

= M @-@ 38 (Michigan highway) =

M @-@ 38 is an east ? west state trunkline highway in the Upper Peninsula (UP) of the U.S. state of Michigan . Its west end starts in Ontonagon and runs east to Baraga , some 42 @.@ 225 miles (67 @.@ 955 km) apart . The highway crosses streams and rivers in forest lands and provides access to a casino . The east end is located by the Keweenaw Bay of Lake Superior in the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community .

There have been two highways in the state to carry the designation . The first was located in the southeastern Lower Peninsula . The current version of M @-@ 38 was created from a section of M @-@ 35 in the 1960s . This section was orphaned from the rest of M @-@ 35 when the highway was cancelled through the Huron Mountains .

= = Route description = =

M @-@ 38 begins at a four @-@ way intersection in Ontonagon . US Highway 45 (US 45) runs north ? south through this intersection while M @-@ 64 runs west and M @-@ 38 runs east on Steel Street . This intersection is both the eastern terminus of M @-@ 64 and the western terminus of M @-@ 38 . From here , M @-@ 38 forms a segment of the Lake Superior Circle Tour along Ontonagon ? Greenland Road to a junction with M @-@ 26 near Greenland . The roadway runs through forest land and crosses several small streams while traveling southeasterly . Outside of Greenland , M @-@ 38 curves to the north around town after intersecting Plank Road . On the east side of town , M @-@ 26 and M @-@ 38 meet and join in a concurrency after Ontonagon ? Greenland Road meets Plank Road a second time . The two highways run together for just over a mile to the unincorporated community of Lake Mine . There , M @-@ 38 turns south through the community while M @-@ 26 turns off to the northeast .

The highway crosses a set of railroad tracks before turning east . At Post Office Road , M @-@ 38 meets a road named Old M @-@ 35 Road , a vestige of a highway straightening project during the time the highway was M @-@ 35 . M @-@ 38 crosses the West Branch of the Firesteel River in hilly terrain through this area . The highway continues east and provides access to the Courtney Lake National Forest Campground west of the Houghton County line . East of Federal Forest Highway 16 (FFH @-@ 16) near Nisula , M @-@ 38 crosses the West Branch of the Otter River . It is along this section of roadway in Houghton County that the lowest annual average daily traffic (AADT) counts were measured by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) in 2007 . An average of 680 vehicles traveled on the roadway , according to MDOT surveys . Of those vehicles , only 40 trucks on average were included in the traffic counts . East of Nisula , the roadway runs parallel to Mill Creek . Mill Creek flows into the West Branch of the Sturgeon River near the Baraga County line .

East of the county line is the crossing over the Sturgeon River south of Pelkie , home of the Baraga County Fairgrounds . The trunkline crosses more hilly terrain while veering to the northeast . Continuing to the east , M @-@ 38 had its highest traffic usage in 2007 . The AADT for the Baraga County segment of the highway was measured at 3 @,@ 000 vehicles a day . The roadway continues east through Baraga County and runs downhill approaching Baraga and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community , home of the first Native American casino in the United States . After passing through downtown Baraga on Michigan Avenue , M @-@ 38 ends at an intersection with US 41 ; on the western shore of Keweenaw Bay .

= = History = =

= = = Previous designation = = =

The first version of M @-@ 38 was designated in 1919 in the Lower Peninsula . It was located on Junction Road from M @-@ 10 (later US 10 / US 23) southeast of Bridgeport to Frankenmuth , and

then ran east to M @-@ 19 in the Peck area in 1919 . The highway was transferred to county jurisdiction in late 1961 when the I @-@ 75 / US 10 / US 23 freeway was completed in the area .

= = = Current designation = = =

In 1968 , the Michigan Department of Transportation redesignated the western section of M @-@ 35 as M @-@ 38 . M @-@ 35 was originally planned to start in Menominee and run north to Big Bay , turn west through the Huron Mountains in northern Marquette County and run west from Baraga to Ontonagon . The Huron Mountains portion of M @-@ 35 was never built due to opposition from Henry Ford and the Huron Mountain Club . This left M @-@ 35 discontinuous . It was later routed along US 41 from Negaunee to Baraga , connecting the two sections until the western section was given the M @-@ 38 designation .

The original routing of M @-@ 38 in the Upper Peninsula ran from M @-@ 26 at Greenland to Baraga . US 45 was rerouted in 1971 along M @-@ 26 from Rockland to Greenland and Ontonagon ? Greenland Road between those two towns . M @-@ 26 was shortened to end at the new US 45 in Greenland . This change to US 45 was reversed in 1973 . M @-@ 26 was reextended to Rockland , and M @-@ 38 was extended along M @-@ 26 to Ontonagon ? Greenland Road to meet US 45 in Ontonagon .

On October 11 , 2006 , the western terminus of M @-@ 38 was relocated about .25 miles (0 @.@ 40 km) south to end at a junction with US 45 and the newly realigned M @-@ 64 .

= = Major intersections = =