



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Executive Action Summary

Budget & Finance - Attachment 4

**APPROVED**  
**APRIL 10, 2026**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Committee Name:** Budget & Finance

**Date:** April 10, 2026

**Agenda Item:** Acceptance of Donated Land in Escanaba, Michigan

Information

Review

Action

**Resolution:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to accept the donation of approximately 98 acres of land located in Escanaba, Michigan upon such terms and conditions as may be acceptable to the President or the President’s designee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Michigan State University hereby authorizes the Administration to enter into agreements with terms of 10 or more years for use of the land during the donor’s life estate upon such terms and conditions as may be acceptable to the President or the President’s designee.

**Recommendation:**

The Trustee Committee on Budget & Finance recommends that the Board of Trustees authorize acceptance of this property through the donor’s Retained Life Estate Agreement, for future programmatic use by AgBioResearch.

**Prior Action by BOT:** Not applicable

**Responsible Officers:**

Kenneth McFarlane, Associate Vice President for Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Facilities

Barbara Kranz, Assistant Provost and Executive Director, Institutional Space Planning and Management

**Summary:**

The donation of the property through a Retained Life Estate Agreement, from John Kobasic, located in Escanaba, Michigan, is a priority because it has programmatic use for the MSU Forestry Innovation Center (FIC) in Escanaba, Michigan. The FIC is one of 15 outlying MSU-owned research stations

operated by AgBioResearch across the State of Michigan in support of ongoing research, outreach, and educational efforts.

**Background Information:**

AgBioResearch anticipates utilization of the property for a minimum of 25 years. The gift agreement will have an exit clause, allowing MSU to dispose of the property when it can no longer be used to meet the University's programmatic needs.

**Source of Funds:**

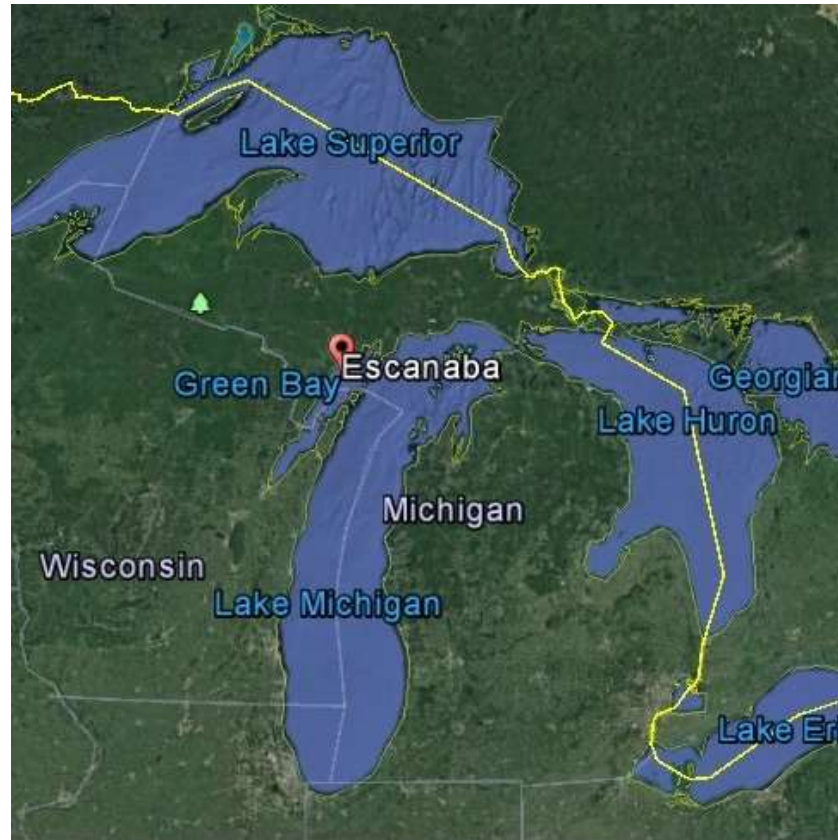
Costs for establishment and maintenance of this gifted property for use in the MSU FIC program are minimal. Costs for the property will be provided to the FIC as part of its annual operating budget from AgBioResearch, supported by an annual base appropriation from the State of Michigan.

**Resource Impact:**

The property will be utilized for teaching efforts of MSU, Bay College, and/or high school STEM students. Outreach efforts will include forestry, general natural resources, water quality, and fisheries.

# ACCEPTANCE of DONATED LAND

## Escanaba, Michigan



April 10, 2026