



CONSERVING, SUSTAINING, AND
CONNECTING NATURAL AREAS, LANDS,
AND WATERS THAT MAKE THE PLACES
WE LIVE SPECIAL.

MEMORANDUM

To: Michigan House Appropriations Committee

Date: March 16, 2021

From: Chris Bunch, Executive Director

Re: HB 4469, MNRTF Appropriation for 2021-2022

Committee Members,

On behalf of Six Rivers Land Conservancy and all of the communities and agencies involved with the MNRTF, we appreciate the support and investments in conservation and outdoor recreation provided by this great program. It is our sincere hope that you will move this legislation forward swiftly so these dollars can go to work in our communities quickly, acquiring and developing more properties to support Michigan's great outdoor recreation heritage.

Six Rivers Land Conservancy operates in the "Emerald Crown"—the northern region of the Detroit metro area and lower portion of the Thumb, in Oakland Macomb, Lapeer, Genesee and St. Clair counties. Over the years, we have worked as partners with several communities in all of these counties to help acquire land for natural areas and parks. This year we are directly involved with projects in Oakland Township (Oakland County), Clay Township (St. Clair County) and Chesterfield Township (Macomb County). We are excited to move forward and complete these efforts when the funding is provided, making more recreational land available in our region. There are 8 million acres of public land in Michigan, but only 200,000 of that is in the State's most populous region. Your swift action in appropriating these funds will help continue the progress in making more recreational opportunity available where the majority of the State's population lives, works and plays.

Thank you for your attention to these comments. If you have any questions or if I may ever be of service, please feel free to contact me at any time.



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