

Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan 2011-2015

Hoosiers Planning Play





STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

January 2012



Dear Outdoor Recreation Enthusiasts:

Indiana citizens can be proud of the many strides Hoosiers have made since the last Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) was published five years ago.

The 2010 launch of the Healthy Rivers Initiative, the largest conservation initiative ever undertaken in Indiana, will permanently protect 43,000 acres located in the floodplain of the Wabash River and Sugar Creek in west central Indiana and 26,000 acres of the Muscatatuck River bottomlands in southeast Indiana.

This initiative will increase public access to hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, boating, and bird watching, and leave a legacy for future generations by providing a major conservation destination for tourists. The project also will provide additional flood protection for riparian landowners.

Despite challenging fiscal times, we've forged ahead of schedule in trails development. When we embarked on the Indiana State Trails, Greenways & Bikeways Plan in 2006, our sights were set on an ambitious goal of having a trail within 7.5 miles or 15 minutes of all Hoosier residents by 2016. As of January 2012, we have achieved nearly 97 percent of that goal, and we expect to move closer as the years progress.

Reaching our targets for these programs in time for the state's bicentennial in 2016 is a worthy goal that will require more of the same kind of innovation. Following this plan will not only help make that happen in a more effective manner but also help more Hoosiers adopt a healthier and rewarding lifestyle.

Sincerely,

Mitch Daniels



Dear Fellow Hoosiers,

Reading and reviewing statistics about the many recreational opportunities and activities available in Indiana may not be as much fun as doing them but it is essential for those who work with the outdoors. Careful, systematic planning, research and organization is necessary if we are to continue to meet the changing needs and interests of residents and visitors all around our great state.

That is where this Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan we call "SCORP" comes in. The SCORP is compiled every five years to outline the diverse opportunities for recreation in the Hoosier state, how people can and have enjoyed them, and where they go to do them. The document also offers a peek ahead to opportunities and improvements citizens can and should expect in the next five years.

The diversity of recreational offerings around the state is no accident. In many cases, our recreational advances have come about because of strong partnerships, not only among all levels of government but also with private individuals and organizations. Many people from all different walks of life have taken valuable time to complete the surveys detailed in these pages. On behalf of every person who has ever done anything from hunting, fishing, bicycling, rowing, hiking, camping to many other activities around the state, thank you.

This handbook for outdoor recreation providers is the blueprint for applying for funds and putting them to the best use. Following this plan through the hard work of a lot of dedicated people is vital if we are to continue Indiana's well deserved reputation as a great place to enjoy natural beauty and have good, clean outdoor fun, right here at home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Robert E. Carter, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert E. Carter Jr.

Indiana Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan 2011-2015

HOOSIERS PLANNING PLAY

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(PUBLIC LAW 88-578, AS AMENDED).*

SCORP PLANNING

The Indiana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) requires the expertise of people from many disciplines to be an effective tool for the state. Those who volunteer as members of the Plan Advisory Committee meet several times a year during the research and writing. They provide valuable insight and commentary that guides the development of surveys, research analysis, and creation of a plan that can be used by providers from all levels of community, including state, county, municipal, and township.

The Division of Outdoor Recreation thanks the original members of the Plan Advisory Committee for their advice, support, expertise, time, and talent. These people give direction to the SCORP 2011–2015 and ensure the priorities and contents are in line with the State's vision, mission, and goals for outdoor recreation and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Vision Statement and Goals Land And Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Introduction	13
Outdoor Recreation Priorities for Public Parks and Recreation Providers and Stakeholders.....	18
Chapter 1: The Surveys	21
The Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey	21
The Local Park and Recreation Provider Study.....	23
The Trails Activity Survey.....	24
Chapter 2: Themes and Trends	33
Limitations of the Surveys.....	33
Survey Technologies Changing	33
A Look at the Surveys Themselves	33
Recurring Themes in the Surveys	34
Needs Assessment.....	39
Chapter 3: Supply of Outdoor Recreation Acreage in Indiana	43
National Recreation and Parks Association Standards for Public Park Acreage	43
Indiana’s LOS Standards for Parks, Recreation, and Open Space.....	44
Regional Outdoor Recreation Acres Listed by County and Region: State and Federal Public Outdoor Recreation Land	51
Total Outdoor Recreation Acres Listed by County and Region: All Public Outdoor Recreation Lands Currently Recorded in the DNR Facilities Inventory.....	52
Critical Counties	58
Chapter 4: Supply of Wetlands in Indiana	61
Indiana Wetlands Legislation, Initiatives and Resources.....	61
Indiana Wetlands Acreage.....	68
Chapter 5: Accessibility and Outdoor Recreation	71
Why Accessibility?	71
Overview of Legislation	71
Standards and Guidelines	72
Program Access.....	73
Above and Beyond	74
A Word About Products, Designers and Consultants.....	75
Wrap-up and Resources	76
Chapter 6: 2011 Progress Report—Hoosiers on the Move, the Indiana State Trails, Greenways & Bikeways Plan	79
Ultimate Goal: A Trail within 7.5 Miles or 15 Minutes of All Hoosiers	79
State Visionary Trails	79
Trail Funding	84
Conclusions and Recommendations	84

Chapter 7: Some Resources, Ideas and Information	87
The APA's City Parks Forum: A Helpful Resource.....	87
The IPRA's Parks & Recreation Education and Research Links.....	87
Paying for Parks and Recreation During an Economic Downturn.....	87
DNR Organizational Chart.....	92
Indiana Department of Natural Resources Divisions.....	93
Other Related Indiana Government Offices.....	94
DNR SCORP Division Representatives.....	94

APPENDICES

Appendix A Participation Survey.....	97
Appendix B Provider Survey.....	102
Appendix C Trails Survey.....	116
Appendix D Bibliography.....	119

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1 Percentage of Respondents with Trails as Capital Projects.....	25
Table 1.2 Local Recreation Leaders Indicating They Regularly Provide Trail Programs.....	25
Table 1.3 Current Facilities in the Local Park System as of 2009.....	26
Table 1.4 Facilities Reported as Capital Projects Planned within the Next 5-10 Years.....	27
Table 1.5 Existing Funding Strategies of Local Indiana Park and Recreation Leaders.....	28
Table 1.6 New and Proposed Funding Strategies for IN Local Park Leaders.....	29
Table 1.7 Competition from Other Providers.....	29
Table 1.8 Facility and Land Access Alternatives.....	30
Table 1.9 Alternatives to Staffing.....	30
Table 2.1 Survey Methods.....	34
Table 2.2 Survey Themes.....	35
Table 2.3 Top 10 Activity Trends.....	38
Table 3.1 A–D County Level Data by Acre {four pages of data}.....	46
Table 4.1 Wetlands Acreage Data Table (R.E. Rolley Dataset).....	68
Table 6.1 Hoosiers Served by Trails.....	79

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1 Example Outdoor Recreation Acres Data Table.....	44
Figure 3.2 Indiana Association of Regional Councils; Indiana's Regions Map.....	50
Figure 3.3 Statewide County Level Data; Local OR Acres.....	53
Figure 3.4 Statewide County Level Data; Regional OR Acres.....	56
Figure 3.5 Statewide Region Level Data; Total OR Acres.....	57
Figure 3.6 Critical Counties; Total OR Acres.....	59
Figure 4.1 USDA NRCS WRP Indiana Project Locations.....	63
Figure 4.2 Healthy Rivers Initiative Overview.....	65
Figure 4.3 Muscatatuck Bottoms HRI Map.....	66
Figure 4.4 Wabash River and Sugar Creek HRI Map.....	67
Figure 6.1 Indiana Trails 2006.....	80
Figure 6.2 Indiana Trails 2012.....	81
Figure 6.3 Indiana Trails Progress 2006-2013.....	82
Figure 6.4 Indiana Visionary Trails Progress 2012.....	83

SCORP VISION STATEMENT

The SCORP is an information resource that quantifies and analyzes the state's outdoor recreation resources for the social, environmental, health and economic benefit of citizens statewide. The SCORP is intended to support local, regional and state-level recreation decision making, as well as foster research, partnerships and cooperation among users, planners, government officials and nonprofits.

SCORP GOALS

- Qualify Indiana for National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) state-side grants
- Set statewide priorities for funding of grants through LWCF, the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), and any other applicable funds available at state or federal levels
- Provide a quantitative analysis of outdoor recreation supply and demand statewide
- Improve the provision of outdoor recreation to all users



LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF)

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965 (Public Law 88-578, 78 Stat 897) was enacted “ ... to assist in preserving, developing, and assuring accessibility to all citizens of the United States of America of present and future generations and visitors who are lawfully present within the boundaries of the United States of America such quantity and quality of outdoor recreation resources as may be available and are necessary and desirable for individual active participation in such recreation and strengthen the health and vitality of the citizens of the United States by (1) providing funds for and authorizing federal assistance to the states in planning, acquisition, and development of needed land and water areas and facilities and (2) providing funds for the federal acquisition and development of certain lands and other areas.”

According to the National Park Service 2008 LWCF State Assistance Program Manual: “To be eligible for LWCF assistance for acquisition and development grants, each state shall prepare a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), and update it at least once every five years.” In other words, a SCORP needs to look at outdoor recreation supply and demand; set priorities for current and future capital improvement, land acquisition, and development; and allow opportunities for citizens and local government officials to take part in the planning process.

The main objectives of the LCWF have remained the same for 46 years: land acquisition, recreation, preservation, provision, development, accessibility, and the strengthening of the health and vitality of our nation. This SCORP shows that Indiana’s focus is still directly in line with the LWCF Act of 1965.



Indiana has received more than \$83 million from the LWCF since the program's inception. Indiana's smaller entities (e.g., counties, townships, municipalities) provide outdoor recreation opportunities to their citizens through the appropriation of LWCF grant monies. Twelve projects were funded between December 2006 and December 2011. Of those, half included land acquisition (163+ acres), nine included trail development and two included the development/redevelopment of aquatic features. Facilities included in the projects were:

- Disc Golf
- Picnic Areas
- Playgrounds
- Campground
- Community garden
- 3-D archery range
- Native landscape/prairie development

LWCF requires a 50/50 match from communities that receive the grant, and is reimbursement-based (all funds for the project must be paid up-front by communities and then reimbursed upon successful project completion). As outdoor recreation providers struggle with increasing operating and maintenance costs, it is easy to see how important the LWCF is in funding acquisition projects where more outdoor recreation is needed. Unfortunately, these grants cannot fund every project in the state. Alternative funding methods will be discussed in this SCORP.





INTRODUCTION

Publication of a new SCORP offers the chance to observe and record the many changes and new trends in Indiana and nationwide since the last SCORP and during the last decade. Many directly affect the provision of parks and recreation in Indiana. Some of these changes include: changing demographics and socio-economics; the children and nature movement; the growing statewide obesity epidemic; and the increasing importance and economic benefits of Indiana travel, tourism and outdoor recreation statewide as well as in local communities.

Searching through data provided by the U.S. Census Bureau and similar sources yields the following socio-economic changes in the state:

- **More Hoosiers:** According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the state has grown in population, but not much: from 6,301,700 in 2006, to 6,483,802 in 2010.
- **Older Hoosiers:** Indiana is aging slightly; the state's median age has risen from 35.2 in 2000 to 36.4 in 2010. Among other factors, people are living longer and improvements in medical care are enabling people to survive previously debilitating accidents.
- **Baby boomers retiring:** Baby boomers (those born post-World War II, between 1946 and 1964) began turning 65 in 2011; and are retiring in increasing numbers.
- **Hoosiers earning more:** Median household income in Indiana in 1999 was \$41,567; and rose to \$47,465 in 2009.
- **Fewer living under same roof:** Average Indiana household size has fallen from 2.53 in 2000 to 2.49 in 2009.
- **More out of work:** The entire nation has weathered a recession. Indiana's January 2006 statewide seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 5.1% rose to 9.1% by January 2011 (IN Dept. of Workforce Dev.; 2006/2011).
- **Construction and manufacturing hit hardest:** The Indiana Business Resource Center states that construction and manufacturing jobs across Indiana have been one of the job categories hardest hit by the recession, and have been slow to recover.

- **More families living in poverty:** The percentage of Indiana families living below poverty level has risen from 6.7% in 2,000 to 9.5% in 2009.
- **Paying more for fuel:** Gasoline prices in 2006 nationally were as low as \$2.20 per gallon. Prices in May 2011 reached \$4.27 per gallon in many Indiana cities. (USA TODAY 11/6/2006; Indianapolis Star 05/06/2011).

Recreation close to home important

Due to the changes in the national economy, many Hoosiers have been forced to tighten their financial belts, and this has begun to affect how they recreate. During the recession, many Hoosiers have been doing "staycations." Instead of taking long, expensive trips far out of state, they're staying much closer to home in places like state and county parks, regional lakes and reservoirs, and other attractions. DNR recognized this trend by offering "Staycation" specials at Indiana State Park Inns in 2010 and 2011. As Hoosiers stay closer to home, they are using local and regional public lands and outdoor recreation sites of every type. Local museums, parks, historic sites, special events, fairs, festivals, sports events, and outdoor activities of all kinds can be an inexpensive and popular option for Hoosiers, especially in difficult economic times. Vacationing nearby has offered many Hoosier families recreation options with lower gas or travel costs, less travel stress, low or no entry fees, minimum travel time spent, and the opportunity to explore new sights and experiences.

Movement to re-connect children with nature

More broadly, a nationwide movement has begun to take shape that encourages children to go outside and play and explore nature, especially in their own backyards and nearby green spaces. The "Children and Nature Movement" has many leaders, but the most recognized voice is probably that of Richard Louv, author of the book: "Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder" (Algonquin Books, 2008). "Last Child in the Woods" gathers a great deal of recent research that draws connections between growing nationwide childhood health

trends such as asthma, attention deficit disorders, obesity, and depression, and the technological, indoors-oriented modern society. Louv's concept of nature-deficit disorder purports that direct contact with the natural world is absolutely vital for the healthy mental and physical development of children as well as adults. Louv points out that today's children grow up in a world obsessed with technology where kids carry their own cellphones; send friends endless text messages; watch the latest videos in the family SUV; have the most popular video game consoles, cable television and DVDs at home; and research their science papers for school entirely from the Internet.

At the same time, today's parents are constantly reminded by the news media that the world has pedophiles, kidnappers, crime, environmental disasters and other threats to their children. Not only that, their homes are often in neighborhoods with strict legal covenants prohibiting child-constructed forts or tree houses, or even home-built play structures.

Louv says sedentary inside play has become more common and easier, and is perceived as safer for today's children. The result is disconnection from nature and the outdoors. As Louv states in the book: "Yet, at the very moment that the bond is breaking between the young and the natural world, a growing body of research links our mental, physical, and spiritual health directly to our association with nature—in positive ways. Several of these studies suggest that thoughtful exposure of youngsters to nature can even be a powerful form of therapy for attention-deficit disorders and other maladies. As one scientist puts it, we can now assume that just as children need good nutrition and adequate sleep, they may very well need contact with nature. Reducing that deficit—healing the broken bond between our young and nature—is in our self-interest, not only because aesthetics or justice demands it, but also because our mental, physical, and spiritual health depends upon it. The health of the earth is at stake as well. How the young respond to nature, and how they raise their own children, will shape the configurations and conditions of our cities, homes—our daily lives." (Algonquin Books, 2008) The movement has even found supporters in the US Congress, as in July of 2011, a bipartisan group of Senators introduced the "No

Child Left Inside Act of 2011." The Act provides incentives to states to implement environmental literacy programs that support hands-on outdoor learning activities at schools, nature centers, and other outdoor education sites as well as additional professional development for teachers.

Indiana's obesity epidemic

One change observed in Indiana in recent years is recognition of the growing statewide obesity epidemic. According to the 2009 U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), the world's largest ongoing telephone public health survey, nearly one third (29.9%) of Hoosiers are obese (have a body mass index of 30 or greater), and this percentage places Indiana as one of the most overweight states in the nation. The CDC reports that the associated economic impact of the nationwide obesity epidemic exceeds \$147 billion (in 2008 dollars). According to a recent CDC online article:

"Why is this epidemic happening?"

- Weight gain occurs when people eat too much food and get too little physical activity.
- Societal and community changes have accompanied the rise in obesity.
- People eat differently:
 - Some Americans have less access to stores and markets that provide healthy, affordable food such as fruits and vegetables, especially in rural, minority and lower-income neighborhoods. Restaurants, snack shops, and vending machines provide food that is often higher in calories and fat than food made at home.
 - There is too much sugar in our diet. Six out of 10 adults drink at least 1 sugary drink per day.
 - It is often easier and cheaper to get less healthy foods and beverages.
 - Foods high in sugar, fat, and salt are highly advertised and marketed.
- Many communities are built in ways that make it difficult or unsafe to be physically active:
 - Access to parks and recreation centers may be difficult or lacking and public transportation may not be available.

- Safe routes for walking or biking to school, work, or play may not exist.
- Too few students get quality, daily physical education in school.”

U.S. CDC; August 3, 2010; “Vital Signs: Latest Findings; Adult Obesity”; cdc.gov/VitalSigns/AdultObesity/LatestFindings.html

The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) has recognized the impact and importance of the statewide obesity epidemic and has responded with a special “Indiana Healthy Weight Initiative” that was formed using public health officials, school officials, urban planners, parks and recreation professionals, child advocates, concerned citizens and professionals from many fields in 2008. The Initiative first launched a task force whose main job was assisting ISDH staff in creating the inaugural “Indiana’s Comprehensive Nutrition and Physical Activity Plan, 2010-2020.” The Plan includes objectives that “... address improving the policies, environments, and systems that can positively influence nutrition and physical activity. The Plan organizes the objectives based on the setting they affect—child care settings, schools, health care facilities, worksites, faith-based settings, and communities, with special sections related to older adults and breast-feeding. As a whole, the objectives seek to increase access and awareness and to change policies and environments to support the occurrence of healthier behaviors.” (ISDH, 2010) The plan does a great deal to support the growing awareness across Indiana of the connections between public access to parks and recreation facilities and public health.

Indiana’s economy affecting recreation

The recent economic recession has pointed out how Indiana’s economic structure is changing. Many communities statewide that once relied on long-established manufacturing jobs have witnessed plant closures, employee layoffs, and other economic losses related to the nation’s economic hard times. Dr. Jerry Conover of Indiana University’s Indiana Business Research Center published his “Indiana’s Outlook for 2011” white paper in fall 2010. The paper said: “Some sectors are faring better than others in this recovery. Private education/health services jobs actually increased nearly 4%, and government jobs have

not slipped into negative territory. In contrast, the construction and manufacturing sectors together shed more than 138,000 jobs, nearly one-fifth of their start-of-recession levels before they started slowly rebounding. Manufacturing has inched upward slowly, but construction remains near the bottom.” (IBRC, 2010)

These changes in the Indiana economy have greatly increased the importance of non-industrial/manufacturing jobs such as those involving travel and tourism to the state’s overall economic health. Many Hoosiers may not realize it, but in 2009, the “Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation” industry in Indiana contributed \$2.85 billion to the state’s domestic product (IBRC-STATS Indiana; 2011). An independent 2006 economic impact study in 2006 found that travelers in Indiana spent more than \$10.36 billion on things like lodging, restaurants, transportation, entertainment and shopping (Garulski, 2006). According to the study, traveler spending supported 257,785 jobs and \$6.74 billion in wages in 2006 as well. Another economic impact from these travelers is federal, state, and local tax revenues in 2006 that totaled \$2.69 billion; tax money that did not have to come from property taxes paid by residents. According to the survey, 95% of total visitor spending came from domestic travelers; 5 percent came from international sources.

Anecdotal comments from park professionals across Indiana in local parks and recreation master plans reviewed by the DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation staff indicate that local and regional park use is on the rise, even with the weak economy. There is support for this perception from the national level: according to a 2009 study by the non-profit Trust for Public Land, members of the public (both park users and non-users) were asked: “During this period of economic difficulty, have you and your family changed how much you make use of public parks and playgrounds?” 62% stated that they use public parks and playgrounds the same or more than they did when the economy was still strong. But when park users only were asked that same question, over 93% said that they used public parks and playgrounds the same amount or more. (TPL; 2009).

Considering the significant economic impact of Indiana public parks and recreation, and the still growing use of our recreation lands, it is

reasonable to ask ourselves if there are other reasons for conserving open space as a state. Most people can agree that having good quality parks and recreation sites and facilities improve the quality of life in a community, but does it really affect a community's economics by attracting businesses? According to Texas A & M University researcher Dr. John Crompton: "...quality of life is not only important in relocation, expansion, or initiation decisions, it is also important in employee retention and has an economic bottom line...If a community commits to a long-term, comprehensive plan to enhance the factors that it can control that positively influence quality of life, it is likely to have an advantage over other places when recruiting and retaining business." (NRPA; 2005) A 2009 Trust for Public Land research paper listed the following additional economic benefits of investment in the conservation of parks and open space:

- Parks boost land values and property taxes
 - Proximity to public parks and recreation space has increased values of both residential and commercial real estate properties in multiple studies.
- Parks boost local economies by attracting businesses and residents
 - Many businesses state that quality of life factors including parks and recreation opportunities are a primary determinant of where they will relocate or start a new business.
 - With the "Baby Boomer" generation reaching retirement age, excellent quality of life amenities make certain communities more attractive than others.
- Good parks encourage economic development
 - Urban parks generate tourist dollars (just ask the organizers of special events at Indianapolis' White River State Park or Madison's Regatta).
 - Regional, State, and National Parks, Forests, and Refuges benefit surrounding areas with job growth, population increases and tourism dollars
 - Additional revenue comes from local and tourist spending on recreational products, services and industries.
- Conservation is a money saving alternative

to some development

- Conserved land is land that does not get covered with uncontrolled urban sprawl; low-density sprawl is expensive, and often costs more to provide services for than it brings in with taxes.
- Farms, ranches and forests are the lands most often developed. These lands normally bring in far more in tax revenues than they cost in community services.
- Easements can be used to preserve the viewsheds, watersheds, stream corridors, and wildlife habitat located on working lands without losing the economic activity that is already taking place there.
- Designing subdivisions as higher density sites with more houses on less land with the remaining land conserved as permanent greenspace can provide significant savings on site grading costs, shorter roadways, sidewalks, water mains, utility lines, etc.
- Conserving floodplains and stream corridors stops development from taking place where it can be destroyed or damaged by floods. Levees, dams, reservoirs and other flood control measures to protect developed floodplain land are very expensive when compared to simply leaving it to perform its natural function.
- Preserve the value of ecosystem services
 - Conserved land can be used to protect vital drinking-water supplies from contamination and pollution from development.
 - Urban parks and other conserved watersheds reduce the need for stormwater treatment by absorbing rainfall and otherwise filtering out pollution from contaminated runoff.
 - Trees take up air pollution and release oxygen daily, and also provide carbon sequestration over the long term, reducing the amount of CO₂ in the air (A major contributor to global warming).
 - Trees also mitigate the "urban heat island effect" by providing shade and greatly reduced heat retention/



- absorption in cities, versus concrete, steel and asphalt.
- Parks reduce health care costs from obesity, stress, and disease
 - Many studies indicate that close proximity to parks promotes exercise, which in turn combats obesity, stress and chronic diseases such as diabetes.
 - Greenways and trails provide sustainable human-powered transportation alternatives, which decrease automotive traffic congestion, provide exercise, and increase a sense of community connectivity and place.

(Gies/TPL; 2009)

IDNR and the Division of Outdoor Recreation have created this SCORP as a way to share research and other information with all state residents, park professionals, park board members, urban planners, government officials and many more. We have a strong tradition of blending both public opinion and input from parks and recreation professionals in the field to give us the best possible understanding of current and future recreational needs and preferences statewide. The following section of this chapter contains the priorities that have emerged from all the collected data and analysis from this SCORP.

OUTDOOR RECREATION PRIORITIES FOR PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATION PROVIDERS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Based on the data contained in this SCORP, the following goals and objectives are recommended to guide decision-making in parks and recreation and natural resource management for the next five years. (The following goals are presented in random order, not in order of importance.)

1. Develop more trails and bicycle/pedestrian facilities
 - a. Whenever possible, acquire rights-of-way and railroad corridors for future trail development from willing sellers
 - b. Utilize trails and bike/ped facilities as means to connect and improve existing and future outdoor recreation facilities
 - c. Integrate bike/ped facilities into long-term planning of community infrastructure design and construction whenever possible
2. Protect and enhance Indiana's natural and outdoor recreation resources
 - a. Protect Indiana's natural heritage by identifying and preserving significant natural areas, including wildlife/fish habitats for endangered, rare, threatened, or species of special concern
 - b. Protect Indiana's outdoor recreation potential by identifying and preserving areas with existing or potential outdoor recreation opportunities or access
 - c. Provide for education of the citizens of Indiana in environmental stewardship and wise use of Indiana's natural resources
 - d. Consider the improvements possible in water and air quality, brownfields, tourism and commerce created by enhancing outdoor recreation
 - e. Use "green" or sustainable designs, materials and energy sources in facility development, such as: recycled materials, alternative/renewable energy sources (solar active and passive, wind, hydroelectric), and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building certifications/very energy efficient designs
 - f. Consider the 2011 SCORP Participation Study top five "favorite" outdoor recreation activities when considering parks and recreation user preferences: Walking, Hiking, Jogging, Running, Camping, Picnicking, Fishing, Swimming
3. Encourage and promote outdoor recreation participation
 - a. Use outdoor recreation as a tool to fight the growing obesity epidemic by offering locations to participate in many kinds of healthy exercise and facilitating lifestyle change encouraging healthy living
 - b. Encourage continued acquisition and development of new outdoor recreation facilities, especially in areas of expanding population growth or high user demand
4. Encourage development of trail facilities of all kinds for bike/pedestrian use; urban, rural, long-distance, commuter, recreational, exercise/wellness, etc.
5. Require accessible, sustainable design and surfacing for trail development

- c. Encourage acquisition and development of more outdoor recreation facilities that meet local needs close-to-home, preferably within walking or biking distance of residential areas, schools, retail areas, etc.
- d. Provide for outdoor recreation opportunities for all user demographics, including all ages, abilities and skill levels
- 4. Provide funding for outdoor recreation development at the state and local level
 - a. Explore alternative funding methods such as public/private partnerships, tax increment financing (TIF), cooperative agreements, cost sharing, corporate sponsorships, etc.
 - b. Continue to administer state-level grant programs such as Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grants, Recreational Trails Program (RTP) grants, Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund grants and Indiana Shooting Range grants.
 - c. Emphasize parks and recreation facilities that are cost-efficient and financially self-supporting while promoting financially affordable access to the greatest number of users possible
- d. Consider the benefits of parks and recreation toward community economic development, tourism, job growth, urban and rural revitalization, reduction of health care costs and improving quality of life
- e. Use existing financial resources as efficiently and effectively as possible; consider strategies such as privatization of services, maintenance or construction, and other means to control the costs of operations and maintenance
- 5. Continue emphasis on Indiana's aquatic resources, both natural and man-made
 - a. Preserve and protect wetlands and riparian corridors when and wherever possible through acquisition, education, funding, and development of new areas
 - b. Encourage actions that improve the quality of Indiana's waters as well as user access to aquatic recreation resources
 - c. Provide or enhance access to man-made aquatic resources whenever possible, such as splashpads, pools, water features, wetlands, ponds, lakes, access/launch sites, etc.





CHAPTER 1: THE SURVEYS

Indiana's SCORP differs from those written by some other states because it uses third-party objective survey datasets gathered separately, statewide, from the general public and from parks professionals. This allows the reader to compare what the average Hoosier wants from parks and recreation facilities and programs to the opinions of the professionals who face the challenges of providing that recreation.

The surveys allow the public to provide timely feedback about their favorite outdoor activities. Subjects covered include where and when respondents like to recreate, and even what might prevent them from recreating as much as they might like. Park professionals are able to share their direct experiences with managing costs, maintaining facilities, creating programs and activities, and their perceptions of what the public likes or doesn't like about outdoor recreation in their communities.

Analyzing survey data from these two different viewpoints allows the DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation staff to better understand outdoor recreation needs statewide from both provider and user perspectives. This improves the division's ability to strategically plan Indiana's outdoor recreation priorities for the next five years to better serve the needs and preferences of both users and professionals.

The introduction to this SCORP covers a few of the effects of the recent recession and ongoing economic recovery on outdoor recreation. Indiana's state government has participated in the "belt-tightening" mentioned earlier. Many areas of state government in Indiana have undergone significant budget cuts, including the Department of Natural Resources. These budget cuts and fiscal austerity measures have even affected this SCORP. This document has been written with fewer "paid" third-party surveys than recent Indiana SCORPs, but still retains the dual park-professional and user surveys as its main research foundation. For example, for this SCORP, the DNR did not re-create the "Indiana Boater Survey" used in the 2006 SCORP because the data gained from the survey in 2006 could now be found in other locations and done by other researchers. As a result, the data were no longer needed as a vital "paid" third-party survey com-

ponent of the new SCORP. The DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation staff has also reviewed the most current academic and professional research in the parks, recreation and natural resource management fields to supplement and provide important counterpoint to the "paid" third-party surveys used in this SCORP. See the appendices of this for a bibliographic reference list from this literature review.

The surveys used to gather professional and user data were:

- The Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey
- The Local Park and Recreation Provider Survey
- The Trails Activity Survey

THE OUTDOOR RECREATION PARTICIPATION SURVEY

Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey methods:

- Survey used both touch-screen computerized survey centers and paper intercept surveys.
- The questionnaire contained 47 questions.
- The estimated time needed to take the survey was eight to 10 minutes for either electronic or paper method.
- Touch-screen survey results were automatically entered into the survey database and tabulated; paper survey results were manually entered into the same database post-survey.
- Respondents were always chosen on a next-available basis.
- People younger than age 17 were not discouraged from taking the survey, but were not actively recruited.
- Both types of surveys were conducted at county fairs, libraries and other public locations throughout the state.
- The survey took place from May 2009 through August 2010.
- The completed database consists of 6,824 respondents.

Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey demographic results:

- Respondents were 60.8% female, 39.2% male.
- The average age of respondents was 41.3 years.

- Every county in Indiana was represented in the data.
- 60% of survey respondents were married, 19% were single (never married), and 10% were single (divorced). [Results all somewhat comparable to US Census demographic data for Indiana]
- 91% of respondents reported themselves as white, 4.1% as black, 1.4% as Hispanic/Latino, and 1% as multi-racial.
- 64% of respondents stated that they had between two and four family members living in their household.
- 51% of respondents reported having no persons younger than age 18 living in their household.

Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey results:

- The top three reasons why respondents participate in outdoor recreation were
 - To be with family and friends 35.4%
 - Physical health 29.7%
 - Mental health 24.7%
- The top five most “favorite” outdoor recreation activities as given in an open-ended question were:
 - Walking/Hiking/Jogging/Running (Pedestrian Activities)
 - Camping
 - Picnicking
 - Fishing
 - Swimming
- The top five outdoor recreation activities participated in more than once per week by the survey respondent or by others in the household were:
 - Walking/Hiking/Jogging/Running
 - Bicycling
 - Fishing
 - Gardening/Landscaping
 - Pool Swimming
- The top methods of travel used to reach the outdoor recreation activity they participated in the most were:
 - Car/Truck 62.8%
 - Walk/Jog/Run 23.2%
 - Other 5%
 - Bike 4.5%
 - Motorcycle 2.4%
 - Horseback 1.6%

- Asked “ ... in which county in Indiana do you most often participate in outdoor recreation activities?” counties with the highest population were the most common answer.
- Asked if their family members could walk, bike, ride a horse or use other non-motorized transportation, how likely would they be to use outdoor recreation facilities more often, respondents said:
 - Very likely 30.8%
 - Somewhat likely 32.24%
 - Uncertain 25.2%
 - Not likely 11.8%
- Asked whether they used non-motorized transportation to get to outdoor recreation facilities, responders answered:
 - Doesn’t matter if I use non-motorized transportation 45%
 - Yes, I prefer to use non-motorized transportation 29%
 - No, I don’t prefer to use non-motorized transportation 25%
- Asked how much money they were willing to spend per year on their favorite outdoor recreation activity (including cost of equipment, training, travel, etc.), respondents said:
 - Less than \$100 21%
 - \$101–\$250 19%
 - \$251–\$500 19%
 - \$501–\$750 11%
 - \$751–\$1000 8%
 - Over \$1001 12%
- Asked how far they were willing to travel one way to participate in their favorite outdoor recreation activity, responders said:
 - 0-5 miles 10%
 - 6-10 miles 8%
 - 11-15 miles 6%
 - 16-25 miles 9%
 - 26-35 miles 8%
 - 36-50 miles 17%
 - 51-75 miles 10%
 - 76-100 miles 7%
 - More than 100 miles 21%
- Asked how far they were willing to travel one way to participate in their favorite outdoor recreation activity if they were using non-motorized transportation, the answers changed to:

- 0-5 miles 58%
- 6-10 miles 17%
- 11-15 miles 7%
- 16-25 miles 5%
- 26-35 miles 2%
- 36-50 miles 3%
- 51-75 miles 1%
- 76-100 miles 9%
- More than 100 miles 2%
- The main reason given why respondents did not participate in outdoor recreation activities more often was:
 - None, I participate as much as I want to 38%
 - Customs, cultural barriers, etc. 1%
 - Poor setting/physical environment, lack of facilities or programs, time, money, transportation, safety, etc. 23%
 - No one to participate with, family conflict, responsibilities to others, etc. 11%
 - No motivation, lack of skills, physical, mental or emotional health, etc. 11%
 - Disability-related access prevents me from participating as much as I would like 4%
 - Other reasons 9%
- Asked if they or any of their immediate family have any type of physical or intellectual disability that prevents them from participating in outdoor recreation activities, 17% said yes, and 82% said no (comparable to US Census statistics on the percentage of Indiana residents with a disability).
- Respondents who answered “yes” to the previous question reported having the following type(s) of disability:
 - Walking 56%
 - Seeing 8%
 - Hearing 11%
 - Breathing 29%
 - Lifting 33%
 - Bending 31%
 - Other 28%

THE LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION PROVIDER STUDY

Local Park and Recreation Provider Study methods:

- Survey used an online survey with a ZIP code login to group responses by region.
- The questionnaire was approximately 12 questions long.
- The estimated time needed to take the online survey was 10 minutes.
- Survey results were automatically entered into a survey database and tabulated.
- The survey took place from 2009 through 2010.
- The completed database consists of 111 respondents representing the entire state.

Local Park and Recreation Survey demographic results in the communities surveyed:

- 85% have a Park Board or Parks and Recreation Board.
- 73% have a Parks and Recreation Department with paid staff.
- 24% have a “Friends of Parks” or similar non-governmental management group.
- 15% have an agency (other than a park department) that manages local public parks and recreation. Asked what other agencies managed their local parks, respondents answered: Town Councils, DNR, County Parks and Recreation, Local Towns, and Township Park Boards.
- 69% are superintendents of municipal park departments.
- 19% are superintendents of county park departments.
- 4% are superintendents of township park departments.
- 6% are superintendents of “other units of local government.”

Local Park and Recreation Survey results:

- Which units of government provide local recreation in your community?
 - 88% reported that their community had municipal-provided parks and recreation facilities.
 - 37% reported that their community had county-provided parks and recreation facilities.
 - 21% reported that their community had township-provided parks and recreation facilities.

- 16% reported that their community had “other” organizations or groups that provided parks and recreation facilities. Respondents identified examples of “other” park and recreation providers as: state-provided (DNR, as an example); non-profits such as friends groups, service clubs, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.; and jointly owned/operated facilities.
- For acreage of the local park system, number of acres developed, undeveloped, and total? (Numbers presented are the average of all responses.)
 - Total: 626.68
 - Developed: 274.67
 - Undeveloped: 315.45
- Total local park acreages grouped by number of acres for all respondents:
 - 1-25 Local Park Acres 17%
 - 26-100 Local Park Acres 27%
 - 101-300 Local Park Acres 22%
 - 301-1000 Local Park Acres 17%
 - 1001-12,000 Local Park Acres 14%
 - By region (the state divided evenly into thirds, north to south), the central region had a higher percentage of respondents reporting acreage in the thousands, the northern region of the state had a higher percentage of responses of “26-100” acres, and the southern region had a higher percentage of people reporting “301-1,000” acres.
- Respondents reported annual yearly parks and recreation budgets ranging from \$0 to \$29 million.
 - The north region’s average budget was \$939,864.
 - The central region’s average budget was \$2,024,129.
 - The south region’s average budget was \$1,226,135.
- 75% of respondents reported having less than 100 acres of forested land; 75% also reported having 50 acres or less of water features used for recreation.
- Trails question responses:
 - 13% reported having zero miles of land trails.
 - 31% reported having no water trails used for recreation.
 - The average land trail miles used for recreation was 15 miles.
 - The average of water trail miles used for recreation was five miles.
- Table 1.3 breaks down the types of facility operated by respondents and whether they program the use of those facilities, and gives these data both in hard numbers and percentages of respondents or cases with given facilities.
- Table 1.4 shows respondents’ answers about their future plans for renovation of facilities and capital project.
- Table 1.5 and table 1.6 show the results of questions to local parks and recreation providers about their existing funding strategies, and their new and proposed funding strategies.
- Respondents were asked about their perceptions of competition from other types of recreation providers, and asked to indicate whether a given type of competitor competed more for “revenue” or for “participation/use.” (Table 1.7)
- Respondents were asked what alternative strategies they may have used (or planned to use) to access land and facilities in order to provide recreation. (Table 1.8)
- Respondents were asked what kinds of alternatives they used if they had staffing shortages. (Table 1.9)

THE TRAILS ACTIVITY SURVEY

Trails Activity Survey methods:

- Survey used both touch-screen computerized survey centers and paper intercept surveys.
- The questionnaire was 20 questions long.
- The estimated time needed to take the survey was between 3 and 6 minutes for either electronic or paper method.
- Touch screen survey results were automatically entered into the survey database and tabulated, while paper survey results were manually entered into the same database post-survey.
- Respondents were always chosen on a next available basis.
- People under the age of 17 were not discouraged from taking the survey, but they also were not actively recruited.

Table 1.1. Percentage of respondents with trails as capital or renovation projects

Type of Trail	Reported in 2009 as 2004 capital project	Percent planning capital project for next decade	Percent planning to renovate or refurbish trail
Paved bike/ pedestrian trail	27.0	39.6	15.3
Single-use trail: walk / hike	16.2	22.5	18.9
Connector trails to existing trails	10.8	27.0	10.8
Greenway	7.2	17.1	9.0
Nature/interpretive trail	7.2	26.1	11.7
Single-use trail for biking	6.3	8.1	6.3
Multi-use trail (hiking / equine)	4.5	4.5	6.3
Water trails	2.7	4.5	1.8
Single use trail (other)	1.8	1.8	1.8
Multi-use (OHV, hike & equine)	0.0	0.9	0.9
Other trail	0.0	7.2	0.9

Table 1.2. Local recreation leaders indicating that they regularly provide trail programs.

Facility Type	Frequency	Percent
Nature/interpretive trail	19	17.1
Paved bike/ pedestrian trail	15	13.5
Single-use trail for walking/hiking	14	12.6
Connector trails to existing trails	2	1.8
Greenway	6	5.4
Single-use trail for biking	2	1.8
Multi-use trail (hiking and equine)	1	0.9
Single-use trail (other)	1	0.9
Water trails	4	3.6
Multi-use trail - OHV, hiking & equine	0	0

Table 1.3 Current facilities in the local park system as of 2009 (N=111)

Facility	N	Percent of Cases with Facility	Respondents program with this facility (N)	Percent of Respondents Programming with Facility
Picnic Area	108	98.2	23	20.7
Playground	102	92.7	31	27.9
Wetland or Pond	77	70.0	16	14.4
Court Sport Area	75	68.2	22	19.8
Field Sport Area	73	66.4	38	34.2
Boat Ramp/ Canoe-Kayak Launch	45	40.9	8	7.2
Community Center	43	39.1	32	28.8
Sports Complex	42	38.2	31	27.9
Prairie	38	34.5	10	9.0
Skate Park	36	32.7	13	11.7
Swimming Pool	33	30.0	28	25.2
New Park	33	30.0	10	9.0
Nature Center	25	22.7	22	19.8
Campground	22	20.0	11	9.9
Dog Park	18	16.4	8	7.2
Spray Park	17	15.5	4	3.6
Aquatic Facility	16	14.5	11	9.9
Golf Courses	16	14.5	14	12.6

Table by Dr. Amy Gregg, Ball State University; reprinted by permission.

- Both types of survey were conducted at county fairs, libraries, and other public locations throughout the state.
- The survey took place from May through November of 2009.
- The completed database consists of 1,067 respondents.

Trails Activity Survey demographic results:

- 43.7% of respondents were male, and 56.3% were female.
- Average age of respondents was 39.8.

- 81.4% of respondents were white (non-Hispanic), 10% Black/African-American and 2.2% Hispanic.

- Every region statewide across Indiana was represented in the data.

Trails Activity Survey results:

- Walking is the trail activity participated in the most.
- The general public is 4-5 times more likely to use trails for walking than most other activities.

Table 1.4 Facilities reported as capital projects planned within the next 5-10 years

Facility Type	Capital project planned for next decade	Percent
Playground	32	28.8
Picnic Area	27	24.3
New Park	22	19.8
Dog Park	17	15.3
Boat Ramp/Canoe-Kayak	15	13.5
Wetland or Pond	14	12.6
Spray Park	14	12.6
Sports Complex	14	12.6
Prairie	12	10.8
Community Center	12	10.8
Nature Center	11	9.9
Field Sport Area	10	9.0
Court Sport Area	10	9.0
Campground	8	7.2
Swimming Pool	6	5.4
Aquatic Facility	4	3.6
Skate Park	4	3.6
Golf Course	1	0.9

- Almost 80% of respondents use trails for walking sometime during the year.
- The top 3 trail activities are:
 - Walking (72%)
 - Casual biking (42%)
 - Hiking (39%)
- The top 3 reasons why respondents used trails were:
 - 62.7% of respondents said there was a trail within 7.5 miles or 15 minutes of their home.
 - 33% prefer native soil as their trail surface, 16% selected asphalt.
 - 94% of those who had an opinion said that they either strongly or somewhat agreed that trail connectivity should be an important part of a community's infrastructure.
 - Respondents believed that trail connectivity was extremely important for:
 - Personal health (51%)
 - Community Health (47%)
- The top 3 trail activities are:
 - Walking
 - Hiking
 - Casual biking
- The top 3 reasons why respondents used trails were:
 - Pleasure, relaxation, recreation (49%)
 - Health/Physical training (21%)
 - Family or social outing (11%)
- When asked what trail activity they would like to participate in during the next 12 months, respondents said:

Table 1.5. Existing funding strategies of local Indiana park and recreation leaders (N=111)

Funding Strategies	Frequency Strategies used	Percentage Strategies were used
Applied for grants	75	67.6
Received donations	70	63.1
Pursued community foundation	42	37.8
Raised fees	39	35.1
Approached small local business for funding	38	34.2
Engaged in fundraising	30	27.0
Pursued public-private partnership	29	26.1
Pursued new sponsorships	28	25.2
Worked with park foundation	26	23.4
Partnered with educational institutions	26	23.4
Worked with corporations for sponsorships or partnering	23	20.7
Sold advertising space to local businesses	21	18.9
Worked with “friends of park” group	18	16.2
Pursued non-park foundations	18	16.2
Levied taxes	16	14.4
Closed facilities	6	5.4

- Environmental Health (46%)
- Alternative Transportation Corridors (30%)
- Word of mouth was the top way that respondents find out about trail opportunities; Trail websites was 2nd; Signage at parks was 3rd.
- “Structural Barriers” was the main reason given why respondents did not participate in trail activities as much as they would like.
 - This includes: poor setting/physical environment, lack of facilities or programs, time, money/economic factors, transportation, safety, etc.
- 64% of respondents are not limited in participating in trail activities by health factors; of those who are, the largest reason is issues with walking.
- 31% of respondents would like to see better

surfaces as an improvement that would increase their use of trails; 24% would like to see increased safety measures, and another 24% would like to see walking, biking or riding clubs.

- 44% of respondents are only willing to spend less than \$100 annually on trail activities; 22% are willing to spend between \$100 and \$500.
- The average one-way distance trail users are willing to travel to participate in trail activities is 35.7 miles.
- When asked “Would you support the following ordinances or regulations to increase the number of trails?,” respondents said:
 - 67% support land development set-asides.
 - 54% support funding from equipment/supply sales.

Table 1.6. New and proposed funding strategies for IN local Park leaders (N=111)

Strategies Used	New Strategies (Frequency)	New Strategies (Percent)	Proposed Strategies	Proposed Strategies (Percent)
Applied for grants	77	69.4%	65	58.6%
Received donations	68	61.3%	56	50.5%
Pursued community foundation	49	44.1%	37	33.3%
Raised fees	49	44.1%	39	35.1%
Engaged in fundraising	40	36.0%	39	35.1%
Pursued new sponsorships	39	35.1%	37	33.3%
Approached small local business for funding	37	33.3%	32	28.8%
Pursued public-private partnership	36	32.4%	31	27.9%
Worked with corporations for sponsorships or partnering	31	27.9%	28	25.2%
Partnered with educational institutions	28	25.2%	28	25.2%
Worked with park foundation	27	24.3%	36	32.4%
Sold advertising space to local Businesses	27	24.3%	25	22.5%
Pursued non-park foundations	25	22.5%	26	23.4%
Worked with "friends of park" group	23	20.7%	23	20.7%
Levied taxes	10	9.0%	11	9.9%
Closed facilities	6	5.4%	7	6.3%
Other	6	5.4%	5	4.5%

Table 1.7. Competition from other providers noted by respondents in frequency (%) of response (N=111).

Type of Competition	Revenue	Participation/Use	Competition Not Applicable	No answer
Federal Properties	50 (45.0%)	10 (9.0%)	2 (1.8%)	49 (44.1%)
Neighborhood Parks in Subdivision	49 (44.1%)	20 (18.0%)	1 (0.9%)	41 (36.9%)
State Properties	37 (33.3%)	19 (17.1%)	11 (9.9%)	44 (39.6%)
Non-profit Provider	33 (29.7%)	34 (30.6%)	14 (12.6%)	30 (27.0%)
School Recreation	27 (24.3%)	48 (43.2%)	3 (2.7%)	33 (29.7%)
Other	27 (24.3%)	8 (7.2%)	1 (0.9%)	75 (67.6%)

Table 1.8. Facility and land access alternatives reported by local park leaders in Indiana (%).

Land/Facility Alternatives	New	Existing	Proposed	None taken / planned
Cooperate with Private Landowners	21.6	15.3	27.9	0
Partner with Public Schools for use of their facilities	19.8	25.2	20.7	1.8
Utility Corridors or Rights of Way	16.2	14.4	21.6	0
Conservation Easement with other Landowners	10.8	10.8	17.1	0
Land Trust or other Nonprofit Landowner	7.2	9.0	14.4	0
Other	6.3	6.3	4.5	0

Table 1.9. Alternatives to staffing

Alternative Used	Frequency Yes (%)	Frequency No (%)	Missing Answer
Used/Increased Volunteers	75 (67.6%)	16 (14.4%)	20 (18.0%)
Worked with Youth Sports Leagues	39 (35.1%)	52 (46.8%)	20 (18.0%)
Partnering with Other Government Agencies	39 (35.1%)	52 (46.8%)	20 (18.0%)
Partnering with Local Educational Programs	29 (26.1%)	62 (55.9%)	20 (18.0%)
Worked with "Friend-of-Parks" Groups	27 (24.3%)	64 (57.7%)	20 (18.0%)
Local Business Donations of People/Staff Time	25 (22.5%)	66 (59.5%)	20 (18.0%)
Local Business Donations of Equipment	21 (18.9%)	70 (63.1%)	20 (18.0%)
Partnering with Other Educational Programs	14 (12.6%)	77 (69.4%)	20 (18.0%)
Worked with Community Centers	12 (10.8%)	70 (71.2%)	20 (18.0%)
Other	7 (6.3%)	84 (75.7%)	20 (18.0%)

- 43% support land-use zoning.
- 39% support trail/park impact fees.

NOTE: If any readers wish to obtain the entire dataset from any of the SCORP surveys for their own use, please contact the Division of Outdoor Recreation for copies. Contact: Greg Beilfuss (317) 232-4071; gbeilfuss@dnr.IN.gov or by mail

at—Division of Outdoor Recreation 402 W. Washington St., W271, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2782.

The following chapter will make comparisons and contrasts between these datasets along with selected research from outside sources. Emergent themes and trends as well as the limitations of the surveys will be discussed.





CHAPTER 2: THEMES AND TRENDS

Chapter Two compares and contrasts survey data presented in Chapter One, and analyzes emerging themes and trends. A needs assessment was created from the theme/trend analysis, which formed the basis for the Outdoor Recreation Priorities for Public Parks and Recreation Providers and Stakeholders listed at the end of the Introduction (pg. 18). This chapter uses survey data to determine the preferences and needs of the state's users of parks and recreation facilities, as well as those of parks professionals statewide.

LIMITATIONS OF THE SURVEYS

The surveys used by the DNR to create each SCORP are not necessarily scientifically correct in their methodology because of:

- Lack of funds and time to create the ideal scientific survey before each SCORP planning cycle ends.
- The problems inherent in successfully surveying an entire state of more than 6 million people.
- The challenges of surveying busy park professionals or park board members who work for more than 1,200 units of local government.
- The moving-target problem, in which constant changes in statewide demographics, economics, legislation, funding, etc., combine to provide more variables for which DNR staff can reasonably account.

DNR Outdoor Recreation staff members do their best to minimize each of these limitations, and the SCORP surveys are designed to provide the best possible representation of the needs, desires, and preferences of the state's users and managers of parks and recreation facilities. All surveys used in this SCORP are designed to best represent all Hoosiers statewide, while making the most efficient and effective use of taxpayer dollars.

SURVEY TECHNOLOGIES CHANGING

Long-term readers of the Indiana SCORP will notice that the DNR has managed to catch up with advances in technology. This SCORP features surveys that run the gamut from old-school paper intercept and random telephone surveys to the use

of sophisticated electronic touch screens and fully automated online surveys. Mixed-method public input surveying is generally the best way to ensure good demographic representation in a sample, and the advances in survey technology have provided useful new ways for DNR to discover what Hoosiers prefer and want from outdoor recreation.

A LOOK AT THE SURVEYS THEMSELVES

Two of the surveys for this SCORP were intended to sample all Indiana residents: the 2010 Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey, and the 2009 Trails Activity Survey. These surveys asked people about their participation in outdoor recreation activities, barriers to recreation, funding and barriers to participation. The other survey used in this SCORP, the 2010 Local Park and Recreation Provider Survey, was intended to provide a statewide sample of all Indiana park superintendents, park board members, local government officials, and others who work with county and municipal parks, and recreation facilities and programs. This survey asked park professionals and other recreation providers what types of facilities they operated, their budgets, capital projects, recreation programming, facility renovations, funding issues and possible solutions, outside competition, and staffing.

All three surveys were created independently of each other with separate goals, question sets, survey populations and results. Direct comparisons between the surveys aren't a main goal of the SCORP; the variances between the surveys are a deliberate strategy to provide as diverse a dataset as financially possible given the time constraints. As mentioned in Chapter One, these three different survey population samples were intended to try to ascertain outdoor recreation needs statewide from both the provider and user viewpoints. Table 2.1 illustrates the methods used to produce the surveys.

A fourth survey used sparingly in this SCORP is the 2008 U.S. Department of Agriculture—Forest Service "National Survey on Recreation and the Environment" (NSRE). The NSRE differs from other surveys used because it is national in scope, and only asks people what kinds of outdoor recreation activities they participate in, and how often. The NSRE is a long-term study based on a random-digit-dialed telephone survey of a large sample (more than 100,000 since 1999) of

Table 2.1
Survey Methods Table:

Survey Name	Date(s) of Survey	Number of people surveyed (n)	Survey Method(s)	Survey intended for (N)	Subject matter covered
2010 Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey (Survey America)	May, 2009 through August, 2010	6,824 respondents statewide	Electronic touch screen/paper intercept	All IN residents	Recreation participation, barriers, funding, activities
2010 Local Park and Recreation Provider Survey (Ball State University)	January, 2009 through January, 2010	111 respondents statewide	Online survey	IN Park superintendents, park board members, local government officials, and others who work with local parks and recreation facilities and programs	Facilities operated, budgets, capital projects, programming, renovations, funding, competition, staffing
2009 Trails Activity Survey (Survey America)	May through November, 2009	1,067 respondents statewide	Electronic touch screen/paper intercept	All IN residents	Trail activities, motivations, barriers, connectivity, surfaces, funding
2008 NSRE* (U.S.D.A. Forest Service)	Summer 2005 through Spring 2008	100,000 respondents Nationwide	Random-digit-dialed telephone survey	All US residents	Outdoor recreation activity preferences, and days participated

U.S. residents older than age 16. The NSRE is used for comparison to examine the similarities and differences between the outdoor recreation habits of Hoosiers versus those of the rest of the nation. The NSRE does not ask survey participants any questions about barriers, financial issues, accessibility, etc., so it will not be used in discussions about these survey topics.

RECURRING THEMES IN THE SURVEYS

Table 2.2 illustrates briefly some of the common themes that emerged during analysis of the data from all three surveys.

Hoosiers are still “moving forward” by walking

Walking is still the preferred outdoor recreation activity for the majority of Hoosiers. In the Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey, 46% of respondents said that they participated in walking for exercise or pleasure more than once per week, and 55% wanted to do so in the future. In the Trails Activity Survey, 79% of respondents said they walked on trails at least once per year and 38% of respondents said that they walked on trails once per week or more. The Local Provider Study results showed that 39% of surveyed park

Table 2.2
Survey Common Themes Table:

Survey Name	Preferred Recreation	Financial Issues Important	“Out of the Box Thinking”
2010 Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey (Survey America)	Walking	Largest single percentage of respondents (21%) spend less than \$100 annually on the favorite recreation activity	Respondents are participating at higher rates in many non-traditional activities: outdoor spectator sports/events; disc golf; 4 wheeling; outdoor photography, etc.
2010 Local Park and Recreation Provider Survey (Ball State University)	Trails reported as highly popular for users; many providing programming	Vast majority of respondents reported seeking funding beyond tax revenues	Innovation for funding, staffing, programming, partnerships, etc becoming critical to success
2009 Trails Activity Survey (Survey America)	Walking	44% of respondents spend less than \$100 annually on their favorite trail activity	31% of respondents want “better trail surfaces” and 24% want “walking, biking or riding clubs” as trail improvements
2008 NSRE* (U.S.D.A. Forest Service)	Walking	N/A	Respondents are participating at higher rates in many non-traditional activities: outdoor spectator sports/events; orienteering; caving; outdoor photography, etc.

*NSRE = National Survey on Recreation and the Environment

superintendents had capital projects for paved bike/pedestrian trails planned for sometime in the next decade; 52% of park professionals indicated that they even provided recreation programming using their trails. As noted in the 2006 SCORP, walking requires little or no skill or training, minimum equipment, no special facilities, costs little, and has no age limits. “Walking” may include a great many related activities including (but not limited to): jogging, power walking, strolling, wheeling a wheelchair, pushing a stroller, running, or simply traveling as a pedestrian.

Hoosiers are aware of financial constraints

All three SCORP surveys had question responses that indicated financial issues and limitations were on the minds of Hoosiers. In the Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey, 21% (the single largest percentage of respondents) said that they spend less than \$100 annually on their favorite recreation activity; 44% of Trails Activity Survey participants (the single largest percentage of respondents) said that the top amount they would be willing to spend on trail activities

was less than \$100. Local parks and recreation providers indicated they currently used mostly non-tax-based funding strategies to pay for their parks: 67% applied for grants; 63% received donations; 37% pursued a Community Foundation; 35% raised fees; 14% levied taxes, and the single smallest percentage (5%) said that they closed facilities.

It's evident that many Hoosiers still feel the impact of the recent recession and have adjusted expenditures to compensate. This may be driving an increase in the use of local parks and recreation facilities, services and programs, as local sites have the advantage of reduced travel costs, low-or-no entry fees, minimum travel time, and easier, more convenient access versus outdoor recreation activities far away from home. The increase in park use in the face of the economic downturn is also evident at the national level.

The NSRE surveyed people about more than 60 different outdoor recreation activities, and reports the total number of people participating in these activities grew by 4.4% or from 208 million people to 217 million people from 1999 to 2008. The number of days of outdoor recreation participation over this same period grew from 67 billion to 84 billion, an increase of 25%, which supports the idea that outdoor recreation use is increasing.

Innovative thinking is popular

All three primary surveys in this SCORP show that both Hoosier public and park professionals are innovating and trying new things. Ordinary outdoor recreation activities commonly considered traditional include playground use, camping, fishing, hunting, etc. The participation survey clearly indicates that respondents are participating at higher rates in many non-traditional outdoor recreation activities, including, but not limited to, outdoor spectator sports/events, disc golf, four-wheel drive/off-road vehicle driving, outdoor photography, etc. This is reflected in the 2008 NSRE results, which showed increases in people participating in many of the same nontraditional activities: outdoor spectator sports/events, orienteering (using a map and compass to navigate cross-country on a pre-set "course"), caving/spe-lunking, and outdoor/nature photography. Growing user interest in new outdoor recreation activities may be driven by a number of factors. These include low costs to participate during tough eco-

nomie times, Internet technology spreading information about new activities farther and faster than ever before, and other technologies creating better equipment more cheaply, especially in the case of photography.

Innovation and the ability to think creatively has become an important skill for outdoor recreation providers as well. Due to tight budgets, limited revenues and increasing public demand for facilities, services and programs, providers are realizing that innovation is one solution. Their innovations are mostly being driven by necessity. In the provider survey, public park operators report that new methodologies for obtaining funds, acquiring staff, creating and operating programs, and forging new partnerships are helping them succeed in these difficult economic times.

Trails users are also thinking innovatively. Past trails-activity survey respondents wanted more trails or connector trails as their preferred future trail improvements to increase their use of trails. A total of 31% of respondents to the 2009 Trails survey asked for "better trails surfaces" as their most desired trail improvement; 24% asked for "walking, biking, or riding clubs" and 18% wanted "increased personal safety measures."

As use of trails and prevalence of trails increase nationally, trail users may be more aware of the different types of trail surfaces available, and therefore may have greater understanding of the effect that better trail surfaces have on their experiences. The social aspect of recreation has always been important to users, and while the idea of clubs to support this is not new, the idea previously wasn't significant for Hoosier trail users. As our national population ages, personal safety is becoming a greater concern, both from a crime-prevention and a personal medical safety point of view. This may continue to be a consideration as the huge baby-boomer generation retires in greater numbers.

Hoosiers versus the nation: the 2009 OR Participation Survey versus the 2008 NSRE

As reported earlier, Hoosiers' favorite outdoor recreation pastime is walking/running/jogging/hiking (pedestrian activities), both in terms of number of people participating, and the frequency in which they participate. The NSRE supports

this, stating that from 1999 to 2008, there was a 9.6% increase in the number of people who walk for pleasure. There was also a 6.8% increase reported in day hiking in that same timeframe. One number from the NSRE that jumps off the page is that kayaking has increased 63.1% nationally. Canoeing increased 2.3%. The participation survey doesn't really reflect this. To Hoosiers, canoeing is still more popular than kayaking in terms of favorite activities, as well as in the amount of times people participated in both activities. This might be partly due to a minimum of challenging whitewater on Indiana rivers and streams. Hoosiers have lots of flat-water canoeing and kayaking opportunities but few highly technical or challenging rapids to encourage kayaking.

Horseback riding increased 4.9% from 1999 to 2008 in the NSRE. The participation survey appears to agree, as Hoosiers picked horseback riding as one of the top 20 outdoor recreation activities. According to the participation survey, camping (of all kinds) fell just outside the top 20 outdoor recreation activities as measured by user level of participation, and the NSRE shows

a 2.7% increase in participation nationally.

Bicycling was the second most popular outdoor activity in the participation survey as measured by user level of participation; and the NSRE says that there was a 7.7% increase in the number of participants from 1999 to 2008. Fishing was the third most popular outdoor activity in the participation survey, but was hard to compare with the NSRE due to the categories into which the NSRE divides all fishing, such as: anadromous fishing (fish that are born in freshwater, migrate to the ocean to live, and return to freshwater to spawn, like salmon, shad and smelt), down only .4% in the number of participants; warm-water fishing (for fish species that use warm water to reproduce, such as bass, bluegill, crappie, and most other species common to all of Indiana), up 7.3% in the number of participants; and cold-water fishing (for fish species that use cold water to reproduce, like trout and Northern pike, most common to northern Indiana waters), down 2.1%.

One outdoor activity that had a huge gain in the number of participants in the NSRE that wasn't asked about in the participation survey was ori-



enteering. The NSRE reports a 58.6% increase in the number of participants in orienteering nationally from 1999 to 2008. This activity will be added to the list of surveyed activities in the next SCORP.

Comparing Hoosier perceptions of trails: The 2009 OR Participation Survey and the 2009 Trails Activity Survey

The results of the participation survey and the trails activity survey agreed in many ways. Both surveys said Hoosiers participated in trail activities in the following order: walking, biking and hiking. Results of the two surveys varied slightly when asking why people were participating in their activities (motivations). The participation survey ranked the top three reasons as 1. To be with family and friends ; 2. Physical health; 3. Mental health (i.e., relaxation, stress reduction, meditation, spiritual renewal). The trails activity survey ranked the top three reasons as: 1. Plea-

sure, relaxation, recreation; 2. Health/physical training; 3. Family or social outing.

The two surveys were similar again in comparing the main reasons why people did not participate in their activities (barriers). The participation survey reported that most people participated: 1. "...as much as I want to;" 2. "structural barriers—poor setting/physical environment, lack of facilities or programs, time, money, transportation, safety, etc." reduced participation; 3. "social barriers—no one to participate with, family conflict, responsibilities to others, etc." was a barrier; 4. "personal barriers—no motivation, lack of skills, physical, mental or emotional health, ability level, etc." inhibited participation. The trails activity survey reported that most people participated: 1. "...as much as I want to;" 2. "structural barriers—poor setting/physical environment, lack of facilities or programs, time, money/economic factors, transportation, safety, etc." inhibited partici-

Table 2.3: Activity Trends in Indiana, Top 10 Ranked in Order (Outdoor Rec. Participation Surveys)

	1989	1995	2000	2005	2010
1	Picnicking	Hiking/Walking /Jogging	Hiking/Walking /Jogging	Hiking/Walking /Jogging	Hiking/Walking /Jogging
2	Pleasure Driving	Picnicking	Fairs/Festivals	Fairs/Festivals	Camping
3	Walking	Swimming	Fishing	Swimming/SCUBA /Snorkeling	Picnicking
4	Swimming	Camping	Camping	Nature Observation/ Photography	Fishing
5	Fishing	Fishing /Hunting	Picnicking	Camping	Swimming
6	Bicycling	Biking	Swimming/SCUBA /Snorkeling	Fishing	Boating/Water Skiing/ personal watercraft
7	Camping	Boating	Nature Observation/ Photography	Picnicking	Golf
8	Nature Observation	Nature Observation	Playground Use	Bicycling	Bicycling
9	Motor Boating	Playground Use	Bicycling	Motorized vehicle use	Hunting
10	Golf		Boating/Water Skiing/personal watercraft	Boating/Water Skiing/personal watercraft	Horseback Riding

pation; 3. “personal barriers—no motivation, lack of skills, physical/mental/emotional health, ability level, etc.” inhibited participation; 4. “social barriers—no one to participate with, family conflicts, responsibilities to others, etc.” inhibited participation.

Hoosiers surveyed differed in how far they were willing to travel one way to participate in their favorite outdoor recreation activity. In the trails activity survey, “0-5 miles” was the No. 1 answer, with “26-35 miles” as second, and a tie between “16-25 miles” and “36-50 miles” as No. 3. The participation survey gave “More than 100 miles” as the No. 1 answer, with “36-50 miles” as No. 2, and “0-5 miles” as No. 3.

The differences may be fairly straightforward. Remember that walking was by far the most popular and participated-in activity in both surveys. The trails activity survey had much fewer activity options than the participation survey. Respondents to the trails activity survey might have been less willing to travel a long distance to do something as simple as walk. The other possible reason might be since they walked so often, they were less willing to travel long distances to do so. The partici-

pation survey results for this question likely stem from the fact that there are a great deal more activities represented in the “favorites” list, and many of those are not likely to exist near at hand, requiring travel to participate, favorite or not.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

This section of the SCORP provides an overview of the needs identified by analyzing survey data, national trends, and related information. These identified needs directly contribute to the outdoor recreation priorities listed at the end of the introduction.

Identified needs from the surveys

More and varied kinds of trail or trail-related facilities (especially pedestrian) are needed.

- All three surveys agreed that many kinds of trails use are growing and in great demand statewide by all kinds of users, especially those with a pedestrian emphasis. National data fully agree with this trend.
- Recreation programmers and planners should remember that there is a wide



diversity of types of trails user, and that multi-purpose trail facilities are likely to better serve the needs of their publics than single-use sites. People use trails for all kinds of reasons, in all kinds of ways, and developing a trail system that caters to as many different types of users as possible is more likely to be successful.

Natural resource-based recreation of many kinds is still a major need among Hoosiers.

- “Non-consumptive” natural resource-based recreation is a strongly growing area of use that includes activities such as bird watching, nature photography and observation, camping, swimming, and more. The majority of “favorite” outdoor recreation activities from the participation survey were non-consumptive (4 out of 5)
- More traditional “consumptive” resource-based recreation uses are still popular and in demand (hunting, fishing, wild food gathering, etc.).
- Water-based recreation of all kinds is still extremely popular, and has expanded beyond traditional activities such as boating, canoeing and swimming in lakes, ponds and rivers to more developed urban water recreational activities such as splashpads and waterparks/sprayparks.

Community and individual health and wellness needs are becoming a greater priority.

- The surveys indicate that Hoosiers are choosing to recreate outdoors as part of a growing awareness of its positive effect on their health.
- Health and wellness as motivators for outdoor recreation of all kinds appeared to cross all demographics—all types of people were recreating for health reasons.
- At the state level, Indiana is creating programs and plans to fight the growing obesity epidemic, such as INShape Indiana, the Indiana Healthy Weight Initiative, and the State Department of Health’s Comprehensive Nutrition and Physical Activity Plan—2010 to 2020. Parks, recreation and trails are an integral part of these efforts.

Use of, and demand for local parks and recreation appears to be growing.

- Many reasons are driving an increase in

use of local parks and recreation.

- Fuel costs are soaring.
- Struggling economy is affecting recreation use in households.
- Health-conscious visitors are using local and regional parks more.
- Local parks and recreation offer time- and opportunity-limited users better options to recreate.
- Communities are responding to economic and social pressures.
 - Parks and recreation as an economic engine in local communities; strong parks and recreation programs encourage users to spend their recreation dollars close to home, and not just in parks, but in local businesses, restaurants, etc.
 - Tourism dollars are attractive to cash-strapped communities.
 - New businesses gravitate toward communities that offer strong quality of life, health and wellness for their work force.
 - New residents attracted to a community bring new tax revenues; residents leaving take their tax money with them. Hoosiers indicate where they prefer to live by moving there.

Funding is tight for parks and recreation; adaptation and innovation is key.

- Users still rate increased fees as one of their least favorite ways to pay for access to parks and recreation.
- Property tax revenues are down in many communities, forcing tight budgets and impacting parks and recreation’s most traditional funding source.
- Park and recreation providers who actively seek innovative new ways to fund their programs, or partner/cooperate with those who can may be the most successful providers.
- State-level grants are both more important than ever to local communities to acquire and develop their future parks and recreation resources, and harder for which to find “match” money. Once again, those who can think out of the box may be the most successful.

- Greater use of existing parks and recreation facilities, programs and services are driving up the costs of operation and maintenance of facilities for local providers.
 - Preventive maintenance is more important than ever—it's cheaper to carefully care for facilities and equipment than to replace them.
 - “Life-cycle costing,” in which the lifetime costs of operating and maintaining facilities and equipment, has become a best management practice for parks and recreation professionals.
 - Careful outsourcing or privatizing of operations and maintenance services in some cases can lead to real-world cost savings without loss of quality of service or product.
 - Use of volunteers, creation of friends-of groups, in-kind donation of equipment and services, donations, bequests, corporate sponsorships, and other financial and operational strategies are helping budget-conscious providers meet their organization's needs.
- The next chapter of the document will focus on:
- Guidelines for recreation, parks and open space
 - Local, regional and total outdoor recreation supply
 - Total outdoor recreation acres
 - Critical counties and regions





CHAPTER 3: SUPPLY OF OUTDOOR RECREATION ACREAGE IN INDIANA

Chapter Three examines the current supply of outdoor recreation acreage in Indiana. The two previous chapters gave an overview of the public input process for this SCORP, determined what the main issues and trends were, and then subjected those issues and trends to a needs analysis. The surveys looked at both the public point of view as well as the park and recreation provider perspective in order to better understand the outdoor recreation needs of all Hoosiers. Looking at the supply of outdoor recreation acreage in Indiana gives us yet another measurement of assessing outdoor recreation needs. The DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation maintains a database of outdoor recreation facilities statewide (the “Facilities Inventory”), to help it keep track of the supply of these resources. The Facilities Inventory database is maintained primarily from self-reported data received from all levels of government statewide, from research (including the Internet, park websites, etc.), and from data reported in local 5-year parks and recreation master plans kept on file with the Division of Outdoor Recreation. The data from this inventory are used in this chapter to compare the current amount of public outdoor recreation acreage at the local, regional and state levels with national and state standards, and provide another basis for statewide strategic park planning. All population data used in this SCORP are taken from the latest available primary source, the 2010 US Census, which was released in spring of 2011 for public use.

NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARKS ASSOCIATION STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC PARK ACREAGE

Dr. James D. Mertes and Dr. James R. Hall co-authored (with editor Roger A. Lancaster) the definitive book on recreation, park and open space guidelines in 1983. The book was published by the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA), and for decades was considered the “gold standard” for determining the minimum desired acreage of outdoor recreation lands at the local and regional level. This book featured a relatively simple classification system for parks, and provided recommended acreages for parks on a

population ratio basis; so many acres of parks per 1,000 people residing in a community.

Here are the most basic guidelines as they were published in 1983:

- **Mini-Park:** Has a service area less than ¼ mile radius, and approximately ¼ to ½ acre per 1,000 population.
- **Neighborhood Park:** Has a service area between ¼ and ½ mile radius, with population up to 5,000, and is 15 plus acres which equals 1.0 to 2.0 acres per 1,000 population.
- **Community Park:** Has a service area with a 1 to 2 mile radius (would normally include several neighborhoods), and have 25 plus acres, which equals 5.0 to 8.0 acres per 1,000 population.
- **Regional/Metropolitan Park:** Has a service area of one hour’s driving time (would normally include several communities), and have 200 plus acres, which equals 5.0 to 10.0 acres per 1,000 population.
- **Regional Park Preserve:** Has a service area of one hour’s driving time (would normally include several communities), and have 1,000 plus acres. 80% of this land would be reserved for natural resource management and conservation, and 20% for recreational development. The acres per 1,000 population for a regional park preserve would vary widely depending on the property available.
- **Linear Park, Special Use Area, or Conservancy Area:** No applicable standards were set in this document.

Over the next twenty years or so, these standards were widely accepted, but even the NRPA themselves noted that the guidelines were meant as a flexible benchmark, not an absolute number. Anyone who has tried on a “one size fits all” T-shirt knows that “fits all” isn’t always true. Academics and park professionals started trying to create a new method of determining how much park and open space land a given community might need, and take into account unique local priorities. A more locally based and flexible means of determining a minimum amount of parks and recreation land or facilities began to emerge in the mid-1990s. Level of Service (LOS) is actually a

process of strategic planning which takes into account the unique aspects of individual communities and measures demand for recreation opportunities, current park and recreation resources, and the needs and preferences of community residents. Indiana has used the 1983 NRPA standards as a benchmark since they were first published, but has created our own LOS standards for parks and recreation open space.

INDIANA'S LOS STANDARDS FOR PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE

In order to simplify processing of the facilities inventory data, Indiana divides the current supply of recreation acreage into three categories: Local, Regional and Statewide:

- **Local recreation acres:** Land owned by municipal, township, and county governments, and land privately owned (but open for public use).
- **Regional recreation acres:** Land owned by either state or federal governments for public recreational use.
- **Statewide recreation acres:** Total of all public recreation land statewide, owned by all the entities in the other categories.

The state of Indiana took the above categories and created a LOS standard for parks, recreation, and open space for all Hoosiers. Indiana's standards for outdoor recreation for acres per 1,000 people are:

- **County LOS** is 20 acres per 1,000 people (.02 acres per person) of public local recreation acres
- **Regional LOS** is 35 acres per 1,000 people (.035 acres per person) of public regional recreation acres
- **State (Total) LOS** is 55 acres per 1,000 people (.055 acres per person) total (sum of) acres of public recreational acres from the first two categories.

Since the Indiana SCORP is a document with a statewide focus, these standards are on a different scale than the NRPA guidelines mentioned earlier. Indiana's parks, recreation, and open space LOS standards are set according to geographic location (such as county, region or statewide levels), instead of types or sizes of park property. All acreages discussed in the SCORP are based on publicly owned or accessed lands. It excludes all schools (as many schools do not allow public access to their outdoor facilities, and DNR has no means to verify true public access to all school properties statewide). Private lands not open for public use are also excluded. Tables are included in this chapter that examine the supply of local, regional and total outdoor recreation also look at current population (and population growth in the Critical Counties tables), as well as the best available inventory of recreation acres available within each county and region.

Local outdoor recreation acres listed by County and Region: Municipal, Township, County, and Privately owned but open for public use

As previously mentioned in the text, Indiana uses a Level of Service (LOS) standard of 20 acres of locally owned and operated public outdoor recreation acres per 1,000 people to determine which local government entities have an adequate supply of acreage or a deficit of small scale, local-level parks.

County-level local acres

The first data table in this SCORP provides data on local outdoor recreation acres at the county level to illustrate those counties that may need more assistance in improving their supply of outdoor recreation acreage. In the "Difference" column, a bracketed number in red print (X), indicates a negative or deficient number of acres of OR land.

Let's take a look at the Indiana Counties—Local Acres Table listing for Adams County as an ex-

County Number	County Name	2010 Population	Recommended Acres; Local 20a/1000 People	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
1	Adams	34387	687.74	327.5	(360.24)

Figure 3.1

ample (Figure 3.1). From the left-hand column:

- County ID number (1)
- County Name (Adams)
- 2010 US Census County Population (34,387 residents)
- DNR recommended LOS Local acres of outdoor recreation land (.02 acre * 34,387 people = 687.74 acres recommended)
- Current inventory of local acres of OR land (327.5 acres)
- Recommended number of OR acres – current number of local OR acres = “Difference” (360.24 acre deficit of OR acres in Adams County)

Out of 92 counties total in the State, 71% of them are deficient in public outdoor recreation acres (66 counties).

Region-level local acres

A word about “Regions” in this document: previous authors of the Indiana SCORP going back decades have used a number of different ways to divide the state into manageable regions or groups of counties that shared some aspects that gave certain advantages to analyzing them in aggregate. The past several SCORPs have used a regional map first obtained from the “Indiana Association of Regional Councils” under the former State of Indiana Department of Planning back in the early 1970’s. This map divided Indiana into eighteen “regions” based on groups of counties that had officially banded together in development districts or planning commissions for the purposes of shared economic development, coordination of urban and regional planning, and intergovernmental cooperation. Since first created, the IARC’s member groups have changed many times, and by 2010, many of the new regional councils bore little resemblance to their old counterparts; it was time for DNR to adopt the latest version of IARC’s “regions.” The latest (as of August, 2011) map of the IARC’s member councils shows 15 different regional councils (all with very different names), listed in alphabetical order, and numbered 1-15. (The old list had several “subdivided” regions, such as “3A” and “3B”). The current IARC map also makes it clear that in the past several decades, a number of counties in the center of the state have opted not to participate in any regional planning councils at

all; these counties will be numbered as region “16” on the DNR maps in this SCORP, and will be listed as “unaffiliated”.

Out of the 15 IARC member regions and 16th “unaffiliated” group of counties, 10 regions (62%) are not deficient in total public OR acreage.

State-level local acres

Given that both the county- and region-level local acres of public OR land are deficient, it means that the state level is as well. As noted elsewhere in the SCORP, Indiana has grown 6.63% in population since the last US Census in 2000, to 6,483,802 residents. When you do the math and multiply the current population by the recommended LOS of 20 acres of public OR land per 1,000 people (.02 acre per person), you get a total of 129,676.04 acres. Subtract the current supply of local acres (119,121.07 acres), and you get a statewide deficit of local public OR land of 10,554.97 acres.

Why are there deficits in local acres?

There are many reasons why such a high percentage of counties and regions in the state have a deficit in the number of local public OR acres, a few possible explanations are:

- Nearby state-owned or federally owned properties that may provide for significant public recreation needs, causing local governments to perceive that they may not have to supply as many local parks.
- There is a lack of community resources and support to acquire, develop, and/or maintain local OR properties.
- Communities in that county/region may lack the organization or structure such as park boards and/or park departments to operate new or existing parks.
- The communities in that county/region may not have enough advocacy among underserved users and user groups to motivate local government leaders to acquire and/or develop sufficient local park land.
- There is a need for adequate funding for acquisition, development, personnel, operations, and maintenance of existing or new public OR properties.

REGIONAL OUTDOOR RECREATION

County number	County name	2010 population	Recommended; 20ac/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
1	Adams	34,387	687.74	327.50	(360.24)
2	Allen	355,329	7,106.58	4,822.12	(2,284.46)
3	Bartholomew	76,794	1,535.88	1,380.87	(155.01)
4	Benton	8,854	177.08	107.66	(69.42)
5	Blackford	12,766	255.32	119.44	(135.88)
6	Boone	56,640	1,132.80	872.20	(260.60)
7	Brown	15,242	304.84	53.00	(251.84)
8	Carroll	20,155	403.10	173.90	(229.20)
9	Cass	38,966	779.32	939.44	160.12
10	Clark	110,232	2,204.64	803.86	(1,400.78)
11	Clay	26,890	537.80	465.00	(72.80)
12	Clinton	33,224	664.48	192.70	(471.78)
13	Crawford	10,713	214.26	33.00	(181.26)
14	Daviess	31,648	632.96	2,570.51	1,937.55
15	Dearborn	50,047	1,000.94	375.00	(625.94)
16	Decatur	25,740	514.80	235.34	(279.46)
17	Dekalb	42,223	844.46	285.00	(559.46)
18	Delaware	117,671	2,353.42	498.11	(1,855.31)
19	Dubois	41,889	837.78	1,306.00	468.22
20	Elkhart	197,559	3,951.18	3,241.45	(709.73)
21	Fayette	24,277	485.54	112.00	(373.54)
22	Floyd	74,578	1,491.56	675.00	(816.56)
23	Fountain	17,240	344.80	432.50	87.70
24	Franklin	23,087	461.74	372.00	(89.74)
25	Fulton	20,836	416.72	446.30	29.58
26	Gibson	33,503	670.06	921.01	250.95
27	Grant	70,061	1,401.22	323.57	(1,077.65)
28	Greene	33,165	663.30	680.00	16.70
29	Hamilton	274,569	5,491.38	2,906.93	(2,584.45)
30	Hancock	70,002	1,400.04	386.50	(1,013.54)
31	Harrison	39,364	787.28	867.13	79.85
32	Hendricks	145,448	2,908.96	1,033.19	(1,875.77)
33	Henry	49,462	989.24	1,334.00	344.76
34	Howard	82,752	1,655.04	433.51	(1,221.53)
35	Huntington	37,124	742.48	393.23	(349.25)
36	Jackson	42,376	847.52	269.65	(577.87)
37	Jasper	33,478	669.56	2,069.49	1,399.93
38	Jay	21,253	425.06	237.10	(187.96)
39	Jefferson	32,428	648.56	307.00	(341.56)
40	Jennings	28,525	570.50	343.10	(227.40)
41	Johnson	139,654	2,793.08	1,059.55	(1,733.53)
42	Knox	38,440	768.80	758.25	(10.55)
43	Kosciusko	77,358	1,547.16	406.95	(1,140.21)
44	LaGrange	37,128	742.56	691.50	(51.06)
45	Lake	496,005	9,920.10	10,612.62	692.52
46	LaPorte	111,467	2,229.34	2,741.90	512.56

Co	Recommended; 35ac/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference	Recommended; 55ac/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
1	1,203.55	547.42	(656.13)	1,891.29	874.92	(1,016.37)
2	12,436.52	45.50	(12,391.02)	19,543.10	4,867.62	(14,675.48)
3	2,687.79	881.85	(1,805.94)	4,223.67	2,262.72	(1,960.95)
4	309.89	0.00	(309.89)	486.97	107.66	(379.31)
5	446.81	0.00	(446.81)	702.13	119.44	(582.69)
6	1,982.40	28.38	(1,954.02)	3,115.20	900.58	(2,214.62)
7	533.47	247,813.84	247,280.37	838.31	247,866.84	247,028.53
8	705.43	271.76	(433.67)	1,108.53	445.66	(662.87)
9	1,363.81	2.00	(1,361.81)	2,143.13	941.44	(1,201.69)
10	3,858.12	28,745.63	24,887.51	6,062.76	29,549.49	23,486.73
11	941.15	3,901.00	2,959.85	1,478.95	4,366.00	2,887.05
12	1,162.84	29.00	(1,133.84)	1,827.32	221.70	(1,605.62)
13	374.96	67,587.53	67,212.58	589.22	67,620.53	67,031.32
14	1,107.68	8,150.33	7,042.65	1,740.64	10,720.84	8,980.20
15	1,751.65	47.20	(1,704.45)	2,752.59	422.20	(2,330.39)
16	900.90	36.08	(864.82)	1,415.70	271.42	(1,144.28)
17	1,477.81	9.40	(1,468.41)	2,322.27	294.40	(2,027.87)
18	4,118.49	0.00	(4,118.49)	6,471.91	498.11	(5,973.80)
19	1,466.12	40,004.38	38,538.27	2,303.90	41,310.38	39,006.49
20	6,914.57	444.95	(6,469.62)	10,865.75	3,686.40	(7,179.35)
21	849.70	108.00	(741.70)	1,335.24	220.00	(1,115.24)
22	2,610.23	2,068.32	(541.91)	4,101.79	2,743.32	(1,358.47)
23	603.40	575.24	(28.16)	948.20	1,007.74	59.54
24	808.05	9,640.96	8,832.92	1,269.79	10,012.96	8,743.18
25	729.26	832.94	103.68	1,145.98	1,279.24	133.26
26	1,172.61	3,745.11	2,572.51	1,842.67	4,666.12	2,823.46
27	2,452.14	1,619.00	(833.14)	3,853.36	1,942.57	(1,910.79)
28	1,160.78	8,455.78	7,295.01	1,824.08	9,135.78	7,311.71
29	9,609.92	1.00	(9,608.92)	15,101.30	2,907.93	(12,193.37)
30	2,450.07	0.00	(2,450.07)	3,850.11	386.50	(3,463.61)
31	1,377.74	15,441.73	14,063.99	2,165.02	16,308.86	14,143.84
32	5,090.68	0.00	(5,090.68)	7,999.64	1,033.19	(6,966.45)
33	1,731.17	3,784.54	2,053.37	2,720.41	5,118.54	2,398.13
34	2,896.32	80.00	(2,816.32)	4,551.36	513.51	(4,037.85)
35	1,299.34	2.00	(1,297.34)	2,041.82	395.23	(1,646.59)
36	1,483.16	35,489.73	34,006.57	2,330.68	35,759.38	33,428.70
37	1,171.73	6,287.49	5,115.76	1,841.29	8,356.98	6,515.69
38	743.86	482.28	(261.58)	1,168.92	719.38	(449.54)
39	1,134.98	24,382.26	23,247.28	1,783.54	24,689.26	22,905.72
40	998.38	18,062.24	17,063.87	1,568.88	18,405.34	16,836.47
41	4,887.89	5,755.71	867.82	7,680.97	6,815.26	(865.71)
42	1,345.40	418.52	(926.88)	2,114.20	1,176.77	(937.43)
43	2,707.53	3,989.21	1,281.68	4,254.69	4,396.16	141.47
44	1,299.48	9,907.91	8,608.43	2,042.04	10,599.41	8,557.37
45	17,360.18	5,775.61	(11,584.56)	27,280.28	16,388.24	(10,892.04)
46	3,901.35	12,149.83	8,248.48	6,130.69	14,891.73	8,761.04

County number	County name	2010 population	Recommended; 20ac/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
47	Lawrence	46,134	922.68	847.00	(75.68)
48	Madison	131,636	2,632.72	1,335.06	(1,297.66)
49	Marion	903,393	18,067.86	11,014.74	(7,053.12)
50	Marshall	47,051	941.02	323.25	(617.77)
51	Martin	10,334	206.68	1,520.60	1,313.92
52	Miami	36,903	738.06	267.85	(470.21)
53	Monroe	137,974	2,759.48	4,622.59	1,863.11
54	Montgomery	38,124	762.48	907.08	144.60
55	Morgan	68,894	1,377.88	289.00	(1,088.88)
56	Newton	14,244	284.88	115.00	(169.88)
57	Noble	47,536	950.72	721.70	(229.02)
58	Ohio	6,128	122.56	55.00	(67.56)
59	Orange	19,840	396.80	434.00	37.20
60	Owen	21,575	431.50	68.90	(362.60)
61	Parke	17,339	346.78	657.00	310.22
62	Perry	19,338	386.76	152.30	(234.46)
63	Pike	12,845	256.90	12,553.28	12,296.38
64	Porter	164,343	3,286.86	2,768.92	(517.94)
65	Posey	25,910	518.20	218.81	(299.39)
66	Pulaski	13,402	268.04	98.50	(169.54)
67	Putnam	37,963	759.26	98.00	(661.26)
68	Randolph	26,171	523.42	533.83	10.41
69	Ripley	28,818	576.36	596.09	19.73
70	Rush	17,392	347.84	34.25	(313.59)
71	St. Joseph	266,931	5,338.62	3,719.09	(1,619.53)
72	Scott	24,181	483.62	69.20	(414.42)
73	Shelby	44,436	888.72	367.83	(520.89)
74	Spencer	20,952	419.04	500.33	81.29
75	Starke	23,363	467.26	211.50	(255.76)
76	Steuben	34,185	683.70	602.03	(81.67)
77	Sullivan	21,475	429.50	2,109.00	1,679.50
78	Switzerland	10,613	212.26	70.00	(142.26)
79	Tippecanoe	172,780	3,455.60	2,939.72	(515.88)
80	Tipton	15,936	318.72	181.57	(137.15)
81	Union	7,516	150.32	7,820.54	7,670.22
82	Vanderburgh	179,703	3,594.06	3,171.31	(422.75)
83	Vermillion	16,212	324.24	179.90	(144.34)
84	Vigo	107,848	2,156.96	2,246.33	89.37
85	Wabash	32,888	657.76	179.50	(478.26)
86	Warren	8,508	170.16	49.00	(121.16)
87	Warrick	59,689	1,193.78	2,052.59	858.81
88	Washington	28,262	565.24	968.87	403.63
89	Wayne	68,917	1,378.34	1,238.53	(139.81)
90	Wells	27,636	552.72	159.90	(392.82)
91	White	24,643	492.86	126.00	(366.86)
92	Whitley	33,292	665.84	309.50	(356.34)

Co	Recommended; 35ac/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference	Recommended; 55ac/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
47	1,614.69	17,636.12	16,021.43	2,537.37	18,483.12	15,945.75
48	4,607.26	303.69	(4,303.57)	7,239.98	1,638.75	(5,601.23)
49	31,618.76	2,489.54	(29,129.22)	49,686.62	13,504.28	(36,182.34)
50	1,646.79	1,089.85	(556.94)	2,587.81	1,413.10	(1,174.71)
51	361.69	79,630.35	79,268.66	568.37	81,150.95	80,582.58
52	1,291.61	6,441.68	5,150.08	2,029.67	6,709.53	4,679.87
53	4,829.09	74,119.28	69,290.19	7,588.57	78,741.87	71,153.30
54	1,334.34	2,450.30	1,115.96	2,096.82	3,357.38	1,260.56
55	2,411.29	6,851.76	4,440.47	3,789.17	7,140.76	3,351.59
56	498.54	15,041.46	14,542.92	783.42	15,156.46	14,373.04
57	1,663.76	4,883.50	3,219.74	2,614.48	5,605.20	2,990.72
58	214.48	22.29	(192.19)	337.04	77.29	(259.75)
59	694.40	51,011.02	50,316.62	1,091.20	51,445.02	50,353.82
60	755.13	12,315.31	11,560.19	1,186.63	12,384.21	11,197.59
61	606.87	7,827.62	7,220.76	953.65	8,484.62	7,530.98
62	676.83	70,900.42	70,223.59	1,063.59	71,052.72	69,989.13
63	449.58	16,289.44	15,839.87	706.48	28,842.72	28,136.25
64	5,752.01	25,438.44	19,686.44	9,038.87	28,207.36	19,168.49
65	906.85	10,486.98	9,580.13	1,425.05	10,705.79	9,280.74
66	469.07	9,695.00	9,225.93	737.11	9,793.50	9,056.39
67	1,328.71	7,289.38	5,960.68	2,087.97	7,387.38	5,299.42
68	915.99	432.61	(483.38)	1,439.41	966.44	(472.97)
69	1,008.63	33,406.82	32,398.19	1,584.99	34,002.91	32,417.92
70	608.72	0.00	(608.72)	956.56	34.25	(922.31)
71	9,342.59	3,903.59	(5,439.00)	14,681.21	7,622.68	(7,058.53)
72	846.34	9,813.01	8,966.68	1,329.96	9,882.21	8,552.26
73	1,555.26	5.50	(1,549.76)	2,443.98	373.33	(2,070.65)
74	733.32	3,654.03	2,920.71	1,152.36	4,154.36	3,002.00
75	817.71	5,747.39	4,929.69	1,284.97	5,958.89	4,673.93
76	1,196.48	5,796.27	4,599.80	1,880.18	6,398.30	4,518.13
77	751.63	21,757.38	21,005.76	1,181.13	23,866.38	22,685.26
78	371.46	1,372.03	1,000.58	583.72	1,442.03	858.32
79	6,047.30	3,150.47	(2,896.83)	9,502.90	6,090.19	(3,412.71)
80	557.76	0.00	(557.76)	876.48	181.57	(694.91)
81	263.06	1,598.23	1,335.17	413.38	9,418.77	9,005.39
82	6,289.61	617.12	(5,672.49)	9,883.67	3,788.43	(6,095.24)
83	567.42	5,002.02	4,434.60	891.66	5,181.92	4,290.26
84	3,774.68	306.62	(3,468.06)	5,931.64	2,552.95	(3,378.69)
85	1,151.08	17,241.02	16,089.94	1,808.84	17,420.52	15,611.68
86	297.78	0.00	(297.78)	467.94	49.00	(418.94)
87	2,089.12	6,793.02	4,703.91	3,282.90	8,845.61	5,562.72
88	989.17	15,620.31	14,631.14	1,554.41	16,589.18	15,034.77
89	2,412.10	24.53	(2,387.57)	3,790.44	1,263.06	(2,527.38)
90	967.26	2,547.47	1,580.21	1,519.98	2,707.37	1,187.39
91	862.51	476.34	(386.17)	1,355.37	602.34	(753.03)
92	1,165.22	680.06	(485.16)	1,831.06	989.56	(841.50)

ACRES LISTED BY COUNTY AND REGION: STATE AND FEDERAL PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION LAND

The Division of Outdoor Recreation examines the supply of regional public OR acres (State and/or Federal public OR acres) at the same geographic levels as it does local public OR acres: County, Region and State.

COUNTY-LEVEL REGIONAL ACRES

Forty-two counties in Indiana (45%) do not meet the DNR recommendation of 35 acres of regional OR acres per 1,000 people. Indiana has a wide and varied array of state parks and federal properties that provide for the outdoor recreation needs of Hoosiers. The nature of these less numerous, much larger, more widely scattered parks designed to serve a bigger service area, tends to create “gaps” between service areas when viewed at the County level that do not happen as often with local OR acreage. Some

counties have an abundance of regional acres, while those who do not are often significantly lacking in regional type properties. When looking at the data as broken down by county, it should be noted that the sheer size of some of these regional properties does tend to emphasize the “haves versus the have-nots.”

REGION-LEVEL REGIONAL ACRES

Five regions in Indiana (31%) do not meet the DNR recommendations of 35 acres of regional OR acres per 1,000 people. The service area gaps mentioned at the county level of regional acres are not as pronounced when viewed at the region level. The scattered nature of regional OR properties simply doesn’t show up as well when viewed at this larger geographic scale. It should be noted that all the regions that are deficient in regional acres of public OR land are either in the central or northern portions of the state. The large number of state and federally owned pub-

Table 3.5: Local OR Acres by Planning Region

Planning Region	2010 population	Recommended; Local 20a/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
1	193735	3874.70	11073.15	7198.45
2	298805	5976.10	6363.72	387.62
3	221751	4435.02	1178.22	(3256.80)
4	125577	2511.54	14978.91	12467.37
5	146647	2932.94	2951.05	18.11
6	131636	2632.72	1335.06	(1297.66)
7	588899	11777.98	7690.74	(4087.24)
8	195393	3907.86	2268.67	(1639.19)
9	459575	9191.50	5594.52	(3596.98)
10	771815	15436.30	16123.44	687.14
11	222153	4443.06	2897.46	(1545.60)
12	276617	5532.34	3384.06	(2148.28)
13	205386	4107.72	2353.53	(1754.19)
14	159721	3194.42	6376.36	3181.94
15	227727	4554.54	5755.23	1200.69
16	2258365	45167.30	28796.95	(16370.35)

lic OR properties in the southern portion of the state, such as the Hoosier National Forest and the Morgan-Monroe State Forest meet the DNR regional LOS recommendations for public OR land when viewed at the region level.

State-level regional acres

Since both the local and region-based geographic levels of service in Indiana are not deficient (in total) in regional public OR acres, it does follow that the State is not either. When you do the math and multiply the current population (6,483,802 people) by the recommended DNR regional LOS of 35 acres of public OR land per 1,000 people (.035 acre per person), you get a total of 226,933.07 acres. Subtract the current statewide supply of regional acres (1,129,760.93 acres), and you exceed the DNR recommendations for statewide local public OR land by 902,827.86 acres.

TOTAL OUTDOOR RECREATION ACRES

**LISTED BY COUNTY AND REGION:
ALL PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION
LANDS CURRENTLY RECORDED IN THE
DNR FACILITIES INVENTORY**

DNR-OR also examines the supply of public OR lands in Indiana by tallying up the local and regional data and looking at them as a total. The state or total LOS for Indiana is created by adding the other two LOS's: 20 acres/1,000 and 35 acres/1,000, for a total LOS of 55 acres/1,000 people. These totals of all recorded public OR acreage will be listed under county, region and state level totals in the same way the local and regional data were. This provides a snapshot of all public OR lands as recorded in the DNR Facilities Inventory database.

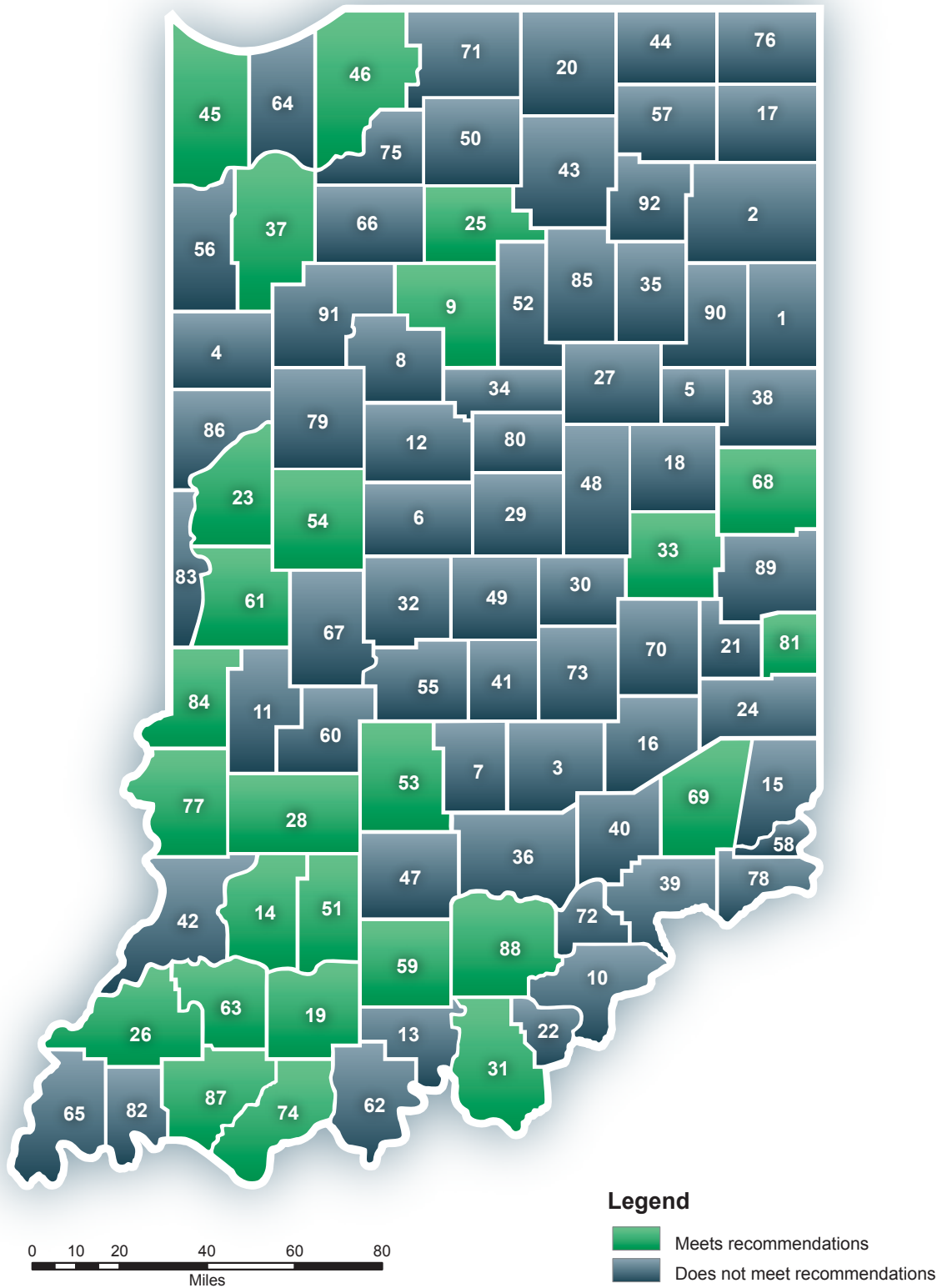
County-level total acres

Fifty counties in Indiana meet DNR's recommended total LOS of 55 acres of public OR land per 1,000 population. This is two fewer counties meeting the county level total LOS than during

Table 3.6: Regional OR Acres by Planning Region

Planning Region	2010 population	Recommended; Regional 35a/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
1	193735	6780.73	5947.91	(832.82)
2	298805	10458.18	21642.23	11184.06
3	221751	7761.29	2101.28	(5660.01)
4	125577	4395.20	249446.82	245051.63
5	146647	5132.65	37519.44	32386.80
6	131636	4607.26	303.69	(4303.57)
7	588899	20611.47	9427.60	(11183.87)
8	195393	6838.76	7356.62	517.86
9	459575	16085.13	3149.79	(12935.34)
10	771815	27013.53	43363.88	16350.36
11	222153	7775.36	38510.76	30735.41
12	276617	9681.60	71689.00	62007.41
13	205386	7188.51	86969.88	79781.37
14	159721	5590.24	114291.10	108700.87
15	227727	7970.45	46084.02	38113.58
16	2258365	79042.78	391956.91	312914.14

Outdoor Recreation Supply - County Level Data: Local OR Acres



the last SCORP cycle. The 42 counties deficient in total OR acreage is the same number as recorded in the current county-level regional acreage tables. Given the size of many of the regional parcels, as noted earlier in the text, the regional property effect carries over into the total data.

Of the 50 counties that meet the total LOS recommendation, 21 counties (23% of all IN counties) actually meet all three LOS recommendations—Local, Regional and State (Total):

- Daviess
- Dubois
- Fulton
- Gibson
- Greene
- Harrison
- Henry
- Jasper
- LaPorte
- Martin
- Monroe
- Montgomery
- Orange
- Parke
- Pike
- Ripley
- Spencer
- Sullivan
- Union
- Warrick
- Washington

Of the 42 counties that do not meet the total LOS recommendation, 37 counties (40% of all IN counties) are deficient in all three LOS recommendations—Local, Regional and State (Total):

- Adams
- Allen
- Bartholomew
- Benton
- Blackford
- Boone
- Carroll
- Clinton
- Dearborn
- Decatur
- Dekalb
- Delaware
- Elkhart
- Fayette
- Floyd

- Grant
- Hamilton
- Hancock
- Hendricks
- Howard
- Huntington
- Jay
- Knox
- Madison
- Marion
- Marshall
- Ohio
- Rush
- St. Joseph
- Shelby
- Tippecanoe
- Tipton
- Vanderburgh
- Warren
- Wayne
- White
- Whitley

Region-level total acres

Eleven regions in Indiana meet DNR's recommended total LOS of 55 acres of public OR land per 1,000 population. This is two fewer regions meeting the region level total LOS than during the last SCORP cycle. The five regions deficient in total OR acreage (31% of all IN regions), is the same number as recorded in the current region-level regional acreage tables. Given the size of many of the regional parcels, as noted earlier in the text, the regional property effect carries over into the total data.

Of the 11 regions that meet the total LOS recommendation, six regions (38% of all IN regions) actually meet all three LOS recommendations—Local, Regional and State (Total):

- Economic Development Coalition of Southwest Indiana (Region 2)
- Indiana 15 Regional Planning District (Region 4)
- Kankakee-Iroquois Regional Planning Commission (Region 5)
- Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (Region 10)
- Southern Indiana Development Commission (Region 14)
- West Central Indiana Economic

Table 3.7: Total OR Acres by Planning Region

Planning Region	2010 population	Recommended; Regional 55a/1000 people	Actual Recreation Acres	Difference
1	193735	10655.43	17021.06	6365.64
2	298805	16434.28	28005.95	11571.68
3	221751	12196.31	3279.50	(8916.81)
4	125577	6906.74	264425.73	257519.00
5	146647	8065.59	40470.49	32404.91
6	131636	7239.98	1638.75	(5601.23)
7	588899	32389.45	17118.34	(15271.11)
8	195393	10746.62	9625.29	(1121.33)
9	459575	25276.63	8744.31	(16532.32)
10	771815	42449.83	59487.32	17037.50
11	222153	12218.42	41408.22	29189.81
12	276617	15213.94	75073.06	59859.13
13	205386	11296.23	89323.41	78027.18
14	159721	8784.66	120667.46	111882.81
15	227727	12524.99	51839.25	39314.27
16	2258365	124210.08	420753.86	296543.79

Development District (Region 15)

Of the five regions that do not meet the total LOS recommendation, four regions (25% of all IN regions) are deficient in all three LOS recommendations—Local, Regional and State (Total):

- Energize-ECI Regional Planning District
- Madison County Council of Governments
- Michiana Area Council of Governments
- Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council

State-level total acres

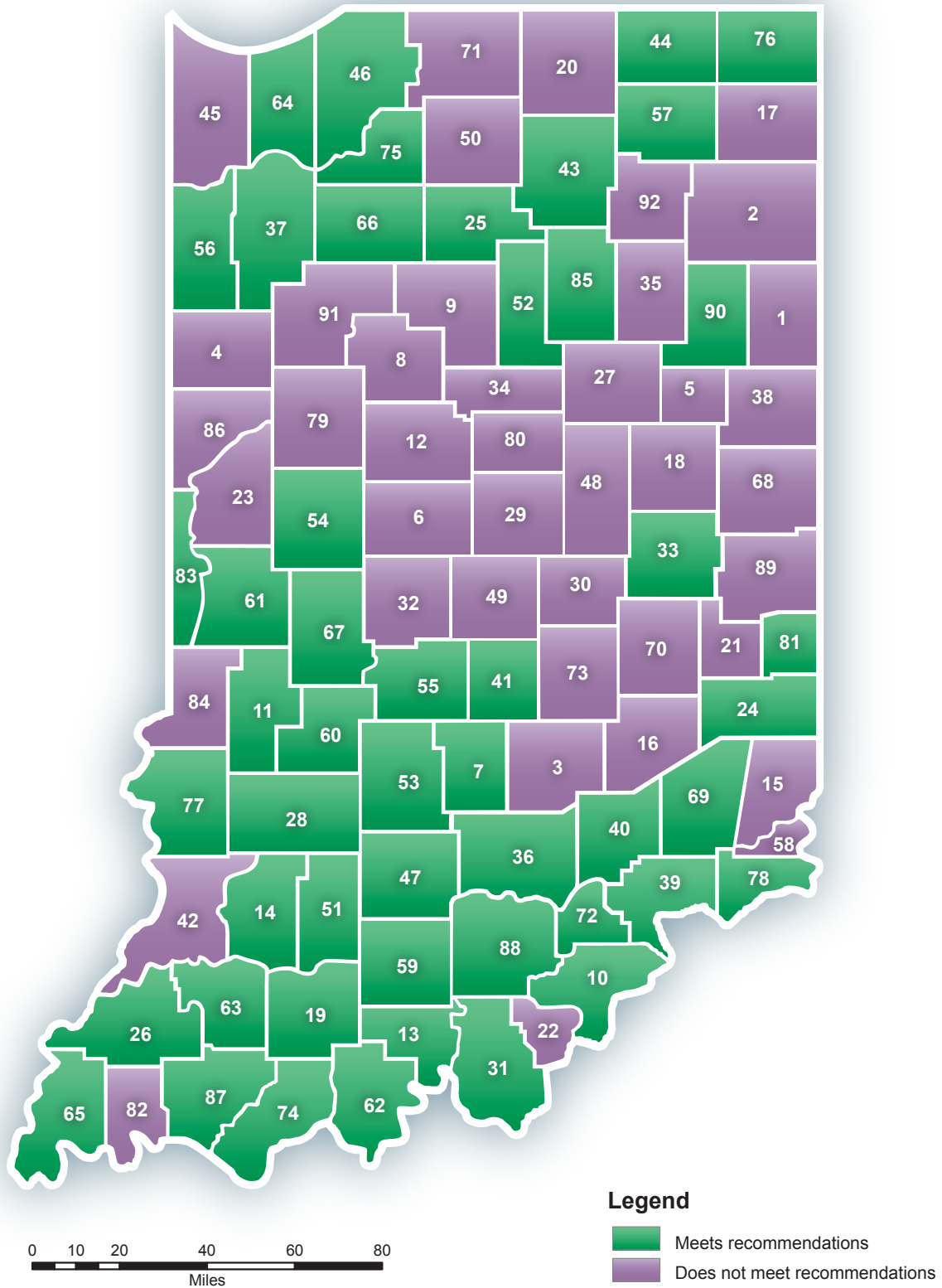
Since both the local and region level geographic levels of Indiana aren't deficient in total public OR acres, it follows that the state isn't either, exactly as in the region-level data. When you do the math and multiply the current population (6,483,802 people) by the recommended DNR total LOS of 55 acres of public OR land per 1,000 people (.055 acre per person), you get a total of 356,609.11 acres. Subtract the current statewide supply of total acres (1,248,882 acres), and you

exceed the DNR recommendations for statewide local public OR land by 892,272 acres.

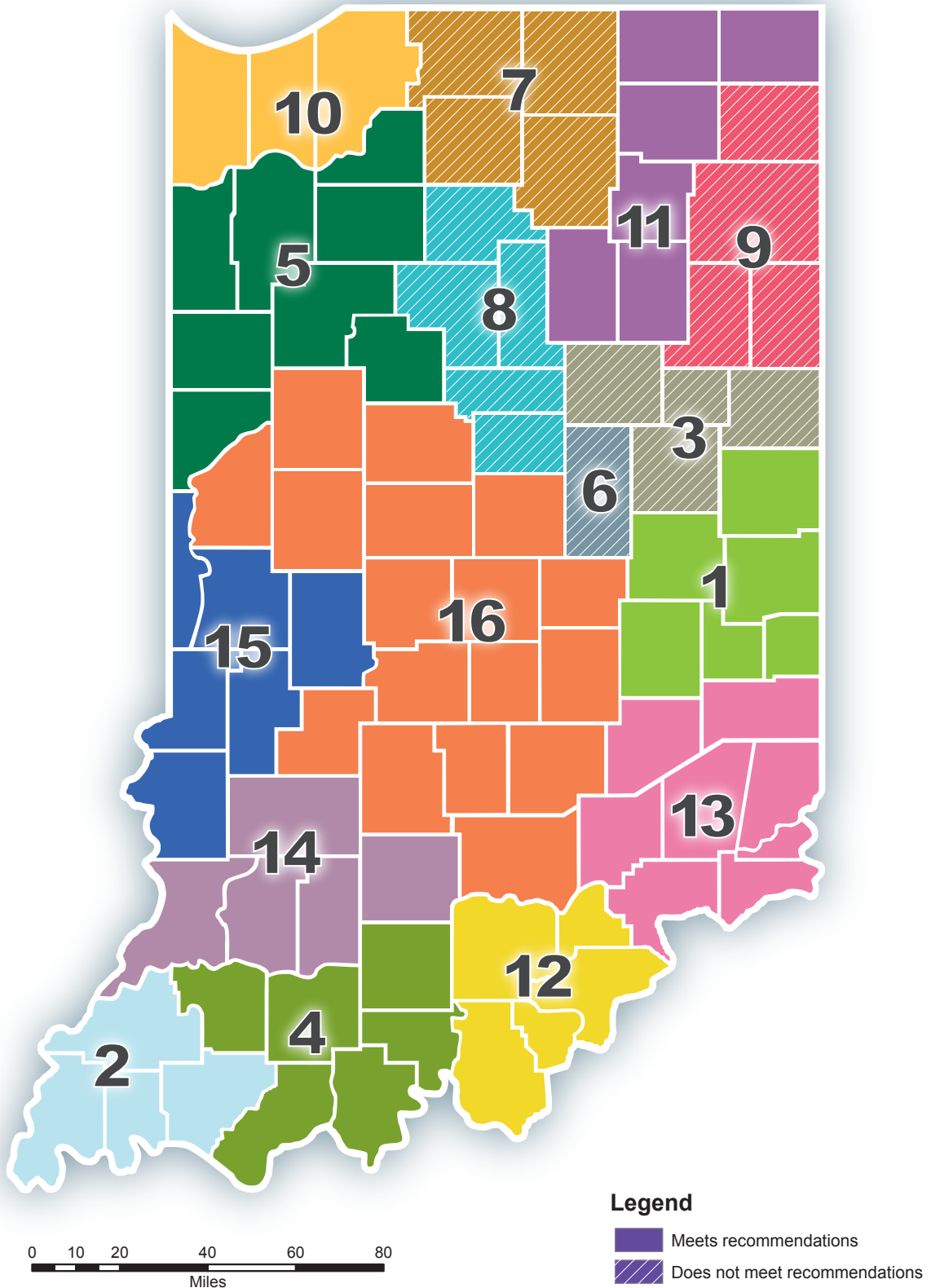
Conclusion of total outdoor recreation acres

Indiana now ranks as 15th in population in the country as of the 2010 U.S. Census (one position lower than in 2000). Indiana has gained population, but not as fast as other states. The total state acreage of Indiana is 23,307,520. Of that total, 1,248,882 acres is designated for outdoor recreation. Indiana therefore has only 5.35% of its land area available for public outdoor recreation. According to the 2010 Census, Indiana has grown 6.63% in population since 2000. In 2005, at the writing of the last SCORP, Indiana had 998,669 acres of outdoor recreation land according to the Facilities Inventory. This means that since 2005, DNR's records show a positive change of 25% in outdoor recreation lands. This "increase" is highly questionable because since 2005, a great deal of effort has gone into improving the dataset in the

Outdoor Recreation Supply - County Level Data: Regional OR Acres



Outdoor Recreation Supply - Region Level: Total OR Acres



Facilities Inventory database, and a significant portion of this increase is likely to be attributable to improved recordkeeping and more records from more communities, rather than purely from newly acquired public OR lands. That increase should be judged accordingly. One observation that cannot be avoided is the continuing difference between those counties and regions that have reported surpluses of public OR land, and those who have deficits. There are significant gaps between the “haves and have-nots” so far as outdoor recreation acreage in Indiana is concerned. As noted earlier, the southern portion of the state tends to have more counties who meet the LOS standards than those in the northern tier; and when population distribution and service areas are taken into account, these differences are even larger. It was noted in the last SCORP that there was an apparent inequity in the distribution of public OR acreage statewide, and this has not significantly changed for this SCORP.

CRITICAL COUNTIES

The definition of “critical county” in Indiana has changed again for this SCORP, as the state’s population growth rate has increased since the last SCORP. Critical counties are defined as:

1. A county that does not have the recommended supply of outdoor recreation acres of 55 acres per 1,000 population or greater
2. A population growth rate higher than the 2000 to 2010 Indiana statewide population growth rate of 6.63% (data obtained from the 2010 US Census)

12 counties meet the critical counties criteria:

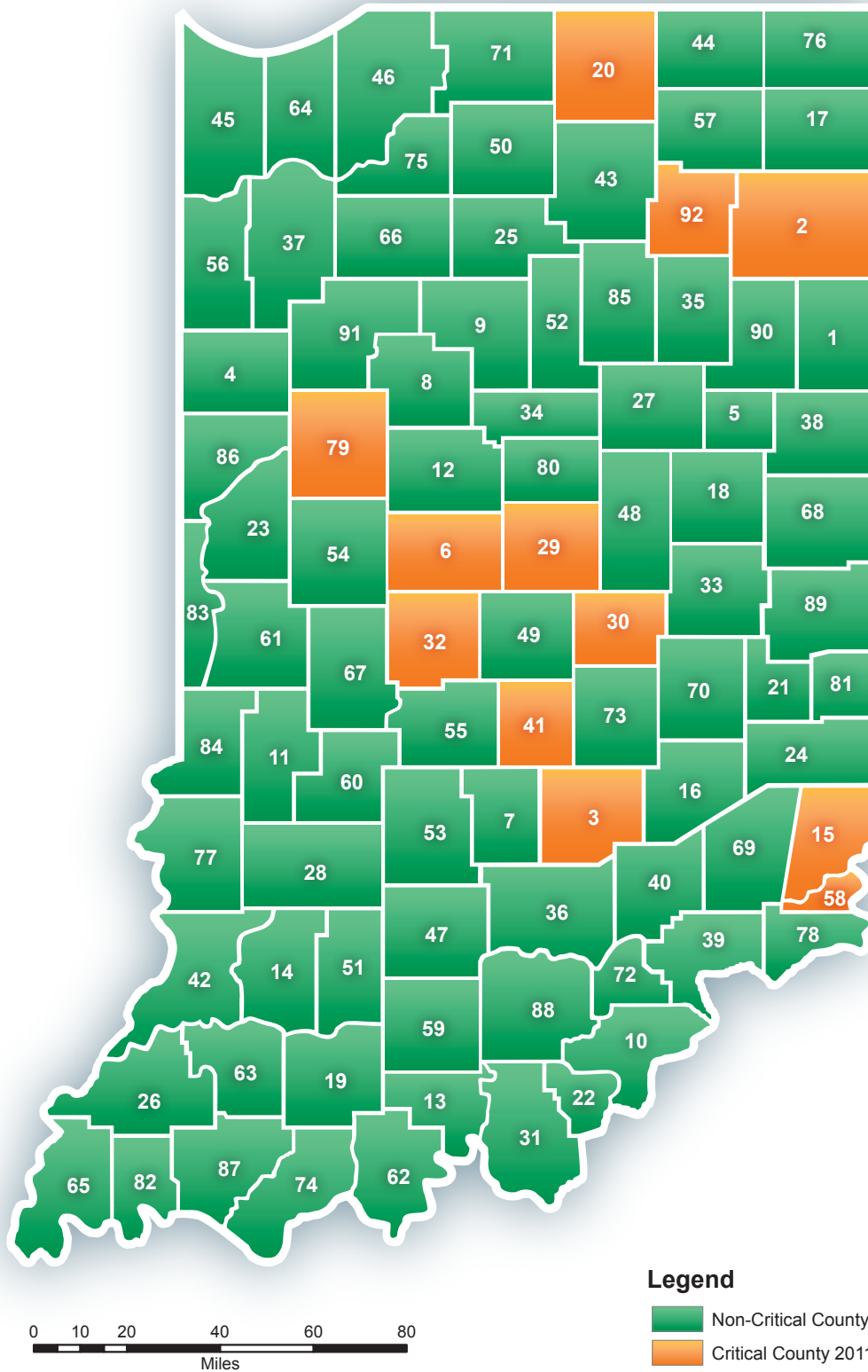
- Allen
- Bartholomew
- Boone
- Dearborn
- Elkhart
- Hamilton
- Hancock
- Hendricks
- Johnson
- Ohio
- Tippecanoe
- Whitley

It is interesting to note that if the critical counties criteria used only the supply of local acres of outdoor recreation land (at 20 acres/1,000 population), the list above would grow by three counties: Clark, Porter and Switzerland.

Table 3.8: Indiana Critical Counties

County Number	County Name	Planning Region	% Population Change	Difference (Total actual OR acres minus recommended acres)
2	Allen	9	7.08	(14675.48)
3	Bartholomew	16	7.50	(1960.95)
6	Boone	16	22.84	(2214.62)
15	Dearborn	13	8.54	(2330.39)
20	Elkhart	7	8.08	(7179.35)
29	Hamilton	16	50.25	(12193.37)
30	Hancock	16	26.38	(3463.61)
32	Hendricks	16	39.73	(6966.45)
41	Johnson	16	21.22	(865.71)
58	Ohio	13	8.98	(259.75)
79	Tippecanoe	16	15.99	(3412.71)
92	Whitley	11	8.42	(841.50)

Outdoor Recreation Supply - Critical Counties: Total OR Acres





CHAPTER 4: SUPPLY OF WETLANDS IN INDIANA

Chapter 4 examines the supply and types of wetlands in Indiana. Due to their rarity and threatened habitat status, wetlands are a priority habitat type for acquisition for outdoor recreation purposes via the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program. Nationwide, wetland habitats have slowly undergone a resurgence after decades of removal, neglect, drainage, development and destruction. Each SCORP in the nation is required to have a chapter specifically addressing many aspects of wetlands, existing related federal and state programs and initiatives, supply, types of wetlands commonly found in the state, and methods currently being undertaken to restore or conserve them.

Definition and Traits (from the EWRA)

There are many definitions of wetlands. The most commonly accepted scientific definition is that used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In 1979, Cowardin, Carter, Golet and LaRoe published "Classification of Wetlands and Deepwater Habitats of the United States." This document was adopted by the USFWS as its standard for wetlands classification. It defines wetlands as "...lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water." Wetlands in this standard must also have one or more of the following traits:

1. Some of the time, the vegetation of the site consists mainly of aquatic plants.
2. The underlying materials are mostly undrained, moist (wetland) soils.
3. The underlying materials are not actually soils, and are saturated with water or covered by water at some time during the growing season of each year. Examples include peat, sand or muck.

This definition and the traits are used in some form by most state agencies that have the authority to create wetland conservation initiatives. The state of Indiana uses this definition in an almost identical form.

INDIANA WETLANDS LEGISLATION, INITIATIVES AND RESOURCES

Section 303 of the Emergency Wetlands Re-

sources Act (EWRA) of 1986, (16 U.S.C. Sections 3901-3932, Nov. 10, 1986, as amended 1988 and 1992) requires all SCORPs to: "...address wetlands within that State as an important outdoor recreation resource..." as part of the National Park Service SCORP review and approval process.

Indiana Wetlands Conservation Plan (IWCP)

The Indiana DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife created the "Indiana Wetlands Conservation Plan" (IWCP) as required by, and consistent with, the EWRA's National Wetlands Priority Conservation Plan. The IWCP contains a lot of information about wetlands in Indiana, and sets priorities for their identification and conservation. To view or download the IWCP, go to: dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/3350.htm. Many of the wetlands conservation efforts in Indiana have begun shifting to similar programs and staff within the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. Its contact information is:

IDEM—Watershed Planning Branch
Wetlands and Storm Water Section
100 North Senate Avenue
MC65-42, Room 1255
Indianapolis, IN 46204
800-451-6027

Hoosier Wetlands Conservation Initiative (HWCI)

The IWCP created the Hoosier Wetlands Conservation Initiative (HWCI) as the action component of the plan. The HWCI uses six tactics for conserving wetlands in Indiana:

1. Planning and implementing the IWCP through local wetland conservation partnerships.
2. Obtaining more scientific information about Indiana's wetland resources, with an emphasis on making conservation techniques that are effective and cost-efficient.
3. Providing positive incentives to motivate people to conserve and restore wetlands.
4. Providing educational opportunities for educational staff, landowners, schoolchildren, and other audiences to enhance community understanding of the functions and benefit of wetlands.

5. Acquisition (from willing owners) for the purpose of permanently protecting the highest priority wetlands.
6. Continuing the work of the IWCP's Wetlands Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Team as cooperative partners led by the DNR.

IWCP wetland conservation priorities

The IWCP separates the priorities for wetland conservation into two types:

1. Water quality, flood control and groundwater benefits
2. Biological and ecological functions

Priorities based on water quality, flood control and groundwater benefits are recommended to be made on the watershed or sub-watershed level. Criteria for identifying priorities based on these three aspects are given in Appendix E of the IWCP; Appendix F of the IWCP has descriptions of the water management basins and watersheds of Indiana. According to the IWCP, priorities based on biological or ecological functions should be developed from these criteria:

- Rarity of wetland type
- Presence of endangered, threatened or rare species
- Presence of endangered, threatened or rare species habitat, but species not yet identified at the site
- Diversity of native species
- Proximity of other valued ecosystem types
- Natural quality (amount/degree of disturbance or degradation)
- "Irreplaceability" (can the wetland type be re-created?)
- "Recoverability" (can the wetland type recover from disturbance it has experienced?)
- Size
- Location

The IWCP also states that these priorities should be identified based on the natural regions used by the DNR Division of Nature Preserves, the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, and other agencies and organizations. Appendix F of the IWCP identifies natural regions and wetland ecology found in each watershed. Appendix G of the IWCP describes wetland ecological communities. Recreation and historical benefits of wet-

lands are also mentioned in the IWCP as items to be considered when identifying priorities. Planners trying to create priorities for wetlands conservation in their area are highly encouraged to use the IWCP as a primary guidance document. The entire text of the IWCP is available for free download at: dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/3350.htm.

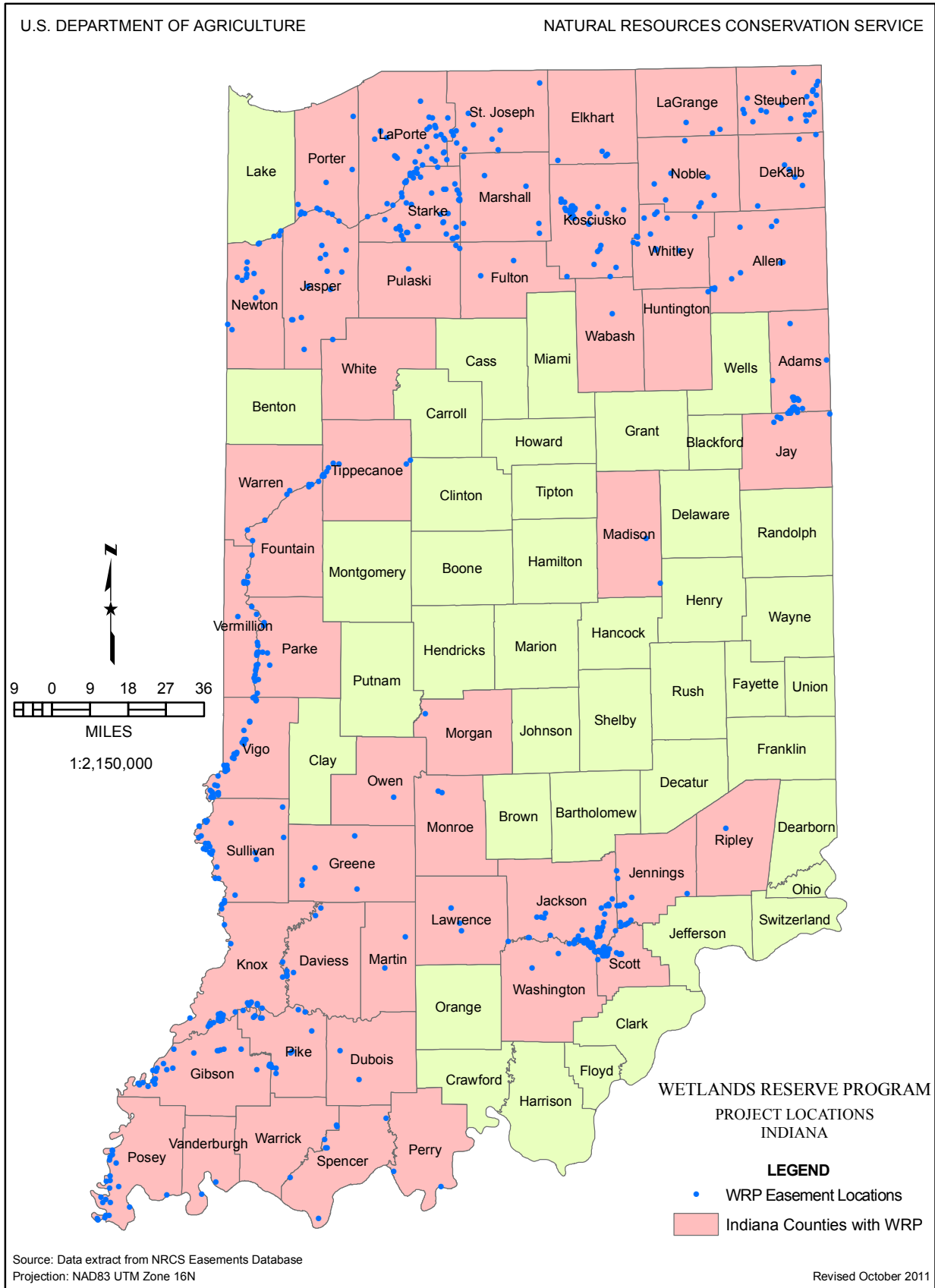
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture—Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Wetlands Reserve Program

One of the largest wetlands conservation efforts in the state is the U.S.D.A.—Natural Resources Conservation Service Indiana Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP). Indiana began participating in the program in 1994. The program is a voluntary landowner-participation program that encourages protection, restoration and enhancement of wetlands on private property. Nationwide, more than 11,000 private landowners have voluntarily enrolled more than 2.3 million acres into the program. From 1994 to 2002, more than 31,000 acres of land were enrolled in the Indiana WRP. As of September 2011, the WRP in Indiana had more than 604 closed WRP conservation easements statewide for a total of 57,207 acres.

The benefits of the WRP program (from the DNR WRP website, dnr.IN.gov/healthyriver/6515.htm#wrp):

- Offers payment, based on the agricultural value, for wetlands that have previously been drained and converted to agricultural uses.
- Pays up to 100 percent reimbursement for restoration costs.
- Lets landowners retain control of access.
- Lets landowners maintain ownership of land—they have the right to hunt, fish, trap and pursue other appropriate recreational uses.
- Allows for land, including any easement, to be sold.
- Provides additional benefits for the entire community, such as:
 - Improved water quality and enhanced habitat for wildlife
 - Reduced soil erosion
 - Reduced flooding
 - Improved water supply

Details of the Indiana WRP may be found at:



www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/WRP/WR-Phomepage.html.

Healthy Rivers Initiative

In June 2010, Gov. Mitch Daniels announced the Healthy Rivers Initiative (HRI), the largest land conservation initiative to be undertaken in Indiana. The initiative includes a partnership of resource agencies and organizations who will work with willing landowners to permanently protect 43,000 acres located in the floodplain of the Wabash River and Sugar Creek in west-central Indiana, and another 26,000 acres of the Muscatatuck River bottomlands in southeast Indiana.

These projects involve the protection, restoration and enhancement of riparian and aquatic habitats and the species that use them, particularly threatened, endangered, migratory birds and waterfowl. This initiative will also benefit the public and surrounding communities by providing flood protection to riparian landowners, increasing public access to recreational opportunities such as hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, boating, and bird watching, and leaving a legacy for future generations by providing a major conservation destination for tourists.

Eight key objectives developed by the governor's office and the DNR for the HRI are:

- Design an effective model for sustainability of natural resources.
- Connect fragmented parcels of public land on a broad scale to benefit wildlife diversity.
- Restore and enhance riparian habitat, including wetlands and bottomland hardwood forests.
- Protect essential habitat for threatened and endangered species.
- Open public access for recreational opportunities (fishing, hunting, trapping, hiking, canoeing, bird watching and

boating).

- Preserve significant rest areas for migratory birds, especially waterfowl.
- Create a regionally significant conservation destination.
- Provide additional flood relief to current riparian landowners.

The state will use approximately \$46 million from several conservation agencies and organizations to begin the land acquisitions. These include \$21.5 million from the Lifetime License Trust Fund and Game Bird Habitat Stamps, \$10 million from the USFWS, \$10 million from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, \$2.5 million from The Nature Conservancy, \$1 million from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, and \$700,000 through Indiana Heritage Trust. More details on the HRI can be found at: dnr.IN.gov/6498.htm.

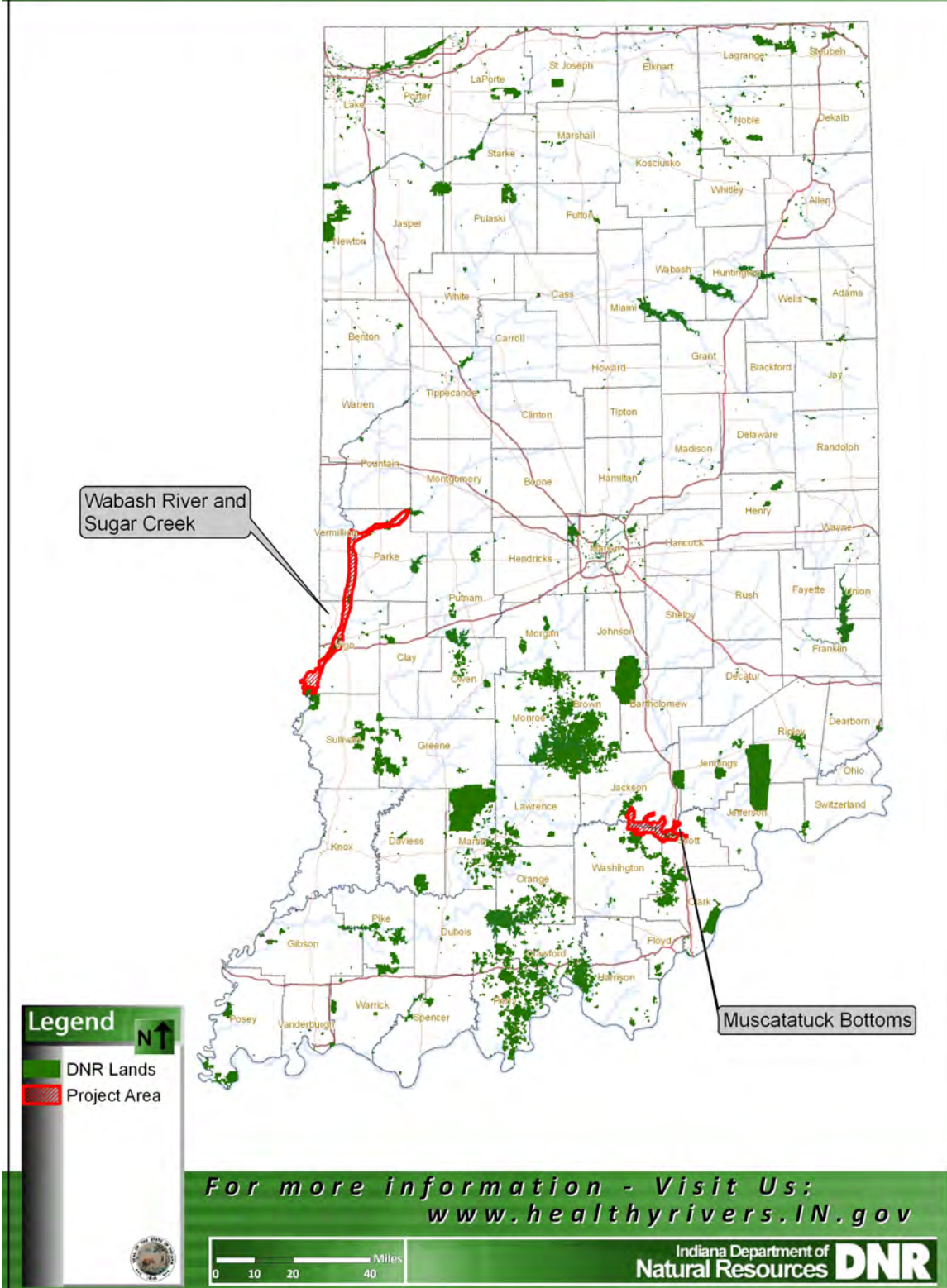
Benefits of wetlands to Indiana's residents (from the IWCP)

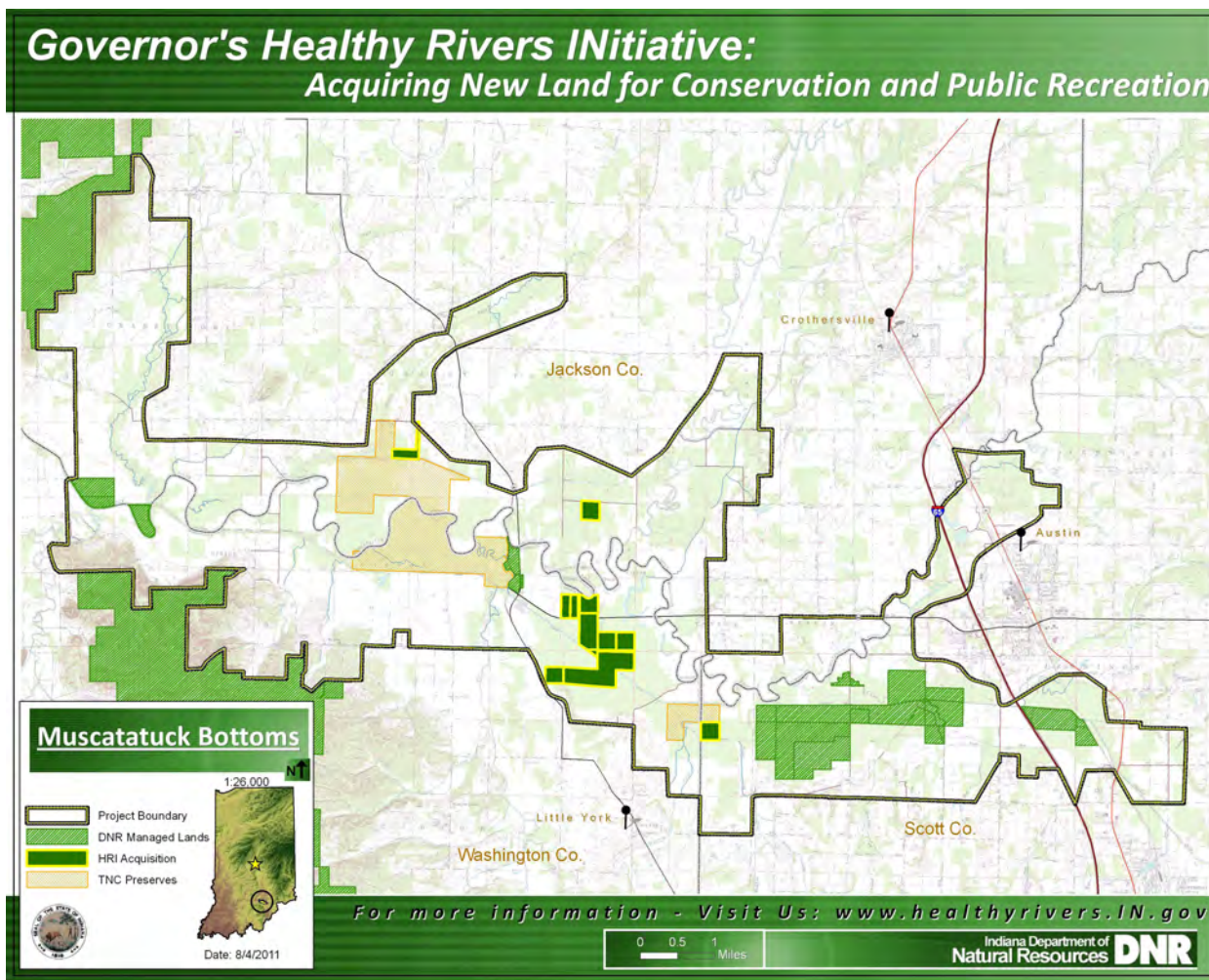
It is vitally important for Indiana to conserve and restore wetlands whenever possible for many reasons. Wetlands offer a significant set of financial, ecological and recreational benefits to Hoosiers, including:

- **Flood control**—Wetlands can store large amounts of storm runoff. The constructed wetlands and settling ponds at Miller-



Governor's Healthy Rivers Initiative: Acquiring New Land for Conservation and Public Recreation





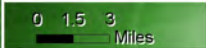
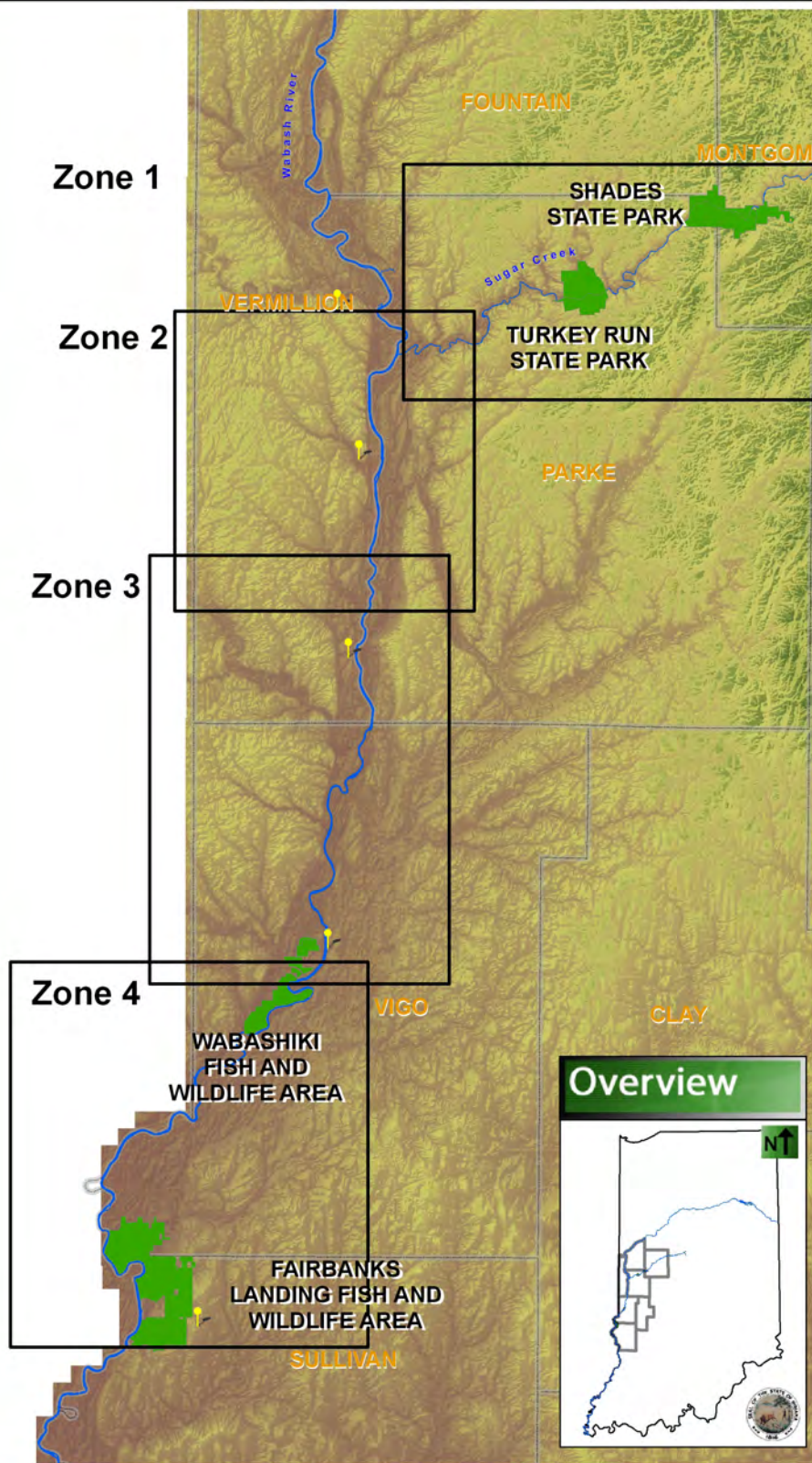
Showers Park in Bloomington are an example.

- **Groundwater inlet and outlet**—Aquifers can receive and expel water as needed through wetlands, e.g., the recharge taking place in Celery Bog Park in West Lafayette.
- **Improved water quality**—Wetlands can act as a biological filter for pollutants such as fertilizers, animal wastes, road runoff, sediments, pesticides and more. Water filtered by wetlands costs less to treat and use as drinking water. This filtration process is used to treat acid coal mine drainage at the DNR Interlake State Recreation Area in Pike and Warrick counties.
- **Sewage disposal**—Constructed wetlands are being used as highly effective disposal methods for treated sewage from livestock farms and municipal wastewater.

Constructed wetlands are being used for treated sewage disposal at Historic Prophetstown and Prophetstown State Park in Tippecanoe County.

- **Fish and wildlife habitat**—Wetlands are one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems in Indiana. Many fish and wildlife species depend on wetlands for some or all of their food, shelter and water needs. Many species of plants also require the conditions found in wetlands to survive. Goose Pond Fish & Wildlife Area near Linton is being restored as diverse wetlands by a consortium of partners, including DNR, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and others. One reason for this project is to re-establish historically diverse plant and animal communities.
- **Soil stabilization**—Wetlands fight erosion

**Governor's Healthy Rivers Initiative:
Wabash River and Sugar Creek**



Indiana Department of Natural Resources **DNR**

Wetlands Habitats	Acres	% of Total
Scrub-Shrub	42,131	5.2
Forested	504,336	62.0
Wet Meadow	55,071	6.8
Shallow Marsh	67,564	8.3
Deep Marsh	20,730	2.5
Open Water	98,565	12.1
Other	24,633	3.0
Total	813,032	100

Table 4.1; Indiana Wetland Acres (Rolley, R.E., 1991)

by slowing the movement of water through a watershed, and by holding down soil (especially on shorelines) with extensive aquatic root systems. IDEM has approved several projects on private property that use wetlands as part of a larger soil stabilization project.

- **Food**—Wetlands are an important source of food for both wildlife and humans. The food types include edible plants, fish, shellfish, waterfowl, deer and other animals.
- **Timber production**—If managed carefully, valuable timber and forest products can be harvested from wetlands in a sustainable manner without harming the resource.
- **Fun**—Wetland areas offer many popular forms of outdoor recreation, such as canoeing, kayaking, fishing, hiking, nature photography, bird-watching, swimming, boating and sightseeing. Pisgah Marsh in Kosciusko County is an example of a multiple-use DNR Fish & Wildlife Area that actively supports many types of outdoor recreation.

INDIANA WETLANDS ACREAGE

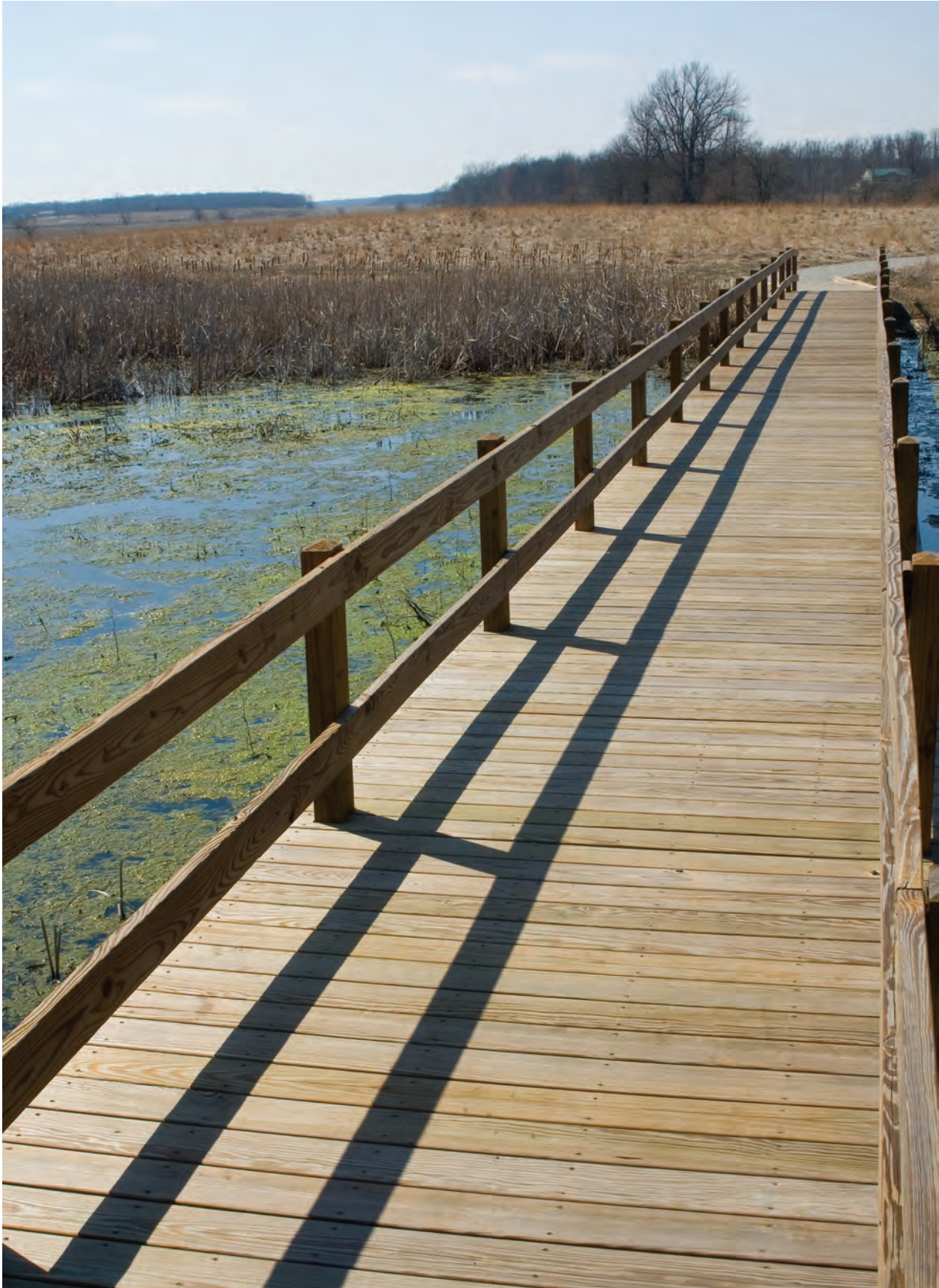
There are several different efforts underway to provide a current inventory count of wetlands acres in Indiana. These efforts are an attempt to update the best available dataset for Indiana wetlands acres. According to the 1996 IWCP, the most recent analysis of the acreage of wetlands in Indiana by habitat type was the dataset created in 1991 by R.E. Rolley as part of the DNR’s “Indiana Wetlands Inventory” project. At the time, Indiana had approximately 813,000 acres of wetlands divided into seven basic types (see Table

4.1 “Rolley Data Table”).

For comparison, it has been estimated that in the 1780s, as the first settlers arrived, Indiana had approximately 5.6 million acres of wetlands. This indicates that Indiana has lost approximately 85% of its wetlands to agriculture, roads, community development, pollution, vegetation clearing, and other land uses or factors. There have been significant additions to the state’s wetlands since 1991. The 8,064-acre Goose Pond FWA and more than three-quarters of a mile of fen at Prophetstown State Park in Tippecanoe County are two examples. The results from the new wetlands inventories taking place now should reflect an interesting level of change and improvement in wetland conservation and enhancement in Indiana, with even greater improvements and gains still to come.

As with many other states, Indiana in the past had placed a greater priority on development or conversion of wetlands to other uses. For example, historically, many farmers saw wet bottomlands on their properties as a nuisance to be drained and turned to field for agricultural purposes, rather than as a useful natural resource to be conserved or protected. With a greater understanding of the ecological importance and other benefits of wetlands, as well as recognition of their biodiversity and utility, attitudes toward wetlands have shifted toward conservation, remediation and enhancement. The IWCP identifies some of the habitat lost or converted, and areas that need to be restored. State, federal, private, and not-for-profit organizations are working together in many ways to identify, purchase and restore more of the former wetlands to their original glory.





CHAPTER 5: ACCESSIBILITY AND OUTDOOR RECREATION

This chapter addresses some of the common challenges and issues that park professionals and other interested persons face when trying to make their facilities, programs, services and amenities accessible to people with disabilities. Included is information about the legalities involved, pertinent legislation, guidelines to follow, and even potential sources of expert help and assistance.

WHY ACCESSIBILITY?

In these challenging economic times, it might be tempting to argue that accessibility costs too much for too little benefit, as in “We rarely have any visitors with disabilities.”

Such a view stems from the misunderstanding that accessibility only benefits people with disabilities in general. In reality; most people who end up being helped are not legally disabled.

For example, a ramp is installed at a pier/dock to satisfy the law. Clearly, people with mobility disabilities use the ramp, but those without disabilities also profit:

- Family with large, heavy gear and folding chairs
- Mom with a child in a stroller
- Older person with bad knees
- Person on crutches coming back from a skiing holiday
- Park employees taking up equipment from a boat
- Young artist with heavy paints and easel
- School group on a field trip (less likely to stumble)
- Couple carrying a heavy lunch basket
- Emergency personnel responding with equipment

We can see here that an accessibility measure such as a ramp can benefit a wide range of individuals.

Apart from the obvious moral benefits of not discriminating against people, accessibility offers plenty of benefits that provide a competitive advantage to a facility:

Legal benefits

- Avoid arbitrations/mediations
- Avoid court cases

Technical benefits

- Ramps that are easier to manage/ clean

- Accessibility features require little if any extra effort
- Good for all, not just people with disabilities
- Improve use

Economic benefits

- Increase productivity—spend less time defending complaints
- Reduce costs (maintenance/support)
- Decrease injury claims (public and worker)
- Increase profits (greater participation)

PR benefits

- Property seen as inclusive and forward-looking
- Avoid complaints
- Avoid bad press

As more people live longer and naturally encounter disabling conditions, and more veterans return home with disabilities, rather than “Why Accessibility?” the more logical question seems to be “Why NOT Accessibility?”

OVERVIEW OF LEGISLATION

As required by the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, federal government agencies and entities receiving federal funds had to make their facilities and programs accessible to people with disabilities. In 1990, Congress enacted the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which extended accessibility and non-discrimination requirements in five areas: employment, public services, public accommodations, telecommunications and miscellaneous provisions.

How does this translate to park and recreation providers? State and local governments, including counties, cities, towns and townships, are covered by Title II of the ADA (public services). Likewise, commercial and non-profit park and recreation providers are covered by Title III (public accommodations) because they provide services to the public. These include non-profit groups such as Friends of the Parks and trail groups, YMCAs and Boys and Girls Clubs, as well as commercial entities providing canoe rentals, fitness facilities, go-cart racing, amusement parks, ski resorts, rafting companies, bowling alleys, etc. As a rule of thumb, if you are involved with the public, whether via government or private business, you must provide accessible facilities, programs and services.

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

“What Standard do I use?” or “We want to comply, but how?” A good rule is to start with the best, most current information. There are basically two standards—the ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. Detailing various laws and how they apply here is unnecessary; for our purposes, following the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design will satisfy all legal requirements.

The ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG)—adopted in 1991

The ADA is a comprehensive civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability. The ADA requires that newly constructed and altered state and local government facilities, places of public accommodation, and commercial facilities be readily accessible to, and usable by, individuals with disabilities. The ADAAG is the standard applied to buildings and facilities. Recreational facilities are among the facilities required to comply with the ADA.

2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design—go into effect on March 15, 2012

The Justice Department adopted the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design (2010 Standards or Standards) as part of the revised regulations for Title II and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). The Standards can be found at ada.gov/2010ADASTandards_index.htm.

The Standards set minimum requirements—both scoping and technical—for new construction and alterations of the facilities of more than 80,000 state and local governments and more than 7 million businesses. Until the 2012 compliance date, entities can use the revised Standards to plan current and future projects so that their buildings and facilities are accessible to more than 54 million Americans with disabilities. After the March 15, 2012 date, ALL entities will have to use the 2010 Standards.

Thomas E. Perez, Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division said, “This online version of the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design will enable architects, contractors, local government service providers, small business owners, disability rights advocates, and others to find in one place the information they need to provide that accessibility.”

In addition to the official version of the 2010 Standards, the department has also posted on the web-

site important **guidance** about the Standards that is compiled from material in the Title II and Title III regulations. This guidance provides detailed information about the department’s adoption of the 2010 Standards, including changes to the Standards, the reasoning behind those changes, and response to public comments received on these topics.

The 2010 Standards for Accessible Design contains newly codified specifications for these recreational facilities:

- Amusement Rides
- Recreational Boating Facilities
- Exercise Machines and Equipment
- Fishing Piers and Platforms
- Golf Facilities
- Miniature Golf Facilities
- Play Areas
- Saunas and Steam Rooms
- Swimming Pools, Wading Pools and Spas
- Shooting Facilities with Firing Positions

Recreational facilities still in the rules-making process include:

- Trails
- Camping Facilities
- Beach Access
- Picnic Tables
- Fire Rings, Grills, Fireplaces and Wood Stoves
- Trash and Recycling Receptacles
- Water Hydrants
- Utility and Sewage Hookups
- Outdoor Rinsing Showers
- Benches
- Telescopes and Periscopes
- Viewing Areas
- Outdoor Recreation Access Routes

Although accessibility specifications for these recreational facilities are not yet adopted by standard-setting agencies, they are considered “best available information” and should be used when constructing new or altering existing facilities. In addition to trails, separate standards are being developed for Public Rights of Way and Shared Use Paths. The Public Rights of Way rule-making involves accessibility on sidewalks and at street crossings whereas shared-use paths focus specifically on facilities designed for both transportation and recreation purposes, and are used by a variety of groups such as pedestrians, bicyclists, skaters, equestrians and others.



Remember, there is no “grandfather” clause written into accessibility legislation or standards. It is a common misconception of facility managers and building owners to believe that facilities built before accessibility standards are “grandfathered” into the “old way” and do not need accessibility modifications. This is not the case. According to accessibility standards, altering a facility triggers using the accessibility standards. Furthermore, each state and local government entity is required by Title II to conduct a self-evaluation of the accessibility of programs and facilities, and create a corresponding Transition Plan to correct identified accessibility deficiencies. Since many facilities built before accessibility standards are mostly inaccessible, the Transition Plan will include ways to remove barriers from these facilities.

PROGRAM ACCESS

Program accessibility was first legislated in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which states that “No otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States, as defined in section 7(20), shall, solely by reason of her or his dis-

ability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance or under any program or activity conducted by any Executive agency or by the United States Postal Service.” This important principle was also written into the ADA legislation: “A public entity may not deny the benefits of its programs, activities, and services to individuals with disabilities because its facilities are inaccessible. A public entity’s services, programs, or activities, when viewed in their entirety, must be readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities. This standard, known as “program accessibility,” applies to all existing facilities of a public entity. Public entities, however, are not necessarily required to make each of their existing facilities accessible.” (US DOJ, ADA Title II; 1990)

In essence, program accessibility applies to almost anything. Although you may not be constructing new or altered facilities, program access may (or may not) require you to make physical changes to your facilities. Program access may also require modifications to your policies, prac-

tices and/or procedures. Consider the following scenarios:

- The park department main office is located in an inaccessible building built in the 1950s. The park department retrofits the building so that the parking, route to building, public offices and support facilities such as public restrooms are accessible to the public.
- Signs interpreting the natural and cultural history of the area are provided on a trail. Audio tours may be used to effectively communicate to a person with low or no vision the information contained in the interpretive displays.
- Park board meetings usually are held in an inaccessible historic building. The new park board members decide to officially move the meeting location to an accessible location allows all interested public, regardless of ability, to attend without prior notification.
- The park department offers movie nights each Friday in September. Staff ensures captions are turned on during each movie to ensure people who are hard of hearing or deaf can also enjoy the show.

In its 2010 revision of the Title II ADA Regulations, expanded on its mobility devices guidance by adding Other Power-Driven Mobility Devices (OPDMD) as acceptable devices. The Department of Justice defines OPDMD as “any mobility device powered by batteries, fuel, or other engines—whether or not designed primarily for use by individuals with mobility disabilities—that is used by individuals with mobility disabilities for the purpose of locomotion...but that is not a wheelchair...” According to this new regulation, public entities must permit the use of OPDMDs by people with mobility impairments unless the entity can otherwise demonstrate that a specific OPDMD creates safety or programmatic issues. The regulation provides assessment factors to assist public entities in determining whether specific classes of OPDMD can be allowed in a particular facility. Questions regarding the application of this new regulation should be directed to the Department Justice or the ADA Center.

Public entities with 50 or more employees are required by Title II to designate an employee to

coordinate compliance with the ADA. This is often accomplished through the hiring or designation of an accessibility coordinator. The accessibility coordinator should know the entity’s structure, activities and employees, applicable laws and how to meet them, as well as be knowledgeable about varying types and severity of disabilities. The accessibility coordinator can assist the park and recreation department in identifying and solving potential program accessibility issues, respond to grievances and assist with assistance with staff training. Staff training is a key component to ensuring programs and services are accessible. Disability awareness and accessibility training should be provided for all staff and volunteers. This helps ensure visitors with disabilities are treated with respect and requests for accommodations are responded to appropriately.

DOJ ADA Guide for Small Towns ada.gov/smtown.htm.

ABOVE AND BEYOND

“What? We don’t have enough funding to do the minimum; now you want more?”

The answers are “not really” and “yes.”

Throughout the process, you will be in the best shape if you do not design for the minimum. For example, the range for the height of grab bars in a restroom is 33-36 inches from the floor to the top of the gripping surface. Shooting for 34 or so will give you plenty of “wobble room.” It will not cost more. Even if a contractor makes a small adjustment, you’ll still be safe.

Also, where possible, we are asking for more. The ADA Standards were developed by a number of individuals with a variety of interests and perspectives. Building to the Standards will not accommodate all people with disabilities; just many. Exceeding the guidelines, where possible, will provide increased accessibility and opportunities. For example, incorporating Universal Design concepts will provide greater access for those in your community with more severe disabilities. The term “Universal Design” was coined by the architect Ronald L. Mace to describe the concept of designing all products and the built environment to be aesthetic and usable to the greatest extent possible by everyone, regardless of their age, ability, or status in life. In most instances, the increased cost is negligible while the benefits are significant.

Some examples might be:

- Smooth, ground level, entrances without stairs
- Surface textures that require less force to travel across,
- Wide interior doors, hallways, and alcoves with 60" x 60" turning space
- Single-hand operation with closed fist for operable components like door and faucet handles
- Light switches with large flat panels rather than small toggle switches
- Buttons and other controls that can be distinguished by touch
- Bright and appropriate lighting, particularly task lighting
- Instruction that presents material both orally and visually

As for the idea of "more ..."

"Would you be more inclined to take your family to a well-kept, clean park or, when seeing trash or unmowed areas, just move on?" The same idea holds for exceeding requirements. Clearly, an area that the community can be proud of will be less

likely to be defaced or vandalized. Having a model will draw in people and support from a wider area. This is a major reason why we do what we do.

A WORD ABOUT PRODUCTS, DESIGNERS AND CONSULTANTS

At one time or another (perhaps daily) most park and recreation professionals are responsible for choosing products for use in park and recreation facilities. Whether new additions or replacements, there are many products for which the professional must know how to determine accessibility. Picnic tables, benches, play structures and surfacing, sinks, lockers, and drinking fountains are among the many products that need to be accessible. It is important for the buyer to investigate potential products and not rely solely on a vendor's claim of accessibility or "ADA Approved." For more guidance on this topic, refer to "ADA Approved and Other Accessible Product Myths: Choosing Products to Improve Access at Your Parks & Facilities," available in the appendix of this plan and at ncaonline.org/index.php?q=node/1339.



In addition to purchasing products, recreation practitioners also work with designers and consultants during capital improvement projects. Before hiring a specific company, recreation practitioners should ask how much accessibility experience their staff has. While many architects, landscape architects and engineers are aware of accessibility, it is often not their main focus while designing and constructing a new facility or during rehabilitation projects. Before hiring a designer or consultant, requests for qualifications (RFQ) may be posted. If RFQs are used, be sure to ask for information regarding accessibility compliance. After hiring a company, be sure to have a knowledgeable person on park staff review plans for accessibility as well as other concerns before bidding. Work with the person (consultant or in-house) preparing the bid document to include

language regarding the liability of the contractor regarding accessibility. Include people with disabilities in the process. Asking for this input/perspective not only provides a “new set of eyes,” but also helps spread the word about your program.

WRAP-UP AND RESOURCES

Our intent is to provide the tools necessary to ensure that whatever program you develop will provide the best you can, for all. No one (including people with disabilities) wants to be unnecessarily singled out or treated differently. We all want to enjoy our natural resources in as natural an environment as possible, but we also want to make sure we do not create barriers. Please contact the following resources for free and anonymous accessibility information and/or technical assistance.



U.S. Department of Justice:

Find out more about the ADA or the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design using the toll-free ADA Information Line at 800-514-0301 (Voice) or 800-514-0383 (TTY), or go to ada.gov.

The U.S. Access Board:

The Access Board is an independent federal agency devoted to accessibility for people with disabilities. Created in 1973 to ensure access to federally funded facilities, the Board is now a leading source of information on accessible design. The Board develops and maintains design criteria for the built environment, transit vehicles, telecommunications equipment, and for electronic and information technology. It also provides technical assistance and training on these requirements and on accessible design, and continues to enforce accessibility standards that cover federally funded facilities.

United States Access Board
1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20004-1111
Phone (voice): (202) 272-0080
toll free: 800-872-2253
Phone (TTY): (202) 272-0082
toll free: 800-993-2822
Fax: (202) 272-0081
access-board.gov
Email: info@access-board.gov

Great Lakes ADA Center:

The DBTAC-Great Lakes ADA Center provides information, materials, technical assistance and

training on the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). Topics addressed include the non-discrimination requirements in employment, the obligations of state and local governments and business to ensure programs, services and activities are readily accessible to and usable by people with disabilities. This includes access to the information technology used by these entities including but not limited to websites, software, kiosks, etc.

DBTAC—Great Lakes ADA Center (MC 728)
1640 W. Roosevelt Road, Room 405
Chicago, IL 60608
(312) 413-1407 (V/TTY) or
800-949-4232 (V/TTY)
(312) 413-1856 (Fax)
adagreatlakes.org

National Center on Accessibility:

The National Center on Accessibility is a non-profit center operating under Indiana University in Bloomington. The center offers information, training, research, technical assistance, and consultation on issues related to accessibility to parks, recreation programs, activities and services.

National Center on Accessibility
Indiana University Research Park
501 N. Morton Street, Suite 109
Bloomington, IN 47404
(812) 856-4422
TTY: (812) 856-4421
Fax: (812) 856-4480
ncaonline.org



CHAPTER 6: 2011 PROGRESS REPORT—HOOSIERS ON THE MOVE, THE INDIANA STATE TRAILS, GREENWAYS & BIKEWAYS PLAN

Hoosiers on the Move, The Indiana State Trails, Greenways & Bikeways Plan was released in 2006. The plan set a goal of having a trail within 7.5 miles or 15 minutes of all Hoosier residents by 2016. The plan also established a visionary system of statewide interconnected arterial trails. In order to achieve the plan objectives, when the plan was released, Gov. Daniels pledged to double funding directed toward trails from \$10 million to \$20 million annually. The plan’s five-year anniversary seems appropriate to re-visit and provide an update on the progress of trails, greenways, and bikeways statewide. A summary of the trails plan progress made over the past five years follows.

ULTIMATE GOAL: A TRAIL WITHIN 7.5 MILES OR 15 MINUTES OF ALL HOOSIERS

In 2006, when Hoosiers on the Move was released, 83% of Indiana residents had a hiking, biking, or equestrian trail available within 7.5 miles of their home. As of January 2012, Indiana now has a trail within 7.5 miles of 96.9% of all Hoosier residents. By 2013, we expect to surpass that 97% mark. These results indicate a 14% increase over the 82.9% of residents being within 7.5 miles of a trail in 2006. This analysis excludes boating/water trails and trails open for use by motorized vehicles. See chart below and the Indiana Trails 2011 map.

HOOSIERS SERVED BY TRAILS

POPULATION 2010	6,483,802	SERVED
2006	5,374,344	82.9%
2012	6,281,464	96.9%
2013	6,287,666	97.0%

In 2006, Hoosiers on the Move reported 2,074 miles of trail open to the public. Since 2006, it was deemed more accurate to use trail miles calculated from actual geography as opposed to reported/estimated trail mileage. Also, boating/water trails have since been removed from the trails inventory to make the inventory more ame-

nable to analysis and reporting. Using the current reporting methods, trail miles open to public in 2006 would have been 1,542 miles. As of January 2012, the Indiana Trails Inventory showed 2,859 miles of trail open to the public. This reflects an increase of 1,317 miles of trail open to the public; however, more than half of the trails added to the trail inventory during the past five years were actually in existence before 2006, so it is estimated that approximately 550 miles of new trail have been added since 2006. An additional 124 miles of trail are in the process of being acquired and/or developed. It should also be noted that a new category of trail, potential trails, is now being tracked within the trails inventory. See the trails inventory maps for 2006 and 2012.

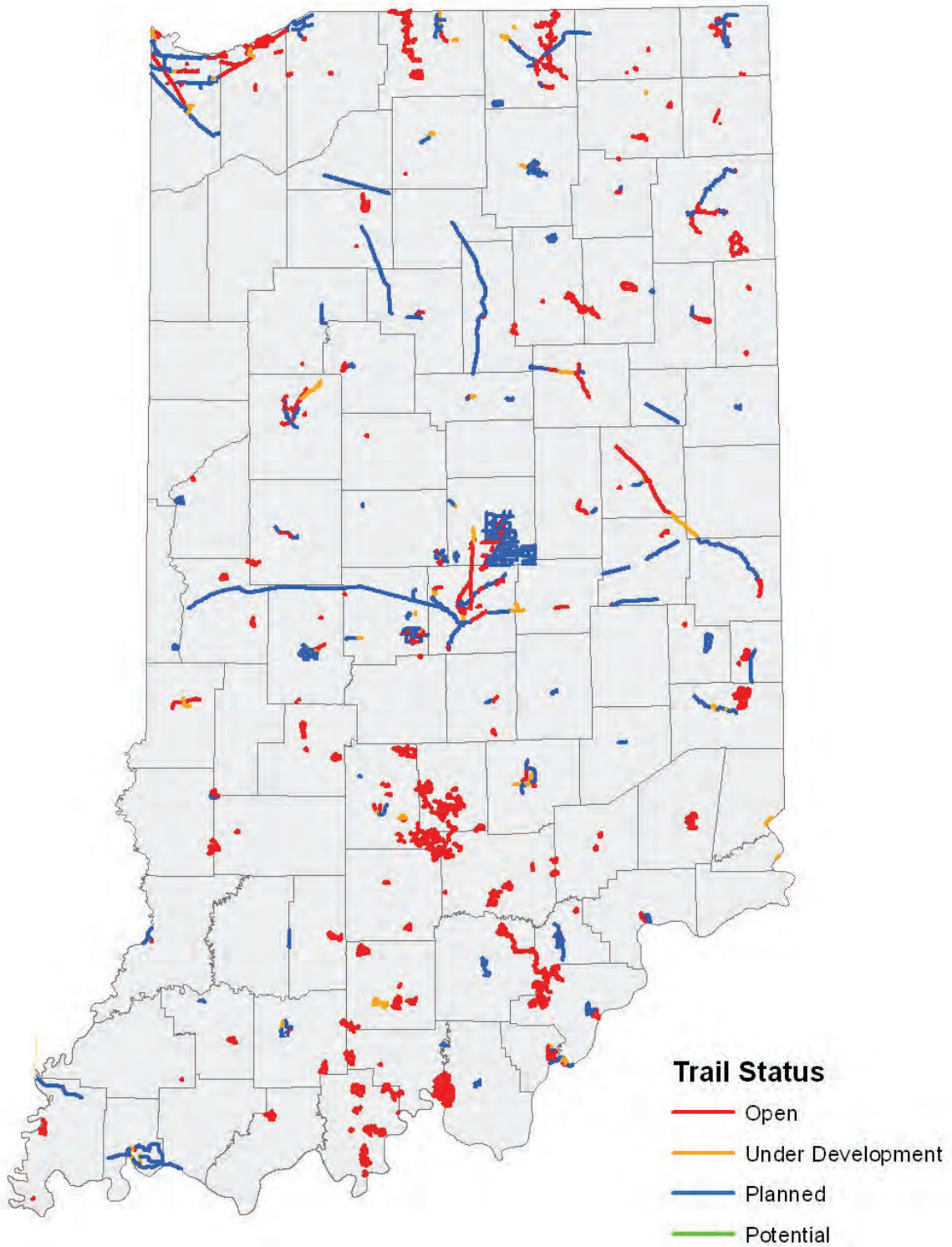
STATE VISIONARY TRAILS

Hoosiers on the Move established a visionary statewide system of interconnected arterial trails. The priority visionary system of trail would be close to 1,000 miles in distance when complete. In 2006, 132 miles of this visionary system were complete. As of January 2012, an additional 187 miles of this system has been completed, more than doubling the miles of completed visionary trails since 2006. At least another 10 miles is expected to be completed by the end of 2012. This would put the priority visionary trail system at 33% complete by the end of 2012. It should be noted that Hoosiers on the Move did not propose a timeline for completion of the state visionary trails. See map of visionary trails progress.

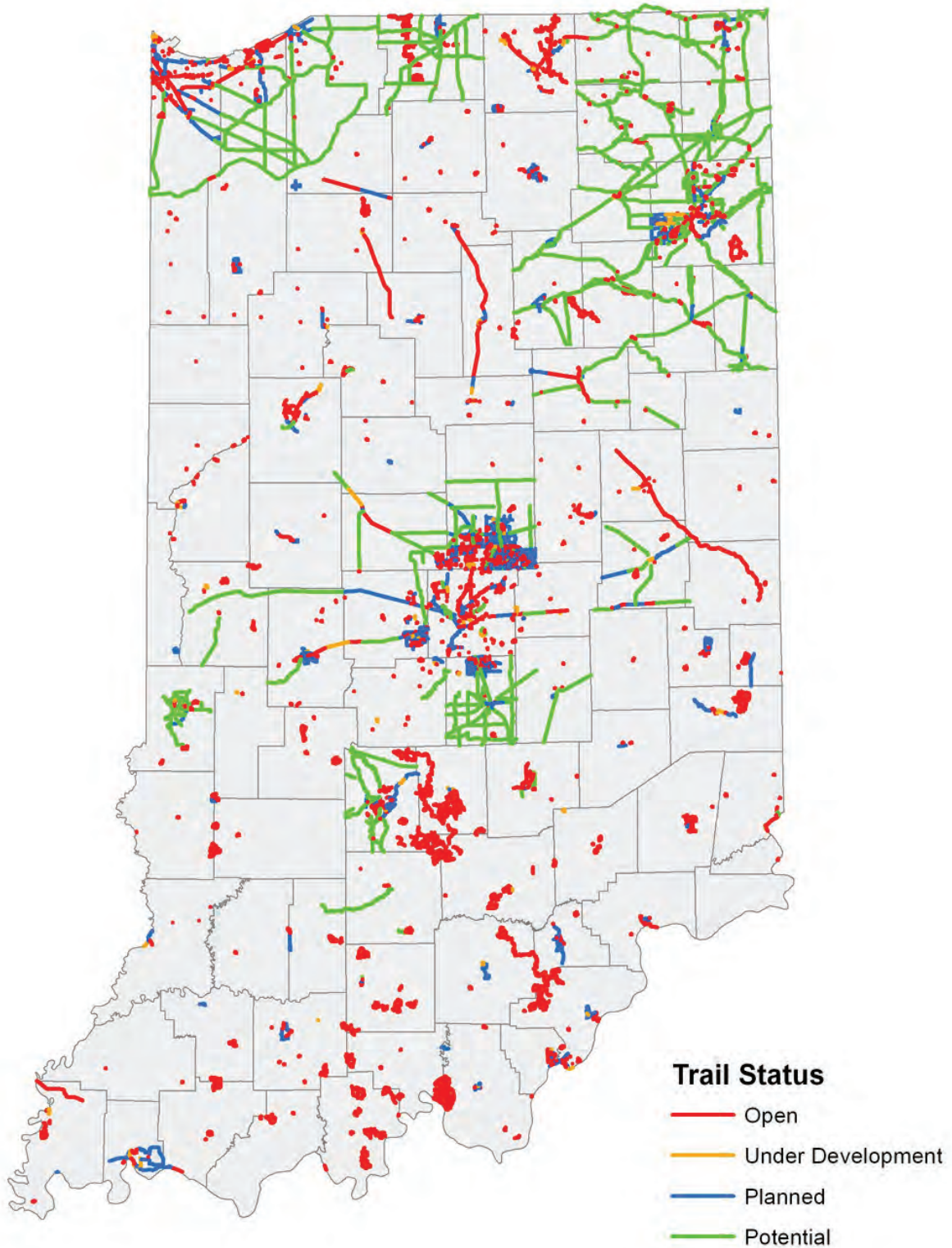
Noteworthy State Visionary Trail projects that have been completed in the past two years include:

- **Cardinal Greenway:** Addition of 20 miles of trail to the existing 30 miles of the section between Muncie and Richmond making this the longest contiguous rail-trail in the state.
- **Nickel Plate Trail:** Extended by 20 miles from Peru to Rochester
- **Panhandle Pathway:** 20 miles of trail built from near Logansport to Winamac
- **Farm Heritage Trail:** Acquired land for 15 miles of trail and built 10 miles of trail in Boone County.
- **Erie Trail:** 9 miles of trail built from North Judson to U.S. 35 in Starke County.

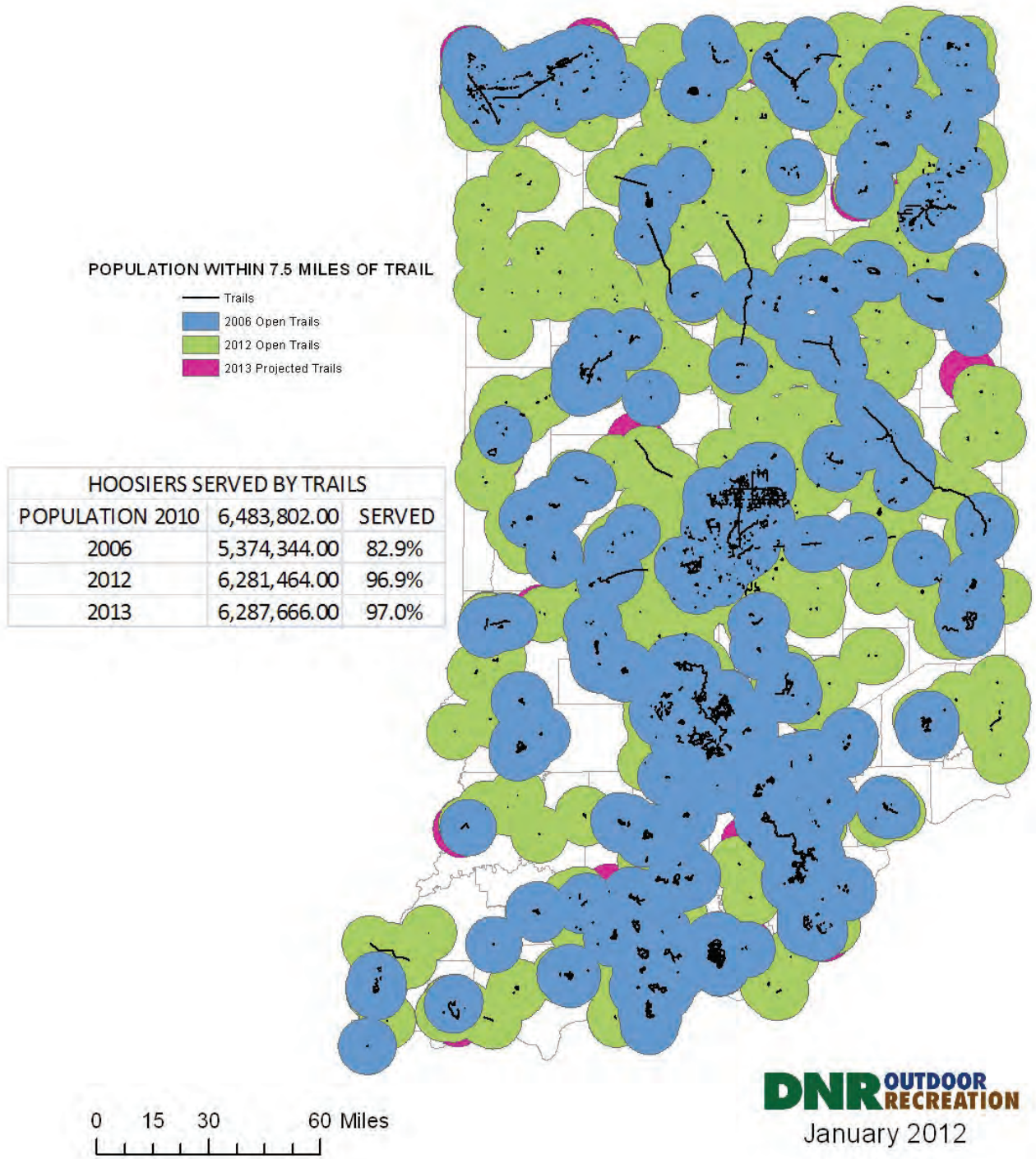
Indiana Trails 2006



Indiana Trails 2012



Indiana Trails 2006-2013



Visionary Trails Progress

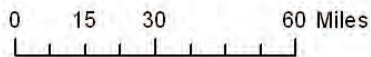
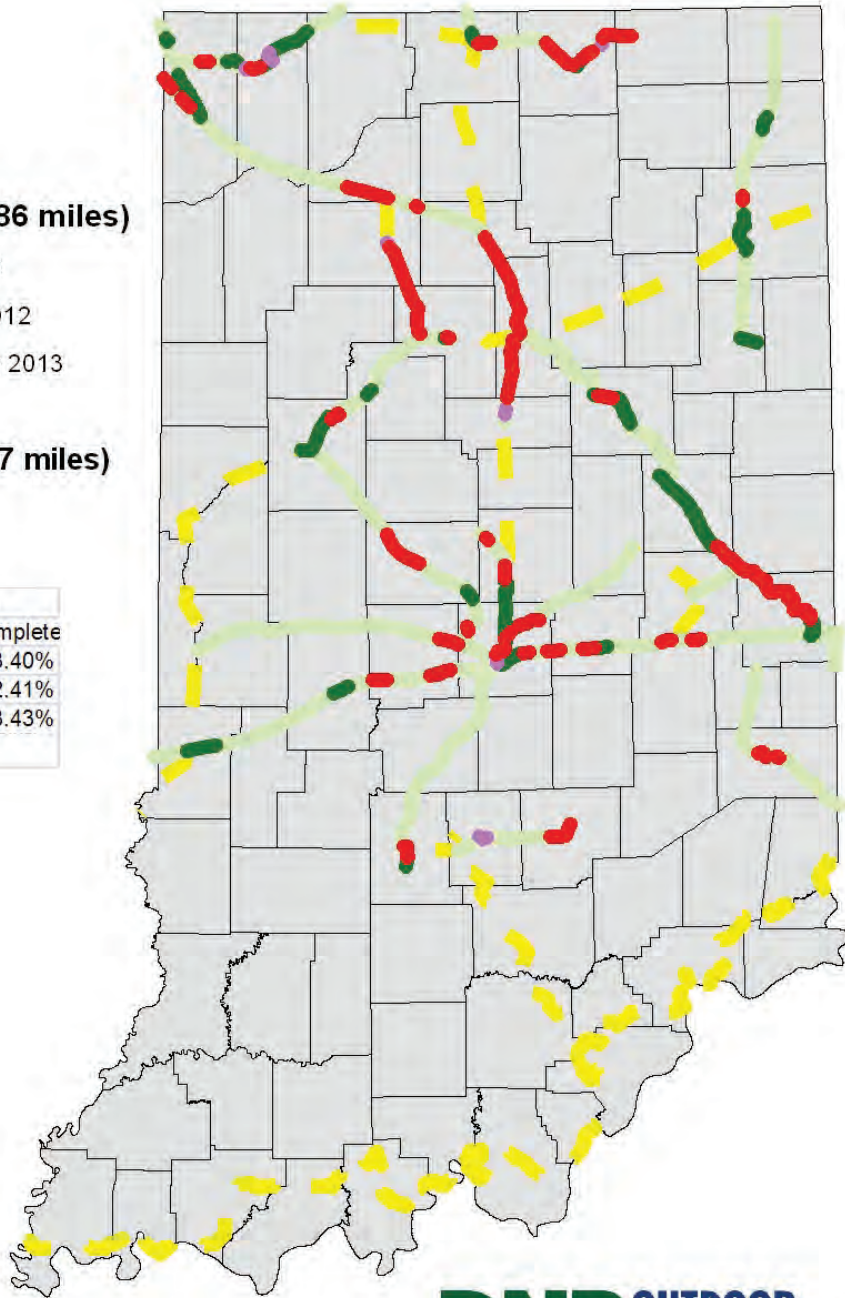
Visionary Status (986 miles)

- █ completed by 2006
- █ completed 2006-2012
- █ to be completed by 2013
- █ Priority planned

Potential System (677 miles)



Visionary Status		
Year	Trail Miles	% Complete
2006	132.11	13.40%
2012	187.46	32.41%
2013	10.01	33.43%
total	329.58	



DNR OUTDOOR RECREATION

January 2012

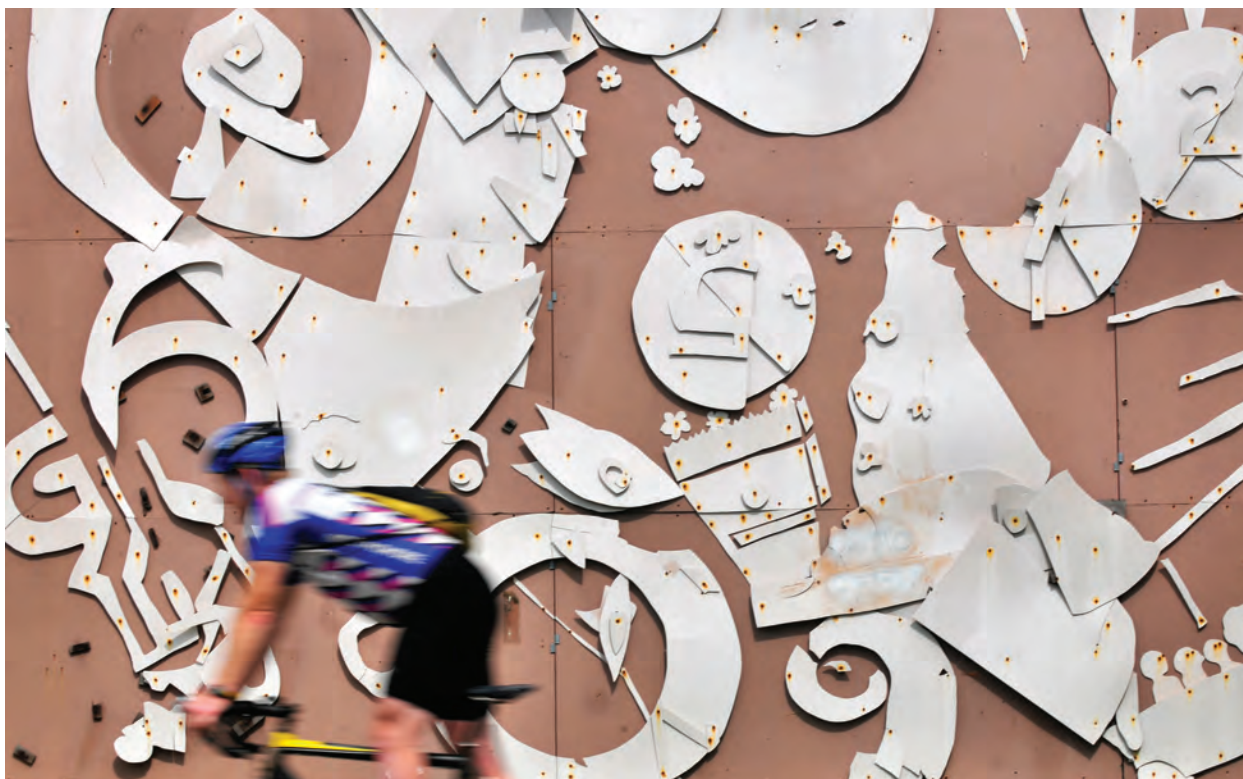
TRAIL FUNDING

When Hoosiers on the Move was released, Gov. Daniels pledged to double funding of trails from \$10 million to \$20 million annually. The pledge to double funding for trails has been met or exceeded every year since 2006. The primary means of accomplishing this was directing a larger percentage of annual federal Transportation Enhancement funding toward bicycle/pedestrian projects. Another major source of trail funding has been the federal Recreational Trails Program. State funds and private funds for trails have also been secured and directed toward trails since 2006. Most recently, substantial amounts of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) special federal stimulus Transportation Enhancement funding has been made available for trails in Indiana. Below is a summary of several special funding initiatives.

- **Acquisition of abandoned railroad land**—\$1.5 million state funds
- **Lilly Endowment grants**—\$1.25 million private funds
- **State Trail Grant Program**—\$19.3 million state funds
- **ARRA Transportation Enhancement Funding**—\$34 million federal funds

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The ultimate goal of Hoosiers on the Move, a trail within 7.5 miles of all Hoosiers, is on the verge of being realized. Now may be time to raise the bar and set a new goal of having a trail with 5 miles of all Hoosier residents. In addition, the build out of the nearly 1,000 miles of the State Visionary Trails has progressed quickly by completing several extensive trail corridors that had already been acquired. Continued progress toward development of the State Visionary Trails will require a more strategic approach to fill in gaps and make connections between these trails. By completing several of the longest rail-trails in the state, Indiana can boast of having many more destination trails that will enhance tourism, promote healthy lifestyles, and help boost economic development along those corridors and in surrounding communities. This falls in line with the fact that this SCORP's public input surveys clearly indicate that trails, greenways, and bikeways are of great importance and use to our outdoor recreation in many ways. All reasonable indications are that the state should continue to follow the trails plan to fulfill those needs.







CHAPTER 7: SOME RESOURCES, IDEAS AND INFORMATION

This chapter closes the SCORP by examining resources for parks-and-recreation stakeholders, including insightful research from the American Planning Association (APA) and the Indiana Park and Recreation Association (IPRA), and a discussion of the timely and difficult topic of funding. The chapter lists options, resources and ideas for park boards, superintendents, and concerned citizens who want to improve the financial situation for their park departments.

THE APA'S CITY PARKS FORUM: A HELPFUL RESOURCE

In researching the SCORP, a website was discovered that features not only interesting ideas, but also includes commentaries from some of the parks-and-recreation field's experts, actual real-world case studies of park development, design and collaboration, and a detailed bibliography that provides primary research information sources. The website, planning.org/cityparks/, is the American Planning Association's "City Parks Forum."

One of the gems included is briefing papers. The section features 11 short research white papers by a diverse group of well-known and highly recognized parks-and-recreation subject matter experts, such as Peter Harnik, Megan Lewis, John L. Crompton, and Joseph A. MacDonald. The briefing papers, listed by title, examine how cities use parks for things like community revitalization and economic development. The papers also examine how to Help Children Learn, Improve Public Health, Promote Tourism, Create Safer Neighborhoods, and more. The full text of each is available on the website as a downloadable PDF, as well as on the webpage. Some of the ideas shared are not necessarily new, but all are presented in the context of recent case studies and research, and offer timely options and solutions to common problems and opportunities.

THE IPRA'S PARKS & RECREATION EDUCATION AND RESEARCH LINKS

The IPRA has created a page on its main website that provides full-text or downloadable free documents helpful to outdoor recreation providers and stakeholders (inpra.org/research--education). Subjects covered include park boards, economic

benefits of parks, state conference session materials, active living, rural recreation, surface transportation, physical activity, youth sports and rail-trails.

PAYING FOR PARKS AND RECREATION DURING AN ECONOMIC DOWNTURN

We already have discussed the effects that the current nationwide economic downturn has had on the citizens of the state of Indiana, its local governments, and on parks and recreation departments in particular. Tough financial times bring up the question: Given our tight budgets, how do we pay for this?

In reality, tight budgets are nothing new; just ask any park director who has been in the job for more than 10 years. As previously mentioned, many communities use innovation to find solutions. The good news is that no one has to re-invent the wheel financially; there are many examples of successful financing for all aspects of parks and recreation.

The list below offers a few ideas and options for financing or funding of parks and recreation, or saving money that can be used elsewhere. Each option has a short description to give interested park professionals or stakeholders a head start on researching more details. We strongly suggest researching local communities that may have used some of these strategies; there is nothing like modeling after a proven strategy to help ensure success. Some of these options are new, and some have been in use for decades. All have the potential for fiscally helping parks and recreation. If a nearby community has tried one or more of these methods and succeeded, ask them what worked. Many will happily share their ideas and tactics with anyone who asks.

An abbreviated list of fiscal management/financing methods in parks and recreation:

- **Municipal General Funds and Revolving Funds:** The most common taxpayer-funded budget source for many departments. Revolving funds that roll over each budget year help eliminate the spend-it-or-lose-it issue, and allow for better fiscal agility over time.
- **Taxes:** Local Option Income Tax (LOIT), County Option Income Tax (COIT), County Adjusted Gross Income Tax (CAGIT), County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT), etc. The proceeds of these tax programs have been used for park,

recreation and trail-related projects with varying amounts of success.

- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Cooperative efforts between businesses and communities with formal, written agreements. These can be either short-term or long-term (single project or ongoing services).
- **Public and Private Foundations:** Examples are Ball Brothers and other “name” foundations, community foundations, etc. Many foundations offer the chance to apply for specialty grants or offer other kinds of assistance.
- **Governmental and Non-Governmental Grants and Funds:** These include the usual park, recreation and trails grant programs such as LWCF and RTP, but also can include Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Lilly Endowment, INDOT Transportation Enhancement (TE), Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and others, given the use of some creative thinking.
- **Private Philanthropy:** Private giving from individuals or families is still a common method for people to give back to their community. What better way to have your name live on than to pay for a park?
- **Recreation Impact Fees (RIF):** A local-level fee paid by developers intended to help the community cover the new costs of providing services to the added development.
- **Tax Increment Financing (TIF):** TIF uses the anticipated future improvements in an area’s tax base to pay for current capital development.
- **User Fees and Charges:** Memberships, dues, subscriptions, entry fees, program fees, events, event sales, etc., used to place part or all costs of providing recreation directly on those who use it most. Best practices use sliding scales, scholarships, “free” days, library checkout park passes and other tactics to avoid being too expensive for use by low- or restricted-income residents.
- **Concessions and Concessioners:** Vending, gift shops, event food sales, contracting, etc. For example, if Little League draws thousands of hungry kids, friends and parents, consider using the profit from feeding them to help maintain those sports fields.
- **Branding:** If Nike can convince people to pay to wear clothing that helps Nike sell more clothing, a park department can use the same tactic. Selling T-shirts and ball caps can market parks in a community, and may even make money.
- **Park Foundations and “Friends” Groups:** Park foundations are a way to fundraise specifically for a community park system. They are targeted to local needs and don’t depend on politics or government budgets. “Friends” groups gather human capital in much the same way, allowing interested people to band together to work toward completing improvements and fulfilling needs in parks.
- **Donations, Memorials, Bequests and Gift Catalogs:** “In-kind” means virtually anything donated besides money. Examples are manpower, skilled labor or materials. Memorials and bequests are a great way for people to honor family or friends in a lasting way, especially if the person honored loved some aspect of the park system. Gift catalogs can effectively spread the word about specific projects, wants and needs. These tools help a park system make its needs known, which is often necessary in order for someone to offer such a gift.
- **Corporate Sponsorships and Naming Rights:** That big new car lot or corporation that just moved into town might like to put its name on the new ball fields in exchange for funding a couple of years of maintenance, or it might sponsor the new leagues.
- **Volunteer Programs:** Bring enthusiastic public helpers into parks and programs to assist the staff. Trained, passionate volunteers can free up paid staff to work elsewhere and accomplish more for less labor cost.
- **Zoning and Development Requirements and/or Fees:** Similar to RIF, these basically require new commercial and/or residential developments to either build

new parks-and-recreation features into their sites (such as a new bike/pedestrian trail extension into the road network of a new senior assisted living center), or pay a set fee to help the community provide the facilities and services the new development will need. It is much cheaper and simpler to build new recreation-based features during initial construction than to add them later. Many developers readily work with these requirements with an eye toward using these low-cost bonus recreation features to attract buyers/residents. People and businesses often want to move next to parks and trails, and often will pay a premium to do so.

- **Municipal Loans, Bonds and Levies:** Special Assessment, General Obligation, and other types of loans, bonds and levies have been used to successfully fund parks-and-recreation development for decades. Carefully research the various types for their diverse tax advantages, beneficial interest rates, etc.
- **Parks and Recreation Special Districts:** Related to both zoning and tax methods, these districts are sometimes used to subdivide a larger community's park department into smaller portions that can concentrate in more detail on localized fees and financing options, as well as programs and services that better benefit their unique neighborhoods and local residents.
- **Public/Public Partnerships or Other Kinds of Cooperation, Agreements and Site Sharing:** If a nearby county park has a lot of new mowers and the staff to run them, and a city park has a trained arborist who could help the county park improve the health of its trees, perhaps an agreement to share personnel and equipment for mutual benefit could be developed. Such an approach works especially well between parks and nearby schools, which might be willing to share the non-school-day use of playgrounds and sports fields/courts in exchange for help with maintenance.
- **Special Events:** Consider using a



popular event as a fundraising tool. If a park hosts all or part of a community's biggest local festival, and 50 vendor booths each contribute a \$200 vendor fee, there is a \$10,000 revenue added to the park's budget in exchange for minimum opportunity cost (mowing and trash pickup will have to happen to some degree anyway). The larger the event's scale, the greater the potential for fundraising.

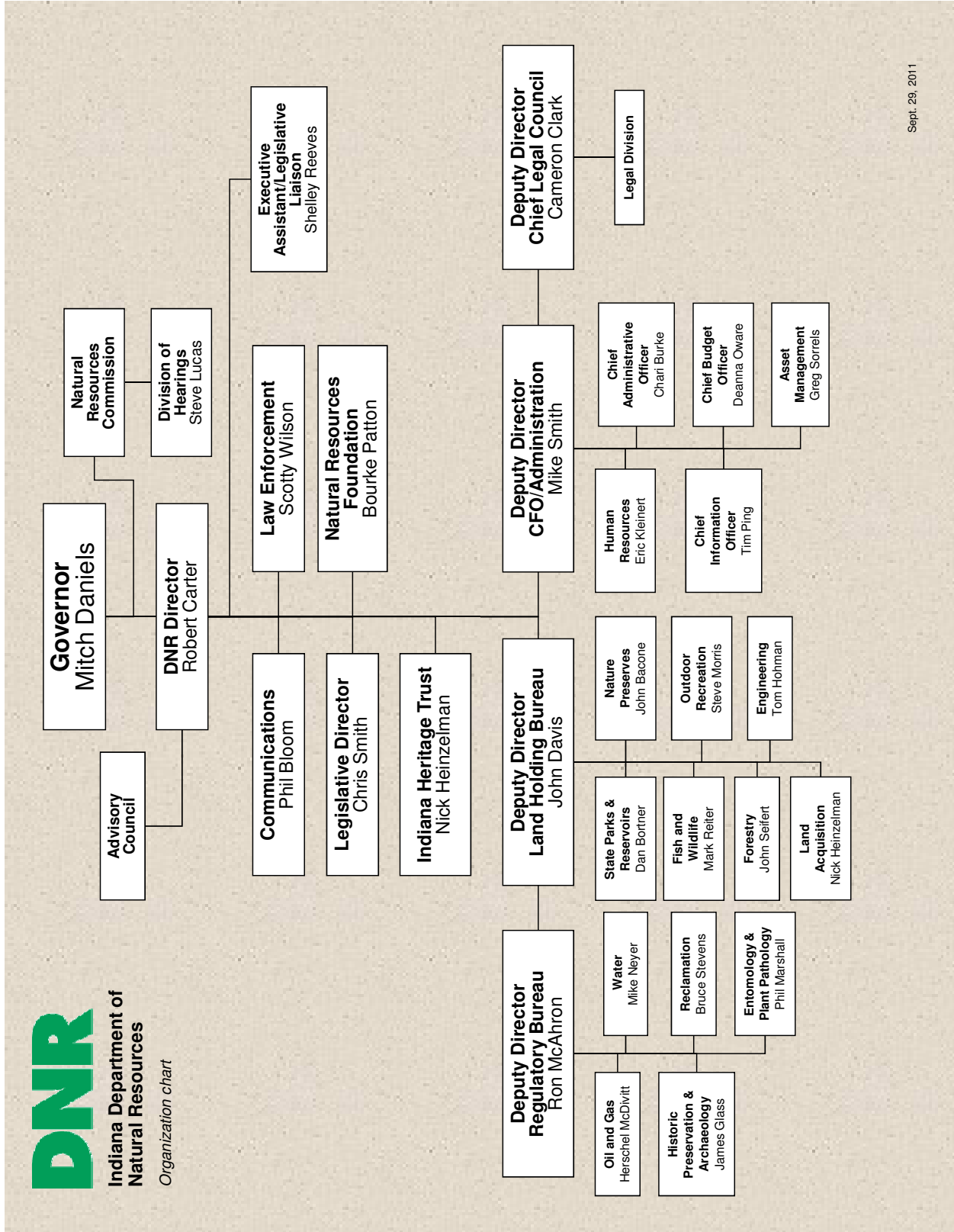
- **Economy of Scale/Bulk Purchasing:** If parks, the community's public works department, and the county's maintenance department need to buy grass seed or fertilizer, lawn mowers or trucks, consider banding together and making a bulk purchase of enough for everyone, which could save everyone money. Coordination is not easy but the savings can be considerable.
- **Privatization/De-privatization of Services:** Consider doing the real-world math about what some maintenance/ services cost in terms of labor, materials, training, insurance, etc., and compare them with the costs of simply contracting them to carefully researched, qualified private firms. Sometimes the reverse is true, and in-house workers may be cheaper in the long run over private contractors. The trick is to do the homework. Make sure to include all possible costs when making comparisons.
- **Aggressive Preventive/Planned/ Scheduled Maintenance:** Smart maintenance supervisors know the cost-effectiveness of taking care of equipment and facilities. New trucks are expensive compared with the cost of a few oil changes. Plan equipment and facility maintenance in advance, and follow a carefully laid-out schedule. Train all levels of staff to habitually monitor and maintain all equipment, including taking it out of service when necessary. The same approach can be just as valuable in facilities. For example, air conditioning systems in buildings function longer and use less energy when filters are changed on time, coils are cleaned regularly, and the refrigerant and oil levels are kept full.
- **Life Cycle Costing:** From the very

start of a new capital project, consider creating a non-reverting fund strictly for the operations, maintenance, decommissioning, and eventual replacement of the new amenities. The idea is to fund-raise all costs for the entire lifespan of a facility from the very start. This can be extremely difficult to do in this time of tight budgets, but the advantage is not having the new operating costs of added facilities overload already strained finances.

Other financing or funding resources

- A helpful online resource for any federal grant is: grants.gov. The fully searchable website offers access to 26 federal grant-making agencies and their 800 grant programs, and even has downloadable or Web-based grant applications available for some programs.
- Another helpful website is that of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA): IN.gov/ocra/index.htm. This website features a number of different state and federal grant programs sometimes used for parks and recreation, such as Planning Grants, Community Development Block Grants and Indiana Main Street. Contact the OCRA community liaison for any given area to get assistance directly targeted to a specific community's needs.
- As mentioned earlier, local community foundations sometimes offer many kinds of specialized grants, or can help create a new donation account for a specific park department. Start at: incommunityfoundations.org/ to find a nearby foundation.
- All the DNR's grant programs are listed at dnr.IN.gov/3190.htm. The grants cover nearly every aspect of natural and cultural resources, and include full details for each with contact information.
- The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) has a website specifically devoted to its competitive grants and fundraising: nrpa.org/fundraising-resources. The site even offers a free online fundraising course.





Sept. 29, 2011

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISIONS

- **Accounting & Internal Audit** provides internal DNR fiscal tracking and support to all other divisions.
- **Budget & Administrative Support** manages the administrative support staff for all of DNR, as well as budgetary control.
- **Engineering** provides engineering and technical support for all DNR properties and others, including architectural, sanitary, electrical, landscape, civil, and code enforcement.
- **Entomology & Plant Pathology** provides information and technical assistance in managing plant and insect pests, specializes in invasive and harmful species.
- **Facilities, Fleet & Asset Management** administers the Department's facilities, including mailroom services, access control, safety and ADA compliance programs; Fleet, including vehicle reservations, owned fleet inventory and maintenance, accident review board and Wright Express; and Asset Management, tracks all assets with a cost over \$500 and a useful life of one year or more.
- **Fish & Wildlife** manages and monitors fish and wildlife populations, hunting and fishing licenses, and provides related technical assistance and information.
- **Forestry** manages State Forests and provides information and technical assistance to foresters and private landowners.
- **Heritage Trust & Land Acquisition** supports the acquisition of new properties from willing sellers via partnerships, donations, bequests, and sales of the Indiana Heritage Trust Fund license plate.
- **Historic Preservation & Archaeology** acts as staff for State Historic Preservation Officer and promotes conservation of cultural resources by facilitating Indiana and federal preservation programs.
- **Human Resources** serves as resource for current and future employees of DNR, provides information on employment, benefits, volunteering, internships, applications and more.
- **Information Services** provides technological service and support DNR-wide.
- **Law Enforcement** provides 204 conservation officers in 10 law enforcement districts, handles environmental investigations, emergency response, education, law enforcement and property protection.
- **Natural Resource Foundation** supports the charitable, educational and scientific programs, projects and policies of the DNR.
- **Nature Preserves** provides permanent protection to significant natural areas, maintaining sustainable examples of all native ecological communities in Indiana.
- **Oil & Gas** oversees petroleum production and exploration through three program areas: permitting and compliance, field services, and abandoned sites.
- **Outdoor Recreation** handles state- and local-level park & recreation master planning, streams & trails, grants, manages three properties and multiple programs, and provides technical assistance for both the public and for recreation professionals.
- **Communications** provides internal and external communications, public relations, marketing, and public education for DNR.
- **Reclamation** protects resources by overseeing reclamation of abandoned mines, active mines, mine blasting, mining permits, and public participation in oversight and permit processes.
- **State Parks & Reservoirs** manages and operates Indiana State Parks, State Reservoirs, and State Park Inns, provides education, recreation, resource conservation and management of these public lands.
- **Water** oversees above- and below-ground water; provides customer information services, permitting, technical services, and engineering services; operates three work groups: floodplain management, resource assessment, and the compliance & projects branch.

OTHER RELATED INDIANA GOVERNMENT OFFICES

- **Indiana Department of Agriculture**, Division of Soil Conservation provides guidance, education and technical assistance to public and private landowners throughout Indiana.
- **Indiana Department of Environmental Management** provides branches that deal with air, water and land. Technical oversight, permits and regulatory compliance are part of its mission.
- **Indiana Department of Health** provides policy, guidance and facilitation of public health and health care activities and programs statewide. Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Health promotes sound physical fitness, nutrition and health.
- **Indiana Department of Transportation** works with all aspects of the statewide transportation system, including bus, car, rail, air, bicycle and foot. Sometimes partners with DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation on alternative transportation projects.
- **Indiana Natural Resources Commission** is an autonomous board that addresses issues pertaining to the Department of Natural Resources.
- **Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs** provides planning, grants and technical assistance for rural economic development statewide.
- **Indiana Economic Development Corporation** is a public-private partnership with a 12-member board that acts as the top economic development agency for Indiana.
- **Indiana Office of Tourism Development** is a stand-alone agency within state government that uses public and private funds to expand tourism statewide.
- **State Museum & Historic Sites** operates a wide variety of historic/cultural programs and facilities, including Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis, Gene Stratton-Porter Cabin, Historic New Harmony and Angel Mounds archeological site.

DNR SCORP DIVISION REPRESENTATIVES

Kevin Hoffman, Fish & Wildlife
Angela L. Tilton, Fish & Wildlife
Carl Hauser, Forestry
Karie Brudis, Historic Preservation & Archaeology
John A. Bacone, Nature Preserves
Bob Bronson, Outdoor Recreation
Greg Beilfuss, Outdoor Recreation
Carman Jackson, Outdoor Recreation
Ginger Murphy, State Parks & Reservoirs
Laura Minzes, State Museum & Historic Sites





APPENDIX A

Indiana Department of Natural Resources - Outdoor Recreation Participation Survey

Are you ... Male Female

What is your age? _____

In which Indiana county do you live? _____ Do not live in Indiana _____

On average, how many times do you & other members of your household participate in the following outdoor activities and how often would YOU like to do so in the future?

	Never	More than once a week	Once a week	Twice a month	Once a month	Couple of times per year	Once a year
Jogging/running							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Competitive horseback riding (show or trail)							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Casual bicycling							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Touring bicycling							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Gathering (berries, mushrooms, etc.)							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Playground use							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Basketball							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Baseball							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Hurling							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							

	Never	More than once a week	Once a week	Twice a month	Once a month	Couple of times per year	Once a year
Regulation golf							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Tent/primitive camping							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
House boating							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Canoeing							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Sailing							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Wind surfing							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Visiting water parks							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Snorkeling							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Hunting deer							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Fishing in ponds							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							

	Never	More than once a week	Once a week	Twice a month	Once a month	Couple of times per year	Once a year
Ice fishing							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Snowshoeing							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Shotgun sport shooting							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Archery							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Lawn games (badminton, lawn bowling, Bocce Ball, etc.)							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Showing animals (non-equestrian)							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Gardening/landscaping							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							
Health related activities (Yoga, Tai Chi, Pilates, etc.)							
Frequency you participate							
Frequency other household members participate							
Frequency YOU would like to participate in the future							

Please list up to 5 OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTIVITIES not listed in the previous question that you participated in during the past 12 months and how often.

Activity	Frequency last 12 months
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What would you say is your FAVORITE outdoor recreation activity? Can be anything from boating, golfing, picnicking, camping, etc.

Now think of the ONE outdoor activity that you participate in the MOST. How do you PRIMARILY travel to that outdoor recreational destination?

- Walk/jog/run Car/truck Scooter Other
 Bike Motorcycle Horseback

In which county in INDIANA do you MOST OFTEN participate in outdoor recreation activities?

_____ Outside Indiana _____

If you and/or your family members could walk, bike, ride a horse or use other non-motorized transportation, how likely would you be to use outdoor recreational facilities more often?

- Very likely Somewhat likely Uncertain Not likely

Would you prefer to use non-motorized transportation to get to outdoor recreation facilities?

- Yes No Doesn't matter

Approximately how much money are you willing to spend per year on YOUR FAVORITE outdoor recreation activity? (Include cost of equipment, training, travel, etc.)

- Less than \$100 \$501-\$750 \$1510-\$2000 \$5001-\$7500
 \$101-\$250 \$751-\$1000 \$2001-\$3000 \$7501-\$10000
 \$251-\$500 \$1001-\$1500 \$3001-\$5000 More than \$10000

Approximately how far are you willing to travel (ONE WAY) to participate in your FAVORITE outdoor recreation activity?

- 0-5 miles 16-25 miles 51-75 miles
 6-10 miles 26-35 miles 76-100 miles
 11-15 miles 36-50 miles More than 100 miles

IF YOU WERE USING NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION, approximately how far are you willing to travel (ONE WAY) to participate in your FAVORITE outdoor recreation activity?

- 0-5 miles 16-25 miles 51-75 miles
 6-10 miles 26-35 miles 76-100 miles
 11-15 miles 36-50 miles More than 100 miles

Which ONE of the following BEST describes the MAIN reason you do not participate in outdoor recreation MORE OFTEN

- None-I participate as much as I want to
 Customs/cultural barriers (family traditions, race or ethnic expectations, beliefs, etc.)
 Structural barriers (poor setting/physical environment, lack of facilities or programs, time, money, transportation, safety, etc.)
 Social barriers (no one to participate with, family conflicts, responsibility to others, etc.)
 Personal barriers (no motivation, lack of skills, physical, mental or emotional health, ability level, etc.)
 Disability-related access prevents me from participating as much as I would like to
 Other

Do you or any of your immediate family members have any type of physical or intellectual disability that prevents you/them from participating in outdoor recreation activities?

- Yes No

If "YES" to the previous question, what type of disability do they have? (Select all that apply)

- Walking Hearing Lifting Other
 Seeing Breathing Bending

What is the MAIN reason you participate or would participate in outdoor recreation?

PLEASE READ ALL THE ANSWERS AND SELECT ONLY THE MAIN ONE.

- Mental Health (relaxation, stress reduction, meditation, spiritual renewal, etc.)
- Physical health
- To be with family/friends
- Volunteerism
- Educational opportunities
- Tourism
- Other

And finally, tell us about your immediate family

What is your current marital status?

- Single-never married Single-separated
- Single-widowed Committed partnership
- Single-divorced Other

Which of the following do you consider yourself to be?

- White, non Hispanic Asian
- Black/African American Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic/Latino Multi-racial
- American Indian/Alaska Native Other

How many family members live in your immediate household?

- 1 4
- 2 5
- 3 6 or more

What are the ages of those living in your household that are under 18 years of age? Mark all that apply.

- 1 4 7 10 13 16
- 2 5 8 11 14 17
- 3 6 9 12 15

APPENDIX B

LRP Survey

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LRP Survey

Important Information:

Local Recreation Providers Survey

Of the following two questions which best describes your role in local parks and recreation provision?

1. I am a *Superintendent* of:
- A. County Parks and Recreation Department
 - B. Township Parks and Recreation Department
 - C. Municipal Parks and Recreation Department
 - D. Other unit of local government (Street Department, Public Works)

Note: Legally established for the following means a management body that complies with IC 36-10-3-3 and IC 36-10-3-4.

2.

I am a <i>member</i> of:	Yes	No
Municipal Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Was the municipal board legally established?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
County Park Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Was the county park board legally established?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Township Park Board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Was the township park board legally established?</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other board	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. If other board was selected above, please indicate the name of the board and your primary role

4. Member of "Friends of" group or similar (nongovernmental management group)

Yes No

What group?

5. Which of the following exist in your community? (Check all that apply.)

- A. Parks and Recreation Department
- B. Park Board (or Park and Recreation Board)
- C. "Friends of Parks" group or similar (nongovernmental management group)
- D. Other agency that manages local public parks and recreation:

If "Other" was checked above, please put name in the box:

6. Which units of government are involved with providing local parks and/or recreation opportunities to citizens in your community? (Check all that apply.)

- A. County
- B. Township

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- C. Municipal (City or Town)
 - D. Other (Please explain)
- If "Other" was checked above, please put name in the box:

7. What zip codes represent the community served by the local parks and recreation system? (Up to 8 zip codes)

Land and Facilities Management:

8. What is the **total** number of acres managed under the local park system?

9. How many of the acres in the local park system are developed (landscaped or has facilities)?

10. How many of the acres in the local park system are undeveloped (naturalized)?

11. Of all the acres managed in the local park system, what types of natural resources exist? Please list natural amenities (e.g., waterways/bodies, forest, open green space, wetlands):

Of the following resources, how many acres/miles do you utilize for recreation?

12. Forest

_____ Water bodies (e.g., ponds, lakes)

_____ Land Trails

_____ Water Trails

13. What percentage/miles of trails would you consider "accessible" as outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)?

Budgets:

14. What was the 2009 budget for your agency?

15. What was the total revenue earned by the local parks and recreation system in 2009?

16. Has your legally appropriated budget increased or decreased since the 2008 fiscal year?

17. What percent of the local tax base goes to the local parks and recreation department?

18. Do you dedicate any percentage of your budget to ADA compliance? Yes No
If so, what percentage?

19. What measures, in the last 5 years, have you taken to achieve ADA compliance?

Facilities Management:

In 2004, we asked local providers about their facilities. Please complete the following sections (A & B) so that we can track changes from the previous study.

Section A. Park and Recreation Facilities - Capital Projects and/or Renovation Projects

20. Do you currently have this facility in the local park system? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Sports Complex
- B. Playground
- C. Boat Ramp/Canoe-Kayak Launch
- D. Wetland or Pond
- E. Picnic Area
- F. Prairie
- G. Campground
- H. Court Sport Area
- I. Field Sport Area
- J. Skate Park
- K. Dog Park
- L. Nature Center
- M. Swimming Pool
- N. Spray Park
- O. Aquatic Facility
- P. Community Center
- Q. Golf Courses
- R. New Park
- S. Other

21. Do you regularly provide programs with this facility? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Sports Complex
- B. Playground
- C. Boat Ramp/Canoe-Kayak Launch
- D. Wetland or Pond
- E. Picnic Area
- F. Prairie
- G. Campground
- H. Court Sport Area
- I. Field Sport Area
- J. Skate Park
- K. Dog Park
- L. Nature Center
- M. Swimming Pool
- N. Spray Park
- O. Aquatic Facility

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- P. Community Center
- Q. Golf Courses
- R. New Park
- S. Other

22. In 2004, was this a planned capital project? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Sports Complex
- B. Playground
- C. Boat Ramp/Canoe-Kayak Launch
- D. Wetland or Pond
- E. Picnic Area
- F. Prairie
- G. Campground
- H. Court Sport Area
- I. Field Sport Area
- J. Skate Park
- K. Dog Park
- L. Nature Center
- M. Swimming Pool
- N. Spray Park
- O. Aquatic Facility
- P. Community Center
- Q. Golf Courses
- R. New Park
- S. Other

23. Do you have a capital project planned for this in the next 5-10 years? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Sports Complex
- B. Playground
- C. Boat Ramp/Canoe-Kayak Launch
- D. Wetland or Pond
- E. Picnic Area
- F. Prairie
- G. Campground
- H. Court Sport Area
- I. Field Sport Area
- J. Skate Park
- K. Dog Park
- L. Nature Center
- M. Swimming Pool
- N. Spray Park
- O. Aquatic Facility
- P. Community Center
- Q. Golf Courses
- R. New Park
- S. Other

24. In the next 5 years do you plan to renovate or refurbish this facility? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Sports Complex
- B. Playground
- C. Boat Ramp/Canoe-Kayak Launch
- D. Wetland or Pond

- E. Picnic Area
- F. Prairie
- G. Campground
- H. Court Sport Area
- I. Field Sport Area
- J. Skate Park
- K. Dog Park
- L. Nature Center
- M. Swimming Pool
- N. Spray Park
- O. Aquatic Facility
- P. Community Center
- Q. Golf Courses
- R. New Park
- S. Other

25. If "Other" facility was marked for the questions 20 to 25, what is the name of this facility?

26. Do your capital or renovation projects include energy efficient/saving measures (green building design)?

Yes No

Section B. Trails - Capital Projects and/or Renovation Projects

27. Do you currently have this facility in the local park system? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Single Use Trail - Walking/Hiking
 - B. Single Use Trail - Bike
 - C. Single Use Trail - Other
 - D. Multi Use Trail - Hiking & Equine
 - E. Multi Use Trail - OHV, Hiking & Equine:
 - F. Nature/Interpretive Trail
 - G. Connector Trails to Existing Trails
 - H. Bike-Pedestrian Trail (Paved)
 - I. Water Trails
 - J. Greenway
 - K. Other Trail
-

28. Do you regularly provide programs with this facility? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Single Use Trail - Walking/Hiking
 - B. Single Use Trail - Bike
 - C. Single Use Trail - Other
 - D. Multi Use Trail - Hiking & Equine
 - E. Multi Use Trail - OHV, Hiking & Equine:
 - F. Nature/Interpretive Trail
 - G. Connector Trails to Existing Trails
 - H. Bike-Pedestrian Trail (Paved)
 - I. Water Trails
 - J. Greenway
 - K. Other Trail
-

LRP Survey

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29. In 2004, was this a planned capital project? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Single Use Trail - Walking/Hiking
 - B. Single Use Trail - Bike
 - C. Single Use Trail - Other
 - D. Multi Use Trail - Hiking & Equine
 - E. Multi Use Trail - OHV, Hiking & Equine:
 - F. Nature/Interpretive Trail
 - G. Connector Trails to Existing Trails
 - H. Bike-Pedestrian Trail (Paved)
 - I. Water Trails
 - J. Greenway
 - K. Other Trail
-

30. Do you have a capital project planned for this in the next 5-10 years? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Single Use Trail - Walking/Hiking
 - B. Single Use Trail - Bike
 - C. Single Use Trail - Other
 - D. Multi Use Trail - Hiking & Equine
 - E. Multi Use Trail - OHV, Hiking & Equine:
 - F. Nature/Interpretive Trail
 - G. Connector Trails to Existing Trails
 - H. Bike-Pedestrian Trail (Paved)
 - I. Water Trails
 - J. Greenway
 - K. Other Trail
-

31. In the next 5 years do you plan to renovate or refurbish this facility? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Single Use Trail - Walking/Hiking
 - B. Single Use Trail - Bike
 - C. Single Use Trail - Other
 - D. Multi Use Trail - Hiking & Equine
 - E. Multi Use Trail - OHV, Hiking & Equine:
 - F. Nature/Interpretive Trail
 - G. Connector Trails to Existing Trails
 - H. Bike-Pedestrian Trail (Paved)
 - I. Water Trails
 - J. Greenway
 - K. Other Trail
-

32. Is your trail accessible to persons with disabilities? *(mark all that apply)*

- A. Single Use Trail - Walking/Hiking
- B. Single Use Trail - Bike
- C. Single Use Trail - Other
- D. Multi Use Trail - Hiking & Equine

33. If "Other Trail" was marked for the questions 27 to 32, what is the trail type?

Community Members Served by Local Parks and Recreation:
 Please indicate the groups you regularly provide local parks and recreation service or programs to, and how well do you think you serve their recreational needs?

34. Target recreation programming?	Not at all	Sometimes	Almost Always	Always	Not Applicable
Youth between 1 and 8 years old					
Youth between 9 and 12 years old					
Teenagers between 13 and 18 years old					
Young Single Adults (19 years or older)					
Families with Children:					
Older Adults past Child Bearing Years					
Senior Citizens					
Persons with Disabilities					
Racial Minorities in the Community					
Ethnic Groups in the Community					
Low Income Groups					
Middle Income Groups					
High Income Groups					

35. Are any groups from Question 34 a priority or main focus for provision in your parks and recreation system in the next 5-10 years? Please explain:

Local Competition
 Please indicate if the local park and recreation system has competition from other providers of recreational opportunities in the community. Please mark only the primary competition.

36. Primary Type of Competition from:	Revenue	Participation /Use	Not Applicable
Neighborhood Parks in Subdivisions			
Private for Profit Providers			
Non-Profit Provider (e.g. YMCA)			
School Systems providing Recreation			
State Properties			
Federal Properties			
Other			

37. If "other" was a competitor in question 36, What is the name of this competition?

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38. Who else in your local community is providing recreation that may compete with the local parks and recreation system you manage?
-

Common Issues Facing Local Recreation Providers:

National research indicates **3 prevailing issues** local providers face: a) funding, b) staffing and, c) land acquisition. We would like to know what different ways you have found to overcome these issues.

New = Implemented within the past 5 years

Existing = Continued from pre-5 years ago

Proposed = Planned for the next 5 years but not implemented to date

a) FUNDING

Please indicate any measures you have taken in the past 5 years or plan to implement in the future to address **funding** challenges with parks and recreation in your community. (Check all that apply)

39. New Funding

- A. Worked with Park Foundation
 - B. Received Donations
 - C. Raised Fees
 - D. Levied Taxes
 - E. Applied for Grants
 - F. Pursued New Sponsorships
 - G. Engaged in Fundraising
 - H. Pursued Public-Private Partnership
 - I. Worked with "Friends of" Group
 - J. Approached Small Local Business for Funding
 - K. Sold Advertising Space to Local Businesses
 - L. Partnered with Educational Institutions
 - M. Pursued Non-Park Foundations
 - N. Pursued Community Foundation
 - O. Worked with Corporations for Sponsorships or Partnering
 - P. Closed Facilities
 - Q. Other
-

40. Existing Funding

- A. Worked with Park Foundation
- B. Received Donations
- C. Raised Fees
- D. Levied Taxes
- E. Applied for Grants
- F. Pursued New Sponsorships
- G. Engaged in Fundraising
- H. Pursued Public-Private Partnership
- I. Worked with "Friends of" Group
- J. Approached Small Local Business for Funding
- K. Sold Advertising Space to Local Businesses
- L. Partnered with Educational Institutions
- M. Pursued Non-Park Foundations
- N. Pursued Community Foundation
- O. Worked with Corporations for Sponsorships or Partnering
- P. Closed Facilities

8 of 16

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Q. Other

41. Proposed Funding

- A. Worked with Park Foundation
- B. Received Donations
- C. Raised Fees
- D. Levied Taxes
- E. Applied for Grants
- F. Pursued New Sponsorships
- G. Engaged in Fundraising
- H. Pursued Public-Private Partnership
- I. Worked with "Friends of" Group
- J. Approached Small Local Business for Funding
- K. Sold Advertising Space to Local Businesses
- L. Partnered with Educational Institutions
- M. Pursued Non-Park Foundations
- N. Pursued Community Foundation
- O. Worked with Corporations for Sponsorships or Partnering
- P. Closed Facilities
- Q. Other

42. None taken/planned

- A. No action planned
- B. other

43. If "Other" is applicable in questions 39 to 42, please specify:

b) STAFF (Questions 44 - 52)

44. What was the average number of full-time staff over the last 5 years?

45. How many full-time staff did you have in 2009?

46. What was the average number of part-time or seasonal staff over the last 5 years?

47. How many part-time or seasonal staff did you have in 2009?

New = Implemented within the past 5 years

Existing = Continued from pre-5 years ago

Proposed = Planned for the next 5 years but not implemented to date

Please indicate what you have done to address staffing issues in the past 5 years or plan to implement in the future. (Check all that apply.)

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48. New

- A. Used/Increased Volunteers
- B. Worked Friend of Parks Groups
- C. Worked with Community Centers
- D. Worked with Youth Sports Leagues
- E. Partnering with Other Government Agencies
- F. Partnering with Local Educational Programs
- G. Partnering with Other Educational Programs
- H. Local Business Donations of People/Staff Time
- I. Local Business Donations of Equipment
- J. Other

49. Existing

- A. Used/Increased Volunteers
- B. Worked Friend of Parks Groups
- C. Worked with Community Centers
- D. Worked with Youth Sports Leagues
- E. Partnering with Other Government Agencies
- F. Partnering with Local Educational Programs
- G. Partnering with Other Educational Programs
- H. Local Business Donations of People/Staff Time
- I. Local Business Donations of Equipment
- J. Other

50. Proposed

- A. Used/Increased Volunteers
- B. Worked Friend of Parks Groups
- C. Worked with Community Centers
- D. Worked with Youth Sports Leagues
- E. Partnering with Other Government Agencies
- F. Partnering with Local Educational Programs
- G. Partnering with Other Educational Programs
- H. Local Business Donations of People/Staff Time
- I. Local Business Donations of Equipment
- J. Other

51. None taken/planned

- A. No action planned
- B. other

52. If "Other" is applicable, please specify:

c) LAND ACQUISITION (Questions 53 - 57)

Please indicate any measures you have taken to address the need for land for parks and recreation in your community in the past 5 years or plan to implement in the future. (Check all that apply.)

New = Implemented within the past 5 years

Existing = Continued from pre-5 years ago

Proposed = Planned for the next 5 years but not implemented to date

53. New

- A. Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant used to purchase land
 - B. Partner with local schools for public use of their land or recreational facilities
 - C. Utility Corridors or Rights of Way
 - D. Land Trust or other Nonprofit Landowners
 - E. Conservation Easement with other Landowners
 - F. Cooperation with Private Landowners
 - G. Indiana Department of Natural Resources Grant programs
 - H. Other
-

54. Existing

- A. Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant used to purchase land
 - B. Partner with local schools for public use of their land or recreational facilities
 - C. Utility Corridors or Rights of Way
 - D. Land Trust or other Nonprofit Landowners
 - E. Conservation Easement with other Landowners
 - F. Cooperation with Private Landowners
 - G. Indiana Department of Natural Resources Grant programs
 - H. Other
-

55. Proposed

- A. Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant used to purchase land
 - B. Partner with local schools for public use of their land or recreational facilities
 - C. Utility Corridors or Rights of Way
 - D. Land Trust or other Nonprofit Landowners
 - E. Conservation Easement with other Landowners
 - F. Cooperation with Private Landowners
 - G. Indiana Department of Natural Resources Grant programs
 - H. Other
-

56. None taken/planned

- A. No action planned
 - B. other
-

57. If "Other" is applicable, please specify:

Master Planning:

58. Does your local park and recreation system have a system-wide master plan? (If "No", skip to the last question in this section.)

Yes No

If "Yes", what year was it last published?

How many years does it span?

If you have a master plan, what was the public input process for the writing of the master plan? (mark all that apply)

- A. Focus Groups
- B. Public Survey
- C. Public Meetings
- D. Other

If "Other" is applicable in question above, please put name in the box:

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Do you plan to develop a local parks and recreation master plan in the next 5-10 years?

- A. Yes
- B. No
- C. Undecided

Demographics:

Please tell us about the people who work within the parks and recreation system. All data will be reported in aggregate only, so your responses will remain anonymous.

59. Please indicate if you would like to opt out of answering the demographic questions.

- Yes No

How many people of the Local Parks and Recreation System fit the following categories? Include hired staff and park board members.

60. What is the level of education attained?
Some High School

_____ Graduated High School

_____ Some College

_____ College Graduate

_____ Graduate School

61. Race/Ethnicity
White, Non-Hispanic

_____ Hispanic

_____ African-American

_____ Asian-American

_____ Native American

_____ Mixed Race

_____ Other

62. Number of male staff in Park System

63. Number of female staff in Park System

64. Number of staff with Disabilities

65. How many staff people in the park system fall in the following age groups?
15-20

Personal Data

66. How long have you served in your current position?

- A. 0-1 years
- B. 1-5 years
- C. 6-10 years
- D. 11-15 years
- E. 16+ years

67. What is your level of education attained?

- A. Less than High School Degree
- B. Graduated High School Diploma
- C. Some College
- D. College Graduate
- E. Graduate School

68. Race/Ethnicity

- A. White, Non-Hispanic
- B. Hispanic
- C. African-American
- D. Asian-American
- E. Native American
- F. Mixed Race
- G. Other

69. Male or Female

- A. Male
- B. Female

70. Persons with Disability

- A. Yes, I have a Disability
- B. No, I do not have a Disability

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71. What is your age?

72. How many years have you worked in the Parks and Recreation profession?

(883)

APPENDIX C

Indiana Department of Natural Resources – Trail Activity/Trail User Participation Survey

For purposes of this survey, trail activity is defined as any activity that you participate in that takes place on a linear corridor. Examples are walking or biking on a designated park trail system, off highway vehicle riding (4x4s, ATVs, dirt bikes, etc.) on designated properties and/or trails, in-line skating on a community trail or trail system, or canoeing/kayaking on a stream or water trail system.

IN INDIANA ONLY, during the past 12 months, how often did you participate in the following trail activities?

	Never	More than once a week	Once a week	Twice a month	At least 1 time/month	At least 6 times per year	Once a year
Using trails for alternative transportation routes							
Walking							
Running							
Hiking							
Backpacking							
Bicycle touring							
Casual bicycling							
In-line skating							
Cross country skiing							
Snowmobiling							
Mountain bike riding							
4-wheel off road vehicle driving							
Off-road motorcycle riding							
All-terrain vehicle riding							
Canoeing/kayaking on water trails or blueways							
Horseback riding							

Which of the following would you like to participate in AT LEAST 12 TIMES PER YEAR IN THE FUTURE? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Using trails for alternative transportation routes | <input type="checkbox"/> 4-wheel off road vehicle driving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walking | <input type="checkbox"/> Casual bicycling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Running | <input type="checkbox"/> In-line skating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> Cross country skiing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Backpacking | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobiling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bicycle touring | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain bike riding |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Off road motorcycle riding |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> All-terrain vehicle riding |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Canoeing/kayaking on water trails or blueways |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Horseback riding |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> None of these |

Is there a trail within 7.5 miles or 15 minutes of your home?

- Yes No Don't know

Please indicate your TOP 3 reasons for using trails. Put a 1 for your TOP reason, a 2 for the next, etc.

- Pleasure, relaxation, recreation
- Health-physical training
- Family or social outing(s)
- Scenery or natural environment
- Safety – staying off roadways
- Commuting or travel
- Educational opportunities
- Associated with volunteer opportunities (trail clean-up/maintenance, identifying trail problems, etc.)
- None

What is your PREFERRED trail surface? Please read ALL the answers & select ONLY ONE.

- Native soil Crushed stone Water Other
 Sand Asphalt Compacted limestone screenings
 Wood chips Concrete No preference

The following 2 questions deal with trail connectivity. By this we mean a system of trails that connect to points of interest, such as businesses, neighborhoods, schools, recreation area and/or other trails.

Do you believe connecting trails should be an important part of your community's infrastructure?

- Strongly agree Somewhat disagree No opinion
 Somewhat agree Strongly disagree

How important do you believe trail connectivity is for:

	Extremely	Somewhat	Not very	Not at all	No opinion
Your communities economic development					
Personal health					
Community health					
Environmental health					
Alternative transportation corridors					

Please indicate the TOP 3 ways you find out about trail opportunities.

Put a 1 for your TOP way, a 2 for the next, etc.

- Trail websites
 Tourism websites
 Trail provider booklets/brochures
 Local tourism/community media (radio, television, etc.)
 Tourism/national media (radio, television, books, magazines, etc.)
 Organizational presentations (schools, Rotary, scouts, etc.)
 Special events (fairs, festivals, etc.)
 Word of mouth
 Signage at parks or other recreational facilities
 Other
 None

What are the MAIN reasons you DO NOT participate in trail activities as much as you would like?

Select all that apply.

- None-I do not use trails
 None – I participate as much as I want to
 Customs/cultural barriers (family traditions, race or ethnic expectations, beliefs, etc.)
 Structural barriers (poor setting/physical environment: lack of facilities or programs, time, money/economic factors, transportation, safety, etc.)
 Social barriers (no one to participate with, family conflicts, responsibility to others, etc.)
 Personal barriers (no motivation, lack of skills, physical/mental/emotional health, ability level, etc.)
 Disability-related access prevents me from participating as much as I would like

Please indicate if your trail activity is limited by any of the following health factors. (Select all that apply)

- Walking Hearing Ability to ride a bike Ability to ride a motorized off road vehicle
 Seeing Breathing Ability to ride a horse Ability to use a canoe/kayak
 Other

What trail improvements could be made to increase your use of trails? (Select all that apply)

- Better surface Easier slopes Other
 Guided trail activity Increased personal safety measures None
 Improved visibility Walking, biking or riding clubs

For each of the following, how well does the **CURRENT** supply of trails, in Indiana, meet your needs?

	Supply is more than enough	Supply is just right	Supply is OK for now but needs to be increased in the future	Supply does not meet my needs	Uncertain, don't know current supply	Don't use
Using trails for alternative transportation routes						
Walking						
Running						
Hiking						
Backpacking						
Bicycle touring						
Casual bicycling						
In-line skating						
Cross country skiing						
Snowmobiling						
Mountain bike riding						
4-wheel off road vehicle driving						
Off-road motorcycle riding						
All-terrain vehicle riding						
Canoeing/kayaking on water trails or blueways						
Horseback riding						

Considering the trail activities that you participate in, what is the top annual amount you would be willing to spend to participate in those activities? (Include cost of equipment, training, travel, etc.)

- Less than \$100 \$501-\$1,000 \$1,501-\$5,000 More than \$10,000
 \$100-\$500 \$1,001-\$1,500 \$5,001-\$10,000 Do not participate

Considering the trail activities that you participate in, how far (ONE WAY) would you be willing to travel, in INDIANA, to participate in these activities?

- 0-5 miles 11-15 miles 26-35 miles 51-75 miles More than 100 miles
 6-10 miles 16-25 miles 36-50 miles 76-100 miles

Would you support the following ordinances or regulations to increase the number of trails?

	Yes	No	Undecided
Trail/park impact fees			
Land use zoning			
Land development set asides for trails & parks			
Additional funding for trail support via equipment & supplies sales			

To better indicate Indiana's area of need, in which Indiana county do you MOST OFTEN participate in trail activity? _____

And finally, tell us about yourself

Are you ... Male Female

What is your age? _____

In which Indiana county do you live? _____ Do not live in Indiana _____

Which of the following do you consider yourself to be?

- White, non Hispanic Asian
 Black/African American Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 Hispanic/Latino Multi-racial
 American Indian/Alaska Native Other

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