



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



DANIEL EICHINGER  
DIRECTOR

April 05, 2021

To International Dark Sky Association:

Fort Wilkins Historic State Park is pleased to provide this letter of support for a nomination of the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge to receive recognition as a Dark Sky Park.

Keweenaw Mountain Lodge is nestled in Copper Harbor, Michigan's northern most county. Far from urban areas, Northern Michigan has quality dark sky conditions. Keweenaw Mountain Lodge is a great candidate for a dark sky park for numerous reasons.

First, the location is great for night sky viewing because of its location, elevation, and view scape. It is just far enough from the nearby Lake Superior shoreline and the exposed bedrock cliffs (both of which can alter quality dark sky "seeing" conditions when using a telescope) and it offers expansive open sky views even for sights near the horizon which is often difficult to find around here.

Secondly, the staff at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge fully embraces the concept of dark sky preservation.

Third is there is a definite need. Out of town visitors are often awed by the quality dark sky conditions Northern Michigan has to offer. This region's economy relies on tourism and we have plenty of tourists looking for a quality location for night sky viewing. Keweenaw Mountain Lodge is a great location to serve as a dark sky park.

Thank you for providing us with the opportunity to voice our enthusiasm and support for this proposal.

Sincerely,

*Robert Wild*

Bob Wild  
Park Supervisor  
Fort Wilkins Historic State Park  
Copper Harbor, Mi 49918