

Darlene Turner

From: Big Bay Pathway [bigbaypathway@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 18, 2021 9:47 AM
To: Darlene Turner; Phil Moran
Subject: Fwd: Space Port and Granot Loma development opportunites

Begin forwarded message:

From: janet schultz <janetlynnschultz@gmail.com>
Date: July 17, 2021 at 8:01:33 PM EDT
To: bigbaypathway@gmail.com
Cc: Jeanne Baumann <jeannerav@gmail.com>, "Elizabeth J. Bates" <elizabethjbates@gmail.com>, janet schultz <janetlynnschultz@gmail.com>
Subject: Space Port and Granot Loma development opportunites

Hello Sven, I've been given your name and contact information from Jeanne Bauman and Puck Bates and encouraged to reach out to you. I live at 228 Eagles Nest Rd. and have so for the last 46 yrs. and I am a retired botanist.

I'm very concerned about the proposed space launch at Granot Loma which is quite close to us . Equally as upsetting and heartbreaking is the potential loss of Granot Loma which is significant historically, and ecologically. Further, the site can offer stunning recreational opportunities for the public.

Are you familiar with the 1986 State of Michigan proposal and brochure regarding the potential acquisition of Granot Loma by the State of Michigan ? This document offers a very telling and revealing look at how much this site is valued and what Granot Loma offers. (I very much wish that this document was available for the public to see.) Perhaps Mike Springer (my neighbor) shared it with you?

If at all possible, I'd like to discuss Granot Loma's historical, ecological, and recreation potential both locally and far beyond. My contact information is: 906 345 9885; 228 Eagles Nest Rd.; janetlynnschultz@gmail.com Thank for your consideration in this important matter.

Sincerely, Jan Schultz



COUNTY OF MARQUETTE

Office of the County Clerk
234 W. Baraga Avenue
Marquette, Michigan 49855
Phone 906/225-8330
Fax 906/228-1572
www.co.marquette.mi.us

LINDA K. TALSMAN
County Clerk
TONYA NELSON
Deputy County Clerk

July 1, 2021

Re: Recommendation to Combine Voting Precincts

Powell Township Board Members,

Thank you all for taking a moment to talk elections in your Township. I have been talking to some local clerks throughout the County of Marquette trying to figure out ways to be not only more efficient but fiscally responsible as well. Powell Township is one of the Townships that will benefit from combining precincts. Precinct 1 has 525 Registered Voters and Precinct 2 has 237 Registered Voters, with that said these sizes allow your precincts to be combined. As Election Law states each precinct must not contain more than 2,999 active registered voters.

Currently Powell Township has 2 Precincts/Polling Locations available:

Powell Township	Pct. 1 Pct. 2	Powell Township Hall, 101 Bensinger Street, Big Bay Halfway Fire Hall, Big Bay
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Results from the November 2020 Election:

	Registered Voters	Cards Cast	Voters Cast	Voter Turnout
Powell Township, Precinct 1	525	384	384	73.14%
Powell Township, Precinct 2	237	186	186	78.48%

Costs involved per precinct for each election:

	Programming Costs	Ballots	Precinct Inspectors
Powell Township, Precinct 1	525.00	.35 per	4 per precinct
Powell Township, Precinct 2	525.00	.35 per	4 per precinct

*The cost savings will be half to include the following: programming, ballots, precinct inspectors, test decks, advertising, etc.

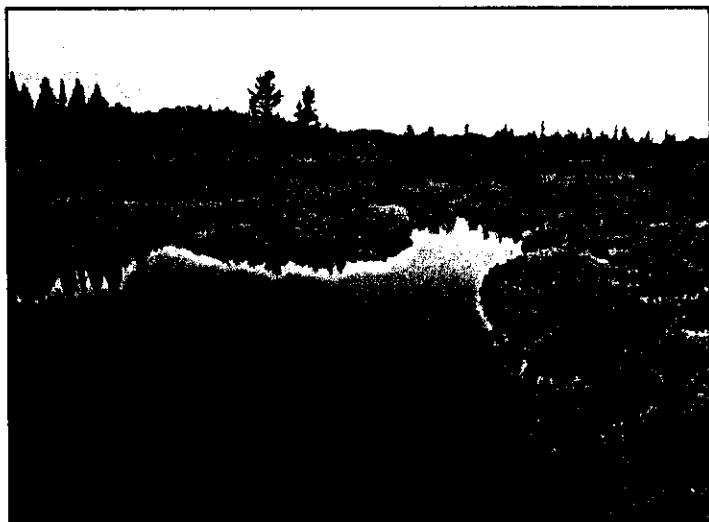
Recommendation: I recommend the Powell Township Board authorize Clerk Samantha Morin to combine both voting precincts into only one. This will provide more efficient service to voters along with saving tax payer monies. Furthermore, the extra tabulator could potentially be used as a spare or an Absentee Counting Board in Precinct 1.

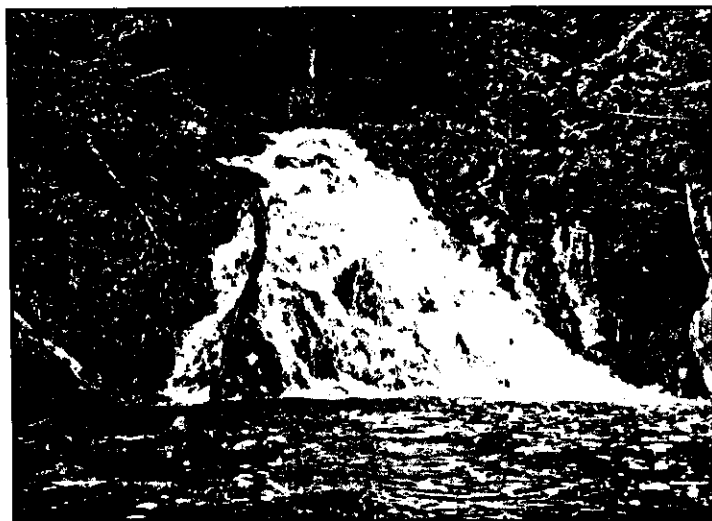
Sincerely,
Linda K. Talsma
Marquette County Clerk

ESTABLISHING POLLING PLACES: The city council or township board is responsible for determining the location of polling places in the jurisdiction. Michigan election law, MCL 168.662, provides the following with respect to the establishment of polling places:

- Whenever possible, a polling place must be located in a publicly owned or controlled facility such as a school building, fire station or police station.
- If it is necessary to establish a polling place in a building other than a publicly owned or controlled facility, the building must be owned or controlled by an organization that is “exempt from federal income tax pursuant to section 501(c) other than 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) of the internal revenue code of 1986....”
- All polling places must be fully accessible to the elderly and handicapped. If necessary, the use of temporary ramps and signs designating handicap parking spaces may be employed on Election Day to ensure access.
- If a polling place is established in a building not owned or controlled by the city or township, it is advisable to have a polling place use agreement with the building owners.
- A polling place may *not* be established in a building that is owned by a business, individual, firm, organization, etc. that has established, directs, controls or financially supports the administration of a Political or Independent Committee registered under the Campaign Finance Act. This prohibition extends to a building owned by a subsidiary of a corporation or the local of a labor organization if the parent corporation or labor organization has established, directs, controls or financially supports the administration of a Political or Independent Committee.
- **The same polling place may be used to accommodate up to six precincts if convenient and practicable (each precinct must have its own precinct board.)**

- A polling place may not be established, moved or abolished less than 60 days before an election unless the polling place has been “damaged, destroyed, or rendered inaccessible or unusable as a polling place.”
- An Accessibility Checklist can be found in the eLearning Center for use in determining whether a site is fully accessible or not. Use of the checklist is strongly recommended as there are many requirements to ensure ADA compliance.





Our Mission

To Preserve the Yellow Dog Watershed in its most natural state for the use of the public, now, and for the benefit of future generations

How We Accomplish this Mission

- Land Protection Program
 - Creation of 688 acre Community Forest, 1000 acre Mudjekewis Wildlife Preserve, Pinnacle Falls Preserve, Gateway to the McCormick and more
 - Invasive plant species inventory and treatment in conjunction with L2LCISMA
- Water Quality Program
 - Spring and Fall water monitoring (macroinvertebrate sampling, physical features, chemical analysis, invasive aquatic species and more. . (minimum 18 sites)
 - Monitoring river shores for erosion
 - Monitoring feeder streams for blocked aquatic organism passage at road stream crossings and/or other impairments up stream. (EGLE Grant)

Mission continued

- Mining Program
 - Monitor mining activities within the watershed and identify possible problem areas and possible solutions.
- Education and Outreach
 - YDWP Nature School (children and adult programs)
 - Public workshops
 - Advocacy

Why Are We Here?

The Yellow Dog River flows through four townships, all with varying setbacks, restrictions, clauses, and exemptions.

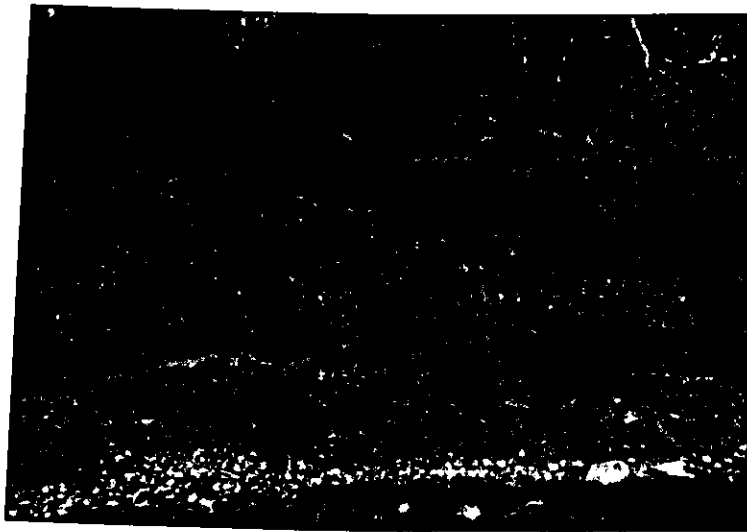
Building setbacks vary from 30 feet from the high water mark to 75 feet, with the exception in some cases of private bathing facilities (saunas) which are 30 feet. No building permit is required if under 200 sq. ft.

Problems

Rivers are not stable but are ever changing. Soil content and high water events, especially spring snow melt, all contribute to these wildly vacillating changes.

Remember the 40 acre landslide of 1996?

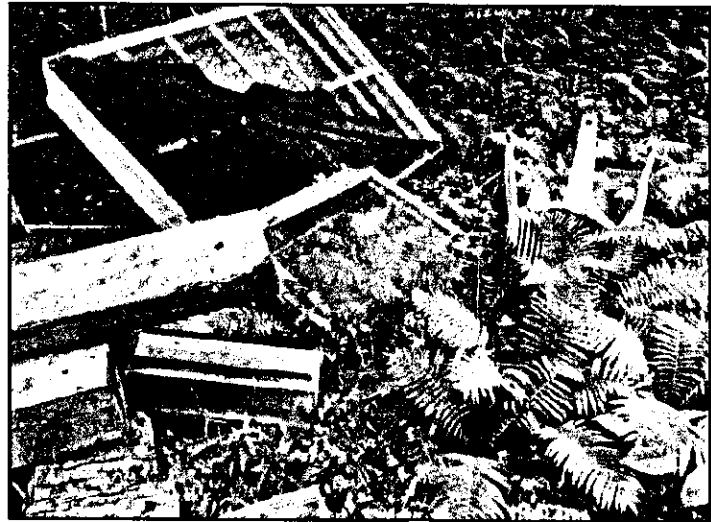
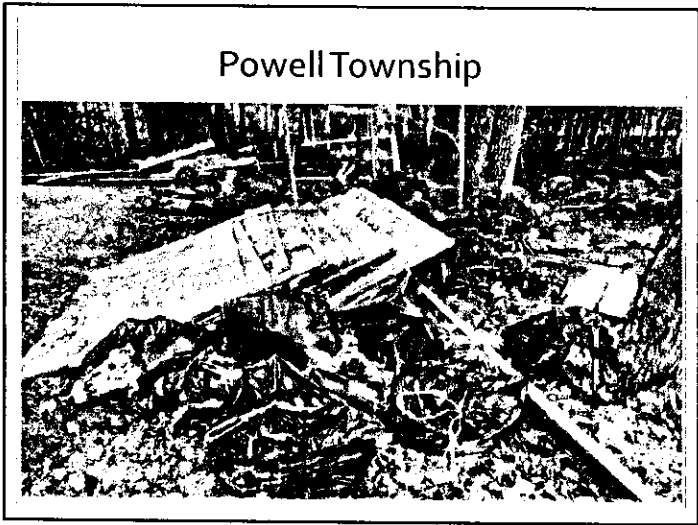
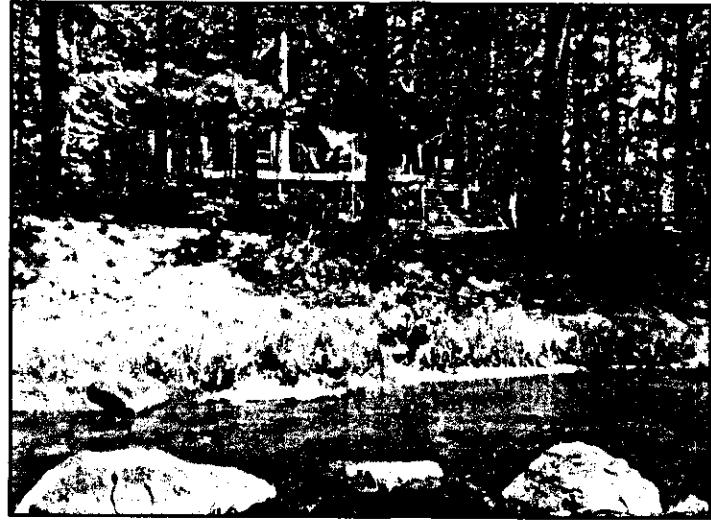
The 40 Acre Landslide

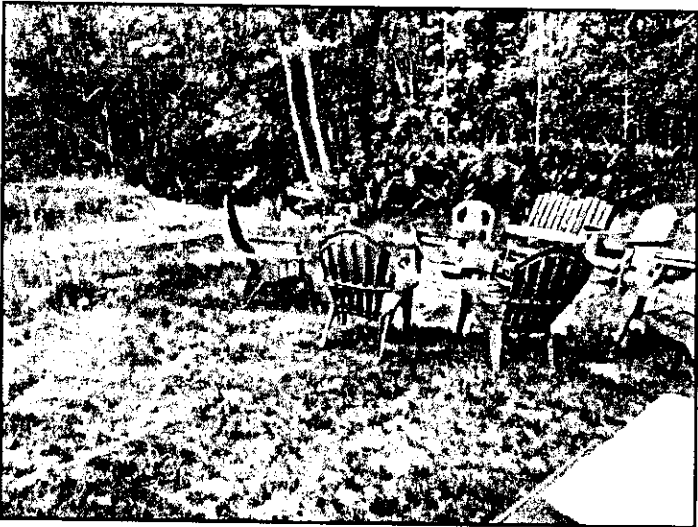


Building too Close

- Because the river changes almost every year, buildings that were once within the zoning ordinance parameters find themselves precariously too close to the river's edge and at risk of losing significant land mass or worse yet, losing the structures themselves.
- Road building too close to the river or cliff edge may also increase erosion with significant amounts of sediment being deposited into the water.
- Other contributors are 4-wheeler trails, removal of large trees near a steep embankment, lack of buffer strips.







Why is this a concern?

- The Yellow Dog River is a trout fishing destination for locals and for tourists. Trout need gravel and rocky bottoms for reproduction. Sand and sediment decrease trout habitat, raise the water temperature, decrease velocity. All negative impacts on Trout and other aquatic organisms.
- Lack of buffer strips will increase run off and contribute to sedimentation and possible pollution
- Landowners in danger of losing property are seeking help.
- Decreases the Wild and Scenic aspect of the river corridor

Who is Responsible? How Can You Help?

- Increase building setbacks to take into consideration the changing aspects of river nature-at least 100 feet including saunas or sheds of any size.
- Require logging and road building methods to follow best management practices along river ways."According to EPA estimates, over 90% of the sediment entering forested streams comes from the forest road system." (Michigan Forestry Best Management Practices p.24)
- Encourage landowners to leave or create buffer strips on river or lakefront properties. (Tax credits?) (Provide information packets?)

Best Management Practices

- New roads should be located no closer than 100 feet from a lake or stream. (except crossings)
- No roads should be built within the riparian management zone or buffer strip.
- Minimum riparian management zone width is 100 feet from high water mark, but this minimum increases as slope of the land above the water body increases. At 40- 50% slope the minimum rmz becomes 175 feet.
- Contact Michigan DNR for complete guide to Forestry Best Management Practices

Buffer Strips: Area of Land between water's edge and maintained lawn, logging, or human interference. Trees and native plants left intact or reintroduced.

- Decrease and prevent erosion
- Decrease runoff and pollutants entering the water: According to MSU, phosphorus levels on developed lakes have more than quadrupled since the 1940s mainly due to lack of natural buffer strips. (Lake Independence)
- Increase wildlife habitat including birds and bees
- Decrease maintenance (No mowing. Native plants tend to take care of themselves.)
- Deters Canadian Geese

Native Plants for Buffer Strips!

- Adapted to our soil and climate
- Resist damage from freezing
- Have ecological importance
- Require less maintenance
- Have extensive root systems
- Improves wildlife habitat

Resources

- **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** in Marquette
 site visits to review riparian buffer planning options available
www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/nr/cou/fact/local/
 780 Commerce Drive, Ste. D
 Marquette MI 49855
 906-226-8871
- **Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership**
www.mishorelinepartnership.org
- **MSU Extension**
 184 US HWY 41 East Negaunee, MI 49866
 906-475-5731
- **MSU Department of Entomology**
www.ent.msu.edu/invasiveplants/
- **L2LCISMA in Marquette (for help with invasive species)**
 Lake to Lake Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area
 1906126 8871 ext. 3068
l2lismar@msu.edu - l2lismar@gmail.com
 780 Commerce Drive, Suite C
 Marquette, MI 49855
www.l2lisma.org - <http://www.l2lisma.org/>

Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve Contact Information

Website: www.yellowdogwatershed.org
 Facebook: Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve

Rochelle Dale/Administrator
 PO Box 5
 Big Bay, MI 49808
Rochelle@yellowdogwatershed.org
 Office: 906-345-9223
 Cell: 906-362-8521