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# Forest County Outdoor Recreation Plan

Also covering the municipalities within Forest County



**2022-2026**

Effective January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026

Prepared by: North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

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# Acknowledgements

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Cover photo: Peshtigo River in Cavour

**October 2021**

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- A. Park Design and Location Criteria
- B. Facility Development Standards
- C. Federal and State Outdoor Recreation Funding Programs
- D. Outdoor Recreation Online Survey Results
- E. Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) Identified Outdoor Recreation Needs
- F. Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway Route
- G. Bog Brook Wildlife Area

# Chapter 1: INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Purpose

The primary purpose of this outdoor recreation plan is to provide continued direction toward meeting the current and future recreation needs of Forest County. This is accomplished through an inventory and analysis of outdoor recreational facilities, asking the public what they are looking for, and the establishment of recommendations to meet identified needs.

Adoption of this plan by the Forest 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 the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF), Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP), Urban Green Space Program (UGS) and Urban Rivers Grant Program (URGP). Adoption by all municipalities is not necessary if they wish to cooperate with Forest County to use this plan for grant applications. Local government grant applications have a better chance of approval if Forest County applies on their behalf.

Non-profit conservation organizations (NCOs) are eligible to participate in the Knowles–Nelson Stewardship Program under the Urban Green Space and Aids for the Acquisition and Development of Local Parks programs. NCOs may adopt or carry out recommendations from a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan of the local unit of government in which the NCO project is located or use their land management plans that are required for participation in the Stewardship programs.

## 1.2 Provisions for Updating Plan

Plan amendments are common and should be considered part of the planning process. They frequently represent good implementation or plan usage and should be acceptable for consideration by local decision makers.

**Annual review** of the plan recommendations and capital improvement list by Forest County’s Forestry & Recreation Committee will keep this plan current. This review may also occur after a large turn over in elected officials after an election.

*This Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) 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..."*

*Submission of this adopted CORP to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources establishes eligibility for the local unit of government to apply for a variety of Federal and State Aids for outdoor recreation (Chapter NR 50.06(4), Wisconsin administrative code).*

Annual Review Process:

1. Forest County's Forestry & Recreation Committee reviews plan and takes a vote on what changes to make.
2. County Board adopts changes by resolution.
3. Those changes and a copy of the approval resolution are forwarded to the DNR's Community Financial Assistance staff in Rhinelander. Submission of the changes and resolution automatically constitutes DNR grant eligibility for those changes.

Establishing a **full plan update every five years** will assure that the plan reflects changes in the recreational needs of the County and will extend the county's eligibility for grant programs for another 5 years. DNR approval of the ORP will come if the correct process was followed during all the steps for the full plan update.

## 1.3 Reference Plans

This outdoor recreation plan was written to continue the parks and recreation program established in the Forest County Outdoor Recreation Plans of 1977-1982, 1989-1993, 1997-2001, and from 2002 to the present.

Plan summaries that affect outdoor recreation in Forest County are referenced below, and Map 1 shows any referenced routes.

### *Forest County Comprehensive Plan, 2011-2031*

This plan is a combination of nine chapters. Within the Agricultural, Natural, and Cultural Resources Chapter are the following goals that relate to outdoor recreation:

1. Protect the County's natural features, including lakes, open space, wetlands, wildlife habitat, woodlands, and unique physical areas.
2. Protect large tract woodlands and enhance County Forests.
3. Reduce contamination of surface and groundwater resources in the County.
4. Encourage and support the preservation of natural areas that minimize flooding, such as grasslands, wetlands and woodlands.
5. Allow for needed non-metallic mining while balancing the interests of adjacent landowners and the County.
6. Enhance and promote sustainable multiple use forest management to benefit the forest industry and improve opportunities for tourism based industry. Work to exclude non-sustainable forest management strategies including no management zones, improper harvesting techniques, or extended rotation harvesting which result in loss of forest health and productivity. These practices put the forest of the neighboring landowners at risk from forest insects, disease and wildfire as well as reducing the raw material supply for the timber industry.
7. Preserve, protect and enhance surface water quality within the County by protecting shorelands and wetlands which provide the natural filters for surface water and protecting from invasive

aquatic species introductions. Provide for proper and adequate accesses to lakes and streams for their tourism value. Preservation of water quality will preserve the tourism value of the water resources and maintain future potential of this industry.

8. Support land management practices on the Nicolet National Forest, Industrial Forests, and other lands in the county which provide habitat improvements for white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, wild turkey, black bear and waterfowl.

Objectives:

1. New development should not negatively impact natural resources.
2. Protect surface water, groundwater, and shoreline quality.
3. Identify the critical natural resources, such as lakes, streams, rivers, wetlands, and woodlands.
4. Promote opportunities that support both natural resource protection and economic development.
5. Encourage the development of a natural area network connecting open areas, wetlands, and woodlands.
6. Integrate and implement the County Forest Comprehensive Plan.
7. Balance access to natural areas with resource protection efforts.
8. Promote groundwater protection efforts to maintain and lower nitrate, pesticide, and volatile organic compound pollution.
9. Promote environmentally sound development.
10. Promote proper reclamation techniques in the County for non-metallic mineral mining sites.
11. Minimize impacts to the County's natural resources from non-metallic mineral mining.
12. Encourage proper forest management on National Forest Lands, Wisconsin Managed Forest Law Lands and Industrial Forest Lands within the County. Maintain raw material supply by promotion of sustainable cutting levels to the calculated annual allowable cut on the National Forest Lands.
13. Encourage multiple use forest management on all forest land including uses such as standard multiple uses including hunting, fishing, hiking, and biking as well as wildlife management for game species and motorized recreation including snowmobiles and ATV's to create opportunities to diversify our economy into the tourism based industries.
14. Provide adequate, natural resource friendly water access points to all lakes and streams and landings to maintain public use of water resources and maintain the tourism industry value.
15. Discourage introduction of aquatic invasive species by providing education and support to lake associations in their efforts to limit this disturbance to the surface waters.

Policies:

1. Work cooperatively with the WDNR and other forestry agencies and organizations in sponsoring workshops and educational materials regarding sound forest management practices and programs.
2. Implement the policies as identified in the County's Comprehensive Forest Plan.
3. Explore the development of a destination Motorized Recreational Area compatible with surrounding natural resources.
4. Work with federal, state, and local governments to manage natural resources throughout the county.
5. Reduce and actively seek to reduce eutropication of our wetlands, lakes and streams.
6. Officially request the National Forest to maintain harvest levels on Forest County lands at their highest calculated annual allowable cut for sustainable forestry to provide sustained raw material flow for industry in the County.
7. Discourage forest management set-asides which limit raw material supply and limit recreational value of lands. Examples of these include non-motorized areas and wilderness areas.
8. Establish formal meetings with US Forest Service and the County Forestry Committee to have input into the determination of the annual allowable cut and other issues related to the National Forest lands within the County.

*Forest County Forest Comprehensive Land Use Plan, 2021-2035*

This plan is a management guide for the Forest County Forest and is updated every fifteen years. The mission of the plan is to manage and protect natural resources within the county forest on a sustainable basis for the ecological, economic, educational, recreational, and research needs of present and future residents throughout the county. The report includes a number of recommendations for timber management, wildlife habitat and game management, land acquisition and forest boundary management, biodiversity management, watershed management and tourism.

A framework for how various trail systems will be maintained and expanded is in Chapter 900.

*Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway*

The Byway's CMP is a written document authored by the local government sponsor that serves as the coordinating plan by which the scenic, historical, recreational, cultural, archeological and natural qualities on a designated byway are maintained and promoted.

The Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway runs through the Town of Wabeno. See the Byway map in **Attachment F**.



### *Forest County Potawatomi Community Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, 2021*

The Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) is currently in the process of developing this plan (2020-2021). The plan is intended to help the FCPC improve walking and bicycling within and between the FCPC developments at Stone Lake (Crandon area), Blackwell, and Carter.

The FCPC Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan includes the following:

1. An inventory of bicycling conditions and sidewalks, bicycle and pedestrian crashes with vehicles, and bicycle and pedestrian use areas. Researching where crashes occurred will show where some problem areas exist. Other problem locations will be found through analysis of the bicycling conditions on each major road.
2. Locations of potential bicycle routes and recommendations for roadway improvements. Maps will show where people are riding and where they plan to ride when it is safer to do so. Recommendations may include bicycle lanes in high traffic areas, and possibly no change along roads used more by bicyclists than vehicles (e.g. low volume roads).
3. Recommend solutions. The plan will include a combination of *education, encouragement, engineering, and enforcement* strategies to increase walking and biking.

### *North Central Wisconsin Regional Bicycle Facilities Network Plan, 2018*

North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission created this document to guide the development of an interconnected bikeway system for the North Central Wisconsin Region at the 10-county level. Potential trail corridors are identified and improvement descriptions were created for each trail that exists to facilitate implementation.

This NCW Regional Bicycle Facilities Network Plan has connectivity and recommendation maps for each county. The Nicolet State Trail, and the Wolf River State Trail are the primary off-road multi-use paths in the county. Blackwell's primary off-road bike and pedestrian path is the Rat River Trail. The Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway is an on-road multi-countywide set of loops as shown in **Attachment F**.

Additional routes are shown on a map in Appendix 1 (not in Forest County ORP) titled: Existing & Recommended Network for Forest County.

*Note: Local review of recommended routes should occur before installing signs.*

### *State Trails Network Plan*

This 2003 document clarifies a 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 2—Forest Co. to Michigan, Nicolet State Trail (Northern Region)

The DNR partially acquired the Nicolet State Trail corridor from Gillett to Wabeno. The rest of the rail corridor in Forest Co., from Cavour to Wabeno, remains largely DOT-owned, with portions used for private rail by term agreement. The tracks from Wabeno to Laona have been removed as well as the tracks north of Cavour to the Michigan border, and this grade may be available for trail acquisition in the near future. (Note: See page 19 for the description of this completed trail.) This trail was developed in 2010 as a part of the state trails network plan.

### Segment 13—Dresser to Michigan

This 250-mile-long east-west corridor consists of rail line, the Cattail Trail, which is owned by the DNR and operated by Polk and Barron counties, and an optional highway right-of-way. It would link with the proposed Hiles to Crandon snowmobile trail in Forest County. The use of roadways in Oneida and Forest counties are an alternative to the rail line.

### Segment 56—Argonne to Shawano

**NCWRPC Note: The part of this segment from Crandon to at least White Lake was completed in 2011 as the Wolf River State Trail.**

This is an active rail corridor with abandonment expected in fall of 2000 on the segment from Crandon to White Lake. Argonne is on the Dresser to Michigan corridor in the north, and Shawano links to the Mountain Bay Trail in the south of the corridor. The Crandon to Tomahawk corridor and the White Lake to Antigo corridor link to the Langlade County to Michigan corridor to form a loop. An old abandoned corridor east of White Lake in the future could link this corridor to the Nicolet State Trail or connect it to road routes. This corridor runs along the east shore of Lake Metonga at Crandon, then runs south through forested lake areas of the Nicolet National Forest. In Langlade County it follows the Wolf River for about seven miles and continues south through the Northwest portion of the Menominee Indian Reservation, terminating at Shawano and its connection to the Mountain Bay Trail.

### Segment 69—Tomahawk to Crandon

This abandoned corridor would link these two communities via an off-road connector. This corridor intersects the Langlade County to Michigan corridor at Pelican Lake and links the Argonne to Shawano corridor in the east with the Tomahawk to Wausau corridor in the west. This short linking corridor provides opportunity to access the very popular Hiawatha-Bearskin Trail from other corridors to the east.

### *Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2019-2023*

Every five years, the Wisconsin DNR publishes a SCORP as required by the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. At its core, this SCORP is used to help allocate federal funds equitably among local communities, but the document also transcends many levels of outdoor recreation discussion and policy.

This SCORP lays out five overarching goals for outdoor recreation:

1. Boost participation in outdoor recreation.
2. Grow partnerships.
3. Provide high-quality experiences.
4. Improve data to enhance visitor experiences and benefits.
5. Enhance funding and financial stability.

- < Park Design and Location Criteria from SCORP are described in **Attachment A**.
- < SCORP identified outdoor recreation needs are in **Attachment E**.

### *2004 Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan*

The Chequamegon and Nicolet National Forests were combined into one forest in 1998. This 2004 document revised inconsistent policies between the two forests and provides direction for resource management over the next 10 to 15 years.

In 2004, the Forest revised its forest management plan. The revised plan contains a consistent ATV policy for both sides of the Forest

- § No off-road or off trail use allowed (implemented on June 14, 2004).
- § New trail construction allowed for up to 100 miles of trail on the Chequamegon side, and up to 85 total miles on the Nicolet side.
- § All roads and trails closed to ATV use unless identified on the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM).
- § In general, most Forest Service trails and routes are closed to ATVs yearly from October 31 through April 30. The MVUM is updated yearly and list the operating season for all Forest Service trails and routes. Township designated roads are still open.
- § No Intensive Use ("play areas") allowed on the Forest (Open 26 play area closed on June 14, 2004).
- § Emergency closures can be issued locally where resources are being damaged or abused, or there are safety concerns.

All Forest Service roads open to ATV use are posted with signs, but the MVUM is the official source of trail and route information. Also, maps containing information on areas open to ATV use can also be obtained at Ranger District Offices.

Wisconsin Land Legacy Report 2006-2056

This report is a comprehensive inventory of the special places that will be critical to meet 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.

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 craft comprehensive plans, or offering different types of technical assistance.

Each Forest County Legacy Area is summarized below with 5 stars representing the highest level for that category:

**CN Chequamegon-Nicolet**

**National Forest**

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

**PE Peshtigo River**

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

**LH Laona Hemlock Hardwoods**

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

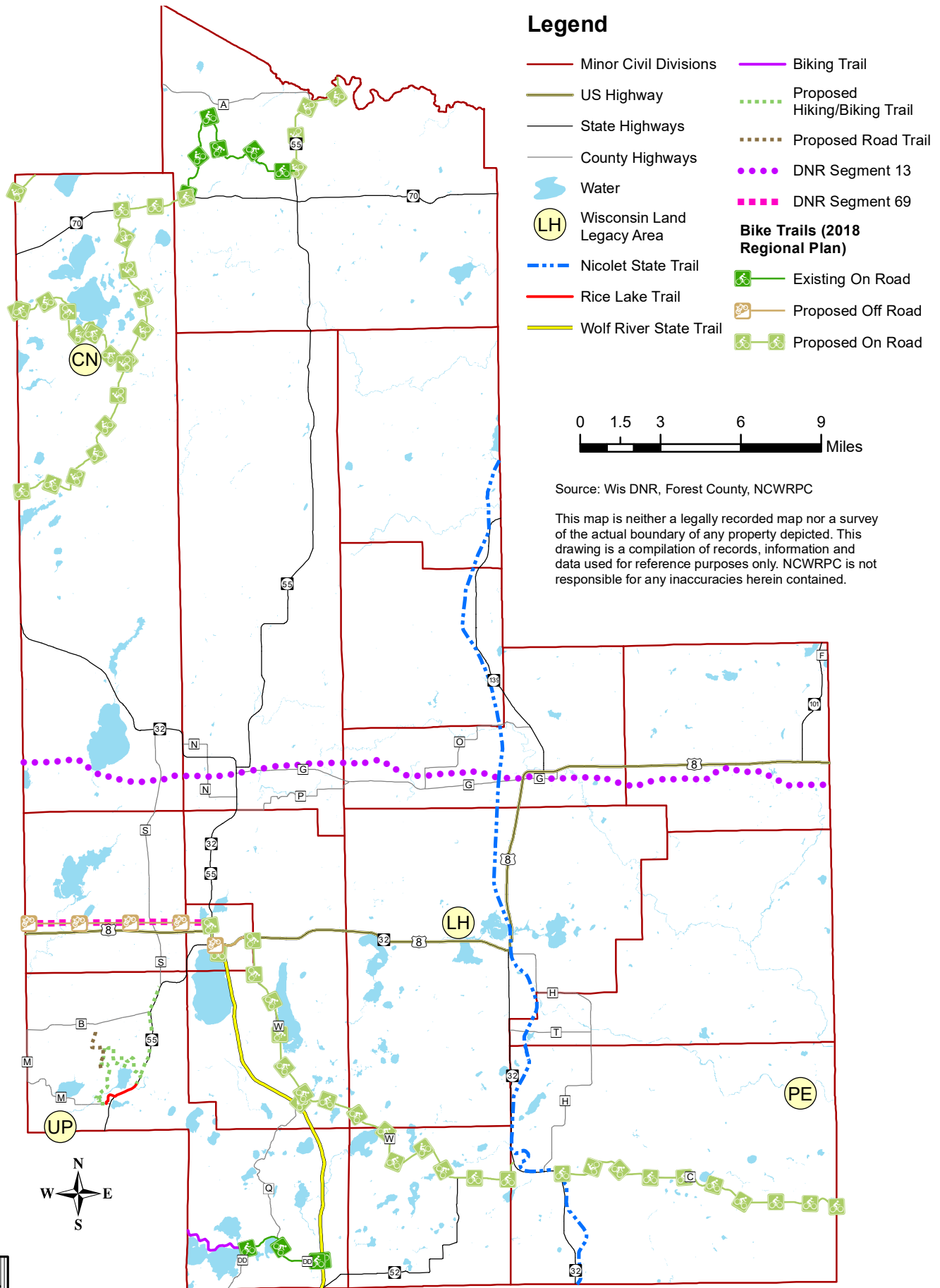
**UP Upper Wolf River**

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

Other Areas of Interest includes:

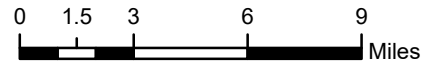
< North Otter Creek

< Elvov and Brule Creeks



**Legend**

- Minor Civil Divisions
- US Highway
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Water
- (LH) Wisconsin Land Legacy Area
- Nicolet State Trail
- Rice Lake Trail
- Wolf River State Trail
- Biking Trail
- Proposed Hiking/Biking Trail
- Proposed Road Trail
- DNR Segment 13
- DNR Segment 69
- Bike Trails (2018 Regional Plan)**
- Existing On Road
- Proposed Off Road
- Proposed On Road



Source: Wis DNR, Forest County, NCWRPC

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey of the actual boundary of any property depicted. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCWRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.



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# Chapter 2: BACKGROUND OF FOREST COUNTY

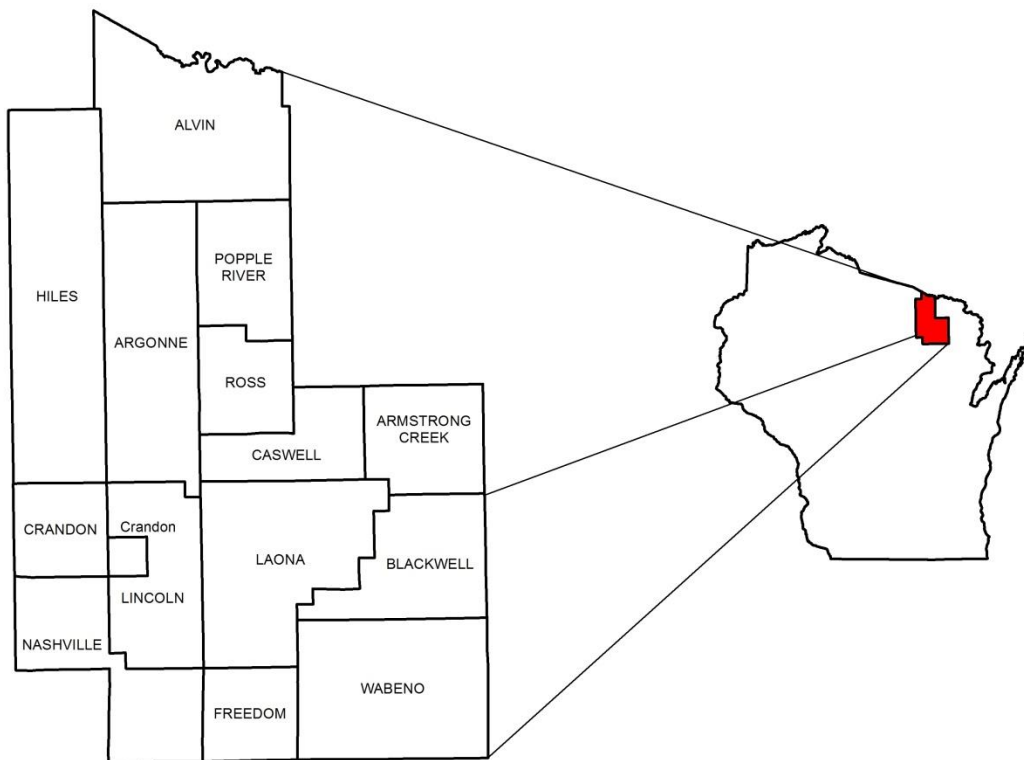
## 2.1 Physical Characteristics

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

Forest County (Figure 1) in northeastern Wisconsin has a total of 669,231 acres; of which 92.0% is forested, 1.8% is used for agriculture, 3.4% is water, 0.6% for open space, 0.8% is for transportation (which includes airports and roads), 1.0% for residential, and 0.1% is for commercial and industrial uses. Forest County is bound on the north by the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the Brule River, which forms the Wisconsin-Michigan boundary; on the east by Florence and Marinette Counties; on the south by Oconto and Langlade Counties; and on the west by Oneida and Vilas Counties.

Figure 1

Forest County



## **Topography and Geology**

Forest County is located entirely in the Northern Highlands physiographic region, which was glaciated during the Pleistocene Age by the Langlade Lobe. The elevation in the county generally ranges from about 1,800 feet above sea level in the west and northwest to about 1,300 feet in the southeast. The third highest point in the state, Sugar Bush Hill, is a drumlin east of Crandon. It rises about 1,938 feet above sea level. The west end of McCaslin Mountain is about 1,610 feet above sea level.

Forest County is underlain by igneous & metamorphic bedrock that makes up the southern extension of the Canadian Shield. The bedrock surface is irregular throughout the county and slopes generally to the east and southeast. The extreme northwest part of the county near the Michigan border is underlain by metavolcanic and metasedimentary rock and an iron formation. A significant sulfide deposit of zinc and copper is also in the southwestern part of the county, north of Little Sand Lake. Underlying the southeast corner is the Hager porphyry rock and a quartzite and conglomerate rock upland, which includes the prominent relief feature of McCaslin Mountain protruding through the glacial deposits. Bedrock exposed in other areas is typically located in topographic lows surrounded by glaciofluvial deposits, such as the gneiss outcrop on the south shore of Pine Lake.

## **Forestry**

As of 2021, there were about 123,667 acres of privately-owned forestland enrolled in either the Forest Crop Law (FCL) or Managed Forest Law (MFL) program, both administered by WDNR. In exchange for following an approved forest management plan, the landowner pays reduced property taxes. An even greater tax reduction is provided to those who open their enrolled lands to the public for the recreational purposes of hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, and sightseeing.

## **Surface Water**

Forest County has many streams, lakes, and rivers that furnish a good supply of surface water. The county has 24,094 acres of surface water. There are 824 lakes in the county. These lakes make up 22,324 acres of water. Streams in the county have a surface area of 1,770 acres and a total length of 710 miles. The majority of these streams are classified as trout waters. Surface water is used mainly for recreation, stock watering, and wildlife.

The Eastern Continental Divide directs the flow of surface water in Forest County into two major bodies of water – Green Bay and the Mississippi River. The vast majority of the surface water in Forest County flows to the east and southeast and eventually into Green Bay. Three major rivers – the Brule, the Pine, and the Popple – flow in that direction and are part of the Menominee River watershed. Both the Pine and Popple Rivers are designated as "wild" under the Wisconsin Wild River Act (Ch. 30.26 WI Stats.).

The Peshtigo River and its feeder streams encompass the largest watershed in the county. This river flows to the southeast and enters Green Bay in southeastern Marinette County. The Wolf River, whose headwaters

originate at Pine Lake, flows southward into Lake Poygan in Winnebago County. Several small streams on the far western edge of the county flow to the west and are part of the Wisconsin River watershed.

The secondary drainage system in Forest County consists mainly of surface runoff and hillside seepage into basins and depressions caused by the last glacial period. Some of these areas have drainage outlets, but most of this system tends to be poorly developed.

This extensive water resource provides a great deal of recreational opportunity like boating, sailing, skiing, fishing, swimming, canoeing and ice fishing.

## **Groundwater**

Glacial drift aquifers are the major source of ground water in most of the county. Large yields of ground water are available where the thickness of the saturated drift is at least 50 feet. The thickness of the glacial drift over most of the county ranges up to about 300 feet. The glacial drift produces well yields ranging from 5 to 1,000 gallons per minute. Yields of at least 500 gallons per minute are common. Most high-capacity wells range from 30 to 300 feet in depth.

Precambrian crystalline rock underlying the county is not considered a significant source of water. The availability of water from the bedrock is difficult to predict and is probably less than 5 gallons per minute. The glacial drift aquifer above the bedrock is the best source of ground water.

The quality of ground water in Forest County is generally good. The ground water is suitable for most domestic, municipal, and industrial uses, but treatment may be required for special purposes. The water in the aquifers is principally a calcium magnesium bicarbonate type. It is moderately hard or hard. A high content of iron is a problem in many wells, but it is not a health hazard. Local differences in the quality of ground water are a result of the composition, solubility, and surface area of soil and rock particles through which the water moves and the length of time the water is in contact with these materials. The least mineralized water is from the glacial drift aquifer.

## **Soils**

Most of the soils in Forest County formed under forest vegetation, which results in a light-colored soil that has a relatively low content of organic matter.

The parent soil materials in Forest County are mainly glacial till or glacial mudflow sediment, glacial outwash, and lacustrine deposits, which in places are covered by a thin layer of silty or loamy windblown material. Some of the soils formed in more recent deposits of organic material or alluvium.

Soil properties are important considerations when planning and developing recreation facilities. To help evaluate soils, the U.S. Soil Conservation Service publishes a Soil Survey Report. The Forest County Soil Survey



Report was made available in 2003. Soil suitability tables for outdoor recreation and other uses are available on the Internet.

## 2.2 Social Characteristics

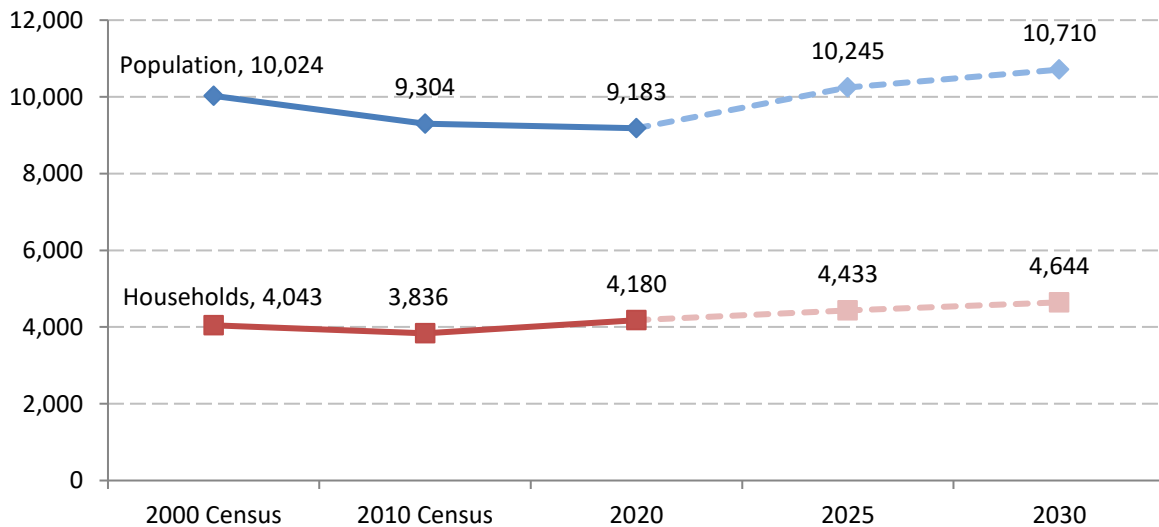
### Introduction

This section describes social and economic demographic information that influences Forest County. Overall recreation demand within Wisconsin is described in SCORP, under Past Plans in Chapter 1. The social characteristics and growth projections from this section combined with recreation demands as shown in SCORP’s Chapter 2 can help determine the appropriate recreation investments in the County.

### Population and Households

The 2020 population estimate for Forest County is 9,183 people. This estimate shows a decrease of approximately 120 people since the 2010 Census. Population within the county decreased by approximately 720 persons, or 7.2 percent, between 2000 and 2010, as shown in Figure 2. Forest County’s decline in population compares to growth rates of 6 percent in the state and 9.7 percent in the nation. The population of Forest County is expected to continue to grow through 2030, and then begin a gradual decline in population.

**Figure 2: Forest County Population and Household Change**



Source: U.S. Census, Wisconsin Department of Administration 2020 Estimate, Wisconsin DOA 2013 projections

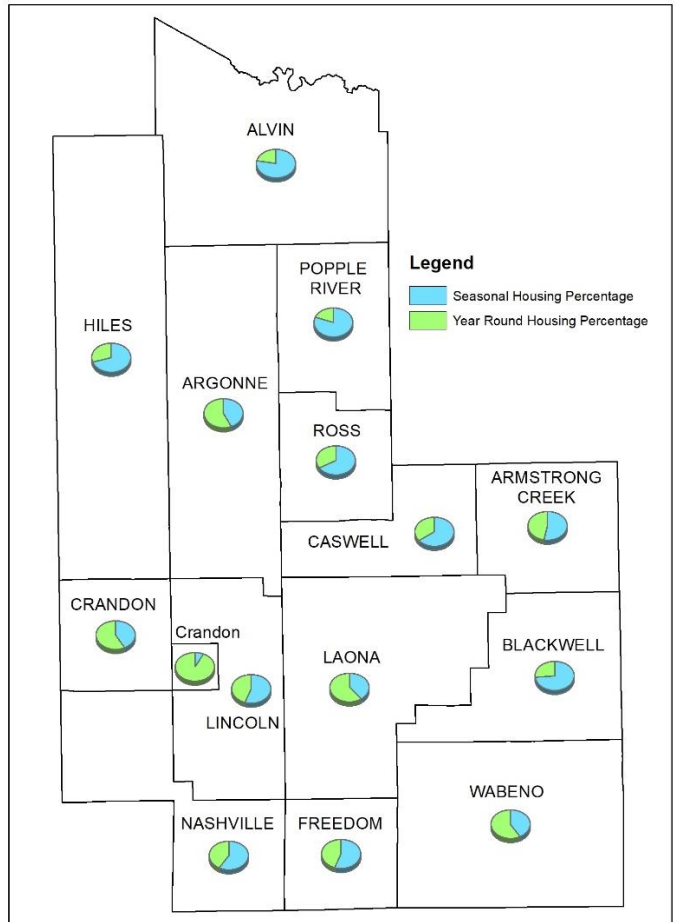
Changes in population are made up of two components. More births than deaths produces a natural increase, and more people moving into an area than moving out produces a migration increase. The combination of these two factors makes up increases or decreases in population. Forest County’s natural increase was significantly

low at -0.6 percent while migration was also low at -0.2 percent. Forest County’s natural increase is much lower than either the state or nation, but the net migration is only slightly lower than the state’s rate of 0.0 percent, while significantly lower than the nation’s 2.5 percent. The diminished natural increase may be a reflection of the older population in the county.

Household sizes have been shrinking over time in Forest County, following national and state trends. Forest County had 10,527 households as of the 2010 Census, and an average household size of 2.43 people. By 2020, average household size within Forest County had shrunk to 2.20 people. Household sizes are expected to climb to around 2.30 persons per household by 2030. Household growth is also expected to continue until 2030, when households are expected to decline, although slower than population. About 24 percent of households have someone under 18 years old, and 46 percent of households have someone 60 or older. About 63 percent of households are families, and just over 22 percent have their own children under 18 years old.

Forest County has a larger proportion of vacant housing than Wisconsin or the United States. Much of this vacant housing is seasonal, recreational, and occasional use housing (see Figure 3). In 2019, approximately 50 percent of the housing in Forest County is vacant for seasonal, recreational, or occasional use, compared to approximately 7.1 percent in Wisconsin and 4.0 percent in the United States. There is much variation in seasonal housing within Forest County, with high proportions in many of the towns in the northern two-thirds of the County. The percentage of seasonal housing is significantly higher than the state average in all fourteen of the County’s towns and is slightly higher than the state average in the City of Crandon. The towns with high proportions of seasonal housing will have greater fluctuations in population throughout the year, and these seasonal residents must be included when determining the demand for recreation facilities.

**Figure 3: Year Round and Seasonal Housing, 2019**

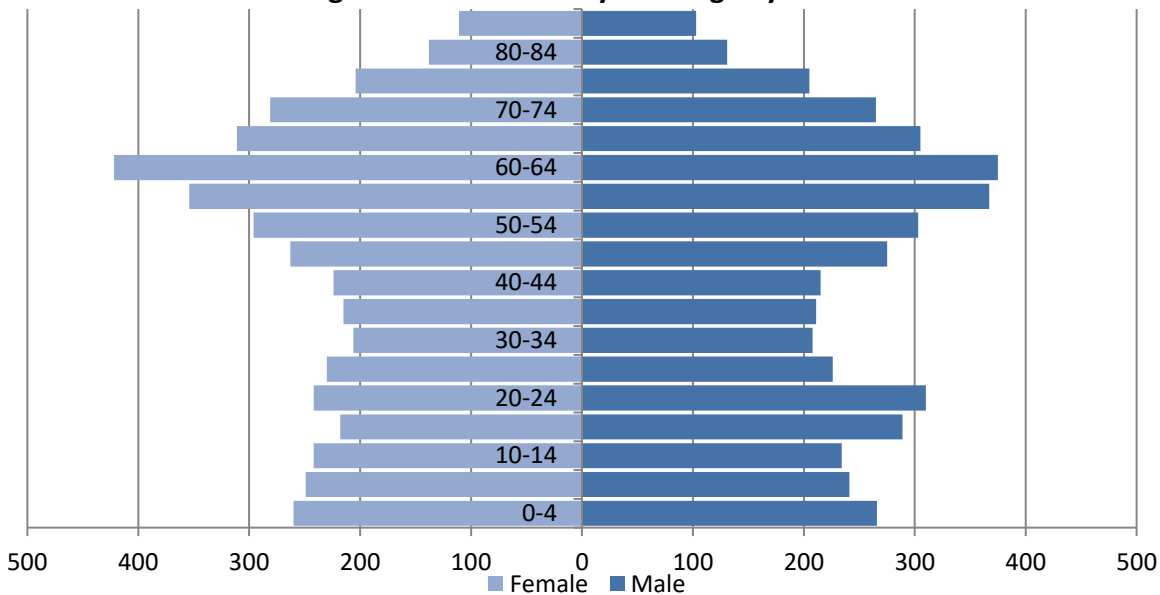


## Age

The median age of Forest County is 46.7 years old, while Wisconsin is 39.5. The median age has increased in both Forest County and Wisconsin between 2010 and 2019, from 43.4 and 38.1 years old, respectively. It is evident that the median age in Forest has grown faster than the state. Figure 4 shows the distribution of age groups in Forest County. The age distribution in Forest County is concentrated in the middle-aged 45-74 year old age groups. The most heavily concentrated age groups are very near to the typical retirement age, which will likely have a great effect on the parks and recreation needs of the County. Females outnumber males in the age groups above 65.

Research has demonstrated that recently retired people tend to be very active and are attracted to places with recreational amenities. As retirees age they tend to become less active, with many eventually moving to more urban areas where services such as health care are in closer proximity and more accessible. It is apparent from the period that Forest has very few 20-24 year olds. People in this age group are more likely to leave the County for education and employment opportunities.

**Figure 4: Forest County 2019 Age Pyramid**



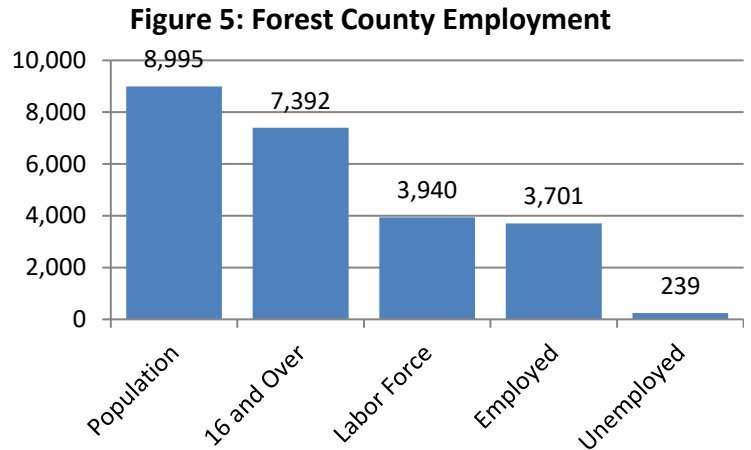
Source: American Community Survey 2015-2019

## Ethnic Background

The people of Forest County mostly identify as white, at approximately 80.2 percent of people. About 0.9 percent identify as Black or African American and about 15.5 percent identify as Native American or Alaska Native. About 0.8 percent identify as Asian, 0.1 percent as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 0.3 as some other race, and 2.3 percent as two or more races. Approximately one percent identify as Hispanic or Latino ethnicity.

## Employment and Economy

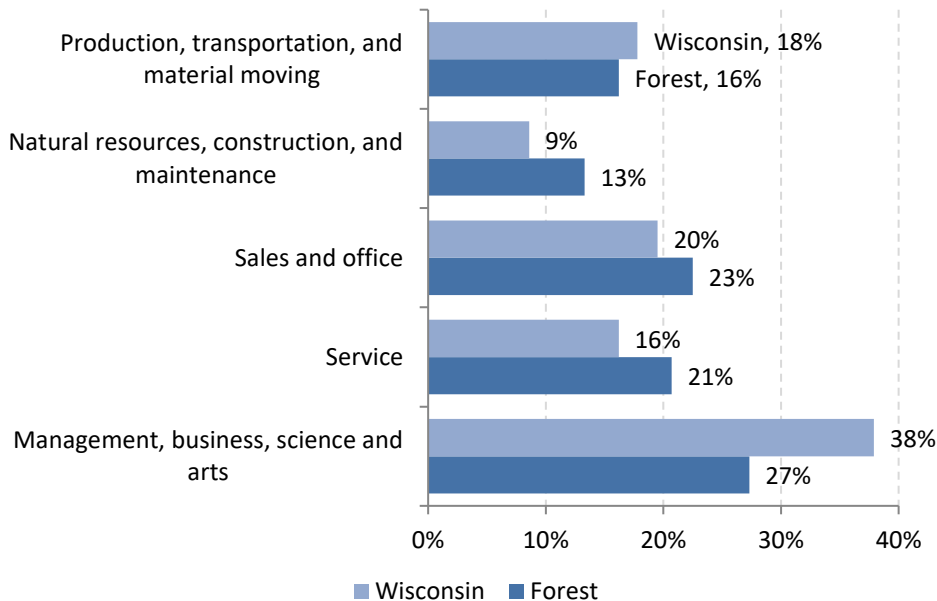
Forest County has 7,392 people age 16 and over, 53.3 percent of who are in the labor force, i.e. actively working or seeking work. See Figure 5. The labor force participation rate for Wisconsin as a whole is 66.4 percent, significantly higher than Forest County. According to the 2015-2019 ACS, the unemployment rate in Forest County was 3.2 percent, higher than the 2.4 percent in the state and lower than the 3.4 percent in the United States.



Source: US Census, ACS 2015-2019

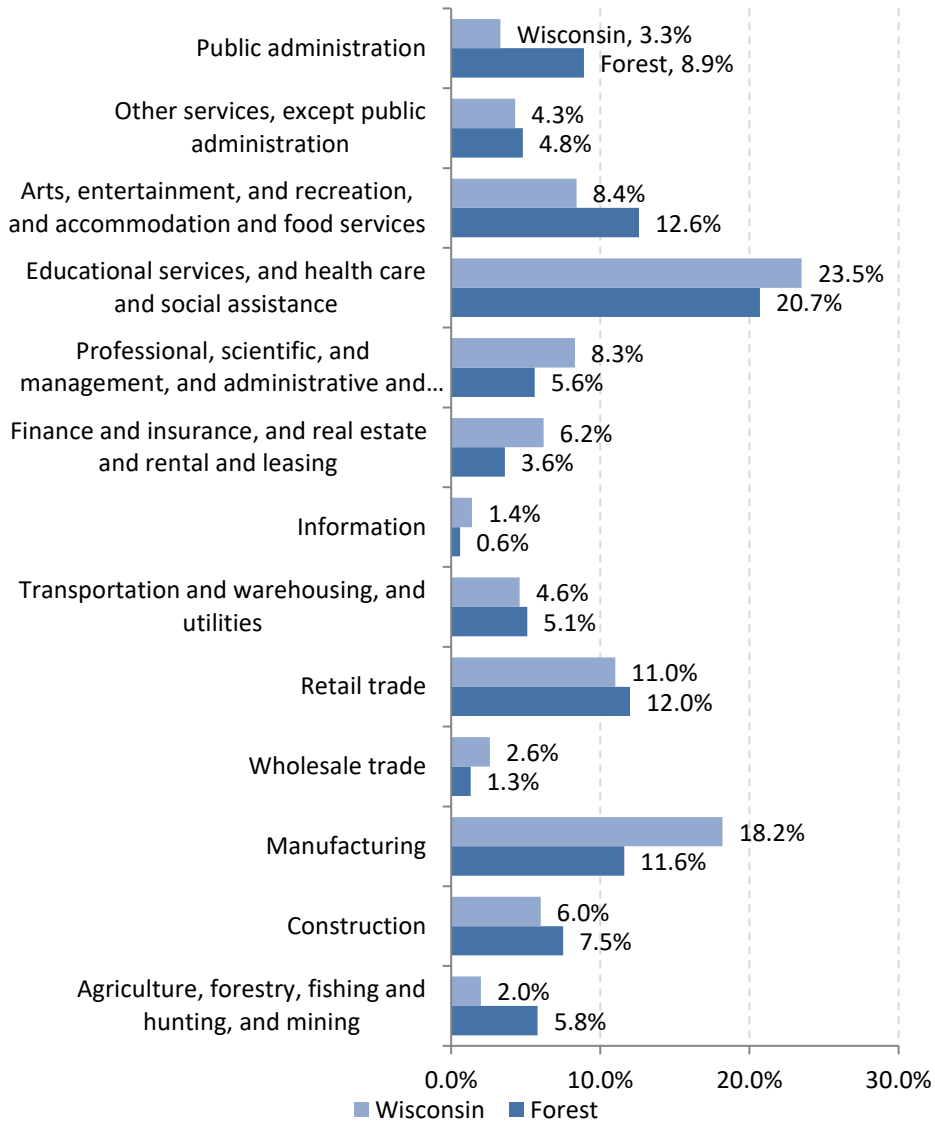
As shown in Figure 6, most residents of Forest County are employed in Management, business, science and arts occupations at 27.3 percent; Sales and Office occupations at 22.5 percent; or Service occupations at 20.7 percent. The most common industry for Forest County residents is Education services, health care and social assistance at 20.7 percent, followed by the Retail Trade industry at 12.0 percent. Forest County has a higher proportion of residents in the Production, transportation, and material moving occupations and a significantly lower proportion the Manufacturing industry than the state.

**Figure 6: Forest County Resident Occupation**



Source: US Census, ACS 2015-2019

**Figure 7: Forest County Resident Industry**



Source: US Census, ACS 2015-2019

Table 1 shows industry employment in Forest County. The highest levels of employment are in the Public Administration and Leisure & Hospitality manufacturing industries. The one-year change shows declines in *financial activities* and the *education & health industries*. Location quotient is a method of measuring the relative concentration of that industry in Forest County compared to the nation, with a value of 1 meaning the concentration is identical. Forest County has a higher concentration of manufacturing, crop and animal production, finance and insurance, transportation and warehousing, and retail trade.

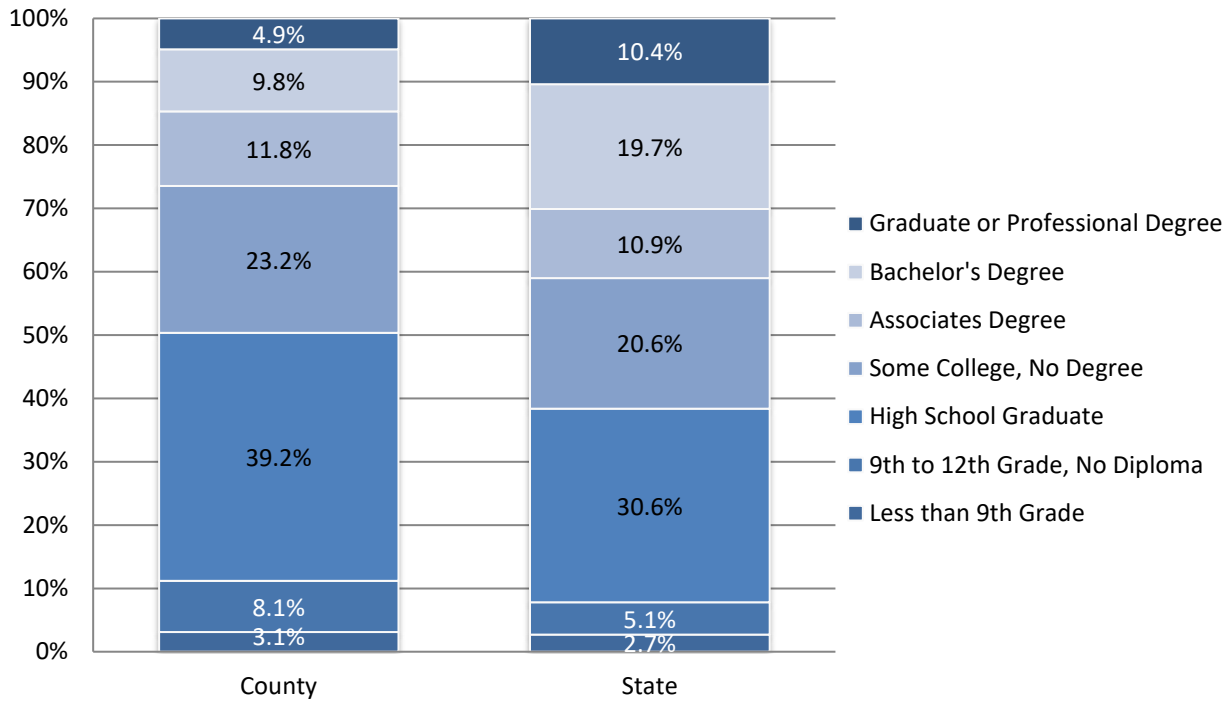
Industry	Employment	
	Annual Avg.	1-Year Change
Natural Resources	N/A	N/A
Construction	N/A	N/A
Manufacturing	306	4
Trade, Transportation, Utilities	443	0
Information	N/A	N/A
Financial Activities	97	-2
Professional & Business Services	75	16
Education & Health	487	-40
Leisure & Hospitality	566	3
Other services	N/A	N/A
Public Administration	1,013	33
Total	9,351	-2

Source: WI DWD, Bureau of Workforce Training, QCEW, June 2019

As of the 2015-2019 American Community Survey, median household income in Forest County was \$45,536, and per capita income was \$25,700. This is significantly lower than the state and nation, which can be explained by the lower proportion of people working in Forest County. The distribution of household incomes in Forest County are fairly similar to the state, but with fewer households making \$100,000 or more, or less than \$10,000, and more households making between \$35,000 and \$74,999 annually.

Educational Attainment in Forest County is generally lower than the State of Wisconsin (see Figure 8). About 88.8 percent of Forest County residents have graduated high school, slightly less than Wisconsin, where over 92 percent of residents have graduated high school. About 14.7 percent of Forest County have a bachelor’s degree or higher, while 30.1 percent of Wisconsin residents have a bachelor’s degree or higher. While the proportion of high school graduates in Forest County is very close to the state proportion, there is a significant gap in higher education achievement levels. The proportion of people with some college, but no degree and those with an associate’s degree are both slightly higher in Forest County than the state.

**Figure 8: Educational Attainment, Age 25 and Older, 2015-2019**



Source: 2015-2019 American Community Survey

# Chapter 3:

## EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES

### 3.1 Introduction

This section is an inventory of the existing outdoor recreational facilities in Forest County, which will focus primarily upon public facilities. Some private facilities may 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.

Intensively used outdoor recreation facilities are generally located near population concentrations like the City of Crandon, the school district properties, and town centers. In towns with low population densities and relatively low real estate valuation, there typically are no local outdoor recreation facilities. Since there are abundant outdoor recreation facilities located within Chequamegon – Nicolet National Forest, then there is less demand for local governments to provide those similar types of facilities.

### 3.2 County Maintained Recreation Facilities

The County owns 15,250.84 acres of forest land which the Forestry and Recreation Department maintains for sustainable forest management, wildlife and recreation. The Forestry and Recreation Department maintains 2 designated cross-country ski trails, 62 miles of ATV trails, over 400 miles of snowmobile trails, and 80 miles of maintained logging roads for hunters, hikers, bikers, and any other outdoor enthusiasts.

#### County Forest

The Forest County Forestry and Recreation Department manages 15,250.84 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 **Map 2** for Forest County Forest Land.

**Veteran's Memorial County Park and Campground** is about a 35-acre facility located 4 miles South of Crandon on County Park Road off of East Shore Drive on the south shore of Lake Metonga. The campground and day use park includes a boat launch with boat wash station and fish cleaning shack, potable water, large beach with sandy lake bed, picnic pavilions, volleyball court, basketball court, playground, and campsites for RV campers (58 sites) or 7 tent camping sites (all with electrical hookups) and a variety of modern conveniences like 24-hr ATM, ice, and Wi-Fi hotspot. Handicapped accessible facilities exist throughout the park and campground.



### **Bog Brook Flowage and Wildlife Area**

This area was created by Forest County by constructing an earthen dam across Bog Brook Creek in 1962. The impoundment is about 490 acres and up to 6 feet deep, for the purpose of improving aquatic and terrestrial wildlife conditions.

See **Attachment G** for additional information.

### **Fairgrounds**

The Forest County Fairgrounds are about 10-acres on the corner of Glen Street and Railroad Street in Crandon. Facilities include exhibit hall, restrooms, horse corral, and flat land for the midway and other uses. The Forest County Fair is held at the Forest County Fairgrounds, which is managed by the Forest County Fair Board.

## **3.3 Linear Facilities**

Various entities maintain the following public facilities:

### **Rustic Roads:**

Forest County has two rustic roads.

- ◁ **Rustic Road 34** is an 8.8-mile combination of Fishel Rd, Cary Dam Rd, and Lakeview Dr near the intersection of STHs 70 and 55.
- ◁ **Rustic Road 118** is 26.3-miles long, from STH 32 and County C, Indian Market, Kuffner, Camp 1 and Bay Shore roads forming a loop back to County C.

### **Scenic Byway:**

The **Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway** is located in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and home to the headwaters of the Wolf River. This 145-mile route that winds through the counties of Forest, Langlade, Oneida and Vilas. See the map in **Attachment F**.

### **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/>). A water trail is a network of access points, resting places, and attractions for users of water craft on lakes and rivers. There are over 317 streams and rivers providing canoeists 710 miles of routes.

All navigable water is available to canoe on according to the Public Trust Doctrine (Art. 1, §1, WI Constitution). Wisconsin law recognizes that owners of lands bordering lakes and rivers - "riparian" owners - hold rights in the water next to their property. These riparian rights include the use of the shoreline, reasonable use of the water, and a right to access the water. Members of the public may use any exposed shore area of a stream without the permission of the riparian (i.e., landowner) only if it is necessary to exit the body of water to bypass an obstruction. In addition, a member

of the public may not enter the exposed shore area except from the water, from a point of public access on the stream, or with the permission of the riparian landowner. Obstructions could consist of trees or rocks, shallow water for boaters or deep water for wading trout anglers. The bypass can involve areas up to the ordinary high water mark and should be by the shortest possible route. Under this law, using the exposed shoreline for purposes such as picnicking and sunbathing is not allowed (Ch. 30.134, WI Stats.).

- < *Armstrong Creek* – one route with a length of \_\_\_-miles (FR 2131 landing – Old 101 landing).
- < *Brule River* – one route with a length of 18 miles (Brule Dam – STH 139 bridge).
- < *Peshtigo River* – four routes with different lengths: 7.5 miles (Big Joe Canoe Landing – CCC Bridge), 9.5 miles (CCC Bridge – Burnt Bridge), 5.75 miles (Burnt Bridge - Burton Wells), and 6.25 miles (Burton Wells – Goodman Park).
- < *Pine River* – Two routes: 20 miles (FS Road 2182 near Haystack Corners – FS Road 2168) and 18 miles (FS Road – Chipmunk Rapids)
- < *Popple River* – One route (Hwy 55 ten miles north of Argonne – Town of Popple River).
- < *Wolf River* – Three routes: 10 miles (Pine Lake – Little Rice Lake Dam), and 15 miles (Little Rice Dam – Hwy B Bridge).

### **Non-Motorized Trails:**

#### **Forest County Forestry & Recreation Department (see Table 2):**

- < *Hemlock Lake Trail* – located one mile east and four miles south of Crandon off Hwy W on Hemlock Lake Road. Two miles of gentle and intermediate cross-country trails and parking are available.
- < *Otter Springs Recreation Area* – located four miles east of Crandon on Otter Spring Road/Forest Road 2378. Trails for hiking, cross-country skiing, mountain biking and horseback riding including a 1 1/4 mile loop, 3/4 mile loop for beginners, and an intermediate 3 mile loop. All trails are well groomed and marked. There is also a ski shelter, benches, fire pit and outdoor toilet. Pursuant to the agreement with Forest County Forestry and Recreation Department, the Forest County Area Single Track Association has developed and maintains approximately 6 miles of single-track trails for bicycles within the Otter Springs Recreation Area.
- < *Bradley Lake Trail* – There are three different trail sections to this system. One is located one mile south of Potawatomi Trail Road. Another is west of Lake Lucerne off Duff Road. This section includes the ATV trails (see ATV Trails of this section). The other is located west of County W on the west and east sides of Bradley Lake Road. These 12 miles of trails are used primarily for hunting and hiking.

#### **City of Crandon (see Map 3):**

- < The City of Crandon has 2 Bike / Ped trails in the City. One path is on the north side of USH 8 from Haney Hill Road to Boulevard Avenue. The other path is on the south side of STH 55 and USH 8 from Glen Park Court to the Wolf River State Trail.

#### **Town of Blackwell (see Map 2):**

- < *Rat River Recreational Trail* – this non-motorized trail has a limestone base, an ADA accessible privy, and connects the Nicolet State Trail, east along the Rat River to Bear Lake Campground.

### **Chequamegon – Nicolet National Forest (see Table 2):**

In addition to designated trails, all logging roads and undesignated/unmarked trails within the Nicolet side of the National Forest are open to non-motorized public use unless otherwise posted.

- < *Ontonagon* – located on County Highway W between Wabeno and Crandon. Cross county ski trails include a 2.3 mile loop for beginners, and a 2.7 mile loop or 3.5 mile loop for intermediate skiers. All trails are groomed. There are also 6 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails in upland hardwoods.
- < *Nicolet North Trail* – located 10.5 miles east of Eagle River on Forest Road 2460 to the trailhead. Cross-country ski trails include 13 miles of groomed trails with several loop options. In the summer months, these trails can be used for hiking and mountain biking. The Nicolet North Trail connects with the Anvil Trail.
- < *Franklin Nature Lake Trail* – located 9 miles east of Eagle River on Forest Road 2181 to the campground and trailhead. This is a one mile interpretive loop trail that takes you through a tamarack swamp, hemlock cathedral, and 300-year old white pines.
- < *Hidden Lakes Trail* – this is a thirteen mile trail which begins at Franklin Nature Lake Trail and eventually joins the Luna-White Deer Trail.
- < *Knowles Creek Interpretive Trail* – located 9.5 miles east of Wabeno on Forest Road 3132. This is a one-third mile access interpretive trail which follows the north shore of North Creek impoundment. This is also a state designated Wildlife viewing area.
- < *Halley Creek Bird Trail* – located five miles east of Blackwell on Forest Road 2103. It is a one mile loop trail with bird viewing opportunities in four different habitat types.
- < *Michigan Rapids Trail* – located 3 miles north of Laona on Forest Road 2134. This is a two mile hike along the Peshtigo River to the rapids.
- < *Argonne Forest Trail* – located 1.5 miles east of Hiles on Forest Road 2184. A self-guided loop trail gives a hiker a chance to learn more about the northern hardwoods and forest management. The trail features 17 stops along a  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile path.
- < *Scott Lake Trail and Shelp Lake Trail* – located on Forest Road 2183. The one-third mile Scott Lake Trail is located on the south side of 2183. The boardwalk to Shelp Lake is located on the north side of 2183. This walk will take you out over a floating bog.
- < *Luna-White Deer Trail* – located off Divide Road to the Luna-White Deer Lake campground and trailhead. Hikers can park either at the White Pine swimming area or the boat ramp on Luna Lake.
- < *Sevenmile Trail* – located seven and a half miles north of Hiles off Forest Road 2435 to Seven-Mile Lake Campground and trailhead.
- < *Giant Pine Trail* – located two miles north of Hiles on off Forest Road 2414 to the trailhead. This is a 1.5 mile loop in the Headwaters Wilderness where white pines overtop the hardwood forest.
- < *Bailey Lake Equestrian Trail* – trailhead is located off of Forest Road 3861. This trail is approximately 12 miles used as a designated horse trail. In the winter, parts of the trail are used for snowmobiling.

- ◁ *Quartz Hill Trail* – located in the southeast corner of Forest County. From Carter, take State Highway 32 south 1 mile. The parking area is on the west side of the highway. This trail has two sections; one on the east and a ¼ mile trail on the west side of State Highway 32. The east section leads across a boardwalk to the top of Quartz Hill.

County Trails	Miles	Trail Uses					Interpretive	Difficulty
		Hiking	Mtn. Bike	X-C Ski	Horse			
Hemlock Lake Trail	2	X	X	X			Easy	
Otter Springs Trail	5	X	X	X	X		Easy - Moderate	
Bradley Lake Trail	12	X	X	X	X		Easy	

Nicolet Nat'l Trails	Miles	Hiking	Mtn. Bike	X-C Ski	Horse	Interpretive	Difficulty
Ed's Lake Trail	6	X	X	X			Easy - Difficult
Nicolet North Trail	15	X	X	X	X		Medium
Franklin Nature Lake	1	X				X	Easy
Hidden Lakes Trail	13	X					Medium
Knowles Creek Interpretive Trail	2/3	X				X	Easy
Halley Creek Bird Trail	1	X				X	Easy
Michigan Rapids Trail	2	X					Medium
Argonne Experimental Forest Trail	3/4	X				X	Medium
Scott Lake Trail and Shelp Lake Trail	1/2	X					Easy
Luna-White Deer Trail	4	X					Easy
Sevenmile Trail	2	X					Medium
Giant Pine Trail							
Bailey Lake Equestrian Trail	15	X			X		Easy
Quartz Hill Trail	1 1/4	X				X	Medium-Difficult

Source: USDA – Forest Service

**ATV Trails:**

*Forest County Forest ATV Trail*

A two-way, looping, 8-mile trail is located on old logging roads on the Forest County Forest. This trail system is also open to motorcycles, snowmobiles, hikers, bikers, skiers, loggers, hunters and many other uses. The trail head is a paved parking area at the entrance to the trail system. Please be aware that many towns in Forest County have opened their town roads for ATV use as well. Please be sure that town roads are signed with the green and white “ATV Route” signs before riding your ATV on them.

### *Nicolet State Trail*

The Nicolet State Trail is 32 miles of State funded snowmobile and ATV trail on abandoned railroad grade. The Nicolet State Trail is also open to hiking, biking, cross country skiing, dual sport motorcycles and horseback riding. The Nicolet State Trail connects to Florence County to the North and Oconto County to the South.

### *Wolf River State Trail*

The Wolf River State Trail is open in Forest County and runs for 14.4 miles from the Forest/Langlade county line to Crandon.

Only use roads that are legally marked as ATV routes to leave the corridor. The Nicolet State and Wolf River State Trails are the only trails in Forest County that are currently open to both snowmobile and ATV. No other snowmobile trail in Forest County is open to ATV use at this time.

### *Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest (Forest)*

In 2004, the Forest revised its forest management plan. The revised plan contains a consistent ATV policy for both sides of the Forest

- § No off-road or off trail use allowed (implemented on June 14, 2004).
- § New trail construction allowed for up to 100 miles of trail on the Chequamegon side, and up to 85 total miles on the Nicolet side.
- § All roads and trails closed to ATV use unless identified on the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM).
- § In general, most Forest Service trails and routes are closed to ATVs yearly from October 31 through April 30. The MVUM is updated yearly and list the operating season for all Forest Service trails and routes. Township designated roads are still open.
- § No Intensive Use ("play areas") allowed on the Forest (Open 26 play area closed on June 14, 2004).
- § Emergency closures can be issued locally where resources are being damaged or abused, or there are safety concerns.

All Forest Service roads open to ATV use are posted with signs, but the MVUM is the official source of trail and route information. Also, maps containing information on areas open to ATV use can also be obtained at Ranger District Offices.

### **Snowmobile Trails:**

Forest County has about 406 miles of groomed, state funded trails winding throughout the county. All trails link to both casinos and many hospitality businesses in Forest County. All trail maintenance is contracted to snowmobile clubs. The trail segments that exist within the County include:

- < 100 Mile Snow Safari Trails – 139.62 miles
- < Black Bear Sportsmen's Club – 49.39 miles
- < Lumberjack Memorial Trails – 101.64 miles
- < Three Lakes Trails – 90 miles
- < Tombstone-Pickeral Trails – 25.95 miles

## 3.4 Public Campgrounds

### Forest County

- ◁ 7 # Memorial Park – 7 tent and 58 trailer RV spaces, electric and water hookups, dump station for RV's, one disabled accessible campsite, drinking water, sanitary facilities meeting ADA standards, beachhouse/restroom/shower facility, picnic facilities, two picnic shelters, grills, playground, horseshoe pits, volleyball courts, basketball court, swimming beach, boating, boat landing, fishing, fishing pier, and a manager present. Firewood and ice are also available on site.

### Tribally Owned

- ◁ Sokaogon Chippewa Community Park – 20 tent and trailer spaces, drinking water, picnic facilities, boating, boat landing, and fishing.

### Chequamegon–Nicolet National Forest

- ◁ Big Joe – 3 primitive sites – fire rings, and vault toilet. (Note: This site is proposed for reduction. Future management will have only the three dispersed sites, the toilet is currently closed, and will be removed when funding allows.)
- ◁ Bear Lake – 27 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, picnic facilities, grills, hiking, swimming, boating, boat landing, and fishing.
- ◁ Brule River – 11 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, grills, fishing, and grocery store.
- ◁ Franklin Lake – 77 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, flush toilets, picnic facilities, shelter, grills, hiking, swimming, boating, boat landing, and fishing.
- ◁ Laura Lake – 41 tent and trailer space – drinking water, picnic facilities, grills, hiking, swimming, non-motorized boat restrictions, a five mile bike trail, boat landing, and fishing.
- ◁ Ludington Lake – 4 tent and trailer spaces – fire rings, vault toilet, swimming, boating, boat landing, and fishing.
- ◁ Luna-White Deer Lake – 37 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, picnic facilities, grills, hiking, non-motorized boat restrictions, swimming, boat landing, and fishing.
- ◁ Pine Lake – 12 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, picnic facilities, grills, swimming, boating, boat landing, and fishing.
- ◁ Richardson Lake – 26 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, picnic facilities, grills, swimming, boat landing, boating, and fishing.
- ◁ Seven Mile Lake – 27 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, grills, hiking, swimming, boating, boat landing, and fishing.
- ◁ Stevens Lake – 6 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, grills, boat landing, boating, and fishing.
- ◁ Windsor Dam – 8 tent and trailer spaces – drinking water, grills, hiking, canoeing, and fishing.

## 3.5 Points of Interest

Forest County contains both historic and contemporary points of interest of cultural, aesthetic, recreational, and scientific importance.

### A) Historic Buildings and Sites

Nine sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Forest County:

1. Minertown-Oneva, Town of Wabeno
2. Butternut-Franklin Lakes Archaeological District, Town of Hiles
3. Franklin Lake Campground, Town of Alvin
4. Camp Five Farmstead, Town of Laona
5. Chicago and North-Western Land Office, Town of Wabeno
6. Dinesen-Motzfeldt-Hettinger Log House, Town of Crandon
7. Armstrong Creek Bridge, Town of Armstrong Creek
8. John and Anna Wywialowski Farmstead, Town of Armstrong Creek
9. Otter Spring House, Town of Lincoln
10. Butternut Lake Site, Forest County
11. Connor Lumber and Land Company Store, Town of Laona

Wisconsin's Architecture and History Inventory (AHI) lists 86 properties on it within Forest County.

- < City of Crandon – 22 sites
- < Town of Hiles – 17 sites
- < Town of Armstrong Creek – 10 sites
- < Town of Alvin – 5 sites
- < Town of Blackwell – 5 sites
- < Town of Laona – 5 sites
- < Town of Lincoln – 4 sites
- < Town of Wabeno – 15 sites
- < Town of Argonne – 2 sites
- < Town of Nashville – 1 site.

The Forest County Historical and Genealogical Society maintains extensive county historical records that are available to the general public.

### B) Historical Markers

- < A state historical marker titled: **Northern Highland** is located on USH 8, 1.8 miles east of Crandon.
- < A state historical marker titled: **Battle of Mole Lake** is located on STH 55, in the center of Mole Lake.
- < A state historical marker titled: **Laona School Forest** is located on STH 32, 1 mile south of Laona.

## C) Geologic Sites

Forest County's topography, and geology are described in Chapter 2 – Description of Forest County.

*Sugar Bush Hill* – Located three miles east of Crandon, this is one of the highest points in the State at 1,938 feet above sea level. This site is tribally owned.

## 3.6 Public Access Points to Water Bodies

Public Access sites on Forest County's lakes and streams are catalogued in the Forest County Visitors Guide under lakes and streams. Public access to waterbodies is ensured when land subdivision occurs by state statute. See the Implementation Strategies chapter for more details. Forest County and the City of Crandon each have one access point on Lake Metonga. All other access points in Forest County are maintained by the towns or USDA Forest Service. Public access to waterbodies will be ensured when development occurs by state statute and county zoning ordinances. See the Implementation Strategies chapter under Park Dedication and Use of Easements for more details.

## 3.7 School District Facilities

The Crandon, Laona, and Wabeno area school districts provide additional local recreation opportunities. School yards often have playgrounds with play equipment, ball diamonds, and basketball hoops. These neighborhood parks range in size from 1 to 15 acres. Each district also has a school forest. These forests are open to the public for a variety of recreational and educational uses. Contact each district for terms of use for their properties.

*Crandon School District* – Facilities include a baseball/softball field, football field, playground, shelter, ice skating rink, and hiking/nature/fitness trail.

- § Crandon School Forest, 10 acres, E1/2 NE1/4, S25 T36N R12E;
- § Hovind Family School Forest, 40 acres, SE1/4 SE1/4, S28 T36N R12E;

*Laona School District* – Facilities include a baseball field, football field, and two tennis courts on the east side. The west side of the school provides playground equipment and basketball courts.

- § Laona School Forest, 63 acres, N1/2 NW1/4, S6 T35N R15E;

*Wabeno School District* – Facilities include a baseball/softball field, football field, restrooms, shelter, ice skating area, and sledding.

- § Wabeno School Forest, 40 acres, SE1/4 SW1/4, S16 T34N R15E.



## 3.8 Local Government Facilities

### City of Crandon

Recreational opportunities that exist in the City of Crandon include:

- ◁ *City Beach* – The beach is located on Lake Metonga’s north shore, on the city’s south side. Facilities include a beach house, two boat launches with a pier at each, picnic area, playground, restrooms, shelter, swimming, and volleyball courts.
- ◁ *Palmer Park* – This park is located next to City Hall on the west side of city. Facilities include a small ice skating rink, a little league and softball field, basketball court, play equipment with safety surfacing, restroom, and a 0.6-mile bike path.
- ◁ *Peshtigo Lake* – A boat landing is the only recreation facility at this location at this time
- ◁ *Cardinal Park* – This park has two little league fields, a basketball court, a volleyball court, two tennis courts, an ice rink with a warming house, playground, restrooms, two shelters, and hiking/nature/fitness trail.
- ◁ *Park Louise* – This undeveloped park is located on the north side of the city.
- ◁ *Forest County Fairgrounds (City of Crandon)* – Facilities include three buildings for displays, animal barn, horse arena, and restrooms.
- ◁ The City of Crandon has 2 Bike / Ped trails in the City. One path is on the north side of USH 8 from Haney Hill Road to Boulevard Avenue. The other path is on the south side of STH 55 and USH 8 from Glen Park Court to the Wolf River State Trail.

### Town Facilities

Various towns throughout Forest County maintain the following recreational facilities:

- ◁ *Argonne Town Park* – facilities include two ball fields, a covered pavilion that meets ADA standards, sanitary facilities, and a basketball court
- ◁ *Armstrong Creek Town Park* – facilities include a pavilion (meets ADA standards) with picnic tables, playground equipment, basketball court, and sanitary facilities.
- ◁ *Town Ballfield (Town of Armstrong Creek)* – this is a ballfield at the northeast corner of USH 8 and STH 101.
- ◁ *Buchanan Recreation Area (Town of Alvin)* – facilities include shelter/storage, horseshoe pit, volleyball court, basketball, playground equipment, and nature trail
- ◁ *Town of Blackwell Park* – facilities at the Rat River location include a picnic area, an ATV trailhead with parking and ADA compliant privies.
- ◁ *Town of Casswell Park* – facilities include an open picnic pavilion that is ADA accessible from the parking lot.
- ◁ *Unimproved Land* (Town of Blackwell) – facilities include a playground, shelter, and 2 picnic tables. This land is approximately one acre and is adjacent to the Town Hall. These facilities do not meet ADA standards.

- < *Rat River Recreational Trail* (Town of Blackwell) – this non-motorized trail has a limestone base, an ADA accessible privy, and connects the Nicolet State Trail, east along the Rat River to Bear Lake Campground.
- < *Silver Lake Park* (Town of Laona) – facilities include a swimming beach, basketball court, two shelters with picnic tables, volleyball court, sanitary facility, benches, and grills.
- < *Laona Town Park* – facilities include a picnic area and ice-skating area.
- < *Town of Ross Park* – facilities include a baseball/softball field and a playground area.
- < *Lake Van Zile Community Park* (Town of Ross) – facilities include a boat access, picnic area, sanitary facility, and swimming beach.
- < *Wabeno Legion Park* (Town of Wabeno) – is a 4-acre park located in downtown Wabeno with tennis courts, 2 pavilions (ADA accessible), an island, playground, ADA restrooms, basketball court, and a barrier free boardwalk and nature trail along the North Branch of the Oconto River with fishing piers.
- < *Firefighter's Grounds* (Town of Wabeno) – located in downtown has a variety of expo buildings, restrooms, informal camping area, and accessible nature trail.
- < *Trump Lake Park* (Town of Wabeno) – located on Trump Lake, has a boat launch, picnic area, and restrooms.
- < *Trump Lake Beach* (Town of Wabeno) – located on Trump Lake is separate from Trump Lake Park, has a swimming beach, restrooms, and picnic area.
- < *Veterans Memorial Park* (Town of Wabeno) – is about a 10-acre park located north of downtown Wabeno on Park Avenue. A parking lot leads to war memorials, and an accessible loop nature trail.

### 3.9 State Facilities

The State of Wisconsin, primarily through the Department of Natural Resources, holds several tracts of land within Forest County as shown on Map 3. This land is open to the public for a variety of uses. Boundary signs posted near parking lots and along borders explain the uses on that parcel.

#### State Wildlife Areas

State wildlife areas were acquired by the state to protect and manage important habitat for wildlife and to preserve unique wild land features for hikers, wildlife watchers, hunters, trappers, and all people interested in the out-of-doors. Wildlife areas have only minor facility development like a very small gravel parking lot.

The following wildlife areas are owned by the State of Wisconsin and managed by the Department of Natural Resources. There is one federal wildlife area in Forest County:

*Little Rice Wildlife Area* located 6 miles northwest of Crandon, is a public hunting area that consists of 1,757 acres. Waterfowl, furbearers, deer, loons, bald eagles, and osprey inhabit the area.

## **State Natural Areas (SNA)**

State natural areas were acquired to protect the state's natural diversity, provide sites for research and environmental education, and serve as benchmarks for assessing and guiding use of other lands in the state. Natural areas are defined as tracts of land or water, which have native biotic communities, unique natural features, or significant geological or archeological sites. These sites do not have much facility development, though there may be a designated trail on the site.

The restrictions and guidelines that follow are applicable to most SNAs, though sites owned by agencies and organizations other than the DNR may have additional rules.

- ◁ Most SNAs are open to the public year around unless otherwise noted in the SNA site descriptions or posted at the site. SNAs within State Parks are generally open between 6:00 A.M. and 11:00 P.M.
- ◁ Please recognize and respect the property of private landowners adjacent to SNAs by not trespassing. Seek the landowner's permission before crossing private lands.
- ◁ Do not collect plants (including fruits, nuts, or edible plant parts), animals, fungi, rocks, minerals, fossils, archaeological artifacts, soil, downed wood, or any other natural material, alive or dead. Collecting for scientific research requires a permit issued by the DNR.
- ◁ Vehicles, including bicycles, ATVs, aircraft, and snowmobiles, are prohibited except on trails and roadways designated for their use. Access is only by foot, skis, snowshoes, and watercraft. Some trails are wheelchair accessible.
- ◁ Pets are allowed on most DNR-owned SNAs, but must be kept on a leash no longer than 8', unless they are dogs being used for hunting purposes. Pets are prohibited on sites owned by The Nature Conservancy and most other private conservation organizations. Horseback riding is not allowed.
- ◁ Camping and fires are generally prohibited.
- ◁ Rock climbing and rappelling are prohibited, except on SNAs #98 and #164.
- ◁ Fishing, trapping, and hunting are allowed on most DNR-owned properties in accordance with state regulations.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) listed the following State Natural Areas in Forest County. Each site was given a statewide identification (No. #) by the DNR:

*Scott Lake and Shelp Lake SNA (No. 117) is 1,674 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T38N R12E).*

*Giant White Pine Grove SNA (No. 118) is 43 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T38N R12E)*

*Franklin and Butternut Lakes SNA (No. 119) is 1,548 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T40N R 12E).*

*Atkins Lake and Hiles Swamp SNA (No. 238) is 2,708 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T37N R11E & R12E).*

*Bastile Lake SNA (No. 302) is 156 acres located in the Town of Popple River.*

*McCaslin Mountain SNA (No. 307) is 408 acres located in the Town of Wabeno (T34N R16E).*

*Alvin Creek Headwaters SNA (No. 443) is 1,048 acres located in the Town of Alvin (T40N R13E).*

*Anvil Lake Trail SNA (No. 449) is 980 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T40N R11E & R12E).*

*Argonne Experimental Forest SNA (No. 441) is 1,125 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T38N R12E).*

*Camp 3 Lake SNA (No. 450) is 1,214 acres located in the Town of Laona (T36N R15E).*

*Crandon Ribbed Fen SNA (No. 590)* is 96 acres located in the Town of Lincoln (T36N R13E).

*Deer Mountain SNA (No. 455)* is 2,089 acres located in the Town of Wabeno (T35N R16E).

*Echo Lake SNA (No. 445)* is 657 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T40N R11E & R12E).

*Haymeadow Flowage SNA (No. 482)* is 1,935 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T39N R12E).

*North Otter Creek SNA (No. 448)* is 724 acres located in the Town of Laona (T36N R14E).

*Pat Shay Lake SNA (No. 446)* is 736 acres located in the Town of Hiles (T39N R12E).

*Rat Lake Swamp and Popple River Headwaters SNA (No. 444)* is 2,517 acres located in the Town of Popple River (T38N-R14E, & T39N-R14E).

*Wabikon Lake SNA (No. 447)* is 1,105 acres located in the Town of Laona (T35N & T36N R14E).

Wilderness Areas are the federal version of the state natural areas program.

**Headwaters Wilderness Area** – Officially designated as a wilderness in 1984, this 18,000 plus acre wilderness is located 16 miles southeast of Eagle River, Wis. in Forest County. Portions of this area contain some of the largest and oldest trees in the forest. Kimball Creek, Shelp Lake and the Headwaters of the Pine River are major features within this Wilderness. The terrain is generally flat. Popular recreation uses in this Wilderness are hiking, bird-watching, hunting, fishing and studying nature.

### **3.10 Federal Facilities**

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest covers over half the land within Forest County. Extensive recreational opportunities within the Forest are described throughout the Existing Recreation Facilities chapter of this ORP.

### **3.11 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 newly enrolled in Managed Forest Law.

As of 2021 there are about 2,472 acres enrolled under the Forest Crop Law (FCL) in Forest County, which are open to the public to hunt and fish.

As of 2021 there are about 121,195 acres enrolled in the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program in Forest County. Of that MFL acreage, there are about 85,428 acres designated “open” to the public for hunting (not trapping), fishing, hiking, sightseeing, and cross-country skiing only (s. 77.83(2)(a), Wis. Stats.).

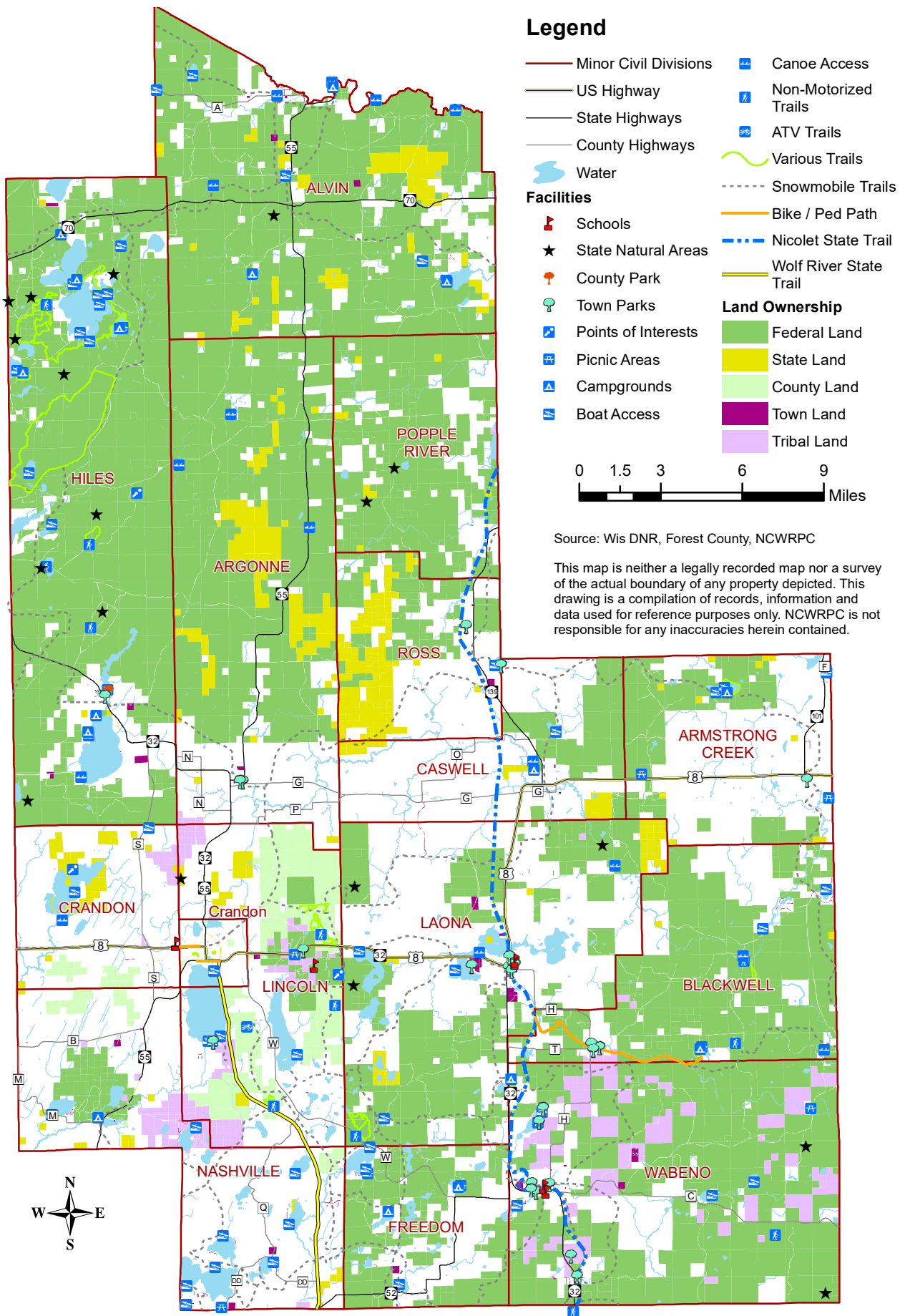
Other than the following exception, MFL lands enrolled as open must not be posted as to restrict access. All MFL program participants can restrict access without penalty to the landowner to areas that are within 300 feet of any building or harvesting operation. Access by motor vehicles or snowmobiles may be prohibited by the landowner on open lands. Open MFL lands can be found on the DNR website at <http://dnrmaps.wi.gov/opfl/>. It is the responsibility of the user to know where they are and which land is open to the public.

### **3.12 Private Outdoor Recreation Facilities**

Crandon International Off-Road Raceway – This 1.7-mile course is located on Highway 8 just one mile west of Crandon. Every Labor Day weekend, the raceway is used for the World Championship Off-Road Races, along with the Brush Run 101 held every year on the third weekend in June. Crowds can swell to over 60,000 people in one day of these events.

There is one private golf course in Forest County that is open to the public for a fee.

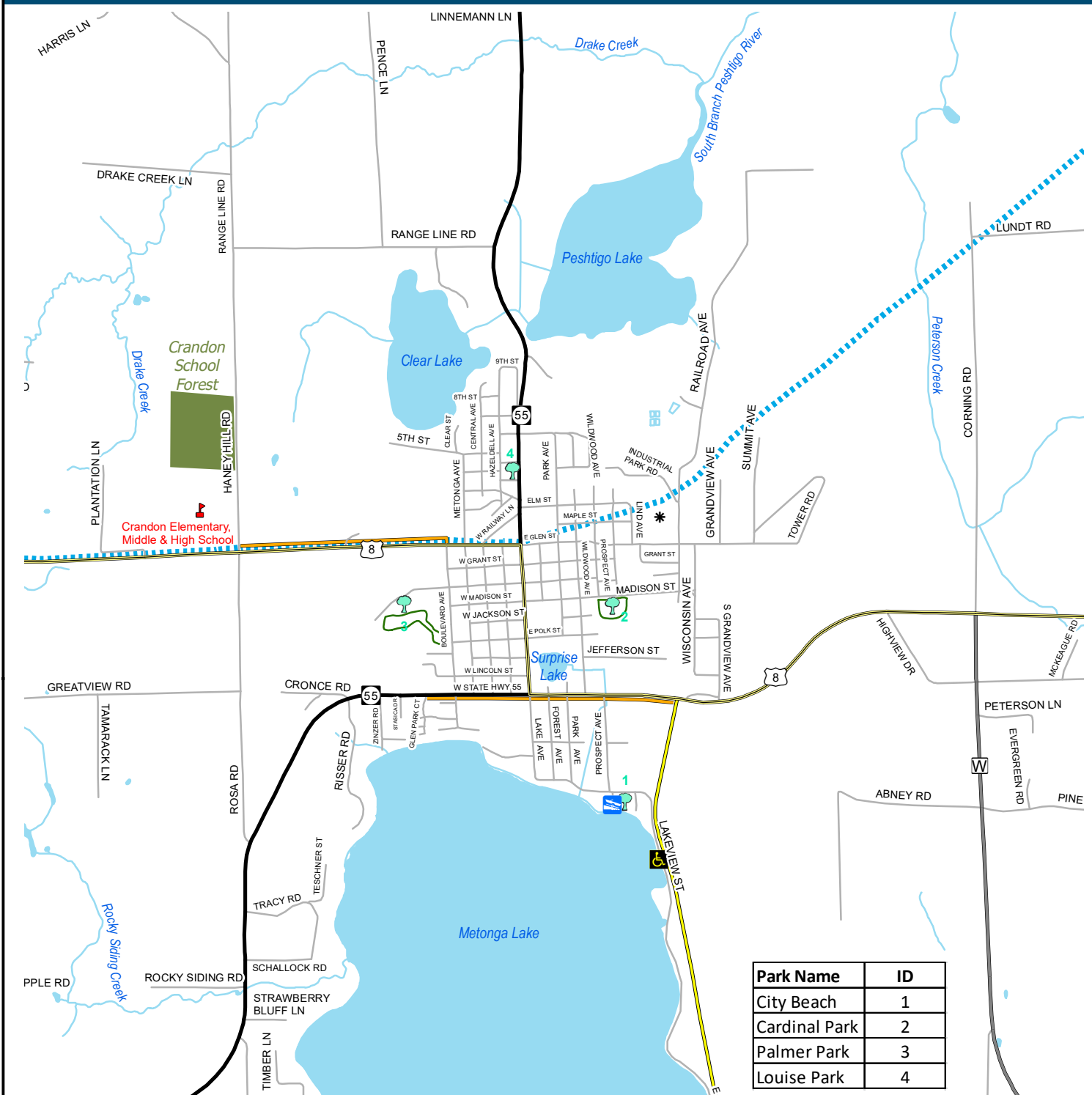
There are approximately 10 private campgrounds totaling 291 campsites in Forest County. All of these campgrounds are available for a fee to the public.



Source: Wis DNR, Forest County, NCWRPC

This map is neither a legally recorded map nor a survey of the actual boundary of any property depicted. This drawing is a compilation of records, information and data used for reference purposes only. NCWRPC is not responsible for any inaccuracies herein contained.





Park Name	ID
City Beach	1
Cardinal Park	2
Palmer Park	3
Louise Park	4

**Legend**

- US Highway
- State Highways
- County Highways
- Local Roads
- Water
- Boat Access
- City Parks
- County Fairgrounds
- Schools
- Handicap Accessible Fishing Pier
- School Forest Land
- Wolf River State Trail
- Bike / Ped Path
- Snowmobile Trails
- Park Walking Trails



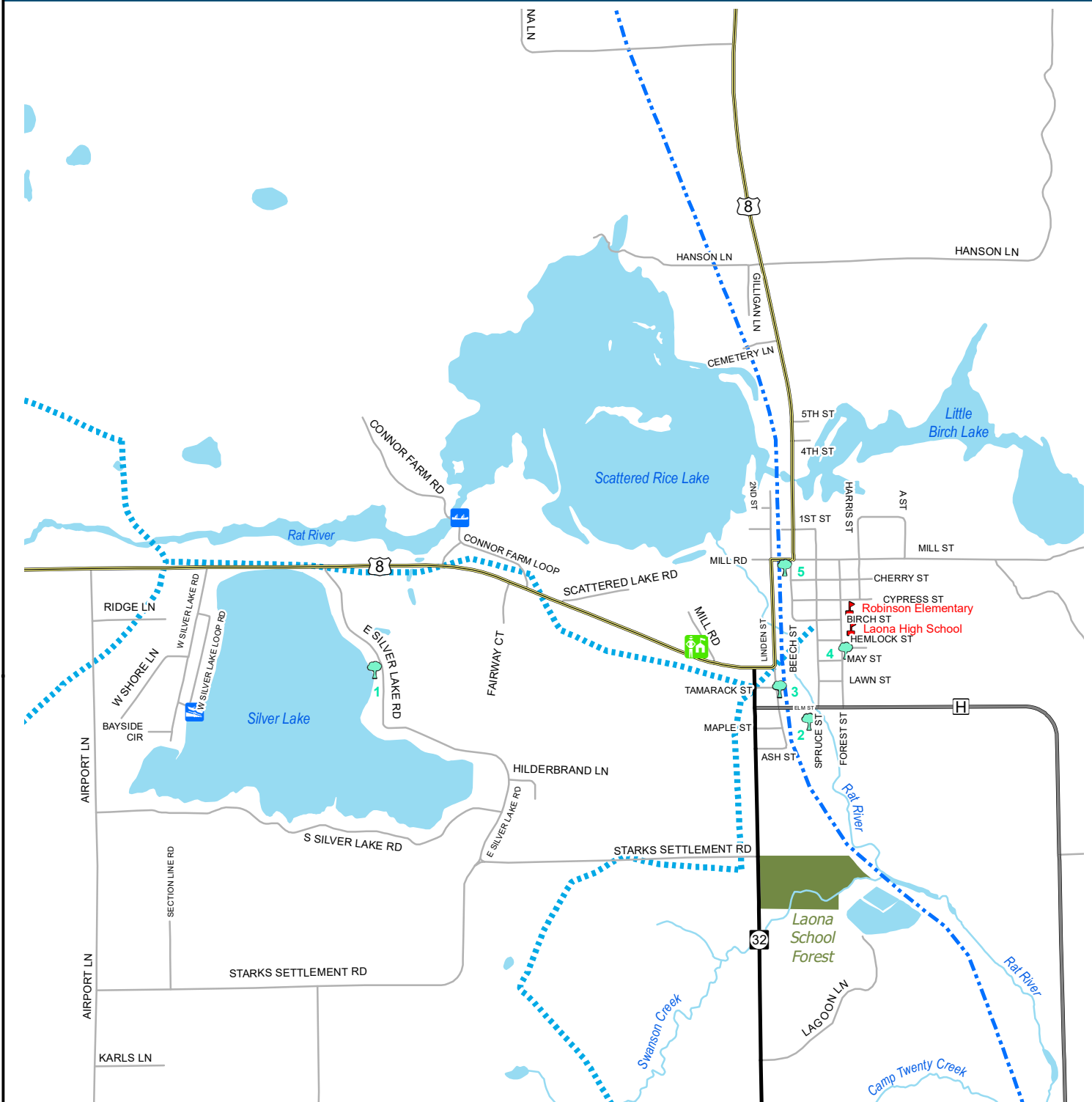
Prepared By:

**North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**














210 McClellan St., Suite 210, Wausau, WI 54403 715-849-3510 - staff@ncwrpc.org - www.ncwrpc.org

Source: WI DNR, Forest County, NCWRPC

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**Legend**

-  US Highway
-  State Highways
-  County Highways
-  Local Roads
-  Water
-  Boat Access
-  Canoe Access
-  Town Parks
-  Schools
-  Ranger Station
-  School Forest Land
-  Nicolet State Trail
-  Snowmobile Trails

Park Name	ID
Silver Lake Park	1
Laona Baseball Field	2
Town Park	3
Football Field	4
Laona Town Park	5



Prepared By:

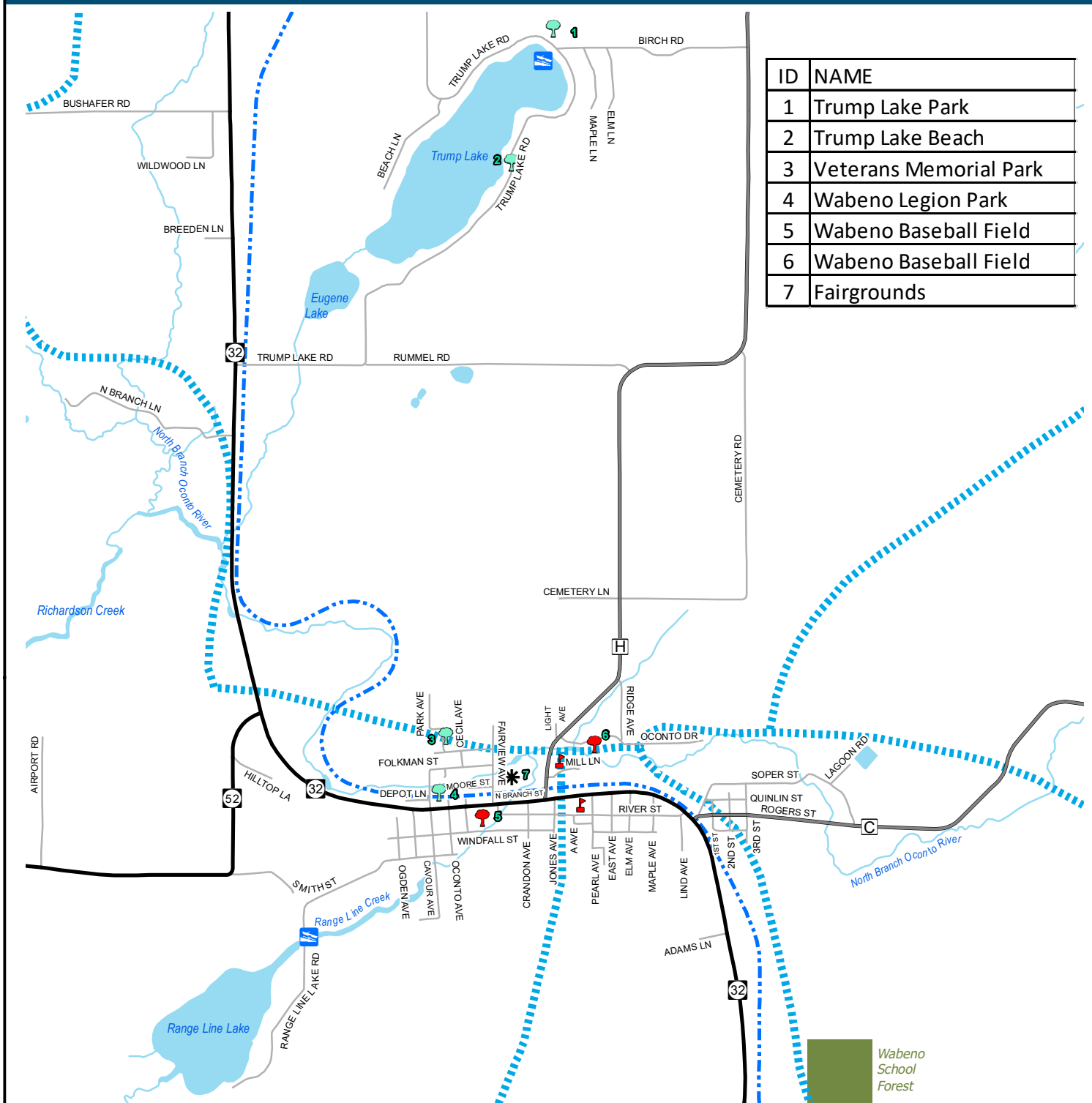
**North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**

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Source: Wis DNR, Forest County, NCWRPC

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ID	NAME
1	Trump Lake Park
2	Trump Lake Beach
3	Veterans Memorial Park
4	Wabeno Legion Park
5	Wabeno Baseball Field
6	Wabeno Baseball Field
7	Fairgrounds

**Legend**

- US Highway
- Boat Access
- Nicolet State Trail
- State Highways
- Town Parks
- Snowmobile Trails
- County Highways
- School Recreation Area
- Local Roads
- Schools
- Water
- Wabeno Fairgrounds
- School Forest Land



Prepared By:  
**North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission**  
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# Chapter 4: OUTDOOR RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## 4.1 Introduction

Recreational needs within Forest County are identified in the Recommendations & Capital Improvement chapter. Those needs were identified primarily by gathering public input via a survey; the results of that survey are in this chapter.

## 4.2 Public Participation

### Informal Public Input

In the regular course of business, Forest County Forestry and Recreation Department staff have received public input about its parks, trails, and forest. That input and staff's professional experience will also shape what changes are implemented.

### Summary of Survey Responses

In the spring of 2021, this survey was sent out for customer feedback. NCWRPC mailed survey notices to each town and Crandon, and emailed survey notices to a whole list of outdoor recreation groups provided by the Forest County Forestry and Recreation Department. The survey was open for 1-month. The survey was also available via a link on the NCWRPC's website for this ORP.

We received **343 responses** to the survey. Although not statistically significant of the whole population, this survey does provide a much deeper understanding of the wants and needs for outdoor recreation than a public hearing, so the results are still very valuable. Respondents were allowed to skip questions, so several questions had smaller response groups.

About 65% of respondents live in Forest County or have a summer home in the County; and 78 people marked what zip code they live in. Most municipalities were represented with about 55% of respondents answering this question.

Through an IP address analysis of who took the survey it appears that 12 IP addresses are at least duplicated, which could mean that a husband and wife both took the survey. One IP address repeated 5 times, and two other IP addresses repeated 3 times. All of those duplicate IP addresses did not have the same answers, so it appears that nobody "stuffed the ballot box."

A majority of the respondents were male (70% male, 30% female). Respondents came from all age groups, with a strong showing of at least 35% in the 41 to 56 age group, and the 57 to 75 age group.

**The full survey results (36 pages) are in Attachment D.**

Key Findings of the ORP Survey:

Answered: 343 Skipped: 0

- < The most frequent outdoor recreational activities respondents participated in:
  1. Boating 69% of responses
  2. ATV / UTV / OHM Riding 65% of responses
  3. Fishing 64% of responses
  4. Walking / Hiking 60% of responses
  5. Snowmobiling 57% of responses

Q2. What potential outdoor recreational opportunities should be developed in Forest County?

Answered: 182 Skipped: 161

1. ATV / UTV trails 56 responses
2. Hiking / walking trails 47 responses
3. Bicycling trails 41 responses
4. Mountain Biking trails 25 responses
5. Snowmobile trails 16 responses

*(Word Cloud – The larger the word the more mentions)*

Snowshoe Additional park non motorized biking routes bicycle riding  
hiking trails Mountain Biking atv utv trails better  
atv forest trails Pickleball courts snowmobile  
disc golf bike trails woods walking county  
Mountain bike trails Atv Utv road utv trails  
atv boat Bike trails Bike paths hiking trails Snowmobiling  
trails Atv park Walking utv bicycle fishing Disc golf  
Biking trails park areas utv Hiking Camping trails snowmobile  
atv mountain bike trails

Q3. How often do you use Forest County managed parks, trails, or forests?

Answered: 304 Skipped: 39

	I DON'T USE THESE FACILITIES.	RARELY	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	ON MANY WEEKENDS	MOST DAYS	TOTAL
PARKS	11.41% 34	33.22% 99	20.47% 61	10.07% 30	19.80% 59	5.03% 15	298
TRAILS	3.06% 9	10.20% 30	22.11% 65	17.01% 50	41.50% 122	6.12% 18	294
FOREST UNITS	14.14% 41	25.17% 73	22.07% 64	12.41% 36	23.45% 68	2.76% 8	290

Q4. What is your overall satisfaction with the conditions of the Forest County managed facilities you normally visit?

Answered: 303 Skipped: 40

	I DON'T USE THESE FACILITIES.	VERY SATISFIED	GOOD	FAIR	UNACCEPTABLE	TOTAL
PARKS	16.95% 50	27.12% 80	45.08% 133	9.15% 27	1.69% 5	295
TRAILS	4.07% 12	38.64% 114	43.39% 128	12.20% 36	1.69% 5	295
FOREST UNITS	21.25% 61	20.91% 60	47.04% 135	10.10% 29	0.70% 2	287

Q5. What improvements are needed at Forest County managed campgrounds?

Answered: 294 Skipped: 49

&\$\$%fYgdcbgYg''''''I b\_bck b '# '=Xcbñi gY'7ci bhmWla d[ fci bXg"

48 responses An adequate number of campground facilities exist, and they are in good condition.

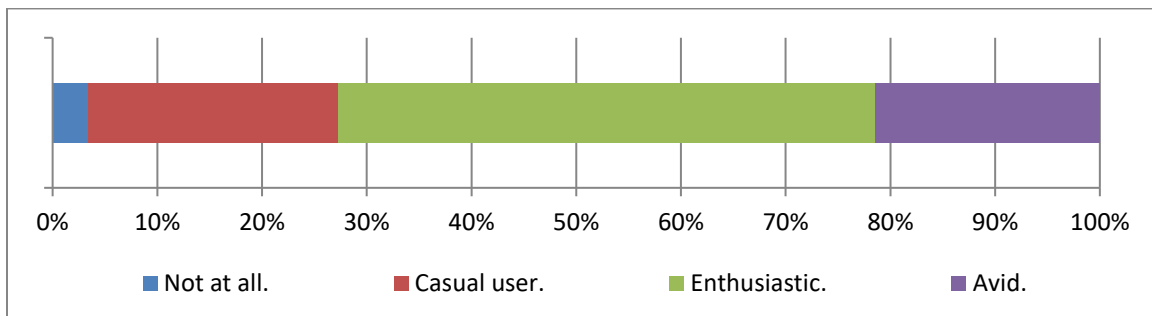
45 responses Improvements are needed.

Q6. What improvements are needed at Forest County managed campgrounds?  
*Answered: 53 Skipped: 290*

*(Word Cloud – The larger the word the more mentions)*

Bathrooms campsites campers great sites even use Toilets Water  
 maintained Better N Clean lakes parking campgrounds electric  
 Need

Q7. What type of water enthusiast are you? *Answered: 293 Skipped: 50*



**Not at all.** (I do not use the water or ice.)

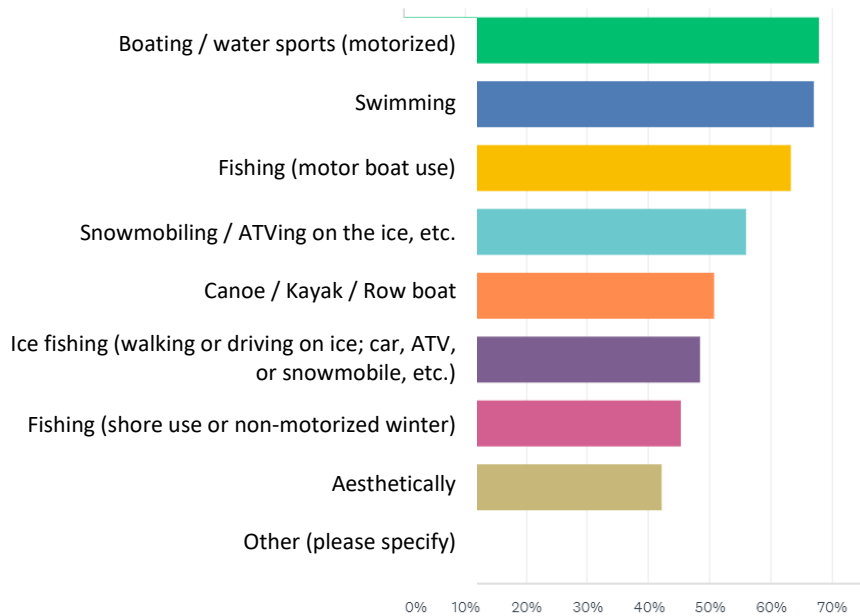
**Casual user.** (I like to use the water, but only do so occasionally.)

**Enthusiastic.** (I access or go on the water regularly in summer, and I might occasionally access the ice in winter.)

**Avid.** (I am always on the water or ice every chance I get.)

Q8. How do you use the water?

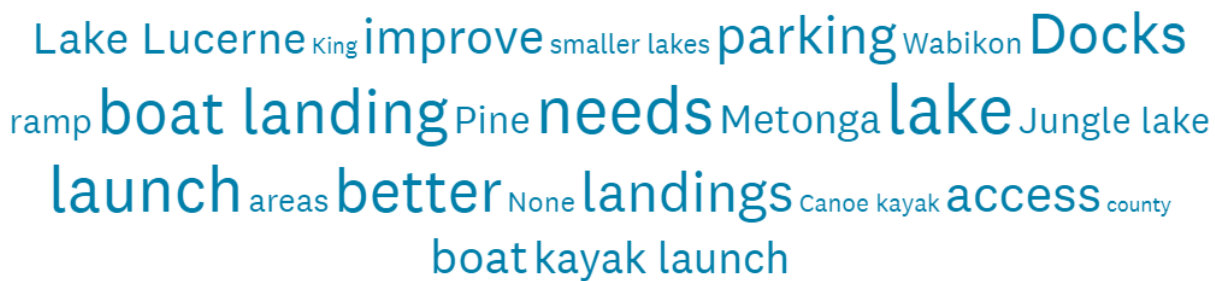
(Choose all that apply.) Answered: 287 Skipped: 56



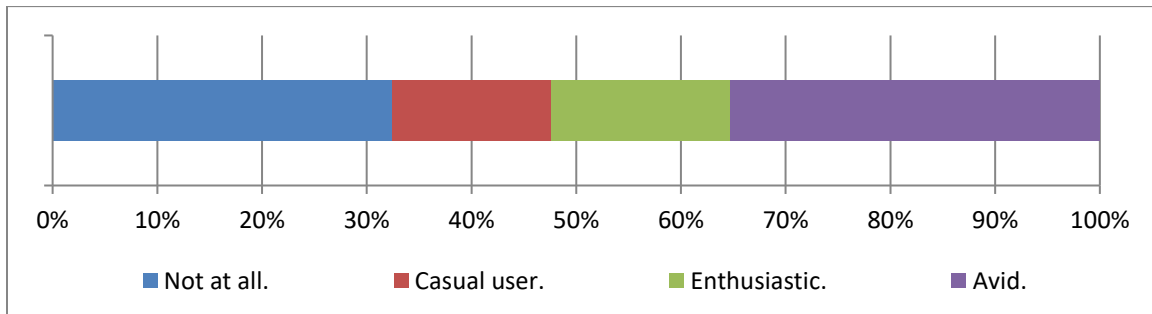
Q9. What boat landings need improvements?

Answered: 90 Skipped: 253

(Word Cloud – The larger the word the more mentions)



Q10. What type of snowmobile enthusiast are you? Answered: 292 Skipped: 51



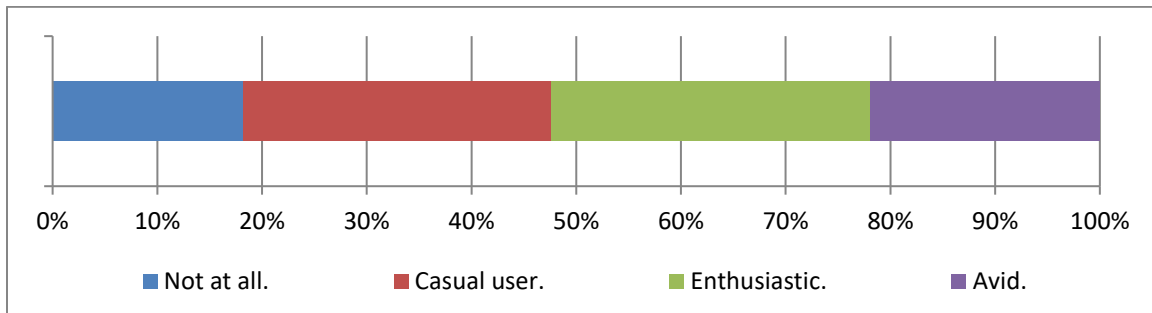
**Not at all.** (I do not use a snowmobile.)

**Casual user.** (I like snowmobiling for fun, but only do so occasionally, OR only on my own land.)

**Enthusiastic.** (I access or go on snowmobile routes and trails regularly.)

**Avid.** (I am always on a snowmobile every chance I get all season long.)

Q11. What type of motorized vehicle (ATV/UTV/ Off-Highway Motorcycle) enthusiast are you? Answered: 292 Skipped: 51



**Not at all.** (I do not use a motorized vehicle.)

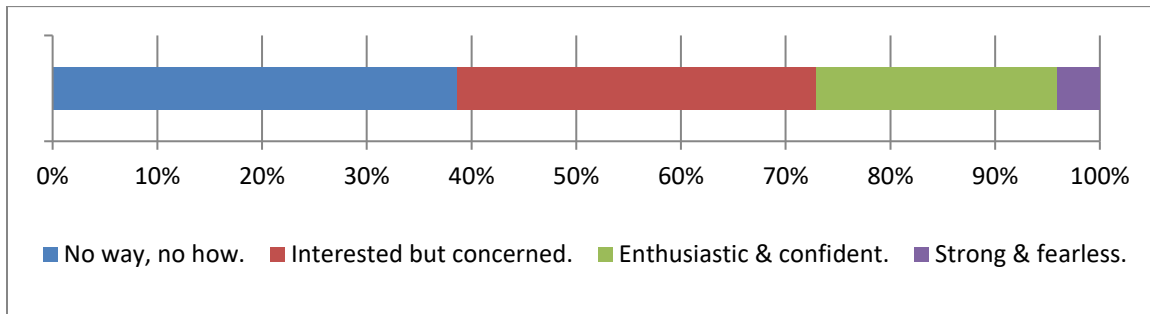
**Casual user.** (I like using motorized vehicles for fun, but only do so occasionally, OR only on my own land.)

**Enthusiastic.** (I access or go on motorized routes and trails regularly in summer, and I might occasionally access the ice in winter.)

**Avid.** (I am always on a motorized vehicle every chance I get all year long.)

Q12. What type of bicyclist are you?

Answered: 292 Skipped: 51



**No way, no how.** (I do not feel comfortable sharing the road with motor vehicles, and I will not ride in inclement weather.)

**Interested but concerned.** (I feel uncomfortable sharing the road with motor vehicles, but I will ride in inclement weather.)

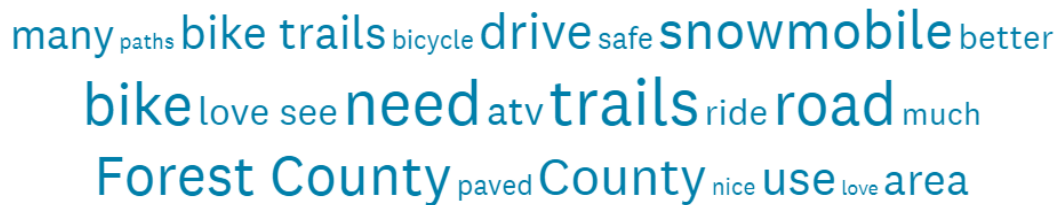
**Enthusiastic and confident.** (I feel comfortable sharing the road with motor vehicles, but I prefer to ride on separate facilities like bike lanes. I may or may not ride in inclement weather.)

**Strong and fearless.** (I am confident in my abilities and will ride regardless of roadway conditions, amount of traffic, or inclement weather.)

Q13. Any other concerns?

Answered: 49 Skipped: 294

(Word Cloud – The larger the word the more mentions)





## 4.3 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 for a park. A standard land measure is only useful for specific facilities like determining how much land is needed for a specific use like a baseball diamond. The number of baseball diamonds and other facilities are not the same 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 residential housing. Determining the space needs for unprogrammed land is subjective and objective based on firsthand 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 upon how aesthetically pleasing an area should be, 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? (See **Attachment B**)
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 may be imminent. When the opportunity to buy land exists, then reaction must be swift to seize the opportunity. A park growth boundary should be created for this reason.

# Chapter 5:

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

The development of an efficient outdoor recreation plan depends upon establishing specific recreation and open-space goals and objectives from public participation and forestry committee revision and refinement. These goals and objectives are meant to guide county and local officials as they work towards providing a recreation system to meet the needs of Forest County's residents and visitors to the area. The National Forest Service has specific goals and objectives for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

### **Goal 1**

**Protect, restore, and enhance Forest County's natural resources for outdoor recreation.**

#### Objectives

1. Follow Best Management Practices for water quality and for invasive species control in development of trails and recreation facilities. This will maintain forest certification too.
2. Cooperate with those who are implementing the Good Neighbor Authority to improve forest health on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.
3. Provide for a balance of legitimate recreational opportunities to a wide variety of diverse groups and reduce user conflict by keeping incompatible uses separate from one another while still protecting the natural resources of the county in a sustainable manner.

### **Goal 2**

**Continue developing all types of recreational trails.**

#### Objectives

1. Develop a map of existing county forest roads of various types and what uses are allowed on each of them.
2. Work with partner agencies to coordinate creation of a singular map of roads and trails by the following entities: CNNF, county forest, DNR, and local governments as a basis to designating more trails from existing resources.
3. Work with user groups to meet specific needs and desires for additional trails.

### **Goal 3**

#### **Continue to improve and develop Forest County's outdoor recreation facilities.**

##### Objectives

4. Maintain and improve existing recreational facilities as outlined in 5-year capital improvement tables and as opportunities and funding sources become available.
5. Work with user groups to meet specific needs and desires for recreation on the County Forest, or to connect to Forest County maintained facilities.
6. Work with both tribes and all municipalities in Forest County as the need arises to cooperate on developing outdoor recreation facilities.
7. Continue upgrading and developing recreational facilities to accommodate the elderly and handicapped.

# Chapter 6:

## RECOMMENDATIONS & CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The recommendations and capital improvements are based on the goals and objectives, and the public comment documented in Chapter 4-Outdoor Recreation Needs Assessment. Although it is unlikely that all recommendations presented in this plan will be undertaken in the next five years, they should be recognized as causes for action if the opportunity or need arises.

### 6.1 Countywide Recommendations

#### **Improve Boat Launches Countywide**

Forest County has a vast wealth of lakes to enjoy. The 2021 ORP survey shows that over 67% of respondents use the water in the following top two ways: **1) Boating / water sport (motorized)**, and **2) Swimming**. 90 people commented about specific boat landing or water access improvements that are needed. Some comments suggested things like a parking lot that needs resurfacing, the possible addition of an ADA accessible pier, or a boat launch that does not accommodate pontoons. Many people just responded with a lake name indicating that a problem may exist there, but didn't identify anything specific to repair. This recommendation is to update the DNR's current inventory, and to provide recommendations to be added to this Forest County ORP when they become available.

**Recommendation:** Cooperate with DNR and USFS to inventory conditions of boat launches countywide and recommend specific improvements. Include these recommendations in the Forest County ORP.

#### **ATV / UTV / Dual Sport Motorcycle Trail Development and Enhancement**

The County has a long history with off road vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). For over 40 years the Crandon International Off-Road Raceway has hosted the Brush Run Races and World Championship Races. The Crandon International Off-Road Raceway annually attracts thousands of motorized recreational enthusiasts to Forest County.

ATV & UTV trail use and the need for additional places for users to ride continues to increase. Regional development of routes and trails can connect communities to each other and provide a potential economic boost to the area.

**Recommendation:** Cooperate with various governments to review how to meet the needs of expanding ATV / UTV / Dual Sport Motorcycle trail use by possibly developing additional riding opportunities within Forest County, and to provide full consideration to connecting privately developed recreation sites or trails to the public trail system.

### **Biking/Hiking Trail Development**

The Forest County Potawatomi Community (FCPC) is currently (2020-2021) in the process of developing the Forest County Potawatomi Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. The plan is intended to help the FCPC improve walking and bicycling within and between the FCPC developments at Stone Lake (Crandon area), Blackwell, and Carter. These improvements will be open to all.

**Recommendation:** Cooperate with the FCPC and various local governments on implementing the Forest County Potawatomi Bike & Pedestrian Plan.

## **6.2 County Facility Recommendations**

### **Non-Motorized Use**

While there are trails available, consideration needs to be given to making all or a portion of the trails more multi-use year-round facilities. Better trail designation with signs, and trail maintenance of hiking, biking, horseback riding and x-ski trails, will allow more users to enjoy the trails.

### **Motorized Use**

The Forest County Forestry Committee has determined that there is sufficient use of the county forest by designated snowmobile and ATV trails. If local snowmobile or ATV clubs develop new trail adjacent to county forest land, full consideration will be given to develop links or connecting trails across county forest land provided these trails are part of the state funded snowmobile or ATV programs.

### **Otter Springs**

The headwaters of the Otter Creek is a natural spring where two pipes are exposed from the ground and covered by an 8'X8' log spring house. This spring house was placed on the Federal and State Registry of Historic Places list, but is deteriorating due to weathering. The County should consider cooperatively working with the Potawatomi Community in restoring this shelter.

### **County Fairgrounds**

The County should consider relocation of the fairgrounds. The current site does not provide growth/expansion and is not very visible to the public.

## **6.3 County Facility Projects Completed, 2017-2021**

### **Forest County**

#### **Veterans Memorial Park**

1. Tree planting program – In 2018, 25 Maple trees were planted. **(Completed)**
2. Updated pavilions with electrical outlets and more supply. **(Completed)**
3. Fire Rings – Continue to purchase fire rings for campsites for cooking and campfires. **(In Progress)**

4. Remove and replace the existing asphalt around the park and parking lot. **(In Progress)**
5. Correct the drainage issue at the park. **(In Progress)**
6. Install dense graded base materials and crushed fines for camper parking areas. **(In Progress)**
7. Install water and 50-amp electrical utility pedestals at the campsites. **(In Progress)**
8. Install new playground equipment. **(In Progress)**
9. New topsoil and restoration of campground. **(In Progress)**
10. Painted and paved path for bikes on the side of the pavement. **(In Progress)**

#### **Bog Brook Wildlife Area**

1. Upgrade pier over dam inlet to become handicapped accessible, and have a beaver screen added. **(Completed)**
2. Create an ADA walkway over the spillway. **(Completed)**

#### **Mountain Bike Trails**

- ◁ Mountain bike trails developed in Otter Springs Recreation Area. **(Completed)**

## **6.4 County Facility Capital Improvements, 2022-2026**

Capital improvements to parks are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of that park facility. Routine maintenance is considered the normal cycle of repair and upkeep for existing facilities and is traditionally funded through the Forestry & Recreation Department's operations budget. Upgrading an outdoor restroom facility for universal access would qualify as a capital improvement, while repainting an outdoor restroom would be considered routine maintenance.

#### **Improvements that are projected to occur from 2022-2026**

The projects are not listed in a priority and are subject to change. The Forestry & Recreation Department or Land Conservation Department created each capital improvement item. All upgrades and new construction will take into consideration meeting ADA standards. As funds become available, the following projects will be completed.

#### **Veterans Memorial Park**

1. Trees – Continue the tree-planting program using either bare rootstock or containerized trees to provide shade as well as sight and sound barriers. This project could be an annual project of 50-100 trees per year.
2. Replace concrete boat launch panels.
3. Add boat wash station.

### **Otter Springs Recreation Area**

1. Replace damaged sign.
2. Update trail signage.
3. Update maps.
4. Make improvements to parkin area.
5. Paint or replace picnic tables.
6. Work with Silver Dollar Saddle Club to add more hiking/horse trails.
7. Restore historical spring house.

### **Hemlock Lake Recreation Area**

1. Replace sign on Highway W and repair/replace entrance sign.
2. Enlarge and add gravel to parking area.
3. Mark trails better and add new trails for hiking.
4. Add bicycle trails.
5. Add benches.
6. Add a restroom.

### **Dual Sport/Off Road Motorbike Park**

1. A public or private entity to possibly acquire a site.
2. Consider working with Wisconsin Off-Road Vehicle Club to develop trails.

### **ATV/UTV Updates**

1. New county ATV sign.
2. Proposed expansion of 8-mile loop trail.
3. Proposed Crandon to Argonne Corridor using railroad grade.
4. Consider establishing an ATV/UTV trailhead in Hiles.

### **New county fair grounds**

1. Purchase land for new fairgrounds or to expand another facility.
2. Develop all the exterior facilities needed for a fairground (e.g., restrooms, parking, horse corral).
3. Develop exhibit buildings for fairground use.

## 6.5 Local Government Capital Improvements, 2022-2026

Capital improvements to parks are the addition of labor and materials that improve the overall value and usefulness of that park facility. Routine maintenance is considered the normal cycle of repair and upkeep for existing facilities and is traditionally funded through local government operating budgets. Upgrading an outdoor restroom facility for universal access would qualify as a capital improvement, while repainting an outdoor restroom would be considered routine maintenance.

### **Improvements that are projected to occur from 2022-2026**

The projects are not listed in a priority and are subject to change. Each local government created the following capital improvement items. All upgrades and new construction will take into consideration meeting ADA standards. As funds become available, the following projects will be completed.

#### **City of Crandon**

##### Palmer Park

- < Update current bathrooms with no-touch sinks, toilets, etc.
- < Repave walking path.
- < Update playground equipment.

##### Cardinal Park

- < Update current bathrooms with no-touch sinks, toilets, etc.
- < Repave walking path and remove boardwalk.
- < Update playground equipment.
- < Resurface pickle ball court.

##### Crandon Public Beach

- < Upgrade and repair pavilion.
- < Add playground equipment.

#### **Town of Argonne**

- < Upgrade restroom facilities in Argonne Town Park.



## **Town of Armstrong Creek**

### Town Park

- < Install new water bubbler.
- < Purchase portable hand washing stations.

### Ball Park

- < Install new aluminum bleachers.
- < Purchase and install a portable fence and movable bases so that regular-season boys baseball games or men's softballs tournaments can be held there in addition to little league and girls softball games.
- < Develop a concession stand with electricity.

### Old Red Bridge

- < Develop a picnic area.
- < Replace interpretive signage.
- < Repaint the bridge.

## **Town of Blackwell**

1. Develop access road to another pier on Rat River Trail connection with small area for parking.
2. Create boat launch dock for Camp Six landing.

## **Town of Caswell**

### At Town park

1. Install pit system restroom for playground and outdoor pavilion. Estimated cost: \$7,500.
2. Add electricity to pavilion for lighting and outlets. Estimated cost: \$4,500.

## **Town of Wabeno**

### Wabeno Legion Park

- < Update bathrooms
- < Update playground equipment
- < Plant trees in picnic areas
- < Buy land to expand park
- < Replace Cavour Ave bridge over Oconto River
- < Add water fountain
- < Install large charcoal grill

### Firefighter's Grounds

- < Install RV hook-ups

### Trump Lake Park

- < Resurfacing at Trump Lake boat landing
- < Create male/female restrooms at Trump Lake Pavilion
- < Install large charcoal grill

# Chapter 7:

## IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES

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 carry out the general recommendations and to move towards attainment of the goals and objectives set forth in this plan.

**Attachment C** provides a list of commonly used state and federal government financial assistance programs.

### 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.

### 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 subjected to annual review.

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.

### 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.

### Historic Sites

Historical sites can be rewarding additions to any community's recreation program. This is especially true in areas oriented to serving a significant tourist trade. Nearly all communities in North Central Wisconsin are in this category and they should all 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 local county historical society.

### Leases

Leases may be used as measures to use or protect land until more permanent measures may be found. By leasing parcels of land, the land remains on the county's and the community's tax rolls and can be renegotiated or non-renewed by the property owner if the monetary prospects for another use proves overpowering.

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.

### 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.

### 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. A list of these programs exists in **Attachment C**.

The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program 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.

Requirements for application to the Stewardship Fund include the requirement that the applicant submits an approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. This plan is designed to meet that requirement.

For the remaining program requirements, or additional information contact:

Community Services Specialist  
Rhineland Service Center  
107 Sutliff Ave  
Rhineland, WI 54501

Besides state and federal aid programs, there are other sources of funding such as private foundations, trust funds, and civic and recreation organizations.

### 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 municipal use of existing school facilities during non-school hours should also be encouraged.

### 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. 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.

### 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 to meet. Recreation facilities like golf courses and swimming pools, for example, require large annual maintenance investments to continue.

### Senior Citizen Involvement

Involve senior citizens in community park development and beautification and provide recreational facilities for their use. Although senior citizens often 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 the senior citizens. Small, passive use parks and garden 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 group life.

### 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 could help to meet the need for neighborhood facilities by supplementing municipal financial resources and providing organization and volunteer labor.

### Shoreland Zoning

Wisconsin's Shoreland Management Program established statewide standards for shoreland development. Counties are required to adopt and administer shoreland zoning ordinances that meet these requirements. The statewide standards for county shoreland zoning ordinances are found in Chapter NR 115, Wis. Admin. Code. Be sure to check with Lincoln County to find out about their development standards.

### Specialized Facilities

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

### Public Access via Subdivision Regulations (Platting Lands)

Lake and stream shore plats can provide public access to the adjacent water bodies. The Wisconsin Statutes §236.16(3) require that all subdivisions abutting a navigable lake or stream provide at least a sixty-foot-wide access to the low watermark from existing public roads at not more than one-half mile intervals (excluding shore areas where public parks or open-space streets are provided).

### 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 to which an owner may put their land. For example, the rights to establish public hiking or fishing access to a waterway may be purchased through an easement.

### 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.

# Attachment A

## Park Design and Location Criteria

From:

Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2019-2023

## Park Design and Location Criteria

This section is presented in the interest of assisting park and recreation agencies in the development of a system of parks and recreation areas. A recreation system is composed of many different components, the combination of which provide facilities and landscapes for outdoor recreation. Many entities are involved in the development and management of recreational areas and facilities for a community or region. Facilities provided by these entities should be complementary and serve a particular geographic area or recreational need. For this plan, parks and recreation areas have been classified on the basis of their service areas. They are described as the following:

Mini Park	School Park
Neighborhood Park	County Park
Community Park	State Park
Special Use Park	State Forest

### Mini Park

#### 1. Definition Summary:

A play lot or playground provides space for parental supervised recreation of toddlers and young children within a neighborhood, or as part of a larger neighborhood or community park and urban center, including retail shopping areas.

#### 2. Size Objectives:

0.5 to 1.5 acres.

#### 3. Service Area Objectives:

Generally within a neighborhood of a half mile radius or population of 2,000-3,000. Mini parks may be included in parks that serve a larger population or service area.

#### 4. Location Objectives:

Located in protected areas with separation from street traffic and high visibility; serving local neighborhoods and adjoining schools, libraries, or police and fire facilities.

Population Ratio to Acreage: 0.25 to 0.5 acre per 1,000 population to achieve a park unit size that serves 2,000 to 3,000 people.

#### 5. Space, Design, and Service Area:

The size of a play lot or playground may range from as small as 2,500 sq. ft. to 1.5 acres.\* Amenities offered by these facilities generally include sand play areas, play apparatus, play equipment, and other special child-oriented features. The service radius for these parks in

terms of distance from population served is limited to less than a quarter mile, or within a super block space, unless the playground is incorporated into a larger park. (\*Stand-alone play lots require more land area than play lots incorporated into larger parks.)

#### 6. Orientation:

Small geographic areas, sub-neighborhoods, or neighborhoods, when combined with a larger park unit, serves youth ranging in age from toddler to 12 years, with adult supervision. Playgrounds also serve important needs in city business districts and inner city areas where a mix of commercial and recreation activity is desired.

#### 7. Function:

Provides outdoor play experiences for youth under parental supervision. Generates neighborhood communication and provides diversion from work and domestic chores. Promotes neighborhood solidarity.

### Neighborhood Park

#### 1. Definition Summary:

A neighborhood park, by size, program, and location, provides space and recreation activities for the immediate neighborhood in which it is located. It is considered an extension of neighborhood residents' "out-of-yard" and outdoor use area.

#### 2. Size Objectives:

5 to 25 acres.

### **3. Service Area Objectives:**

Generally a one mile radius, but actually defined by collector street patterns which form the limits of a neighborhood or recreation service area. Population served may range from 2,000 up to 5,000.

### **4. Location Objectives:**

Centrally located for equitable pedestrian access within a definable neighborhood service area. Adjoining or adjacent to an elementary school, middle school, high school, fire station, or library, if possible.

### **5. Program Objectives:**

Compatible with the neighborhood setting and park site constraints. Generally includes the following facilities, which are determined with public input as to use and activities:

- a. Parking for 10 to 20 vehicles.
  - 1) On-street parking is acceptable if negative impact to residential units can be mitigated. On-site parking is preferable as a planning objective.
  - 2) Bike racks with Class II trail connections where possible.
- b. Restrooms
  - 1) Men's restroom with 2 water closets, 2 urinals, 2 lavatories.
  - 2) Women's restroom with 3 water closets and 2 lavatories.
  - 3) Utility and minimum park janitorial storage space.
- c. Tot lot/children's play area
- d. Family event/group picnic facility
- e. Informal family picnic area with benches and tables
- f. Unstructured turf grass play area/play or practice field for children, young adults, and families.
- g. Sport facilities—compatible with neighborhood setting and park site constraints.
  - 1) Basketball—half court, full court, or tri-court configuration
  - 2) Volleyball area
  - 3) Softball field/soccer practice or game overlay
  - 4) Other features as needs or site conditions allow

### **6. Orientation:**

Serves all age groups, with an emphasis on youth and families in neighborhood settings.

### **7. Function:**

To provide a combination of active recreation and passive activities, both outdoor and indoor facilities and special features as required or needed.

### **8. Space, Design and Service Area:**

A minimum size of 5 to 25 acres with amenities including sports facilities, picnic areas, swim facilities, cultural activities, arts, crafts, and individual passive activities. The park should primarily serve a defined neighborhood area population of 2,000-5,000. Distance from this neighborhood will vary depending on urban development pattern, zoning, and densities in the respective neighborhoods being served. Efforts should be made to allow easy pedestrian access to the park.

## **Community Park**

### **1. Definition Summary:**

A community park, by size, program, and location, provides space and recreation activities for a defined service area, the entire city, or significant geographic segment of the city's population.

### **2. Size Objectives:**

Usually more than 25 acres.

### **3. Service Area Objectives:**

Generally a 2 to 5 mile radius within the city and adjacent neighborhoods outside of city limits.

### **4. Location Objectives:**

Centrally located if planned to serve a particular geographic segment of the city. Located adjoining or immediately adjacent to a collector street providing community-wide vehicular access, thereby reducing neighborhood traffic impacts. Connected with Class II on-street and/or off-street community trail and bike lane system. Adjoining or adjacent to an elementary, middle, or high school if possible.



## 5. Program Objectives

Elements that fulfill the service area, park facilities and recreation program demands. The following facilities may be compatible with community setting and park site constraints:

- a. Off-street parking calculated to satisfy demand of park and recreation activities provided. Includes bike racks and a public transit station at the site as well as both on-site and street parking.
- b. Restrooms designed to accommodate the level of park and recreation activities provided and the number of people served. Restrooms should be located within a reasonable walking distance from children's play equipment and other high-use areas.
- c. Community recreation center
- d. Park maintenance and equipment storage building
- e. Tot lot/children's play area
- f. Group picnic shelters
- g. Family picnic facilities
- h. Sport/recreation facility fulfilling the overall city demand

*Appropriate program elements include:*

- 1) Community pool/water feature
- 2) Soccer fields
- 3) Softball, little league baseball, junior pony league baseball
- 4) Football
- 5) Roller hockey/skateboard area
- 6) Tennis courts
- 7) Basketball courts
- 8) Amphitheater/performing arts center
- 9) Volleyball (indoor and outdoor)
- 10) Jogging trails
- 11) Other facilities as desired and as permitted under park site plan
- 12) Concessions (food and beverage)

## 6. Orientation:

Multi-purpose service area or community-wide recreation resource serving most or all of the population.

## 7. Function:

Provides opportunities for a diverse mix of indoor and outdoor recreation, including walking and bicycling, outdoor performances, various programmed and non-programmed field sports, swimming, and special events.

## 8) Space, Design, and Service Area:

The minimum space for a community park is 15 acres. Facilities typically provide for some sports activities, though emphasis is on passive cultural and community centers with recreational programming and organized activities. The community park may serve populations within a 2 to 5 mile radius, a scope that would allow residents of other communities to use the park as well.

## Special Use Park

### 1. Definition Summary:

A special use park is often designed as a revenue-generating enterprise created to satisfy demand for a particular sport, recreational activity, or special event. A special use park may also be a sports park combined with enterprise activities and administered as a community recreation resource.

### 2. Size Objective:

The actual size of a special use park is determined by land availability and facility/market demand for special uses or recreation programs.

### 3. Service Area Objectives:

Community or area-wide and determined by the type of recreation program, special events or use activities.

### 4. Location Objectives:

Determined by the property opportunity, service area and size objectives.

### 5. Program Objectives:

Special use parks require facility programming that is user- or market-driven and based on community needs or economic and service principles for public and private partnerships. The magnitude and type of special use facilities may include:

- a. Water play park
- b. Amphitheater
- c. Festival/swap meet/farmers market
- d. League/individual sports complex
- e. Fitness/entertainment center
- f. Skateboard/in-line hockey park
- g. Recreation programs and classes

## **6. Orientation:**

Provides recreation programming, sports and special event attractions and activities for all age groups.

## **7. Function:**

Special events, fairs, festivals, expositions, symposiums, sports, community gatherings, ethnic/cultural celebrations, plays and numerous other recreational programs and activities.

## **8. Space, Design, and Service Area:**

The minimum size for special parks varies depending on intended use and programming.

## **School Park**

### **1. Definition Summary:**

By combining the resources of two public agencies, the school park classification allows for expanding the recreational, social, and educational opportunities available to the community in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

Depending on the circumstances, school park sites often complement other community recreation or open lands. As an example, an elementary/middle school site could also serve as a neighborhood park. Likewise, middle or high school sports facilities could do double duty as a community park or as youth athletic fields. Depending on its size, one school park site may serve in a number of capacities, such as a neighborhood park, youth athletic fields, and a location for recreation classes. Given the inherent variability of type, size and location, determining how a school park site is integrated into a larger park system will depend on case-by-case circumstances. The important outcome in the joint-use relationship is that both the school district and park system benefit from shared use of facilities and land area.

### **2. Size Objective**

The optimum size of a school park site depends on its intended use. The size criteria established for neighborhood park and community park classifications may apply.

## **3. Service Area Objectives:**

Neighborhood park and community park classifications criteria should be used to determine school park functions and area served. For planning purposes, the degree to which school lands, including building or facilities, meet community needs depends on the specific inter-local agreements formed.

## **4. Location Objectives:**

The location of a school park site will be determined by the school district based on district policy. Coordinated city and school district planning allows for siting, acquisition, and facility development to be responsive to community needs. Service areas for school park sites will depend on the type of use and facilities provided.

## **5. Program Objectives:**

The criteria established for neighborhood parks and community parks should be used to determine how a school park site is developed and programmed. If athletic fields are developed at a school park site, they should, where feasible, be oriented toward youth rather than adult programs. Establishing a clearly defined joint-use agreement between involved agencies is critical to making school park relationships workable. This is particularly important with respect to acquisition, development, maintenance, liability, use, and programming of facility issues.

The orientation of school park projects is typically for neighborhood and community recreation services. The functions may include sports, recreation classes, passive recreation activities, and other recreation programs suitable to an elementary or secondary education school.

## **County Park**

### **1. Definition Summary:**

A county park provides sufficient park and recreation area to meet the needs of county residents. County parks consist of land that is specifically set aside for active and passive recreation uses, and that accommodates large gatherings, special events, and individual users. County parks offer a wide variety of compatible outdoor recreation activities, and

may provide areas that do not primarily serve a recreational purpose such as protected natural areas, historic areas, and special use areas.

## **2. Size Objectives:**

The size of recreation parks varies greatly from park to park, but with the exception of those parks that serve a special use or are trail corridors, a recreation park should consist of a minimum of 100 acres of land. Each park should be of sufficient size to accommodate the estimated use and to allow for the operation and maintenance of planned recreational facilities.

## **3. Service Area Objectives:**

County parks provide for a regional user group and serve primarily county residents. Special facilities like camping and trails are also used by tourists and visitors to the county.

## **4. Location Objectives:**

The land should have high recreational potential and be able to withstand intensive and extensive recreational activities. Land should have potential to accommodate large groups of people. Land for corridors should be located so as to connect to communities, parks, and open spaces. The potential for future land acquisition should be taken into account.

## **5. Program Objectives:**

Development should be appropriate for intended use and should accommodate moderate to high use. Development and planning should consider the physical condition and characteristics of the land and recognize potential environmental or structural limitations that might require intensive maintenance. County parks may include the following facilities:

- a. Camping/group camping
- b. Picnic areas
- c. Recreational trails (hiking, bicycling, mountain biking, equestrian, cross-country ski, snowmobile, etc.)
- d. Play areas
- e. Swimming beaches
- f. Water access
- g. Fishing access
- h. Shelters
- i. Restrooms

- j. Shower facilities
- k. Sport fields (basketball, volleyball, softball, etc.)
- l. Pet exercise area

## **6. Orientation:**

Multi-purpose service area and regional recreation resource serving a significant portion of a county or multi-county population.

## **7. Function:**

To provide sufficient parks and recreation areas to meet the needs of the people of the county.

## **8. Space, Design, and Service Area:**

The size of a county park should be a minimum of 100 acres. Facilities vary by park. Some parks offer active recreation (camping, recreational trails, etc.), while others provide passive recreation (scenic lookouts, picnic areas, beaches, etc.). Most parks provide both active and passive recreation. County parks provide for a regional user group and serve primarily county residents, through special facilities also serve tourists and visitors to the county.

## **State Forest**

### **1. Definition Summary:**

A state forest consists of well blocked areas of state owned lands that are managed to benefit present and future generations of residents, recognizing that forests contribute to local and statewide economics and to a healthy natural environment. State forests practice sustainable forestry. The management of state forests is consistent with the ecological capability of state forest land and with the long-term goal of maintaining sustainable forest communities and ecosystems. Benefits of maintaining these ecosystems include soil protection, public hunting, protection of water quality, production of recurring forest products, outdoor recreation, native biological diversity, aquatic and terrestrial wildlife, and aesthetic value. The range of benefits provided in each state forest reflect its unique character and position in the regional landscape.

**2. Size Objectives:**

Typically between 1,000 and 250,000 acres, but can be larger or smaller.

**3. Service Area Objectives:**

Generally a 100 mile radius. State forests typically provide close-to-home recreational area. Day users typically travel approximately 50 miles one-way to reach state forests, while overnight users tend to travel further, approximately 100-150 miles one-way. Travel to state forests can, however, exceed 160 miles for longer vacation stays and travel to "destination areas."

**4. Location Objectives:**

Areas with large blocks of land.

**5. Program Objectives:**

State forests must meet ecological, economic, social, and cultural needs. Elements are compatible with the natural resource setting and park site constraints. Facilities may include the following:

**Current Level of Supply:**

Hiking trails	1,256 acres per linear mile of trail
Cross-country ski trails	2,551 acres per linear mile of trail
Snowmobile trails	639 acres per linear mile of trail
Equestrian trails	559 acres per linear mile of trail
ATV trails	1,795 acres per linear mile of trail
Camping sites	1 campsite per 265 acres

**6. Orientation:**

Multi-purpose service area and regional recreation resource serving a significant portion of a state or regional population.

**7. Function:**

To provide for nature conservation, provide income to forest owners, supply raw materials to the wood processing industry, and provide public recreation.

**8. Space, Design, and Service Area:**

The size of a state forest is determined by the extent of the area's natural resources and recreation capabilities. There is no minimum or maximum size for a state forest. Facilities are not universal and vary by forest. The geographic location of the forest and the natural resources present dictate recreation available at the site. State forests serve large geographic areas of a state or region.

**State Park**

**1. Definition Summary:**

A state park, by size, program, and location, provides space for outdoor recreation and education about nature and conservation. These parks serve a significant geographic segment of a state or regional population. State parks aim to preserve, protect, interpret and enhance the scenic and cultural resources of the state.

**2. Size Objectives:**

Parks must be large enough to accommodate a reasonable mix of outdoor recreational activities. Typically, parks are between 500 and 3000 acres, but can be smaller (<20 acres) or larger (>10,000 acres).

**3. Service Area Objectives:**

Generally a 100-mile radius. State parks typically provide close-to-home recreational areas. Day users generally travel approximately 50 miles one-way to reach state parks, while overnight users tend to travel further, approximately 100-150 miles one-way. Travel distances to state parks can often exceed 160 miles for longer vacation stays and trips to "destination areas."

**4. Location Objectives:**

Siting of Wisconsin State Parks is typically based on five criteria developed by John Nolen. These criteria are: 1) large size to serve a large number of citizens, 2) accessibility to major population areas, 3) a healthful, natural setting, 4) reasonable cost for land acquisition, 5) land possessing "decidedly uncommon charm and beauty." All, or a combination of these criteria are used to determine where to site a state park.

**5. Program Objectives:**

Elements that fulfill the service area, park facilities and recreation program demands. Elements are compatible with the natural resource setting and park site constraints. Developments may include the following facilities:

### Current Level of Supply:

Hiking trails	196 acres per linear mile of trail
Surfaced bicycle trails	860 acres per linear mile of trail
Mountain bike trails	549 acres per linear mile of trail
Nature trails	1,871 acres per liner mile of trail
Cross-country ski trails	430 acres per linear mile of trail
Snowmobile trails	426 acres per linear mile of trail
Equestrian trails	400 acres per linear mile of trail
Picnic sites	0.05 acres per picnic table
Camping sites	1 campsite per 29 acres
Parking stalls	Year-Round = 1 stall for every three visitors
Swimming beaches	17 linear feet per 1,000 users

#### 5. Orientation:

Multi-purpose service area and regional recreation resource serving a significant portion of a state or regional population.

#### 6. Function:

To provide for public recreation and education of conservation and nature study. To preserve, protect, interpret and enhance the scenic and cultural resources of the state.

#### 7. Space, Design, and Service Area:

The size of a state park is determined by the extent of the area's natural resources and recreation capabilities. There is no minimum or maximum size for a state park. Facilities are not universal and vary by park. Some parks offer active recreation (camping, boating, mountain biking trails, hunting etc.), while others offer passive recreation (scenic lookouts, picnic areas, beaches, etc.). Most provide both active and passive recreation. The geographic area and the natural resources present dictate recreation uses and facilities present in the park. State parks serve large geographic areas of a state or region.

Attachment B

# Facility Development Standards

From: National Recreation and Park Association

## SUGGESTED OUTDOOR FACILITY DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

Activity Format	Recommended Size and Dimensions	Recommended Space Requirements	Recommended Orientation	Service Radius and Location Notes
<b>Badminton</b>	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.
<b>Basketball</b> 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.
<b>Handball (3-4 wall)</b>	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.
<b>Ice Hockey</b>	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.
<b>Tennis</b>	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.
<b>Volleyball</b>	30' x 60'. Minimum of 6' clearance on all sides.	Minimum 4,000 sq. ft.	Long axis north - south	½ - 1 mile.
<b>Baseball</b> 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.
<b>Field Hockey</b>	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.
<b>Football</b>	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.
<b>Soccer</b>	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.
<b>Golf - Driving Range</b>	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)*

<b>Activity Format</b>	<b>Recommended Size and Dimensions</b>	<b>Recommended Space Requirements</b>	<b>Recommended Orientation</b>	<b>Service Radius and Location Notes</b>
<b>¼ mile running track</b>	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.
<b>Softball</b>	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.
<b>Multiple use court (basketball, tennis, etc.)</b>	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.
<b>Archery range</b>	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.
<b>Golf</b> <b>1. Par 3 (18 hole)</b>  <b>2. 9-hole standard</b>  <b>3. 18-hole standard</b>	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.
<b>Swimming pools</b>	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.
<b>Beach areas</b>	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 C

## Federal and State Outdoor Recreation Funding Programs

Compiled by: NCWRPC

## Wisconsin DNR Administered Programs

DNR Community Services Specialist  
Rhineland Office  
107 Sutliff Ave  
Rhineland WI 54501

Note: Various program application periods may exist. Check online for each

### Acquisition and Development of Local Parks (ADLP) Grants [Stewardship]

ADLP grants are awarded to improve community recreation areas and acquire land for public outdoor recreation. Priority is given to land acquisition where a need for additional recreational land is supported by an approved comprehensive outdoor recreation plan.

### Acquisition of Development Rights (ADR) [Stewardship]

The purpose of the acquisition of development rights (ADR) subprogram is to protect natural, agricultural or forest lands that enhance and/or provide nature-based outdoor recreation. ADR grants can only fund conservation easement purchases.

### ATV/UTV Enhancement

This funding is issued bi-annually to non-profit organizations that promote the safe and wise use of all terrain vehicles (ATVs)/utility-terrain vehicles (UTVs), ATV/UTV riding and ATV/UTV education.

### ATV/UTV Patrols

This grant is issued to Wisconsin sheriff departments that participate in ATV enforcement efforts. The DNR can provide up to 100% of county net costs for the enforcement of ATV regulations. Actual funding received is based on total allotted funds split between participating agencies.

Patrol requirements are contained in NR 50.125, Wis. Adm. Code.

### ATV/UTV Trails

Counties, towns, cities, villages and tribes can apply for funds to acquire, insure, develop and maintain ATV/UTV trails, areas and routes.

Specific changes to NR 64 created Hybrid Trails ("Troutes") or all-terrain vehicle trail and route combinations.

### Boat Enforcement Patrol

*Eligibility & Purpose:* This grant is issued to Wisconsin counties or municipalities that participate in boating enforcement efforts. Eligible agencies may receive law enforcement aids for up to 75% of their net costs.

## Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program

The purpose of BIG is to construct, renovate, and maintain boating infrastructure facilities for transient recreational vessels at least 26 feet long.

### Tier 1 - State

Provides up to \$200,000 per year to each state. Projects are competitively ranked within the state.

### Tier 2 - National

Provides up to \$1,500,000 per project. Projects are competitively ranked at the national level.

## Natural Areas [Stewardship] Only available to nonprofits

Stewardship natural area grants complement the State Natural Areas (SNA) Program, dedicated to the preservation of Wisconsin's native natural communities and habitat for rare plant and animal species.

Land purchased with natural area grants must be open to the public for low-impact nature-based recreation and scientific study. Natural areas are not intended for intensive recreational use such as mountain biking, motorized vehicle use, horseback riding or camping.

## Habitat Areas [Stewardship] Only available to nonprofits

Habitat area grants are awarded to conserve wildlife habitat in Wisconsin in order to expand opportunities for wildlife-based recreation such as hunting, trapping, hiking, bird watching, fishing, nature appreciation and wildlife viewing.

Land purchased with habitat area grants must be open to the public for low-impact nature-based recreation. Habitat areas are not intended for intensive recreational use such as mountain biking, motorized vehicle use, horseback riding or camping.

## Stream Bank protection [Stewardship] Only available to nonprofits

Streambank protection grants are awarded to protect water quality and fish habitat.

Priority is given to land or easement purchases along designated Outstanding or Exceptional Resource Waters, projects that connect sections of protected stream corridor, and projects that will mitigate the impact of agricultural runoff.

## State trails [Stewardship] Only available to nonprofits

State trail grants are awarded to purchase lands or easements identified as part of the State Trail system including designated State Water Trails. Priority is given to lands along nationally designated Ice Age and North Country trail corridors and to lands that connect established trail systems.

## Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) State Program

This is a federal program administered in all states that encourages the creation and interpretation of high-quality outdoor recreational opportunities. Funds received by the DNR for this program are split between DNR projects and grants to local governments for outdoor recreation activities. Grants cover 50% of eligible project costs.

### Motorized Stewardship Grants [Stewardship]

ATV/UTV grants are available to counties, towns, cities, villages and tribes to apply for funds to acquire, insure, develop and maintain ATV/UTV trails, areas and routes.

Snowmobile trail grants are available to counties and tribes to apply for funding to provide a statewide system of well-signed and well-groomed snowmobile trails for public use and enjoyment.

*Match Requirement:* 20 percent

### Recreational Boating Facilities Grants [Stewardship]

These grants may be used by counties, towns, cities, villages, tribes, sanitary districts, public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts and qualified lake associations for recreational boating facility projects.

Past projects have included ramps and service docks to gain access to the water, purchase of aquatic weed harvesting equipment, navigation aids and dredging waterway channels.

### Recreational Trails Program (RTP)

This is a federal program administered in all states. Municipal governments and incorporated organizations are eligible to receive reimbursement for the development and maintenance of recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both motorized and non-motorized recreational trail uses.

Eligible sponsors may be reimbursed for up to 50% of eligible project costs. Funds from this program may be used in conjunction with funds from the state snowmobile or ATV grant programs and Knowles-Nelson Stewardship development projects.

### Shooting Range Grant Program

Counties, cities, villages, townships, other governmental agencies or units, clubs or organizations, businesses or corporations and educational institutions can apply for assistance in outdoor shooting range construction, including backstops and berms, target holders, shooting benches, baffles, protective fencing, signs, trenches, gun racks, platforms, restrooms and other items considered essential for the project by the department. Indoor ranges may be eligible as well, including classroom, storage and restroom facilities.

### Snowmobile Patrols

This grant is issued to Wisconsin sheriff departments that participate in snowmobile enforcement efforts. The DNR can provide up to 100% of county net cost for the enforcement of snowmobile regulations. Actual funding received is based on total allotted funds split between participating agencies.

## Snowmobile Trail Aids

These grants are used to reimburse the over 600 snowmobile clubs in Wisconsin for some of their expenses.

Snowmobile trail aids are entirely funded by snowmobilers. The money awarded in grants to Wisconsin counties comes from snowmobile registrations, trail pass revenue and gas tax from some of the gas used in snowmobiles.

## Sport Fish Restoration (SFR)

These grants may be used to construct fishing piers and motorboat access projects. Eligible components include boat ramp construction and renovation, along with related amenities such as parking lots, accessible paths, lighting, and restroom facilities. Funding for this program comes from federal excise taxes on fishing equipment and a portion of the federal gas tax.

## Surface Water Grants

*[Formerly: Lake Management Planning and Lake Classification and Lake Protection Grants.]*

The surface water grant program provides cost-sharing grants for surface water protection and restoration. Funding is available for education, ecological assessments, planning, implementation, and aquatic invasive species prevention and control. With many different projects eligible for grant funding, you can support surface water management at any stage: from organization capacity development to project implementation.

## Urban Green Space [Stewardship]

The intent of the Urban Green Space Program (UGS) is to provide open natural space within or in proximity to urban areas; to protect from development areas within or in proximity to urban areas that have scenic, ecological or other natural value; and to provide land for non-commercial gardening for the residents of an urbanized area.

## Urban Rivers [Stewardship]

The urban rivers subprogram program aims to restore or preserve the character of urban riverways through the acquisition or development of land adjacent to rivers. Purposes of the program include supporting economic revitalization through the restoration or preservation of urban riverfronts and improving outdoor recreational opportunities by increasing access to urban rivers.

## Wisconsin DOT Administered Programs

Bike & Ped Coordinator  
Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
1681 Second Avenue South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

### Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

*Purpose:* The Transportation Alternatives Program allocates federal funds to

Surface Transportation (FAST) Act signed into law in 2015. Safe Routes to School Programs, Bicycle & Pedestrian Facilities programs, and transportation enhancements are all TAP-eligible projects, including this plan. WisDOT facilitates TAP program and funding management

Construction projects eligible for TAP must have a total projected expense of \$300,000 or more, while non-construction projects must have a total projected expense in excess of \$50,000.

### Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

#### ***[A Transportation Alternatives Program]***

*Purpose:* Safe Routes to School programs encourage children in grades K-8 to walk and bike to school by creating safer walking and biking routes. Projects must be within 2 miles of a school that has a SRTS plan, and funding requires a 20% match.

### Local Transportation Enhancements (TE)

#### ***[A Transportation Alternatives Program]***

*Purpose:* Funds projects to increase multi-modal transportation alternatives and enhance communities and the environment. Projects include bicycle or pedestrian facilities, landscaping or streetscaping, and the preservation of historic transportation structures.

### Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities Program (BFPF)

#### ***[A Transportation Alternatives Program]***

*Purpose:* Funds projects that construct or plan for bicycle or bicycle/pedestrian facilities.

### Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

While HSIP does not pertain to bicycle and pedestrian transportation, this WisDOT program can help improve safety measures on problematic stretches of highway where crashes have occurred in the past, thereby creating a safer and more hospitable transportation network. HSIP improvements generally require a ten percent match of

state or local funds. The program generally funds low-cost options that can be implemented quickly.

### Federal Assistance Programs

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

#### Challenge Cost Share Program (CCSP) | National Park Service

*Purpose:* The Challenge Cost Share Program supports local projects that promote conservation and recreation, environmental stewardship, education and engaging diverse youth participants. Local project partners work with National Park Service parks and programs to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes. NPS administered parks and programs are eligible such as National Trails, Heritage Areas, and Wild and Scenic Rivers.,

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:

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

#### Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program | National Park Service

*Purpose:* The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program supports community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects across the nation. The national network of conservation and recreation planning professionals partner with community groups, nonprofits, tribes, and state and local governments to design trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers, protect special places, and create recreation opportunities.

Attachment D

# Outdoor Recreation Online Survey Results





Compiled by: NCWRPC



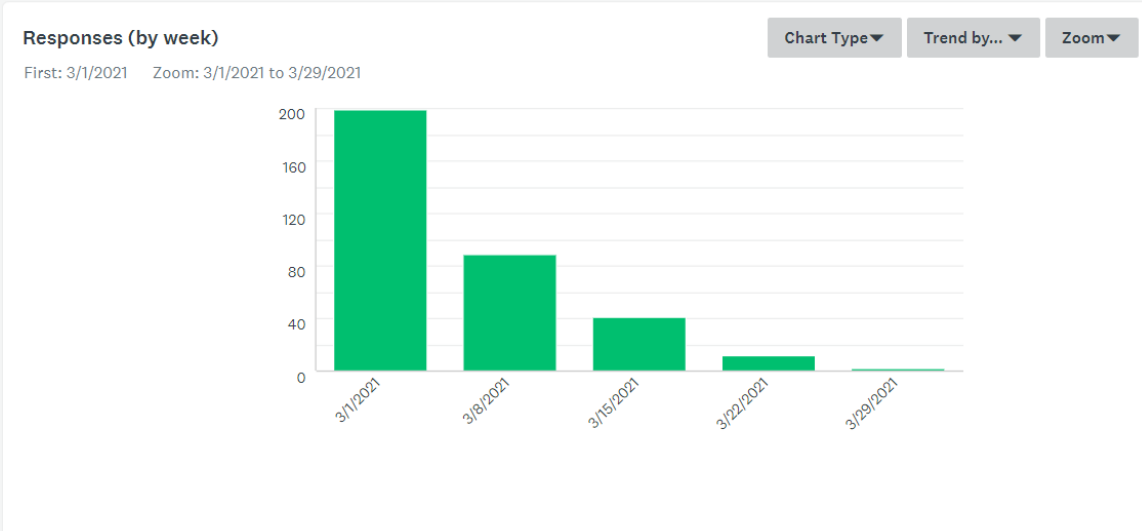
**Forest County, 2021 ORP Survey**  
**Response Summary with Comments**

Forest County Outdoor Recreation Survey

Insights

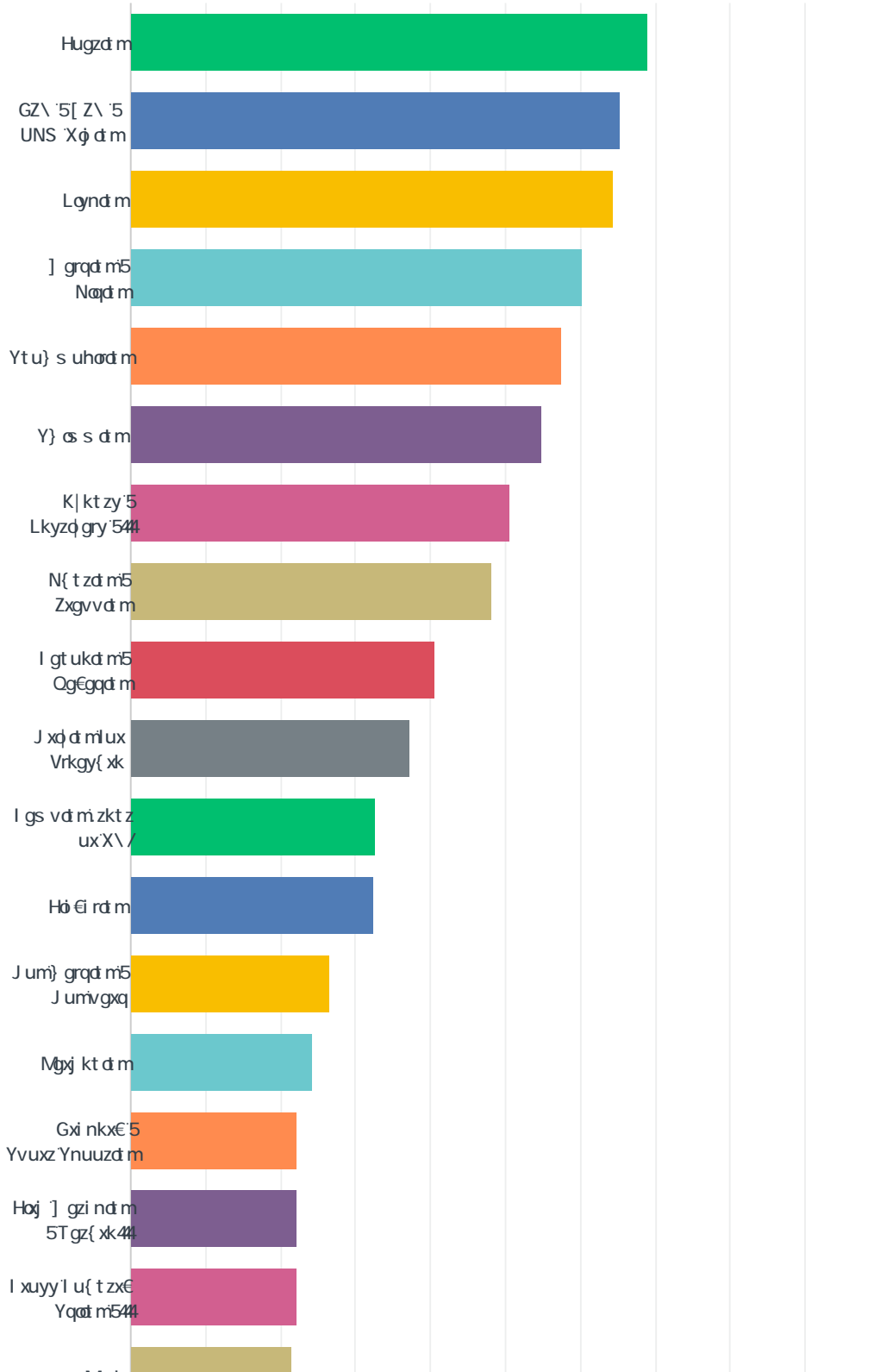
<b>TOTAL RESPONSES</b> 343	<b>COMPLETION RATE</b> <span>?</span> 85%	<b>TYPICAL TIME SPENT</b> <span>?</span> 4m:47s
	Is this useful?  	Is this useful?  

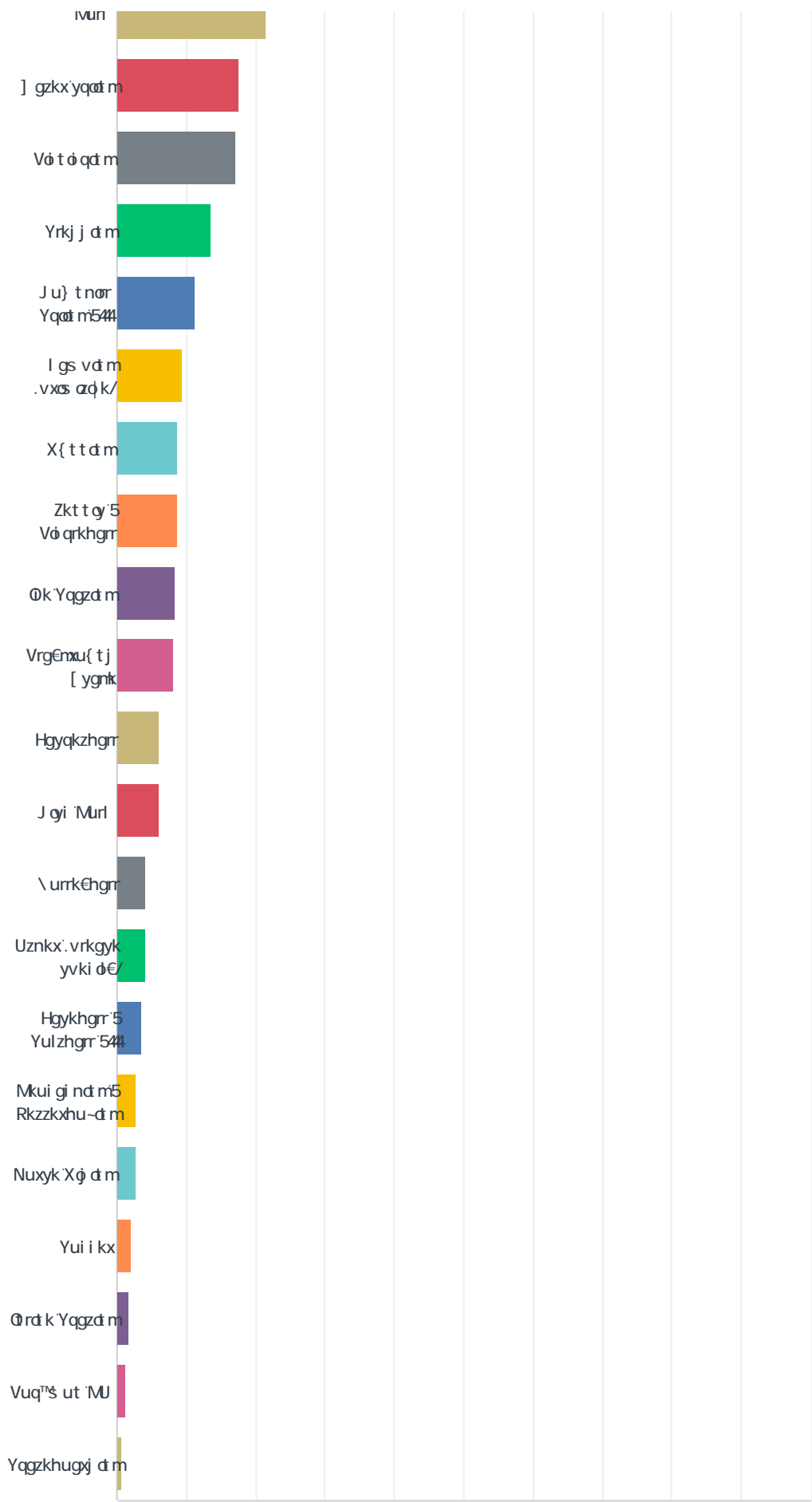
Trends



# Q1 2020 was not a regular year...Normally, in an average year, which outdoor recreational activities do you participate in? (Choose all that apply.)

Answered: 343 Skipped: 0





: cfYgh`7ci bhmCi hXccf`F YWfYUh]cb`Gi fj Ym

6+ 76+ 86+ 96+ : 6+ ; 6+ <6+ =6+ >6+ ?6+ 766+

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Boating	69.10%	237
ATV / UTV / OHM Riding	65.31%	224
Fishing	64.43%	221
Walking / Hiking	60.35%	207
Snowmobiling	57.43%	197
Swimming	54.81%	188
Events / Festivals / Fairs	50.73%	174
Hunting / Trapping	48.10%	165
Canoeing / Kayaking	40.52%	139
Driving for Pleasure	37.32%	128
Camping (tent or RV)	32.65%	112
Bicycling	32.36%	111
Dog walking / Dog park	26.53%	91
Gardening	24.20%	83
Archery / Sport Shooting	22.16%	76
Bird Watching / Nature Viewing	22.16%	76
Cross Country Skiing / Snowshoeing	22.16%	76
Golf	21.57%	74
Water skiing	17.49%	60
Picnicking	17.20%	59
Sledding	13.70%	47
Downhill Skiing / Snowboarding	11.37%	39
Camping (primitive)	9.33%	32
Running	8.75%	30
Tennis / Pickleball	8.75%	30
Ice Skating	8.45%	29
Playground Usage	8.16%	28
Basketball	6.12%	21
Disc Golf	6.12%	21
Volleyball	4.08%	14
Other (please specify)	4.08%	14
Baseball / Softball / T-ball	3.50%	12

Geocaching / Letterboxing	2.62%	9
Horse Riding	2.62%	9
Soccer	2.04%	7
Inline Skating	1.75%	6
Pokémon GO	1.17%	4
Skateboarding	0.58%	2
Total Respondents: 343		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Mountain biking	3/17/2021 2:30 PM
2	Mountain biking	3/15/2021 8:22 AM
3	X	3/12/2021 12:20 AM
4	Foraging for mushrooms and other wild foods	3/8/2021 4:24 PM
5	Pickelball	3/7/2021 7:45 PM
6	Pickelball	3/7/2021 7:21 PM
7	What	3/7/2021 5:29 PM
8	Shooting	3/7/2021 4:43 PM
9	None	3/7/2021 2:02 PM
10	Mushroom gathering	3/7/2021 12:52 PM
11	Fat tire and mountain biking. Assume road on your above	3/7/2021 12:08 PM
12	Auto Racing	3/7/2021 12:00 PM
13	ATV Riding	3/7/2021 11:54 AM
14	Mountain biking	3/7/2021 11:46 AM

## Q2 What potential outdoor recreational opportunities should be developed in Forest County?

Answered: 182 Skipped: 161

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
a.	100.00%	182
b.	52.20%	95
c.	29.12%	53

#	A.	DATE
1	More recreational trails	3/29/2021 11:47 AM
2	Hiking trails	3/29/2021 12:09 AM
3	better canoe/kayak landing and signage and access	3/28/2021 1:33 PM
4	More forest trails for atv/utv	3/25/2021 5:58 PM
5	UTV/ATV	3/25/2021 3:15 PM
6	disc golf	3/25/2021 10:07 AM
7	Stop closing hiking trails	3/23/2021 12:17 PM
8	Additional parking at county lands to accommodate horse trailers	3/22/2021 7:37 AM
9	Atving	3/18/2021 5:51 PM
10	Atv	3/18/2021 3:55 AM
11	Off-road non-motorized bicycle trails	3/17/2021 4:04 PM
12	Mountain bike trails	3/17/2021 2:30 PM
13	Side by side and ATV obstical course	3/16/2021 6:59 PM
14	ATV Trails	3/16/2021 10:21 AM
15	more trails in the county forests	3/16/2021 9:13 AM
16	More ATV/UTV Trails, not just routes.	3/15/2021 7:08 PM
17	More UTV trails	3/15/2021 3:35 PM
18	More utv trails	3/15/2021 12:56 PM
19	More atv/utv trails in the woods	3/15/2021 12:11 PM
20	More utv trails	3/15/2021 12:02 PM
21	Atv trails	3/15/2021 11:40 AM
22	Would love to see more year round ATV/UTV trails	3/15/2021 10:42 AM
23	atv/utv trails	3/15/2021 10:41 AM
24	more trails	3/15/2021 10:20 AM
25	Atv. Utv	3/15/2021 9:54 AM
26	More woods for atv trails	3/15/2021 9:51 AM
27	Forest trails for utv riding	3/15/2021 9:27 AM

28	More atv trails	3/15/2021 9:25 AM
29	Mountain Biking	3/15/2021 9:07 AM
30	More atv trails	3/15/2021 8:59 AM
31	More snowmobiling and atv/utv trails	3/15/2021 8:36 AM
32	More forest atv trails	3/15/2021 8:33 AM
33	Atv/utv trails	3/15/2021 8:32 AM
34	Food plots in the forest	3/15/2021 8:27 AM
35	More atv trails.	3/15/2021 8:25 AM
36	Community gardens	3/15/2021 8:25 AM
37	More atv/orv trails	3/15/2021 8:22 AM
38	More ATV/UTV Trails on public land, not routes.	3/15/2021 8:02 AM
39	Paved bicycle trails	3/14/2021 5:22 PM
40	Walking trails	3/14/2021 2:08 PM
41	Dog park	3/12/2021 4:08 PM
42	Disc golf	3/12/2021 1:13 PM
43	more outdoor playgrounds	3/12/2021 12:42 PM
44	Disc golf course	3/12/2021 12:06 PM
45	Frisbee golf course	3/12/2021 12:05 PM
46	a disc golf course	3/12/2021 11:07 AM
47	Better maintenance of the Rat River Recreational Trail	3/12/2021 10:54 AM
48	bike paths	3/12/2021 9:49 AM
49	more hiking trails	3/12/2021 6:31 AM
50	Pickle Ball Courts	3/12/2021 5:14 AM
51	Mountain bike trails	3/12/2021 12:36 AM
52	More (non motorized) hiking trails	3/11/2021 9:57 PM
53	Outdoor ice skating	3/11/2021 9:14 PM
54	More hiking trails	3/11/2021 7:22 PM
55	Nature education classes outside - guided nature walks	3/11/2021 6:16 PM
56	more hiking/biking/dog walking trails	3/11/2021 6:09 PM
57	More pedestrian trails and road shoulders for walking	3/11/2021 8:38 AM
58	Silent sports - recreational trails	3/10/2021 2:27 PM
59	Gravel biking	3/10/2021 11:49 AM
60	Hiking trails	3/10/2021 6:22 AM
61	Add parallel trails connecting and bypassing the NST and wolf grade including small loop trails	3/9/2021 6:18 PM
62	Atv	3/9/2021 4:45 PM
63	Off road bicycle trail (better marking than Otter Spring)	3/9/2021 8:30 AM
64	Trail walking in woods	3/9/2021 7:28 AM
65	Winter bike trails	3/9/2021 4:39 AM



66	Biking	3/8/2021 9:24 PM
67	Pickle ball	3/8/2021 9:19 PM
68	Atv/Utv	3/8/2021 8:00 PM
69	Bike Trails	3/8/2021 5:19 PM
70	Pickleball courts, more of them and better surfaces	3/8/2021 4:24 PM
71	Bike Paths	3/8/2021 4:13 PM
72	Pickleball courts	3/8/2021 3:52 PM
73	Disk golf	3/8/2021 3:25 PM
74	Handicapped Fishing Piers	3/8/2021 2:59 PM
75	Nothing I like what Forest County offers.	3/8/2021 1:37 PM
76	More groomed x-country skiing	3/8/2021 1:26 PM
77	More pedestrian only walking	3/8/2021 12:34 PM
78	Should be able to use ATVs on 55..so you can get to all the trailers available	3/8/2021 11:49 AM
79	More single track trails for mt. Bikes	3/8/2021 11:24 AM
80	Pickleball courts in Crandon	3/8/2021 9:38 AM
81	Improve/maintain what we have - trails, parks, etc	3/8/2021 9:17 AM
82	Multi use trails	3/8/2021 8:50 AM
83	Biking trails	3/8/2021 8:28 AM
84	Snowshoe trails	3/8/2021 8:26 AM
85	Bike trails	3/8/2021 8:26 AM
86	MTB biking	3/8/2021 8:05 AM
87	Dedicated bicycle lanes	3/8/2021 7:23 AM
88	Snowshoe trails that are well marked	3/8/2021 7:16 AM
89	Pickle Ball Courts	3/8/2021 6:43 AM
90	Bike trails	3/8/2021 5:07 AM
91	Less Bears	3/8/2021 2:17 AM
92	Mountain BIKE TRAILS	3/8/2021 1:12 AM
93	bike trails	3/7/2021 10:33 PM
94	Ski hill	3/7/2021 9:23 PM
95	Hiking / snowshoe trails	3/7/2021 9:14 PM
96	RV camping	3/7/2021 9:06 PM
97	More atv/utv trails	3/7/2021 8:35 PM
98	Atv park	3/7/2021 8:16 PM
99	More bike trails to connect communities	3/7/2021 8:13 PM
100	Bicycling	3/7/2021 7:35 PM
101	Pickelball courts	3/7/2021 7:34 PM
102	Pickelball	3/7/2021 7:21 PM
103	Continue to grow the ATV/UTV trail system	3/7/2021 7:09 PM

104	Pickelball courts	3/7/2021 7:01 PM
105	More arv trails during the summer	3/7/2021 7:00 PM
106	Bike and hike trails	3/7/2021 6:41 PM
107	Pickleball	3/7/2021 6:23 PM
108	Mountain biking	3/7/2021 6:14 PM
109	New pickleball courts	3/7/2021 5:58 PM
110	Snowmobiling, additional trails	3/7/2021 5:45 PM
111	Snowmobile trails	3/7/2021 5:24 PM
112	mountain bike trails	3/7/2021 5:00 PM
113	Good the way it is, don't need any more people up here	3/7/2021 4:59 PM
114	Dog Park	3/7/2021 4:57 PM
115	More snowmobile and utv trails	3/7/2021 4:52 PM
116	More walking trails	3/7/2021 4:50 PM
117	Shooting rifle pistol shotgun	3/7/2021 4:43 PM
118	Utv ing	3/7/2021 4:30 PM
119	Utv trails connectors	3/7/2021 4:30 PM
120	Mountain bike trails	3/7/2021 4:09 PM
121	Mountain Biking	3/7/2021 3:49 PM
122	Snowmobiling	3/7/2021 3:40 PM
123	Fishing	3/7/2021 3:03 PM
124	Mountain bike trails	3/7/2021 2:40 PM
125	Hiking trails	3/7/2021 2:30 PM
126	Atv	3/7/2021 2:28 PM
127	Family fishing events	3/7/2021 2:10 PM
128	Hiking trails	3/7/2021 2:08 PM
129	Gravel bicycles are a growing hot trend. Glad to see the potawatomi trying to develop some off highway trails	3/7/2021 2:02 PM
130	Ski hill	3/7/2021 2:01 PM
131	More bike trails	3/7/2021 1:27 PM
132	Snowmobile friendly trails	3/7/2021 1:23 PM
133	Snowmobile friendly county	3/7/2021 1:16 PM
134	Snowmobile friendly towns	3/7/2021 1:01 PM
135	Water park	3/7/2021 12:55 PM
136	More walking trails	3/7/2021 12:47 PM
137	Walking trails that aren't open to motorized vehicles	3/7/2021 12:37 PM
138	Bring back disc golf!	3/7/2021 12:37 PM
139	Bike trails	3/7/2021 12:36 PM
140	More non motorized areas	3/7/2021 12:14 PM
141	More Atv/utv trails routes year round	3/7/2021 12:11 PM

142	Biking Trails for riding in the woods	3/7/2021 12:10 PM
143	Bike riding trails	3/7/2021 12:07 PM
144	Additional UTV/ATV and Snowmobile Trails	3/7/2021 12:00 PM
145	Year round pool for lessons and exercise	3/7/2021 11:59 AM
146	More camp grounds	3/7/2021 11:56 AM
147	Snowshoeing trails	3/7/2021 11:55 AM
148	Snowshoeing	3/7/2021 11:52 AM
149	More off road A T V trails	3/7/2021 11:49 AM
150	Mountain Biking	3/7/2021 11:46 AM
151	Atv trails	3/7/2021 11:42 AM
152	snowmobile racing event. Snocross	3/7/2021 11:42 AM
153	Mountain bike trails	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
154	Single track MTB	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
155	More events at the track	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
156	Proper deer management, I don't even waste my time in Forrest County hunting deer anymore for the fact that you never see anything	3/7/2021 11:35 AM
157	More trail heads	3/7/2021 11:33 AM
158	Off road park	3/7/2021 11:33 AM
159	Off road vehicle park	3/7/2021 11:32 AM
160	More hiking trails	3/7/2021 11:32 AM
161	More motorized trail riding access!	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
162	All	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
163	Downhill skiing	3/7/2021 11:30 AM
164	Stream fishing	3/7/2021 11:29 AM
165	atv	3/7/2021 11:28 AM
166	Snowmobile trails	3/7/2021 11:28 AM
167	Fix the campground you destroyed without a plan	3/7/2021 11:26 AM
168	Biking	3/7/2021 11:26 AM
169	Spend the money that is in Forest County on the current recreational opportunities. There is no need to add more for the sake of adding.	3/7/2021 11:24 AM
170	improve connectivity atv trails	3/7/2021 11:22 AM
171	ice skating rink	3/5/2021 2:29 PM
172	summer non motorized bicycling trails	3/2/2021 5:22 PM
173	More atv trails not routes	3/2/2021 5:09 PM
174	Snowmobiling	3/2/2021 5:06 PM
175	More atv trails	3/2/2021 5:06 PM
176	snowmobile	3/2/2021 4:47 PM
177	ATV route on on Highway 55 to cross Pine River between Pine River Road and Long Lake Road.	3/2/2021 4:28 PM

178	More snowmobile trails	3/2/2021 3:44 PM
179	More Mountain bike trails	3/2/2021 2:59 PM
180	Bicycles trails	3/1/2021 6:58 PM
181	Disc golf	3/1/2021 6:47 PM
182	Bicycles	3/1/2021 4:46 PM
#	B.	DATE
1	More walking/biking trails	3/29/2021 11:47 AM
2	Utv trails would be nice	3/29/2021 12:09 AM
3	atv route on old railroad grade from armstrong crk to crandon	3/28/2021 1:33 PM
4	Public shooting range	3/25/2021 5:58 PM
5	Hunting	3/25/2021 3:15 PM
6	bike path	3/25/2021 10:07 AM
7	Additional trails at ottercreek	3/22/2021 7:37 AM
8	Snowmobiling	3/18/2021 5:51 PM
9	Hiking	3/18/2021 3:55 AM
10	Cross-country ski trails	3/17/2021 4:04 PM
11	Walking/hiking trails	3/16/2021 10:21 AM
12	Atv park	3/15/2021 11:40 AM
13	Hiking trails	3/15/2021 10:41 AM
14	more access	3/15/2021 10:20 AM
15	Hiking trail	3/15/2021 9:54 AM
16	Trail 7 in wabeno to gas not close	3/15/2021 9:51 AM
17	Cool Hiking Trails	3/15/2021 9:07 AM
18	More campgrounds	3/15/2021 8:33 AM
19	Swimming	3/15/2021 8:32 AM
20	Maintaining areas in forest for hunting trails	3/15/2021 8:27 AM
21	Walking trails, health walks, etc	3/15/2021 8:25 AM
22	Restore existing campgrounds, like brule river	3/15/2021 8:22 AM
23	Hiking trails	3/14/2021 5:22 PM
24	Mini golf	3/12/2021 12:06 PM
25	Mini golf	3/12/2021 12:05 PM
26	bike trails through the nicolet	3/12/2021 11:07 AM
27	Restore and maintain the Michigan Rapids hiking trail	3/12/2021 10:54 AM
28	Bike boat and kayak rentals	3/11/2021 7:22 PM
29	picnic areas that dogs are welcome at	3/11/2021 6:09 PM
30	More bicycle trails and routes along highways	3/11/2021 8:38 AM
31	Handicap accessible fishing / boating opportunities	3/10/2021 2:27 PM
32	Bikepacking	3/10/2021 11:49 AM

33	Also accurately and timely announce snowmobile trail conditions at the club level and on the WI DNR trail site. Recently these are poor at best with some clubs doing nothing.	3/9/2021 6:18 PM
34	Mtn bike trails	3/9/2021 4:39 AM
35	Snowshoeing	3/8/2021 9:24 PM
36	Snowmobiling	3/8/2021 8:00 PM
37	Pickle Ball	3/8/2021 5:19 PM
38	Bike trails that are not actually ATV trails	3/8/2021 4:24 PM
39	Hiking Trails	3/8/2021 4:13 PM
40	Bike trails	3/8/2021 3:52 PM
41	Golf	3/8/2021 3:25 PM
42	Disc golf courses	3/8/2021 11:24 AM
43	Walking/hiking trails	3/8/2021 8:50 AM
44	Hiking trails	3/8/2021 8:26 AM
45	Pickleball courts improved upon	3/8/2021 8:26 AM
46	Walking trails	3/8/2021 8:05 AM
47	Cross country skiing trails	3/8/2021 7:16 AM
48	Bicycle Trails	3/8/2021 6:43 AM
49	Not sure	3/8/2021 5:07 AM
50	Less wolves	3/8/2021 2:17 AM
51	Hiking trails	3/8/2021 1:12 AM
52	Bike trails	3/7/2021 9:14 PM
53	Kayak launch	3/7/2021 9:06 PM
54	Better access to atv/utv trails	3/7/2021 8:13 PM
55	More dog friendly parks and beaches	3/7/2021 7:09 PM
56	Bike paths	3/7/2021 6:23 PM
57	Gravel bike routes	3/7/2021 6:14 PM
58	Boat landings	3/7/2021 5:24 PM
59	Disc Golf	3/7/2021 4:57 PM
60	Atv park	3/7/2021 4:43 PM
61	Trout fishing	3/7/2021 4:30 PM
62	Brushing out streams for canoeing	3/7/2021 4:09 PM
63	UTV	3/7/2021 3:40 PM
64	Deer	3/7/2021 3:03 PM
65	Biking trails	3/7/2021 2:30 PM
66	Mountain bike trails	3/7/2021 2:10 PM
67	Picnicking areas	3/7/2021 2:08 PM
68	Sledding hill	3/7/2021 2:01 PM
69	More hiking trails	3/7/2021 1:27 PM
70	Water park	3/7/2021 12:55 PM

71	Bike paths	3/7/2021 12:47 PM
72	Mountain bike trails	3/7/2021 12:37 PM
73	Groomed sledding hill	3/7/2021 12:37 PM
74	More atv trails	3/7/2021 12:36 PM
75	Walking trails	3/7/2021 11:59 AM
76	Running & walking trails	3/7/2021 11:55 AM
77	Cross country ski trails	3/7/2021 11:52 AM
78	Disc golf	3/7/2021 11:46 AM
79	Swimming	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
80	carnivals	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
81	Disc golf	3/7/2021 11:33 AM
82	More hiking trails	3/7/2021 11:30 AM
83	Nature trails	3/7/2021 11:29 AM
84	utv	3/7/2021 11:28 AM
85	Bicycle trails	3/7/2021 11:28 AM
86	Hiking	3/7/2021 11:26 AM
87	ada fishing piers	3/7/2021 11:22 AM
88	winter non motorized bicycling trails	3/2/2021 5:22 PM
89	Atv park	3/2/2021 5:09 PM
90	Atv	3/2/2021 5:06 PM
91	Atv park	3/2/2021 5:06 PM
92	New bridge to reopen snowmobile trail going east out of Wabeno on Solber Road. Trail SS6	3/2/2021 4:28 PM
93	bicycle pump track	3/2/2021 2:59 PM
94	Snowshoeing group	3/1/2021 6:47 PM
95	Snow shoeing	3/1/2021 4:46 PM
#	C.	DATE
1	water tubing down rivers	3/25/2021 10:07 AM
2	Fishing	3/18/2021 3:55 AM
3	River based canoe/kayak launches & associated parking areas	3/17/2021 4:04 PM
4	Off-road park	3/15/2021 11:40 AM
5	snowshoe trails	3/15/2021 10:41 AM
6	Snowmobiling	3/15/2021 9:54 AM
7	More utv trails	3/15/2021 8:33 AM
8	Hiking/snowshoeing	3/15/2021 8:32 AM
9	Biking trails expansion	3/15/2021 8:25 AM
10	Singletrack mountain bike trails	3/15/2021 8:22 AM
11	Swimming platform with diving board	3/12/2021 12:06 PM
12	Beach volleyball	3/12/2021 12:05 PM

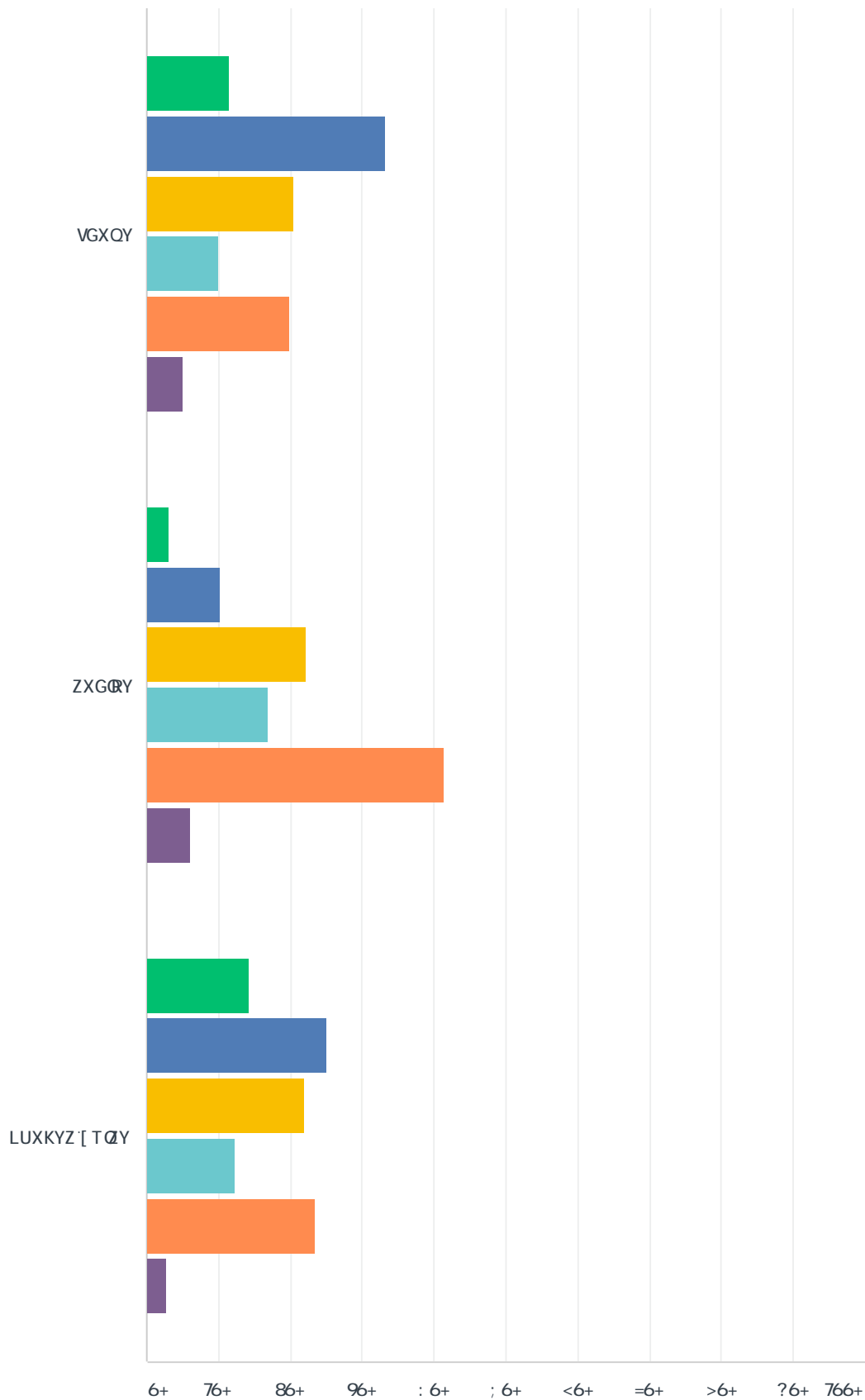
13	more campgrounds	3/12/2021 11:07 AM
14	Restore and maintain the Haley Creek birding trail	3/12/2021 10:54 AM
15	nature viewing areas that dogs are welcome at	3/11/2021 6:09 PM
16	Widen main highway shoulders for bicycles and walking	3/11/2021 8:38 AM
17	Zip lines	3/10/2021 2:27 PM
18	Allow more snowmobile use on plowed forest roads possibly similar to ATV's	3/9/2021 6:18 PM
19	Camping spots	3/9/2021 4:39 AM
20	Festivals	3/8/2021 8:00 PM
21	Hike in camping	3/8/2021 11:24 AM
22	Biking trails	3/8/2021 8:26 AM
23	Outdoor fitness areas	3/8/2021 8:05 AM
24	A nice walking/hiking trail	3/8/2021 7:16 AM
25	Not sure	3/8/2021 5:07 AM
26	More deer	3/8/2021 2:17 AM
27	Hiking	3/7/2021 9:06 PM
28	More atv/utv trails to connect communities and other counties	3/7/2021 8:13 PM
29	Nature hikes	3/7/2021 6:23 PM
30	Hiking trails	3/7/2021 6:14 PM
31	Fish habitat's	3/7/2021 5:24 PM
32	Learn to classes	3/7/2021 4:43 PM
33	Brushing out streams for kayaking	3/7/2021 4:09 PM
34	Group activities	3/7/2021 2:08 PM
35	Snowboarding hill	3/7/2021 2:01 PM
36	More atv trails	3/7/2021 1:27 PM
37	Pool	3/7/2021 12:55 PM
38	More docks at boat landing	3/7/2021 12:47 PM
39	Dog park	3/7/2021 12:37 PM
40	Mountain bike trails	3/7/2021 12:37 PM
41	Disc golf	3/7/2021 12:36 PM
42	Bike trails	3/7/2021 11:59 AM
43	Hiking	3/7/2021 11:55 AM
44	Gunsight in areas	3/7/2021 11:52 AM
45	Cross country skiing	3/7/2021 11:46 AM
46	Hiking	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
47	utv rides	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
48	More atv trails	3/7/2021 11:33 AM
49	camp	3/7/2021 11:28 AM
50	Shooting range	3/7/2021 11:28 AM

51	Reestablish a snowmobile trail north from Mole Lake to Highway 8 trail west of Crandon.	3/2/2021 4:28 PM
52	More Mountain Bike Trails	3/2/2021 2:59 PM
53	Hiking	3/1/2021 4:46 PM



### Q3 In a normal year, how often do you use Forest County managed parks, trails, or forests for outdoor recreation?

Answered: 304 Skipped: 39

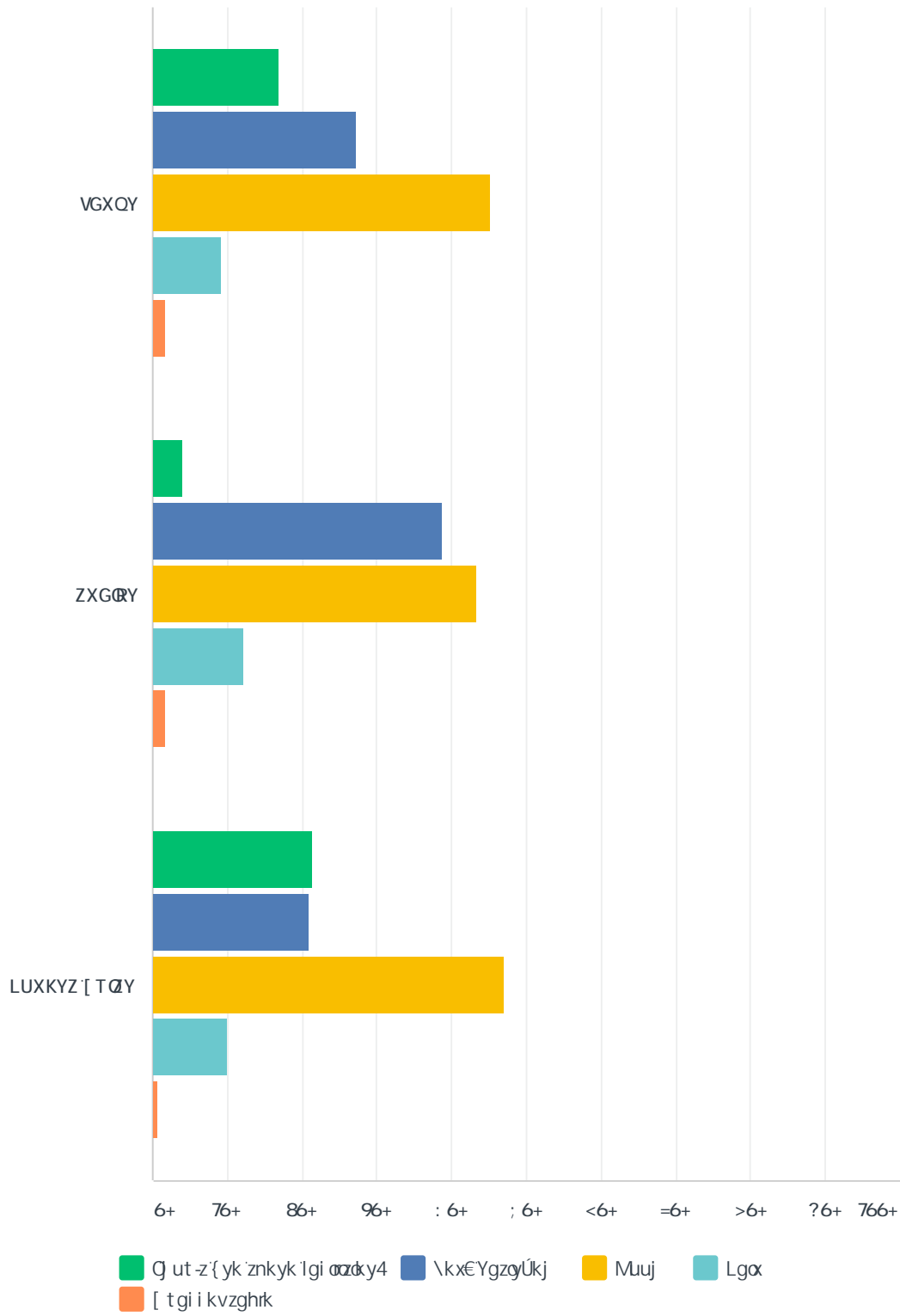


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	I DON'T USE THESE FACILITIES.	RARELY	MONTHLY	WEEKLY	ON MANY WEEKENDS	MOST DAYS	TOTAL
PARKS	11.41% 34	33.22% 99	20.47% 61	10.07% 30	19.80% 59	5.03% 15	298
TRAILS	3.06% 9	10.20% 30	22.11% 65	17.01% 50	41.50% 122	6.12% 18	294
FOREST UNITS	14.14% 41	25.17% 73	22.07% 64	12.41% 36	23.45% 68	2.76% 8	290

# Q4 What is your overall satisfaction with the conditions of the Forest County managed facilities you normally visit?

Answered: 303 Skipped: 40

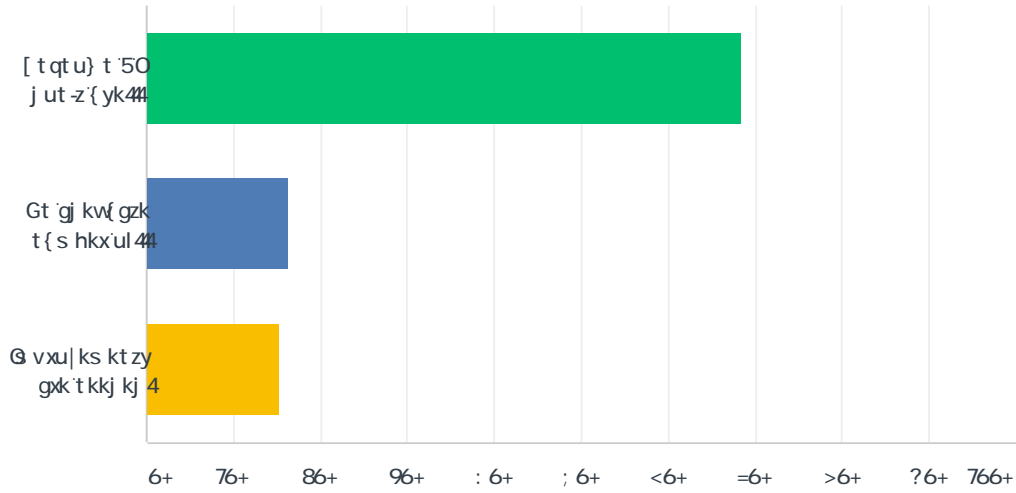


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	I DON'T USE THESE FACILITIES.	VERY SATISFIED	GOOD	FAIR	UNACCEPTABLE	TOTAL
PARKS	16.95% 50	27.12% 80	45.08% 133	9.15% 27	1.69% 5	295
TRAILS	4.07% 12	38.64% 114	43.39% 128	12.20% 36	1.69% 5	295
FOREST UNITS	21.25% 61	20.91% 60	47.04% 135	10.10% 29	0.70% 2	287

## Q5 Regarding Forest County managed campgrounds, do you think that... (Choose one.)

Answered: 294 Skipped: 49



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Unknown / I don't use County campgrounds.	68.37%	201
An adequate number of campground facilities exist, and they are in good condition.	16.33%	48
Improvements are needed.	15.31%	45
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>294</b>

## Q6 What improvements are needed at Forest County managed campgrounds?

Answered: 53 Skipped: 290

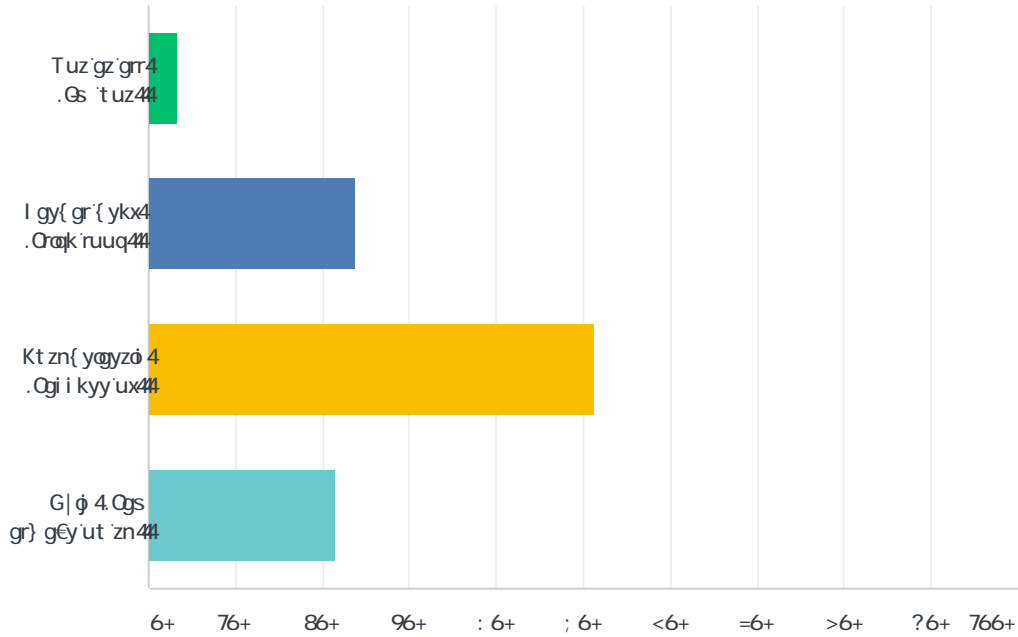
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Clean-up of debris from storm damage. Improve boat landings.	3/29/2021 11:49 AM
2	Stop closing single site campsites	3/23/2021 12:19 PM
3	More campgrounds would be great!	3/15/2021 12:57 PM
4	Allow bigger camper access	3/15/2021 8:35 AM
5	Continue to address Environmental concerns including erosion, run off into lakes and streams	3/15/2021 8:28 AM
6	Reopen closed facilities	3/15/2021 8:23 AM
7	More electric/water hookups	3/14/2021 5:23 PM
8	more supervision of rules so campers don't, for instance, fire off fireworks on the fourth of July near protected forests	3/12/2021 12:44 PM
9	perhaps more public outreach to let the community know about your services	3/12/2021 11:09 AM
10	Cell phone coverage is vital for safety. Install more towers	3/12/2021 5:17 AM
11	Internet and phone access	3/11/2021 8:54 PM
12	it would be great if there was some cell phone service coverage	3/11/2021 6:18 PM
13	Would be great to have even more campsites, which would bring even more visitors to the area	3/11/2021 6:12 PM
14	cell service coverage	3/11/2021 5:55 PM
15	?	3/11/2021 8:39 AM
16	Water n electric sites	3/8/2021 3:54 PM
17	Water problem	3/8/2021 3:00 PM
18	N/A	3/8/2021 1:39 PM
19	Overall site improvement, drainage, Way too crowded. Not enough parking for boat use. Way too many vehicles in the camping area	3/8/2021 12:37 PM
20	Toilets&picnic tables	3/8/2021 11:30 AM
21	Is there any other than Vet's Park on Metonga? It should have been maintained better for years - there is really no aesthetic there, but matters little since mostly used by locals	3/8/2021 9:20 AM
22	more picnic benches	3/8/2021 8:29 AM
23	Clean/maintain	3/8/2021 8:28 AM
24	People don't know what campgrounds are actually managed by Forest County.	3/8/2021 8:28 AM
25	NA	3/8/2021 2:19 AM
26	More	3/7/2021 9:24 PM
27	Bathroom	3/7/2021 9:08 PM
28	Dog friendly parks...more beach clean up/metonga	3/7/2021 7:11 PM
29	Better advertisement of availability	3/7/2021 6:25 PM
30	More primitive only ones	3/7/2021 4:45 PM

31	Open them and use them properly	3/7/2021 4:31 PM
32	Additional toilet cleanings would be a plus	3/7/2021 4:00 PM
33	Additional handicap sites at veterans memorial park	3/7/2021 2:33 PM
34	None	3/7/2021 12:38 PM
35	Get rid of the hosts	3/7/2021 12:37 PM
36	Better restroom facilities	3/7/2021 12:15 PM
37	Updates to facilities.	3/7/2021 12:14 PM
38	Need more sights.	3/7/2021 12:13 PM
39	We'd utilize campgrounds more if more sites offered electric hook ups. Water and Sewer would be primo, but even getting good RV electric would help.	3/7/2021 12:04 PM
40	Campers are getting larger, tress need to be trimmed up to 14' so not ruining campers	3/7/2021 12:01 PM
41	Bathrooms, prices, security	3/7/2021 11:57 AM
42	Better management out there	3/7/2021 11:54 AM
43	Have property on Revolver Lake and the camp sites are not easily identified. Also the lake is in poor shape and needs attention due to activr eagles nest and lack of habitat.	3/7/2021 11:47 AM
44	better boat landings	3/7/2021 11:39 AM
45	Water and restroom facilities	3/7/2021 11:35 AM
46	Better maintained beaches, larger campsites, improved fire pits	3/7/2021 11:34 AM
47	Could use more so they are not so crowded.	3/7/2021 11:33 AM
48	Bathrooms and showers	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
49	more spots	3/7/2021 11:29 AM
50	Cleaning. Less people.	3/7/2021 11:29 AM
51	Maybe before you start a project you should have a competent plan	3/7/2021 11:28 AM
52	N/a	3/7/2021 11:25 AM
53	What happened to all of the toilets	3/1/2021 4:47 PM



## Q7 What type of water enthusiast are you?(Choose one.)

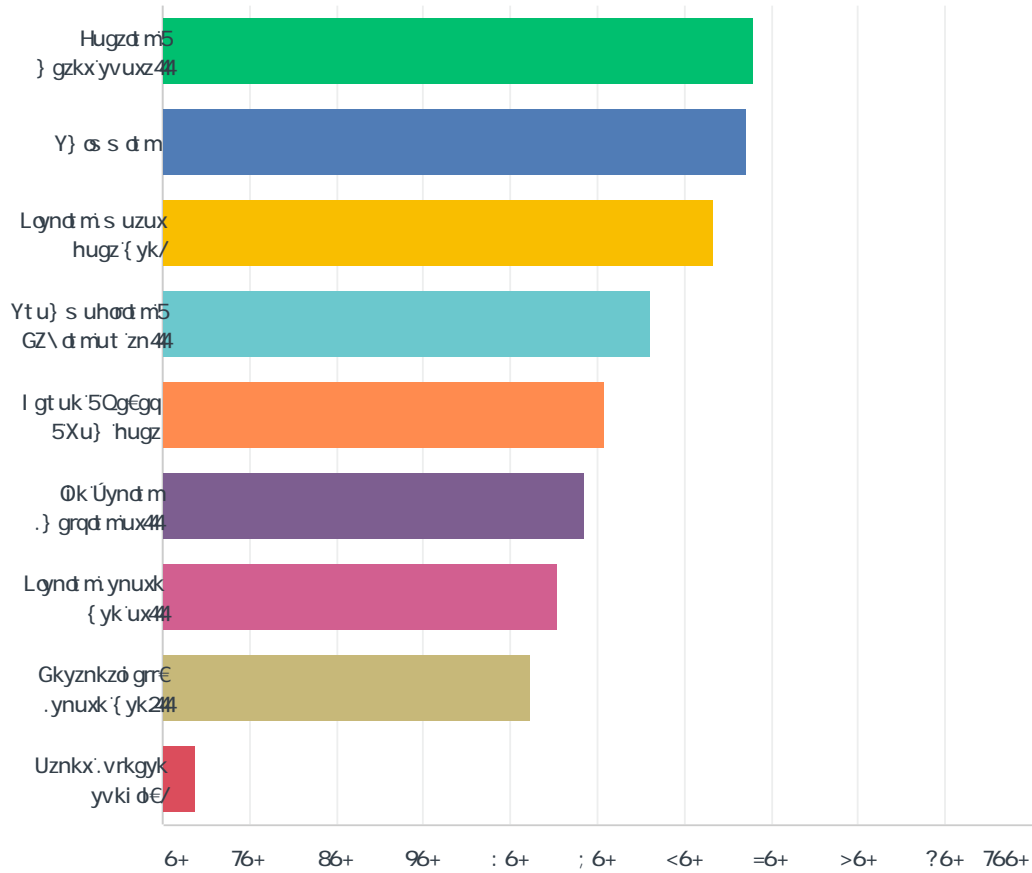
Answered: 293 Skipped: 50



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not at all. (I'm not interested in water recreation at all, not even with friends.)	3.41%	10
Casual user. (I like looking at or using the water, but only do so occasionally.)	23.89%	70
Enthusiastic. (I access or go on the water regularly in summer, and I might occasionally access the ice in winter.)	51.19%	150
Avid. (I am always on the water or ice every chance I get.)	21.50%	63
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>293</b>

## Q8 How do you use the water?(Choose all that apply.)

Answered: 287 Skipped: 56



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Boating / water sport (motorized)	67.94% 195
Swimming	67.25% 193
Fishing (motor boat use)	63.41% 182
Snowmobiling / ATVing on the ice, etc.	56.10% 161
Canoe / Kayak / Row boat	50.87% 146
Ice fishing (walking or driving on ice; car, ATV, or snowmobile, etc.)	48.43% 139
Fishing (shore use or non-motorized winter use)	45.30% 130
Aesthetically (shore use, walking or sitting along the water)	42.16% 121
Other (please specify)	3.83% 11
Total Respondents: 287	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Duck hunting	3/15/2021 8:03 AM
2	ice skating, cross country skiing on lakes when possible	3/12/2021 10:57 AM

3	cross country skiing on the lake	3/11/2021 6:19 PM
4	cross country skiing on frozen lakes, snowshoeing, walking	3/11/2021 5:56 PM
5	lol	3/9/2021 1:02 PM
6	PWC (JetSki)	3/8/2021 2:03 PM
7	Ski	3/7/2021 4:22 PM
8	Snorkeling	3/7/2021 12:30 PM
9	O	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
10	paddle board, non wake rvintage motor boat	3/2/2021 5:25 PM
11	Skating rink	3/2/2021 3:01 PM

## Q9 What public boat landings or water access improvements are needed in Forest County? (Please identify location and improvement needed at that site.)

Answered: 90 Skipped: 253

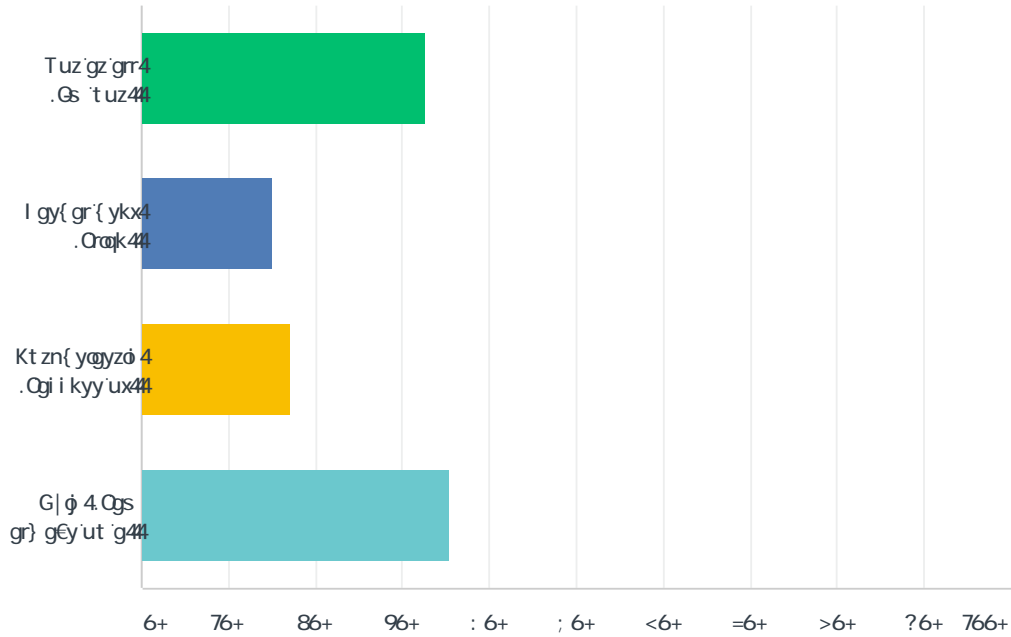
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Many of the boat landings should be improved to provide easier access for loading, unloading and cleaning off boats to deter the spread of invasive species. Also, new or improved signage and directional signage is needed at many of the boat landings.	3/29/2021 11:52 AM
2	better landings along the popple and pine and peshtigo	3/28/2021 1:36 PM
3	Jungle lake	3/24/2021 12:46 AM
4	Better facilities to clean boats and prevent invasive species.	3/23/2021 12:21 PM
5	Lake Lucerne Roberts Lake Jungle Lake Pine lake Wabicon	3/22/2021 7:50 PM
6	Need better docks the one at the city beach scratched my new boat!	3/22/2021 10:03 AM
7	Canoe/kayak launch sites with associated parking. Support non-motorized boating restrictions on more lakes.	3/17/2021 4:06 PM
8	Jungle lake boat landing. Access road and parking.	3/15/2021 10:34 PM
9	N/a	3/15/2021 12:59 PM
10	None that I know of	3/15/2021 9:09 AM
11	Wabikon,	3/15/2021 9:02 AM
12	Beach areas for kids to swim	3/15/2021 8:34 AM
13	Would prefer no boat landing access	3/15/2021 8:30 AM
14	Bathrooms	3/15/2021 8:30 AM
15	Brule river access	3/15/2021 8:25 AM
16	Canoe/kayak launchpads	3/14/2021 5:25 PM
17	Dredge south side of metonga lake boat launch in Crandon	3/12/2021 12:10 PM
18	some launches are pretty sad. I got a flat tire ( 7 holes) using the launch on the south end of Metonga Lake last fall	3/12/2021 9:52 AM
19	Need ice skating on a lake or pond	3/11/2021 9:17 PM
20	More handicap accessibility opportunities	3/10/2021 2:30 PM
21	More fishing access from shore	3/10/2021 6:25 AM
22	Winter access and marked snowmobile trails were logical	3/9/2021 6:22 PM
23	Docks	3/9/2021 4:42 AM
24	Docks , boat landing	3/8/2021 8:02 PM
25	Boat landings seem fine as they are	3/8/2021 4:27 PM
26	Lake Lucerne. Parking lot needs resurfacing.	3/8/2021 3:55 PM
27	Metonga isn't wide enough anymore...more and more pontoon trailers	3/8/2021 3:01 PM
28	Better kayak launch areas. There's only one out at Bog Brook	3/8/2021 12:39 PM

29	None comes to mind at this time.	3/8/2021 11:33 AM
30	Most public access is Forest Service, correct? Seems the County would have little opportunity to improve this. Would be great to see more small-craft launches in natural areas for canoe/kayak access. I think both launches on Metonga are in good shape.	3/8/2021 9:22 AM
31	Some of the landings on some of the smaller lakes could be made a little deeper for launching	3/8/2021 8:50 AM
32	boat washing machine at the Lucerne public boat launch	3/8/2021 8:31 AM
33	Improved kayak launches and information about kayak opportunities	3/8/2021 8:29 AM
34	Silver lake, a dock would be nice	3/8/2021 7:18 AM
35	Metonga	3/8/2021 2:20 AM
36	Mill pond in Iaona, needs the landing fixed	3/7/2021 9:25 PM
37	Kayak launch on rivers, lakes	3/7/2021 9:10 PM
38	Bathroom on Lake Lucerne	3/7/2021 7:37 PM
39	Lake Lucerne	3/7/2021 7:30 PM
40	Town of Lincoln needs a bath house on Lake Lucerne	3/7/2021 7:24 PM
41	Mill pond	3/7/2021 6:34 PM
42	DNR needs to improve public boat landings on the lakes	3/7/2021 6:26 PM
43	Lake Lucerne needs a restroom facility	3/7/2021 6:02 PM
44	Fine the way they are if you improve them there may be more people using them and they already are to busy at times.	3/7/2021 5:03 PM
45	Smooth out going into water to launch or lay grates in.	3/7/2021 4:46 PM
46	Kayak launches	3/7/2021 4:38 PM
47	South shore drive could use a little ramp help	3/7/2021 4:32 PM
48	Halsey dock. Pine river west of 139	3/7/2021 4:22 PM
49	Better ramps and better boat landings at more remote boat landings need better boat landings to improve access to more modern boats	3/7/2021 4:02 PM
50	Pine lake boat ramp way too shallow.	3/7/2021 3:58 PM
51	Pickrel Lake (WAY to much weeds)	3/7/2021 3:53 PM
52	There is definitely a quality difference between launches on smaller lakes	3/7/2021 3:13 PM
53	Pickrel and Crane lake landings need improvements	3/7/2021 2:44 PM
54	Pay stations	3/7/2021 2:41 PM
55	Lucerne restroom improvements, better launch at South end of Metonga	3/7/2021 2:34 PM
56	Garbages a services at boat launches/ updated Info on the boards	3/7/2021 2:09 PM
57	Restroom facilities open, and cared for	3/7/2021 1:53 PM
58	Veterans Park	3/7/2021 1:29 PM
59	Jungle Lake & Wabikon	3/7/2021 1:00 PM
60	More docks on metonga	3/7/2021 12:50 PM
61	Wabikon Lake boat landing needs regrading and a pier for disabled folks	3/7/2021 12:40 PM
62	Better launch on jungle, and king.	3/7/2021 12:40 PM
63	Laura lake	3/7/2021 12:38 PM
64	Docks	3/7/2021 12:23 PM

65	Additional parking	3/7/2021 12:16 PM
66	Otter lake	3/7/2021 12:03 PM
67	Get public access to Riley lake Plow some ice roads on larger lakes in winter	3/7/2021 12:01 PM
68	N/A	3/7/2021 11:59 AM
69	Mole Lake is not maintained except by the residents.	3/7/2021 11:59 AM
70	More snowmobile trails	3/7/2021 11:53 AM
71	Docks are always nice to have as it prevents damage to the shoreline and makes it easier to launch boats	3/7/2021 11:49 AM
72	Revolver lake needs improvement. The lack of habitat is very sad.	3/7/2021 11:48 AM
73	Windfall	3/7/2021 11:44 AM
74	Just need to improve some landings	3/7/2021 11:44 AM
75	I would like there to be more kayak launches on some of the smaller lakes in the county	3/7/2021 11:43 AM
76	county park boat landing	3/7/2021 11:40 AM
77	Camp six lake boat launch needs to be steeper...hard to launch without sinking your truck	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
78	Wabikon needs a dock at the landing	3/7/2021 11:35 AM
79	Landings need to be maintained better. All landings!	3/7/2021 11:35 AM
80	Parking areas, and quality docks at landings	3/7/2021 11:33 AM
81	Some of the boat landing are in bad shape	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
82	More organized parking	3/7/2021 11:30 AM
83	The ramp at Veterans memorial has grating coming off the existing concrete	3/7/2021 11:30 AM
84	None	3/7/2021 11:29 AM
85	Lake Lucerne launch needs to be marked better to back in trailers into water. And people are often fishing or swimming from dock!! Hard to launch and pull out!!! And very dangerous!!!	3/7/2021 11:29 AM
86	None needed	3/7/2021 11:26 AM
87	The boat landing on Wabi cannon Riley need a lot better!!!	3/7/2021 11:26 AM
88	2 boat landings on Pine lake	3/2/2021 3:30 PM
89	King lake, range line lake	3/1/2021 7:01 PM
90	King lake	3/1/2021 4:48 PM

## Q10 What type of snowmobile enthusiast are you? (Choose one.)

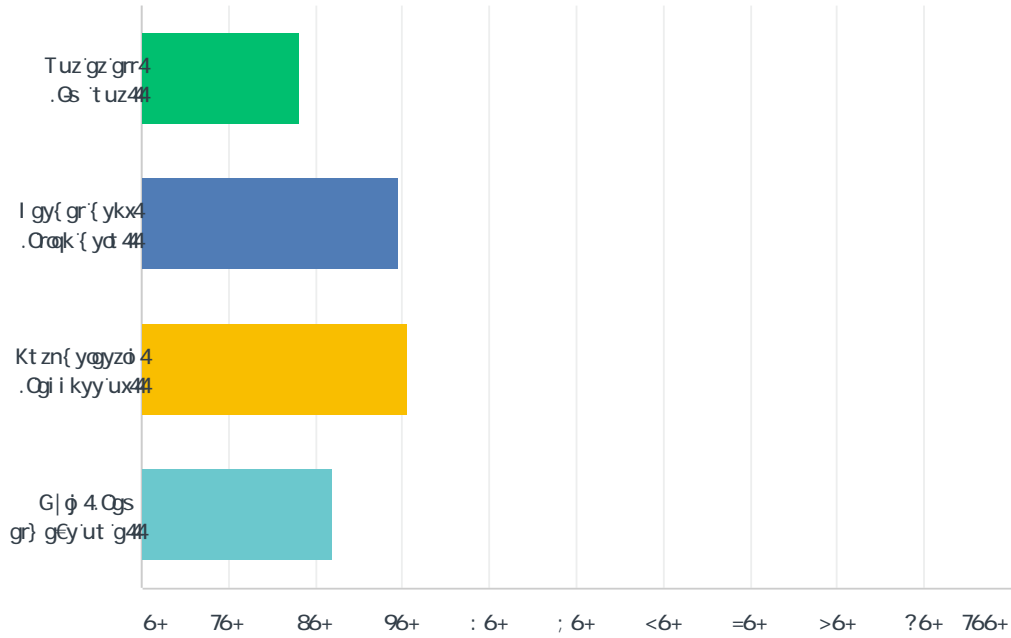
Answered: 292 Skipped: 51



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not at all. (I'm not interested in snowmobiling at all, not even with friends.)	32.53%	95
Casual user. (I like snowmobiling for fun, but only do so occasionally, OR only on my own land.)	15.07%	44
Enthusiastic. (I access or go on snowmobile routes and trails regularly.)	17.12%	50
Avid. (I am always on a snowmobile every chance I get - all season long.)	35.27%	103
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>292</b>

# Q11 What type of motorized vehicle (ATV / UTV / Off-Highway Motorcycle) enthusiast are you? (Choose one.)

Answered: 292 Skipped: 51

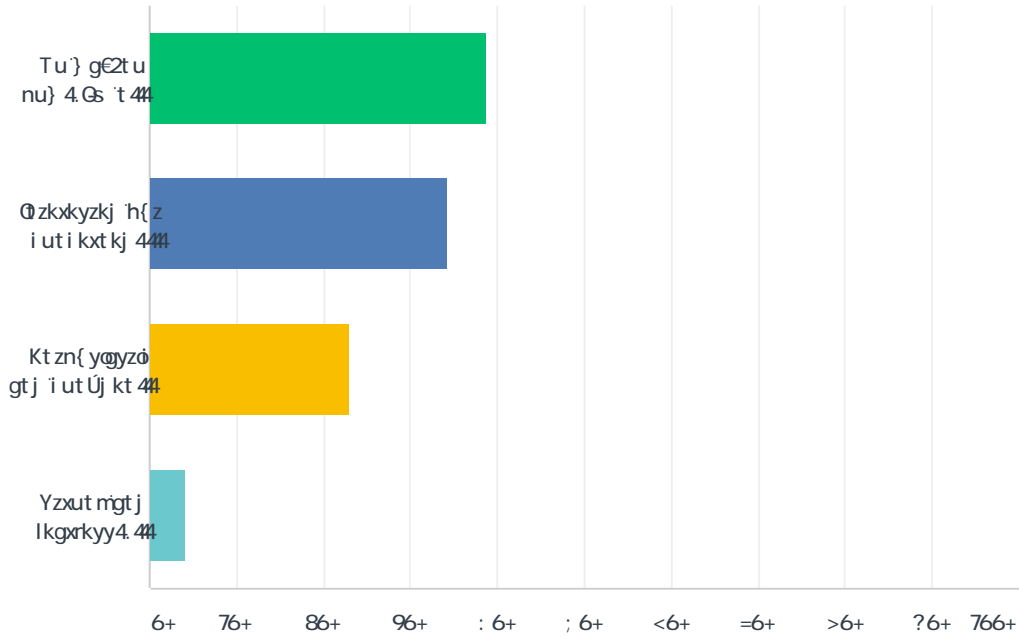


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not at all. (I'm not interested in motorized recreation at all, not even for recreation.)	18.15%	53
Casual user. (I like using motorized vehicles for fun, but only do so occasionally, OR only on my own land.)	29.45%	86
Enthusiastic. (I access or go on motorized routes and trails regularly in summer, and I might occasionally access the ice in winter.)	30.48%	89
Avid. (I am always on a motorized vehicle every chance I get - all year long.)	21.92%	64
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>292</b>



## Q12 What type of bicyclist are you? (Choose one.)

Answered: 292 Skipped: 51



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No way, no how. (I'm not interested in biking at all, not even for recreation.)	38.70%	113
Interested but concerned. (I like riding, but don't do it regularly. I'm generally concerned that my route is not safe to ride, so I don't ride often. I definitely do not ride when the weather is bad.)	34.25%	100
Enthusiastic and confident. (I feel comfortable sharing the road with motor vehicles, but I prefer to ride on separate facilities like bike lanes. I may or may not ride in inclement weather.)	22.95%	67
Strong and fearless. (I am confident in my abilities and will ride regardless of roadway conditions, amount of traffic, or inclement weather.)	4.11%	12
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>292</b>

## Q13 (Optional) Do you have any other concerns or comments?

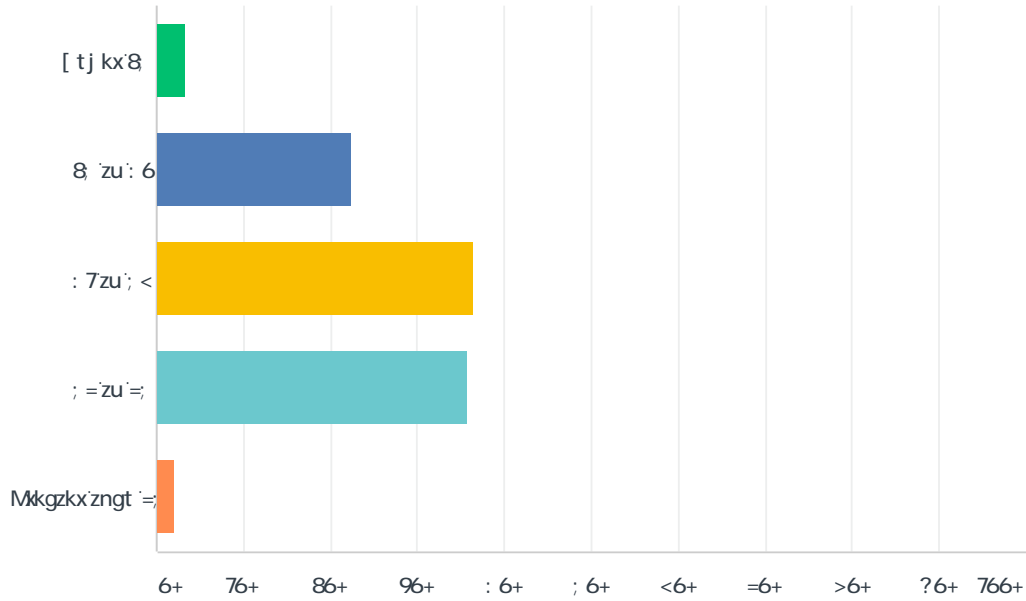
Answered: 49 Skipped: 294

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I really appreciate and enjoy your area. I would love to see more off road trails and have them governed with low speed limits.	3/29/2021 12:14 AM
2	atv routes could use more maps or signs to help navigate	3/28/2021 1:37 PM
3	Speeding on East Lake Lucerne Drive. Too many people want to walk jog bike this road but cars and atv's drive way too fast.	3/22/2021 7:52 PM
4	More wooded atv trails would be nice.	3/22/2021 9:31 AM
5	Could clarify more on road use. Can you use the road year round, etc.	3/18/2021 5:53 PM
6	Off road non-motorized bicycle trails can attract out of town tourists, as they have in other areas of northern WI.	3/17/2021 4:06 PM
7	Would love to see more utv offroad trails!	3/15/2021 12:14 PM
8	Trail 7 needs to be open in wabeno all the time to get to gas station	3/15/2021 9:54 AM
9	More wooded atv trails	3/15/2021 9:02 AM
10	We need more off road trails in public forest land. Marinette County has most of their trails within their County forests. Most of Forest County is using roads and very little County forest is being used.	3/15/2021 8:04 AM
11	It would be nice if some snowmobile/ATV trails in the county were made so I motor vehicles in the summer/fall months. And the ground leveled somewhat. Maybe crushed limestone applied.	3/14/2021 7:07 PM
12	More bicycle only paved paths are needed	3/14/2021 5:26 PM
13	Our main concern is that forest County preserve opportunities for silent sport enthusiasts like us. Decrease emphasis on motors. Increase emphasis on quiet in nature opportunities	3/12/2021 10:59 AM
14	Extended paved trails are nice for attracting family bikers. 20+ miles in length	3/12/2021 8:43 AM
15	Need cell phone coverage for safety	3/12/2021 5:19 AM
16	Need more areas that are dog friendly, more biking and hiking trails would be great	3/11/2021 6:15 PM
17	Shoulders on highways too narrow and large rigs practically blow me off the shoulder. Fear being hit by large rigs.	3/11/2021 8:43 AM
18	I love to bicycle but riding on the roads in forest county does not feel safe. Will go to Boulder Junction but that is quite a distance to drive to bicycle.	3/8/2021 9:32 PM
19	I prefer riding on crushed gravel trails. The Wolf River Trail is far too bumpy for biking. Try it, you'll see what I mean.	3/8/2021 4:29 PM
20	Would love to be able to safely bike around the lakes but it's just too dangerous	3/8/2021 12:40 PM
21	Seems like more tree harvesting than normal.	3/8/2021 11:38 AM
22	A comprehensive long-term plan should be developed but I realize the proposal is very costly and Forest County may be too far behind already. As much as I'd love to see more and better trails, we honestly have many higher priorities.	3/8/2021 9:24 AM
23	We need improved bike trails	3/8/2021 8:30 AM
24	I am an avid road cyclist but there are not many safe routes as most are on county highways.	3/8/2021 7:26 AM
25	No	3/8/2021 2:21 AM

26	There is no marked area on the roads for bikes to ride. Not aware of any bike trails.	3/7/2021 9:18 PM
27	Always concerned about loss of trails	3/7/2021 7:41 PM
28	We need a bike path	3/7/2021 7:39 PM
29	We need bike more trails and Pickelball courts!	3/7/2021 7:29 PM
30	County needs more or better bike trails. Normally have to drive many miles to get to a trail	3/7/2021 6:29 PM
31	Love to see more bike trails in Forest county. We often drive north to enjoy the bike trails. Investment in Bike trails and Pickelball courts would put Forest county on the map! We would donate to help make it happen!	3/7/2021 6:17 PM
32	Put snowmobile bridges in not biking bridges	3/7/2021 5:27 PM
33	Snowmobile trails are way to busy on the weekends especially the100 Miler almost to the point of being dangerous.	3/7/2021 5:06 PM
34	Better funds for preventive bridge maintenance	3/7/2021 4:26 PM
35	Trails are normally good	3/7/2021 4:03 PM
36	very limited utv trails considering the vast amount of forest land requires way to much road usage	3/7/2021 2:59 PM
37	Access on Hwy 8 from Laona to Crandon	3/7/2021 2:31 PM
38	I drive to off highway paved trails, need to get some gravel routes establish in county.	3/7/2021 2:06 PM
39	I love riding the trails in forest county and help maintain the trails. The trials that run down the side if the road are plowed bare and create a huge safety factor. I know many people who will not ride certain trails because of them being plowed bare. Using the wing to create a shelf will create a safe place to ride and get the snow off the road.	3/7/2021 1:10 PM
40	More bike and walk trails exclusive of motorized vehicles. Please.	3/7/2021 12:42 PM
41	Too many atv and utvs driving fast from bar to bar.	3/7/2021 12:17 PM
42	Trails needed. Roads are unsafe	3/7/2021 12:01 PM
43	Not safe to ride Seaway too many bear	3/7/2021 11:57 AM
44	To much money and resources are used for non motorized sports.	3/7/2021 11:36 AM
45	Need a snowmobile trailer parking area. A trail head. Would get more people to the area. Need a dealership in town for snowmobile / utv parts. No one carries anything	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
46	continue to keep atv's off snowmobile trails as they wreck them with ruts. do not allow fat tire biking on snowmobile trails in the winter.	3/6/2021 10:42 AM
47	it would be nice to see more paved bike trails.	3/5/2021 2:32 PM
48	We need to be more cyclist friendly, wide shoulders or designated bike paths.	3/2/2021 3:02 PM
49	Too much litter	3/1/2021 7:03 PM

## Q14 What is your age?

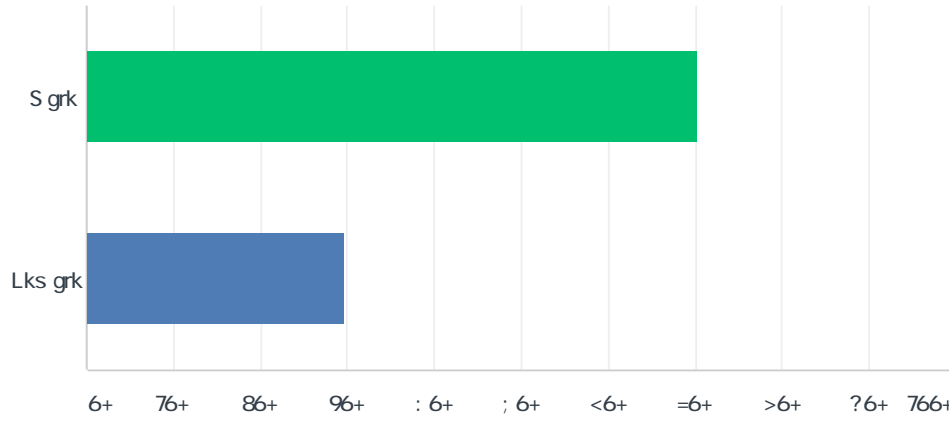
Answered: 291 Skipped: 52



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 25	3.44%	10
25 to 40	22.34%	65
41 to 56	36.43%	106
57 to 75	35.74%	104
Greater than 75	2.06%	6
TOTAL		291

## Q15 What is your gender?

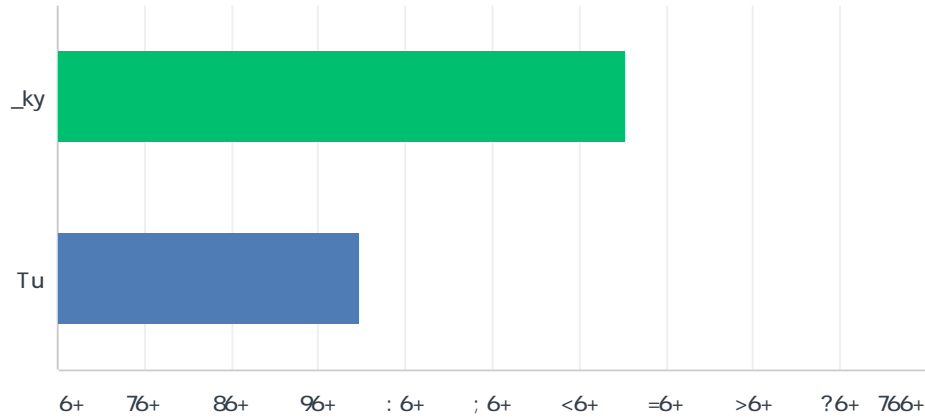
Answered: 290 Skipped: 53



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Male	70.34%	204
Female	29.66%	86
TOTAL		290

## Q16 Do you live in or own a summer home in Forest County?

Answered: 291 Skipped: 52



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	65.29%	190
No	34.71%	101
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>291</b>

#	IF NO, THEN PLEASE LIST YOUR HOME ZIP CODE:	DATE
1	54520	3/29/2021 11:53 AM
2	54956	3/29/2021 12:14 AM
3	54915	3/25/2021 3:17 PM
4	54562	3/24/2021 11:54 PM
5	53217	3/17/2021 4:07 PM
6	54130	3/17/2021 2:32 PM
7	53545	3/16/2021 7:18 PM
8	53555	3/16/2021 10:24 AM
9	54703	3/16/2021 9:15 AM
10	54149	3/15/2021 7:14 PM
11	54904	3/15/2021 1:00 PM
12	53803	3/15/2021 12:14 PM
13	54111	3/15/2021 12:04 PM
14	53066	3/15/2021 10:44 AM
15	53156	3/15/2021 8:39 AM
16	54751	3/15/2021 8:37 AM
17	54501	3/15/2021 8:31 AM
18	49935	3/15/2021 8:25 AM
19	22305	3/10/2021 11:52 AM

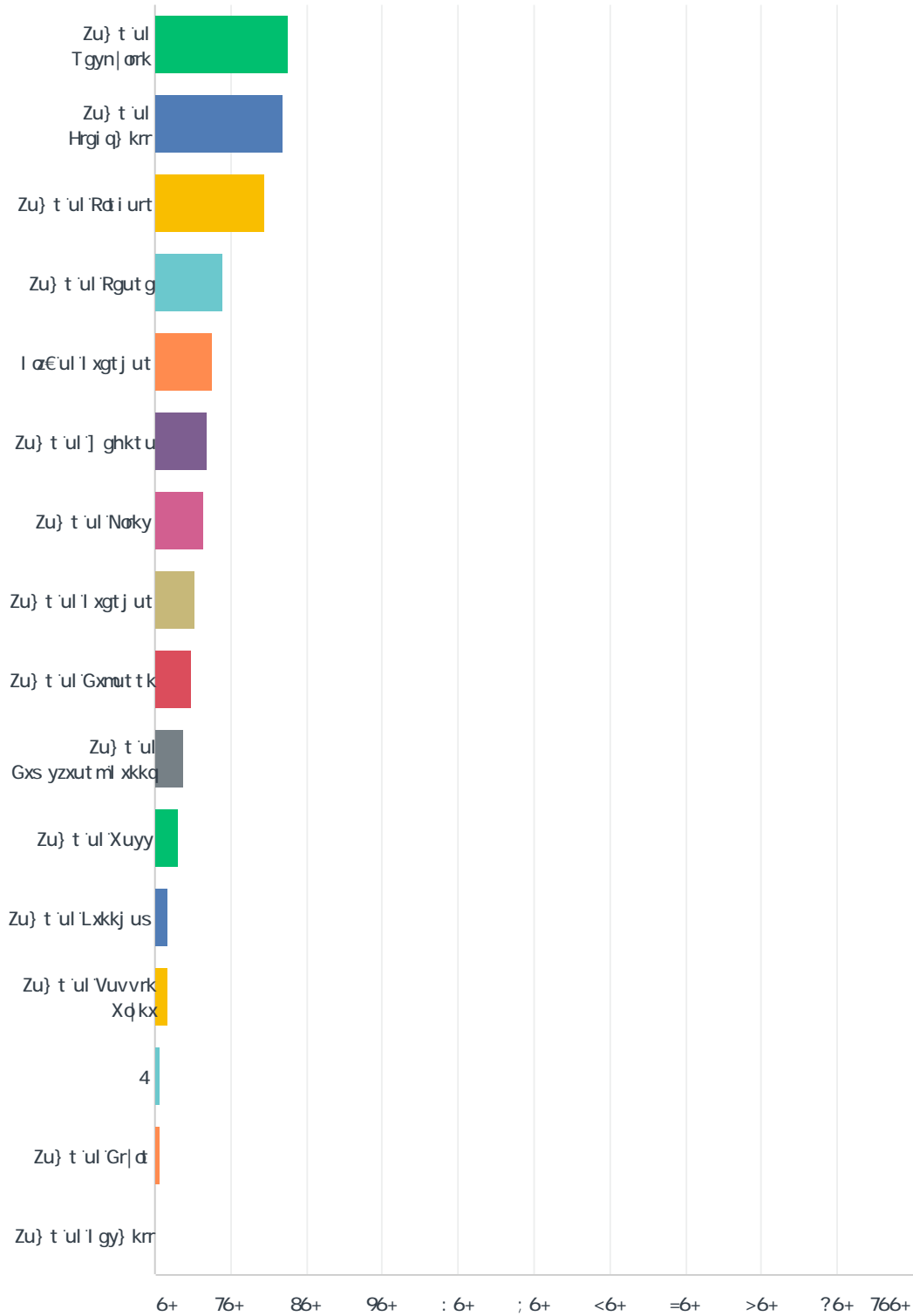
20	53010	3/10/2021 6:23 AM
21	54562	3/9/2021 6:24 PM
22	53021	3/9/2021 6:24 PM
23	54929	3/9/2021 7:31 AM
24	54914	3/8/2021 9:22 PM
25	54161	3/8/2021 11:08 AM
26	54520	3/8/2021 9:25 AM
27	60187	3/8/2021 8:36 AM
28	54462	3/8/2021 7:25 AM
29	54913	3/8/2021 7:19 AM
30	53073	3/8/2021 6:36 AM
31	54915	3/8/2021 4:56 AM
32	54956	3/8/2021 2:21 AM
33	54138	3/8/2021 1:16 AM
34	54171	3/7/2021 9:15 PM
35	54220	3/7/2021 9:11 PM
36	53040	3/7/2021 8:18 PM
37	54981	3/7/2021 7:41 PM
38	54140	3/7/2021 7:35 PM
39	54311	3/7/2021 7:02 PM
40	54944	3/7/2021 6:43 PM
41	54462	3/7/2021 6:22 PM
42	54106	3/7/2021 5:27 PM
43	53221	3/7/2021 4:56 PM
44	54166	3/7/2021 4:39 PM
45	47330	3/7/2021 3:59 PM
46	53092	3/7/2021 3:51 PM
47	54902	3/7/2021 3:43 PM
48	54952	3/7/2021 3:28 PM
49	Townsend wi	3/7/2021 2:10 PM
50	54120--52076	3/7/2021 2:07 PM
51	53093	3/7/2021 2:01 PM
52	54120	3/7/2021 1:28 PM
53	Home 54911, summer home 54175	3/7/2021 1:11 PM
54	54101	3/7/2021 12:48 PM
55	54125	3/7/2021 12:39 PM
56	54736	3/7/2021 12:17 PM
57	60083	3/7/2021 12:16 PM

58	54313	3/7/2021 12:15 PM
59	60068	3/7/2021 12:12 PM
60	53029	3/7/2021 12:06 PM
61	54942	3/7/2021 12:02 PM
62	54175	3/7/2021 11:57 AM
63	2438 chapel hill dr Greenville wi 54942	3/7/2021 11:56 AM
64	54911	3/7/2021 11:50 AM
65	54106	3/7/2021 11:45 AM
66	53149	3/7/2021 11:44 AM
67	54162	3/7/2021 11:43 AM
68	54950	3/7/2021 11:39 AM
69	54914	3/7/2021 11:38 AM
70	54162	3/7/2021 11:36 AM
71	54541	3/7/2021 11:36 AM
72	54130	3/7/2021 11:33 AM
73	53597	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
74	54304	3/7/2021 11:31 AM
75	53024	3/7/2021 11:27 AM
76	53105	3/7/2021 11:27 AM
77	54428	3/7/2021 11:26 AM
78	54462	3/6/2021 10:43 AM



# Q17 What municipality is your Forest County home or summer home located?

Answered: 188 Skipped: 155



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Town of Nashville	17.55%	33
Town of Blackwell	17.02%	32
Town of Lincoln	14.36%	27
Town of Laona	9.04%	17
City of Crandon	7.45%	14
Town of Wabeno	6.91%	13
Town of Hiles	6.38%	12
Town of Crandon	5.32%	10
Town of Argonne	4.79%	9
Town of Armstrong Creek	3.72%	7
Town of Ross	3.19%	6
Town of Freedom	1.60%	3
Town of Popple River	1.60%	3
.	0.53%	1
Town of Alvin	0.53%	1
Town of Caswell	0.00%	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>188</b>

# Attachment E

## SCORP Identified Outdoor Recreation Needs

Compiled by:

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
in their 2019-2023 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan  
(SCORP)



## GAPS AND NEEDS IN OUR EXISTING RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

In developing the following statewide needs and gaps in our recreation opportunities, the department incorporated information from:

- § The SCORP recreation participation survey question regarding needed recreation
- § Recreation Opportunities Analysis, which identified recreation needs for each of the eight regions of the state (Appendix 8).
- § The SCORP survey of county park directors, which asked about needs at the county level (Appendix 4).
- § The SCORP Advisory Team and department staff.

### Statewide Recreation Needs:

#### Places near population centers

Because of the inverse distribution of our population and public lands as well as the limited amount of time people have to participate, there is a very large need to provide more places for people to participate in outdoor recreation near where they live. In particular is the need to provide opportunities for residents to visit places after work or for a couple of hours on a weekend. Places that provide opportunities for hiking, all types of bicycle riding, dog walking, picnicking, and different water-related activities such as fishing, canoeing and kayaking are likely to be heavily used.

#### Trails

By nearly every measure, the largest need throughout the state is for more trails that enable people to experience natural settings, visit the vibrant downtowns of our cities and villages, commute to work, and access favorite sites. All types of trails are in demand – hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, snowmobiling, ATV/UTV and motorcycle riding, and 4WD vehicle trails.

#### Water access – shoreline and boat launches

Lakes, streams and rivers are a defining feature of Wisconsin. From the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River, from the thousands of inland lakes and the tens of thousands of miles of flowing water, residents and visitors can hunt, launch any manner of watercraft, bird watch and beach walk. Access to water remains a universal need throughout the state.

#### Camping opportunities

With a large cohort of retirees travelling in RVs combined with an adventurous younger generation, demand for camping has grown in recent years and is likely to remain popular for years to come. Given the divergence in desired experiences – some campers wanting access to hot showers and WiFi while others wanting neither – recreation providers will need to collaborate and coordinate on providing the camping experiences best suited to different public lands.

## Statewide Recreation Needs: (cont.)

### Dog parks and exercise areas

Taking care of a dog has many benefits, not the least of which is the exercise people get in walking their pets. With the steady rise in dog ownership (75% of people in their thirties own a dog) and an urbanizing population has come an increasing demand for places to walk, play with, socialize and train our canine friends. Many municipal and county dog parks are among their most visited properties.

### Target shooting ranges

Many hunters and shooting sports participants live in rural areas or belong to gun clubs and practice their skills. As the population continues to urbanize there is a growing need for places where people can practice gun and archery marksmanship and safety. By their nature, firearm ranges generate considerable sounds and siting new ranges has been a challenge in more populated areas of the state.

## Statewide Policy Needs:

### Better understand place-based recreation and associated outcomes

The survey conducted for this SCORP on recreation participation generated considerable data on which outdoor activities residents pursue and how often (see Appendix 6). What is not well known is where these activities occur, that is, where, when, and why they occur at different places. Questions for which more detailed, property-specific, place-based data are needed include:

- § How many people visit the place or property?
- § When and what are the patterns of visitation?
- § What recreation activities do they pursue?
- § How far do visitors travel to reach the property and why did they visit the particular property (as opposed to other options)?
- § What would improve their satisfaction?
- § What are the economic, health, and social benefits associated with their visit?

With a more complete understanding of property use and the features and attributes that draw people, agencies can make more informed decisions about what types of recreation facilities to build and maintain at different places. And the public can better

### Better understand the nature-based recreation preferences of our diversifying population

Data are needed on the recreation preferences of our changing population. For a range of reasons, people of varying ages, residential settings, incomes, and social, racial, ethnic and cultural identities participate in different types of outdoor activities in different places. More information is needed on the types of activities and settings sought by the diversity of Wisconsin residents. In addition, data on how and where to most effectively provide quality experiences for people with varying backgrounds and cultures are needed.

### Enhance and stabilize funding for outdoor recreation

Funding for conservation and recreation is derived from many sources and the overall total has fluctuated considerably from year to year. This has complicated efforts to plan, develop, and maintain recreation facilities. Some states have implemented funding sources that provide a more stable source of money for conservation and recreation projects. In addition to more consistent funding, there is a need to broaden the network of people and sources that help pay for the management of public lands in the state.

### Expand collaborations among recreation providers

Each recreation provider has unique capabilities and their lands offer different types of experiences, features, facilities, and opportunities. There would be substantial benefit in continuing and expanding collaborations among federal, county and local governments. Focus should be placed on identifying ways to coordinate recreation experiences in each region of the state, minimizing duplicative efforts, and maximizing the benefits of recreation investments.

Together, providing well-planned, safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities, support for local communities and businesses, strengthen tourism, respond to evolving demographic and visitor needs, reduce user conflicts and improve natural settings.

## Regional Recreation Needs (high needs identified in the Recreation Opportunities Analysis – see Appendix 8)

### Great Northwest Region

ATV/UTV riding  
 Bicycling - bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Bird or wildlife watching  
 Camping - developed and primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Fishing  
 Four-wheel vehicle driving  
 Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking  
 Hunting - big game  
 Motor boating (inc. waterski/tubing, personal watercraft)  
 Off-highway motorcycle riding  
 Swimming in lakes and rivers

### Western Sands Region

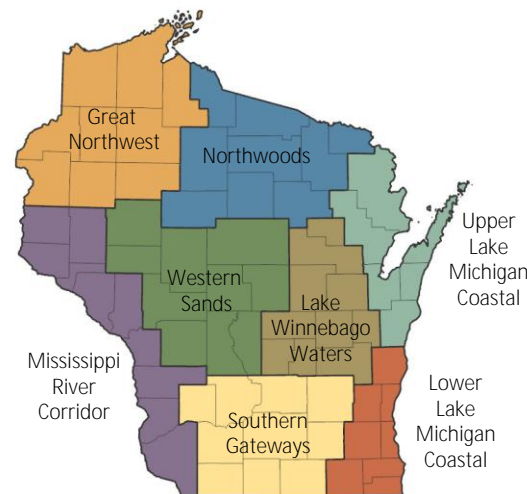
Bicycling - bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Bird or wildlife watching  
 Camping - developed and primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Cross country skiing  
 Dog walking  
 Fishing  
 Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking  
 Horseback riding  
 Hunting - big game  
 Picnicking  
 Snowshoeing  
 Swimming in lakes and rivers

### Mississippi River Corridor Region

Bicycling - bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Bird or wildlife watching  
 Camping - developed and primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Cross country skiing  
 Dog walking  
 Fishing  
 Gather mushrooms, berries, etc.  
 Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking  
 Hunting - big game  
 Nature photography  
 Participating in nature-based education programs  
 Picnicking  
 Snowshoeing  
 Visiting a beach, beach walking

### Northwoods Region

ATV/UTV riding  
 Bicycling | bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Camping | developed and primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Fishing  
 Four-wheel vehicle driving  
 Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking  
 Hunting | big game  
 Off-highway motorcycle riding  
 Participating in nature-based education programs  
 Snowmobiling



### Southern Gateways Region

ATV/UTV riding  
 Bicycling | bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Bird or wildlife watching  
 Camping | developed and primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Fishing  
 Gather mushrooms, berries, etc.  
 Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking  
 Motor boating (inc. waterski/tubing, personal watercraft)  
 Picnicking  
 Snowshoeing  
 Swimming in lakes and rivers

### Upper Lake Michigan Coastal Region

Bicycling | bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Bird or wildlife watching  
 Camping | developed and primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Fishing | all types  
 Hiking, walking, trail running or backpacking  
 Horseback riding  
 Motor boating (inc. waterski/tubing, personal watercraft)  
 Visiting a beach, beach walking

### Lake Winnebago Waters Region

Bicycling | bicycling touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Bird or wildlife watching  
 Camping | developed and primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Cross country skiing  
 Dog walking  
 Fishing  
 Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking  
 Hunting | big game  
 Motor boating (inc. waterski/tubing, personal watercraft)  
 Nature photography  
 Participating in nature-based education programs  
 Picnicking  
 Swimming in lakes and rivers  
 Visiting a beach, beach walking

### Lower Lake Michigan Coastal Region

Bicycling - bicycle touring/road riding and mountain biking/off-road biking  
 Bird or wildlife watching  
 Camping - primitive  
 Canoeing or kayaking  
 Cross country skiing  
 Fishing  
 Gather mushrooms, berries, etc.  
 Hiking, walking, trail running, backpacking  
 Motor boating (inc. waterski/tubing, personal watercraft)  
 Nature photography  
 Picnicking  
 Snowshoeing  
 Swimming in lakes and rivers

# Attachment F

## Nicolet-Wolf River Scenic Byway Route

Compiled by: NCWRPC









