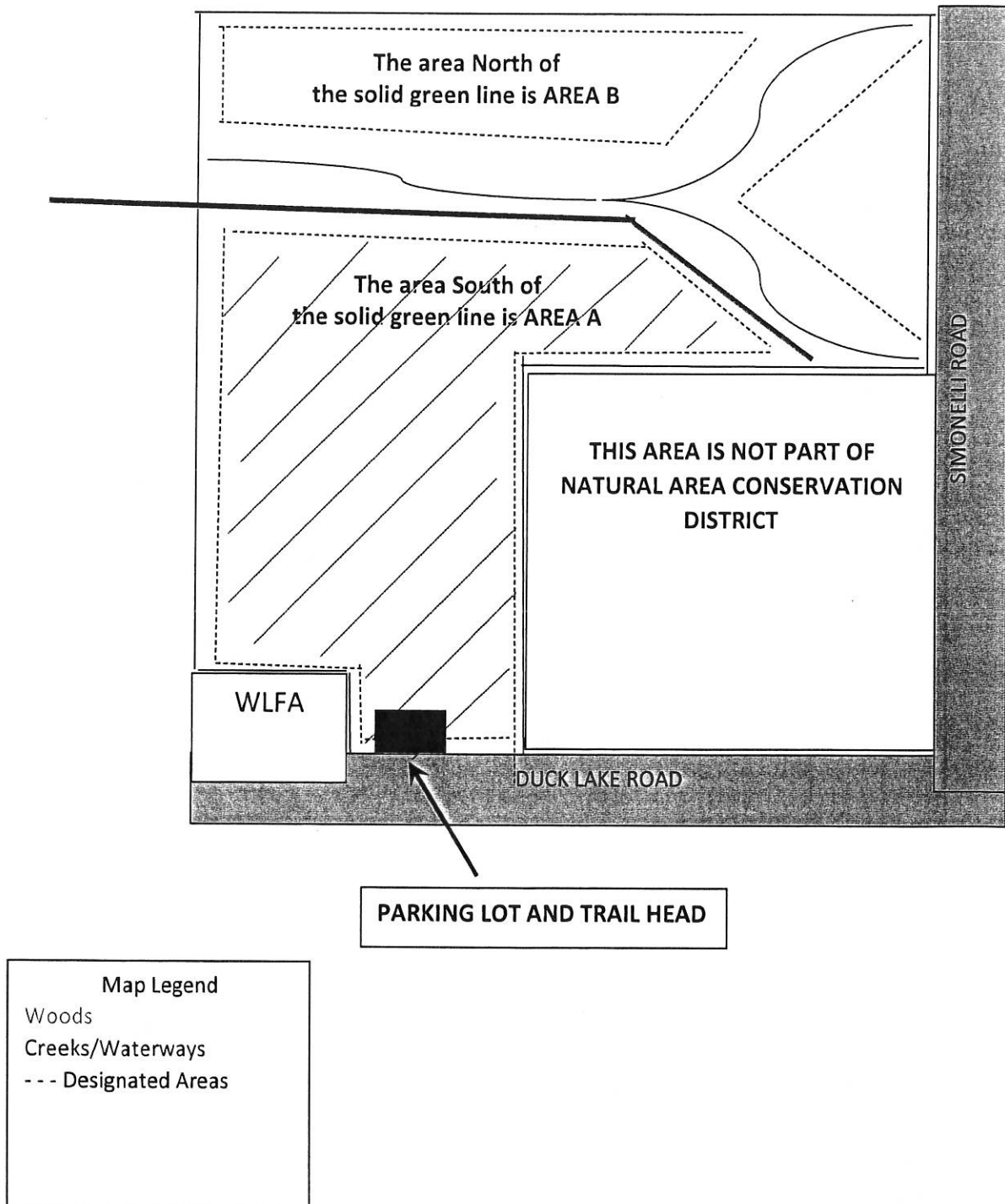
- Stay on the trails to keep natural areas how you found them. Don't step off the trail unless absolutely necessary. Going off trail can damage or kill certain plant or animal species and can hurt the ecosystems that surround the trail.
- Clean up after yourself and place trash in designated garbage containers. This includes "organic trash" such as orange rinds, apple cores, nut shells, and banana peels.
- Don't remove flowers, ferns, antlers, or even sticks. Discovering natural objects is one of the most interesting and fun parts of a hike and we ought to give all hikers the same opportunity.
- Be mindful of trail conditions and be aware of your surroundings.
- Make yourself known and offer a friendly "hello" or a simple head nod. If you approach another trail user from behind, announce yourself in a friendly, calm tone and let him/her know you want to pass.
- Take time to listen. Be respectful of both nature and the other users and keep the noise from electronic devices at bay.

SECTION R 63.14 FINES FOR VIOLATIONS

Any person, firm or corporation who violates a provision of this Ordinance or any person who knowingly or intentionally aids or abets another person in violation of this Ordinance, shall be responsible for a civil infraction and subject to fines as published by Fruitland Township from time to time. Each day's continued violation shall constitute a separate and distinct offense.

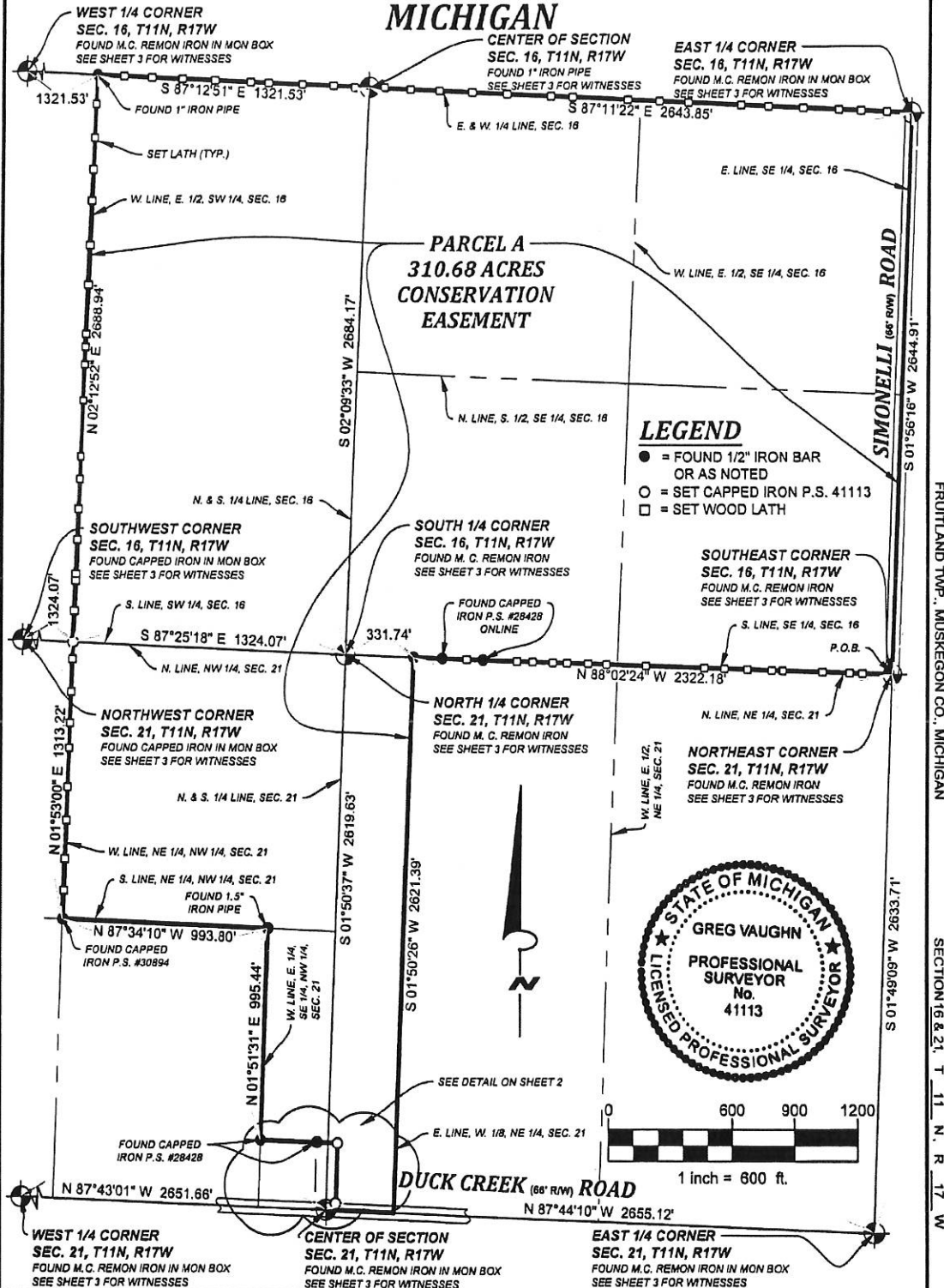
EXHIBIT 1

Fruitland Township Natural Area Conservation District Map



SURVEY IN THE SOUTH 1/2 OF SECTION 16 AND THE NORTH 1/2 OF SECTION 21, TOWN 11 NORTH, RANGE 17 WEST, FRUITLAND TOWNSHIP, MUSKEGON COUNTY,

MICHIGAN



W+ WIGHTMAN

2303 Pipestone Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022
433 East Ransom Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007
1670 Lincoln Road, Allegan, MI 49010

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CLIENT: LAND CONSERVANCY OF WEST MICHIGAN

JOB No: 192065

DATE: 04/25/2019

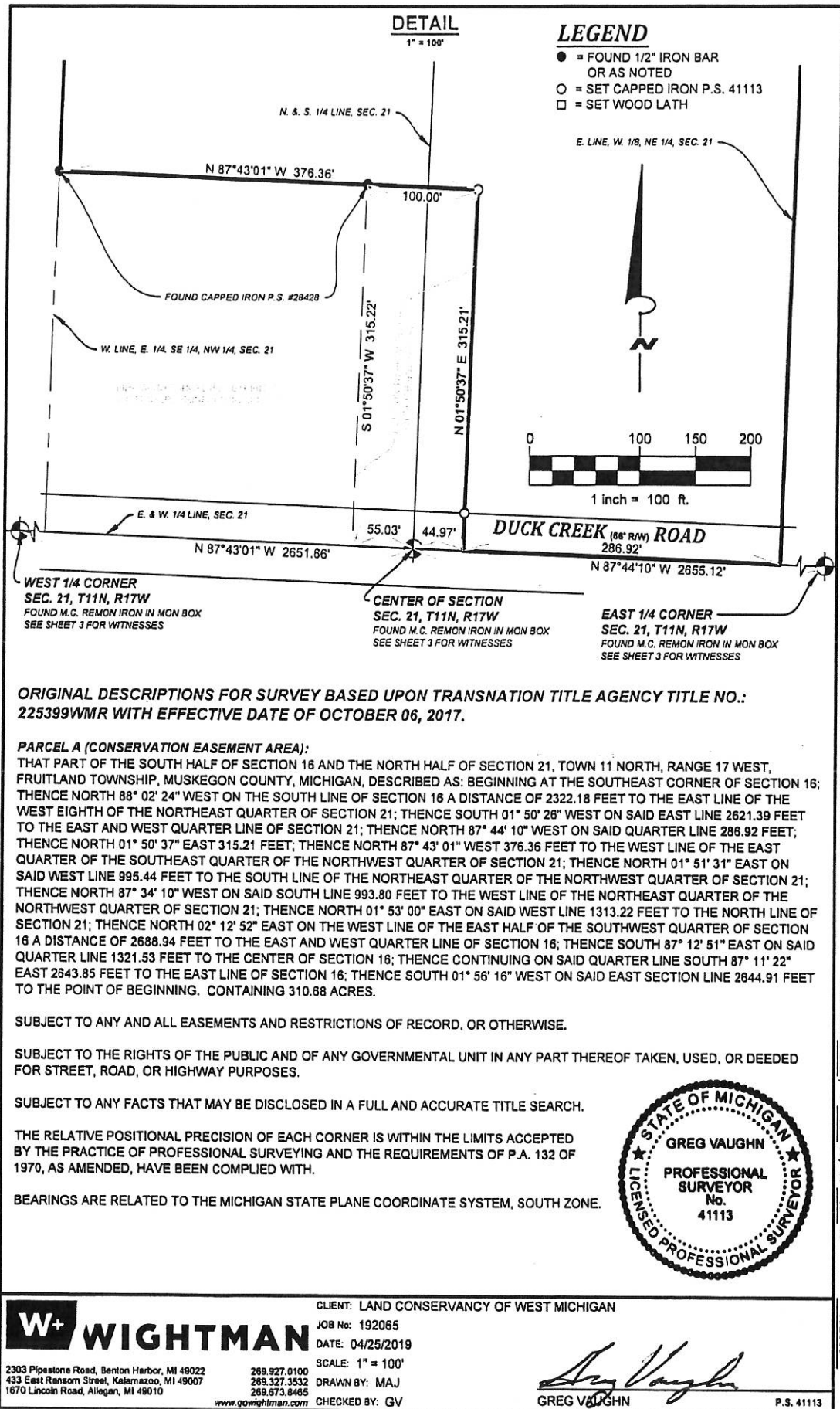
SCALE: 1" = 600'

DRAWN BY: MAJ

CHECKED BY: GV

Greg Vaughn
GREG VAUGHN

P.S. 41113



SECTION CORNER WITNESS TIES:

**WEST 1/4 CORNER
SEC. 16, T11N, R17W**

FOUND M.C. REMON IRON IN MON BOX
-FND NUTAG N. SIDE 10" BEECH N75°E 35.71'
-FND NAIL N. SIDE 28" MAPLE S35°E 78.04'
-FND NAIL SE SIDE 30" TWIN OAK S30°W 40.22'
-FND NAIL NE SIDE 18" TWIN MAPLE N70°W 38.88'

**CENTER OF SECTION
SEC. 16, T11N, R17W**

FOUND 1" IRON PIPE
-FND NAIL N. SIDE 16" OAK N85°E 22.75'
-SET NAIL E. SIDE 18" OAK S25°W 31.70'
-SET NAIL N. SIDE 16" TWIN OAK N89°W 30.46'
-SET NAIL E. SIDE 8" TWIN OAK N10°W 29.94'

**EAST 1/4 CORNER
SEC. 16, T11N, R17W**

FOUND M.C. REMON IRON IN MON BOX
-FND "X" CUT IN N. END OF W. BRIDGE WALL S18°W 59.44'
-N. EDGE OF DOUBLE ARROW SIGN POST N57°W 18.87'
-SET NAIL N. SIDE 8" POPLAR S45°E 56.86'
-N. FACE STOP SIGN POST N40°E 65.50'

**SOUTHWEST CORNER
SEC. 16, T11N, R17W &
NORTHWEST CORNER
SEC. 21, T11N, R17W**

FOUND CAPPED IRON IN MON BOX
-FND NAIL SW SIDE P.P. N34°W 46.98'
-FND NAIL W. SIDE P.P. N29°E 43.27'
-FND NAIL SW SIDE 22" WHITE PINE S27°E 58.99'
-FND NAIL E. SIDE P.P. S46°W 47.55'

**SOUTH 1/4 CORNER
SEC. 16, T11N, R17W &
NORTH 1/4 CORNER
SEC. 21, T11N, R17W**

FOUND M.C. REMON IRON
-FND NUTAG SE SIDE 24" TWIN OAK N30°E 31.22'
-FND NAIL SW SIDE 18" OAK S30°E 50.75'
-FND NAIL W. SIDE 24" OAK N10°E 18.43'
-SET NAIL W. SIDE 24" OAK S15°W 30.58'
-C/L PATH SOUTH 3.5'

**SOUTHEAST CORNER
SEC. 16, T11N, R17W &
NORTHEAST CORNER
SEC. 21, T11N, R17W**

FOUND M.C. REMON IRON
-FND NAIL NE SIDE 12" CHERRY N35°W 15.84'
-FND NAIL W. SIDE 17" ASH S10°W 25.26'
-FND NAIL N. SIDE 13" MAPLE S80°E 42.19'
-FND CAPPED IRON #30100 S87°E 32.94'
-FND NAIL SE SIDE P.P. N50°E 42.59'

**WEST 1/4 CORNER
SEC. 21, T11N, R17W**

FOUND M.C. REMON IRON IN MON BOX
-FND SPIKE E. SIDE 8" OAK N40°E 56.68'
-FND SPIKE W. SIDE 12" OAK N50°E 53.57'
-FND SPIKE W. SIDE 12" OAK S45°E 86.24'
-FND NAIL SE SIDE 26" OAK S50°W 61.61'
-FND SPIKE E. SIDE P.P. N50°W 40.34'
-FND SPIKE E. SIDE 24" OAK N45°W 89.02'

**CENTER OF SECTION
SEC. 21, T11N, R17W**

FOUND M.C. REMON IRON IN MON BOX
-FND PK NAIL W. SIDE P.P. N10°E 27.82'
-FND SPIKE W. SIDE 8" PINE N33°E 52.94'
-FND SPIKE W. SIDE 28" OAK S20°E 46.88'
-FND SPIKE SIDE 10" OAK SOUTH 41.00'
-FND SPIKE E. SIDE 28" OAK S60°W 52.63'
-FND SPIKE W. SIDE 12" OAK N15°W 44.42'

**EAST 1/4 CORNER
SEC. 21, T11N, R17W**

FOUND M.C. REMON IRON IN MON BOX
-FND NAIL W. SIDE P.P. N02°E 28.11'
-FND NAIL E. SIDE 8" TWIN OAK S25°E 39.25'
-FND NAIL E. SIDE 32" OAK S30°W 76.12'
-FND NAIL S. SIDE 38" OAK S72°W 62.88'
-FND NAIL E. SIDE 8" CHERRY N12°E 45.73'
-FND NAIL SE SIDE 20" OAK N55°E 56.76'



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