



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Federal Building, Fort Snelling
Twin Cities, Minnesota 55111

K.W. ~~SE~~
[Handwritten initials]
IN REPLY REFER TO:
WA

DEC 10 1983

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, FWS, Twin Cities, MN (RD)

Thru: Asst. Regional Director, FWS, Twin Cities, MN (AF) *[Handwritten: Hopowski agree]*

From: Asst. Regional Director, FWS, Twin Cities, MN (AW) *[Handwritten: HNB]*

Subject: Administration of Kirtland's Warbler Wildlife Management Areas

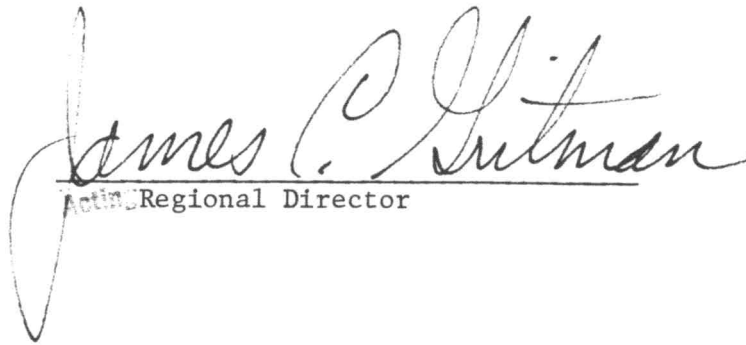
There are 1,727 acres in 20 Michigan tracts already owned or in the process of being acquired by the Service to be managed as essential Kirtland's Warbler habitat. We have been given the authority to acquire up to 4,500 acres for this purpose. These tracts are located adjacent to or in the vicinity of similar lands owned and managed by the State of Michigan specifically for the Kirtland's Warbler. The Service-owned lands are to be similarly managed by the State through a cooperative agreement with the Michigan DNR written specifically for this project. The Service will retain administration responsibility which presently has been assigned to Shiawassee NWR.

I propose shifting this administration responsibility from Shiawassee NWR to the Michigan Wildlife Assistance Office in Lansing. This office has historically been involved in the Kirtland's Warbler program in many ways. Specifically, WA personnel have been responsible for the cowbird control portion of the Recovery Plan and have assisted in the annual census conducted under the direction of the Michigan DNR. The Lansing WA office now administers the Michigan WPA program while the state manages the areas.

A management plan for the Kirtland's Warbler lands will be developed by the Lansing WA office and will be similar in detail to the management plan developed for the WPAs. This management plan will include inspections, development monitoring, all activities related to timber sales, signing, delegation of responsibilities between State and Federal agencies and any other items necessary for the proper management of said lands, which will be managed according to the Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Plan.

Coordination with RE will include correspondence from RE to the WA office when a tract of land is considered, and requests for the WA office to execute Certificates of Inspection and Possession. The WA field office will be informed when payment is made and management can commence. When the final Solicitor's opinion is provided, the WA field office will establish a tract file and any other necessary items needed to administer these lands as a part of the refuge system. Communication will be open and continuous between RE and the WA field office.

Concur:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James C. Gutman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line. A large, vertical, looping flourish extends from the bottom of the signature down towards the left margin.

Acting Regional Director