


# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

June 18, 2021

**APPROVED**  
**JUNE 18, 2021**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Committee on Budget and Finance

**From:** Samuel L. Stanley, Jr., M.D.   
President

**Subject:** Acceptance of Murphy Gift Property in Jackson County, Michigan

## RECOMMENDATION

The Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees accept a charitable gift of approximately 46 acres of property located in Liberty Township, Jackson County, Michigan.

## RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to accept by charitable gift approximately 46 acres of property located in Liberty Township, Jackson County, Michigan from the Murphy Family Revocable Trust.

## BACKGROUND

In 2001, 408 acres of property was donated to the University and became the MacCready Reserve. The MacCready Reserve is used by Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife, and MSU Extension for research, teaching, and outreach purposes. The Murphy property consists of approximately 46 acres that adjoins the MacCready Reserve's southern boundary, with most of the acreage considered fen wetlands and appearing to be an example of a "prairie fen." Fens are peat-forming wetlands, able to support more diverse plant and animal populations than bogs, and prairie fens are critically imperiled in Michigan because of extreme rarity. According to faculty members from Plant Biology and the Center for Integrated Plant Systems Lab, the property offers a unique and important component to expand the research, teaching, and outreach occurring at MacCready Reserve.

cc: Board of Trustees, T. Woodruff, N. Beauchamp, N. Barr, M. Woo, M. Zeig, B. Quinn, D. Bollman, V. Gore, L. Frace, M. Haas, L. Adams, J. Gaboury, B. Kranz, M. McCabe, J. Mumma, J. Rayis, C. Reid, M. Heil, R. Hendrick



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# Murphy Gift Property Liberty Township, Jackson County, Michigan

