

Lake Michigan

Indiana Recreational Access Guide



Acknowledgements

This publication was developed by the IDNR Division of Outdoor Recreation. Comments should be directed to: 402 West Washington Street, Room W271. Indianapolis, IN 46204. 219/232-4070.

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A History of Cooperation Along the Lake Shore

In the early 1970s, the federal government recognized the need for establishing a national coastal resource management framework. In 1972, Congress passed the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Act. The basic goal was to encourage coastal states to voluntarily develop comprehensive management plans. The Act was reauthorized in 1976, 1980, 1986, 1990, and 1996. It is administered at the federal level by the U. S. Department of Commerce through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and at the state level by various state agencies including Departments of Natural Resources.

Although Indiana conducted several CZM studies in the 1970s, it remains (along with Illinois and Minnesota) a non-participating state.

In 1991, the Natural Resources Commission responded to the continuing need for an intelligent management plan by urging the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish a master plan for the Lake Michigan shoreline. A contract with the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission was authorized to explore the development of a comprehensive management plan. As part of this process, a series of public meetings were held along the shoreline to obtain citizen input on the Coastal Zone

Management plan development. Although boating issues were paramount, it quickly became clear there were many more issues at stake.

In 1993 the IDNR received funding through NOAA to explore participation by Indiana in the federal coastal program. As part of this effort, the DNR conducted a public work group process in 1995 to identify issues and possible solutions to those issues along the state's Lake Michigan shoreline. Several recommendations were made by the groups regarding recreational needs. Recognizing the human and environmental diversity of Northwest Indiana, the Natural Resources Commission adopted a resolution in May 1995 in support of efforts to improve communication and coordination in the use and enjoyment of Indiana's Lake Michigan Coastal Region. The resolution also made several directives to the Department including "expand and enhance meaningful opportunities for public participation by citizens of Northwest Indiana in decision making relative to natural, cultural, commercial, and recreational resources."

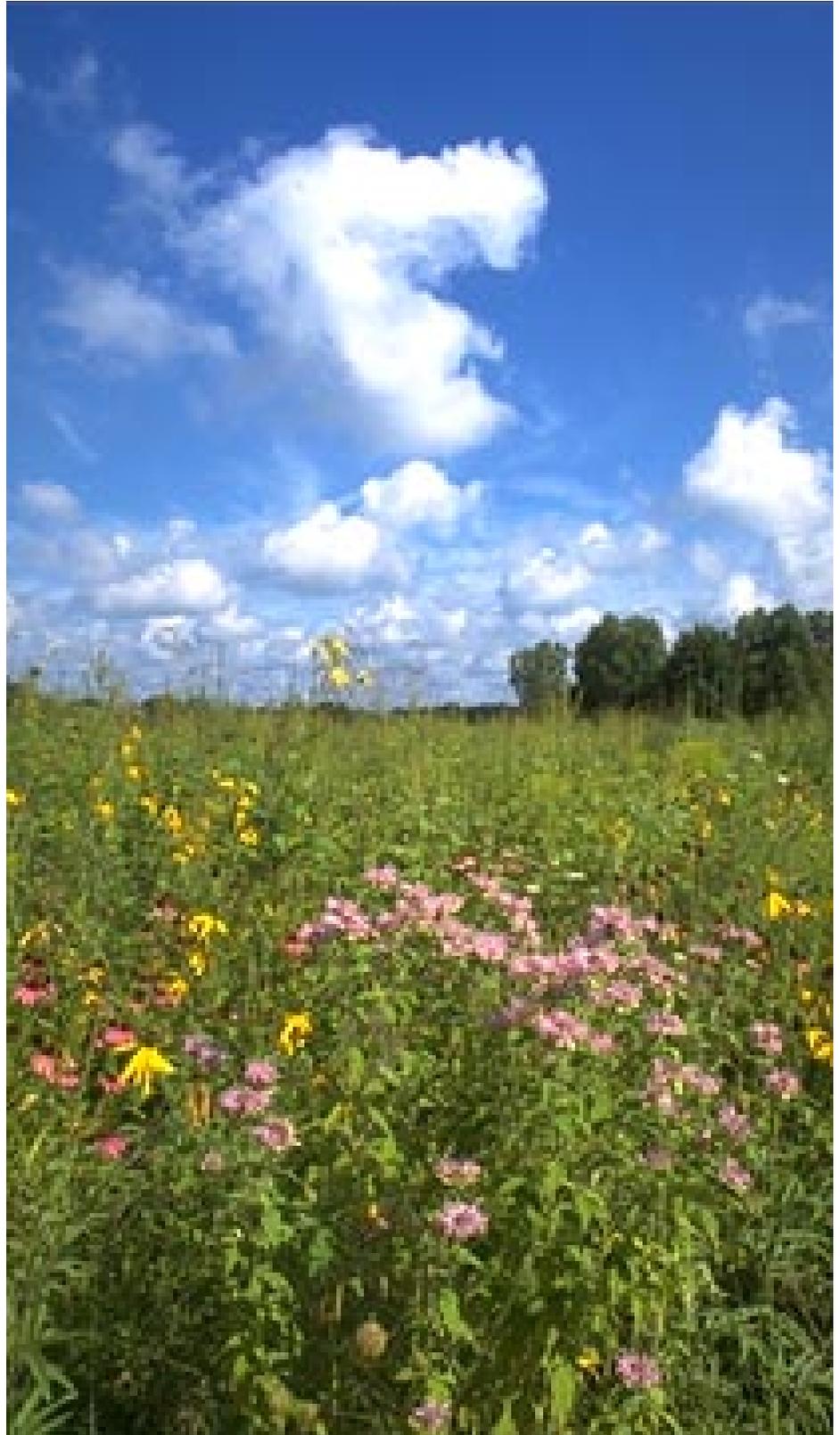
The Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission passed a number of resolutions on boating safety and enforcement in September of 1995. These resolutions encouraged the DNR to,

among other things, "develop and distribute a boating guide to the Lake Michigan shoreline for boat operators and the general public...". One purpose for this guide was to inform the public what access opportunities exist along Lake Michigan. Because an important focus of the federal CZM program is planning for recreational access to the shoreline, the DNR was able to use federal dollars to respond to certain public work group recommendations and Marina Commission resolutions. Additionally, the DNR could further statewide recreation goals by identifying existing and needed access sites and types, and by gathering citizen input on shoreline issues. A major effort of the DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation is the creation of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). The SCORP is a five year master plan outlining the state's recreation supply and demand. Part of this document is an inventory of existing outdoor recreation sites and facilities. Each site is visited by DNR staff and located using global positioning system technology for entering into the DNR GIS database. Also, comprehensive information about the site, such as the managing agency, type of site, kinds and number of facilities and sports allowed, water access, and overnight accommodations, is collected and entered into the same GIS database.

Focus Group Summary

As part of the Coastal Coordination Program process, the DNR Division of Water held several public work group meetings concerning the Lake Michigan shore line and watershed. One topic that came out of these work groups was recreational access and opportunities. The DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation wanted to find out the significance of this issue, so five focus group meetings were held during April, May, and June, 1996 in Northwest Indiana. These meetings were separated into related interests. The different groups involved were: Private recreation providers, Public recreation providers, User groups, Elected officials and Commissioners, and Business and Industry. A total of 39 people attended the meetings. The User groups category had the greatest attendance.

Water isn't the only attraction of the Lake Michigan region. A tremendous variety of native grasses and prairie plants have survived development.



Each meeting was conducted in the same manner. In order to keep the data consistent, facilitators were used to lead each group through the same process. A “Cause and Effect” process was designed to elicit opinions and solutions on access to the lake. The first thing each group did was decide if there is or is not enough access to the lakeshore. They then brainstormed the reasons why access was an issue. They then categorized each issue into a “Provider”, “Consumer”, or “Resource” topic. Finally, they came up with some solutions to the problem of lack of lakeshore access. A more complete explanation is included in the appendix.

In general, the majority of the attendees felt there is a lack of adequate access to the lake shore. For whatever use—swimming, boating, sunbathing, walking—there simply isn’t enough. Along with the basic deficiency, people felt the access that did exist was inconsistent in pricing, hours open, security, facilities offered, access for persons with disabilities, and policies and enforcement.

A common theme throughout the focus groups was inadequate information about access to the lakeshore and associated facilities. A common sentiment voiced was unless you were a Region “native”, you really didn’t know all the places to go. Also, when parking lots or beaches are at capacity, the attendants don’t know of other spots to refer people to. A frequently mentioned idea was a three-county brochure that would detail all of the access sites, who owns them, and on-site facilities available. Also, access to Lake Michigan

tributaries (Trail Creek, Salt Creek, and Burns Waterway) is extremely limited for anglers and boaters.

Another recurrent thought centered on governmental inflexibility. Many people are of the opinion that state and federal government property holders are not responsive to the needs and desires of the local population. It was thought that Dunes State Park and the National Lakeshore need to be opened to more access, especially boat-in mooring. The general public is kind of annoyed that there is only one way to get into the State Park, and that neither the state nor the federal government owners allow boats to moor along the beach (or even come closer than 200 feet from shoreline. This creates a three-mile stretch of beach that is basically inaccessible. Also, private property owners limit the amount of access that is available.

A third common theme was the need for increased and better

cooperation and coordination of planning efforts between the differing entities along the shore line. Many felt that public/private partnerships need to be encouraged more. This is especially true in light of the fact that there is no more land that is able to be acquired for public access—its already all owned. If the steel industries that hold the majority of the land base could be encouraged to open more of their properties to the locals, access could be dramatically increased. Funding was a big part of this too. Especially within the users focus group—they felt tax dollars collected from the area should be spent only in Northwest Indiana.

Public input gathered during several meetings is an important part of this document.



Lake Michigan

Physical Description

Lake Michigan is the second largest of the Great Lakes and is the only one wholly inside the United States. The southern basin is among the most urbanized areas in the Great Lakes system. Within Indiana, the shoreline is 45 miles long and includes a small part of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties, forming the northwest border of the state. Pre-settlement vegetation includes prairie, deciduous hardwood, and wetland species. The Dune and Swale complexes found in this region are globally significant, and Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties contain the greatest number of rare plant species left in Indiana. In fact, a recent inventory conducted by The Nature Conservancy states that Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore ranks third among all national parks in plant diversity.

The northwest region is home to over 700,000 persons (1990 data), and is the most ethnically diverse area in the state, with 18 percent of its population being African American and 7 percent being Hispanic. Northwest Indiana's citizens live among a mix of densely populated cities, steel mills, petro-chemical and power plants, as well as unique natural areas, wetlands, and forested areas. Along the shoreline, residential uses comprise 39 percent of total land area, recreational uses make up 24 percent, agriculture is 20 percent, commercial is

12 percent, and there is 5 percent in "other" uses.

The arrival of European settlers has produced the most rapid change in the species supported within the Great Lakes ecosystem. It is estimated that there once were as many as 180 species of fish native to the Great Lakes. Because of the differences in the characteristics of the lakes, the species composition varied for each of the Great Lakes. Changes in the species composition in the last 200 years have been the result of human activities. Many native fish species have been lost by over-fishing, habitat destruction or the arrival of exotic or non-native species, such as the lamprey and the alewife. Pollution, especially in the form of nutrient loading and toxic contaminants, has placed additional stresses on fish population. Other man-made stresses have altered reproductive conditions and habitats, causing some varieties to migrate or perish. Today, lake trout, sturgeon, and lake herring survive in vastly reduced numbers and have been replaced by introduced species such as smelt, alewife, splake, and Pacific salmon.

Commercial and sport fishing are not the only economic uses of the lake. The three main commodities shipped on the Great Lakes are iron ore, coal and grain. In Indiana, iron ore, Limestone and metal products are the largest

commodities shipped through the ports at Indiana Harbor, Buffington Harbor and Burns International Waterway.

Due in part to the enormous amounts of commercial and tourist use of its waters, fish and birds in and along Lake Michigan contain some of the greatest contaminant levels in all of the Great Lakes. In 1983, the International Joint Commission reported that 900 chemicals and heavy metals that are potentially dangerous to human health and biota had been identified in the Great Lakes. The Commission has identified 43 Areas of Concern along the Great Lakes shoreline in Canada and the United States. One such area of concern is the Grand Calumet River/Indiana Harbor Ship Canal. This area is so contaminated by toxic sediments that there are impairments in all fourteen beneficial uses. The impairments are: restrictions of fish and wildlife consumption; tainting of fish and wildlife flavor; degradation of fish and wildlife populations; fish tumors or other deformities; birds or animal deformities or reproductive problems; degradation of benthos; restrictions on dredging activities; eutrophication or undesirable algae; restrictions on drinking water consumption, or taste and odor problems; beach closings; degradation of aesthetics; added costs to agriculture or industry; degradation to phy-

toplankton and zooplankton populations; and loss of fish and wildlife habitat. The United States Geological Service, in cooperation with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Indiana Department of Environmental Management and the Michigan and Wisconsin Departments of Natural Resources is estimating the total mass balance of pollutants entering the ecosystem of Lake Michigan. Scientists are currently (1995) monitoring 11 tributaries that make up 50 percent of the drainage area of Lake Michigan and are assumed to contribute more than 90 percent of the tributary load of PCBs. Data gathered will be used to develop a mass-balance model for Lake Michigan that will be used to evaluate management options to reduce chemical

concentrations. Retention time is a measure scientist use to understand the volume of water in a lake and the mean rate of out-flow. Because Lake Michigan's retention time is 99 years, the pollutants that enter the system stay a very long time and become more concentrated.

Lake Michigan water levels usually cycle annually with highs in the midsummer (July) and low levels occurring in midwinter (February). This fluctuation in water levels creates problems for lakeshore dwellers. Between the ten-year cycle between February 1964 and July 1974, there was a six-foot rise in water level. Coastal Erosion and Submergence USGS studies along southern Lake Michigan determined that lake levels previously have

varied by as much as much as 3 meters. This is more than the maximum variation of 1.6 meters that spanned the 1964 low level and the 1985-87 high level. These extreme levels resulted in severe beach erosion and the loss of several houses along the shore. Development, in the form of breakwater structures, the Michigan City lighthouse, and rock revetments, interrupts the natural flow of sand to area beaches. Human disturbance coupled with fluctuating water levels creates a continuing problem for the Lake Michigan shoreline.

75 percent of the shoreline is developed for residential, commercial or industrial uses. Natural areas such as this one provide welcome relief from the urban condition.



Recreation On and Along Lake Michigan

The lake shore has always been a magnet for people who wanted to see the sites, play in the water and along the beach, and protect the unique lake shore resources. In order to gather a clear idea of how people are using the lake shore, a survey was conducted during the month of July at various times—week days, evenings, and weekends (including the July 4 holiday). The survey was administered at six different sites: Indiana Dunes

National Lakeshore West Beach, Portage Public Marina, Washington Park Beach, Washington Park Marina, Whihala Beach County Park, and Hammond Marina. The survey was conducted using a simple paper check sheet. The survey administrator was available to answer questions about the survey tool, but did not actually ask the question. Each question was followed by several choices, allowing people to check the appropriate answer. Space

was also provided for comments.

Lake shore users: Men and women were fairly equally divided with male respondents comprising 56%, female, 44%. So,

Fishing and boating are among the most popular Lake Michigan activities.



men and women both utilize the lake shore. Ages from 25 years to 54 years were the majority of users. Married couples were by far the greatest category of users, comprising 56% of the respondents. Most users live in Indiana, with Illinois a close second (54% vs. 42%). Of Indiana residents, 54% live in Lake County; Illinois residents mostly live in Cook County (74%). An overwhelming number (90%) of survey respondents were white, with Hispanic (6%) being the second most number of users. Income fell into several categories, the largest of which is \$60,000 to \$74,999 annually. Only 7% of all the respondents made less than \$19,999 annually. When people came to the lake shore, they most frequently did so in groups of two (30%). Groups of four (21%) were next. Only 2% participate in activities along the lake shore in groups of nine or more.

The majority of the survey questions were meant to learn what people actually did when they went to the lake shore to play. Respondents were also asked if they had trouble accessing the lake shore, and what additional (if any) facilities might be needed. Finally, they were asked what was most important to them.

The top three activities are: swimming (46%), power boating (40%), and picnicking (18%). Nature observation, hiking/walking, and boat fishing were other activities that more than 10% of respondents indicated doing.

When asked if additional facilities were needed at Lake Michigan, 68% responded "no, the current

facilities are okay". We then looked at each survey site and cross-referenced it to a particular activity. In doing this, we found that most people felt access for swimming is adequate at all facilities except Hammond Marina. Access for fishing is adequate except at Indiana Dunes (West Beach), and access for boating is adequate at all sites.

Citizens were asked to select the three items (from a total of eleven choices) that were most important to them. Fifty-eight percent said water quality is the most significant. The second most important was a tie between the natural beauty of the site and site cleanliness with 49% choosing these items. Good swimming was fourth at 35%, followed by site security with 30%. It is interesting to note that good picnicking was one of the least important items to the general public (at only 8%), even though picnicking is one of the most popular activities. Other noteworthy items were, the existence of hiking/nature trails, and the safety of fish consumption, both at 8%.

When asked if additional facilities were needed, 68% responded in the negative. Of those who felt more facilities were desirable, 29% felt more beaches were needed, 25% felt more public open space was desirable, and 22% responded positively to both more boat-in beaches and more rental equipment.

The Division of Outdoor Recreation is responsible for conducting an inventory of outdoor recreation sites and facilities throughout the state. During the summer of 1996, the division conducted an inventory of sites

within the coastal zone management area of Lake, Porter, and LaPorte counties. The inventory includes making a site visit to each facility, taking a latitude/longitude point, and compiling information on the site and on the managing agency. There is a wide variety of recreation opportunities available in northwest Indiana, although not all of the recreation sites provide direct lake access.

In Lake county, there are 51 sites that are within the coastal zone. The smallest site is .25 acres in size and the largest is 607 acres. These facilities are both publicly and privately owned, and include 31 park and recreation areas, 2 fishing/boating access sites, 1 camping/trailer park, 1 trail, 3 marinas, 2 beaches, 1 fairground, 4 non-profit recreation facilities, 1 outdoor education facility, 4 golf courses, and 1 private, non-profit recreation facility.

In Porter county, there are 80 sites. The smallest site, Kipper park, is .3 acres and the largest site, Indiana Dunes State Park, is 2, 182 acres. These facilities are both public and privately owned and include 44 park and recreation areas, 4 camping/trailer parks, 2 trails, 3 marinas, 2 commercial/private fishing lakes, 1 beach, 1 outdoor pool, 1 fairground, 4 for-profit recreation facilities, 6 non-profit recreation facilities, 6 sports complexes, and 5 golf courses.

LaPorte county has 67 sites. The smallest site, Scott Field park, is 1/2 acre and the largest site, Soldiers Memorial park, is 556 acres. These facilities are both public and privately owned and include 34 park and recreation

areas, 2 forest areas, 2 dedicated nature preserves, 2 fishing/boating access sites, 3 marinas, 1 fairground, 4 commercial for profit recreation facilities, 3 sports complexes, 3 beach access sites, and 3 golf courses.

The Department of Natural Resources is an active partner in providing recreation opportunities within Northwest Indiana. The DNR owns six sites within the coastal area. Additionally, the DNR administers several grant programs; two of which have had significant impacts in forming partnerships with local park and recreation boards to provide outdoor recreation facilities to the public. These programs are the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Indiana Waters, A Fishing and Boating Access

Program. Together, these grants have funded a total of sixty-one grant projects within the coastal zone management area. One additional project was funded through the Hometown Indiana grant program. Of the sixty-two projects, Lake county has forty-five projects, Porter county has fifteen projects, LaPorte county has five projects, and the Department of Natural Resources has eight projects.

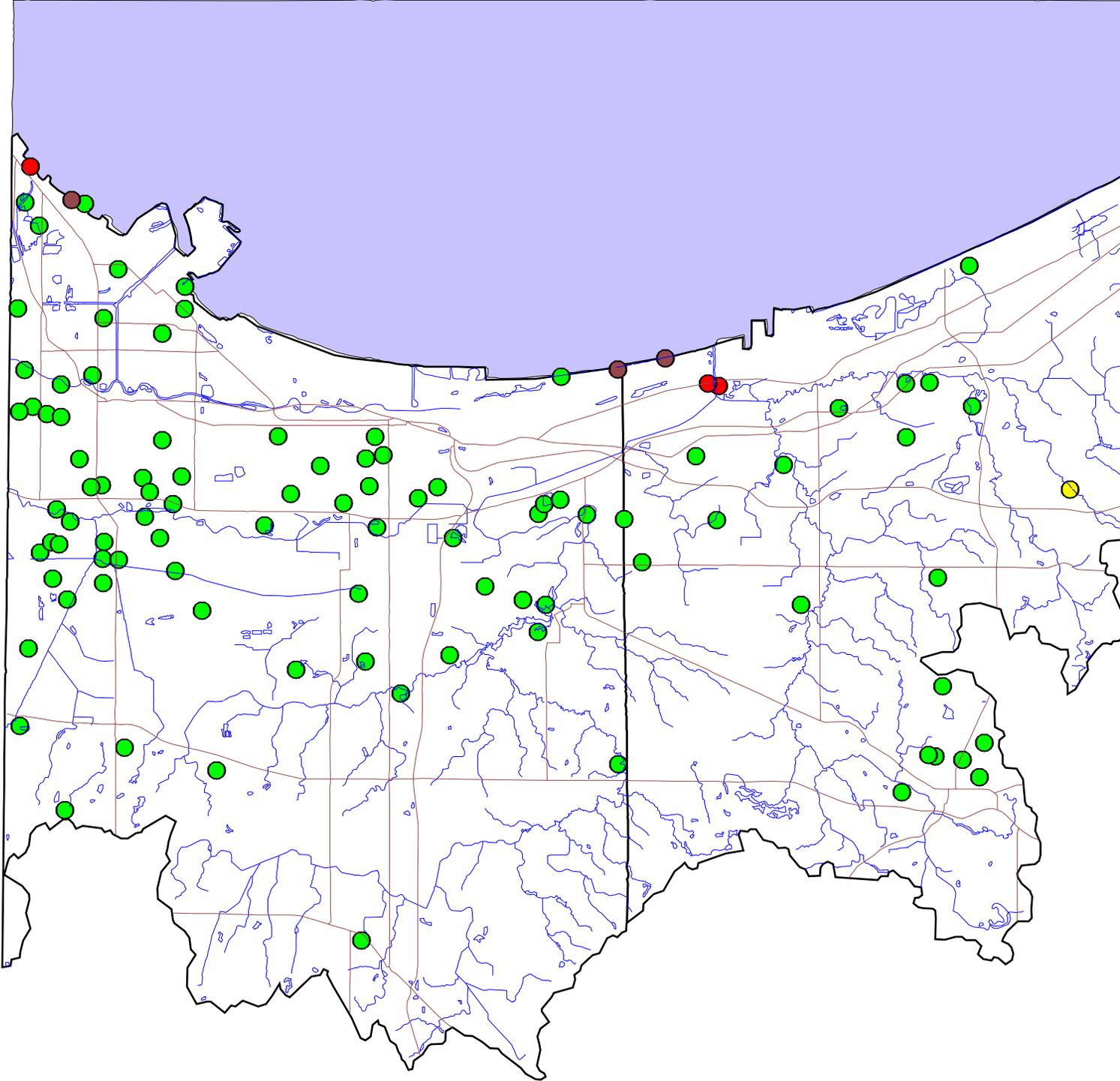
Swimming and sunbathing are activities enjoyed by more than half of all lake shore users.



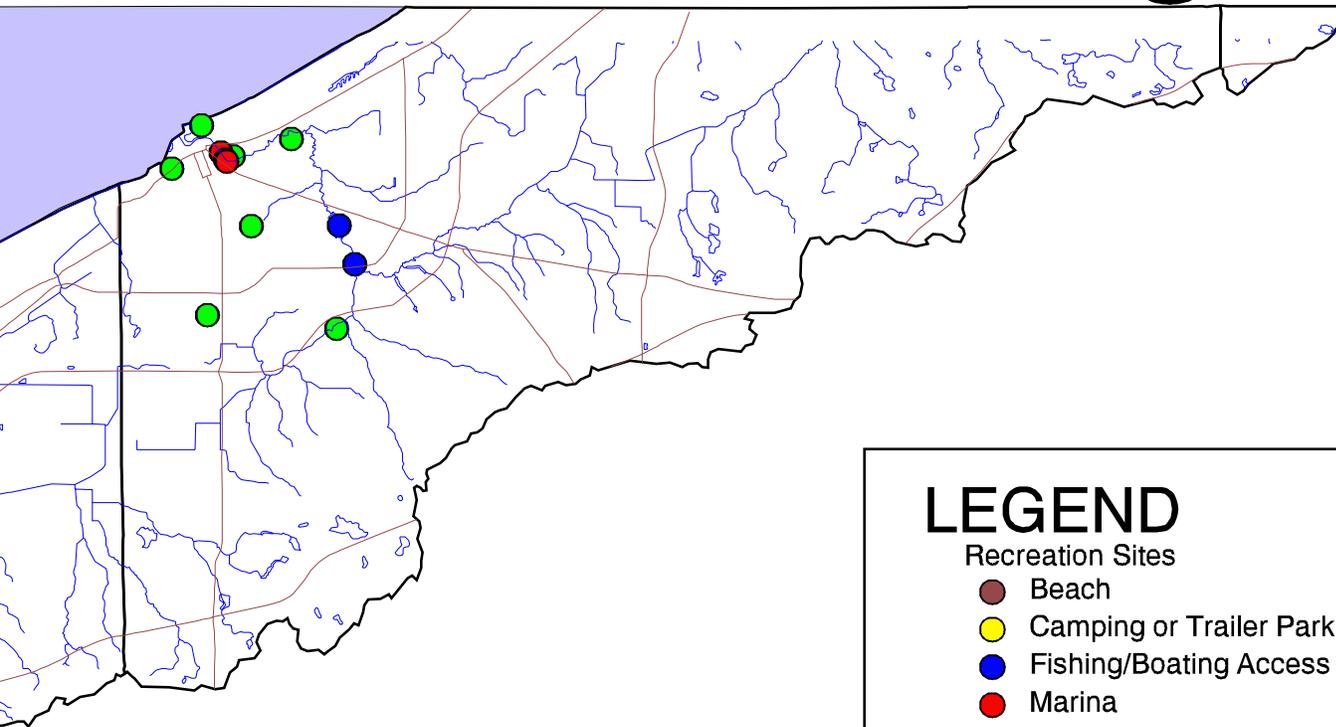
Maps

Lake
Shore
Maps

Recreation Sites in



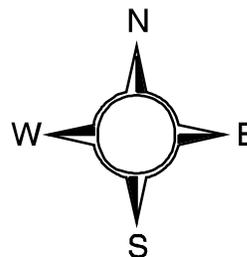
the Coastal Region



LEGEND

Recreation Sites

- Beach
- Camping or Trailer Park
- Fishing/Boating Access Site
- Marina
- Parks Larger Than 10 Acres

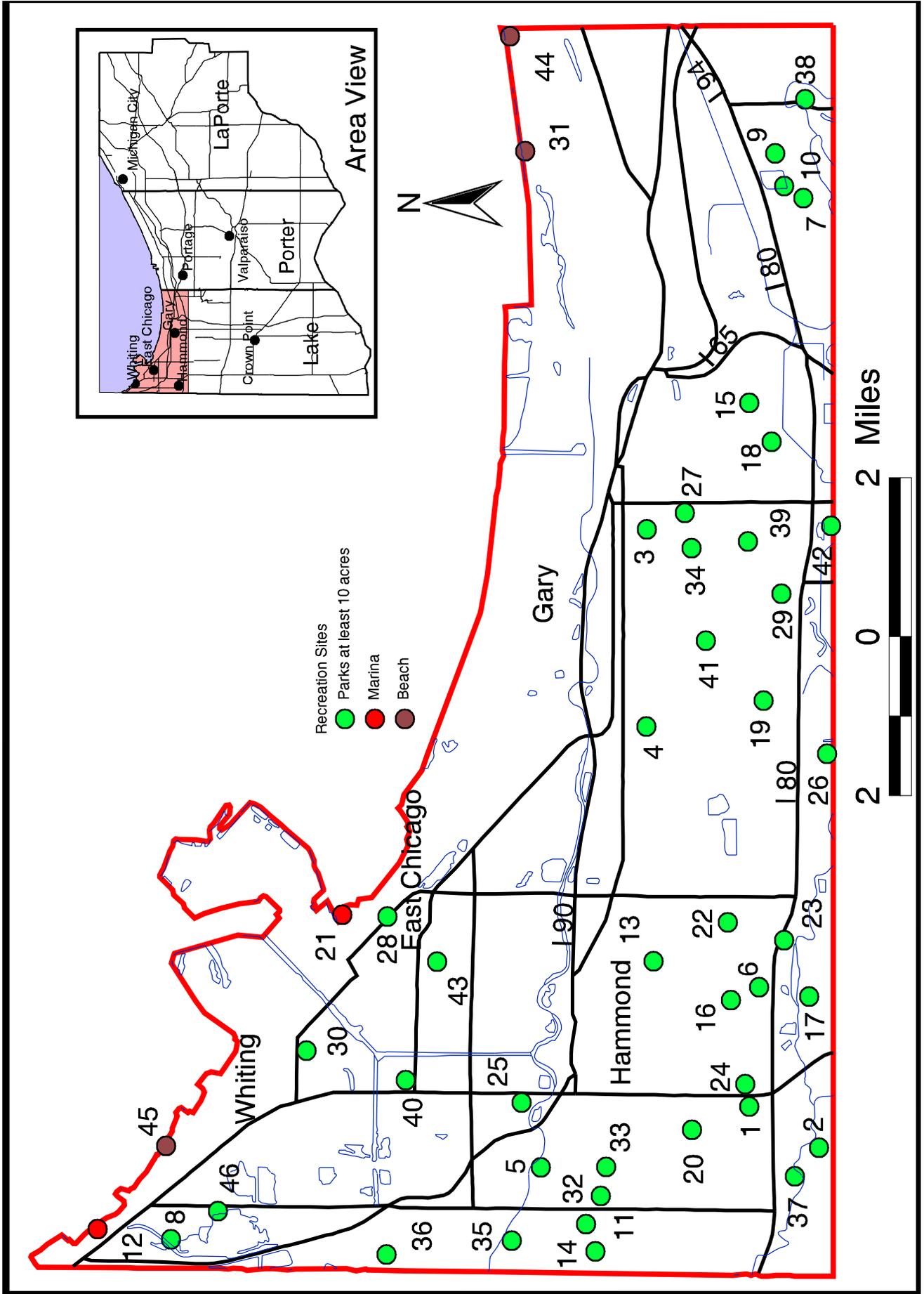


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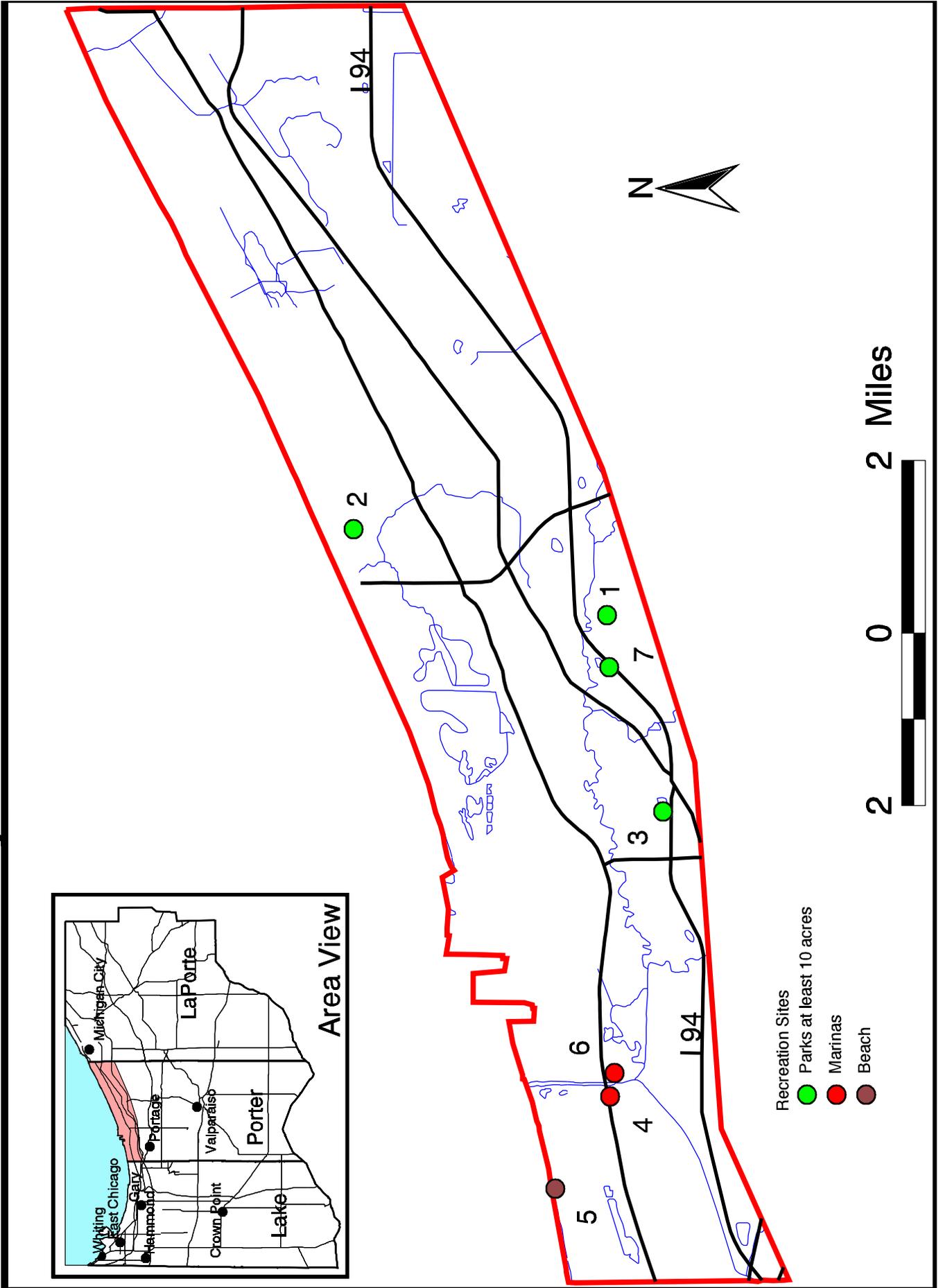
Recreation Sites were determined by the Division of Outdoor Recreation, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, as part of the Indiana Recreation Facilities Inventory. Accuracy of site locations is plus or minus 100 meters.

Prepared by the Division of Outdoor Recreation
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
December, 1997

Lake County Coastal Area Recreation Sites



Porter County Coastal Area Recreation Sites



			Acreage	No Facilities	Playground	Athletic Fields	Courts	Picnic Shelters	Restroom Facilities	Trails	Fishing Access	Boating Access	Boating Facilities	Beach	Swimming	Camping Facilities	Community Center
1	Hawthorn Park	219/926-9000	35		•	SB, BB	B, T		P								
2	Indiana Dunes State Park	219/232-4124	2182		•			•	F, X	W, S	•			•	•	•	
3	Lakeland Park	219/787-9413	29		•	SB	B, T, V	•	F		•			•		•	
4	Lefty's Coho Landing	219/762-7761	5						F		•		•				
5	Ogden Dunes Beach Access		13														
6	Portage City Marina	219/763-6833	20					•	F	W	•	•	•				
7	Pratt Lake Park	219/465-3586	14		•			•	P	W	•						
8	National Lakeshore Lake, Porter, LaPorte Counties	219-926-7561	14,100					•	F, P	W	•		•	•	•	•	

KEY

Athletic Fields: SB= Softball BB= Baseball S= Soccer

Courts: B= Basketball

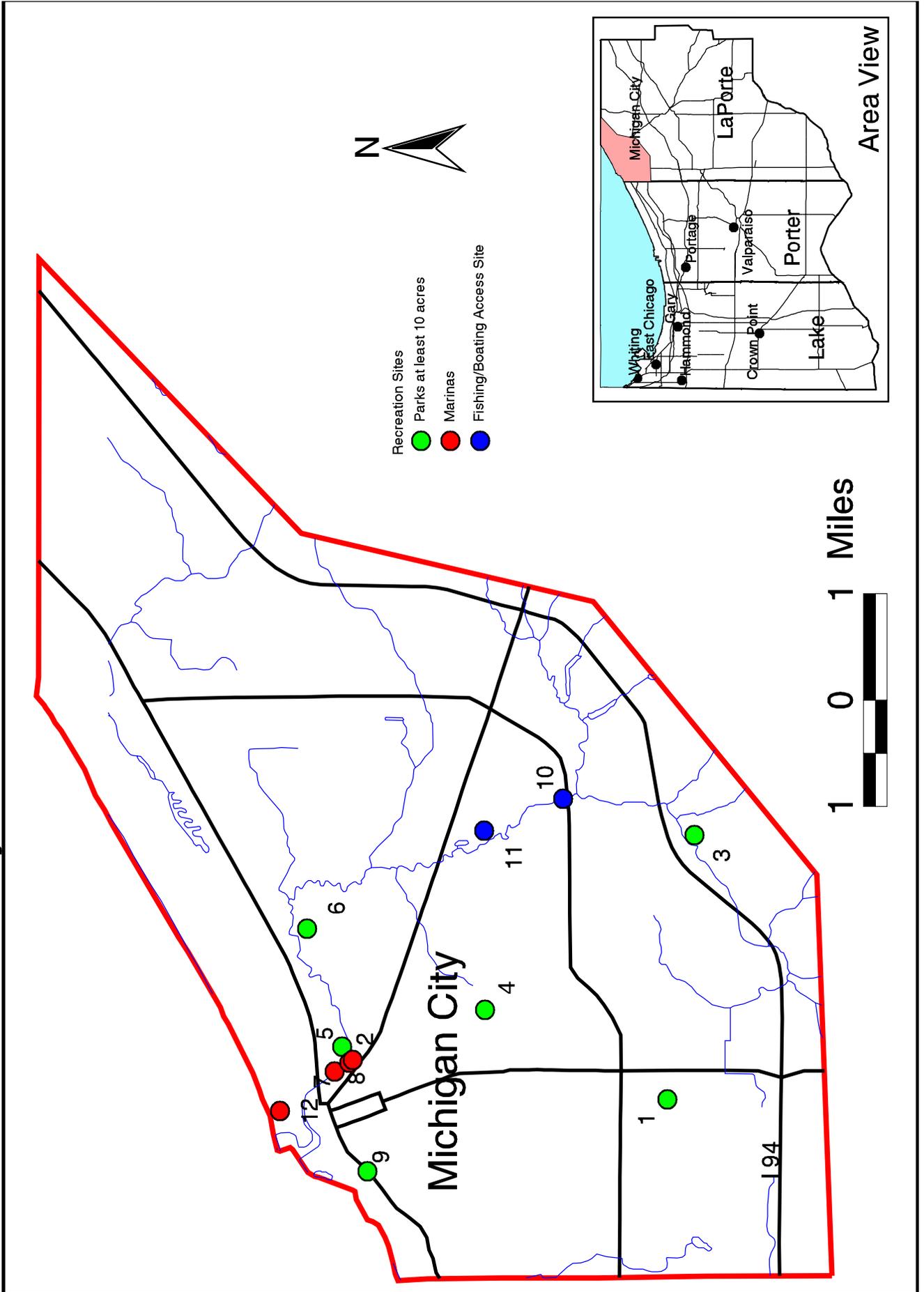
T= Tennis V= Volleyball (sand)

Restrooms: F= Flush

P= Portable X= Pit

Trails: F= Fitness M= Multi-purpose W= Walking only S= Ski (cross-country)

LaPorte County Coastal Area Recreation Sites



			Acreage	No Facilities	Playground	Athletic Fields	Courts	Picnic Shelters	Restroom Facilities	Trails	Fishing Access	Boating Access	Boating Facilities	Beach	Swimming	Camping Facilities	Community Center
1	Adams Park	219/873-1506	12		•	SB		•	P								
2	B & E Marina	219/879-8301	1						F		•	•	•				
3	Creek Ridge County Park	219/873-7014	77		•		V	•	X	W	•						
4	Gardena Street Playground	219/873-1506	12		•	SB, B, BB	T	•		W							
5	Hansen Park	219/873-1506	17		•	SB	B				•						
6	International Friendship Park		25	•							•						
7	Newport Marina								F		•	•	•	•			
8	Phil Sprague Public Marina	219/873-1506						•	X		•	•	•				
9	Pullman Park	219/873-1506	10		•	SB	B										
10	Trail Creek Forks Public Access	219/232-4080									•	•					
11	Trail Creek Public Access	219/232-4080	37								•	•					
12	Washington Park Marina	219/872-1712	99		•		T	•	F, X	M, W	•	•	•	•	•		•

KEY

Athletic Fields: SB= Softball BB= Baseball S= Soccer

Courts: B= Basketball

T= Tennis V= Volleyball (sand)

Restrooms: F= Flush

P= Portable X= Pit

Trails: F= Fitness M= Multi-purpose W= Walking only S= Ski (cross-country)

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- Indiana Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Indiana Department of Natural Resources. 1994.
- Department of Natural Resources: [http:// www.ai.org/acin/dnr](http://www.ai.org/acin/dnr)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Navigational Maps: <http://mapindex.nos.noaa.gov>
- Lake Michigan Marina Development Commission. 6100 Southport Road, Portage, IN 46368. (219) 763-6060

Appendix A

Focus Group Summary

APPENDIX A

Focus Group Summary

General description of meeting agenda: We guided the attendees through a Cause and Effect facilitated meeting. The Cause and Effect process is designed to elicit information about a large number of possible causes for a problem (access). Specific causes are drawn as branches off three or more major categories. This technique is used either to answer the question “What could be causing this poor quality effect?”, or for getting the big picture of a problem. For our Big Question, we chose: “Is Access to the Lake shore a problem?” After answering the question, group members

brainstormed ideas that showed how access is a problem...what was going on that made people feel they didn’t have enough access to the lake and the surrounding area for recreation. After spending time going over the issues, they then put them into Consumer, Provider, and Resource categories. The Consumer category dealt with the user of the resource, and it contained those items which the user had control over. The Provider category dealt with the agency/ organization which provided either the resource or facilities that allow use of the lake and

environs. It contained those items which the Provider had control over. The Resource category dealt with those items outside the control of, or which limited use by, the general public.

The meeting notes are included in each group write-up.

Shoreline use is diverse and hampered by the limited amount of land. Here, marina facilities and a steel manufacturing plant share valuable space.



Group 1: Private marinas and other private recreation providers

This meeting was scheduled to be held April 8, 1996. No member of the public showed up to the meeting. Forty private recreation providers were invited. Since no one showed, they were also invited to the public user groups meeting.

Group 2: Public recreation providers

This meeting was scheduled for April 22, 1996. Eight people attended. This was the first meeting we were able to have. The first decision the group made was there were indeed lakeshore access problems. Next, they brainstormed ideas and came up with several issues concerning access. Then they spent the remaining time categorizing the issues, and coming up with a few solutions to the perceived problems.

Provider

- Need more water and beach access
- Difficult to find information about access—location and facilities
- Inconsistent access—price, hours, security (personal safety), facilities offered, policies/enforcement
- Access to facilities is discriminatory to minorities (this is not intentional, though)
- Lake/water fatalities are mostly minorities
- Need more diversified/comprehensive access. Special access for special uses
- User conflict
- Better linkages
- Who is in charge
- Rental facilities—pwc, boats, etc.
- Non-existent signage
- Lack of necessary infrastructure to get to the lakeshore
- Need more partnerships with industry
- Industry is responding, but public agencies are not
- Governmental inflexibility (open state parks to additional access)
- Duplication in planning. Lack of coordinated planning effort
- Marketing duplication
- Lack of scenic drives
- Not enough knowledge about access for persons with disabilities
- Current “disabled” access needs upgrading
- Need standards for universal access
- Three-county coordinated brochure
- Need glossary of terms (part of brochure)

Survey ethnic cultures to see how they use the lake

Consumers

Respond to survey on how ethnic cultures use the lake

Demand standards for universal access

Demand upgraded “disabled” access

Demand/supply more knowledge about access for persons with disabilities

Politicians and bureaucrats are ignorant and insensitive to the issues

Too much orientation to special interests (environmentalists)

Demand more partnerships with industry

Industry is responding but providers are not

Demand more governmental flexibility (open state parks)

Demand more diversified/comprehensive access

User conflicts

Who is in charge

Demand more rental facilities—pwc, boats, etc.

Demand non-discriminatory access to facilities and hours of operation

Lake/water fatalities are mostly minorities

Demand more water and beach access

Demand consistent facilities

Resource

Need more water and beach access (limited by the total amount available)

Difficult to find information about the location and types of facilities available

Resource imposes limitations on more diversified/comprehensive access

User conflicts

Rental facilities—pwc, boats, etc.

Costs to provide more infrastructure for increased access

Too much industry—blocks access due to size

Lack of scenic drives

Not enough knowledge about disabled access

Group 3: Users and User Groups

This meeting was held May 6. Twenty-seven people attended. Because this was such a large group, they were divided into two sections: those that believed there to be adequate lakeshore access and those that believed there to be inadequate lakeshore access. Each subgroup was led through the same facilitation process. The group members also offered some solutions to their perceived access problems.

Adequate Access:**Provider**

- Lack of information
- Not knowing where to get information
- Poorly maintained and programmed access
- Not knowing public from private access
- Information is fragmented
- Lack of parking at existing sites
- Current access is adequate, but not sure about future access (casinos)
- Under utilization of Marquette Park and other outlying parks
- Public transportation to parks is not available
- Need better coordination of existing facilities

Consumers

- Under utilization of Marquette Park and other outlying parks
- Not knowing public from private access
- Not knowing where to get information
- Lack of information

Resource

- Not knowing public from private access
- Access is fragmented
- Lack of parking at existing sites

Inadequate Access:**Provider**

- Access from marinas and new gaming boats impacting current access
- Current planning efforts are not keeping up with population growth
- DNR hasn't provided adequate access. Permits are given for filling in (the lake) without expanding the amount of access
- Tax dollars are not going to access
- No place to take kids fishing. Lake shore is too awkward to get to
- No boat access
- No access (public) to breakwater (mouth of Burns Ditch) unless you live in Ogden Dunes
- Lake Michigan has only one public site provided by the DNR and Burns harbor security are too restrictive. Future dry docks threaten to cut this in half
- Breakwall construction is hazardous
- No free DNR public access for boats on Lake Michigan (45 miles of

shoreline along lakeshore 300 public access sites maintained on public waterways, but none on lake Michigan

How can the state break through red tape to get state access on the National Lakeshore

Open Crescent Dunes to public access

Gaming boats are going to congest Michigan City and restrict access to the public

More places we can go with a boat are needed

Losing beaches

Access along beach needs to be better defined/published. Make info available to public (buoy system)

Publicity about current access especially boating beach at Crescent Dunes

Aesthetics—we need areas significantly cleaner than current conditions (free from contaminants). EX: Port of Indiana, Improve Air quality, etc., US Steel

No public access beach in city of Portage. Only one place left—on west side of Burns Harbor

More information about current sites (signage) its easy to get lost and very hard to find any access that is there

Raw petroleum (coke/coal) are loaded directly on docks at Port of Indiana. This leaches directly into the water. State needs to look into this because they have control here (IDEM, money, solid waste, water)

Emergency ramps in Port of Indiana that are being removed for dry docks for tugs need to be mitigated somewhere for emergencies. Its not safe to get (small) boats where there are bad conditions (there are two concrete ramps—leave one open for emergency boats)

From Michigan City to Burns Ditch there are 15 miles with no boating access to the lake. At least 6 access sites for boats should fit into. Access to National Lakeshore is too restrictive in this area. Unless DNR accomplishes this goal we feel DNR is wasting its time

Better cooperation between DNR, industry and federal parks

Parking areas for families close to beach—parking is now too far away

Big rocks on beach at east end of Beverly Shores have ruined beach for bathing and makes it impossible for boats to come ashore in rough seas. Did DNR approve? NO MORE ROCKS (replace with sand)

Build a good workable fishing area at the Port of Indiana

Open up west arm of Port of Indiana to fishing—simply adding a parking lot and handicapped access would work. Owned by Midwest Steel Storage area for breakwall rocks.

Provide road to lake shore

Tap into IHT

Lower fees for licenses

Consumers

Current planning efforts are not keeping up with population growth

Resource

Current planning efforts are not keeping up with population growth
 No place to take the kids fishing. Lake shore is too awkward to get to
 Gaming boats are going to congest Michigan City and restrict access to the public
 Aesthetics—we need areas significantly cleaner than current conditions (free from contaminants). EX: Port of Indiana, Improve Air quality, etc., US Steel
 Raw petroleum (coke/coal) are loaded directly on docks at Port of Indiana. This leaches directly into the water. State needs to look into this because they have control here (IDEM, money, solid waste, water)

Solutions:

Adequate Access

Have DNR coordinate information—brochures, maps, PSAs, web page, regional map showing access sites.
 Improve alternate transportation: South Shore, bicycles, bus. Allow people to carry their bikes on the South Shore
 Create a central staging area (at SR 51 and 20) Include: information booth, rentals, food, restaurants, etc.
 Create new funding sources: user fees, redirect lotto/casino money, volunteer program— adopt a site
 Promote public/private partnership
 Provide better signage on public access sites
 Create an information brochure/map with reference points of access sites. Have a 1-800 number (1-800-THE LAKE)
 Shuttle service. Use alternative transportation. NO MORE ASPHALT
 Plan to accommodate for future access (population growth) Ensure public input. Who is doing what
 Better highway markers. Information kiosk. Recreation needs not met at parks, so keep that in mind for future planning
 Provide phone info/menu to access when purchasing South Shore tickets
 Include Tourism bureaus
 Accommodate users with disabilities

Inadequate Access

More hike/bike connections to the lake shore—provide shuttle from more remote parking areas
 Protect private property rights. Willing sellers only
 Don't give private property rights—no more/no less than Constitution guarantees
 Don't put parking lots right on the beach
 Open dialogues/partnerships with steel mills as they downsize

Increase infrastructure (restrooms)
Require public access along gaming boat sites
Any time state tax dollars get used for Lake Michigan then free access should be provided
Litigation for access rights—mayors
Security at access sites (lighting)
Open facilities currently developed with tax dollars to the public
Legislation—state, local
Don't over-develop areas that are still relatively natural to the point that the resource is destroyed
Crescent Cove plan
Bait and tackle shops and cleanup stations at boat access sites with telephone, and sanitary facilities
No Crescent Cove plan. Crescent Cove is to be part of Dunes NLS
Inventory of walking easements (pre-emptive easement). Define rights. Define walking easement
Make people responsible for their actions along the lake shore—US Steel
No more regulations
Tax dollars from this area comes back to this area
Regulations are needed to clarify what rights we have under the law
When Dingel-Johnson funds are used for marinas or along shoreline—reasonable fees should be charged and anglers need access. Stop using their money and then restricting access
Free up federal funds authorized for sand replacement at Beverly Shores
Raise user fees. We don't mind paying, we just want results

Group 4: Commissions and Commissioners

This meeting was held May 20. Only two people were in attendance. Along with categorizing access difficulties, this group gave their opinions on what would be the best and worst case scenarios for lakeshore development. These citizens wanted to give their vision of the “perfect” Lake Michigan shoreline.

Best Case Scenario

Provider

Continued environmental enforcement. Cleaner Lake
A restaurant overlooking the lake in each community that has room
Re-open Johnson Inn (Town of Porter)
More marinas/boating opportunities
City of Gary actually gets a marina

- Direct secondary routes (roads) to destinations
- More mass–transit: shuttles between parks
- More intermodal trails (bike/ped)
- Improvement of ancillary facilities: Wolf Lake, Little Cal. River
- More sanitary facilities to support development
- Consistent funding source i.e., mass transit money, percent of gas tax
- Public access is encouraged
- Private development can move into existing bare spots to provide more recreation opportunities

Consumers

- Continued environmental enforcement. Cleaner lake
- A restaurant overlooking the lake in each community that has room
- Re–open Johnson Inn (Town of Porter)
- More marinas/boating opportunities
- City of Gary actually gets a marina
- Direct secondary routes (roads) to destinations
- More mass–transit: shuttles between parks

Resource

- Continued environmental enforcement. Cleaner Lake
- A restaurant overlooking the lake in each community that has room
- Re–open Johnson Inn (Town of Porter)
- Reduce the amount of private housing to increase access
- More marinas/boating opportunities
- City of Gary actually gets a marina
- More mass–transit: shuttles between parks
- More intermodal trails (bike/ped)
- Improvement of ancillary facilities: Wolf Lake, Little Cal. River
- More sanitary facilities to support development
- Consistent funding source i.e., mass transit money, percent of gas tax

Worst Case Scenario:

Provider

- Sandusky, Ohio (Cedar Point)
- Dumping, parties, graffiti—reference “Bobby Beach”
- Charging for access
- DNR fishing access at Port of Indiana closes
- Environmental laws go unenforced and the area returns to the 60s conditions pre Clean
- Air/Water Act

Consumers

Sandusky, Ohio (Cedar Point)
Dumping, parties, graffiti—reference “Bobby Beach”
No one wants to go to the Lake anyway

Resource

Environmental laws go unenforced and the area returns to the 60s conditions pre Clean Air/Water Act
Alewives return

Group 5: Business and Industry.

Three members of the business/industry community attended this meeting, which was held June 3. Like Group 3, these people categorized the issues and also offered some solutions to those problem issues.

Provider

Not enough access to tributaries (Salt Creek, Trail Creek, Burns Water way)
Boat launch access between Pastrick Marina and Portage is non-existent
Opportunities exist at industrial sites—esp. in Gary (Buffington Harbor and National Lakeshore)
Shoreline fishing opportunities are nil. Those that do exist are difficult to use
Need better coordination with Port Authority to provide breakwater access at times the fish are running
Need vehicle access at certain times of year to fish from beach (smelt, brown trout, salmon)
Private beach areas are increasing which leads to loss of public access
Site security (esp. Marquette Park)
Under utilization of existing sites (Marquette Park and Lake Street Beach)
Awareness of existing beaches
Limited “boat-in” access
Mid-section of the Region is limited in access for boating, swimming, and fishing
Dunes State Park does not allow any boat mooring (access from water). This is a three mile stretch that is inaccessible to boaters. Also, there is no boat launch at the Dunes State Park
The shoreline is a fragmented and complex mix of uses (business, industry, residential) and controls (state, local, fed)

Consumers

Awareness of existing tributaries (Salt Creek, Trail Creek, Burns Water way)

Dunes State Park does not allow any boat mooring (access from water). This is a three mile stretch that is inaccessible to boaters. Also, there is no boat launch at the Dunes State Park

The shoreline is a fragmented and complex mix of uses (business, industry, residential) and controls (state, local, fed)

Private beach areas are increasing which leads to loss of public access

Site security (esp. Marquette Park)

Under utilization of existing sites (Marquette Park and Lake Street Beach)

Awareness of existing beaches

Limited “boat-in” access

Perception of safety at existing beaches

Lack of user ethics is limiting access

Shoreline fishing opportunities are nil. Those that do exist are difficult to use

You already must know what opportunities exist. There is very little information available to the “outsider”

Need better coordination with Port Authority to provide breakwater access at times the fish are running

Resource

Dunes State Park does not allow any boat mooring (access from water). This is a three mile stretch that is inaccessible to boaters. Also, there is no boat launch at the Dunes State Park

Mid-section of the Region is limited in access for boating, swimming and fishing

Need vehicle access at certain times of year to fish from beach (smelt, brown trout, salmon)

Not enough access to tributaries (Salt Creek, Trail Creek, Burns Waterway)

Shoreline fishing opportunities are nil. Those that do exist are difficult to use

Solutions:

Produce and distribute a user friendly map

Improve the tributaries (access and fish habitat). Have catch and release fishing, provide holding and shelter areas

Create a fish habitat stamp to provide funds to improve habitat. earmark those funds for Northwest Indiana

Build more access sites on tributaries. Have DNR provide more in Lake and Porter counties. Work on state/local partnerships

Encourage pwc use at Lake Street. It really isn't suitable for a breakwater/harbor, so encourage other uses

Include more fishing access sites as well as boating

Open marina and casino sites to anglers. Provide parking, lights, security on site.

Coordinate with Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore to build more facilities

Advertise new sites

Educate users on ethics

More coordination between entities to provide access

Provide boat launch ramp at the International Harbor

Open outer breakwalls to waterfowl hunting

Provide seasonal vehicular access for fishing. Limit the access to protect the resource

Work with casinos to provide public access

Get an easement through Ogden Dunes for foot and vehicular traffic

Get National Park Service to open sites

Increase shore patrol for security. Increase the visibility of security officers. Need ATVs and bikes along beaches

All agencies need to cooperate on security issues

Increase lifeguard presence

Add ethics to user map. Provide trash and recycling containers and maintain them

Improve existing sites. Get vendors to help. Get private and public dollars for renovation and new facilities

Add Marquette Park to National Park Service jurisdiction

Put signs on the expressway advertising access sites

Get a dialogue with State Parks to get them to open Dunes State Park to boats.

Pursue other opportunities—private and local to increase access

Provide seed money to build new sites

Isolate an area for boats (at Dunes State Park) and make them pay there.

Change the “I have to make money” mentality/policy at state parks

Look at other states’ policies

Identify feasible (environmental, financial capabilities) sites, then create financial incentives to create facilities

Create partnerships with state, local, and business (i.e., NIPSCO generating facilities) Have the state agency provide security and liability

Change current no boat policy at state park (can still disallow over night mooring)

Build a boat launch in Dunes State Park

Encourage partnerships

Create and encourage a “Classified Beach” program. Will get tax breaks for providing public access on private land

Appendix B

Lake Michigan Access Survey

Date:

Time:

Location:

Please check the correct answers

- | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. Are you: | Male | Female | |
| 2. In which age group are you? | | | |
| 17 & under | 25-34 | 45-54 | 65-74 |
| 18-24 | 35-44 | 55-64 | 75 and over |
| 3. What is your current marital status? | | | |
| Single-never married | Divorced | Widowed | |
| Married | Separated | | |
| 4. Where is your primary residence located? | | | |
| Indiana | Illinois | Other state in U.S. | Other country |
| Michigan | Wisconsin | Canada | |

Answer question 5 only if you live in Indiana.

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 5. In which Indiana county do you live? | | Do not live in Indiana |
| Lake | LaPorte | |
| Porter | Other county in Indiana | |

Answer question 6 only if you live in Indiana and not in Lake, Porter, or LaPorte county.

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 6. Which Indiana city is the closest to, or is, your primary residence? | | | |
| Gary/Hammond | Kokomo | Richmond | Evansville |
| South Bend/Elkhart | Muncie/Marion | Bloomington/Columbus | Do not live in Indiana |
| Fort Wayne | Terre Haute | Lawrenceburg/Madison | |
| Lafayette | Indianapolis | New Albany/Clarksville | |

Answer question 7 only if you live in Michigan.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 7. In which Michigan county do you live? | | Do not live in Michigan |
| Berrien county | Van Buren county | |
| Cass county | Other county in Michigan | |

Answer question 8 only if you live in Illinois.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 8. In which Illinois county do you live? | | Other county in Illinois |
| Cook county | Lake county | Do not live in Illinois |
| Will county | Kankakee county | |

Answer question 9 only if you live in Wisconsin

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9. In which Wisconsin county do you live? | | Do not live in Wisconsin |
| Racine county | Walworth county | |
| Kenosha county | Other county in Wisconsin | |

Answer question 10 only if you live in the U.S. but not in Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, or Wisconsin.

- | | | | |
|--|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| 10. Which of the following BEST describes the area of the country where you live? | | | |
| Midwest | Mid Atlantic | South | West |
| Northeast | Southeast | Southwest | Northwest |

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------|--|
| 11. Are you... | | | |
| White/Non Hispanic | Hispanic | Asian | |
| Black/African American | Native American | Other | |

12. What is your annual house hold income before taxes?

Under \$10,000	\$30,000-\$39,000	\$60,000-\$69,999
\$10,000-\$19,999	\$40,000-\$49,999	\$75,000-\$99,999
\$20,000-\$29,999	\$50,000-\$59,999	Over \$100,000

13. How many are in your group today?

Just myself	3	5	9-12
2	4	6-8	More than 12

14. Which of the following **BEST** describes how often you visit this property?

This is my first visit	A couple of times per year	Once every week or two	More than once
Once a year	Several times per year	Once a week	a week

15. What mode of transportation did you use to get to this property today?

Car/truck	Bicycle	Boat	Other
Motorcycle	Bus	Walked/jogged	

16. Did you experience any trouble getting to the shoreline today?

Yes	No	Not applicable
-----	----	----------------

Answer question 17 only if you answered "Yes" to 16.

17. Which of the following contributed to your difficulty in reaching the shoreline today? **(check all that apply)**

Traffic	Inconvenient boat-in areas
Road conditions	Inconvenient access for swimming, fishing, etc.
Difficulty in finding this site	Private property restrictions
Lack of or inconvenient parking	Railroad crossings
Lack of public transportation	Car/truck trouble
Inconvenient boat-out/launch ramps	Other

18. Which of the following activities are you participating in at this property today? **(check all that apply)**

Power boating	Boat fishing	Biking	Camping
Sail boating	Skiing	Driving for pleasure	Canoeing/Kayaking
Swimming	Jet skiing	Hiking/walking/jogging	Nature observation
Shore fishing	Picnicking		Other

19. Do you feel there is enough access at this property for SWIMMING?

Yes	No	No opinion
-----	----	------------

20. Do you feel there is enough access at this property for FISHING?

Yes	No	No opinion
-----	----	------------

21. Do you feel there is enough access at this property for BOATING?

Yes	No	No opinion
-----	----	------------

22. Do you feel there is enough access at this property for other general activities such as picnicking, lake viewing & observation, etc.?

Yes	No	No opinion
-----	----	------------

23. Do you feel there is a need for additional public facilities at Lake Michigan? **(check all that apply)**

Current facilities are OK	Need more fishing access areas
Need more beaches for swimming, sunbathing, etc.	Need more public open spaces for picnicking, etc.
Need more marinas	Need more boat ramps
Need more boat-in beaches	Need more rental equipment such as boats, skis, etc.

24. Approximately how much money have you spent or expect to spend for FOOD on today's outing?

Zero	\$11-\$15	\$31-\$40	\$76-\$100
Less than \$5	\$16-\$20	\$41-\$50	More than \$100
\$5-\$10	\$21-\$30	\$51-\$75	

25. Approximately how much money have you spent or expect to spend for GAS on today's outing?

Zero	\$11-\$15	\$31-\$40	\$76-\$100
Less than \$5	\$16-\$20	\$41-\$50	More than \$100
\$5-\$10	\$21-\$30	\$51-\$75	

26. Approximately how much money have you spent or expect to spend for RENTAL FEES on today's outing?

Zero	\$11-\$15	\$31-\$40	\$76-\$100
Less than \$5	\$16-\$20	\$41-\$50	More than \$100
\$5-\$10	\$21-\$30	\$51-\$75	

27. Is your outing today part of an extended or overnight trip?
 Yes No—this is just a one day trip

Answer 28, 29, & 30 only if this outing is a part of an extended or overnight trip.

28. How many nights will you be away from home during this trip?

1	3	5	7	11-15
2	4	6	8-10	More than 15

29. Which of the following **BEST** describes where you are staying during this trip?

Motel/hotel	RV	Other
Campground	With friends/relatives	

30. Approximately how much money have you spent or expect to spend for LODGING during this trip?

Zero	\$31-\$40	\$76-\$100	\$201-\$300
Less than \$20	\$41-\$50	\$101-\$150	\$301-\$500
\$20-\$30	\$51-\$75	\$151-\$200	More than \$500

31. Do you use access facilities to Lake Michigan in states other than Indiana?
 Yes No

Answer 32 & 33 only if you use access facilities to Lake Michigan in states other than Indiana.

32. In which of the following areas do you use access to Lake Michigan?

Lower Michigan	Wisconsin	None/other
Upper Michigan	Illinois	

33. Which of the following **BEST** describes how often you use access facilities to Lake Michigan in areas outside Indiana?

Once a year	A couple of times per year	Several times per year	
Once every week or two	Once a week	More than once a week	None/other

34. Of the following, please **check the three MOST important** to you:

Good fishing	Good swimming area	Hiking/nature trails
Natural beauty of the area	Security	General clean siteWater quality
Water Quality	Good picnicking areas	Safety of fish consumption
Uncongested boating	Limiting development of lake shore	

Appendix C

Indiana Recreation Facilities Inventory Update

INDIANA RECREATION FACILITIES INVENTORY UPDATE

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

The Department of Natural Resources, Division of Outdoor Recreation is assembling a detailed inventory of public and private outdoor recreation facilities in Indiana. This inventory will help

state and local recreation providers better plan for future recreation opportunities and markets. We understand that time and staff are limited. **Please help us by completing this form for each site**

your agency owns and/or manages. For participating, we will send you a report compiled specifically for your county and/or planning area. We appreciate your assistance with this project.

RECREATION AREA (SITE)

Name of Recreation Area (site) _____

Site Address/Location _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code + 4 _____

Phone Number _____ Site Code _____

MANAGING AGENCY OF SITE

Name of Managing Agency _____

Mailing Address (if different from site) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code + 4 _____

Phone Number _____

SITE OWNER

Name of Site Owner (if different from Managing Agency) _____

Mailing Address (if different from site) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code + 4 _____

Phone Number _____

PERSON FILLING OUT FORM

Name of Person Filling Out Survey _____

Title _____

Field Check Date: _____

This Recreation Area Would Best Be Called A (Circle only one description)

1. Park/Recreation Area
2. Forest
3. Fish and Wildlife Area
4. Dedicated Nature Preserve
5. Reservoir
6. Historic/Cultural Site
7. Fishing/Boating Access Site
8. Camping or Trailer Park
9. Trail
10. Marina
11. Commercial/Private Fishing Lake
12. Beach
13. Pool
14. Elementary/Secondary School Grounds
15. Fairground
16. Zoo
17. Commercial for profit Recreation Facility
18. Non-profit Recreation Facility
19. Sports Complex
20. Other (please describe)

Please check box that best applies

Commercial

Private

Public

Is this site open to the public?
 yes no

What are the daily operating hours of this facility?
 From _____ to _____

Check if open year round

If this recreation area is not open year round, how long does its operating season last.
 From _____ to _____

Facility operation times unknown

Has this site been evaluated for accessibility according to American Disabilities Act standards?
 yes no

Are fees collected for the use of this facility?
 yes no

Are pets allowed on this recreation area?
 yes no

This site has received:

LWCF Grant

Indiana Waters Grant

Wabash River Corridor Grant

Other State/Federal Grant

Please Specify _____

DIRECTIONS: Please use a separate form for each recreation area. Place an X in all boxes that apply to the site. When the

question asks for numbers, place the total number of facilities in the space provided. If you would like to include additional infor-

mation, please attach it to this form. Questions and comments may be directed to the Division of Outdoor Recreation (317) 232-4070.

Property Acreage

The total number of **land acres** in this recreation area is: _____ No facilities or development
 The total number of **water acres** in this recreation area is: _____

Convenience Facilities

No Restroom facilities

Restroom facilities available: Pit Flush Portable Showers available
 Handicapped accessible showers available

Number of handicapped accessible restroom facilities _____

Picnic and Play Areas

No Picnic or Play Areas

Picnic shelters total number of shelters _____ Playground(s) total number if more than 1 _____
 Picnic areas total number ____ total acres ____ **Handicapped accessible** playground(s)
 Picnic tables _____ total number if more than 1 _____
 Handicapped accessible picnic table(s) _____ Open space and/or playfields
 Handicapped accessible picnic shelter(s) _____

Outdoor Athletic Fields

No Athletic Fields

Softball total number __ number lighted __ Soccer total number __ number lighted __
 Baseball total number __ number lighted __ Football total number __ number lighted __
 Batting cages _____ Running track total number __ number lighted __

Outdoor Courts

No Courts

Basketball goals total number __ number lighted __ Horseshoe total number __ number lighted __
 Tennis total number __ number lighted __ Shuffleboard total number __ number lighted __
 Volleyball total number __ number lighted __ Wall courts total number __ number lighted __

Golf Courses and Ranges

No Courses or Ranges

Golf courses number of holes _____ Rifle-Pistol range number of ranges _____
 Driving range number of ranges _____ Skeet traps total number _____
 Miniature golf Archery ranges number of ranges _____
 BMX course

WATER BASED RECREATION (Natural and man-made)

Check if no water recreation

Pool If more than one, how many? No Pool facilities Check if life guard on duty

Check facilities available:

- Outdoor swimming
- Olympic size
- Wading pool
- Bath house
- Indoor Swimming
- Wave pool
- Water slide
- Diving

Are facilities Handicapped accessible?

Please check which one(s)

- Outdoor swimming
- Olympic size
- Wading pool
- Bath House
- Indoor swimming
- Wave pool
- Water slide
- Diving

Swimming Beach (natural and/or man-made) No Beach Check if life guard on duty

Total feet of beach front _____ ft.

- Beach/bath house
- Showers provided

Is the beach front accessible? yes no

Are these facilities handicapped accessible? yes no

Lakes and/or Ponds No Lakes or Ponds Check if life guard on duty

Check if less than 10 acres

Total water surface are _____ Acres

Name of water body _____

Activities available and/or allowed:

- Boating (motorized)
- Non-motorized boating only
- Jet skies/Wet bikes
- Wind surfing
- Sailing
- Water skiing
- Fishing
- Swimming

River/Stream No River or Streams Hand carry access site only

Name of river/stream _____

Activities available:

- Softball
- Baseball
- Batting cages

Linear feet of bank within boundaries _____ ft.

Boating Facilities No Boating Facilities

Check if boating services (gas, food, equipment) available

- Boat rental
- Canoe rental
- Hand carried access no ramp
- Launching ramp _____ total number of ramps
- Launching lanes _____ total number of lanes
- Overnight mooring _____ total number of slips
- Marina Slips _____ total number of slips

Fishing Facilities No Fishing Facilities

- Piers or docks for fishing _____ total number
- Handicapped accessible fishing piers/docks _____ total number
- Bank fishing
- Fish cleaning station _____ total number

Wetland Areas No Wetland Areas

Total wetland acreage is _____ acres.

Wetland type (if known) _____

Overnight Facilities No Overnight Facilities Camping

- Class AA (full hookup) # of sites _____
- Class A (modern restrooms, electricity) # of sites _____
- Class B (modern restrooms or electricity) # of sites _____
- Class C (primitive) # of sites _____
- Backcountry camping area with no facilities
- Handicapped accessible sites # of sites _____
- Group camp capacity _____
- Equestrian camps capacity _____
- Sanitary dump stations available

 Lodging

- Inn
- Cabins total number _____

Large Group Facilities No Group Facilities

- Bandshell/amphitheater
 - Conference center
 - Community center
 - Nature center
 - Visitor center
- Do you offer interpretive programming yes no
If yes, what type? Nature
 Cultural
 Historical

Winter Sports No Winter Sports available

Average # of months facility is open for winter recreation _____

Check activities/facilities available

- Ice skating
- Toboggan run
- Sledding
- Snow boarding
- Snowmobile trails
- Cross-Country ski trails
- Downhill skiing

Hunting No Hunting allowed

- Public hunting allowed
- Stocked game total number of acres _____
- Waterfowl blinds total number _____

Trails and Paths No Trails or Paths

- Multi-use (walking, jogging, cycling) # of miles _____
- Fitness trail # of trails _____ # of miles _____
- Hike/walk only # of trails _____ # of miles _____
- Bicycle only # of trails _____ # of miles _____
 - Mountain bicycling
 - Touring
 - Trail bicycling
- Equestrian # of trails ___ # of miles ___
- Nature/Interpretive # of trails ___ # of miles ___
- Snowmobile # of trails ___ # of miles ___
- Handicapped accessible trails # of trails ___ # of miles ___
- Off-Road vehicles/ATV's # of trails ___ # of miles ___

Thank you for participating. Please send completed forms to:

**Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Outdoor Recreation
402 W. Washington St., Rm 271
Indianapolis, IN 46204**



Support the Indiana Heritage Trust.
Buy an Environmental License Plate.
Your donation will purchase natural areas for preservation and recreation.



Support conservation through the Natural Resources Foundation.
Donations of money or property are accepted to promote the work of IDNR. To contribute, contact the Natural Resources Foundation, 402 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204-2212, 317-233-4020.

DNR

"EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER"

Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Government prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information please write to:

Department of Natural Resources
Executive Office, 402 W. Washington St., Rm W256
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 232-4020.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Outdoor Recreation
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Division of Water
September 1998