



WISCONSIN

juneau county



Outdoor Recreation Plan

2012-2017

Effective January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2016

Also covering the municipalities within Juneau County



Prepared by: North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Juneau County Board of Supervisors

Alan Peterson, Chairperson
Jerry Niles
Michael Kelley
Thomas Brounacker
David Arnold
Edward J. Pagel
Beverly Larson
Edward R. Brown III
Edmund Wafle
Orville Robinson
Herbert Carlson
Margaret Marchetti
Paul J. Tadda
Lynn A. Willard
Ray Feldman
Roy Ganger
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John Hamm
John Wenum
Joan Koscal
Rodney M. Seamans

Juneau County Land, Forestry, Parks & Zoning Committee

Jerry Niles, Chair
Beverly Larson
David Arnold
Margaret Marchetti
Edmund Wafle

Technical Assistance

Brian Loyd, Juneau County Forestry, and Parks Administrator

North Central WI Regional Planning Commission Staff:

Mike Agnew, AICP, Senior Planner

Andy Faust, GISP

Matt Guptail, GIS Technician

Bernie Lewis, Office Coordinator

ABSTRACT

TITLE: JUNEAU COUNTY OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN
2012-2017 Effective January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2016

SUBJECT: This report 1) Assesses the existing recreation system in Juneau County; 2) Identifies recreation needs based upon public input, past plans, and recreation standards; and 3) Establishes recommendations for improving the recreation system over the next five years.

Submission of this report to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) establishes eligibility for the County and local units of government for a variety of Federal and State Aids to purchase land and to add facilities to existing outdoor recreation lands. The Juneau County Outdoor Recreation Plan is required to apply for Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), and Wisconsin Stewardship Grant funding.

Non-profit groups, foundations, and the general public may also use this document to coordinate their own private efforts for developing outdoor recreation facilities.

DATE: November 2011

AGENCY: Forestry, and Parks Department
650 Prairie Street
Mauston, WI 53948

CONTACT: Brian Loyd, Administrator
Juneau County Forestry, and Parks Department
608-847-9389

DISCLAIMER: This plan was prepared by the staff of the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission under agreement with the above contact.

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- A. Outdoor Recreation Survey
- B. NCWRPC Summary of the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2005-2010
- C. Facility Development Standards
- D. State and Federal Financial Assistance Programs

INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this recreation plan is to provide continued direction toward meeting the current and future recreation needs of the county. This is accomplished through an inventory and analysis of outdoor recreational facilities, and the establishment of recommendations to meet identified needs.

Adoption of this plan by the Juneau County Board and subsequent acceptance by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), will continue eligibility of the county and its local units of government for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LAWCON), and Stewardship Funds. If a municipality wishes to cooperate with Juneau County and use this plan for grant applications it is not necessary for that municipality to adopt the plan individually. Local government grant applications have a better chance of approval if Juneau County applies on their behalf.

Non-profit groups, foundations, and the general public may also use this document to coordinate their own private efforts for developing outdoor recreation facilities.

STATUTORY BASE

This Outdoor Recreation Plan was prepared pursuant to Wisconsin Statute §23.30 Outdoor Recreation Program. This section serves to “promote, encourage, coordinate, and implement a comprehensive long-range plan to acquire, maintain, and develop for public use, those areas of the state best adapted to the development of a comprehensive system of state and local outdoor recreation facilities and services...”

PLAN COMPONENTS

This plan addresses the outdoor recreation needs for the entire county, and each local government within Juneau County.

Background information on Juneau County was compiled to develop an understanding of the environmental and social characteristics of the county and their meaning for outdoor recreation. An inventory of existing recreational facilities exists in Chapter 3 of this plan.

The existing recreation system was analyzed to determine current and potential future deficiencies through the year 2016. A combination of public survey compilation, standards analysis, and the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) were utilized to define recreational and open space needs. Goals and objectives were created to guide the direction of recreational planning efforts within Juneau County.

The recommendations are general strategies and five-year action programs for recreation facility development. A series of possible tools to aid implementation of these recommendations are set

forth in Chapter 8. This plan concludes with a note on updating to insure that it remains relevant to the needs of the county over the entire five-year span.

PAST PLANS

Juneau County has been involved with recreation planning since 1971 when an *Outdoor Recreation Plan for Juneau County* was compiled and written by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. In 1977, Comprehensive Planning Services developed a five-year outdoor recreation plan for the County. In 1989, the City of Elroy developed a plan for the City to address the specific issues relating to bike trail systems in the Elroy area. The North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) has prepared the *Juneau County Outdoor Recreation Plan* since 1990.

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2005-2010

Completed in August 2006, this plan attempts to classify, measure, and ultimately provide for the preferences and needs of a statewide recreating public. Many factors, from changing demographic and land use trends, to recreational supply, and conflict with other recreation uses, affect the quality, supply, and demand for outdoor recreation.

This plan is summarized in Attachment B, and is what the State will use to determine where to approve grants.

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2011-2016

Projected completion in Winter of 2011, SCORP 2012-2016 is an approved compliment to the 2005-2010 plan. A major goal of the 2011-16 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) is to identify essential and contemporary issues that affect the future of outdoor recreation in Wisconsin. This SCORP will build upon President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative for the 21st Century to include appropriate management recommendations that serve as proactive approaches to address critical issues identified in the process.

This Presidential Initiative has three main goals:

1. Reconnect Americans, especially children, to America's rivers and waterways, landscapes of national significance, ranches, farms and forests, great parks, and coasts and beaches by exploring a variety of efforts.
2. Build upon State, local, private, and tribal priorities for the conservation of land, water, wildlife, historic, and cultural resources, creating corridors and connectivity across these outdoor spaces, and for enhancing neighborhood parks....through public private partnerships and locally supported conservation strategies.
3. Use science-based management practices to restore and protect our lands and waters for future generations.

North Central Wisconsin Regional Bicycle Facilities Network Plan

This 2004 document is intended to guide the development of an interconnected bikeway system for the North Central Wisconsin Region. Potential trails are identified and an improvement description was created by each county where trails existed, to facilitate how the plan can become reality cost effectively.

The routes for Juneau County are mainly a series of on-road routes throughout the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge and on-road routes throughout Juneau County connecting the Omaha, Elroy-Sparta, Hillsboro, and 400 state trails. These trails are shown on Map 1.

State Trails Network Plan

This 2001 document clarifies the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) role and strategy in the provision of all types of trails. The plan identifies a series of potential trail corridors that would link existing trails, public lands, natural features, and communities. This statewide network of interconnected trails would be owned and maintained by municipalities, private entities, and partnerships of the two. Preserving transportation corridors, such as old rail lines, is specifically discussed as a very important strategy in the creation of recreational and alternative transportation corridors. These trails are shown on Map 1.

Segment 53—Wyeville to Mauston to Adams County Hwy Z

This potential trail corridor is a combination of rail line and highway right-of-way that links via Juneau County's Omaha Trail to the Elroy-Sparta and "400" State Trails in Elroy. Rail line would provide the linkage from Wyeville to Mauston, and various roadways from Mauston east to the Wisconsin River.

Wisconsin Land Legacy Report 2006-2056

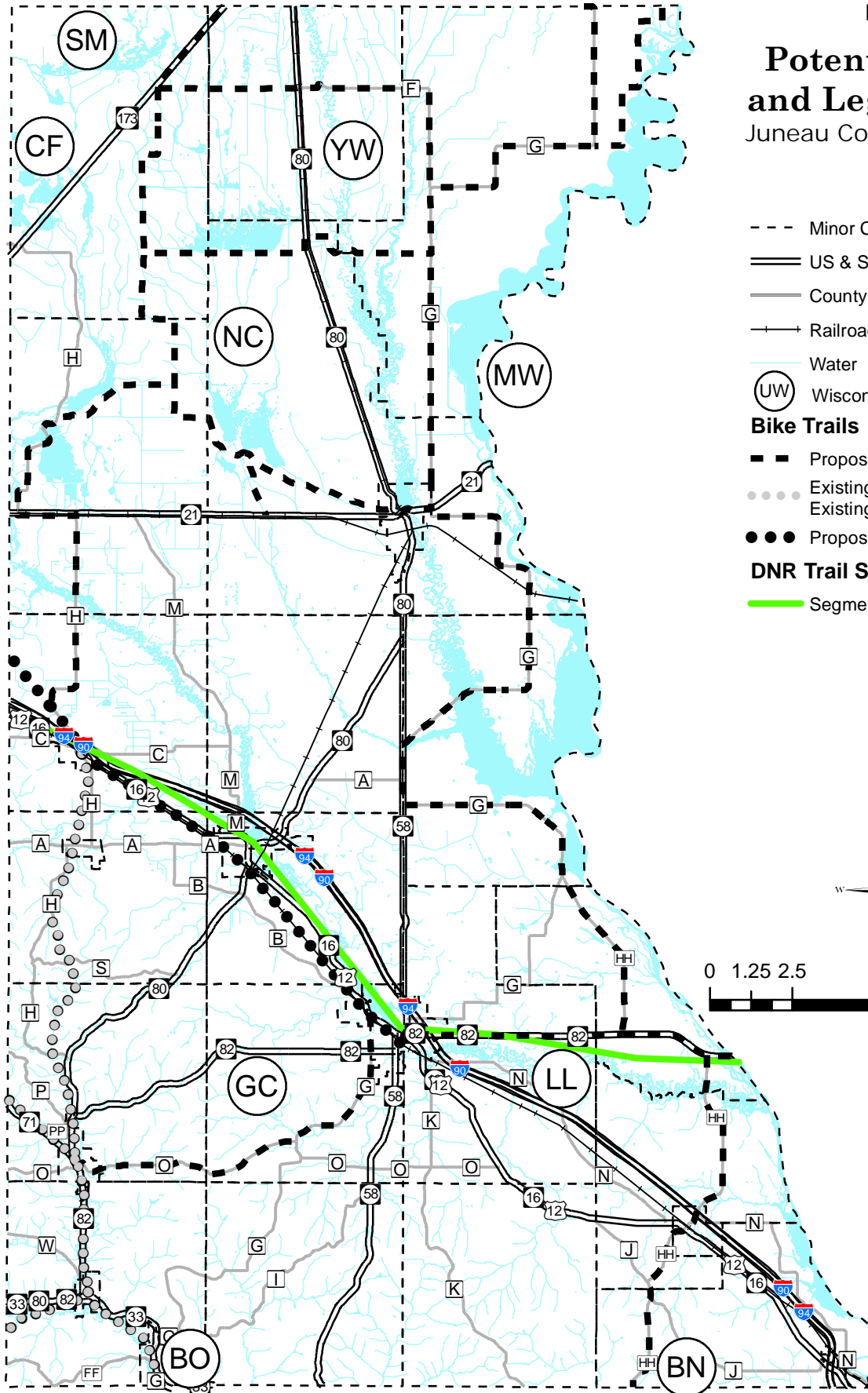
This report is a comprehensive inventory of the special places that will be critical to meeting future conservation and outdoor recreation needs for the next fifty years. Some of the questions asked to guide creation of this report were: Which lands and waters remain unprotected that will be critical for conserving our plants and animals and their habitats? What gaps exist now (and will likely emerge in the future) in providing abundant and satisfying outdoor recreation? How can we most effectively build upon the state's existing investment in protected lands to fill conservation and recreation gaps? What special places will our children and grandchildren wish we had protected? The study focused on identifying what of our state or regionally significant green infrastructure remains to be protected.

Each Juneau County Legacy Area is summarized below. 5 stars represents the highest level.

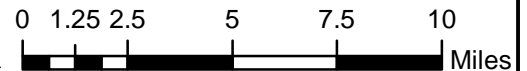
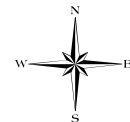
BN <u>Badlands</u>		MW <u>Middle Wisconsin River</u>	
Size	Small	Size	Large
Protection Initiated	Limited	Protection Initiated	Limited
Protection Remaining	Moderate	Protection Remaining	Moderate
Conservation Significance	☆☆	Conservation Significance	☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆	Recreation Potential	☆☆☆☆☆

Potential Trails and Legacy Areas

Juneau County, Wisconsin



- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- == US & State Highways
- County Highways
- +— Railroad
- Water
- (UW) Wisconsin Land Legacy Areas
- Bike Trails**
- Proposed On Road
- Existing Off Road / Existing Rails-To-Trails
- Proposed Off Road
- DNR Trail Segments**
- Segment 53



Prepared By:

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403 (715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org

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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

BO Baraboo River

Size	Large
Protection Initiated	Moderate
Protection Remaining	Moderate
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆☆

NC Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

Size	Medium
Protection Initiated	Substantial
Protection Remaining	Limited
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆

CF Central Wisconsin Forests

Size	Large
Protection Initiated	Substantial
Protection Remaining	Limited
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆☆

SM Meadow Valley State Wildlife Area

Size	Large
Protection Initiated	Substantial
Protection Remaining	Limited
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆☆☆

GC Greensand Cuesta

Size	Medium
Protection Initiated	Limited
Protection Remaining	Moderate
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆☆

YW Yellow (Juneau) River

Size	Large
Protection Initiated	Moderate
Protection Remaining	Moderate
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆

LL Lower Lemonweir River

Size	Medium
Protection Initiated	Limited
Protection Remaining	Substantial
Conservation Significance	☆☆☆
Recreation Potential	☆☆

The Land Legacy report recommends protection of these lands by using federal, state, and local funding opportunities; along with possibly creating new kinds of incentives for landowners, working to draft comprehensive plans, or offering different types of technical assistance.

Prioritization of Land Legacy Areas is described in SCORP Chapter 3 located in Attachment B.

Juneau County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan

This 2006-2020 document contains the Juneau County Forest Access Plan. Maps were created from the data in this plan.

Juneau County Land and Water Resource Management Plan

The Juneau County Land Conservation Department developed this plan in 2006. The plan provides an inventory of the county’s natural resources and a series of goals and objectives intended to improve and protect these resources in the future.

Petenwell and Castle Rock Flowages Comprehensive Management Plan

The WDNR coordinated the creation of this 10-year plan in January 1996, to remediate the Petenwell and Castle Rock Flowages. Recreation, flora & fauna habitats, and aesthetics have

been affected by a number of pollutants in both flowages. This plan addresses the water pollution causes, monitoring goals, and funding mechanisms to remediate the flowages.

Buckhorn State Park Regional Analysis

The WDNR created this report in February of 2005 for Buckhorn State Park. The analysis summarizes park visitation estimates, and camping demand at area state parks. RV camping needs for the area are described and how state parks can be improved to meet those needs.

City of Mauston Comprehensive Plan 2000-2020

This plan looks at long-term development and issues. The plan identifies goals objectives and policies for how to address those issues.

Juneau County Comprehensive Plan 2010-2030

A summary of the issues and focus group discussions relating to outdoor recreation contained in this plan were inserted into the public participation part of Chapter 4 – Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment.

City of Mauston Outdoor Recreation Plan 2012-2016

A summary of this plan's issues relating to outdoor recreation were inserted into the public participation part of Chapter 4 – Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment.

DESCRIPTION OF JUNEAU COUNTY

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Introduction

This section describes the physical features of Juneau County. This information is essential to determining the potential of an area for recreation development, as well as the limitations. Recreation planners use this kind of data to determine which resources to develop and which resources to protect or preserve.

Geography and Land Use

Juneau County in west central Wisconsin has a total of 513,758 acres; of which 35.3% is forested, 31.8% is used for agriculture, 5.0% is water, 23.8% is wetlands, 2.0% for open space, 1.5% is for transportation (which includes airports and roads), 0.1% for residential, and 0.5% is for commercial and industrial uses. The City of Mauston is the county seat and the largest urban area in Juneau County. Mauston is 135 miles northwest of Milwaukee; 105 miles southwest of Green Bay; 125 miles south of Wausau; 70 miles northwest of Madison; and 70 miles east of La Crosse. Juneau County contains the Cities of Mauston, Elroy, and New Lisbon; the Villages of Camp Douglas, Hustler, Lyndon Station, Necedah, Union Center, and Wonewoc; and 19 Towns. See Map 2.

Climate

Juneau County has a continental climate that provides year-round recreation opportunities. Summers are characterized by warm but not excessively hot days and cool nights, while winters are long and relatively snowy. In the winter, the average daily temperature is 18 degrees, while in the summer it is 69 degrees. The average annual precipitation is about 31 inches of which 60 percent falls from May through September. For the growing season, the interval between the last 32-degree freeze in the spring and the first one in the fall averages about 131 days. The sun shines 40 percent of the possible time in summer and 20 percent in winter. The prevailing winds are from the west and have the highest average wind-speed in March, April, and November.

Topography and Geology

The northeastern 75 percent of Juneau County is part of extinct Glacial Lake Wisconsin. This area is generally flat or gently undulating topography, except for an occasional sandstone butte. These buttes rise above the basin to a height of 100 to 300 feet, and have a maximum elevation of 1,262 feet, at Sheep Pasture Bluff. Upper Cambrian sandstone is underlain by Precambrian igneous and metamorphic rocks in this area of the county. These Precambrian rocks are buried 400 to 850 feet beneath the Upper Cambrian sandstone with the exception of the Necedah quartzite. This hill at Necedah is an extrusion of Precambrian quartzite surrounded by Upper Cambrian sandstone.

The southeast 25 percent of Juneau County is part of the Driftless Area. This very hilly area has steep sandstone escarpments, which mark the northern and eastern boundaries. The valleys are V-shaped and have relatively narrow bottoms 200 to 350 feet below the ridge tops. The highest

elevation is 1,380 feet, at Johnson Hill in the Town of Plymouth. Upper Cambrian sandstone, shale, and conglomerate are the parent geology in this area of the county. The Upper Cambrian rocks are capped in places by remnants of a more resistant, Ordovician, marine calcitic-dolomite.

Surface Water

The many streams, rivers, and flowages in Juneau County furnish an abundant supply of surface water for power generation, irrigation, recreation, and fish & wildlife habitat. Groundwater is the major source of drinking water for most residents.

Juneau County has a total of about 57 lakes, and 73 streams. Many lakes are impoundments to generate power, used for waterfowl, or as cranberry flowages. Nearly all of the lakes are used for recreation. The two largest lakes are Petenwell and Castle Rock; both are flowages on the Wisconsin River. Juneau County has 378 linear miles of streams; all of which drain to the Wisconsin River. Two other important rivers are the Lemonweir and the Yellow.

Groundwater

The quality of groundwater in Juneau County is generally good for most domestic, municipal, and industrial uses. The water is relatively soft in most of the county, but becomes fairly hard in the uplands in the southwestern part of the county. Local differences in the quality of ground water are caused by the composition, solubility, and surface area of particles of soil and rock through which the water moves, and the length of time the water is in contact with these materials. Calcium, magnesium, and bicarbonate ions derived from dolomite are present. Minor water use problems are caused by hardness and locally by high concentrations of iron. Iron is mainly produced by reducing conditions in marshes and swamps.

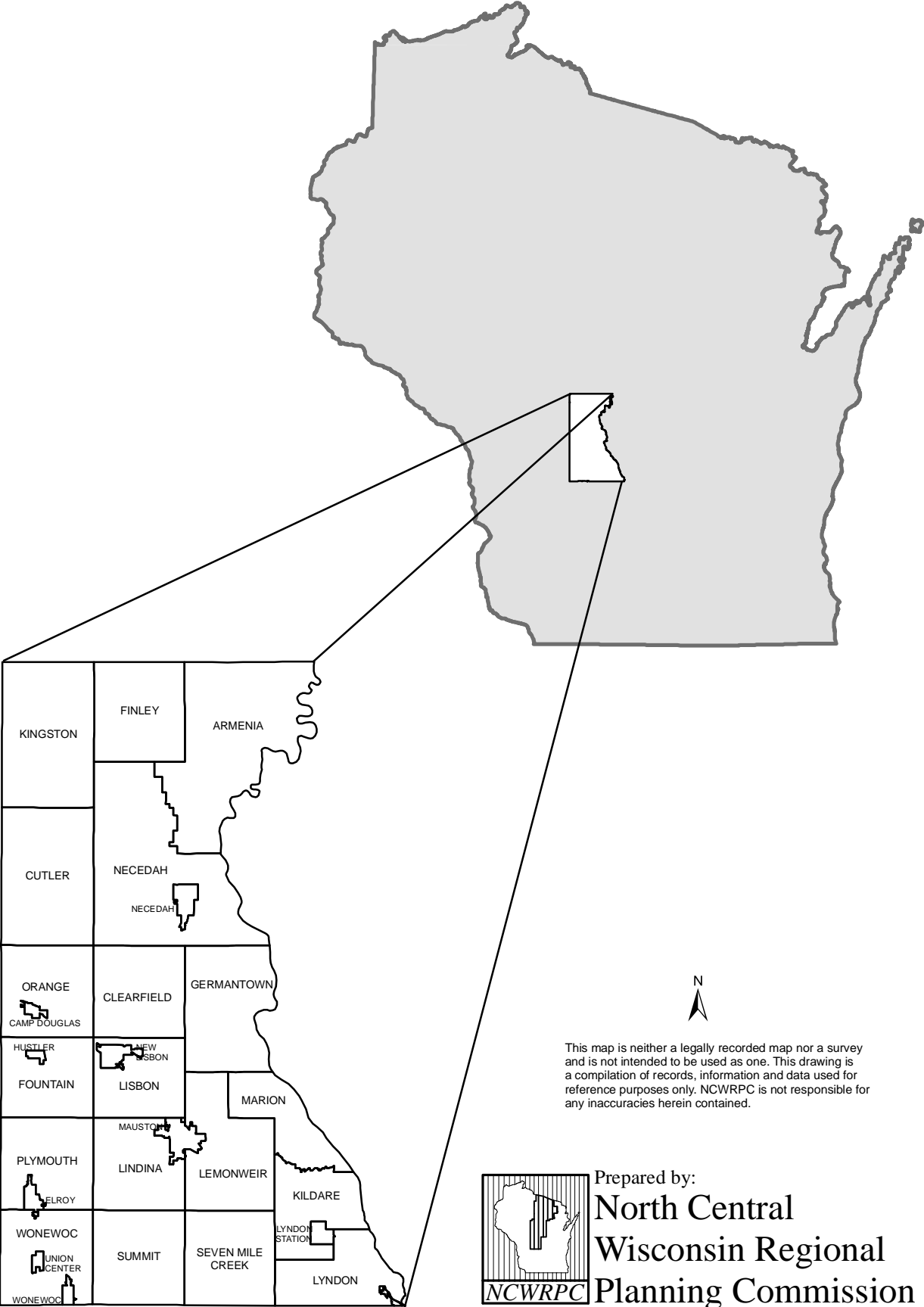
Glacial lake and outwash deposits make up an aquifer that is the major source of groundwater for private water supplies in the northern 75 percent of the county. Yields are as high as 1,850 gallons per minute, but range mainly from 150 to 840 gallons per minute. The average high capacity well yields 500 gallons per minute.

Soils

Even though Juneau County was never scoured by glaciers, about 75 percent of the county lies in the basin of extinct Glacial Lake Wisconsin. Most of the soils in this part of the county formed in sandy lake deposits, sandy outwash, or local sandy residuum, which all have fewer weatherable minerals than that in other areas of the county. Organic matter is the parent material for a number of soils in the county. Most of the upland soils in the southwestern part of the county formed in loess, in bedrock residuum, or in both.

Soil properties are important considerations when planning and developing recreation facilities. To help evaluate soils, the U.S. Soil Conservation Service published the Juneau County Soil Survey in 1991. Updated soil suitability tables for outdoor recreation and other uses are available on the Internet.

Map 2
General Location
Juneau County, Wisconsin



This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCWRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.



Prepared by:
**North Central
Wisconsin Regional
Planning Commission**

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
(715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org

SOCIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Introduction

This section describes the social and economic factors that shape Juneau County. This type of information can give a general feeling of how trends in recreational needs might be changing, because the residents are changing. Developing an understanding of these characteristics and their changes will help direct future planning efforts in the appropriate directions.

Overall recreation demand within Wisconsin is described under SCORP in Attachment B. Matching social characteristics from this section with different recreation demands as shown in SCORP Chapter 2, will start to reinforce which recreational facilities to provide.

This section lists and describes the current, seasonal, and projected population levels for county and neighborhood park facility demands. The relationship between population demographics, and supply & demand of recreational facilities is only a bare minimum guide for developing outdoor recreational facilities in Juneau County. Both permanent and seasonal residents must be counted when considering outdoor recreation facilities.

The Great Recession

Analysis provided by WDOA, Demographic Services, July 2009.

As this outdoor recreation plan is written in 2011, the economic recovery from the 2007 recession is still being felt. The National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) pegged the beginning of the recession at December 2007. This recession will be documented as the longest recession since the Great Depression of the early 1930s, and has lasted more than twice the length of the average post-World War II recession.

Why was this recession so bad? There were two downturns, one on top of the other. The first one started in December 2007 and was an economic recession, based on falling demand for housing construction. The second began in earnest in September 2008 and was a financial crisis, based on weak underlying supports (housing) of new unregulated financial tools and products. The first downturn led to the second. They are now interdependent. Volumes will be written on this great recession of 2007.

The severity of this recession affected employment in a commensurate manner. Wisconsin's unemployment rate increased from a seasonally adjusted 4.5 percent in December of 2007, when the recession began, to 8.8 as of August 2009, almost doubling over the period. Wisconsin last reached an unemployment rate peak of 11.8 percent in January of 1983, after the harsh recession of 1981-82.

Population

Table 1 shows historical permanent and estimated seasonal populations for Juneau County municipalities. Seasonal populations were calculated from U.S. Census data. The number of seasonal housing units was multiplied by the average household size of the permanently occupied housing units in that municipality.

The population in Juneau County is aging. In 1990 the median age was 34.5, by 2000 the median had increased to 39.4, and in the 2010 Census the median age for the county had gone up to 42.9

years of age. This trend impacts the recreational needs of the county, because an older population generally enjoys quieter, low-impact activities such as bird watching, walking and ice fishing.

Table 1 **Permanent and Seasonal Population by Juneau County Municipality**

Community	2000 Seasonal + Permanent = Total Pop.	2010 Seasonal + Permanent = Total Pop.	# and % Change
Juneau County	5,046 + 24,316 = 29,362	7,295 + 25,054 = 32,349	2,717 / 9.2%
Mauston, City	18 + 3,740 = 3,758	67 + 4,003 = 4,070	312 / 8.3%
Elroy, City	14 + 1,578 = 1,592	16 + 1,369 = 1,385	-207 / -13%
New Lisbon, City	23 + 1,436 = 1,459	30 + 1,470 = 1,500	41 / 2.8%
Camp Douglas, Village	7 + 592 = 599	7 + 600 = 607	8 / 1.3%
Union Center, Village	0 + 214 = 214	13 + 200 = 213	-1 / -0.5%
Necedah, Village	56 + 888 = 944	31 + 906 = 937	-7 / -0.7%
Wonewoc, Village	2 + 834 = 836	11 + 808 = 819	-17 / -2%
Hustler, Village	0 + 113 = 113	5 + 194 = 199	86 / 76.1%
Lyndon Station, Village	13 + 458 = 471	16 + 499 = 515	44 / 9.3%
Armenia, Town	441 + 707 = 1,148	745 + 695 = 1,440	292 / 25.4%
Clearfield, Town	299 + 737 = 1,036	318 + 726 = 1,044	8 / 0.8%
Cutler, Town	50 + 282 = 332	349 + 454 = 607	471 / 141.8%
Finley, Town	150 + 84 = 234	199 + 97 = 296	62 / 26.5%
Fountain, Town	44 + 582 = 626	53 + 554 = 607	-19 / -3%
Germantown, Town	1,693 + 1,174 = 2,867	2,055 + 1,471 = 3,526	659 / 23%
Kildare, Town	236 + 557 = 793	396 + 665 = 1,061	268 / 33.8%
Kingston, Town	26 + 58 = 84	25 + 91 = 116	32 / 38.1%
Lemonweir, Town	169 + 1,763 = 1,932	220 + 1,742 = 1,833	-99 / -5.1%
Lindina, Town	33 + 730 = 763	48 + 718 = 766	3 / 0.4%
Lisbon, Town	103 + 1,020 = 1,123	90 + 911 = 1,001	-122 / -10.8%
Lyndon, Town	175 + 1,217 = 1,392	374 + 1,385 = 1,759	367 / 26.4%
Marion, Town	110 + 433 = 543	183 + 426 = 609	66 / 12.1%
Necedah, Town	995 + 2,156 = 3,151	1,440 + 2,297 = 3,737	586 / 18.6%
Orange, Town	74 + 549 = 623	77 + 571 = 648	25 / 4%
Plymouth, Town	141 + 639 = 780	132 + 598 = 730	-50 / -6.4%
Seven Mile Creek, Town	62 + 369 = 431	83 + 358 = 441	10 / 2.3%
Summit, Town	29 + 623 = 652	134 + 645 = 779	127 / 19.5%
Wonewoc, Town	46 + 783 = 829	60 + 680 = 740	-89 / -10.7%

Source: U.S. Census, and NCWRPC

Juneau County's population grew at a healthy 11.3 percent rate between the 2000 and 2010, mostly from net migration into the county. In the 2000 to 2008 period there were 72 more births than deaths in the county. There were, however, special factors affecting population increases in the county. Two correctional facilities opened during this time, bringing with them over 1,250 new residents. Although these inmates are counted toward the county's population they have no effect

on demand for recreational facilities within the county. Excluding the 2009 population of these institutions from the overall county increase, Juneau County grew at almost exactly the rate for the state, six percent.

Table 2 **Population Projections
by Juneau County Municipality**

Community	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030	# ¹ and % Change ²
Juneau County	26,664	27,256	28,130	28,801	29,211	2,547 / 7.1%
Mauston, City	4,423	4,665	4,926	5,153	5,337	914* / 14.4%
Elroy, City	1,442	1,518	1,507	1,489	1,459	17* / -3.9%
New Lisbon, City	2,554	2,425	2,418	2,399	2,363	-191* / -2.5%
Camp Douglas, Village	601	537	528	515	498	-103* / -7.3%
Necedah, Village	916	914	930	941	945	29 / 3.4%
Union Center, Village	200	226	228	230	231	31* / 2.2%
Wonewoc, Village	816	789	806	766	747	69 / -5.3%
Hustler, Village	194	108	103	99	94	-100* / -11.1%
Lyndon Station, Village	500	478	483	485	484	-16 / 1.2%
Armenia, Town	699	902	959	1,010	1,053	354* / 16.7%
Clearfield, Town	728	877	928	974	1,011	283* / 15.3%
Cutler, Town	326	291	287	282	276	50* / -5.1%
Finley, Town	97	96	101	103	106	9 / 10.4%
Fountain, Town	555	604	605	603	596	41* / 15.2%
Germantown, Town	1,471	1,563	1,672	1,768	1,850	379* / 18.4%
Kildare, Town	681	695	734	768	795	114 / 14.4%
Kingston, Town	91	48	46	44	42	39* / -12.5%
Lemonweir, Town	1,743	1,903	1,944	1,973	1,987	244* / 4.4%
Lindina, Town	718	711	695	674	650	-68 / -8.6%
Lisbon, Town	912	1,077	1,097	1,110	1,115	203* / 3.5%
Lyndon, Town	1,384	1,606	1,718	1,817	1,900	516* / 18.3%
Marion, Town	426	650	683	714	741	315* / 14%
Necedah, Town	2,327	2,764	2,955	3,126	3,270	943* / 18.3%
Orange, Town	570	563	561	556	548	-22 / -2.6%
Plymouth, Town	597	670	676	680	677	80* / 1%
Seven Mile Creek, Town	358	408	417	422	425	67* / 4.2%
Summit, Town	646	698	712	723	728	82* / 4.3%
Wonewoc, Town	687	805	806	803	795	108* / -1.2%

Source: Wisconsin Department of Administration, 2003

The Department of Administration (DOA) prepares population projections based on Census data, updated as birth, death and migration data come in. The last update to these projections was done

¹ The numeric change between the 2010 Census population and the 2030 DOA projection is shown. An asterisks (*) marks those municipalities where there is a greater than 5% gap between the 2010 Census number and the 2015 projection, indicating that recent trends may not be reflected by DOA projections.

² Percentage change 2015 to 2030 projection.

in 2008. Table 2 reflects these projections, completed before the worst of the Great Recession had its full effect. The count from the 2010 Census has been included for reference. The actual population count is below the projection for 2010 by over a thousand, indicating that these effects are not reflected. While some municipalities (New Lisbon, Camp Douglas and Cutler) are ahead of projections and others (Hustler and Kingston) reflect special circumstances, most of the municipalities that vary by over five percent from the 2015 projection have a population below what was projected.

The effect of this change on demand for recreational resources is perhaps best illustrated by the gap between the 2010 population and the 2015 projection in the three towns that abut Castle Rock and Petenwell Lakes, where much of the recreational development in the county has taken in recent decades. The shortfall in the 2010 count to keep up with the growth trend projected (Germantown -5.9%, Necedah -15.8%, and Armenia -22.5%) indicates that the substantial increase in recreational housing that has taken place in these towns over the last twenty years, and reflected in DOA population projections, has paused and may not resume, even as the economy recovers.

The lingering effects of the Great Recession will impact demand for recreational facilities in Juneau County in ways that are hard to anticipate. What is relatively certain, however, is that some of the trends of the last two decades, such as the increase in recreational housing and most prominently the conversion of seasonal to year-round dwelling units, is likely to slow in coming years.

EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES

INTRODUCTION

This section is an inventory of the existing outdoor recreational facilities in Juneau County, which will focus primarily upon public facilities. Some private facilities will be listed for reference purposes. The private sector provides many recreational opportunities but this plan's purpose is to identify public facility improvements that may qualify for state and federal money.

Existing recreation facilities are grouped under the following headings: Linear Facilities; Public Access Points to Water Bodies; Points Of Interest; County Recreation Areas; Forested Lands – Not State or County Owned; School District Facilities; City, and Town Facilities; State Facilities; Federal Facilities; and Private Outdoor Recreation Facilities.

LINEAR FACILITIES

Water Trails: A water trail is a network of access points, resting places, and attractions for users of water craft on lakes and rivers. This website can help with creating a trail: (<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/publications/watertrails/>). There are over 410 miles of streams and rivers in the county. Portages have been established on the Wisconsin River to get around the dams. All navigable water is available to canoe on. Both the Wisconsin and Lemonweir Rivers have multiple access points.

The Baraboo River is the first river in Wisconsin to have all the dams removed, and now it is a canoeing river with some areas that need widening (Wonewoc Comprehensive Plan 2004).

The **400 State Trail** is a 22-mile rail bed trail between Elroy and Reedsburg. This trail connects to the Elroy-Sparta, Hillsboro, and Omaha Trails. Hiking, bicycle touring, and snowmobiling are possible on this trail.

Elroy-Sparta State Trail – A 32.5-mile rail bed trail between Elroy and Sparta. Hiking, bicycle touring, and snowmobiling are possible on this trail.

Hillsboro State Trail – A 4.3-mile county-operated hike/bike/snowmobile trail between Hillsboro and the 400 Trail at Union Center.

Omaha Trail – A 12.5 mile county-operated, rail bed trail between Camp Douglas and Elroy. Hiking, bicycle touring, and snowmobiling are possible on this trail.

Snowmobile Trails – Juneau County has approximately 239.7 miles of designated snowmobile trails that are part of the State snowmobile aid program, along with approximately 65 miles of club trails. There are no winter designated ATV trails.

ATV Trails – Juneau County has approximately 400 miles of on-road ATV routes, but no ATV trails.

PUBLIC ACCESS POINTS TO WATER BODIES

Public Access sites on Juneau County's lakes and streams has been extensively inventoried and catalogued in the *Juneau County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan*. An updated map of public access areas is available from the Juneau County Forestry Department. Juneau County owns and maintains 17 developed access points. State statute provide for public access to water bodies when development occurs. See the Implementation Strategies chapter for more details.

POINTS OF INTEREST

Juneau County contains both historic and contemporary points of interest of cultural, aesthetic, recreational, and scientific importance. A number of private sites may be open to the public, while others in private ownership are closed.

A) Necedah National Wildlife Refuge – Meadow Valley Wildlife Area

The Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, is an important wildlife viewing area and destination for nearly 150,000 visitors annually, which forms part of a sprawling 43,600-acre mix of wetlands, uplands, bottomland forests and grasslands, and boasts more than 230 species of birds and some rare grassland, wetland and forest species, including Karner Blue butterflies, the Massasauga rattlesnake and bald eagles.

In the early 1930s the U.S. Government acquired 114,964 acres of land in Juneau, Wood, Monroe, and Jackson Counties, using the authority of the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933 and the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935. The management of 55,000 acres of this Federal land was transferred to the State of Wisconsin with the signing of a Cooperative and License Agreement. They are part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, but managed cooperatively with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Meadow Valley is managed under a cooperative agreement with USFWS, currently in the second of three 15-year leases.

B) Buckhorn State Park

Buckhorn State Park and Wildlife Areas occupy a peninsula of Castle Rock Lake. The State Park encompasses 3,229 acres, the Yellow River WLA has 2,297 acres and the Buckhorn WLA consists of 4,903 acres. A range of facilities are available including boat landings, campsites, swimming, changing and shower facilities, fishing, picnic tables, and more than ten miles of hiking trails. Visitorship has increased by thirty-five percent over the last ten years to more than 107,000 per year.

C) Dam

The Petenwell Hydroelectric Plant Dam provides cold season nesting grounds for Bald Eagles by maintaining an open area of the Petenwell Flowage.

D) Geologic Sites

Juneau County's topography and geology are described in Chapter 2 – Description of Juneau County. Several land features are named below:

Cranberry Rock Lookout, Town of Armenia, National Guard Bombing and Gunnery Range.

Lone Rock, Town of Orange, Camp Williams Army National Guard.

Duckworth Ridge, Town of Lisbon, privately owned.

Johnson Hill, Town of Plymouth, privately owned.

Mullin Ridge, Town of Plymouth, privately owned.

Pleasant Ridge, Town of Wonewoc, privately owned.

Potter Ridge, Town of Summit, privately owned.

Potato Hill, Town of Summit, privately owned.

Sheep Pasture Bluff, Town of Lemonweir, privately owned.

Pine Knob, Town of Seven Mile Creek, privately owned.

Fairy Bluff, Town of Seven Mile Creek and Lyndon, privately owned.

Fitz Bluff, Town of Seven Mile Creek and Lyndon, privately owned.

Bald Knob, Town of Seven Mile Creek and Lyndon, privately owned.

Moran Bluff, Town of Seven Mile Creek and Lyndon, privately owned.

Grubb Hill, Town of Lyndon, privately owned.

Castle Rock, Town of Marion, privately owned.

Swandas Bluff, Town of Kildare, privately owned.

Rogge Bluff, Town of Kildare, privately owned.

Fox Point, Town of Kildare, privately owned.

Stand Rock, Town of Lyndon, privately owned.

Inspiration Point, Village of Wonewoc, privately owned and available to Spiritualist Campers

COUNTY FOREST

The Juneau County Forestry Department manages 15,146 acres of county forest. This land is managed for multiple uses, and is independently certified as sustainably managed and harvested. Some of the county forest is closed to motorized vehicles. Examples of permitted recreational activities are hunting, fishing, hiking, snowmobiling, camping, bough cutting (permit required), firewood collection (permit required), and wildlife observation. Refer to the 15-year Juneau County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

COMMUNITY FOREST

The Juneau County Forestry Department manages 4,429 acres of forested land that is not part of the state forest tax law program. This land is managed the same way that the county forest is. Many of the parcels are isolated from other county forest blocked areas. Some of the community forest is closed to motorized vehicles. Examples of permitted recreational activities are hunting, fishing, hiking, snowmobiling, camping, bough cutting (permit required), firewood collection (permit required), and wildlife observation. Refer to the 15-year Juneau County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

FORESTED LANDS – NOT STATE or COUNTY OWNED

Forested lands that may be open to the public but are not part of the county forest are privately held lands by individuals and corporations that are enrolled in either the Forest Crop Law or the Managed Forest Law. Currently, lands can only be enrolled in Managed Forest Law.

Under the Forest Crop Law (FCL) only forty acres are open to the public to hunt and fish in 2011. There are 9,897.3 acres enrolled in the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program that are open to the public for hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, sightseeing, and hiking, and 39,227 acres that are closed to public access. Overall, there has been an 8.5 percent increase in the total number of acres in the MFL program since 2006, but the number of open acres has dropped by thirty percent. This is a trend statewide, that the number of MFL open acres is declining. All MFL program participants can restrict access without penalty to the landowner to areas that are within 300 feet of any building or harvesting operation. Snowmobiles, ATVs, bicycles, and other motorized and non-motorized vehicles are prohibited on enrolled lands that are open to the public. Contact the WDNR to find what land is available to the public for the recreational purposes of hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, and sightseeing.

SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES

Six school districts provide additional local recreation opportunities in Juneau County. School yards often have playgrounds with play equipment, ball diamonds, and basketball hoops. School yards are considered neighborhood parks that range in size from 1 to 15 acres. A few districts also have school forests that are open to the public for a variety of recreational and educational uses.

Mauston School District

Lyndon Station E.S. – 10 acres with buildings, baseball field, parking, playground equipment and open space.

West Side E.S. – 6 acres with buildings, baseball field, basketball court, parking, playground equipment and open space.

Gordon Olson M.S., Grayside E.S., and Mauston H.S. – 117 acres with buildings, effigy mound display, baseball fields, softball field, basketball court, soccer field, open space, playground equipment, football field and track. Almost 12 acres of parking.

The School District of Mauston has two school forest properties located in Juneau County. There are no facilities on either parcel. Contact the School District of Mauston for rules of use on school forest lands.

- Mauston School Forest (located in Germantown) has 166 acres with snowmobile trails and access roads.
- Mauston School Forest (located in Lemonweir) has 40 acres.

Tomah Area School District

Camp Douglas E.S. – 1.5 acres, basketball court, parking, playground equipment.

New Lisbon School District

New Lisbon E.S. – 2.5 acres, open space, parking, playground equipment.

York Athletic Field – 6 acres, baseball field, football field, open space, restrooms, track. No off-street parking.

Tennis Courts – 2 courts in the City of New Lisbon.

Necedah School District

Necedah H.S. – 5.2 acres, baseball field, basketball court, open space, parking, playground equipment, and tennis court.

Royall School District

Elroy E.S. – 1.25 acres, basketball court, parking, playground equipment.

Royall H.S. – 13 acres, baseball field, basketball court, football field, open space, playground equipment, and track, with off-street parking.

Wonewoc-Center School District

Wonewoc E.S. and H.S. – 4.2 acres, baseball field, basketball court, and football field.

Wonewoc Center Outdoor Learning Area – 97 acres located at the end of School Road in Wonewoc, this school forest has a pond and dock, 1 mile hiking trail, 2 mile cross country ski trail, and limited parking available. Contact the Wonewoc-Center School District for rules of use on school forest lands.

PRIVATE OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES

Private Campgrounds

There are approximately 8 private campgrounds totaling 673 campsites in Juneau County. All of these campgrounds are available for a fee to the public.

SCORP 2005-2010 data reports that there are a total of 3,049 public and privately owned campsites in Juneau County.

There are 3 private golf courses that are open to the public for greens fees.

- Castle Rock Golf Course, 18-hole, in the Town of Lisbon.
- Oak Creek Golf Course, 18-hole, in the Village of Necedah.
- Spring Valley Golf Course, 9-hole, in the Village of Union Center.

Wonewoc Spiritualist Camp

The camp consists of numerous cabins for the camp attendees as well as for the psychics and mediums themselves. The campsite maintains restrooms, a kitchen hall, a main office, and a snack store when the camp is occupied. There is also a motel located on the site that operates year-round. The rustic site is located atop the bluff to the east of the Village of Wonewoc and camp attendees may look down onto the Village of Wonewoc from Inspiration Point high above the valley.

Horseback Riding is available at Red Ridge Ranch just east of Mauston, and at Woodside Ranch, which is located on a high wooded hillside that offers a panoramic view of the Lemonweir River Valley. Woodside is an operating ranch that offers cross-country ski trails, horseback riding, swimming, square and line dancing, shuffleboard, tennis, mini-golf, table tennis, hayrides, horseshoes and more. A proposal to transform Woodside Ranch into a baseball and soccer facility and training camp is under consideration. This proposal would greatly increase the number of visitors and impact of the facility on the local economy.

Camp Douglas Sportsman's Club

Founded in 1948, this organization has strong community and military ties, and is one of many hunting and fishing groups in Juneau and surrounding counties. The club offers a range of activities, with an emphasis on target shooting, and sponsor several special events each year which draw participants from throughout the county, and some from over 50 miles away. Club facilities have been used for military and law enforcement training for local and out-of-state groups.

PARKS and CONSERVANCY AREAS

A summary of all the local and county parks, school grounds, state parks, and conservation areas with the amenities at each are located in the following tables and maps. The following brief descriptions of each park type are from SCORP 2005-2010.

Mini Parks – These parks are special areas that serve a concentrated or limited population or specific group such as tots or senior citizens. One prominent feature or recreation facility like a playground may be present as the purpose of this park. The service area for this park generally is a ½ mile radius, and a population of 2,000-3,000 people.

Neighborhood Parks – This is an area that serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood. Active and passive recreational activities in these parks include field, court, and ball games; skating; crafts; and picnicking. Facilities may also include a playground, wading pool, ball field, multi-activity field, ball diamond, tennis courts, skatepark, and shelter. Trees, open fields, and undeveloped natural areas are also desirable components of neighborhood parks. The service area for this park generally is a 1 mile radius, and a population of 2,000-5,000 people.

Community Parks – Usually larger in size, these parks serve entire communities, and are located adjacent to a collector street to provide community-wide vehicular access. The purposes of these parks are to meet the recreational needs of several neighborhoods, as well as to preserve unique landscapes and open spaces. These parks allow for group activities not feasible at the neighborhood level. All of the facilities of a neighborhood park may exist, along with nature trails and scenic areas.

Special Use Areas – These areas are for single purpose recreational activities that often are designed as revenue generating enterprises such as for baseball, golf, nature centers, arboreta, formal gardens, gun ranges, festivals, ski areas, or areas that preserve and maintain cultural or archeological sites.

County Parks – County parks consist of 100 acres or more that are specifically set aside for active and passive recreation uses to accommodate large gatherings, special events, and individual users. These parks have scenic natural features that preserve the character of the region and provide a wide variety of compatible outdoor recreation activities; and may also provide areas for camping, historic preservation, protection of natural areas, and special use areas.

State Parks – State parks are similar to county parks, with two differences: they consist of several hundred acres and preserve natural areas of statewide importance.

Conservancy Areas – Conservancy areas are managed for the flora & fauna resources that exist at a site. Activities like hiking, wildlife watching, hunting, and fishing may be allowed on these lands that may be known as state natural areas, forests, or wildlife refuges. Each conservancy area has specific rules of use for public enjoyment.

Table 3

CLASSIFICATION

Linear Parks

		* Meets Disabled Accessibility Standards													
<u>Facility</u>	<u>Jurisdiction</u>	<i>MILES</i>	<i>BICYCLE TRAILS</i>	<i>CANOE TRAIL</i>	<i>CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING</i>	<i>HIKING TRAILS</i>	<i>HORSE TRAIL</i>	<i>HUNTING</i>	<i>NATURE TRAILS</i>	<i>PARKING LOT</i>	<i>PAVED</i>	<i>SANITARY FACILITIES</i>	<i>SHELTER</i>	<i>SNOWMOBILE TRAILS</i>	<i>TUNNELS (abandoned from RR)</i>
1. Elroy-Sparta Trail	Wisconsin DNR	33	X		X	X			X	X		X	X	X	3
2. 400 Trail State Trail	Wisconsin DNR	22	X	X		X	X			X		X	X	X	
3. Omaha Trail	Juneau County	12.5	X			X				X	X*	X		X	X
4. Hillsboro State Trail	Juneau County with City of Hillsboro and Vernon County	4.5	X			X				X		X			
5. Woodside Ranch Trail	Private	6			X	X	X			X		X			
6. Oak Ridge Trail	Juneau County	7	X		X	X	X	X	X	X					

Source: NCWRPC, 11/01

Table 6

CLASSIFICATION
Community Parks

Facility	Jurisdiction	* Meets Disabled Accessibility Standards																										
		ACRES	BASEBALL FIELD	BASKETBALL COURT	HORSESHOE PITS	BOAT ACCESS	BENCHES	CAMPING	CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	DUMP STATION (for RV's)	FISHING ACCESS	FOOTBALL FIELD	HIKING/NATURE TRAILS	OPEN SPACE	PARKING LOT	PICNIC AREA	PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT	SKATING RINK	SHELTER	RESTROOMS	SOCCER FIELD	SWIMMING BEACH	SWIMMING POOL	SHOWERS	TENNIS COURT	VOLLEYBALL COURT	SLEDDING HILL	TRACK
28. Necedah High School	Necedah School District	5.2	X	X									X	X*		X									X			
29. York Athletic Field	New Lisbon School District	6	X								X		X						X									X
30. Royall High School, Elroy	Elroy-Kendall-Wilton Sch. District	13	X	X							X		X			X												X
31. Wonewoc Elementary & High School	Wonewoc-Union Center Sch. District	4.2	X	X							X		X															
32. Mauston Middle & High School	Mauston School District	80	X	X							X		X			X												X
33. Jones Park	City of Mauston	2.5	X										X		X*	X*	X*	X*										
34. Nelson Park	Village of Camp Douglas	7	X	X	X		X						X	X	X	X		3	X						X	X		
35. Lyndon Park	Village of Lyndon Station	2.5	X	X											X	X												
36. Lions Park and NAB Field	Village of Necedah	10	X				X						X	X	X			X	X									
37. future park	Village of Necedah	5+																										
38. Riverside Park	City of New Lisbon	8				X	X	X		X				X	X	X		X	X							X		
39. Schultz Park (Fairgrounds)	City of Elroy	28	X				X	X		X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
40. American Legion Park	Village of Wonewoc	7	X		X			X							X	X		X	X			X						X
41. Riverside Park, Mauston	Mauston School District	3.5		X		X				X*			X	X	X	X		X*	X*						X			
42. Summit Park	Town of Summit		X												X	X	X											
43. Germantown Park	Town of Germantown	15											X	X	X				X		X							
44. Mile Bluff Park	City of Mauston	12		X							X		X	X	X	X												
45. Baker's Field	City of Wonewoc	3	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X*	X	X		X	X*						X			
46. Elroy Commons	City of Elroy	1					X						X	X	X		X	X*					X*					
47. Lone Rock Community Park	Town of Orange	2	X				X									X												

Source: NCWRPC, APR 2011

Table 10

CLASSIFICATION

Conservancy Lands

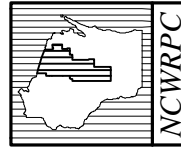
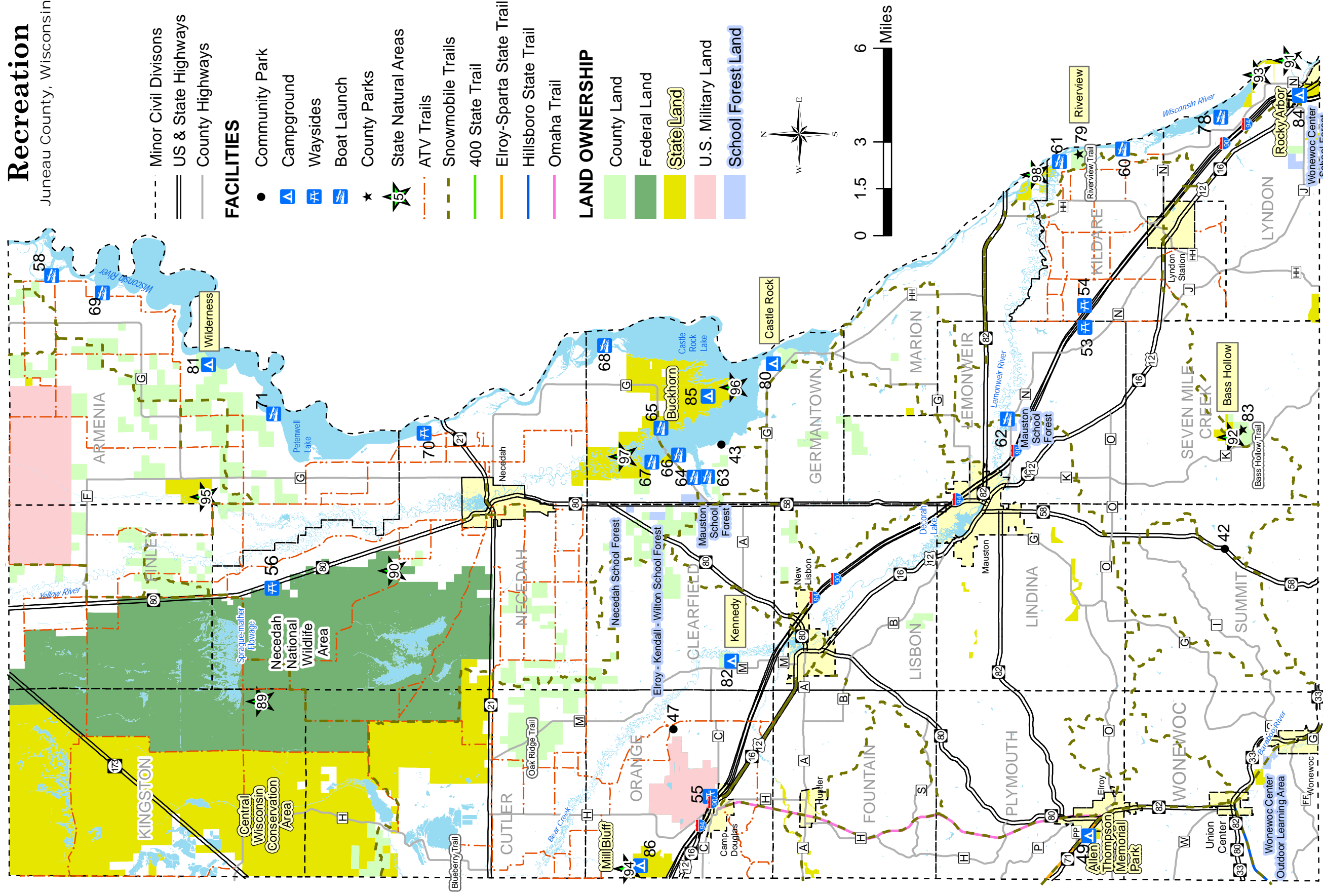
Facility	Jurisdiction	* Meets Disabled Accessibility Standards													
		ACRES	BERRY PICKING	BOAT ACCESS	CAMPING	CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	FISHING	HIKING TRAILS	HUNTING	PICNIC AREA	SNOWMOBILE TRAILS	SCIENTIFIC AREA	SWIMMING BEACH	VISITORS CENTER	WILDLIFE OBSERVATION
87. Necedah National Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	43,656	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X
88. Central Wisconsin Conservation Area (Meadow Valley)	Wisconsin DNR	57,612	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X
89. Necedah Oak-Pine Savana	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	240										X			X
90. Necedah Oak-Pine Forest	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	100									X				X
91. Blackhawk Island	University of Wisconsin	245									X				X
92. Bass Hollow	Wisconsin DNR	212									X				X
93. Dells of the Wisconsin River	Wisconsin DNR	1,300						X			X				X
94. Mill Bluff	Wisconsin DNR	500+						X			X				X
95. Cranberry Creek Mound Group	Wisconsin DNR	675						X			X				X
96. Buckhorn Barrens	Wisconsin DNR	1,680						X			X				X
97. Yellow River Oxbows	Wisconsin DNR	820									X				X
98. Lemonweir Bottomlands Hardwood Forest	Wisconsin DNR	323									X				X

Source: NCWRPC, 8/01

Map 3

Outdoor Recreation

Juneau County, Wisconsin



Prepared By:

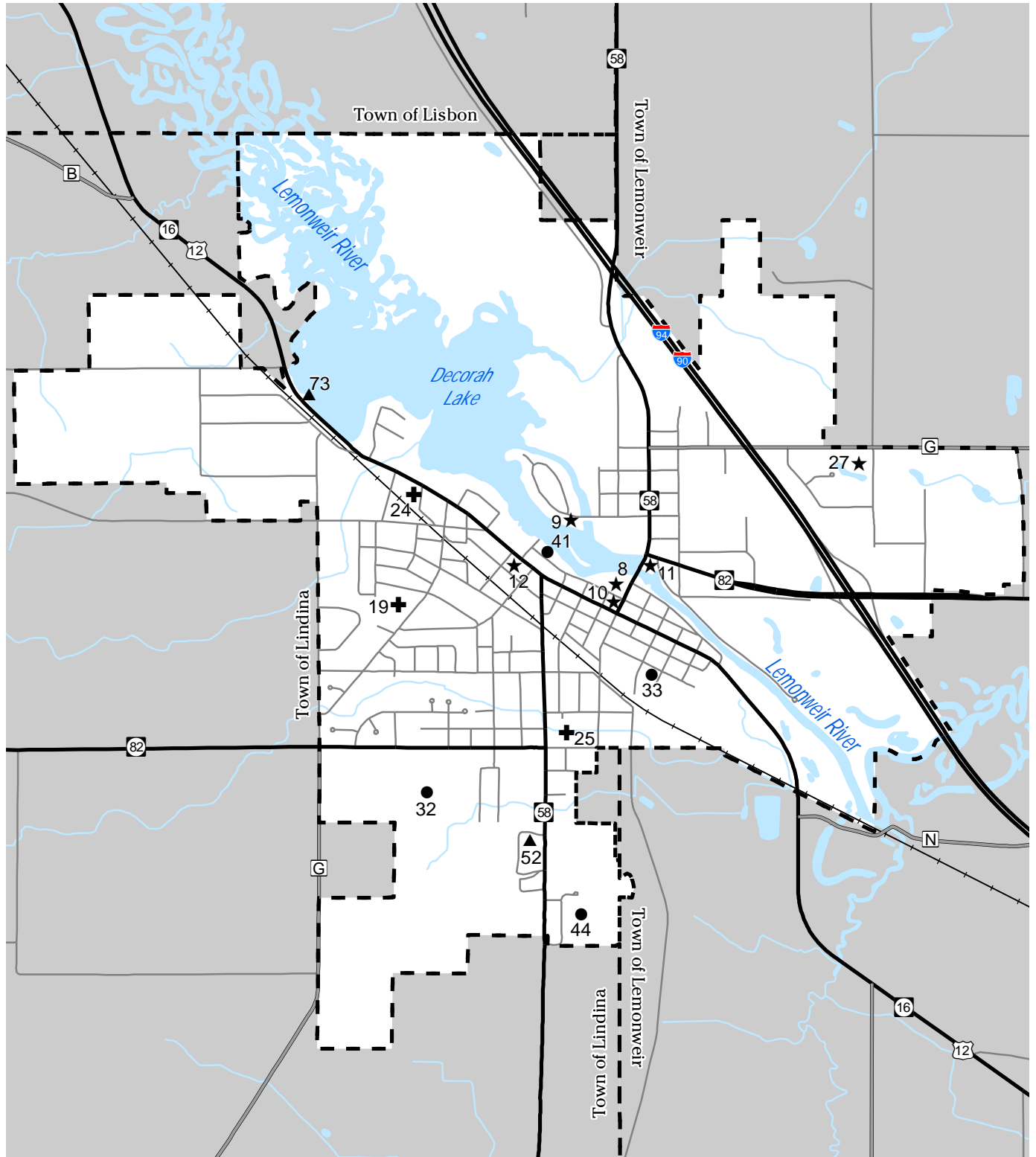
North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 4
 City of Mauston - Existing Recreation System

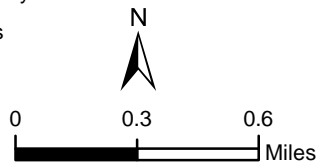


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ✚ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Railroad
- Water

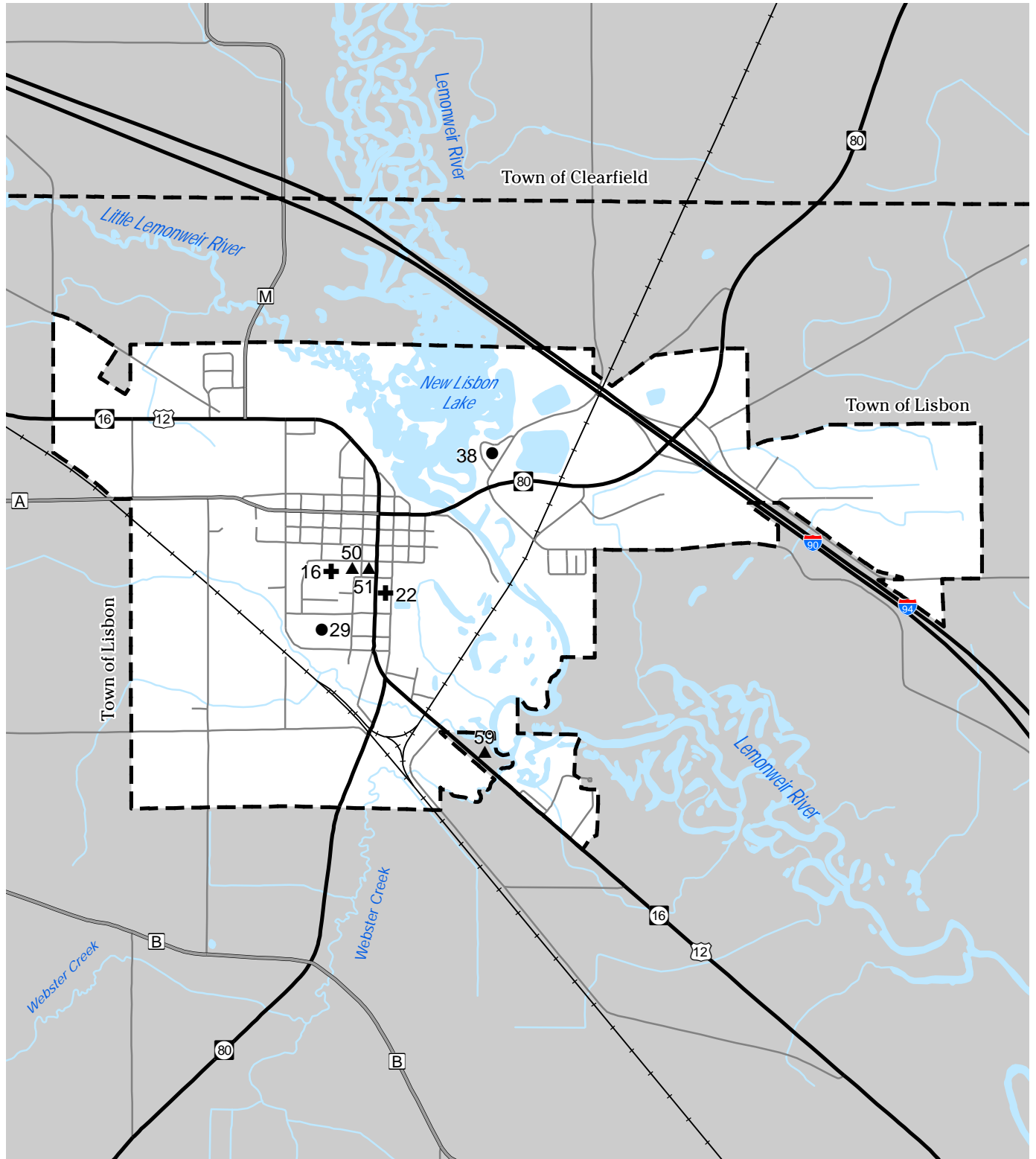


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 Wisconsin Regional
 Planning Commission
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 5 City of New Lisbon - Existing Recreation System

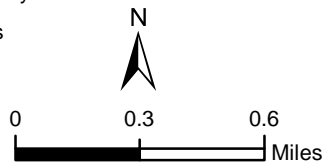


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area

LEGEND

- - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Railroad
- Water

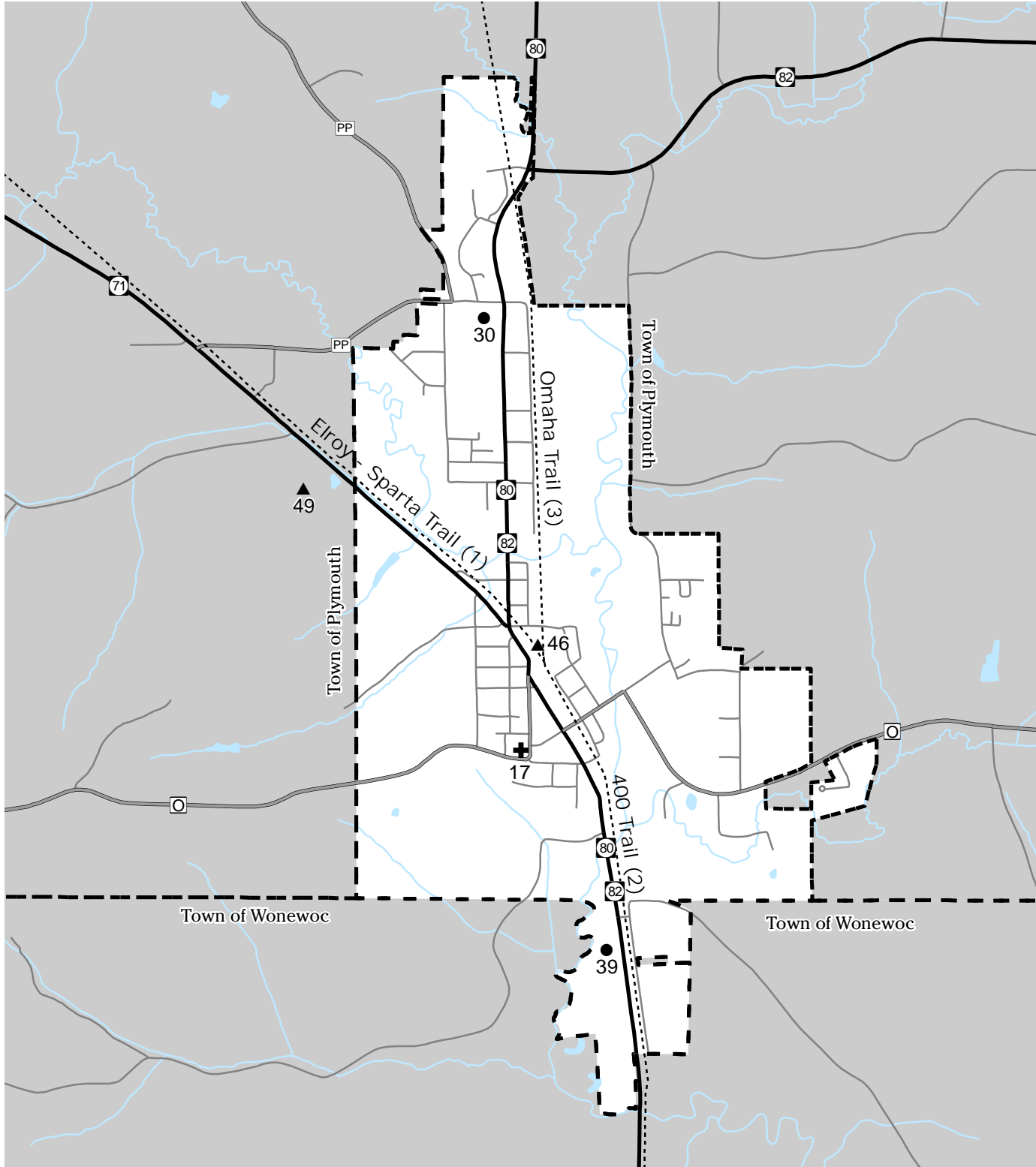


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**North Central
 Wisconsin Regional
 Planning Commission**
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 6
 City of Elroy - Existing Recreation System

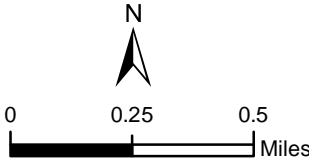


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area
- Linear Parks (Trails)

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Water

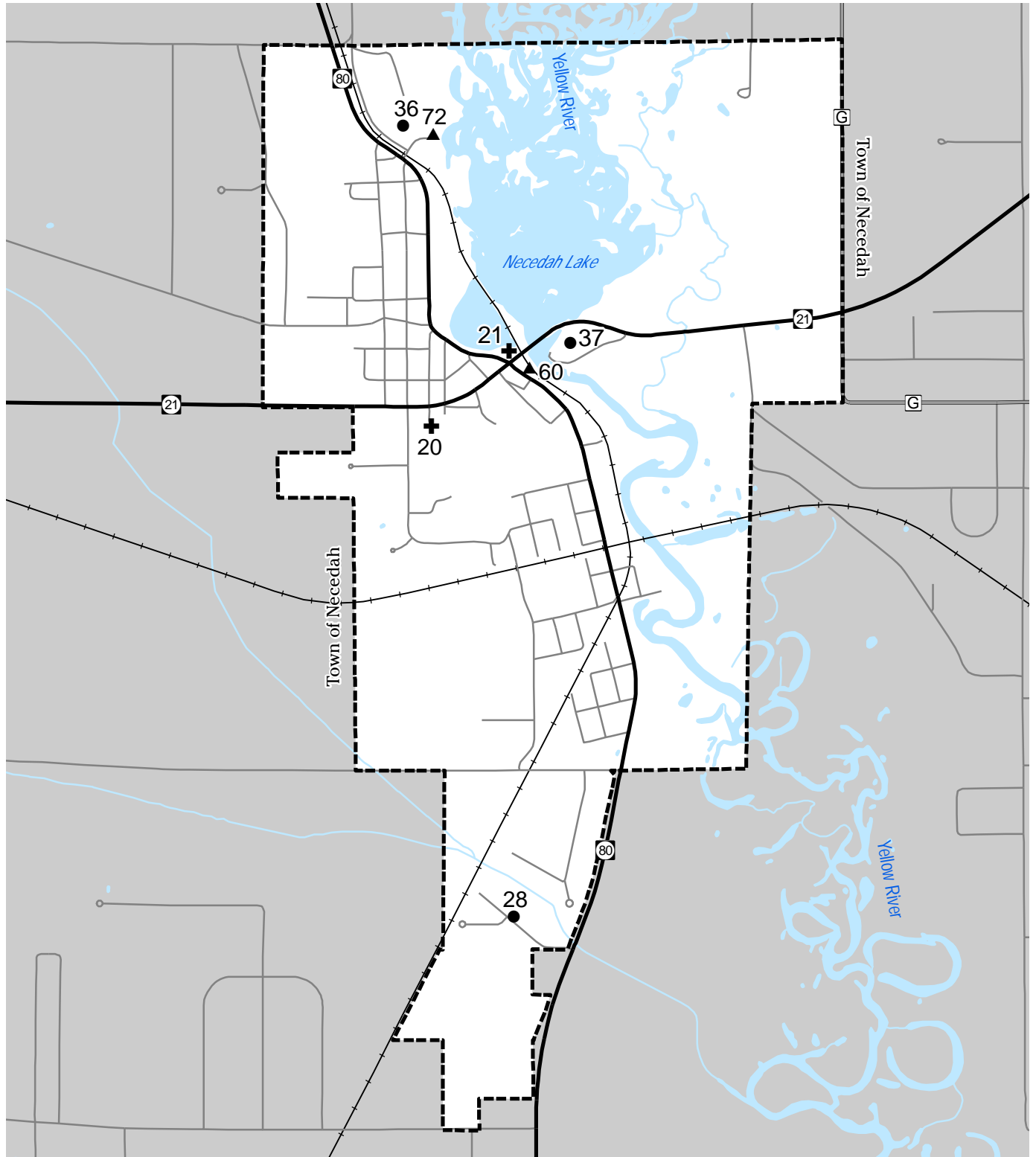


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 NCWRPC
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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 7 Village of Necedah - Existing Recreation System

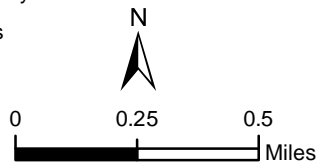


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Railroad
- Water

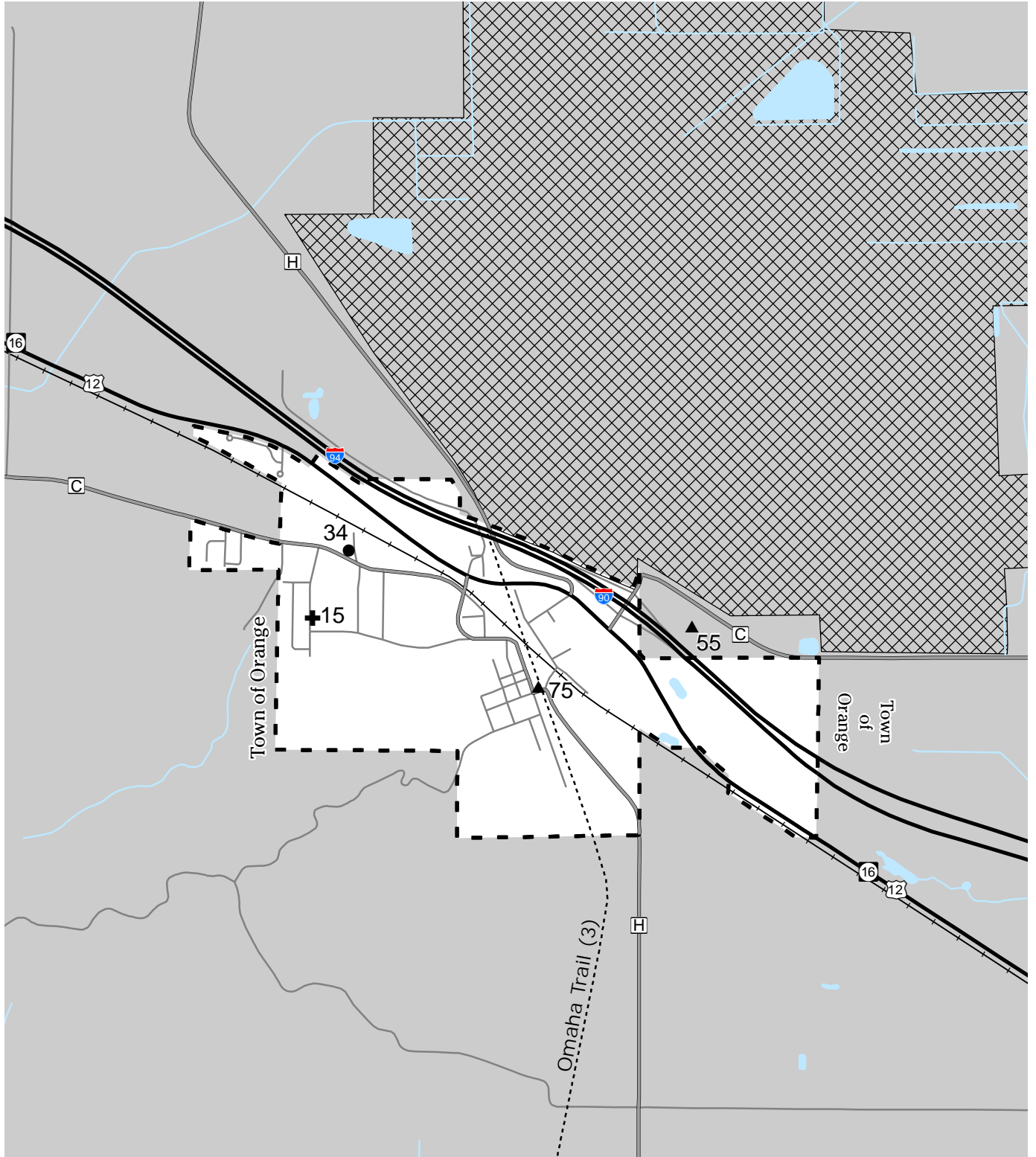


Prepared By:
**North Central
 Wisconsin Regional
 Planning Commission**
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
 (715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org

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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 8 Village of Camp Douglas - Existing Recreation System

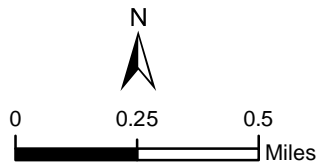


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area
- Linear Parks (Trails)

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Railroad
- ⊗ U.S. Military Land
- Water

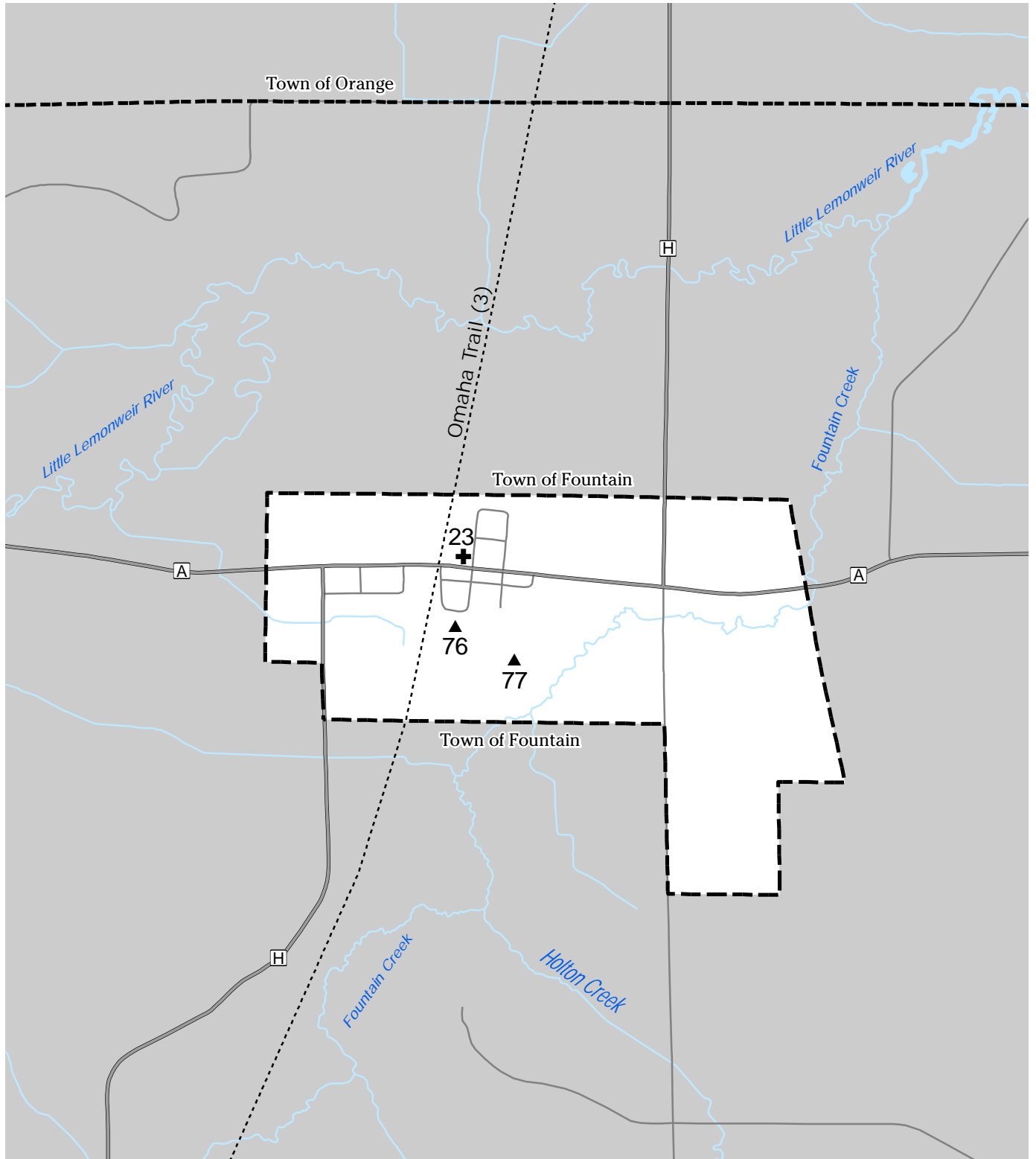


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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 9 Village of Hustler - Existing Recreation System

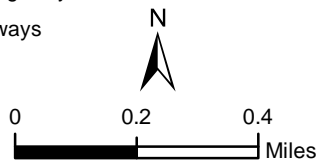


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area
- Linear Parks (Trails)

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Water

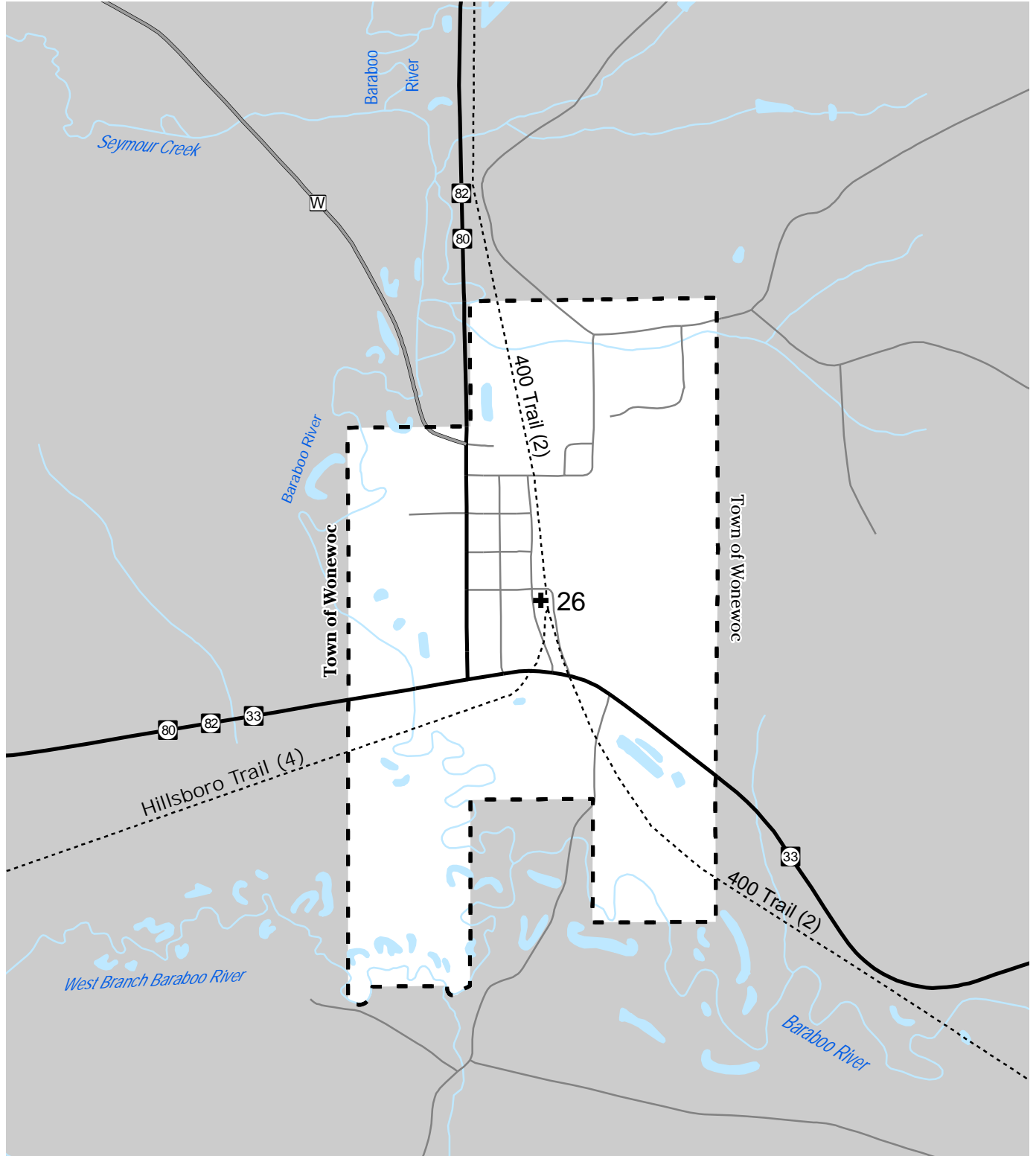


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**North Central
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 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 10 Village of Union Center - Existing Recreation System

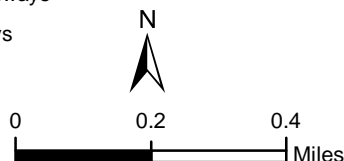


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area
- Linear Parks (Trails)

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Water

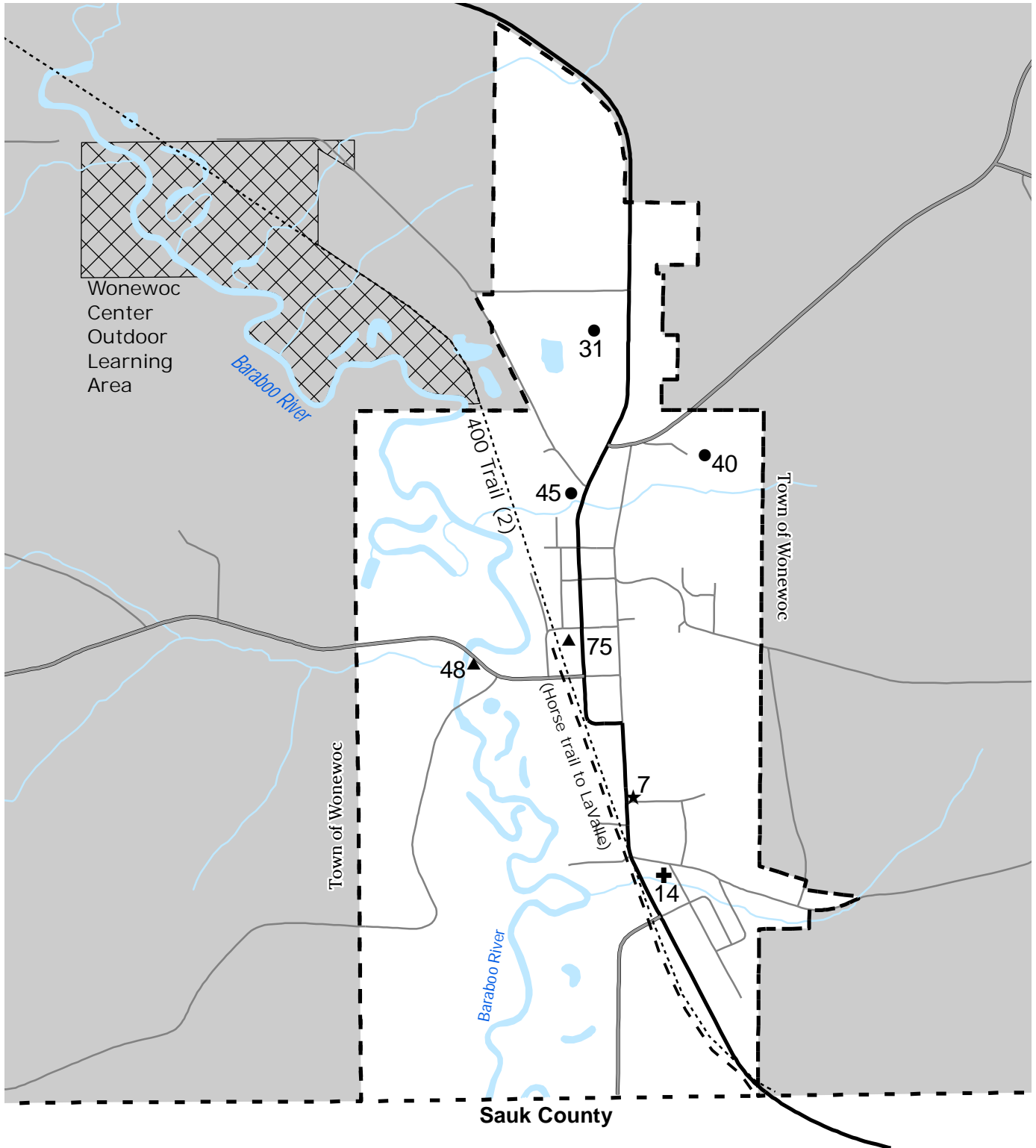


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**North Central
 Wisconsin Regional
 Planning Commission**
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

Map 11 Village of Wonevoc - Existing Recreation System

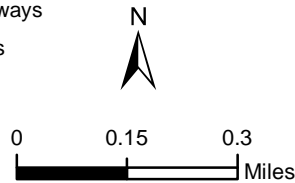


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area
- Linear Parks (Trails)
- ⊠ School Forest

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Water



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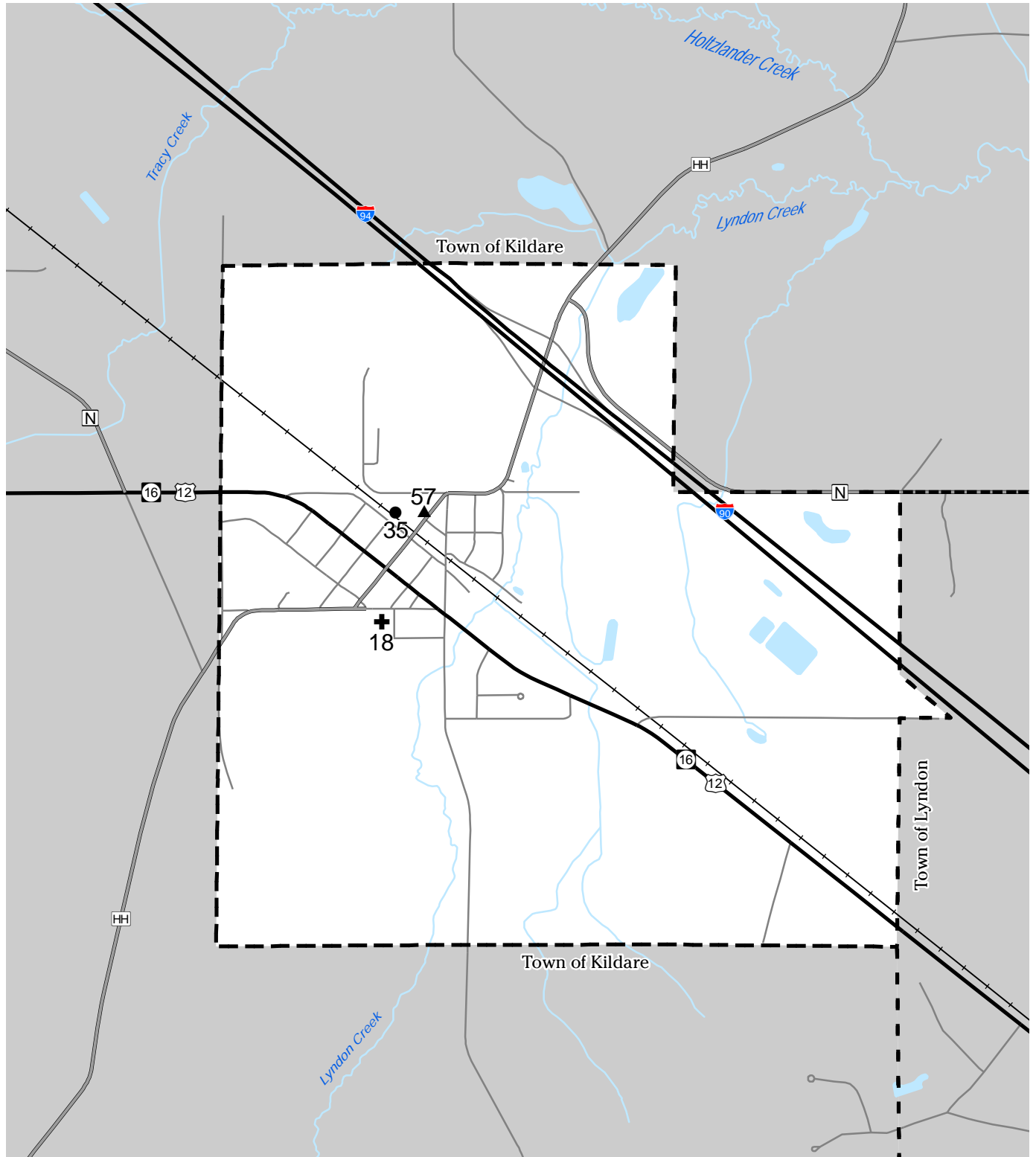
Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC



Prepared By:
**North Central
Wisconsin Regional
Planning Commission**

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
(715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org

Map 12 Village of Lyndon Station - Existing Recreation System

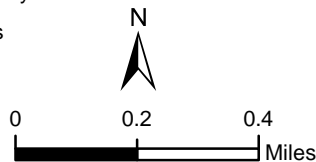


FACILITIES

- ★ Mini Park
- ⊕ Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- ▲ Special Use Area

LEGEND

- - - Minor Civil Divisions
- US & State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Railroad
- Water



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**North Central
 Wisconsin Regional
 Planning Commission**
 210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403
 (715) 849-5510 www.ncwrpc.org

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Source: WI DNR, NCWRPC

OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

Recreational needs within the county were identified by collecting public input, reviewing past plans, creating a county facility assessment, and summarizing the Wisconsin SCORP 2005-2010 for active use.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROJECTS COMPLETED FROM 2006-2011

Juneau County

- Controlled access at both campgrounds, Castle Rock and Wilderness Park.
- Expanded parking areas at boat landings of Castle Rock and Wilderness Parks.
- Added handicapped fishing piers and launch ramps at both Castle Rock and Wilderness Parks.

City of Mauston

- Install outdoor grill, 12 picnic tables, park shelter and bathrooms: Lions Park.
- Landscaping at Marchowsky Park.
- Improve hockey rink and parking lot: Jones Park.
- Install scoreboard and 2 concession stands, gravel road and grading: Veterans Park.
- Riverbank stabilization, 6 canoe access 7 fishing piers.

City of Elroy

- Upgraded restrooms, including showers, added canoe landing, new playground equipment at E.O. Schultz Park.
- Added splash pad and upgraded pool house facility.
- Added playground equipment at bike commons.

Village of Necedah

- Installed playground equipment, fencing, flag pole & walking path Old Mill Park
- Installed electric service & walking path Veterans' Park
- Installed two benches and seal-coated Kucirek Path
- Repaired and replaced sections of fence in Lions' Park

Village of Hustler

- Picnic Shelter was made handicapped accessible.
- Repair playground equipment
- Purchased old Creamery and transformed it to Museum/Exhibition Hall
- Created clay tractor pull track
- Motor cross track and parking area

Village of Wonewoc

- Install playground equipment Legion Park

Town of Germantown

- Built handicap accessible restroom.
- Purchased and installed picnic tables and benches in park.
- Created concrete and wood chip walking paths in park.

Town of Lyndon

- Completely rebuilt and improved boat launch off Hwy. N on the Wisconsin River.

Town of Orange

- Built shelter, purchased portable toilet, and built picnic tables for Lone Rock Community Park.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Informal Public Input

Juneau County Forestry and Parks Department staff solicits public input about its parks, recreational, natural, and cultural resources, and often benefit from public comment on the needs and conditions of outdoor recreation facilities in the course of their duties.

Summary of Town Survey Responses

Surveys were received from Town of Lindina, Lisbon, Finley, Clearfield, Villages of Hustler, Necedah, and Wonewoc, and the cities of Mauston and Elroy. Survey responses are grouped under the headings below. All respondents did not choose three issues.

Top 3 Outdoor Recreation Issues facing Juneau County

ATV Trails	XXXX
Marketing available activities and facilities	XX
Bundled marketing – travel, golf, trail pass and hotel, etc.	X
Public boat/canoe access to lakes, rivers	XX
Snowmobile Trails	XX
Cross-country Ski Trails	X
Maintain Water Quality	X
Clear the channel of the Lemonweir/Baraboo Rivers	XX
Homeless in Kennedy Park	X

How to Satisfy Juneau County Outdoor Recreational Issues

ATV: Establish trails on county land and on town roads to complement each other, and perhaps grading snowmobile trails for use in off-season to provide an off-road alternative.
 Identify key areas that limit ATV access, and identify alternative routes that meet need.
 Better communication between clubs, city, county, and towns involved to address ATV access.
 JCEDC & Tourism joint efforts to address marketing.

Engage social services to deal with homeless in Kennedy Park.

What Existing Outdoor Recreation Facilities in Juneau County Need Improvement

More parking and boat ramps, and improving existing ones

Off-road ATV trails being established

Cross Country Ski trails

More boat ramps, better upkeep of existing ramps, and more trailer parking.

Resurface and expand Omaha Trail

City of Elroy:

Get the tourism industry working together, and that includes working with the Wisconsin Dells hotels on tours and packages.

Biking and snowmobiling are seasonal activities, and four-wheeling is year round. With the topography and scenery this county needs to capitalize on this growing tourism sport/opportunity

Village of Necedah:

Restrictions on charging for camping arising from the donation of land for Kennedy Park has led to problems in recent years.

The key to improving ATV routes is involvement of clubs, local governments and the County. The most important step is identifying areas that limit ATV trails, then determining vital routes needed, and finally choosing route alternatives.

Summary of Snowmobile Clubs' Resolutions

- Purchase land to join the Omaha and the 400 trails.
- Feasibility study for a trail from Mill Bluff State Park to Rocky Arbor State Park.
- Purchase railroad property from Omaha Trail to Mill Bluff/Tomah when it becomes available.
- Recommend blacktopping roads in both parks.
- Shower house for Area B in Castle Rock Park.

Open House Public Input

One open house meeting was noticed to local newspapers, and a reminder was sent to each local recreation group in Juneau County. Area residents were able to view a draft of the proposed plan at the following libraries: Elroy, Hatch (Mauston), Necedah, & New Lisbon; also at the Forestry, and Parks Department office; and on the Internet.

Comments from Open House meeting held between 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. on December 14, 2011:

- Better coordination with Wisconsin Dells could expand market for Juneau County's recreational resources in the visitor market;
 - County government should be more aggressive in promoting recreational opportunities within the county;

- Joint marketing packages (trail pass, hotel, meals, etc.) should be put together to better attract visitors;
- Water quality, algae blooms, excessive weeds and invasive species in lakes and ponds present a major obstacle to fully utilizing these recreational assets;
 - Dredging alternatives should be explored as a way of removing phosphorus build-up, that leads to excessive plant/algae growth;
 - Fallen trees in the Baraboo and Lemonweir Rivers limit use of canoes;
 - Water trails should be delineated and publicized;
- There are no funded ATV trails, only on-road, designated routes, there is a significant demand from county residents for these facilities, funding is available from the State, and a system of ATV trails could increase the county's attractiveness as a visitor destination;
- Camp Douglas Sportsman's Club is one of many similar organizations in the county that emphasize the quality of hunting and fishing opportunities available here;
- As part of the proposed replacement of the Highway 82 bridge over the Wisconsin River a pedestrian lane that would carry recreational users, local support and securing land rights on the bridge approaches is required (now provided primarily by Snowmobile Clubs);
- Foster communication between sportsman's clubs, user groups (bikers, snowmobiles, ATVs, etc.), organized teams, tourism-related businesses, and other outdoor recreation interests to reach a consensus on Juneau County's needs for outdoor recreation investments; and
- By strengthening a common vision for the outdoor recreation future of the county the volunteer and knowledge base embodied in recreation groups can be better utilized.

**Statement by
Juneau County ATV Council**

ATVs are becoming one of the most popular, family-fun adventures available in the area, and to accommodate this growing activity will require a well-planned infrastructure strategy involving both County and local governmental bodies, as well as user groups. There is a grouping of ATV access in the northern part of the county, but not much access in the southern part. ATV routes (access) are permitted in certain parts of the county where local jurisdictions allow. Much of the ATV access makes use of local public roads. Current private property use for public ATV access is limited because of agriculture production and the potential of damage to land when the ground is soft during warmer spring months.

At this time there are no funded, ATV trails in the county, only on-road, ATV routes. There is a clear need to increase the availability of trails and routes including connector routes/trails. The County should assist ATV users in pursuing funding to expand a trail or route system, including off-road trails eligible for state-funded maintenance. But with or without state funding, a primary consideration in designating ATV trails, routes, and access is the safety of all users. One of the benefits of ATV trails/routes is that a properly placed trail/route can guide ATV traffic to local businesses. Restaurants, motels, gas stations, and chambers of commerce can see a substantial increase in customer traffic that arrives via ATV. Therefore, local towns/cities may wish to designate specific route(s)/trail(s) through their municipality for ATV use.

Beyond the specific needs of ATV users, the Juneau County ATV Council endorses healthier communication among user groups (in particular snowmobile groups), the County, local

government, and other stakeholders. There should be a dialogue focused on what they like about Juneau County and how the Outdoor Recreation system can make the most of those positive aspects of life here. A beneficial forum for such a discussion would be to create a central point for communication among local governments, users and stakeholders.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger Bean
President

23 December 2011

– End of open house meeting comments –

GENERAL COUNTY FACILITY ASSESSMENT

Staff from the Juneau County Forestry and Parks Department projected what needs or issues face Juneau County.

- Promote government (federal, state, and county) purchase of recreational easements on private property to guarantee trail placement in the future.
- ATV recreation is growing in Juneau County, and requires a balanced planning process involving the County, local governments, user groups, and other stakeholders.
- Continue to maintain and upgrade all county parks and campgrounds.
- Continue to purchase all abandoned RR grades in Juneau County.

PAST PLAN SUMMARIES OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Juneau Count Comprehensive Plan

Juneau Count completed a Comprehensive Plan in 2009. As part of the planning process the consultant conducted a series of focus group sessions. Below are the results from these discussions in relation to the role of recreation in Juneau County. The first is a focus group directed at tourism, recreation and natural resources. Recreation was also addressed by a development group, and one focused on business & economic development.

Focus Group No. 1: Tourism, Recreation and Natural Resources

Discussion in the Tourism, Recreation and Natural Resources focus group primarily focused on assets and challenges and how the interests of this group are intertwined within the county.

Assets

Significant assets identified and discussed for Juneau County include Castle Rock Lake and Petenwell Lake, the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, county forest land, Meadow Valley State Wildlife Area, and the extensive network of bicycle trails throughout the area, including the Omaha State Trail, the 400 State Trail, and the Elroy-Sparta State Trail. Petenwell Lake is the second largest lake in Wisconsin behind Lake Winnebago, drawing a large number of tourists. All of these features create a network of natural resource protection areas and of varied recreation opportunities for all seasons of the year. Approximately one half of the county's land is publicly owned, with 17,000 of

this land being forested. These natural resources and recreation opportunities serve as a major economic driver for the tourism industry in the county, including the presence of second homes, campgrounds, hotels, supply shops, and the like.

One activity that is of great importance to Juneau County is snowmobiling in the winter season. Local snowmobile clubs maintain over 240 miles of trails, approximately 75 percent of which pass through private property. Other important recreation opportunities include water-based activities, hunting, ATV trails, and others. Hotels become busy during turkey and deer hunting seasons as land owners and farmers open their land up for hunting, in addition to the publicly-owned land that is available.

Another major asset to the county is its relative location in the Midwest region. It is located within an easy day's drive to the large population centers of Minneapolis/St. Paul, Chicago, Madison, and Milwaukee, giving it the potential to draw from all of these markets. It is also affordable in price, relatively undeveloped, and close to other regional attractions and amenities.

Challenges

Despite the prevalence of recreation opportunities and natural resource amenities in the county, funding has been and will continue to be a problem since most of the amenities are publicly owned and maintained. A lack of services to support and promote additional tourism, such as retail shopping, or the presence of a large or well-known retailer is also a challenge. Local residents have been reluctant to support these retailers, especially restaurants, even though their presence may help to promote tourism. The perception among local residents is that some retailers are too expensive, and these retailers are reluctant to locate in the county as they cannot only rely on seasonal visitors to sustain themselves.

In addition, local organizations and residents have a difficulty promoting and facilitating opportunities and large events because of lack of funding and time. Such opportunities would serve to enhance tourism in the county. In addition to these special events, tourism in general is not promoted as a year-round opportunity, but only seasonal. This means that half of the year, businesses within the county suffer due to a lack of population base. Participants thought that the county should cooperate with other agencies and jurisdictions to fully promote tourism and recreation opportunities year-round.

A significant hindrance to these kinds of promotional efforts is the lack of collaboration between people and organizations within the county. Many residents are not interested in getting involved in local planning or promotional efforts, and businesses and organizations are often competing against each other rather than collaborating. Collaboration between residents, organizations, and other entities will work to improve quality of life in the county and address some of its problems.

One attempt at collaboration is the Castle Rock Lake Association, made up of private property owners on the lake. The difficulty with Castle Rock Lake is that four different townships have jurisdiction over it, creating a situation where multi-jurisdictional decisions must be made to address common concerns such as water quality or recreation, or implement policies or regulations that deal with collective interest.

There is some question, however, whether or not to promote tourism through recreation. Tourism is the primary economic driver in the county, more so than manufacturing and freight, which has a

limited presence. The current economic downturn has had notable implications on tourism in Juneau County and elsewhere. In the past, Juneau County has not aggressively promoted tourism and recreation opportunities, but now should consider doing so for the purposes of economic growth. In the past, the seasonal population has been comprised of people that have invested in the county by purchasing land and building a second home. Not much of the seasonal population is made of people that utilize rental housing, such as hotels or other forms of guest accommodations. There is the potential for new promotional efforts to target those additional tourists that do not own land in the county and are choosing to recreate elsewhere.

Juneau County Economic Development Corporation acts as the primary organization that promotes tourism within the county, in addition to recreation groups that promote specific activities and create publications. These publications often are where private businesses advertise their products and services, but the publications do not get distributed to a wide audience. There is a significant need, interest, and opportunity to promote tourism on a regional level, but efforts to establish a regional tourism agency have since failed. Promoting tourism on a regional level includes promoting areas across the region, not just areas unique to Juneau County.

Wisconsin Dells, located just south of Juneau County, acts as both a competitor and resource for Juneau County as it relates to tourism. A large number of tourists travel to the Wisconsin Dells area, especially during the summer season, and Juneau County has a great opportunity to draw from the many marketing efforts of the Dells and its large budget, and bring those tourists further north for other recreation opportunities in Juneau County, many of which the Dells area does not offer.

More specifically, there is evidence of the impacts of the Wisconsin Dells tourism industry in Juneau County. When Lake Delton was lost during the flood in the summer of 2008, Lake Delton Water Sports moved its operations to Castle Rock Lake in Juneau County. After some success, the company has decided to remain operating from the area in the summer of 2009.

A further challenge for the county is shortage of services such as specialty shops, and restaurants. Only three small grocery stores operate in Juneau County, and many go elsewhere for dining and shopping for more specific or upscale products, due to the limited variety in the county. A more varied range of options, from upscale to budget, need to be available within the county to prevent people from leaving to shop for goods, thereby taking their dollars elsewhere.

One vital part of the county's recreation and tourism system, the county forests and the county forestry department, faces numerous challenges to its operations. It has limited staff and funding, and does not always have the time or resources to begin new projects or improve services or amenities in its system. The department's budget is contingent on the county board and budget, and is doing what it can to maintain its vital operations. The department cuts and re-plants trees as needed and based on its inventory. In the summer, it focuses its limited resources on managing and maintaining campgrounds, while in fall and winter it focuses more on forestry management.

Along with snowmobiling, all-terrain vehicle (ATV) use is a popular recreation activity in Juneau County, but the use and access for ATVs is a complex issue. There is a lot of ATV access in the southern part of the county, but not as much access in the northern part. ATV use is only allowed in certain parts of the county where local jurisdictions allow, as ATVs can cause damage, especially when the ground is soft during warmer spring months. Much of the ATV use in the county is on private property, oftentimes where users are not aware of whose property they are riding on and

potentially damaging. If these recreation activities are to be sustained efforts need to be made to establish a larger and more accessible network of trails for ATV users, across the county. While the snowmobile users have an extensive network of trails that they have developed by gaining access easements, the permitted ATV routes are minimal.

Another significant challenge to Juneau County includes poor water quality. Several sources of non-point source pollution, including dairy farms and residential lawns, need to be addressed. Water quality is noticeably depleted with the growth of algae in the summer months, and this has visual and other impacts on tourism, as well as the health of aquatic ecosystems. People are taking their boats out of the lake and leaving the water sooner than they used to because of the increase in algae. This has a substantial impact on all other local businesses, as the tourist season becomes shorter.

Additionally, invasive species continue to be a problem with all motorized vehicle recreation activities such as boating and ATV use. Participants in the focus group thought it was very important for the county to establish a goal pertaining to the improvement of water quality within the county, in order to preserve the existing eco-systems and not further lose any ability for water recreation that is such an economic base for the county.

A challenge related to water quality and other problems that have been discussed in this section which impedes regulatory and collaborative action is the problem of disconnected jurisdictions and regulations. This was noted in the case of Castle Rock Lake and coordinating water quality, recreation, and other efforts for the lake area. Zoning is another example of an inconsistent framework for influencing what is permitted from a land use perspective. Some townships in Juneau County have zoning laws, while others do not. This creates uncertainty on the part of the landowners across the county as to what use is permitted or allowed in what location. Having a consistent set of rules or standards across the county would assist with a comprehensive approach to planning for the county's future, help it protect water quality and natural resources, and address other issues the county is facing.

Focus Group No. 3: Development Group

Discussion in the Development focus group touched on several different subjects, among them recreational opportunities.

Recreational Opportunities

The overall feeling from the group was that the County has some outstanding recreational resources that could be used to draw more tourism activity to the area if they were better marketed. The trail system is extensive, and the Camp Douglas to Elroy trail is unique for the region in that it is seal coated, not just gravel. Buckhorn State Park is a major asset that is also almost unknown - at 5,900 acres, the park is one of the larger parks in the state, and has significant frontage on Castle Rock Lake.

ATVs were seen as a potential market that could be exploited. A shooting range could also bring more variety to recreation in the area. Participants also thought that the County be more proactive in promoting the lakes for recreation- people don't realize the County includes portions of the second and fourth largest lakes in the state. Lake water quality could be improved to make them even more desirable destinations. Overall, participants thought that the County has extensive and unique recreational opportunities that could be more vigorously publicized to draw more tourists to the area.

Focus Group No. 4: Business & Economic Development Group

Discussion in the Business & Economic Development focus group touched on several different subjects.

Recreational Opportunities

Further marketing and development of recreational opportunities within Juneau County could be a major economic driver for the county. There are many opportunities for improvements to Juneau County recreation that would boost the visibility of the County and the selection of activities that visitors could choose from.

Every year, people load up their ATVs on trailers and drive north, right through Juneau County - why not get them to stop in the County? The ATV infrastructure needs to be greatly improved to take advantage of the opportunity, something that has been done with snowmobiles already. However, snowmobiles have a much more limited window of activity - ATVs could provide tourists' business in the off-season spring and fall periods. Participants thought the County could be more accommodating toward ATVs on some of its own land, and also work with landowners to create a network of ATV trails. A family of four ATV-ers can spend \$600+ over a weekend of activity, which can have a substantial impact for the County if it can capture part of this activity.

There are several recreational activities in the County that are already popular that could be better promoted and expanded. Canoeing is a popular recreation activity, given the lakes and rivers. The large network of trails provides a variety of biking options. The County's many public and private campgrounds are becoming a larger business base as well - reservations in 2009 appear to be at higher levels than previous years.

Investment in tourism activities and promotion is money well spent; tourists spend substantial amounts of money, even just for weekend trips. Much of the necessary tourism infrastructure is already in place. The potential exists to boost recreation activity and associated tourism by building off the success of the Dells and establishing Juneau County as the place to go for nature-based recreation. Dells tourists could be pulled just a little further north - there is a market that wants to escape from some of the Dells activities, and Juneau County is on the border between southern Wisconsin tourism and the nature-based recreation of the north. As it is, the County could be considered a well-kept secret when it comes to great outdoor recreation.

City of Mauston Outdoor Recreation Plan Issues

City of Mauston Parks Board created these recommendations with assistance from NCWRPC staff based mainly on the goals identified from the survey and park board meetings.

Create Segregated Park Fund

Place funds generated from park use in a fund specifically for park maintenance and upkeep. Currently it is hard to maintain the parks the city has and using revenue the parks create should help with this issue.

Fee structures

The City should annually examine the fee structures for people using the city park system. This is needed to ensure that fees are set at a fair price for users and that the fees generate enough revenue to assist with the maintenance of the parks.

Continue Park Partnerships

The City of Mauston has had a history of partnering with local organizations for support for local parks. Some of the local partners include: Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Golden Eagle Athletic Boosters, Marachosky Family, Local Churches and others. These partnerships have been a great assistance to the City of Mauston. The city should work to keep these partnerships, and where feasible develop new partners for the park system.

Mile Bluff Trail Corridor

Work to develop a trail extending from the south side of town around Mile Bluff. This will be approximately a 4 mile trail that will connect into the city and county trail systems.

Trail Systems

All potential DNR State Trails, and potential trails from the NCWRPC Regional Bike Plan are summarized in Chapter 1 of this City of Mauston Outdoor Recreation Plan. The City should support the opening of these trails and have local trails connect into the regional trail system.

City Pool

Survey respondents identified a pool as the top facility that the City should put into a long term facilities planning.

Riverside Park

The survey showed that Riverside Park had the largest amount of dissatisfied and very dissatisfied responses; along with the survey respondent's desire for a river walk, this makes Riverside Park a logical choice for improvements. See Capital Improvements section below for more detail.

Budgeted Projects

These projects are budgeted in the City of Mauston's 5 year plan and are likely to be completed within the 5 year period.

Mansion Street and Riverside Park Development

These two projects were brought forward through the TID study and the highest ranked by both the stakeholders and Planning Commission. It was a part of the Downtown Revitalization Plan and also will serve to prepare for rerouting required when State St will be reconstructed in 2015. Design will be scheduled for next year and construction in 2013. Funding will be through the TID. As a reminder we have 5 years to execute projects utilizing the fund reserves the TID will accumulate by 2022. Conservative estimates are approximately \$10M in TID Fund Reserves.

Highway 82 Pedestrian Improvements

This project was the next priority for the Planning Commission and is purposed to get pedestrian access along Highway 82 out past the interstate. There have been preliminary designs for this project. It is the intention to coordinate this project with the Highway 82 construction next year. Again TID funding would be utilized to fund this project.

Riverwalk & Pedestrian Bridge

The River walk would continue improvements made to the Riverbank this year and connect those improvements to Riverside Park. HWY 82 Improvements would probably take place in 2013 and would dress up the corridor to make it a gateway into the community.

Baseball Field Concession Stand

Design is complete for this project and came from the Park Board. Approximately 75% of funding would come from the park reserve fund.

Potential Projects

Potential projects are projects that may be completed in the next 5 years if funding becomes available; however these projects are likely to be funded later than 2017.

Veteran's Memorial Park Improvements

JCAIRS is currently working on fund raising and donations for a grandstand. In the five year plan they would like to build a community center and pave the new access road.

Sled Hill

This project is preliminarily designed. It tries to address concerns brought forward with Child safety using the Hill behind the Methodist Church and the additional fill anticipated from the Attewell Detention Basin. The Kiwanis Club is very supportive of the project, and is hoping to make Mile Bluff or Kiwanis Park more of a feature for the community. The intention is to use the slope at Mile bluff to provide a small bank for sledding in the winter. Extra fill would be used from the Attewell Detention Basin. It is still preliminary and contingent on the Attewell Project.

Oakridge Park Dog Park

The city crews have begun laying out a potential site for a dog park north of town. The area has a detention pond, plenty of open field area, and screening. Landscaping and a sign could create an excellent site for a dog park.

Multi-use Trails from the River to Mile Bluff

With the plan to create a river walk and extend multi-use trails along 82 past the interstate, eventually it is in the interest of the city to extend those trails south and connect Mile Bluff to the River.

OTHER PLAN REFERENCES

NCWRPC staff created the SCORP 2005-2010 summary, see Attachment B.

Map 1 summarizes the location of DNR Land Legacy areas, potential DNR State Trails, and potential trails from the NCWRPC Regional Bike Plan that are all summarized in Chapter 1 of the Juneau County Outdoor Recreation Plan.

NEEDS DRIVEN PARK PLANNING

Since the 1960's, an accepted practice has been to adopt a uniform national land standard, such as 10 acres per 1000 population, for park planning. A standard amount of land for parks and recreation cannot be universal. A standard land measure is only useful for specific facilities, like determining how much land is needed for a particular use like a baseball diamond. The number of baseball diamonds or other facilities is not identical among similar sized communities nationally.

The basis of this revised approach to park and recreation standards is to create a level of service as defined by the customers' needs rather than an arbitrary standard. The level of service is generated locally for each type of park, trail, or public access to a water body. Public input is collected in multiple ways and the needs for a particular park, trail, or public access to a water body are determined. When specific facilities are needed, then facility standards are used to design the facility and budget for the necessary land, materials, and labor to satisfy that need.

A needs driven and facilities based park planning approach presents the current demand for park and recreation opportunities. The size of a park site is determined by the number of facilities needed to satisfy the active recreation demand within the service area of each park, and the unprogrammed recreation land that buffers different uses within a park and which buffers the park from other non-park uses such as housing. Determining the space needs for unprogrammed land is objective, in that it is based on first-hand knowledge of the area and how community residents and tourists use the parks. Determining how much unprogrammed land to use for buffering parks is subjective based on aesthetic standards of how pleasing an area should be based on community standards, and what the surrounding land uses are.

The size of a park is determined by three criteria:

1. Physical geography. Does the site have steep hills, woodlands, or wetlands? Such natural features are useful for exploration, conservation, aesthetic buffers, and unprogrammed lands.
2. Park facilities. What activities are allowed or will be allowed? How much land is needed for each use?
3. Unprogrammed buffers. How much land within the park is needed to separate different uses? How much land is needed for future expansion? Maybe a park will not expand within 2-years, but within 10-20 years expansion, but when the opportunity to buy land presents itself the reaction must be decisive to seize the opportunity. A park growth boundary should be created for this reason.

RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The following recommendations are aimed at building Juneau County's status as a prime recreation and natural resource area, and to satisfy the needs identified by providing recreation facilities for all Juneau County residents and visitors.

The recommendations are based on the goals and objectives, and the public comment documented in Chapter 4. Although it is unlikely that all these recommendations will be undertaken in the next five years, they should be recognized as potential actions if opportunity presents itself or the need arises.

COUNTYWIDE RECOMMENDATIONS

Primitive Camping

Establish primitive campsite with Adirondack Shelters for hiking in camping areas at Bass Hollow Park and County Forests.

Meadow Valley

Meadow Valley Wildlife Area (Central Wisconsin Conservation Area) is a 90 square mile wildlife protection area that is leased to the state of Wisconsin and administered under a cooperative agreement with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. ATVs are allowed on the town roads that traverse the Necedah National Wildlife Area. The degree to which ATV use would be compatible with the conservation mission of this area should be explored.



Adirondack Shelter

Multiple Use Trails

Purchase recreational trail easements countywide.

Conduct a feasibility study about extending a multiple use trail parallel to USH 12 & STH 16 along the railroad right-of-way from Monroe County southeast to Rocky Arbor State Park and the Sauk County line.

Conduct a feasibility study about creating ATV trails in the landfill area when it closes.

Initiate and develop permanent trail segment to connect Omaha Trail to 400 Trail.

FOREST MANAGEMENT UNIT RECOMMENDATIONS

New Miner North Unit:

This unit will continue to be managed as a plantation for pine trees, which in years to come will grow into large saw timber. This will improve aesthetics and wildlife habitat

New Miner South Unit:

This unit had major development going on around it because of the lake. Recreation and public access will be one of the primary goals of this unit.

Yellow River Unit:

This unit will be managed primarily for wildlife habitat and consists mainly of aspen and oak. Water resources are a major concern because of the Yellow River flowing through.

Cutler North Unit:

This unit will continue being managed for wildlife habitat, hunting and timber production.

Cutler South Unit:

This unit has large, pine saw timber, oak and aspen with an under story of young white pine, which is excellent for wildlife. There is an extensive cross country ski trail through this unit which is used throughout the winter months.

Clearfield Unit:

This will continue to be managed for jack pine production. Many snowmobile trails run through this management unit.

Germantown Township:

With the loss of other public lands, the green space available to the public is very valuable because the population of the town has grown strongly in the last five years, and that growth is likely to continue.

Bass Hollow Unit:

This unit is considered a prime recreational area because of the park and trails. It is the only high conservation forest, because of its old growth Hemlock stand and the many plant communities found within the unit.

CITY, VILLAGE, AND TOWN RECOMMENDATIONS

CITY OF MAUSTON RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create a segregated park fund, seek grant funding, and adjust fee structure.
- Consider the possibility of constructing a City pool.
- Construct a concession stand at Lion's Park baseball field.
- Improve Riverside Park and a Riverwalk connecting to pedestrian crossing at Highway 82.
- Create a trail link between the River and Mile Bluff

CITY OF NEW LISBON RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create a walking path along the Lemonweir River.
- Undertake efforts to improve water quality in the Mill Pond, reducing weed growth and invasive species.
- Expand pathways linking parks, natural areas, and non-motorized trails in the county.
- Develop a system of non-motorized trails within the city.

CITY OF ELROY RECOMMENDATIONS

- Add permanent outfield fence to Schultz Park baseball field.
- Create off-street connection between the Omaha and the 400 Trails.
- Add painted bike path crossings on major highways in City.
- Upgrade electrical service for campers at Schultz Park.
- Multi-purpose building at Schultz Park.
- Connection from Schultz Park to 400 Trail.
- New show ring at Fairgrounds.
- New bicycles for rental from Commons Building.

VILLAGE OF NECEDAH RECOMMENDATIONS

- Secure access to baseball diamond adjacent to Lions Park.
- Improve parking lot for NAB Field (baseball) at Lions Park.
- Create a bridge across the Yellow River for pedestrians, ATVs and snowmobiles.
- Develop a park on the east side of the dam.
- Add basketball court in Village Park.
- Develop a skateboard park.
- Upgrade all boat landings.

VILLAGE OF LYNDON STATION RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create new handicap accessible restrooms at Veterans Memorial Park.

VILLAGE OF WONEWOC RECOMMENDATIONS

- Improve South Town Park by rebuilding the ice rink, and installing playground equipment, picnic tables, grills, and power outlets.
- Construct Baraboo River canoe landing with a small park.
- Improve the campsites at Baker's Field Park.

TOWN OF GERMANTOWN RECOMMENDATIONS

- Promote the use of multi-use trail/routes, trail/route linkages, or wide shoulders as part of new development proposals.
- Extend and create walking paths in Germantown Park.

VILLAGE OF HUSTLER RECOMMENDATIONS

- Construct a pathway from Bike Trail to the new restroom facilities.
- Obtain liability insurance coverage at reasonable cost to cover Village-sponsored recreation events (Tractor Pull, Motocross, etc.).
- Install playground equipment by the exhibition hall
- Explore possibility of camping facilities in Village.

TOWN OF CLEARFIELD RECOMMENDATIONS

- Work with County to establish ATV route/trails connecting to businesses in the town.
- Promote Kennedy Park – need for bathrooms, showers and electric hook-ups
- Clear the fallen trees from Lemonweir River to create canoe connection to New Lisbon pond.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 2012 – 2017

Capital improvements to parks are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of that park. Capital improvements are designed and funded through a variety of funding sources. Routine maintenance is considered the normal cycle of repair and upkeep for existing facilities. Non-routine maintenance of park facilities, however, is usually considered a capital improvement item. For example, upgrading an outdoor restroom facility for universal access would qualify as a capital improvement, while repainting an outdoor restroom would be considered routine maintenance.

The capital improvement framework for each facility is a combination of several types of projects. These projects are ranked according to their importance and priority in the overall development of the facility. Capital improvements are ranked as follows:

1. Improvements to existing facilities:
 - a. To correct health and safety hazards;
 - b. To update deficient facilities; and
 - c. To modernize adequate but outdated facilities.
2. Installation of facilities as deemed necessary through citizen participation.
3. Development of new facilities as found necessary through comparison to park and recreation standards, and public comment.

The following Capital Improvement Plans are proposed for the Juneau County recreation system. The projects are listed in a priority and are subject to change. The Juneau County Forestry and Recreation Department created each capital improvement plan. All upgrades and new construction will take into consideration meeting ADA standards. As funds become available, the following projects will be completed.

General Capital Improvements

- Add a boat landing at USH 12 / STH 16 outside Mauston on a tax delinquent property, now county owned.
- Extend Omaha Trail into Monroe County along railroad corridor from Camp Douglas to Monroe County.
- Rebuild all Omaha Trail bridges to a 12 foot width.

Wilderness Park

- Expand and develop camping area to add additional campsites.
- Create new handicap accessible fishing pier.
- Expand and develop more hiking trails.
- Build an interpretive center.
- Create a fish cleaning station.
- Sign 8th Street and 20th Avenue as bicycle routes from Wilderness Park to CTH G.

Castle Rock Park

- Expand and develop camping area to add additional campsites.
- Create new handicap accessible fishing pier.
- Expand and develop more hiking trails.
- Create a fish cleaning station.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

INTRODUCTION

There are a number of different strategies available for the implementation of this plan. This includes securing funds to carry out the five year planning program and adopting techniques to implement the general recommendations and move towards attainment of the goals and objectives set forth in this plan.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

Shoreland Zoning

Wisconsin's Shoreland Management Program establishes statewide minimum standards for shoreland development. Counties are required to adopt and administer shoreland zoning ordinances that meet or exceed these minimum requirements. The statewide minimum standards for county shoreland zoning ordinances are found in Chapter NR 115, Wis. Admin. Code.

Public Access to Waterways

Wisconsin Statute §236.16(3) requires dedication of public access in subdivisions along waterways unless there is a public access within ½ mile of the subdivision.

Park Dedication

Subdivision regulations can be used by counties to require residential subdividers to dedicate a portion of subdivided land for permanent, park and open space use in areas which are experiencing significant residential growth. Although Juneau County does not currently have land division regulations, neighborhood parks may be acquired in this manner in newly developing residential areas. Local landowners should also be encouraged to dedicate land to their communities for recreational uses. Numerous small town memorial parks have been acquired through the generosity of local citizens. If citizens are made aware of community needs, this form of private action may continue to enrich the public resources of small communities. Juneau County should focus efforts to provide connectivity between developments/subdivisions and recreation areas through trail development, and support development of other recreation areas within developments/subdivisions where feasible.

Use of Easements

Open space and public recreation use of private land may be acquired by easement. With an easement, certain rights are granted to the public for a specific period of time and the private owner is compensated for that public use. In purchasing an easement, the public body acquires a right either to use the land in a specific manner or to restrict the use of that land. For example, the rights to establish public hiking or fishing access to a waterway may be purchased through an easement.

Leases

Leases may be used as measures to use or protect land until more permanent arrangements can be found. By leasing parcels the land remains on the County's and the community's tax rolls and the

lease can be renegotiated or non-renewed by the property owner if another use proves more rewarding financially.

Another leasing method involves outright purchase of land by the county. The county then leases the land to a private party or organization with use restrictions placed on the land. Under this method, the county receives some monetary return on its investment and retains control over the use of the land.

Historic Sites

Historical sites can be valuable additions to any community's recreation program. This is especially true in areas oriented to serving the tourist trade. Nearly all communities in Juneau County are in this category and they should identify their historic sites. A study of potential areas is encouraged. Assistance and guidance for the study can be obtained from the Wisconsin Council for Local History, an organization affiliated with the State Historical Society and the County Historical Society.

Program Costs

A community should carefully watch operations and maintenance costs when setting up a parks program. A too ambitious acquisition and/or development program can easily lead to annual costs larger than the community can afford. Recreation facilities like golf courses and swimming pools, for example, require large annual maintenance investments.

In developing a recreation program, care should be taken that the annual cost of maintenance does not exceed an amount the community can afford to pay. Too often, an ambitious program can lose community support as a result of prohibitive maintenance costs.

Capital Improvements

Community officials should develop five year capital improvements programs for recreation that reflect implementation of proposals made in their plans, and the priorities they place on them. To be functional, the program must be flexible and be subject to annual review.

Monetary Aid Programs

Take advantage of state and federal financial and technical aid programs, which are designed, to assist communities in meeting recreational needs and maintain community eligibility for such programs. The Stewardship Fund is a comprehensive aid program for the promotion of resource conservation and outdoor recreation opportunities. It consists of several older aid programs such as LAWCON and Local Park Aids, combined with new programs, such as the Urban Rivers Program. Attachment D gives an explanation of the Stewardship Fund. For additional information obtain the most current booklet titled Open Project Selection Process from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Requirements for application to the Stewardship Fund include the requirement that the applicant submits an approved comprehensive recreation plan. This plan is designed to meet that requirement. For other program requirements, or additional information contact:

Beth Norquist, Community Services Specialist
1300 West Clairemont Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4001
(715) 839-3751

In addition to state and federal aid programs, there are other sources of funding such as private foundations, trust funds, and civic and recreation organizations. For information on private foundations and trusts see Foundations in Wisconsin: A Directory, compiled by Susan A. Hopewood.

Future Planning

At a minimum, all communities should reassess their recreational needs near the end of the five year period covered by this plan. More frequent appraisal of needs may be called for under certain conditions such as extreme variations in funding capability, rapid population changes, actions of private interests and other units of government, and the recognition of new legislation, laws, and public programs.

Priorities

The need for community officials to establish priorities within their recreation program is emphasized by the scope of the previous recommendations. Although it is unlikely that all of these recommendations will be undertaken within the time period of this plan, there is an outstanding opportunity for inroads to be made. Recognition of increasing demands for recreation, space and facilities should prompt action.

Lifetime Activities

Community and school officials responsible for recreation should place greater emphasis on land areas and facilities that can support "lifetime" recreational activities. Falling into this category are activities like golf, tennis, all target sports, horseshoes, cross country skiing, skating, running, volleyball, handball, badminton, back packing, and canoeing. Many schools have programs aimed at teaching recreational activities that people can participate in for a lifetime.

Snowmobile/ATV Routes

Designate specific streets or rights-of-way for snowmobile or ATV use. Since snowmobiles and ATVs can be considered a noise nuisance and a hazard for non-users, municipalities may wish to designate specific routes through the municipality for snowmobile/ATV use.

Winter Activities

All communities should provide winter outdoor recreation facilities. Skating and sliding sports (sledding, tobogganing, and skiing) can generally be provided without large investments. Skating, for example, can be as involved as providing rinks for ice hockey or as simple as flooding a small area of a school playground. Likewise, merely blocking off a lightly traveled street with a suitable slope can frequently provide a sliding area.

Specialized Facilities

Encourage development of specialized facilities by the private sector. Specialized facilities such as golf courses and ski resorts can be an important adjunct to public recreational facilities. Quality and availability for public use should be emphasized.

Municipal & School District Cooperation

Promote cooperation between municipalities and school districts in meeting recreational needs. With good planning, cooperation may take the form of joint land acquisition and/or facilities development cost sharing. Increased use of existing school facilities during non-school hours should also be encouraged.

Senior Citizen Involvement

Involve senior citizens in community park development and beautification and provide recreational facilities for their use. Although senior citizens may compose a significant proportion of the total community's population, they are often neglected in recreational planning. Benches placed near neighborhood parks and play areas and non-intensive sports facilities such as horseshoe pits located in community parks help to provide a place for senior citizens. Small, passive use parks and gardens located near nursing and retirement homes should also be encouraged. In addition, senior citizens can provide invaluable assistance in beautifying parks and open spaces and can thereby become more involved in community life.

Youth Programs

Few recreational opportunities exist for the communities' high school age youth. School activities provide most recreational outlet during winter months, but in summer there is a distinct void. This plan recommends a study to determine what recreation activities would be best received by this age and what opportunity there is to provide for them at public parks.

Service Group Involvement

Involve organized service groups in needed park and recreation development, including development of competitive sports area and neighborhood parks. Traditionally, service groups and recreation organizations, such as Lions Club, V.F.W., softball leagues, and snowmobile clubs have played an active role in the development of such facilities. Continued activity of this type should be encouraged. In addition, service groups can help to meet the need for neighborhood facilities by supplementing municipal financial resources and providing organization and volunteer labor.

Community Beautification

All communities should recognize that community appearance is an important component of a recreation program. Maintained streets and sidewalks, attractive trees and shrubs, well cared for homes and commercial buildings, and neatly landscaped home lawns, public open space, and parks are principal contributors to community beautification. Such a program is most rewarding to persons engaged in passive recreation.

Adopt-A-Park Program

A program which encourages local groups to adopt-a-park or segment of trail or stream could be organized similar to the very successful *Adopt a Highway* program. The groups could volunteer their time to maintain and beautify the county's recreational system, allowing more county funds to provide major improvements.

PROVISIONS FOR UPDATING

Essential characteristics of any planning process include an inventory of what exists, determining what has occurred since the last plan was created, and what is desired locally for the future. Periodic updating of the plan is necessary for continued refinement and course correction to keep the plan current.

Some of the planning recommendations will not be accomplished within this five year plan period, and additional recommendations may be added as new recreational activities are requested or the status of existing facilities changes.

Annual review of the plan recommendations and capital improvement tables by the Juneau County Forestry and Parks Committee will keep this plan current. This review may also occur after a large turnover in elected officials after a local election.

The review process includes surveying the local units of government, the school districts, and outdoor recreation groups about the following information:

1. What improvements are needed to existing facilities?
2. What new facilities are necessary to satisfy demand?
3. Which potential projects fulfill this demand?
4. Who is the project sponsor?

The Juneau County Forestry and Parks Committee will review information collected from surveys, and evaluate the need for proposed projects based on standards and priorities as outlined in this plan.

Establishing a full plan update every five years will assure that the plan reflects changes in the recreational needs of the county, and will maintain the county's eligibility for grant programs.

ATTACHMENT A
OUTDOOR RECREATION SURVEY

JUNEAU COUNTY OUTDOOR RECREATION SURVEY



Community name (Town, City of): _____

A list of projects for your community that was in the 2006-2011 Plan is included with this survey.

1. Please list outdoor recreational purchases (i.e. purchased 3 picnic tables, upgraded restrooms to be handicap accessible, purchased land for a park) that were completed by your community from 2006 and anticipated through the end of 2011.

2. Please list future outdoor recreational improvements that your community would like to make from January 2012 to December 2016.

3. What are the top three outdoor recreational issues facing Juneau County?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4. How shall the recreational issues described above in Question 3 be satisfied?

OVER



5. What are the top three outdoor recreational issues facing your community?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

6. How shall the recreational issues described above in Question 5 be satisfied?

7. What existing outdoor recreation facilities in the county need improvement?
Please describe what is needed, and why.

Thank You For Your Participation!

Please feel free to make comments on a separate sheet of paper and mail that sheet with this completed survey to be **postmarked by September 30, 2011,**

To: Mike Agnew, NCWRPC
210 McClellan St., STE 210
Wausau WI 54403



ATTACHMENT B

NCWRPC GENERATED SCORP 2005-2010 SUMMARY

STATE-WIDE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION PLAN (SCORP) 2005-2010

This SCORP 2005-2010 summary was created by NCWRPC staff. Parts that relate specifically to Juneau County are noted throughout this summary. Generally, this summary was created as if it were written directly for Juneau County and the Western Sands Region in reference to the statewide data. See the SCORP Planning Regions Map.

The 2005–2010 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Since passage of the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act of 1965, preparation of a Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) has been required for states to be eligible for LWCF acquisition and development assistance. The LWCF is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and provides grants for outdoor recreation projects by both state and local governments.

The Juneau County Outdoor Recreation Plan is required to apply for Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) funding and to apply for Wisconsin Stewardship Grant funding.

The Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2005-2010 was developed by the WDNR to assist local units of government with recreation planning. This SCORP examines various trends to assess current and future recreational needs within the state. To aid in this process, Wisconsin was divided into a group of eight planning regions each representing a loose collection of natural resource and tourism based assets. With SCORP's comprehensive statewide and regional focus, it will guide the allocation of limited recreation funds to acquire additional recreation and conservation lands and support the continued development of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Primary resources in the Western Sands Region are water based, nature based, and developed settings. The SCORP Planning Regions Map shows that Juneau County is in the Western Sands Region.

SCORP consists of 7 chapters and five appendixes that are summarized below.

SCORP Planning Regions



Non-Metro Recreation Counties
 SCORP Planning Boundaries



0 10 20 40 60 80 Miles

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey and is not intended to be used as one. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCRWPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.



North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
 210 McClellan St., Suite 210, Wausau, WI 54403
 715-849-5510 - staff@ncwrpc.org - www.ncwrpc.org

Chapter 1 – Wisconsin Natural Amenities, Population Changes, and Recreation Destinations.

Chapter 1 explores what natural amenities exist in the Western Sands area, and examines the recreation and population changes that have occurred within Wisconsin over the past 50 years. This chapter investigates the ways in which changing demographic trends have impacted recreation supply and demand in Wisconsin.

Juneau County data from SCORP and other sources exists in Chapter 2 – Description of Juneau County in the Juneau County Outdoor Recreation Plan 2007-2011.

General SCORP conclusions for Chapter 1 include:

- Heavily forested (Juneau County) or grassland regions, for example, support activities such as hiking, trail-riding, and cross-country skiing, while regions with many lakes (Juneau County) and rivers support speed boating, water skiing, canoeing, swimming, etc.
- Southern Gateways and Lake Winnebago Waters areas are expected to have higher population growth than more rural regions. Larger populations generally support a larger supply of recreational opportunities, more people participating in a more diverse range of activities. For this reason, a larger population will also require a larger pool of potential recreational activities and facilities.
- Age – Older residents (Juneau County) generally enjoy quieter, lower impact activities such as viewing birds, driving for pleasure, ice fishing, etc. While younger generations will generally participate in more high impact activities such as running, jogging, inline skating, developed camping, disk golf, downhill skiing, kayaking, paintball, mountain biking, and riding ATVs.
- Income – Middle income Wisconsinites often participate in developed camping, snowmobiling, fishing, picnicking, driving for pleasure, and ATV riding.
- Seasonal housing development in the Northwoods and Great Northwest Regions, was highest during the 1970s and has since leveled off. **(NCWRPC note: Between 1990 and 2000, Juneau County in Table 4, page 13, has witnessed a direct correlation between reduced seasonal population and increased permanent population. Seasonal residents are becoming permanent residents. Juneau County had about 22% seasonal residents in 1990, and about 17% seasonal residents in 2000.)**
- The SCORP Planning Regions Map shows that Juneau County and 5 other counties in central Wisconsin are considered "Non-Metro Recreation Counties" according to a recent research study (Johnson and Beale, 2002). Non-Metro Recreation Counties are generally considered to be vacation destinations and are therefore important to the overall state economy. Yet these counties have value beyond what they provide in tourist dollars. As natural amenity rich areas they provide large areas of land for outdoor recreating, land that is important to an ever developing statewide landscape. High net migration rates and higher population growth rates occurred in these counties.

Chapter 2 – Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Demand and Uses.

Chapter 2 explores user demand for almost 100 popular Wisconsin outdoor recreational activities, and examines which activities are most popular and which environments are the most desirable for outdoor recreation. This plan is the first SCORP to evaluate recreation demand from outside of the state, an evaluation that will prove useful in balancing the demands of in-state and out-of-state residents. In addition, this chapter explores several barriers that prevent people from participating in recreational activities as often as they would like. Finally, this chapter discusses the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the continuing challenge of addressing outdoor recreation conflicts for individuals with mobility disabilities.

This chapter explores several of the factors that influence a person's recreation preferences – recreation settings, recreation experiences, and geographic location – and classifies recreational activities and users according to these groupings. While important, recreation preferences are only one component of recreation participation. Barriers to recreation are another important consideration in determining how often and to what extent people recreate – personal, environmental, and disabled barriers.

Recreation participation rates within Wisconsin are higher than most other regions of the country. This may be attributed to the combination of Wisconsin's abundant recreation resources and the state's four season climate.

Wisconsin Demand Use Highlights describes several activities and projects what their future potential is.

These two following sheets were taken directly from SCORP.

SCORP

Wisconsin Demand Use Highlights

ATVing

Within Wisconsin, ATVing has been one of the fastest growing recreation activities. What started in the 1970s as a small sport has now grown into a multimillion dollar industry with devoted participants across the country. With its abundance of undeveloped land, Wisconsin has proved an ideal location for ATVing; over 23% of Wisconsinites currently participate in ATV recreation and more are riding every year. For many ATV enthusiasts, their sport is a social activity—they ride with their friends and families, stopping to shop and eat at different towns along the way. A number of ATV clubs and their members are active in group outings, performing trail maintenance, and promoting vehicle safety and advocacy. For other riders, ATVing is a nature-based activity. These users value the time the time they spend outside while on their ATVs, the fresh air and peaceful atmosphere they experience riding on a rural trail.



Though increasingly popular, the rise in ATV usage has not been without growing pains. Those objecting to ATVs have continually raised complaints about the noise and displacement of other recreational uses caused by the vehicles. Though the motorsports industry and a number of ATV clubs have addressed these issues with some limited successes in the state, there is still much work to be done to ensure ATVs interact peacefully with other motorized and non-motorized recreational activities.

Geocaching

Most Wisconsinites have probably never heard of geocaching. For those that participate in the sport, though, it represents a new and exciting form of ultra-modern, technologically advanced recreation. Geocaching may be described as a modern day treasure hunt. The sport relies on Global Positioning System (GPS) units, small devices that are able to determine, within 5-20 feet, the location of any spot on the planet. With these devices in hand, geocachers set out to find caches—small treasures set up and maintained by a worldwide network of individuals and organizations.



The location of a cache is posted on the Internet so geocachers need only record the location (in latitude and longitude) of their treasure and set out to find it. Though the sport sounds simple, it often involves a good deal of trekking and searching as geocachers make their way over hills and rocks, forests and streams to find their treasure. The location of a cache is up to the individual who establishes it, thus they are often placed somewhere the hiker deems special—a scenic vista, a rocky cliff-face, over the

bottom of a shallow lake. Upon arriving at a cache—generally a small bag containing trinkets and a logbook—the visitor takes a treasure, leaves a treasure, and records his visit in the book. He then replaces the cache and returns home, ready to start his next quest. Geocaching has become popular not only for its sense of adventure, but also its flexibility. Caches can be hidden anywhere—city streets, remote wilderness areas, suburban front yards. The rules, like the treasures in the caches themselves, are loose and adaptable, allowing geocachers to create traveling caches, group treasure hunts, and many other variations. As the sport gains more exposure from associations like the Wisconsin Geocaching Association (<http://www.wi-geocaching.com/>), it is expected to continue to increase in popularity.

bottom of a shallow lake. Upon arriving at a cache—generally a small bag containing trinkets and a logbook—the visitor takes a treasure, leaves a treasure, and records his visit in the book. He then replaces the cache and returns home, ready to start his next quest. Geocaching has become popular not only for its sense of adventure, but also its flexibility. Caches can be hidden anywhere—city streets, remote wilderness areas, suburban front yards. The rules, like the treasures in the caches themselves, are loose and adaptable, allowing geocachers to create traveling caches, group treasure hunts, and many other variations. As the sport gains more exposure from associations like the Wisconsin Geocaching Association (<http://www.wi-geocaching.com/>), it is expected to continue to increase in popularity.

Walking for Pleasure

Of all recreational activities offered in Wisconsin, walking for pleasure is by far the most popular, with over 85% of state residents (3.5 million people) participating. The reasons are obvious; walking is an easy, accessible activity requiring only your own two feet and a



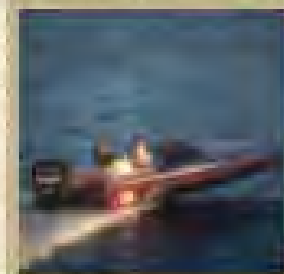
good pair of shoes (sometimes those are over negotiable!). Walking can be done nearly anywhere, whether in the heart of downtown Milwaukee or in the most remote portion of northern Wisconsin. Walking is also a multifaceted's dream, allowing us to sightsee, chat with friends, or simply enjoy the scenery as we stroll. As exercise becomes an increasing

concern for the Wisconsin population, walking can provide a good source of activity during a hectic workday just as easily as during a leisurely weekend outing.

Motorboating

In a state that is nearly surrounded by water—Lake Superior to the north, Lake Michigan to the east, the Mississippi River to the west, and thousands of smaller lakes and rivers in between—it is not surprising that watersports are popular among Wisconsinites. With 1,513,000 people (56% of the population) participating, motorboating is a favorite pastime of many

state residents, and with good reason: Every one of our 72 counties has at least 4 lakes with the most—1,327 lakes—occurring in Vilas County. Our boat-to-resident ratio is the second in the nation with one boat for every nine residents (Minnesota is number one, with one boat for every six residents). Our state ranks 6th in the nation for boat registrations and 7th in the nation for money spent on boating. The many varieties of lakes within Wisconsin accommodate nearly every form of motorboat, from small runabouts to large



Wisconsin Demand Use Highlights

Great Lake vessels. Because of its tremendous popularity, motorboating has sometimes been associated with issues of overcrowding and safety. In reaction to these concerns, certain lakes have placed restrictions on the sport. As the powerboat industry continues to push for more affordable boating, the sport is expected to become increasingly popular, cementing its status as a favorite outdoor pursuit.

Outdoor Ice Skating

Although cold and sometimes dreary, Wisconsin's winter does provide state residents with a wide variety of winter recreation. With 16.6% of state residents participating, outdoor ice skating is an especially popular winter activity. Skating is available in nearly all parts of



the state, whether in the highly developed outdoor rinks of urban areas or the crystalline surfaces of frozen northern lakes. While ice skating appeals to all ages, the physical demands involved in the sport tend to attract a younger crowd. Among this demographic, skating is done recreationally and competitively, ice skating being a popular activity, especially among girls. The cost of participation for ice skating is generally low, a quality that has made the activity popular among families looking for an economical form of recreation. In recent years, there has been a push to develop more outdoor ice skating rinks at the local level, a move that would make the activity accessible and popular to an even wider range of state residents.

Viewing/Photographing Birds

Viewing/photographing birds is an activity popular across all age groups and state regions—over 40% of Wisconsinites (1,700,000 people) participate in the activity. Unlike other forms of more active recreation, birdwatching is a uniquely serene pursuit—quiet, non-destructive, and based in a natural setting. Many birdwatchers value this natural aspect, enjoying the opportunity to be in the fields or woods, away from the noise and sometimes hectic pace of the city.

Interestingly, most birdwatchers don't need to go far from home to find this peaceful atmosphere—85% birdwatch within 1 mile of where they live. Other birdwatchers value the educational aspect of the activity, taking the time to search for new species and learn the different behaviors, calls, and appearances of different birds. Birdwatching is often done as a family activity, making the sport a uniquely social way to spend time in nature. As the activity has become more popular, the state has begun to develop birdwatching trails. These trails often feature driving routes with stopping points to observe birds and other wildlife. These new trails are expected to further increase the popularity of birdwatching.



Disc Golf

Began as a sport in the 1970s, disc golf has exploded in popularity. What started with a single course in Pasadena, California in 1975, has now expanded to a global phenomenon with courses on all continents but Africa, passionate players across the globe, and a professional sporting association, the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA). The rules of disc golf are much like traditional golf: get the disc to the target—an above ground, metal, net-like structure—in as few throws



as possible. The course is also very similar, with a fairway terrain changes, and obstacles (trees, shrubs, water traps) all dotting the landscape of the typically 9 or 18 hole course. 8.8% of Wisconsinites (366,000 people) now participate in disc golf, with more joining these ranks every year. The sport is popular for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is

the ease in which it is played. A beginner at the sport needs only 3 discs (a driver, a mid-range, and a putter) and access to a course. Courses are found in most cities and entrance fees are generally low-cost or free. The sport itself is very friendly towards beginners as all players move from hole to hole at their own pace. Many participants play in groups and the sport provides a moderate amount of exercise and an opportunity to be outside.

Attending an Outdoor Sporting Event

You need not look further than your nearest cheesehead-stocked general store to know that sports are big in Wisconsin. Although only 20% of Wisconsinites participate in sports themselves, nearly 57% (2,365,000 people) watch or attend outdoor sporting events. Large events such as University of Wisconsin-Madison football games have ranked among the nation's top 20 in game attendance for each of the team's last nine seasons. Other events—football, soccer, and baseball games—are also popular year-round activities. Because they generally require developed facilities and large crowds, sporting events usually take place in larger cities, making them one of the few forms of recreation best suited for urban environments. While some skeptics may frown at the idea of classifying sporting event attendance as outdoor recreation, there are many side benefits from this activity. Those attending these events walk to the stadium and often tailgate—an outdoor activity and a chance to socialize with family, friends, and neighbors.



Outdoor Resource Type

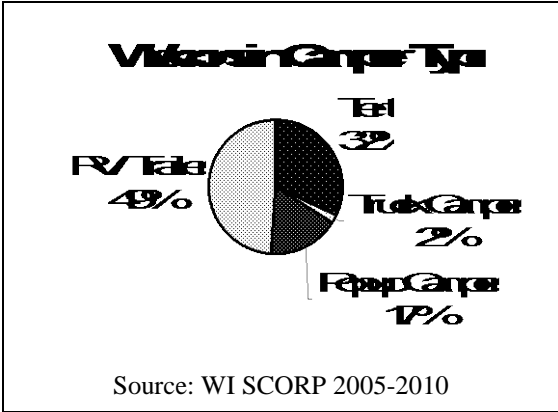
Juneau County is part of the Western Sands Region, which supports outdoor recreation uses by the natural resource settings that are: Water Based, Nature Based, and Developed Land.

Water based outdoor activities are among the most popular recreational activities in Wisconsin. Abundant water resources across the state offer a wide variety of recreation options from high speed motorboating to lazy lounging at the beach. Just under half of Wisconsin residents participate in motorboating, visiting a beach, or swimming in a lake or stream. Table B-1 shows the percent of state residents participating in Wisconsin water based activities from age 16 on up.

Activity	Percent Participating	Number of Participants (1,000s)
Visit a beach	47.3	1,966
Swimming in lakes, streams, etc.	45.8	1,904
Fishing – freshwater	40.7	1,692
Swimming in an outdoor pool	38.3	1,592
Fishing – warmwater	37.0	1,538
Motorboating	36.4	1,513
Visit other waterside (besides beach)	26.4	1,097
Canoeing	20.5	852
Rafting	14.4	599
Fishing – coldwater	13.9	578
Waterskiing	12.2	507
Fishing – Great Lakes	11.0	457
Rowing	10.1	420
Use personal watercraft	9.7	403
Snorkeling	7.7	320
Sailing	4.9	204
Fishing – fly	4.8	199
Kayaking – recreation/sit-on-top	2.4	99
Kayaking – whitewater	1.8	75
Scuba diving	1.3	54
Windsurfing	0.7	29
Surfing	0.3	12
Kayaking – touring/Sea	0.2	8

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Nature based land activities are those outdoor recreation activities that occur in undeveloped settings. While limited developed facilities may be used in conjunction with these activities, the typical nature based land activity participant wants to experience natural surroundings. Visiting wilderness areas is the most popular nature based land activity in Wisconsin with 38.3% of Wisconsinites participating. Hiking and camping are also popular with approximately 1/3 of state residents participating in each. Table B-2 shows the percent of state residents participating in Wisconsin nature based land activities from age 16 on up.



Activity	Percent Participating	Number of Participants (1,000s)
Visit a wilderness or primitive area	38.3	1,592
Day hiking	35.0	1,455
Camping – developed	32.3	1,343
Visit a farm or agricultural setting	31.8	1,322
Off-road driving with an ATV	23.4	973
Mountain biking (off-road)	20.4	848
Hunting – big game	19.2	798
Trail running	18.6	773
Mountain biking (single track)	18.0	748
Off-road 4-wheel driving	17.7	736
Camping – primitive	16.0	665
Hunting – small game	14.5	603
Hunting – upland birds	10.5	436
Horseback riding on trails	8.1	337
Backpacking	6.9	287
Rock climbing	5.9	245
Off-road motorcycling	5.9	245
Hunting – migratory bird	5.0	208
Mountain climbing	3.4	141
Orienteering	2.7	112
Geocaching	2.0	83

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Developed land settings includes a wide mix of recreational activities, all of which use some form of manmade development such as roads or sidewalks, or involve a high level of social interaction. Developed land setting outdoor recreation is by far the most popular form of recreation in Wisconsin. More Wisconsin residents participate in two developed land recreation activities – walking for pleasure and outdoor family gatherings – than any other Wisconsin activity. Table B-3 shows the percent of state residents participating in Wisconsin developed land activities from age 16 on up.

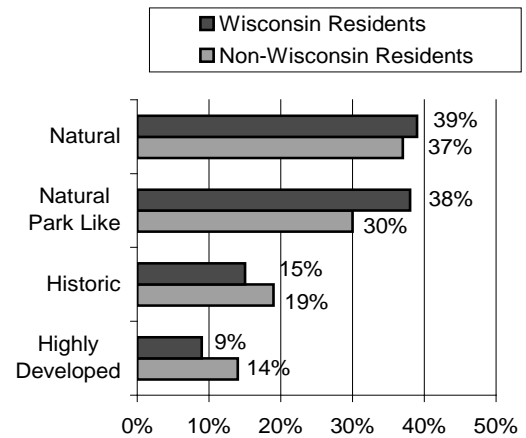
Activity	Percent Participating	Number of Participants (1,000s)
Walking for pleasure	85.8	3,567
Family gathering	78.9	3,280
Gardening or landscaping for pleasure	65.3	2,715
Driving for pleasure	60.3	2,507
Picnicking	56.6	2,353
Bicycling	49.3	2,049
Yard games, e.g. horseshoes	44.8	1,862
Attend outdoor concerts, plays, etc.	38.5	1,600
Visit outdoor theme/water park	37.6	1,563
Target shooting	20.2	840
Visit a dog park to walk a pet	12.4	515
Horseback riding (any type)	9.8	407
Paintball games	6.6	274

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Figure 1: Outdoor Recreation Setting Preferences

Preferences in Outdoor Recreation Settings

Understanding both setting and activity preferences can help recreation managers and planners provide for a wide range of recreational opportunities within a given setting. Wisconsin and non-Wisconsin residents were asked which of 4 distinct environments they preferred as a recreational setting. Figure 1 shows that natural settings and natural park like settings came out on top.



Outdoor Recreation Segmentation by Experiences

Another way of understanding recreation activity preferences – the type of experience a person seeks from participating in a given recreational activity. The WDNR and the 1999-2004 National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE) examined people's preferences and participation in a range of outdoor recreational activities. From this data, several outdoor recreation participation segments were identified:

1. Inactives; 2. Passives; 3. Non-Consumptive Moderate; 4. Nature Lovers; 5. Active Nature Watchers; 6. Water Bugs; 7. Motorized Consumptives (Hunt and Fish); and 8. Enthusiasts.

Inactives comprise about 17% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. This is the largest and also the most sedentary group of all market segments. Members may participate in some hunting and fishing, but do not participate in any water sports.

Primary Activities:

- Walk for pleasure.
- Attend family gathering.

Passives comprise about 14.5% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. Unlike most other segments, Passives do not often participate in viewing and photographing activities.

Primary Activities:

- Attend family gathering.
- Visit a nature center
- picnicking
- visit a historic center
- visit a beach

Non Consumptive Moderates comprise about 14% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. This group represents the average person that is somewhat more involved in recreation. Some members of this group participate in physically demanding activities such as mountain biking and snorkeling. Activities not favored by this group include hunting, fishing, and off-road driving.

Primary Activities:

- Visit a beach
- Swimming
- Downhill skiing
- Visit a nature center
- Mountain biking
- Picnicking
- Day hiking
- Camping

Nature Lovers comprise about 16.2% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. This group enjoys viewing and photographing nature and are almost twice as likely as the average person to participate in these activities. They generally drive for pleasure rather than hike or backpack into a natural setting. Nature Lovers participate in limited amounts of hunting, fishing, active sports, and muscle powered activities, but these activities are not their passion.

Primary Activities:

- Viewing/Photographing nature
- Drive for pleasure
- Learning/Viewing a nature center
- Walk for pleasure
- Sightseeing
- Attend a family gathering

Active Nature Watchers comprise about 16.5% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. This group is active when viewing nature as opposed to Nature Lovers. This group hikes or backpacks into natural settings to view wildlife or natural scenery. Members of this group also enjoy water based activities, but prefer to arrive at their viewing destination by human power.

Primary Activities:

- Viewing/Photographing nature
- Learning/Viewing a nature center
- Walking
- Day hiking
- Cross-country skiing
- Swimming
- Kayaking
- Visit a historic site

Water Bug comprise about 8.2% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. This group is almost as energetic as the Enthusiasts group. Members of this group participate in water based activities twice as often as the average person.

Primary Activities:

- Visit a beach
- Visit a water park
- Swimming
- Boating (all types)
- Drive for pleasure
- Picnicking
- Learning/Visiting a nature center
- Downhill skiing

Motorized Consumptives (Hunt and Fish) comprise about 7.8% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. This group has the highest participation rates for hunting and fishing with members; four times more likely to hunt, and three times more likely to fish than the average person. Rates of physically demanding activities are relatively low among members of this group, with members preferring consumptive activities (hunting and fishing) and motorized activities to human powered activities.

Primary Activities:

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Motorboating
- Snowmobiling
- Driving off-road
- Horseback riding
- Camping
- Gathering mushrooms, berries, etc.

Enthusiasts comprise about 8.2% of Wisconsinites 16 years and older. This group is the most active of all residents, and they enjoy the broadest array of activities. Members of this group are two to six times more likely to participate in certain activities than most other Americans. Enthusiasts also enjoy activities that are physically challenging and require high levels of skill and endurance.

Primary Activities:

- Cross-country skiing
- Kayaking
- Snowboarding
- Mountain biking
- Camping
- Canoeing
- Sailing
- Rowing

Recreation Demand from Outside Wisconsin

Generally, Juneau County has visitors who mainly come from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metro Area, and secondarily from the Chicago Metro Area besides residents from other counties in Wisconsin.

Status of Health and Barriers to Recreation in Wisconsin

No matter what recreation experience, setting, or activity people prefer, one thing is clear: physical activity is important to overall health and well-being. Over the course of the past few decades, national overweight and obesity rates have increased dramatically. Today more than 60% of adults over the age of 20 are overweight or at risk of becoming so. In Wisconsin, 61% of adults are overweight or obese, while 24% of Wisconsin high school students are overweight or at risk of becoming so.

In order to encourage increased physical activity among Wisconsinites we must first understand the barriers to becoming active. As part of SCORP 2005-2010 residents were surveyed, and responses were grouped into two categories – personal, and environmental barriers.

Personal barriers to increasing physical activity in order of importance are:

1. Lack of time, 2. Family commitments, 3. Job/work, 4. Crowding, 5. Conflicts with motorized uses, 6. Cost, 7. Age, and 8. Fuel prices.

Environmental barriers to increasing physical activity in order of importance are:

1. Distance/travel time, 2. Lack of access to public lands, 3. Lack of information about where to go, 4. Not enough campsites/electric sites, 5. Noise from ATVs and other motorized uses, 6. Lack of bike trails, 7. Lack of public transportation, and 8. Lack of snow.

Accessibility Recreation Considerations

This SCORP intends to assess and improve recreation for all recreational participants. One often overlooked group in recreational planning has been those with mobility disabilities. Although

accessibility to recreational resources has increased for disabled persons there has been little research exploring the outdoor recreation participation patterns of people with disabilities. To establish a general understanding of the supply and demand of recreation for disabled persons, the WDNR evaluated several studies conducted by the 1999-2004 National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE).

In the NRSE data, the characteristics of activities that influenced recreation participation rates of disabled people included: (a) the physical nature of activities, (b) the degree of adaptation needed for participation, (c) the social expectations, self perceptions, and social fears associated with certain activities, (d) the financial costs of activities, and (e) the accessibility of sites where activities took place. From this work, 15 recreation uses listed alphabetically below were determined to have average or above average participation rates among mobility disabled individuals. Most of these activities are nature based requiring a more natural/undeveloped setting. Viewing and learning activities are also popular with this population.

- Attend concerts
- Backpacking
- Birdwatching
- Camping
- Canoeing
- Drive off-road
- Fishing
- Horseback riding
- Nature study
- Sightseeing
- Sledding
- View fish
- Visiting historic/archeology sites
- Visit nature centers
- Wildlife viewing

As reported in the 2000 U.S. Census, Wisconsin has about 791,000 disabled persons, which is about 14% of the state population. Among residents 65 and older, 36.5% are classified as disabled. As Wisconsin's large baby boomer population continues to age, the demand for disabled recreation facilities is also expected to increase.

Generally, this groups barriers to increased participation in outdoor recreation include: 1. No companions, 2. Not enough money, 3. Not enough time, 4. Outdoor pests, and 5. Personal health.



Chapter 3 – The Supply of Outdoor Recreation in Wisconsin.

Chapter 3 explores the supply of recreation in Wisconsin, both in terms of built facilities and outdoor recreation environments. Since outdoor supply comes in many forms, this chapter examines both landscape scale needs, and local park and recreation needs.

Data from this part of SCORP was incorporated and expanded upon in Chapter 3 of the Juneau County Outdoor Recreation Plan.

Public and Private Recreation Providers

The Central Wisconsin Conservation Area (state owned) and the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge are the major public lands in Juneau County that are available for recreation. The Juneau County Forestry and Parks Department manages county parks and forests for a variety of outdoor recreation activities.

The Wisconsin Managed Forest Law (MFL) provides ideal settings for outdoor recreation uses. The majority of privately held land available for limited public use in Juneau County is enrolled in MFL.

Some private recreation providers offer campgrounds or golf courses to the public, and charge a fee for their use. Private recreation lands that charge a fee are not enrolled in MFL.

Elements of Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Supply

Data from this part of SCORP was incorporated and expanded upon in Chapter 3 – Existing Recreation System.

Recreation Prioritization of Land Legacy Areas

Wisconsin Land Legacy Areas in Juneau County are identified in Chapter 1 of the Juneau County Outdoor Recreation Plan under Past Plans, and are also generally shown on Map 1.

As Wisconsin works to develop and expand recreation, it is important that the state develop a system for evaluating potential sites with an eye towards their recreational value. Initial work done by the Wisconsin Land Legacy Plan has identified an inventory of places believed to be critical in meeting Wisconsin's conservation and recreation needs over the next 50 years.

1. Potential Visitors

Future recreational areas should be easily accessible to a large number of potential visitors. To determine the number of visitors an area may receive, sites were assessed for the number of people living within an hour's drive of their respective boundaries. Road data was used to create buffer areas which were then placed on a map and compared to the buffer areas of surrounding sites. Areas with the highest amounts of potential visitors were assigned a higher score than those with lower amounts. While these areas certainly receive visitors outside of a one-hour drive, additional work evaluating travel patterns will need to be completed before including this data in Land Legacy designations.

2. Population/Development Pressure

In addition to providing sites that are easily and widely accessible, the WDNR also hopes to preserve Wisconsin's unique and special environments. Sites with especially high development pressures may, therefore, deserve priority in the designation of future protected areas. To determine population and development pressure, projected population growth estimates were assessed for each site. Areas expected to undergo the highest population growth were assigned higher scores than those in which population growth was expected to be minimal.

3. Cost of Land Acquisition

Cost of land acquisition is also an important consideration when evaluating potential Land Legacy sites. Areas in which undeveloped land (land which has not been developed for either urban or agricultural use) is relatively inexpensive were assigned a higher score than those in which land was relatively more expensive.

4. Conservation Significance Value

Though the primary goal of the SCORP is improving and expanding recreation within state-owned lands, the WDNR also hopes to preserve places of special ecological importance. For this reason, sites with significant ecological conservation value were assigned higher scores than those with a lower conservation value.

5. Recreational Potential

Finally, any future site must also facilitate participation in its region's top recreational activities. The top 15 recreational uses in each SCORP region were used as a template against which potential sites were evaluated. Sites that offered the most opportunities for popular recreational opportunities received a higher score than those areas that provided fewer opportunities for these activities.

Data from all five components was then compiled on a site-by-site basis. Sites receiving the highest scores within each region were designated as high recreational potential Land Legacy sites.

Look in the SCORP Chapter 5 summary under **Regional Land Legacy Areas for High Recreation Demand** to view the highest priority Legacy Areas in the Northwoods SCORP Region.

Local Park and Recreation Needs

As another aspect of this planning process, local recreational needs (county, city, village, and town) were also assessed. This process involved a review of 373 local park and recreation plans on file as part of the WDNR recreational grants program.

The top five planning recommendations of each municipality were summarized. These recommendations were then compiled into a larger list, and categorized into three areas – 1. Park and Open Space Acquisition Needs, 2. General Recreation Improvements, 3. New Recreation Developments – and are listed in Table B-4

Table B-4 Summary of Local Outdoor Recreation Plan Recommendations

<p>Park and Open Space Acquisition Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community parks • Dog parks • Ice Age Trail • Mini parks • Neighborhood parks <p>General Recreation Improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADA accessible facilities • Athletic field upgrades and improvements • Better signage • Playground equipment upgrades • Restroom upgrades 	<p>New Recreation Developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike trails • Boat launches • Camping • Disc golf courses • Ice skating rinks • Indoor recreation complexes • Nature trails • Park shelters • Picnic areas • Scenic drives • Skateboard parks • Sledding hills • Soccer fields • Swimming pools • Tennis court development • Trail connections • Volleyball courts • Water access • Water trails • Water spray parks
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Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Warren Knowles – Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 Fund

The Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program (Stewardship 2000) is the state’s primary funding source for the state, local governments (including tribes), and non-profit conservation organizations (NCOs) to acquire land and easements for conservation and outdoor recreation purposes. This program is funded by general obligation bonds.

Stewardship 2000 is administered by the WDNR and provides \$60 million annually through FY 2010. As shown in Table B-5, the program acts as an umbrella organization for several subprograms, each with its own goals and priorities. These subprograms provide funds to improve visitor amenities at state and local parks; restore wetlands and prairies; and acquire land for trails, natural areas, state and county forests, wildlife habitat, urban green space, state and local parks, river and stream corridors, and flowages and wild lakes.

Stewardship 2000 has four major components:

1. *Land Acquisition by WDNR and NCOs:* Acquisition of land and easements for a wide range of conservation and outdoor recreation purposes.

Qualified NCOs are also eligible to acquire lands and conservation easements with Land Acquisition funds for such purposes as the protection of natural areas, habitat areas, streambank protection, and the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

2. *Local Assistance*: Grants to local governments and NCOs for acquisition of land, conservation easements, and development projects that support nature-based outdoor recreation.

3. *Baraboo Hills*: Land and easement acquisition for the conservation of the hardwood forests of the Baraboo area by the WDNR, local governments and NCOs.

4. *Property Development on State Lands by WDNR, Friends groups, and NCOs*: Development of recreational facilities on state properties includes such projects as campground renovations, construction of park support and interpretive facilities, and improved accessibility to recreation areas.

As the state budget fluctuates and funding for programs statewide becomes increasingly scarce, proposals have been made to severely cut or reduce the scope of Stewardship 2000 funding. Public response to these proposals has been overwhelmingly supportive of the existing Stewardship Program. Editorials in support of the program appeared in more than 25 newspapers statewide, indicating that Wisconsinites recognize and support the key role this program has played and will continue to play in the long-term protection of Wisconsin’s special places.

Program Category	Subprogram	Annual Funds (\$)	% of Fund
Land Acquisition	WDNR Conservation and Recreation Land and Trails	\$37,000,000	62%
	Nonprofit Conservation Organization (NCO) Conservation and Recreation Land and Trails	\$8,000,000	13%
Bluff Protection	WDNR and NCO land acquisition in the Great Lakes; \$1 million earmarked through FY 2004		
Baraboo Hills	WDNR, NCOs, local governments; \$5 million		
Property Development and Local Assistance	Earmarked over previous years	\$6,750,000	12%
	NCO State Property Development Grants (e.g. Friends of Wisconsin State Parks)	\$250,000	<1%
	Local Assistance Grants: for acquisition and development; local governments and NCOs	\$8,000,000	13%
Total		\$60,000,000	

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Summary

The need for an increased supply of recreation land and facilities is evident on a variety of levels. On a landscape scale, there are a number of important areas within the state that deserve increased attention for environmental protection and preservation. At the local level, municipal and county parks are in need of facility upgrades and continued management.

Chapter 4 – The Supply of Outdoor Recreation in Wisconsin.

Chapter 4 investigates the current status of Wisconsin's outdoor recreation conflicts, and states the difficulties in developing permanent solutions to these issues. This chapter also explores several of the current innovative solutions for resolving recreation conflicts.

Outdoor Recreation Conflict Reporting in Wisconsin and Surrounding States

In order to establish a general understanding of which Wisconsin recreational activities experience conflict, researchers performed a LexisNexis search for Wisconsin popular press articles from the past two years (December 2003 – December 2005) that discussed issues of recreation conflict. A total of 75 different news stories were found. The most frequently cited conflicts included concerns over environmental damage (19 citations), trails (18 citations), conflict with landowners (15 citations), the implementation of activity bans (14 citations), management actions by state or local agencies (12 citations) and disputes over the use of local parks (11 citations). Other issues included, in order of frequency: safety, conflict with wildlife, noise, budget allocation or fee disputes, local ordinances, access to recreational lands and facilities, loss of viewscapes, park creation, water levels, and passage of state bills.

LexisNexis is a database of The Associated Press State & Local Wire, The Capitol Times, The Daily Reporter, The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, The Wisconsin Law Journal, and The Wisconsin State Journal. Sources from surrounding states are also included.

The activities most frequently cited as involved in some form of conflict were hunting (31 citations), ATVs (14 citations) and recreational fishing (8 citations). Other activities found to be associated with some form of conflict included, in order of frequency: bicycling, snowmobiling, hiking, boating, cross-country skiing, camping, swimming, boating, kayaking, swimming, wildlife watching, water skiing and horseback riding.

Articles gathered through this search revealed that conflict associated with non-motorized activities is generally associated with trail use. Articles also indicated that conflicts involving hunting are unique in that they rarely involve conflicts with other outdoor recreation activities. Rather, conflicts related to hunting are most often due to conflicts with private landowners over issues of access or trespassing, or conflicts with the state or recreation area over state management actions or use of parks by hunters.

An additional LexisNexis search was completed for articles from the surrounding states of Illinois, Michigan, and Minnesota. Results of this search revealed far fewer articles relating to recreation conflict than the search performed in Wisconsin. For the activities of ATV riding, hunting, and fishing, there were 50 articles found in Wisconsin alone and only 38 articles in all other three states combined. These findings beg the question: What causal effects are contributing to more recreation conflicts in Wisconsin than elsewhere in the upper Midwest?

Past research in the field of recreational compatibility has focused on two principle explanations for why recreation conflict occurs. The first of these explanations suggests that conflict occurs when the goals of one recreation participant interfere with the goals of another recreation participant in the same location. For example, the goal of a mountain biker to ride fast through a forest may

conflict with a horseback rider’s goal of a tranquil ride through the same forest. The actual amount of conflict that occurs when the horseback rider and mountain biker actually encounter one another is dependent on a host of factors including each user’s experience level, previous experience with similar situations, feeling of attachment to the trail they are riding, design of the trail, proximity to one another, duration of their meeting, and tolerance of the other person’s behavior. The second explanation for recreation conflict suggests that conflict may occur simply because of differences in social values. A classic example of this type of clash is the conflict that may occur between hunters and other recreation participants when there are differences in opinion about when and where hunting should occur, or differences in the values held towards live animals. This type of value based conflict is more likely to be an issue during planning processes and public meetings than in recreation settings themselves.

Previous research has also documented a number of important generalizations about recreation conflict. First, recreation conflict is often asymmetrical, meaning that one user group is generally more impacted by the conflict than another. For example, cross-country skiers may be very bothered by snowmobile users, but snowmobile users are not generally bothered by the presence of cross-country skiers. Second, asymmetrical conflict is most likely to occur between motorized and non-motorized recreation activities than between either two motorized or two non-motorized activities. Third, because recreation users employ a variety of coping methods when encountering recreation conflict, increased levels of conflict may not necessarily reduce a person’s satisfaction with their experience. An angler encountering more boaters on a lake than he had expected may, for example, move to another lake or revise his expectations for the trip. In this way, the angler still enjoys his fishing expedition regardless of the fact that it did not meet his initial expectations.

Spectrum of Interaction Types

Recreation activities interact in a variety of ways. Some activities positively impact one another and are called complementary. Camping facilities, for example, often attract many visitors, thereby increasing the number of people who hike on an adjacent trail network. Other recreation activities are merely compatible, having a neutral impact on the pursuit of another recreation activity. These activities are called supplementary. Most activities, however, experience some form of conflict when encountering other activities. Users from these different groups may experience conflicts over competition for space, trail infrastructure, viewscapes, and soundscapes. In minor cases, these conflicts are called competitive interactions. In more extreme cases, two activities may be completely incompatible and interactions between them are described as antagonistic. Table B-6 outlines the spectrum of recreation interactions.

Interaction Type	Key Characteristic	Outcome	Example
Complementary	Increasing compatibility with increased use	No conflict	Canoeing and fishing
Supplementary	Neutral interaction – no impact on compatibility	Minor conflict	Snowmobiling and ATV use
Competitive	Decreasing compatibility with increased use	Conflict	Fishing and personal water craft
Antagonistic	Activities completely incompatible	Strong conflict	Wilderness camping and ATV use

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Expert Based Focus Groups

To investigate the compatibility of recreation activities in Wisconsin, a series of expert-based focus groups were held with recreation managers, members of the Wisconsin SCORP External Review Panel, and the leadership team from the “Minimizing Recreational Use Conflicts in Wisconsin’s Forests” session of the Governor’s Conference on Forestry.

Using a ten-point scale developed specifically for this study participants were asked to complete a matrix comparing recreation activities to other recreation activities. Given an interaction between two activities, participants were asked to assess their relative level of compatibility. Ten different land-based activities were included for consideration in this matrix, these activities representing the primary recreation groupings relevant to outdoor recreation in Wisconsin. Table B-7 activities included were ATV riding, camping, cross-country skiing, hiking, horseback riding, hunting, linear trail biking, mountain biking, snowmobiling, and wildlife watching. A separate matrix compared six water-based activities, as shown in Table B-8. These activities included canoeing/kayaking, fishing, personal watercraft, motorboating/water skiing, sailing, and swimming. Recognizing the asymmetrical nature of outdoor recreation conflict, respondents were asked to rate the degree of compatibility in both directions of recreational interactions. In this way, conflict was rated for users of the first activity interacting with users of the second activity, and users of the second activity interacting with users of the first activity.

PRIMARY USE:	INTERACTS:										
	ATV Riding	Hunting	Snow-mobiling	Horseback Riding	Mountain Biking	Cross-Country Skiing	Linear Trail Biking	Hiking	Wildlife Watching	Camping	Average Compatibility
ATV Riding	X	5.3	6.5	5.1	5.5	4.9	5.5	6.1	6.9	7.5	6.0
Hunting	3.3	X	3.7	4.7	4.3	5.3	5.7	5.4	6.0	6.3	5.0
Snowmobiling	4.3	4.0	X	4.0	4.8	4.3	5.8	5.3	6.3	7.2	5.1
Horseback Riding	2.2	3.5	3.0	X	3.8	4.9	4.5	6.3	7.3	7.7	4.8
Mountain Biking	3.1	3.6	4.7	4.8	X	5.7	8.1	6.1	7.4	8.0	5.7
Cross-Country Skiing	1.8	3.6	2.6	3.3	4.2	X	5.6	4.9	8.1	8.5	4.7
Linear Trail Biking	2.6	3.9	5.5	5.3	8.2	7.1	X	7.4	8.0	8.7	6.3
Hiking	2.4	3.5	3.5	5.7	4.7	6.1	6.5	X	8.9	9.2	5.6
Wildlife Watching	2.2	3.2	2.9	6.4	5.2	7.6	6.8	8.6	X	8.3	5.7
Camping	3.9	4.1	5.0	7.5	7.8	8.2	8.2	8.9	8.5	X	6.9
Average Compatibility	2.9	3.9	4.2	5.2	5.4	6	6.3	6.6	7.5	7.9	

Ratings below 4.0 are highly competitive or antagonistic.	Ratings between 4.0 and below 7.0 are moderately to mildly competitive.	Ratings 7.0 and above are supplementary or complementary
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Source: WI SCORP 2005

Table B-8		Average Water Based Recreation Activity Compatibility Ratings					
PRIMARY USE	INTERACTS						
	Personal Water Craft	Motorboating/ Water Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Sailing	Canoeing/ Kayaking	Average Compatibility
Personal Water Craft	X	7.1	5.4	5.9	6.5	6.2	6.2
Motorboating/Water Skiing	6.5	X	4.9	5.6	5.8	5.9	5.7
Swimming	2.9	3.5	X	6.1	6.2	7.4	5.2
Fishing	2.5	3.0	5.4	X	6.5	7.7	5.0
Sailing	3.4	4.3	6.4	7.0	X	7.6	5.7
Canoeing/Kayaking	2.6	3.2	7.6	7.9	7.4	X	5.7
Average Compatibility	3.6	4.2	5.9	6.5	6.5	7.0	

Ratings below 4.0 are highly competitive or antagonistic.	Ratings between 4.0 and below 7.0 are moderately to mildly competitive.	Ratings 7.0 and above are supplementary or complementary
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Source: WI SCORP 2005

How to read Tables B-7 and B-8 – Ratings reflect the perceived level of conflict from the perspective of users listed in the vertical Y axis (labeled as Primary Use). Ratings indicating a user’s level of perceived recreation conflict should therefore be read horizontally across rows. For example, hunting interaction ratings range from a low of 3.33 for interactions with ATV riding to a high of 6.30 for interactions with camping. Light gray shading represents generally complementary recreation interactions, no shading represents generally compatible interactions, and dark gray shading represents generally antagonistic interactions.

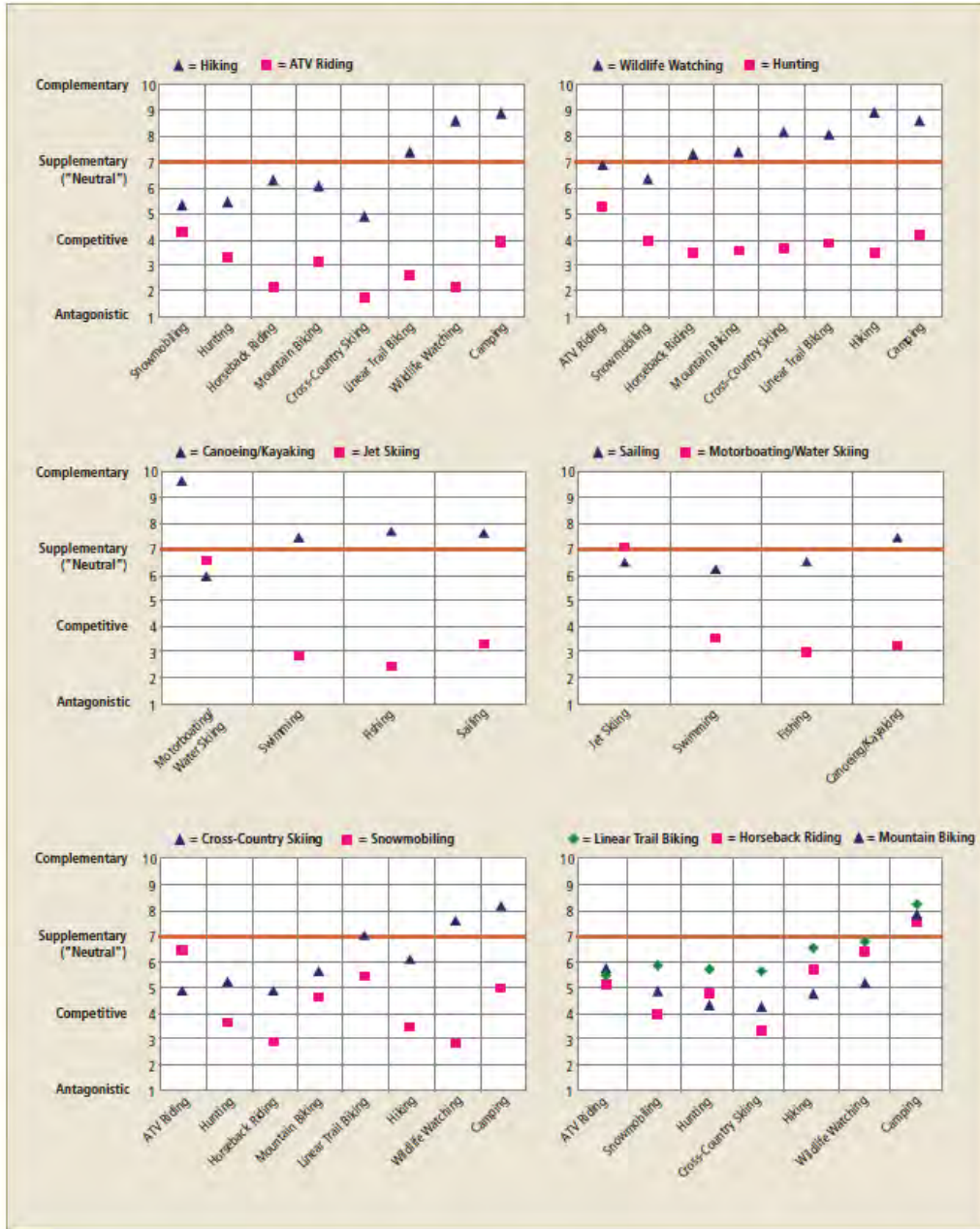
Results of survey of recreation professionals suggest some interesting patterns in recreation compatibility. While there was some variability in responses gathered, there are clearly some activities that recreation managers feel are complementary or supplementary and others that appear to be much more competitive or antagonistic. The average ratings reported for land-based recreation activity interaction ranged from 9.2, a number representing complementary interactions (recorded for hiking with camping), to 1.8, a number representing antagonistic interactions (recorded for cross-country skiing with ATV riding). For water-based activities, average ratings ranged from 7.9 for canoeing/kayaking with fishing to 2.5 for fishing with personal water craft. The average compatibility rating for land- and water-based outdoor recreational activities are summarized in Tables B-7 and B-8.

A second observation from Tables B-7 and B-8 indicates that differences in compatibility between motorized and non-motorized activities becomes less pronounced when more specialized trail based activities such as cross-country skiing, horseback riding, mountain biking and linear trail biking are compared to motorized activities. Because these types of specialized activities need particular kinds of trail infrastructure and have activity styles that are not as compatible with other recreation activities, they are often partially separated from other recreation activities. This may explain the higher levels of compatibility recorded between these activities and motorized uses.

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Chapter 4: Compatibility and Conflict in Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation

Figure 4-3: Average Outdoor Recreation Compatibility Ratings for Interaction with Highlighted Activities



Recreation User Perceptions

One research study focused on forest-based recreation in Wisconsin and rated the compatibility of different recreation activities by surveying a large sample of outdoor recreation participants. Respondents in this study were asked whether they agreed with the statement that other recreational users were not bothersome. Results are displayed on the next page in SCORP Figure 4-3 taken directly from SCORP. Most respondents had some level of agreement with this statement.

In general, compatibility ratings in SCORP Figure 4-3 were lowest with motorized vehicle use or hunting and highest with primitive camping or hiking/skiing. These results suggest that recreation participants may hold a more positive view of outdoor recreation compatibility than recreation managers. In order to develop comprehensive management techniques, future research in the field of recreation conflict will need to elicit input from all groups involved in outdoor recreation – managers and participants alike.

Summary

Both antagonistic and non-antagonistic recreation interactions will best be addressed through proper recreation planning and management, and activities that will maximize positive interactions between non-antagonistic activities and mitigate antagonistic uses.

Chapter 5 – Wisconsin SCORP Regional Profiles.

Chapter 5 divides Wisconsin into eight SCORP planning regions and summarizes the unique characteristics that define each of them. Chapter 5 offers insights into what makes each individual region unique and valuable to statewide recreation, and also summarizes regional recreation needs.

Juneau County is part of the Western Sands Region shown on the SCORP Planning Regions Map.

The Western Sands Region counties have the second largest amounts of public lands and water in the state. These public lands include the Black River State Forest, Jackson County Forests, the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, the Wisconsin River, the Chippewa River, the Black River, and many other smaller state and county parks. Although the region remains largely rural, it is influenced by outside tourism demands from the Chicago and Twin Cities metropolitan areas. Easy highway access and relatively cheap land prices within the region have made it a popular location for seasonal home development. The region's Non-Metro Recreation Counties have experienced especially high housing growth, particularly along river flowages.

In an attempt to quantify out-of-state recreation demand, this SCORP also examined the recreation demands of tourists visiting Wisconsin. In 2004, the Wisconsin Department of Tourism conducted a survey of both the Chicago and Minneapolis/St. Paul Designated Market Areas (DMAs). This survey gauged reaction demand by asking residents of each DMA what types of Wisconsin recreation they participated in. Data was separated according to SCORP Region and is listed in Table B-9.

**Table B-9 Out-of-State Recreation Demand
In Western Sands SCORP Region**

Ranking	Chicago DMA	Minneapolis/St. Paul DMA
1	Canoeing	Birdwatching
2	Birdwatching	Hiking
3	Downhill Skiing	Sightseeing
4	Sightseeing	Picnicking
5	Picnicking	Camping

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Regional Public Perspectives on Top Recreation Issues and Needs

Certain issues are causing impediments to outdoor recreation opportunities within Wisconsin. In order to better understand these issues, the WDNR conducted a series of town meetings across the state. These meetings, conducted in 2005, collected 125 written comments and an additional 1,300 online comments. All survey participants were asked 2 questions:

- “What recreation issues will be growing in significance in the next 5 years?”
- “What barriers are keeping you from recreating outdoors as often as you would like?”

Western Sands Region summary of most common responses

The notes in brackets "(note)" after each point state how common the issue or need is throughout the state, by describing if it is unique to the Western Sands Region or not.

Issues

- Deteriorating facilities (only in this region)
- Increasing ATV usage and associated impacts (an issue in most regions)
- Increasing multiple-use recreation conflicts (only in this region)
- Increasing pressure on parks and recreation areas from the growth of urban areas (only in this region)
- Increasing use of recreation facilities by disabled populations (only in this region)
- Invasive species (an issue in half the regions)
- Lack of educational programs/naturalists/interpreters (only in this region and in the Great Northwest region)
- Loss of sites / properties, i.e., Hoffman Hills, Chippewa Moraine (only in this region)
- Overcrowding (an issue in half of the regions)
- Poor water quality impairing recreation (an issue in half of the regions)

Needs

- More biking trails (a need in most regions)
- More boating access (a need in a few regions)
- More camping opportunities (a need in half the regions)
- More fishing opportunities (only a need in this region and in the Mississippi region)
- More hiking trails (a need in all regions)
- More horse trails (a need in most regions)
- More trails – all types (only a need in this region)

Relative Supply of Recreation by Type Based on Population

Recreation demand and recreation supply are fundamentally unique elements built on different units of measurement. Recreation supply represents the extent of physical resources present in a given region and gives some indication of user capacity. Various approaches for standardizing supply components have been developed. These approaches can be generalized into two groups; those that focus on relevant market size (population based) and those that focus on aggregate geographic extent (area based).

For the 2005-2010 SCORP process, a metric was developed to present the relative nature of recreation supply in Wisconsin. The recreation location quotient (RLQ) is the metric that provides comparable measures of a region's recreational resources. An RLQ is a measure of the difference in regional recreational characteristics as compared to a given reference region (the whole state).

Results suggest that regions with high demand for outdoor recreation do not provide opportunities for this recreation in proportion to their physical size. For instance, the Lower Lake Michigan Coastal Region (including Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, and the northern Chicagoland suburbs) and Southern Gateways Region (including Madison) have overall population based RLQs of less than one (0.52 and 0.92, respectively), which indicate a relative lack of recreation supply within these regions. When comparing these results to those of the less populous northern regions (the Great Northwest and the Northwoods), it is clear that northern regions have comparatively abundant opportunities relative to their low population (population based RLQs of 2.52 and 3.22 respectively).

Regional Land Legacy Areas for High Recreation Demand

Another important consideration for future recreational needs is the preservation and protection of the larger areas that provide space for popular regional activities. As part of the of the recreational Land Legacy process described in Chapter 3, Land Legacy sites were also identified within each region. These sites were chosen to provide recreational opportunities that could serve the recreational needs of an entire region. These sites should be considered the highest priority recreation areas to preserve and protect within the Western Sands Region.

The top five Land Legacy sites in the Western Sands Region are:

1. Black River
2. Upper Chippewa River
3. Central Wisconsin Grasslands
4. Robinson Creek Barrens
5. Yellow (Chippewa) River

Summary

One of the primary purposes of the SCORP is to identify shortfalls in recreation facilities (supplies) across the state. This identification process relies on both primary data gathering techniques such as surveys, as well as anecdotal comments on recreation user perceptions. By making use of both of these techniques, this SCORP has developed a comprehensive summary of recreation needs across the State of Wisconsin.

For this SCORP, targeting was done at the regional level, using regional demand, regional supply, local park and recreation plans, and public comment data to determine which recreation supplies are relatively in short supply. In addition, future trends were also considered through a process discussed in Chapter 3. The combining of these methods and techniques has resulted in a summary presented in Table B-10. To simplify the targeting technique, recreation needs were divided into nature-based and developed setting categories. This division allows for a clear distinction between recreation niches such as state parks and urban trails.

Table B-10 Western Sands Recreation Supply Shortages	
Nature Based	
Beaches	Fishing piers
Parks	
Developed Setting	
Basketball courts – outdoor	Boat launches – trailerable
Dog parks	Golf courses
Marinas	Nature centers
Outdoor theme parks	Soccer fields
Tennis courts	

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Chapter 6 – Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Participation Trends and Observations.

Chapter 6 describes several key indicators for outdoor recreation trends and offers insights for future recreation participation and demand.

Key Indicators and General Trends

Demographics are some of the most important indicators of future recreational demand. The aging of the baby boom generation (born between 1946 – 1964) is a significant trend. Improved health, fitness, and lifestyle changes have assisted many baby boomers with continued participation in outdoor recreation well past previous generations. This group also has relatively high disposable incomes, allowing them to travel and participate in a diverse range of recreational activities. As this group continues to age, the demand for less active outdoor recreational pursuits and facilities – walking, gardening, and birding, for example – has become an increasingly important factor in state recreation demand. As more members of this demographic retire, one would expect a higher level of marginally fit recreation users, and more demand for mid-week recreation programs.

While the baby boom generation is important in predicting future recreation demand, Generation Y is also becoming an important group to watch. Members of this generation, born between 1981 and 1995, make up the largest consumer and recreation group in the nation. As Generation Y begins to enter the workforce and have families of their own, their specific demands will increasingly shape recreation supply and demand. Early indicators suggest that this group demands instant information access, has a high level of multi-tasking, and has low rates of physical activity.

More adults now remain single until their 30s and 40s, with many of those that do marry either postponing having children until later in their lives, or choosing to not have children at all. At the same time, single-parent families have also increased. For all of these groups, free time is perceived as an opportunity to spend time with family and friends and as such, they often seek out recreation activities that allow group participation.

While group activities are popular among single parent and no-children families, members of these demographics are often also interested in the more active and unusual recreation available in experiential trips and other non-traditional recreation activities. Traditional team sports such as football have reached a plateau in their growth, while more modern activities such as geocaching and disc golf continue to rise in popularity.

Recreation demand has also been affected by changes in work and leisure trends. Data from this SCORP indicates that Wisconsinites consider time to be their scarcest resource. While dual-income households and flexible work schedules create more flexible recreation and travel patterns, the increasing demands of work often prevent people from participating in recreation as often as they would like. Work hours are longer, leisure hours less. Dual-income households in particular have felt the pinch of increased work hours as many American women (over 50%) now work outside the home. With all adults in a household working, free time available for recreating diminishes significantly. Because of these increased demands on limited spare time and the fact that households are generally busier with work and home life responsibilities, discretionary activities (activities that do not require scheduling) are expected to become increasingly popular in the coming years.

Population has a limited impact on recreation demand because recreational activities and interests vary significantly over a person's lifetime. Rather than examine total populations, it is more useful to examine the profile, size and participation rates within actual user groups to determine future recreation needs. Certain population groups representing potential service needs or demands may be divided into specific user categories called market groups. Once these market groups are defined, additional research can reveal the specific needs and demands of each group.

Health and wellness

Outdoor recreation is a component of physical fitness and a major focus of preventative care. Activity done as a part of outdoor recreational activities leads to a better quality of life physically, mentally, and socially. An examination of the current outdoor recreation industry reveals several trends: increased equipment sales, development of new activities, and growth in activities at both ends of the recreation spectrum. These activities include both those that are close to home and require little gear, such as walking, and those that require a large time commitment, a more adventurous attitude, and more technical gear, such as climbing, kayaking, and backpacking. The exact role public lands, recreational facilities, and outdoor activities will have in the future of health and wellness care is uncertain. It is undeniable that recreation can help maintain wellness. Over time, it is expected that the health benefits of recreation will become a constant feature of programming and investment in park facilities.

Environment

As the general public becomes more aware of environmental issues, concern over environmental quality is growing. Citizen expectations are also evolving with regards to the role regional and national environmental agencies play in local recreation and planning. More citizens are seeking an

active role for themselves in environmental protection and conservation, a role that is creating a community-wide revitalization in environmental preservation and the provision of open space. This increased interest in the environment has also affected recreation participation rates as more people visit areas of minimally altered environments and trails. Although environmental awareness is growing, environmental degradation continues. Global warming has begun to impact outdoor recreation, creating longer warm seasons, shorter cold seasons, and unpredictable climatic conditions. In the future, these changes will create an extended season for warm weather activities and a shortened season for cold weather activities. Changes to the landscape resulting from less dependable weather patterns will make seasonal recreation less reliable and planning for this type of recreation more difficult. **(NCWRPC Note: Global warming has one trend in Wisconsin that affects recreation professionals. The amount of precipitation falling in each season during extreme events is increasing, some of which are called 100-year floods. This is the norm now, and recreation managers may need to consider how erosion and floodwater flow will affect outdoor recreation resources.)**

Technology

Electronic communication innovations have created interactive opportunities for recreation through the Internet, computer simulated games and sports, and other electronic sources. Although this new technology has increased and diversified the overall pool of recreational opportunities for users to choose from, it has also detracted from participation in more traditional recreation activities. In order to compete with non-traditional activities, providers of outdoor recreation must continue to provide and maintain high quality service in all their recreational programming and facilities.

Economics

Increasingly, there is a rift between those that have access to recreation and those that do not. While household income is increasing, individual income in real growth terms is expected to decline. The fact that most homes are now two-income households results in two primary challenges. For affluent households with more discretionary income, additional resources from dual incomes are often used for leisure activities including travel and entertainment. This affluent population has a greater ability to participate in a broader spectrum of recreation. At the same time, however, there has been an increase in the percentage of the population that falls within poverty guidelines. This growing gap between the rich and the poor has prompted an interest in developing separate strategies for the provision of leisure services for these two populations.

This disparity in income levels has created new demands for outdoor recreation as affluent families seek out new and exciting forms of recreation and less affluent families seek out high-quality, low-cost forms of recreation. As recreation activities compete for household recreation dollars and available time, there has been an increased emphasis on value and diversity of choices in recreational activities. To remain competitive with other facilities and to appeal to family households, facilities such as swimming pools must now have the most modern equipment and technologies such as water slides and interactive play areas.

Government

Whether state or locally owned, a large percentage of recreation lands are government owned and managed. Pressures on government lands— greater scarcity and high cost of land, rising operating costs and revenue limits, and increasing anti-taxation sentiment—will all affect the operation and development of recreational facilities and programs on these lands. Recreation is also becoming more market driven, meaning that activities are increasingly subject to competition between private,

public, and non-profit recreation providers. A broad issue of what constitutes public access to public sponsored facilities and programs may challenge the financial feasibility of building new facilities and maintaining existing ones. Subsidized programs and minimal use fees could be difficult to maintain in light of these conditions.

Changing Land Use

Over time, Wisconsin's population has shifted from a predominantly rural population to a predominantly urban population. Today, roughly two-thirds of the state's population lives in urban areas, with more people migrating to these areas every year. Because of this shift, urban fringe areas are becoming an increasing hotbed for recreation activities. Facilities and spaces such as local dog parks, urban trails, and green space allocations, are all reflections of this increasing urban/suburban demand. Residential development in rural areas has continued as better highway networks provide for easy access to urban services and workplaces. Regional land use planning will continue to be a primary component in the provision of recreational activities within an ever-changing suburban environment.

Wisconsin Trends

Wisconsin's population grew 7.3% between 1994 and 2004 and is expected to grow another 3.3% by 2010. This growth, along with the state's sizeable population of baby boomers now reaching retirement age, will create a larger demand for passive recreational activities. Land resource-based activities have increased just over 27% in a ten year period. Much of this increase has occurred in the areas of wildlife viewing and off-road driving, both relatively inactive activities. While not generally popular among older participants, the biggest change in recreation participation has been in the area of snow- and ice-based activities. Much of this change may be attributed to recent advancements in equipment technology and an increased interest in snowboarding and ice skating.

In Chapter 2 of SCORP, Juneau County is listed as part of the Western Sands Region, which supports outdoor recreation uses by the natural resource settings that are: Water Based, Nature Based, and Developed Settings. Table B-11 shows that the largest increase in participants from 1994 to 2004 was in Land based activities, but the largest percent increase was in snow and ice based activities.

Resource Type	# of Participants in Millions		Percent Change
	1994*	2004**	1994-2004***
Snow and ice based activities	1.29	1.84	43.1
Land resource based activities	3.15	4.02	27.3
Water resource based activities	2.77	2.98	7.8

*1994 population = 5,133,678; **2004 population = 5,509,026; ***% growth = 7.3%
Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Table B-12 Wisconsin Participation Trends by Activity

Activity	Number of Participants in Millions*		Percent Change 1994-2004
	1994	2004	
Kayaking	0.051	0.262	413.7
Horseback riding	0.136	0.407	199.3
Personal water craft	0.136	0.403	196.3
Snowboarding	0.074	0.195	163.5
Rock climbing	0.097	0.245	152.6
Soccer outdoors	0.175	0.407	132.6
Drive off-road	0.513	1.073	109.2
Orienteering	0.054	0.112	107.4

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Recreation projections can be examined in two ways. The first is simply participation as a numerical total. For the vast majority of recreation activities, this number will increase as the state’s population does. To gauge a more accurate view of future participation, it is far more useful to examine a given activity’s participation rate as a percentage of the total population. This number gives a better understanding of population growth vs. participation change in an activity. Table B-12 considers the percentage changes in recreation participation rates, as well as industry forecasts and opinions from recreation professionals, to suggest which activities will be popular in the future. These observations are made for a five year period, and therefore reflect the most pressing demands on recreation in the immediate future. Some of these activities such as ATVing, RV camping, and geocaching are expected to grow in popularity. Other activities such as swimming, day hiking, and fishing, are expected to remain stable in their popularity. Still others such as personal watercraft, skiing, and mountain biking are expected to decrease in popularity.



Kayaking experienced the highest percentage change in participation from 1994 to 2004, growing 413.7%. But 262,000 people participating are only about 4% of the Wisconsin population.

The next three tables – increasing demand (Table B-13), stable demand (Table B-14), and decreasing demand (Table B-15) – show projected trends in Wisconsin outdoor recreation activities from 2005 to 2010. Each table lists an activity and has a comment to assist with projecting the need for a particular activity.

Table B-13 Projected Trends in Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Activities Increased Demand 2005-2010

Activity	Comment
ATV	Market saturation may occur by 2010 causing this use to level off.
Bird watching	A popular activity for an aging baby boom population.
Canoeing	Cheap, easy water access for all generations.
Driving for Pleasure	An easy activity for all generations.
Gardening	On the rise with the baby boom population.
Geocaching	Popular both with families and members of the Y Generation.
Kayaking	Better technology has made this an affordable sport for the general public.
Motorboating	Costs have decreased enough to continue to make this a popular activity.
Off-road Motorcycling	Record sales of off-road vehicles continues to fuel this demand.
Paintball Games	Better and cheaper technology attracts the Y Generation.
Picnic	A family activity crossing generation gaps.
Road Biking	Increases will slow due to the retirement of Lance Armstrong and the effect that was felt from his Tour de France wins.
RV Camping	The baby boom population continues to change from tent to RVs, but increasing fuel prices may slow this.
Skateboarding	Popular with urban youth and the Y Generation.
Snowboarding	This may start to level off by 2010 as the next generation looks towards newer technology.
Snowshoeing	Not growing as fast since 2002.
Visit a Dog Park	Urban residents continue to demand more of these areas.
Walking	Popular among all ages, though especially aging baby boomers.
Water Parks	Construction of new water parks continues to fuel the increasing demand for this activity.
Wildlife Viewing/Photography	Often done in conjunction with driving for pleasure, making this activity very popular.

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Table B-14		Projected Trends in Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Activities Stable Demand 2005-2010	
Activity	Comment		
Cross-Country Skiing	Stable at this time but mainly driven by the baby boom. Declines may start by 2010.		
Day Hiking	An easy, popular activity for all generations.		
Disc Golf	Popular with younger urban generations.		
Fishing	Very popular with all generations.		
Horseback Riding	Continues to be popular with the boomers, but may not be popular with the Y Generation.		
Ice Skating	An easy, cheap activity for the mass public.		
Inline Skating	After a quick rise in the 1990s this activity has leveled.		
Rock Climbing	A small but stable Y Generation niche.		
Rowing	A small niche activity with simple equipment.		
Run/Jog	The baby boomer generation continues to do this, but Y Generation may not.		
Sailing	Equipment demands and skill requirements prevent this from growing.		
Scuba/Snorkel	A niche sport that attracts a younger generation.		
Swimming	Always popular – water quality issues have caused growth in this activity to stagnate.		
Tennis	A recent resurgence has stabilized this activity.		
Tent Camping	Still popular but may start to lose ground to the RV trend.		

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Table B-15		Projected Trends in Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Activities Decreasing Demand 2005-2010	
Activity	Comment		
Backpacking	A popular baby boomer activity not as popular with the Y Generation.		
Downhill Skiing	Continues to struggle with attracting the Y Generation.		
Golf	Time and expense continue to push players to other recreation.		
Hunting	Continues to struggle with generational loss and access issues.		
Personal Watercraft	Market saturation occurred in the 1990s with the baby boomers who are now replacing their personal watercraft with motorboats.		
Mountain Biking	Baby boomers that made the sport popular in the 1990s have switched to road bikes.		
Snowmobile	The industry struggles with how to attract more people with less snow.		
Team Sports	Except for soccer, all other sports have declined.		

Source: WI SCORP 2005-2010

Chapter 7 – Wisconsin SCORP Outdoor Recreation Goals and actions.

Chapter 7 describes eight goals and actions intended to improve the supply of outdoor recreation within Wisconsin, and encourage state residents to participate in more outdoor recreational activities.

Goal 1: Protect, Restore, and Enhance Wisconsin’s Natural Resources for Outdoor Recreation

Wisconsin’s lands and waters are a natural draw for outdoor recreation. Those who use the state’s environments expect clean waters to paddle on and healthy forests to hike in. Increasingly, however, these natural resources are being menaced by threats such as invasive species, environmental degradation, and the continued fragmentation of forest and other natural areas. Left unmanaged, these threats will contribute to a diminished quality of outdoor recreation within the state. Wisconsinites are aware of the danger in these threats and have identified two issues—control of invasive species and poor water quality—as matters of high importance for state management.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Continue to provide protection to lakes, rivers and streams to improve aquatic habitat, water quality, and fisheries.
2. Continue to provide programs and funding for access to industrial forestry lands for outdoor recreation activities.
3. Continue to implement an invasive species control program on Wisconsin lands and waters.
4. Increase protection to wetlands, thereby benefiting the ecological and recreational resources of the state.
5. Continue to provide funding and assistance for the restoration of native prairies and grassland ecosystems.
6. Continue to support and fund the Smart Growth Planning process to help stop the fragmentation of open spaces while also allowing for development.

Goal 2: Continue to Improve and Develop Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Facilities

Upkeep and development of outdoor recreation facilities continues to be a central component of providing a quality outdoor recreation experience. Without proper facilities—an ice rink to skate on or an outdoor pool to swim in, for example—recreating outdoors becomes a challenge. A variety of publicly funded programs such as the Stewardship 2000 Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund are important partners in the funding and support of these developments. While development helps expand the recreational resources and facilities of an area, maintenance sustains the resources already developed within a region. This efficient use of existing resources allows more money and time to be directed towards development of new facilities. Upkeep can be as simple as painting a building or as complicated as upgrading a water and sewage system within a state park. Because of its important role within any park system, it is important that providers allocate enough resources to support facility maintenance. The State Park system alone has a \$90 million backlog of maintenance projects, all of which are important to the continued health of the system. As this backlog continues to grow, more recreationalists are noticing the effects of limited upkeep: less signage, less restroom monitoring, un-maintained grounds, and earlier seasonal closings.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Continue to maintain and renovate outdoor recreation facilities for future generations.
2. Provide for continued development and enhancements of urban outdoor recreation facilities such as soccer fields and playground equipment.
3. Provide for expansion of the following trail systems: hiking, biking, horse, and water.
4. Enhance and upgrade signage and maps for all outdoor recreational lands and waters.
5. Continue to acquire lands for outdoor recreation at all levels of government.
6. Support publicly funded programs that provide financial assistance for the actions listed above.

Goal 3: Understand and Manage the Growing Issue of Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Conflicts

As demand for different outdoor recreation activities grows, managing the conflict that develops between these uses will become an increasingly important issue of public policy. Two conflict arenas merit continued creative management from those charged with prioritizing public resources. The most obvious conflict arena is that which develops between different users of Wisconsin's finite land and water base. This conflict has developed as a result of both an increased demand for outdoor recreation activities and the development of new recreation technologies that have facilitated activities such as geocaching and ATVing. The second conflict arena is that which develops between outdoor recreation and other forms of land use. This conflict has impacted the development and maintenance of open space, creating struggles in the development of residential, agricultural, and managed forest areas. These conflicts have not gone unnoticed by state residents who have witnessed a rise in noise pollution, an overcrowding of public lands and waters, and increased development pressures on parks and open spaces.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Proactively plan for increased user conflicts and provide for increased recreation uses consistent with the state's growth in population.
2. Develop public and private management tools for addressing user conflicts.
3. Increase funding for outdoor recreation law enforcement authorities so that they may better enforce outdoor rules and regulations.
4. Examine and understand Wisconsin's capacity for local and state recreation growth according to the state's natural resource base.
5. Designate more public land for recreational use to better meet the increasing demand for outdoor recreation.
6. Examine options such as private landowner incentive programs, which would allow public access to private lands.

Goal 4: Continue to Provide Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation Education and Programming

Outdoor education and programming continue to be in high demand among Wisconsin citizens. These programs are particularly important for urban populations who have lost opportunities to practice outdoor skills on a regular basis. By providing for structured recreational opportunities such as kayaking and outdoor sports, recreation providers will establish a base user population that will

carry the activity into the next generation. Equally important to this programming is the teaching of environmental ethics. As our society continues to use land in ever more intrusive and environmentally degrading ways, there is a real need to instill the “land ethic” philosophy in all outdoor users.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Provide funding and support for joint outdoor recreation programs between schools, government, and communities.
2. Provide funding and support for more outdoor recreation skills courses.
3. Develop programs that begin to address the state’s diversifying urban populations.
4. Develop and support programs that bring nature based experiences close to home for urban, low income youth.
5. Provide more courses in environmental education and ethics.

Goal 5: Continue to Provide and Enhance Public Access to Wisconsin Recreational Lands and Waters

As recreation continues to place demands on public lands and waters, the lack of public access to these areas has become an increasing concern among many state citizens. In some cases this perception is true; more water/boating access is needed in certain areas of the state. In many cases, however, public access to recreational resources does exist, the public is simply not aware of it. Improved and easily accessible maps and signage would aid the public in locating access points.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Develop a statewide interactive mapping system showing all public lands and water access points across the state.
2. Continue to acquire and develop boating access sites to meet public boating needs.
3. Promote awareness of the location of existing recreation lands, facilities, and opportunities available within a given region.
4. Continue to increase public access to Wisconsin waterways.
5. Continue to improve disabled accessibility for outdoor recreation facilities, and promote the development of facilities using universal design standards.

Goal 6: Understand the Threats and Opportunities of Wisconsin’s Developing Urban Areas and Areas of Rapid Population Growth

While most of Wisconsin’s landscape is rural, most people in Wisconsin (68%) live in a relatively small urbanized area of the state. This population is concentrated in the southern and eastern portions of the state, especially in the Lower Lake Michigan Coastal Region (home to Milwaukee and expanding Chicago suburbs). Urbanization has proved to be a double-edged sword for recreation; it provides many opportunities for diverse recreational opportunities, but it also poses a threat to the environmental and recreational resources of the state. Threats from urbanization include the continued loss of agricultural/ outdoor recreation lands, the increasing tension of urban populations recreating in urban/rural fringe areas, and decreasing water quality and habitat availability.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Continue to protect prime recreation lands through the use of publicly funded programs such as the Stewardship 2000 Program.
2. Develop trail networks that offer easy access from urban/suburban areas to rural areas.
3. Encourage communities to develop park and open space plans that allow for balanced growth while also providing land and facilities for outdoor recreation.
4. Continue to develop and provide active outdoor sports facilities such as soccer fields and tennis courts.
5. Continue to provide and expand community and neighborhood parks for multiple forms of outdoor recreation.

Goal 7: Maintain and Enhance Funding Opportunities for Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation

From its early years establishing the original state parks, Wisconsin has had an active program of state land acquisition. The latest iteration of these programs is the Stewardship 2000 Program. Under this program the state may issue bonds in a total not to exceed \$572 million spread over a ten year period. The Stewardship Program is biased towards land acquisition, with lesser amounts provided for property development and local assistance. As Wisconsin receives an increasingly smaller portion of state resources—Wisconsin State Parks rank 49th in the nation for total percentage of state budget—funding programs have provided vital support to outdoor park and recreation lands and facilities.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Renew the State Stewardship 2000 Program.
2. Encourage all local governments to develop park and recreation plans for participation in state and federal cost share programs.
3. Provide more cost share opportunities for local governments to acquire, develop, and maintain recreational lands and facilities.
4. Increase Wisconsin State Parks funding to the nationwide average of 0.2% of state budget, or \$53 million a year.
5. Explore new and innovative funding methods for outdoor park and recreation facilities. These methods may include public/private partnerships or cost sharing among multiple government agencies.
6. Increase revenue generating capabilities for outdoor recreation by continuing to update and improve technologies such as automated fee collection systems.
7. Explore the option of an exercise tax on outdoor recreational equipment to help fund park and recreation developments.

Goal 8: Promote Wisconsin Outdoor Recreation as a Means to Better Health and Wellness for State Citizens

The United States as a whole is in the midst of an overweight and obesity epidemic brought on by increasingly sedate and inactive lifestyles and higher caloric intakes. This epidemic has profound consequences in terms of increased health care costs and shortened life expectancies. Outdoor park and recreation areas can be key partners in reversing this trend as they provide the type of active recreational opportunities that promote physical fitness. Encouraging Wisconsinites to use

recreation lands and facilities will benefit not only park and recreation areas, but also the state citizens themselves who receive the health benefits of increased activity—a true win-win proposal.

Actions and Recommendations

1. Encourage individuals, workplaces, community groups, and schools to become physically active by promoting programs such as the Governor’s Wisconsin Challenge program.
2. Develop a “Get Fit with Wisconsin” campaign for public lands and waters that touts the health benefits of recreation and reaches a wide audience of potential users.
3. Educate the public about the health benefits of moderate and enjoyable physical activities such as walking, biking, nature study, etc.
4. Integrate opportunities and incentives for exercise during the workday—giving employees 30 minutes a day for exercise, providing exercise equipment and changing rooms, etc.
5. Start a dialogue between public outdoor recreation providers and health agencies to identify other (non-traditional) funding sources for recreational facilities and development.



The 2005–2010 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

SCORP

ATTACHMENT C
FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

SUGGESTED OUTDOOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS				
Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
Badminton	Singles--17' x 44' Doubles-20' x 44' with 5' unobstructed area on both sides	1622 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	¼ - ½ mile. Usually in school recreation center or church facility. Safe walking or biking or biking access.
Basketball 1. Youth 2. High School 3. Collegiate	46' - 50' x 84' 50' x 84' 50' x 94' with 5' unobstructed space all sides.	2400-3036 sq. ft. 5040-7280 sq. ft. 5600-7980 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	¼ - ½ mile. Same as badminton. Outdoor courts in neighborhood/community parks, plus active recreation areas in other park settings.
Handball (3-4 wall)	20' x 40' with a minimum of 10' to rear of 3-wall court. Minimum 20' overhead clearance.	800 sq. ft. for 4-wall, 1000 sq. ft. for 3-wall.	Long axis is north - south. Front wall at north end.	15 - 30 min. travel time, 4-wall usually indoor as part of multi-purpose building. 3-2 all usually in park or school setting.
Ice Hockey	Rink 85' x 200' (Min. 85' x 185') Additional 5000 22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	22,000 sq. ft. including support area.	Long axis is north - south if outdoors.	½ - 1 hour travel time. Climate important consideration affecting no. of units. Best as part of multipurpose facility.
Tennis	36' x 78'. 12 ft. clearance on both ends.	Min. of 7,200 sq. ft. single court area (2 acres per complex)	Long axis north - south	¼ - ½ mile. Best in batteries of 2 - 4. Located in neighborhood/community park or near school site.
Volleyball	30' x 60'. Minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 4,000 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	½ - 1 mile.
Baseball 1. Official 2. Little League	Baselines - 90' Pitching distance-60.5' Foul lines - min. 320' Center field - 400'+ Baselines - 60' Pitching distance - 46' Foul lines - 200' Center field - 200' - 250'	3.0 - 3.85 A min. 1.2 A min.	Locate home plate so pitcher is not throwing across sun, and batter not facing it. Line from home plate through pitchers mound to run east-northeast.	¼ - ½ mile. Part of neighborhood complex. Lighted fields part of community complex.
Field Hockey	180' x 300' with a minimum of 10' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 1.5 A	Fall season - Long axis northwest or southeast. For longer periods, north/south	15 - 30 minute travel time. Usually part of baseball, football, soccer complex in community park or adjacent to high school.
Football	160' x 360' with a minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 1.5 A	Same as field hockey.	15 - 30 min. travel time. Same as field hockey.
Soccer	195' to 225' x 330' to 360' with 10' minimum clearance on all sides.	1.7 - 2.1 A	Same as field hockey.	1 - 2 miles. Number of units depends on popularity. Youth popularity. Youth soccer on smaller fields adjacent to fields or neighborhood parks.
Golf - Driving Range	900' x 690' wide. Add 12' width each additional tee.	13.5 A for min. of 25 tees.	Long axis is southwest - northeast with golfer driving northeast.	30 minute travel time. Park of golf course complex. As separate unit may be privately operated.

Source: National Recreation and Park Association

SUGGESTED OUTDOOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS (continued)				
Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
¼ mile running track	Over-all width - 276' length - 600'. Track width for 8 - 4 lanes is 32'.	4.3 A	Long axis in sector from north to south to northwest - southeast, with finish line at north end.	15 - 30 minute travel time. Usually part of a high school or community park complex in combination with football, soccer, etc.
Softball	Baselines - 60' pitching distance - 45' men. 40' women Fast pitch field radius from plate - 225' Slow pitch - 275' (men) 250' (women)	1.5 - 2.0 A	Same as baseball. indimensions for 16".	¼ - ½ mile. Slight difference. May also be used for youth baseball.
Multiple use court (basketball, tennis, etc.)	120' x 80'	9,840 sq. ft.	Long axis of court with primary use north and south.	1 - 2 miles, in neighborhood or community parks.
Archery range	300' length x minimum 10' between targets. Roped, clear area on side of range minimum 30', clear space behind targets minimum of 90' x 45' with bunker.	Minimum 0.65 A	Archer facing north + or - 45 degrees.	30 minutes travel time. Part of a regional/metro complex.
Golf 1. Par 3 (18 hole) 2. 9-hole standard 3. 18-hole standard	Average length varies -600 - 2700 yards. Average length 2250 yards Average length 6500 yards.	50 - 60 A Minimum of 50 A Minimum 110 yards	Majority of holes on north/south axis	½ - 1 hour travel time 9-hole course can accommodate 350 people/day 500 - 550 people/day. Course may be located in community, district or regional/metro park.
Swimming pools	Teaching - min. 25 yards x 45' even depth of 3-4 ft. Competitive - min. 25 m x 16 m. Min. of 25 sq. ft. water surface per swimmer. Ration of 2 to 1 deck to water.	Varies on size of pool and amenities. Usually 1 - 2 A sites.	None, but care must be taken in siting life stations in relation to afternoon sun.	15 to 30 minutes travel time. Pools for general community use should be planned for teaching competitive and recreational purposes with enough to accommodate 1m and 3m diving boards. Located in community park or school site.
Beach areas	Beach area should have 50 sq. ft. of land and 50 sa. ft. of water per user. Turnover rate is 3. There should be a 3-4 A supporting area per A of beach.	N/A	N/A	½ to 1 hour travel time. Should have a sand bottom with a maximum slope of 5%. Boating areas completely segregated from swimming areas. In regional/metro parks.

Source: National Recreation and Park Association

ATTACHMENT D
STATE AND FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Wisconsin DNR Administered Programs

Beth Norquist, Community Service Specialist

Eau Claire Office
PO Box 4001
1300 W Clairemont Ave
Eau Claire WI 54702

715-839-3751

Elizabeth.Norquist@Wisconsin.gov

Acquisition Of Development Rights Grants (ADR)

Helps to buy development rights (easements) for the protection of natural, agricultural, or forestry values, that would enhance nature-based outdoor recreation. Applicants compete for funds on a statewide basis.

Aids For The Acquisition And Development Of Local Parks (ADLP)

Helps to buy land or easements and develop or renovate local park and recreation area facilities for nature-based outdoor recreation purposes (e.g., trails, fishing access, and park support facilities). Applicants compete for funds on a regional basis.

All Terrain Vehicles (ATV)

Funds are available to provide funds to accommodate all-terrain vehicles through the acquiring, insuring, developing and maintaining of all-terrain vehicle trails and areas, including routes as per s. 23.33, Wis. Stats. Counties, towns, cities and villages are eligible to apply by April 15 on forms provided by the Department. Eligible levels of reimbursement are:

- ATV trails available for spring, summer, and fall riding may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible maintenance costs (up to \$450 per mile).
- ATV trails available for winter riding may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible maintenance costs (up to \$100 per mile).
- Development of ATV trails and areas may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible costs.
- Major rehabilitation of bridge structures or trails may be reimbursed up to 100 percent of eligible costs.
- Maintenance of ATV intensive use areas may be reimbursed up to 50 percent of eligible costs

Assistance is provided for the following, in priority order: 1) maintenance of existing approved trails and areas, including routes; 2) purchase of liability insurance; 3) acquisition of easements; 4) major rehabilitation of bridge structures or trails; and 5) acquisition of land in fee and development of new trails and areas.

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Enforcement Patrol

Funds are available as per s.23.22(9), Wis. Stats. and NR 64.15, Wis. Adm. Code. A county must file a Notice of Intent to Patrol form with the Department on or before July 1 of each year. Claim forms shall be filed with the Department on or before September 1 of the year following the 12-month period for which the claim is made. Notice of Intent to Patrol and Claim forms are provided by the Department Bureau of Law Enforcement. Counties may receive up to 100% of their net costs for the enforcement of ch. 23.33, Wis. Adm. Code, at a rate no more than the regular straight-time rate. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 29% of the gross salary. Salaries of officers engaged in the enforcement of Chapter NR 23.33, Wis. Adm. Code, at a rate no more than the regular straight-time rate. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 29% of the gross salary. Travel, materials and supplies are reimbursable. Depreciation is calculated at a rate of 12% annually on all equipment over \$100 except ATV's, which is figured at the rate of 20% annually.

Brownfields Green Space and Public Facilities Grant Program

Funds are available per s.292.79, Wis. Stats. to promote the cleanup of brownfields where the end-use has a long-term public benefit, including preservation of green space, development of recreational areas or use by a local government.

Lake Protection Grant

Funds are available to protect and improve the water quality of lakes and their ecosystems as per s. 281.69, Wis. Stats. Grants are available for purchasing land or easements, restoration of wetlands, development of local regulations to protect water quality, lake improvement activities called for in a Department approved plan, and countywide lake classification. Counties, towns, cities, villages, public authorities and qualified lake associations as defined in s. 30.92(1)(br), Wis. Stats., public inland lake districts, non-profit groups, and other local governmental units established for lake management are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. The state cost shares up to 75% of project costs not to exceed \$200,000. Applications are due in the Regional offices by May 1 of each year.

Priorities are set on a statewide basis (see ch. NR 191.08, Wis. Adm. Code) and consider the following factors: 1) lakes which have not previously received a lake protection grant; 2) the degree to which the project provides for the protection or improvement of water quality; 3) the degree to which the project provides for protection or improvement of other aspects of the natural ecosystem such as fish, wildlife or natural beauty; 4) the availability of public access to, and public use of the lakes; 5) the degree to which the proposed project complements other lake and watershed management efforts; 6) the level of support for the project from other affected management units; and 7) the level of financial support provided by the sponsor.

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

Money is available to encourage nationwide creation and interpretation of high quality outdoor recreational opportunities. The program funds both state and local outdoor recreation projects per Public Law 88-578, ch. NR 50.06, Wis. Adm. Code. Counties, cities, villages, towns, school districts, and Indian tribes are eligible for funding with an approved Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans. Up to 50% matching grants from the fund are available to state and local units of government. Priorities include acquisition of land where a scarcity of outdoor recreational land exists. Also, projects that provide access for the greatest number of potential users and provide the greatest opportunities for outdoor recreation are also desirable.

Eligible projects include acquisition of land for public outdoor recreational areas and preservation of water frontage and open space. Development of public outdoor park and recreational areas and their support facilities. Applications are available from the DNR regional Community Service Specialist. Completed applications are due to the appropriate DNR regional office by May 1 of each year.

Recreational Boating Facilities

Funds are available for the construction of capital improvements to provide safe recreational boating facilities and for feasibility studies related to the development of safe recreational facilities as per s. 30.92, Wis. Statutes. Counties, towns, cities, villages, sanitary districts, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts, and qualified lake associations are eligible to apply. Cost sharing is provided up to 50% for feasibility studies, construction costs, and certain types of acquisition costs. An additional 10% may be available if a municipality conducts a boating safety enforcement and education program approved by the Department.

Eligible projects include: 1) Facilities such as ramps and service docks required to gain access to the water; 2) structures such as bulkheads and breakwaters necessary to provide safe water conditions for boaters; 3) activities such as dredging to provide safe water depths for recreational boating. (Dredging is an eligible project only when it is associated with project development at the project site; maintenance dredging is not eligible.); 4) support facilities limited to parking lots, sanitary facilities and security lighting; 5) acquisition of equipment to cut and remove aquatic plants; 6) acquisition of equipment to collect and remove floating trash and debris from a waterway; 7) dredging of channels in waterways for recreational boating purposes (not more than once in ten years)(inland waters); and 8) acquisition of aids to navigation and regulatory markers. These factors are considered in establishing priorities - distance of proposed project from other recreational boating facilities, demand for safe boating facilities, existing facilities, projects underway, commitment of funds, location of proposed project within the region identified in s. 25.29(7), Wis. Stats.

River Management Grants

River Protection Management grants provide state cost sharing assistance to eligible sponsors for implementing a specific activity or set of activities, other than planning activities, to protect or improve a river ecosystem as per s. 181.70 Wis. Stats. Counties, towns, cities, villages, non-profit groups and qualified river management organizations, and other local governmental units as defined in s. 66.0131, Wis. Stats., are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. The state cost shares up to 75% of project costs not to exceed \$50,000. Activities eligible for funding include: 1) purchase of land or of an easement subject to certain requirements, 2) development of local ordinances, and 3) restoration of in-stream or shoreland habitat. Applications are due in the Regional offices by May 1 of each year.

Recreational Trails Act (RTA)

The Recreational Trails Act (RTA) provides funds to local units of government through the transfer of federal gas excise taxes paid on fuel used in off-highway vehicles. These funds are used to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for motorized (30% of RTA funds), non-motorized (30% of RTA funds), and both (40% of RTA funds) types of recreational trail uses. This federal program was reauthorized in 2005 under SAFETEA-LU.

Eligible projects in order of priority are: maintenance and restoration of existing trails, development and rehabilitation of trailside and trailhead facilities and trail linkages, construction of new trails with certain restrictions on federal lands, and acquisition of easement or property for trails.

Snowmobile Club Signs

Funds are available to provide free cardboard trail signs and reflective material to snowmobile clubs agreeing to open their trails to public use as per s. 23.09(26) and Chapter 350, Wis. Stats. Funds are limited to no more than \$15,000 per year for the purchase of signs and reflective material. Applications are due in the Region offices by April 15 of each year for the following season.

Snowmobile Route Signs

Funds are available to provide costs for initial signing of snowmobile routes and trail crossing warning signs as per s. 23.09(26) and Chapter 350, Wis. Stats. Towns, cities, and villages are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. No local match is required, but state funding is limited to no more than \$30,000 per year for the route sign program. Applications are due in the Region offices by April 15 of each year for the following season.

Snowmobile Enforcement Patrols

Funds are available to encourage county snowmobile patrols to function as a law enforcement unit for the enforcement of State Statute 350 as per s. 350.12(4)(a)(4), Wis. Stats. and NR 50.12, 20.370(4)(ft), Wis. Adm. Code. Counties are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Bureau of Law Enforcement. A county must file a Notice of Intent to Patrol form with the Department on or before July 1 of each year. Claim forms shall be filed with the Department on or before June 1 of the year following the 12-month period for which the claim is made. Salaries of officers engaged in the enforcement of ch. 350, Wis. Stats., at a rate no more than the regular straight-time rate are eligible. Fringe benefits cannot exceed 29% of the gross salary. Travel, materials and supplies are reimbursable. Depreciation is calculated at a rate of 20% annually on all equipment over \$1,000.

Snowmobile Trail Aids

Funds are available to provide a statewide system of well-signed and well-groomed snowmobile trails for public use and enjoyment as per s. 23.09(26), and Chapter 350, Wis. Stats. Counties are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. 100% cost sharing is provided with limits on maintenance costs of \$250, and development costs of \$500 per mile. Applications are due in the appropriate Region Office by April 15 of each year. Eligible projects include maintenance of trails, which includes signing, brushing, and grooming of snowmobile trails, purchase of liability insurance and acquisition of short term easements, development of trails which may include general trail construction, bridges, gates and signs, major rehabilitation of existing snowmobile bridges and rehabilitation of existing trail segments

Stewardship Grants for Nonprofit Conservation Organizations

Funds are available for the acquisition of land or easements for conservation purposes, and restoration of wildlife habitat as per s. 23.096, 23.092, 23.094, 23.17, 23.175, and 23.27, Wis. Stats. and NR 51, Wis. Adm. Code. Nonprofit conservation organizations are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. There is a 50% local match required. Priorities include acquisition of wildlife habitat, acquisition of lands with special scientific or ecological value, rare and endangered habitats and species, acquisition of stream corridors, acquisition of land for state trails including the Ice Age Trail and North Country Trail and restoration of wetlands and grasslands. Eligible types of projects include fee simple and easement acquisitions and habitat restoration projects.

Urban Green Space

Funds are available to provide open natural space in proximity to urban development, to protect from development land with scenic, ecological or natural values in urban areas, and to provide land for noncommercial gardening in urban areas as per s. 23.09(19) Wis. Stats. Counties, Towns, Cities, Villages, lake districts, Indian tribes and nonprofit conservation organizations under s. 23.096 Wis. Stats. are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. There is a 50% local match required. Applications are due in the appropriate Region office by May 1 of each year.

Urban Rivers Grant

Funds are available to improve outdoor recreation opportunities by increasing access to urban rivers for a variety of public uses, economic revitalization through the improvement of the environmental quality in urban river corridors, and preserving and revitalizing historical, cultural, or natural areas as per s. 30.277, Wis. Stats. Counties, Towns, Cities, Villages, and Tribal units of government are eligible to apply on forms provided by the Department. There is a 50% local match required. Applications are due in the Region office by May 1 of each year. Eligible projects include acquisition of urban riverfront land that is part of an outdoor recreation plan adopted by the local unit of government. Land that is specifically identified in a river corridor plan for economic revitalization and outdoor recreation.

Wisconsin DOT Administered Programs

The WisDOT District Bike & Ped Coordinator for the Southwest DOT region is:

John Ott

3550 Mormon Coulee Road
La Crosse WI 54601-6767

608-785-9043

john.ott@dot.state.wi.us

Local Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program

Objective: To promote activities which enhance the surface transportation system. Program funds are intended to accomplish something "above and beyond" what is normally done on highway projects. Eligible federal categories include bicycle and pedestrian facilities, historic transportation structures and landscaping/streetscaping projects.

Surface Transportation Program – Discretionary (STP-D)

Objective: To encourage projects that foster alternatives to single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) trips, such as facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, development of bicycle/pedestrian plans, purchase of replacement vehicles for transit systems, and other transportation demand management (TDM) projects. Funding is 80% federal; 20% local.

Transportation Enhancement Program

(Part of the Statewide Multi-modal Improvement Program (SMIP))

Program Description: Transportation enhancements (TE) are transportation-related activities that are designed to strengthen the cultural, aesthetic, and environmental aspects of transportation systems. The transportation enhancements program provides for the implementation of a variety of non-traditional projects, with examples ranging from the restoration of historic transportation facilities, to bike and pedestrian facilities, to landscaping and scenic beautification, and to the mitigation of water pollution from highway runoff. Most of the requests and projects awarded in Wisconsin have been for bicycle facilities. Examples of bicycle projects include multi-use trails (in greenways, former rail trails, etc.), paved shoulders, bike lanes, bicycle route signage, bicycle parking, overpasses/underpasses/bridges, and sidewalks. Transportation enhancement activities must relate to surface transportation. Federal regulations restrict the use of funds on trails that allow motorized users, except snowmobiles. TEA 21 expanded the definition of transportation enhancements eligibility to specifically include the provision of safety and educational activities for pedestrians and bicyclists, which had not been clearly eligible under ISTEA.

Other Wisconsin DOT Funding Sources

Hazard Elimination Program - Bicycle and pedestrian projects are now eligible for this program. This program focuses on projects intended for locations that should have a documented history of previous crashes.

Contact WisDOT District coordinators first for more details. Chuck Thiede at 608-266-3341 is the statewide coordinator.

Incidental Improvements - Bicycle and pedestrian projects are broadly eligible for funding from most of the major federal-aid programs. One of the most cost-effective ways of accommodating bicycle and pedestrian accommodations is to incorporate them as part of larger reconstruction, new construction and some repaving projects. Generally, the same source of funding can be used for the bicycle and pedestrian accommodation as is used for the larger highway improvement, if the bike/ped accommodation is “incidental” in scope and cost to the overall project. Overall, most bicycle and pedestrian accommodations within the state are made as incidental improvements.

Federal Assistance Programs

All other federal programs are listed under Wisconsin DNR Administered Programs.

Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) – National Park Service

The purpose of the Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) is intended to increase participation by qualified partners in the preservation and improvement of National Park Service natural, cultural, and recreational resources; in all authorized Service programs and activities; and on national trails. NPS and partners should work together on projects with mutually beneficial, shared outcomes.

The CCSP is a matching fund program. An equal amount of eligible and matching share (minimum 50%) of cash, goods, or services from non-federal sources is required. The maximum CCSP award is \$30,000. Projects selected should generally be able to be completed within one year.

One-third of the CCSP pot is earmarked for National Trails System Projects. Thus supporting work under the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241-51), such as: National Scenic and Historic trails, National Scenic and Historic Trails in parks, National Recreation Trails, and rail-trail projects.

For additional information about this program and the application process, please contact the CCSP Program Coordinators for Wisconsin:

Pam Schuler, Trail Manager
pam_schuler@nps.gov

National Park Service
700 Rayovac Dr., Suite 100
Madison, WI 53711
608-441-5610