Tools of Engagement: Encouraging, Considering, and Responding to Public Comment in the New DNRE

Supplemental Report

Spring 2010

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2009/2010 DNRE Leadership Academy Action Learning Team consisting of Susan Kilmer, Tim Melko, Claire Stevens, Gerald Tiernan, Kerry Wieber and Nicole Zacharda was charged with examining methods for effectively managing high profile agency issues where significant public participation is anticipated. The primary objective of the Team was to determine best practices for encouraging public participation; objectively collating and considering comments received; and responding to the public in a meaningful and timely manner.

Two project deliverables were produced, a guidebook entitled "Tools of Engagement: Encouraging, Considering, and Responding to Public Comment in the New DNRE" and this supplemental report. The purpose of the guidebook is to assist DNRE staff in developing effective methods for: informing citizens of opportunities to provide input on DNRE issues and programs; collating and considering public concerns; and effectively 'closing the feedback loop' by sharing outcomes - and citizen impact on those outcomes - with the public.

The Team spent a considerable amount of time examining methods for encouraging public participation in agency events, researching alternative methods for the organization of substantial volumes of public comment, and identifying potential communication tools to effectively convey the results of public comment and final DNRE outcomes. The Team developed external (Public) and internal (Staff) surveys in order to provide insight into both past practices and future expectations with regard to public participation. The results of these two surveys were tremendous and may have been a product of both Public and Staff concern in the wake of Governor Granholm's Executive Orders creating the new DNRE. With participation from nearly 1,500 members of the public (representing each county of the state) and 1,000 DNRE staff members (evenly split between former DNR and DEQ staff), the survey results provided a wealth of information to guide the Team in the development of necessary and useful tools for enhancing citizen engagement in the new DNRE. The complete survey results are contained in this supplemental report.

Once the survey results and other research was completed, the Team further refined the survey outcomes by interviewing DNRE Executive Division staff, stakeholders, and additional DNRE staff with wide-ranging public participation experience.

The Team is proud to present the culmination of these efforts in "Tools of Engagement: Encouraging, Considering, and Responding to Public Comment in the New DNRE," along with this supplemental report to document the research methods.

I. Introduction:

The action learning team project for the 2009-2010 Leadership Academy was to improve the process for "Encouraging, Managing, Considering, and Responding to Public Participation and comment in High-profiles decisions." The team conducted research and produced a guidebook for department staff entitled "Tools for Engagement; Encouraging, Considering, and Responding to Public Comment."

This supplemental report contains the methods and research used in identifying best practices for the development of the guidebook. This report contains the results of the research that was conducted by the team, observations from attending public hearings, interviews with staff experienced in the public participation process, and the results of public participation surveys that were sent to the general public and to department staff.

II. Literature and resource review:

Team members conducted literature and website research for information on the public participation process. The goal was to evaluate methods and techniques that were already in use for the successful engagement of the public in decision making. Documents used are located in the Resources Chapter of the guidebook. Detailed below are some of the website that the team found useful:

From the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA):

http://www.epa.gov/publicinvolvement/

http://www.epa.gov/epahome/citizen.htm

http://www.epa.gov/air/aqmportal/management/public_participation.htm

Other websites:

http://www.centerforurbanstudies.com/documents/electronic_library/neighborhoods/king_the_question_of_participation.pdf

http://www.rff.org/documents/rff-dp-99-06.pdf

http://www.environment.gov.au/parks/publications/best-practice/pubs/public-participation.pdf

III. Observations of Public Hearings and Meetings

As part of our research, at least one member of the action learning team attended the following hearings or meetings to assess best practices:

A. September 23, 2009 – Great Lakes Petroleum, Detroit, MI air permit public hearing. An informational session was held prior to the formal public hearing for staff to answer the public's questions regarding their concerns.

B. September 30, 2009 – Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Strategic Water Quality Initiatives Fund public hearing.

C. October 8, 2000 – Natural Resources Commission Meeting in Ontonagon, MI

D. November 5, 2009 – Dow Chemical, Midland, MI for the proposed settlement for the Superfund Cleanup process of the Tittabawassee River, Saginaw River, and Saginaw Bay contamination site. An informational session was held prior to the formal public hearing for staff from the USEPA and the Michigan DNRE to hear the concerns of the public and to answer questions.

E. December 2, 2009, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board Meeting. Public was able to submit comments at this annual meeting concerning the distribution of funds for land acquisition and development for local government units and DNRE.

F. December 5, 2009 – Humbold Mine, Ishpeming, MI, public hearing.

G. January 26, 2010 – Public hearing and informational session on the Safe Drinking Water Act Order issued to the City of Three Rivers.

H. February 8, 2010 – Water Bureau general permit on CAFOs, public hearing.

I. February 25, 2010 – Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, air quality consent order public hearing.

J. March 8, 2010 – Public hearing on NPDES General Permit for new, large CAFOs.

K. March 18, 2010 – Joint Eastern and Western U.P Citizens Advisory Council meeting in Marquette, MI.

L. May 6, 2010 - Administrative Rules amendment package for AQD and WHMD concerning changes to the open burning rules. Informational meeting and public hearing.

Other observations of public participation include

- Collaborative stakeholder group meetings

IV. Interviews with staff

Each team member interviewed 4-5 people to follow up on some of the questions or issues that were raised during the survey. The team decided on a list of questions and below is a list of the common responses.

What has your experience been with public participation?

- Public hearings and meetings
- Workshops

What has worked well and what problems have they encountered?

- Provide handouts
- Keep concepts simple
- Thank people for coming
- Have a person for troubleshooting – back of the room for sound
- Dress for the audience/area
- Too much security – or their locations can be intimidating
- Power point presentations and Q/A sessions first are important
- Have staff available to answer questions
- Use hearings officer to explain how the process will be conducted
- Problems – people don't understand the process, don't understand what we can and cannot do, don't have staff up on a stage, and the venue is important.
- Experienced people running the meetings is critical
- At the meetings/hearings – tell them how the results will be communicated back
- Having friendly greeters is important
- Arrive early and be prepared
- Don't assume that all the equipment you need is there or that it works. Test everything first.
- Start on time and stick to the schedule.
- Consider having staff where coordinating colors – easier to identify
- Someone in charge of logistics works well (venue, room arrangement, etc)

How are comments recorded?

- Audio recordings
- Written comments accepted
- Sometimes court reporter – transcription

How are comments collated?

- Similar comments are combined – by topic/issue
- Lead person summarizes comments
- Responsiveness summary is created

How are results communicated back to the public?

- LWMD – decision posted on line and in the database
- OGS – interested party letter, website posting, direct mail, and email
- WHMD – response to comment document to those who commented, decision emailed or sent to all interested parties.
- AQD – response-to-comment document to all interested parties, website, and email.

How can the process be improved?

- Have more electronic opportunities for comment and to get information
- Have trained facilitators running the meetings/hearings
- Form relationships with local groups to get buy in before the permit process rolls out
- Earlier involvement with the public will provide a better out come. Permit hearings are too late to make any real changes.
- Be clear with the public on what our limitations are and what our authority is. Decisions are not based on majority rule, rather by following the law.
- Staff must show empathy and really listen to the public. Body language is important.
- More info available before hearings, including topic webinars.
- Timely feedback is important

Do they have documents that they have used in the past that might be used as models/templates for others involved in a public participation process?

- Most have standard newspaper notice format
- Most use the standard department attendance cards at hearings

What tools would be helpful for DNRE staff?

- On-line tools for notice documents, templates, and other sample docs
- Training on the public participation process, communications, dealing with angry customers, and facilitator or mediation training.

V. Public and Staff Survey Results

Public Survey Results
(External)

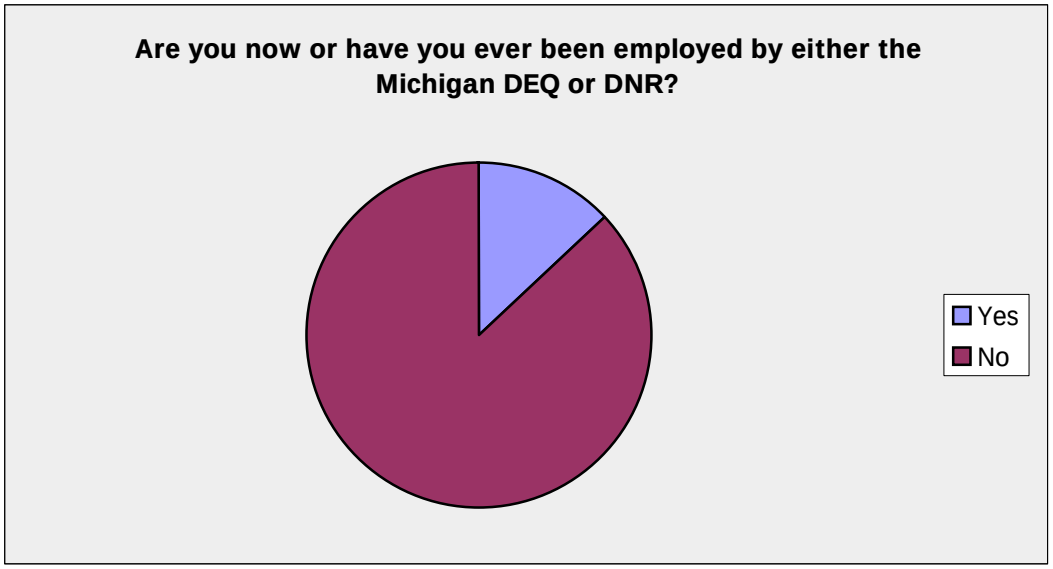
2009-2010 DNRE Action Learning Team Project

Encouraging, Managing, and Responding to Public Comment

Spring 2010

DNRE Public Participation Survey

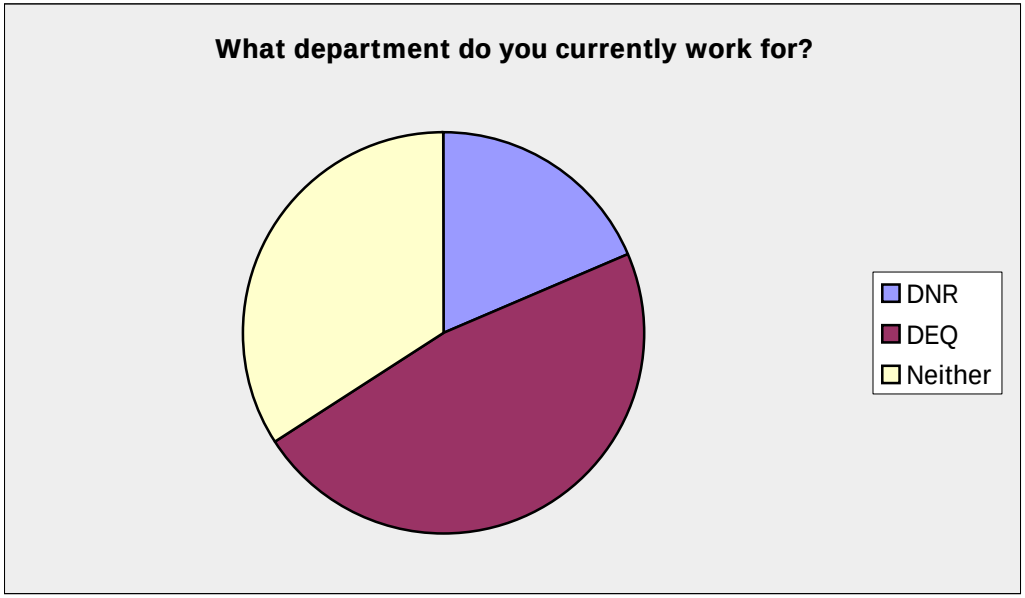
Question 1: Are you now or have you ever been employed by either the Michigan DEQ or DNR?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	13.0%	192
No	87.0%	1282
	answered question	**1474**
	skipped question	**0**



DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q2: What department do you currently work for? Only asked to persons who indicated they worked for DEQ or DNR.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
DNR	18.7%	35
DEQ	47.1%	88
Neither	34.2%	64
	answered question	**187**
	skipped question	**1287**



External DEQ/DNR Public Participation Survey

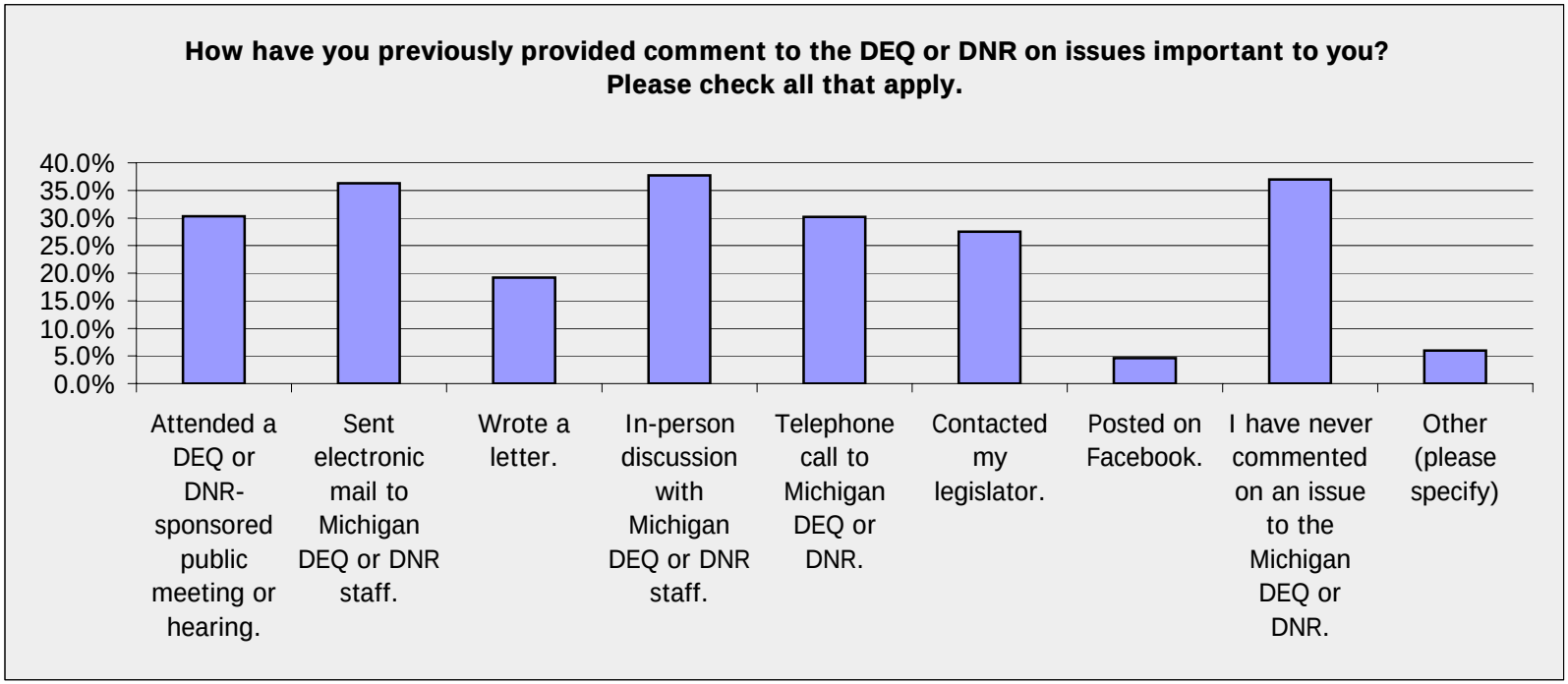
Q3: What county do you live in, if not a Michigan Resident please select other.

County		County		County	
Alcona	4	Hillsdale	5	Montcalm	10
Alger	4	Houghton	15	Montmorency	6
Allegan	17	Huron	4	Muskegon	41
Alpena	13	Ingham	66	Newaygo	9
Antrim	7	Ionia	10	Oakland	96
Arenac	6	Iosco	7	Oceana	6
Baraga	5	Iron	7	Ogemaw	12
Barry	7	Isabella	10	Ontonagon	8
Bay	50	Jackson	24	Osceola	7
Benzie	7	Kalamazoo	21	Oscoda	4
Berrien	11	Kalkaska	9	Otsego	10
Branch	5	Kent	56	Ottawa	29
Calhoun	14	Keweenaw	1	Presque Isle	7
Cass	7	Lake	9	Roscommon	11
Charlevoix	4	Lapeer	18	Saginaw	47
Cheboygan	5	Leelanau	6	St. Clair	29
Chippewa	9	Lenawee	16	St. Joseph	2
Clare	9	Livingston	27	Sanilac	12
Clinton	30	Luce	2	Schoolcraft	3
Crawford	4	Mackinac	4	Shiawassee	16
Delta	4	Macomb	89	Tuscola	17
Dickinson	15	Manistee	7	Van Buren	5
Eaton	28	Marquette	29	Washtenaw	35
Emmet	18	Mason	10	Wayne	80
Genesee	50	Mecosta	5	Wexford	14
Gladwin	11	Menominee	2	Other	32
Gogebic	11	Midland	32		
Grand Traverse	20	Missaukee	5		
Gratiot	7	Monroe	16		

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q4: How have you previously provided comment to the DEQ or DNR on issues important to you? Please check all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Attended a DEQ or DNR-sponsored public meeting or	30.3%	416
Sent electronic mail to Michigan DEQ or DNR staff.	36.3%	498
Wrote a letter.	19.2%	263
In-person discussion with Michigan DEQ or DNR staff.	37.7%	518
Telephone call to Michigan DEQ or DNR.	30.2%	415
Contacted my legislator.	27.5%	378
Posted on Facebook.	4.6%	63
I have never commented on an issue to the Michigan	37.0%	508
Other (please specify)	6.0%	82
	answered question	**1373**
	skipped question	**101**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	fish survey that was mailed to me
2	Attended and spoken at NRC meetings and legslative hearings on outdoors issues
3	As an employee, I commented; but, not as a citizen.
4	Made presentations to legislature
5	Funded DNR projects, co-hosted public events with DNR, DEQ
6	committee participant
7	Filed complaints, partnered
8	filled out dnr questionaire on hunting and fishing in michigan
9	Association Meetings (MMA and MFPC)
10	FROM SURVEYS FOR DEER HUNTINGH SEASON
11	We have had the DEQ to come out and review our development and the DEQ are not for the people they are for their wallets!
12	Visited Lansing
13	Comments in MLive, OurMidland, Freep and Detnews.
14	serve on advisory councils
15	Attended a meeting featuring the Director of the DEQ in 2002-3 at MSU during my Landscape Architecture degree program
16	served on a DEQ committee
17	hosted local public meetings for TMDL, contaminated sediment cleanups, restoration programs
18	reporter who has done articles with DNR and DEQ in the past
19	Created a watershed wildlife website www.watershedwildlife.com
20	Served on a number of the Department's (DEQ) Citizen Advisory Committees....2 for DNR
21	invited DNR & DEQ to participate in local meetings & events
22	work with deq staff in a professional capacity on issues and specific on-the-ground projects
23	attended deq workshops
24	Letters to editor of local paper
25	Google Groups
26	none
27	talked with co's
28	deer check station
29	Handwriten comments on DNR provided surveys
30	email
31	survey

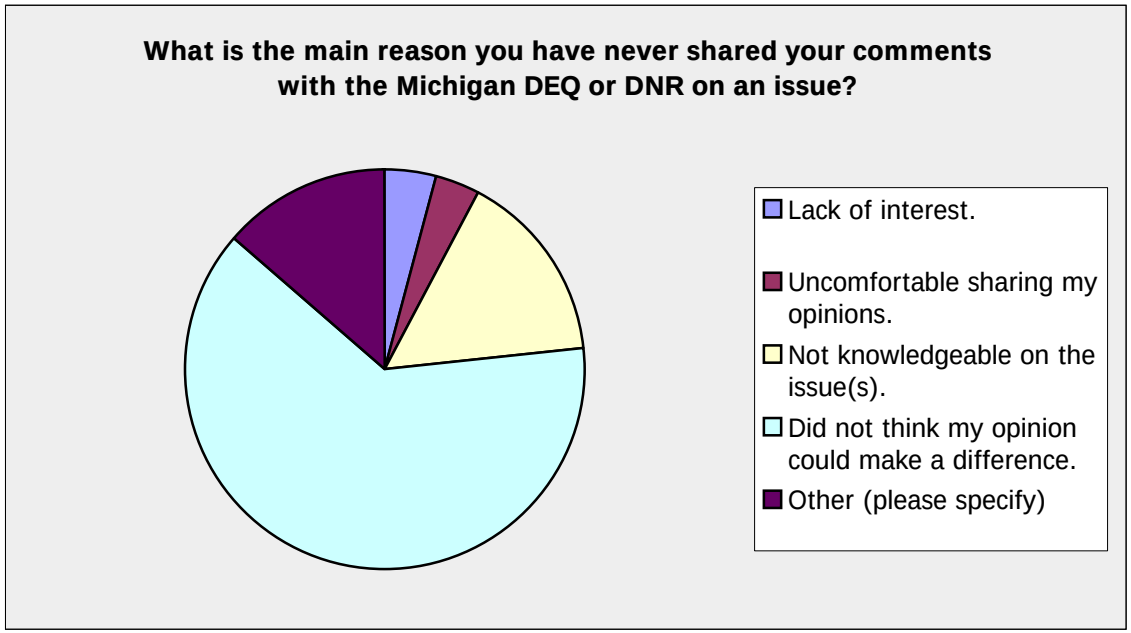
32 Surveys
33 couple surveys
34 internet surveys/questionaires
35 Attended MUCC/DNR meeting
36 litigated both with and against DEQ and DNR
37 I'm personally in regular contact with various DEQ staff, as an environmental advocate.
38 Online through the comment section of surveys
39 have taken surverys on DNR webite before
40 Surveys
41 In Highschool, I worked with the fisheries department for one week and earned 1/4 credit.
42 supported environmental advocacy groups such as the Michigan Sierra Club, Clean Water Action, etc.
43 proposed a collaboration
44 Served on a number of Citizen Advisory Committees - Both Agencies
45 Natural Resources Commission meeting; other advisory group meetings
46 DNR Survey
47 Forest Mngmt
48 online surveys
49 walleye planting meeting
50 Baiting - You wonder why the people dislike government so much, alls you want to do is control everything
51 ask the dnr on t.v.
52 Hunting
53 Paper survey (mail-in)
54 Have wrote alot of comments on news about hunting, wolves and outdoor issues.
55 hunt surveys by mail
56 survey, hunter survey
57 Its time to better our "buck quality" by letting hunters shoot one buck with at least 4 on one side.
58 have not
59 Additional comments when reporting deer or turkey harvest info.
60 Have thought about commenting on deer concerns, maybe propose a 1 buck limit, to get more quality deer herd and to get a closer balance of deer herd.
61 Filled out postcards on deer I've harvested
62 I have tried to make contact with dnr staff via e-mail but never get a response.
63 Previous DNR questionaire
64 we need a new dnr head person when this is done
65 your web site for finding hunting info is terrible.
66 No but I am in the processof doing it.
67 surveys
68 have'nt....usually wouldn't make a difference
69 i attend most nrc meetings

70	never
71	sent my disgust on the new musky plan
72	Survey on crossbow hunting
73	email
74	Applying for a turkey permit on-line
75	deer harvest report
76	never
77	Online Survey
78	SURVEYS
79	MDNR State Forest Compartment Reviews.
80	Ask the DNR ,twice no or insufficent answer
81	Do not remember.
82	none

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q5: What is the main reason you have never shared your comments with the Michigan DEQ or DNR on an issue? Only asked if awnsered no question #4.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Lack of interest.	4.3%	21
Uncomfortable sharing my opinions.	3.5%	17
Not knowledgeable on the issue(s).	15.6%	76
Did not think my opinion could make a difference.	63.0%	307
Other (please specify)	13.6%	66
answered question		**487**
skipped question		**987**

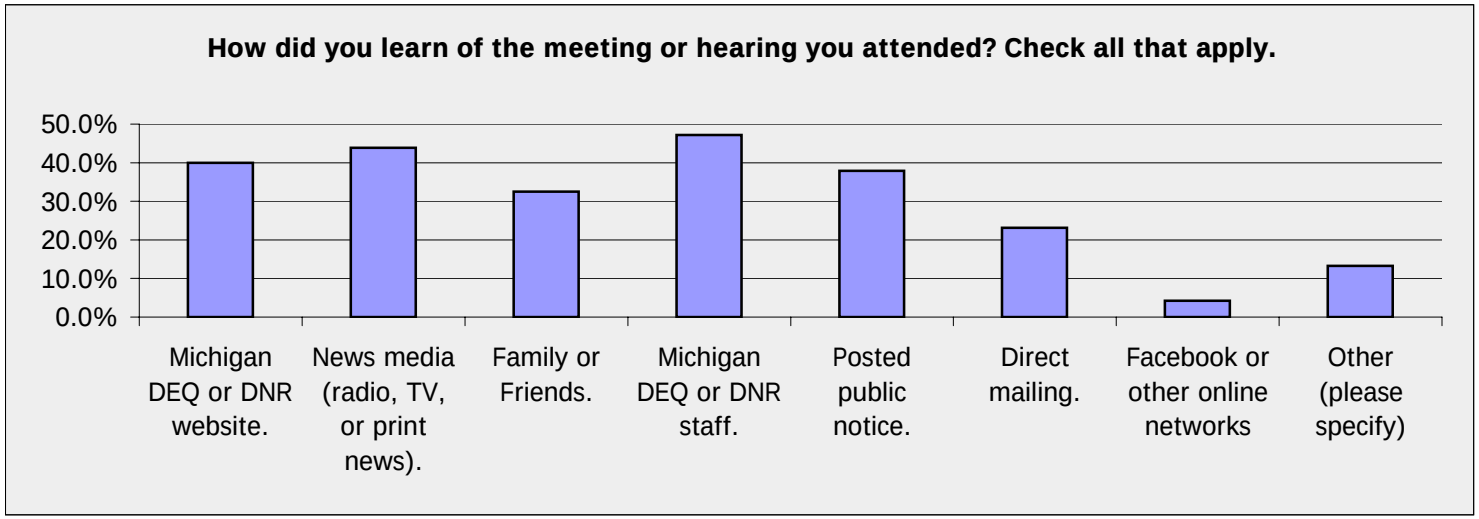


Number	Other (please specify)
1	I have
2	not enough open forums in the state to attend
3	Meetings are to far from my home when they have them or uninformed of meetings at the time .
4	a little of all of the above
6	confident agencies aware of public concern
7	MDEQ seemed to not care about public comment.
8	Have not been aware of this possibility
9	Various parks have reported that "the DNR" - or head of the DNR felt he/she had the final say and did not care about complaints against his/her decision (this was in reply to certain popular complaints). As result, this is an orgnaization many people do not look favorably upon.
10	employee
11	As a DEQ employee, I have other avenues to comment.
12	I've voice my opinion through congress and groups that advocate
13	don't recall receiving mail asking for my opinion/reply
14	Had no connection with DEQ or DNR via internet
15	Despite being part of DEQ, I am often unaware of public hearings/opportunities for comment on other programs than those I work in. Mainly because I do not read the paper and do not see the posted notices.
16	Never had a reason to comment.
17	I did not know how to comment to the DEQ or DNR on an issue.
18	Never really occurred to me that my opinion would be of interest to anyone else
19	No easy way to do so , dnr could send surveys on topics would be best?
20	don't have any faith in the DNR
21	difficult to find a means of communication
22	Not sure where to make my concerns or veiws made public.
23	feel my comments have been made by others
24	Being an employee, opinions were kept on a professional level.
25	i have
26	Situation hasn't arisen
27	No issues were a cause for concern prior to this.
28	Not sure!
29	Nothing to complain about.
30	Never felt as strong about and issue before.
31	unaware of any surveys or similar online

32	nobody asked
33	no need
34	Haven't been asked
35	just found this questionaire
36	dnr is way too politicized and only knuckles to special interests and lobbyists
37	didn't know i could
38	Just never have
39	Recently moved to Michigan.
40	my concerns were not as great previously.
41	Never had the opportunity
42	Was not asked
43	As a State Agency, I think it is virtually impossible for the DNR to reject, or oppose any of the Governor's directives.
44	i think the dnr lies and dont care about the hunter and bussines people who depends on hunting i have lost all faith and trust in the dnr
45	Not known of other ways to express my concerns and coments
46	Let outdoor club represent my views
47	they dont care what we think
48	only second time out
49	Didn't know I could.
50	no easy outlet to voice my opinions
51	I didn't know I could share comments or how to do it.
52	never had a reason to
53	Did not have a beef with them.
54	never seen a link
55	didn't know how
56	employment conflict of interest
57	Concerned now that there are fewer officers in the field. Our natural resources need protecting.
58	no reason till now
59	did not know how
60	Didn't know how to contact and what proper procedure is.
61	never new I could make an opinion
62	never knew how
63	Non-resident issues at the top of yuor list?
64	Ticket
65	knew they would ignore it of course
66	Didn't have opportunity

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q6: How did you learn of the meeting or hearing you attended? Check all that apply.		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Michigan DEQ or DNR website.	40.0%	171
News media (radio, TV, or print news).	43.9%	188
Family or Friends.	32.5%	139
Michigan DEQ or DNR staff.	47.2%	202
Posted public notice.	37.9%	162
Direct mailing.	23.1%	99
Facebook or other online networks	4.2%	18
Other (please specify)	13.3%	57
	answered question	**428**
	skipped question	**1046**

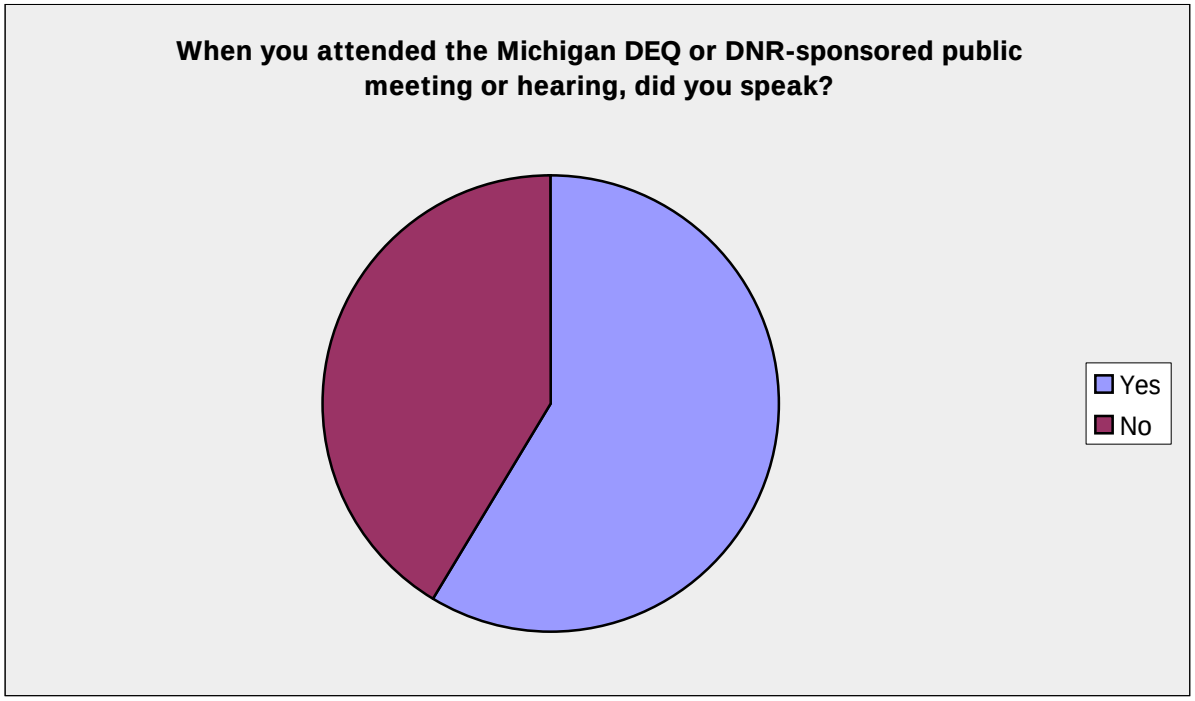


Number	Other (please specify)
1	User group newsletter
2	have never attended
3	www.michigansportsman.com
4	none
5	I have never been to a meeting or a hearing.
6	did not attend
7	never been to a meeting.
8	michigan sportsman forum
9	Email announcements
10	listservs
11	list serves, activist alerts, newsletters
12	sierra club
13	work
14	email message
15	Sheer luck
16	email from DEQ
17	I received an email notice
18	Professional Contacts
19	Enviromich
20	Enviro-mich listserve, House and/or Senate contacts
21	Other environmental groups websites
22	Legislators, e-mails are most common
23	I learned about them through advocacy organizations
24	Sierra Club Environmental Justice Chapter
25	university professor
26	Sierra Club
27	Notice from MLWP Staff
28	e-mail notice
29	Sierra Club
30	list serve, especially great lakes commission's list serve
31	e-mail
32	Email from DEQ/DNR listserves
33	DNR press release e-mail

34	Local watchdog groups mailings
35	email
36	don't recall
37	Attended lots of meetings, etc. when I worked for the good old DNR.
38	Michigan River Guides Ass.
39	MRGA (Michigan River Guides Asso.)
40	Michigan Sportsman Forums
41	Michigan Sportsman.com/forums
42	Michigan Sportsman web site
43	member of the Sierra Club
44	QDMA branch
45	Michigan sportsmen forum
46	Michigan Trappers Association, Michigan State United Coon Hunters, and MHDF
47	Michigansportsman web site
48	local Sierra Club
49	Direct communication written and phone and in person with DNR & MDEQ staff
50	E-mail Invitation; and, notice from NGO's
51	From an environmental organization I was involved with
52	Michigan United Conservation Clubs
53	Work
54	Through watershed groups
55	Saginaw Field and Stream Club Newsletter
56	Woods-N-Water News
57	ARVC {Private campground owners}

DNRE Public Participation Survey

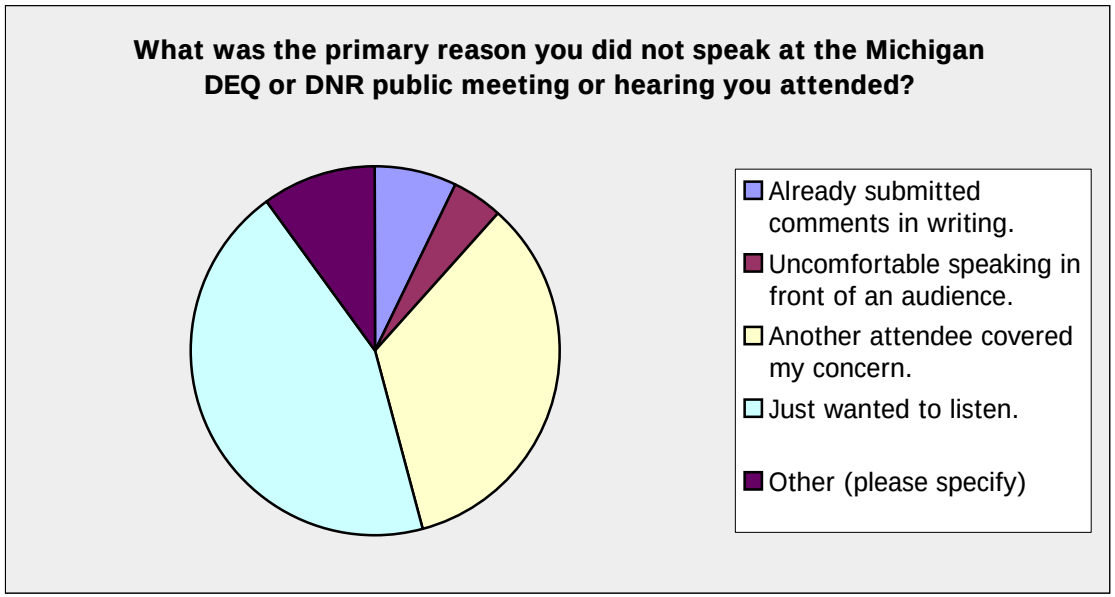
Q7: When you attended the Michigan DEQ or DNR-sponsored public meeting or hearing, did you speak?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	58.6%	248
No	41.4%	175
	answered question	**423**
	skipped question	**1051**



DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q8: What was the primary reason you did not speak at the Michigan DEQ or DNR public meeting or hearing you attended? Asked only if replied "no" to Q7.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Already submitted comments in writing.	7.1%	12
Uncomfortable speaking in front of an audience.	4.7%	8
Another attendee covered my concern.	34.1%	58
Just wanted to listen.	44.1%	75
Other (please specify)	10.0%	17
	answered question	**170**
	skipped question	**1304**

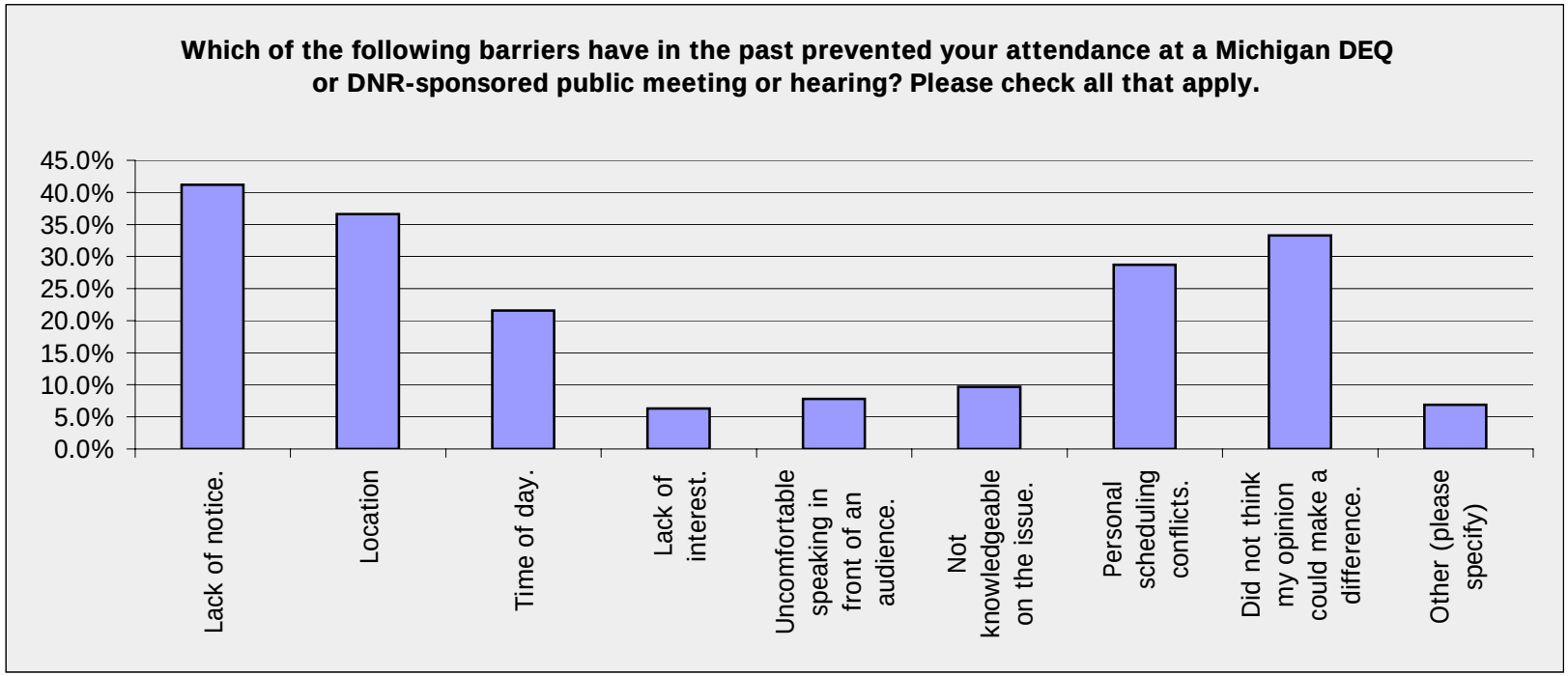


Number	Other (please specify)
1	I have never been to a meeting
2	qUESTIONS WERE SUBMITTED ON 3X5 CARDS SO THE dnr COULD PICK AND COOSE THE QUESTIONS THEY WANTED TO ANSWER AND AVOID THE ONES THAT WOULD BRING HEAT ON THEM...
3	did not attend
4	did not attend ...,
5	did not attend meeting.
6	Did not attend meeting
7	Department really did not care what I have to say
8	not enough time
9	Thought the PH was scheduled too early after release and before written comments were due/needed more time to review document
10	assessing public meetings/hearings for last Leadership Academy
11	reporters tend to just observe
12	Went to observe...did not want to express an opinion that could be viewed as my company's.
13	volitile public presence, attendees acting sophmoric
14	too many others spoke and the meeting was ajourned before I had my chance
15	working
16	not allowed to speak
17	they wouldn't let everybody speak

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q9: Which of the following barriers have in the past prevented your attendance at a Michigan DEQ or DNR-sponsored public meeting or hearing?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Lack of notice.	41.2%	435
Location	36.6%	387
Time of day.	21.6%	228
Lack of interest.	6.3%	66
Uncomfortable speaking in front of an audience.	7.8%	82
Not knowledgeable on the issue.	9.7%	102
Personal scheduling conflicts.	28.7%	303
Did not think my opinion could make a difference.	33.3%	352
Other (please specify)	6.9%	73
answered question		**1056**
skipped question		**418**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	not enough scheduled
2	Distance to drive, feel electronic opinion should carry as much weight as in person. Why drive, just type.
3	disabled
4	lack of information
5	None
6	See previous note
7	no barriers
8	None.
9	I have attended almost every meeting
10	Decades of experience clearly indicate that DEQ interest in their job security outweighs resolution for homeowners.
11	It is critical that adequate promotion/advance notice be given of the Public Hearing (PH) AND that adequate time is provided for review afterwards. Oftentimes public meetings where questions can be asked/answered - while convenient to be held immediately before a public hearing- the clarifying "answers" provided can impact the public's understanding of a project, or identify new concerns and therefore may need more time for review and/or affect level of participation/commenting at the PH.
12	Would like to be more involved at this point
13	Moved away from the area
14	none
15	Did not know about it.
16	Have not incurred any barriers.
17	Know for a fact that public opinion is not respect or sought
18	Kathleen E. Halvorsen and Michelle E. Jarvie, "Working and Lower Middle Class Women and Obstacles to Environmentally Related Public Meeting Participation" Environmental Practice (2002), 4:1:36-44 Cambridge University Press
19	live 150 miles south of MI border
20	when interested in issues, have found the time and info needed to attend hearings
21	Unaware of public meeting
22	Again, PNs in newspapers do not reach me. Would like to be able to go online and select PNs to come to be based on selected locations (e.g. kazoo county - home, drummond island - property location, etc.)
23	I do not have issues that can be addressed in these mtgs/hearings
24	out of state
25	DNR regs are made up by a few different people that are old school and don't see the whole picture, especially these days
26	Distance to hearing
27	unaware of meetings
28	Not really aware that there were public meetings.
29	my age
30	what does it matter anways the "D"ont k"N"ow "R"esourses are trained to lie to us
31	Too many unintelligent questions and comments.

32 DEQ and DNR have both done MUCH better under Granholm with public input opportunities
33 too many personnal agendas
34 not very publicized
35 Public opinion does'nt matter to them. It's all about the all mighty dollar.
36 Feel that staff are not allowed to provide comment to the department in any official means.
37 Same as previous question.
38 I give my input before the hearing. By the time of the hearing, most permits are already written.
39 Talking with your staff is like talking to a wall, they don't care abut your own policies.
40 I have not had a hearing or meeting I knew of that I couldn't attend.
41 Live out of state and too far to travel.
42 I own cabin & land near Irons, Mi-I'm 68 yrs old & now live in Alabama. I visit 2 or 3 times yr.
43 Just what we need right now is a bigger government
44 i don't live in michigan
45 no need
46 Never experienced any of these things
47 Unaware of meeting time and place.
48 Recently move to Michigan
49 I also believe that the DNR blows a big smoke screen so, I dont waste my time listening to bull.
50 Conflicts with the staff being argumentative in the past.
51 to far for me to go
52 tha dnr just puts on a show for looks what the people say does not mean a thing to the dnr
53 As of now, I don't think the real sportsmens' ideas are being considered. Only the spiker killers are happy.
54 Dnr objectives do not correspond with the sportsman of today
55 Cann't Change anything. I'll Never Vote again to change things....
56 shift worker and most of the hunting poulation dont agree with the thing you are doing and you do then anyway
57 they dont care what people like just w hat they like that is sad iam ready to give up hunting
58 no knowledge of where or when meetings happen
59 I,m disabled your not very accomadating
60 I didn't know the DEQ or DNR held public meetings and hearings.
61 It is all political and there is no one that really gives a damn about the important things
62 My opinion doesnt make a differents, the DNR hears only what they want to hear.
63 we heard very little about it before the directive took place.
64 employment conflict of interest
65 live in another state
66 have never been told about any
67 Poor attitude of DNR official.
68 DNR only wanted people favoring its proposal to be at the meeting; pre-chosen "friendly faces"
69 Unaware of them.
70 didnt know you had public hearings
71 THE TIMES THEY CHOOSE ARE ALWAYS DURIING THE WEEK WHEN PEOPLE ARE AT WORK OR JUST GOT OFF WORK MAKING IT

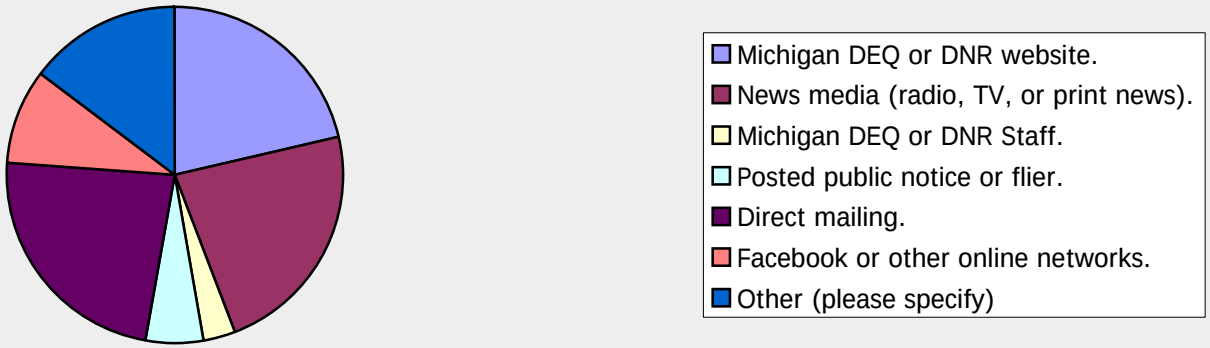
	IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE A MEETING THATS 40 MINUTES AWAY
72	knew they wouldn't pay any attention to me
73	n/a

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q10: How would you prefer to receive notice of future Michigan DEQ or DNR opportunities for public participation?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Michigan DEQ or DNR website.	21.3%	270
News media (radio, TV, or print news).	22.8%	289
Michigan DEQ or DNR Staff.	3.2%	40
Posted public notice or flier.	5.4%	68
Direct mailing.	23.3%	295
Facebook or other online networks.	9.3%	118
Other (please specify)	14.6%	185
	answered question	**1265**
	skipped question	**209**

How would you prefer to receive notice of future Michigan DEQ or DNR opportunities for public participation?



Number	Other (please specify)
1	www.michigansportsman.com
2	automated mailing (email).
3	michigan-sportsman.com
4	Email
5	not interested
6	Sportsmans forums would be a goos start I dont watch the news nor read the local paper.
7	Internet
8	e mail
9	michigan-sportsman.com
10	Have a link on the front page of the SOM website called "Public Meetings"
11	direct email
12	emails
13	e-mail notice
14	Email
15	E-mail (sent timely)
16	email list
17	All of the above. You need to communicate on as many channels as possible.
18	e-mail alerts
19	Mailing or email, website, and media
20	All of the above
21	Would like to join an e-mail list for areas of interest to me
22	Web site notice + e-mail distribution list
23	email faunce@sbcglobal.net
24	email to me, media doesn't always get it right or I miss it
25	"DEQ Calendar" by email
26	prefer email, stop spending money on mailings
27	E-mail notices
28	enviro-mich listserv
29	Yes, use what remians of the media/newspaper, but Direct Mailing via email would be helpful..the EM-listserve can do it...certainly the respective state agency has a listing of Interested Persons/Stakeholders in a locale or watershed..you may not reach all persons but certainly those reliably interested ones should be provided a direct notice.
30	e-mail
31	email lists

32	email
33	Internet such as Enviro-mich list serve
34	direct EMAIL
35	Direct e-mail
36	email
37	e-mail notification
38	by email
39	All the above, as not everyone has a computer yet.
40	public notice via email
41	EVERYTHING. Many of these channels are not checked on a daily basis by many, so the DNR/DEQ need to utilize everything they can to ensure effective communication.
42	email
43	E-Mail
44	Email notification-easily delivered no cost of newspaper
45	email
46	Better internet direction where the listing is located
47	E-mail to interested parties
48	direct email notification
49	email
50	Sierra Club
51	e-mail notification when something goes up on the web site
52	email
53	Listserve email or email list
54	doesn't matter how
55	e-mail
56	email
57	e-mail
58	direct e-mail
59	e-mail
60	e-mail
61	email
62	email notification
63	DEQ Listserve, and Posted Public Notice
64	email
65	email
66	list serves are easiest for me

67	e-mail
68	e-mail
69	TV News & Posted public notice or flier
70	email
71	Email
72	e-mail
73	email
74	e-mail
75	Email
76	email
77	Both News media @ posted public notice or flier
78	Auto email based on my geographical preference
79	email
80	email
81	email
82	email
83	email
84	email
85	email
86	E Mail
87	email
88	email
89	email
90	e-mail
91	e-mail; perhaps using selected categories
92	email alerts
93	email
94	email
95	Email
96	email
97	email
98	e-mail
99	e-mail
100	e-mail
101	e-mail alert
102	e mail

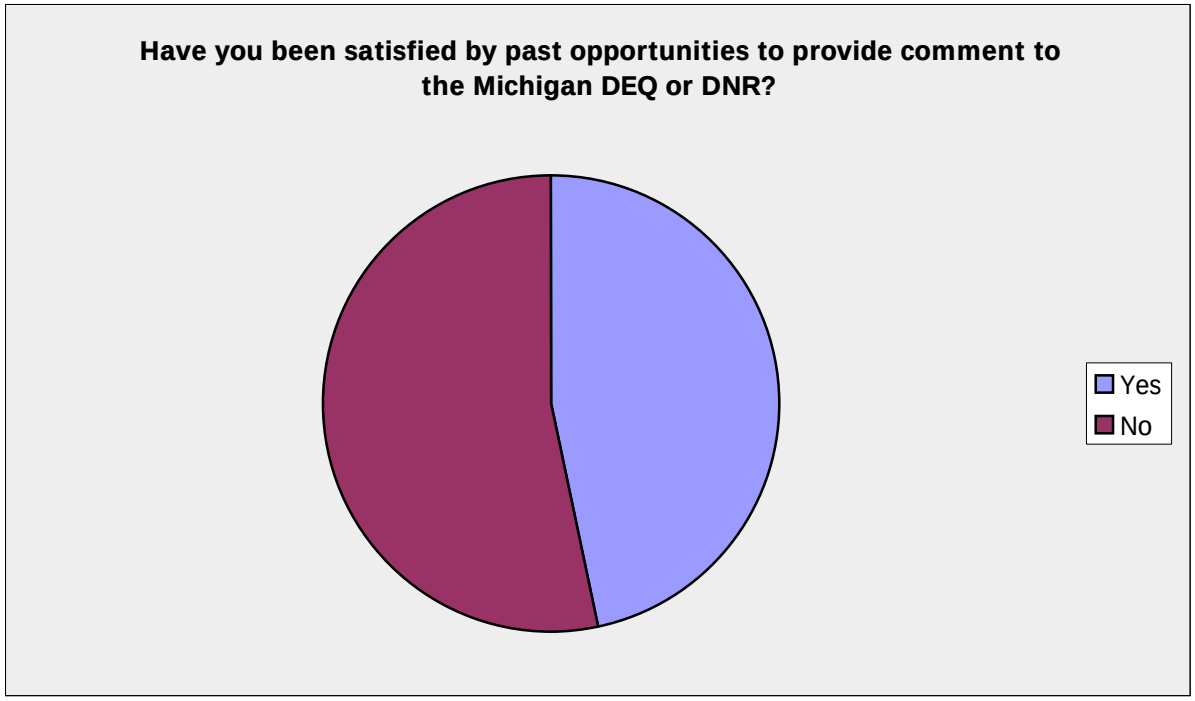
103	email
104	Michigan Sportsman web site
105	On'line community forums posting
106	www.Michigan-sportsman.com
107	email
108	email
109	e-mail would be great
110	1236
111	email
112	e mail
113	E-mail when buying licesnse you could take their e-mail.
114	email
115	I personally prefer email, but I have contacts who don't use computers at all.
116	Michigan-sportsman.com
117	e-mail posts to list serves such as Enviromich
118	e-mail
119	Optional email given with license purchace, Then you could send out bulk emails!
120	email
121	E-Mail
122	GLIN Announce
123	direct email
124	email notifications
125	e-mail
126	I am active in the Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed and generally get direct email notification from other AOCs and DEQ staff
127	email
128	Create a specific, brief e-list for only this use
129	email notice
130	email (that might be covered by "online network"
131	No thanks
132	email
133	email notices
134	e-mail
135	email
136	email
137	E-Mail

138	e-mailed news letters
139	To far to come anyway.
140	email
141	e-mail
142	Email notification
143	e-mail
144	email
145	email
146	email
147	Email
148	e-mail
149	e-mail jackvisuri@yahoo.com
150	email
151	email notification
152	email
153	email
154	By MAIL
155	waste of time
156	Email notice.
157	E-mail
158	email
159	e-mail
160	e-mail
161	email
162	email
163	email
164	Direct Emailing to any and all who may have contacted the DNR over the last several years via email, as they are obviously concerned citizens!
165	e-mail
166	all of the above.
167	email notication
168	mucc magazine or show
169	email
170	Does it matter.
171	email
172	Michigan-Sportsman.com

173	E-mail
174	personal email
175	E-MAIL
176	Don't bother.
177	E Mail
178	email
179	no
180	email
181	I THINK THAT DIRECT MAILING THAT PEOPLE CAN SIGN UP TO RECIEVE THE FLIERS IN THE MAIL SO THAT YOU DONT WASTE TIME AND MONEY ON SENDING IT TO EVERYONE
182	E-MAIL
183	Contacting state rep since commnets ignored otherwise
184	email: ron@thankfullpraise.com
185	E Mail

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q11: Have you been satisfied by past opportunities to provide comment to the Michigan DEQ or DNR?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	46.8%	581
No	53.2%	660
	answered question	**1241**
	skipped question	**233**



DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q12: Please explain why you have been dissatisfied with past opportunities to provide comment. Ony asked to those you replied "no" on Q11

Answer Options	Response Count
answered question	**439**
skipped question	**1035**

Number	Response Text
1	END the baiting ban!
2	Convenience....Facebook and twitter resolved that issue....great job!
3	They seem to have their own minds made up and hold these coment meeting just to please the public. a letter was weighted less than some dnr employee spewing false-hoods about the issue.
4	Because he was wearing a green uniform, he was given more weight to his opinion.
5	Because you do not listen. Use sound deer management not some blow hards in Roscommon County. Pretty hard to practice QDM when you can't harvest doe's.
6	see previous
7	The biggest issue is that the DNR staff seems to think that the sportsmen and women in this state are complete idiots that can't see what's going on in other states. Enough with the propaganda--other states fisheries programs are surpassing ours using stock that we supply them!!!
8	throughout my expriences with the dnr, the commisioners,during the public speaking portion, have been disinterested,talking to other commisioners,laughing eating etc.. They have shown little or no respect to the person speaking and very disconcerned with public input. I assume that this is due to them being a bureaucratic committee that is not held accountable. If you are not part of a special interest group your thoughts,feelings or ideas are just a waist of their time.
9	I have never had an opportunity
10	unable to comment on changes before they are implemented such as the baiting ban. The DNR should not ban the whole peninsula due to this when the cases in WI were closer to the UP than the kent county case was to some of the LP. This was just a move to placate the vocal minority who are against baiting.
11	Never knew there were opportunities. I usually get info second hand threw friends or sportsman forums.
12	The public comment time limitations at NRC meetings do not allow for in depth presentations on key issues.
13	Not enough oppertunities, uncaring mannerism of those conducting the meeting
14	They are run by the berucrats in Lansing
15	explained earlier

16 No one listens to what the actual hunters have to say. I see thousands of mourning doves, but we can't hunt them because of politics. It's all BS.
17 never knew of meetings or chance to provide this information
18 very limited chances.
19 I never knew when where or why a meeting was being held and had no vote (on all the trails being blocked off through the forest and on the hills where we sled as kids, ect.)
20 DNR website not easy to navigate
21 Telephone bingo concluding in voice mail.
22 Staff did not honor our request for a public hearing and did not follow up with specific issues and questions
23 Opprotunities' is spelled incorrectly. Unless you are familiar with the FOIA, comments are not posted anywhere for people to read all the comments and feel heard. There is often a big difference between the project that is public noticed and the permit that is issued. There should be more information available to the public that shows what happens after a project is public noticed. New permits issued should also be shown on the DEQ calendar.
24 Notice is too little, too late - in many instances (e.g., Compartment Reviews) the decisions have, in all practical terms, been made prior to receiving public comments.
25 DEQ & USACE did not allow a public hearing after requested by WL-PAC and WRWP for White Lake Ellenwood Landing Marina 10-year dredging permit. Same old political underhanded permit was given to politically connected marina.
26 It seems that industry owns the DNR/DEQ. Public comment allows us to air our opions but little else. DNR/DEQ is between a rock and a hard place. The people in those agencies know their job but are not allowed to carry it out and have little support from legislators or the public at large. in most cases i think the DNR/DEQ care about the environment.
27 I find out about meetings or public comment opportunities after the fact. Not very helpful, there!
28 MDEQ Decision to avoid scheduling a hearing.
29 Become a place that works for the state and not a business. Select enforement
30 In some instances, public comment was cut off, or people with a favored point of view were given heavily preferential treatment, or it was clear that the comments were not being taken seriously by the agency representative.
31 Final outcome or decision predictable. Pro polluter and anti environment.
32 note opportunities spelled wrong..was not allowed enough time
33 There have been very few results.
34 Unsure how the comments were utilized.
35 meeting have been in distant locations, I work full time, often after hours too
36 Usually, it is either inconvenient (during the day/far away), or I am not aware of a comment period.
37 It does not seem like anyone listens. Decisions are already made.
38 Inadequate advance notice/time to prepare
39 They were too far away. Some were four hours of driving away. Most recently hearing have been held without adequate notification.
40 nobody is taking notes or cares, the money in these big projects dictate what is done
41 Comments are taken, no changes are made to a CAFO NPDES permit even if it violates the law.
42 The DNR/DEQ is too compartmentalized. Air Quality people refuse to consider soil and water problems, actual need does not bear on permit approval.DNR sets game regulation without considering abundance or hunting quality issues.

43 Not really considered in the final document/decisions

I feel that more media exposure-with better explaination of the permit process would be easier for folks. Thur the media addresses and fax numbers should be given with plenty of time to respond. The public would rather stick a needle in thier eye then talk in public! Given them this avenue with plenty of time would probably get more imput for the DEQ. It seems that you have already made up your mind before for you have

44 these public meetings, so I feel frustrated because I know my imput means nothing.

Decisions often seem to be a done deal and public comment a mere formality. Also, there are power differentials between regulated industries

45 and community and environmental interests trying to protect or defend areas

46 unsure public input has any results

I gave comments over a year ago and no one has responded as to whether my comments were legitimate and would be considered, or the

47 questions I raised were not answered.

DEQ is under staffed, therefore they do not have the resources to respond appropriately. Sometimes public comment is repsonded to well, other times DEQ staff does nto have the time. Sometimes I have gotten double talk in response to questions and no matter how many ways I explain that it is double talk, all I get is double talk. Avoidance of answering the question has been well developed by some DEQ person. Others give

48 excellant answers. So this survey is not all that good, because it is too genralized. You will not separate out the wheat from the chafe.

49 Coverage has been too narrow and didn't reach the appropriate populations.

50 In the case that comes to mind, talks with DEQ staff before the meeting led me to believe that the decision was made well before the meeting.

I have only been aware of Public Comment periods for permits for my employer. I am interested in getting notices for other businesses in the

51 Utility sector.

52 I seem to find out too late and my participation is rushed and not very effective

53 MDEQ is tone deaf. They say they want comments and public opinion, but in reality already have their own agenda.

When DEQ posts only to their individual Division websites it is nearly impossible to be advised of changes to guidance or policy. This has literally cost my projects thousands of dollars in late changes that had I been aware of the new draft guidance I could have avoided. Water Bureau is especially bad about this. The Air Quality Division should be used as a model on how to advise/train the public on changes and announcements.

54 Please ask your Divisions to announce new guidance via the DEQ calendar or some central listserve that the general public can subscribe to.

55 dissatisfied because many people comment on issues not related to the point of the public meeting, missing the point of needed feedback

56 DEQ is not interested in comments that disagree with their positions.

The Dioxin clean up discussion is drawn out process that has dragged on for years beyond what is necessary. EPA/DEQ staff has demonstrated a

57 clear pattern on not listening to the public and pandering to so called environmental groups to the detriment of public participation.

Limited time to comment, also it seems it doesn't matter what people say. Politics trump over any environmental good in favor of large

58 corporations

From the meetings I attended, you could see that the decision was already made and was asked for input after the decision was already made.

59 The DNR feels like they know it all and are input is a waste of time as they know best.

60 The DEQ is political BS, they do not want to help the developers who want to help the communities to grow. You have cost us a lot of time and money!!!!

61 The attention to detail (as illustrated in the typo in this question) is poor with DEQ. I have no confidence in their ability to do the best thing for homeowners. Thank heavens for DNR.

62 Departments lack easy, accessible means.

63 DEQ seemed disinterested about Midland Dow settling ponds or whatever they are being called today. When my family grew up we lived and played very near what we called the slush pond as well as inactive brine wells. We played in the Bullock Creek than ran parallel with the edges of the slush pond. I told DEQ reps before the meeting with Dow at Horizons Conference Center in Saginaw that I grew up hearing my Mother and others talk of throwing used "spent" chlorine cells into the slush pond when they worked there. When I had home care patients that I knew because either their kids went to school with us or through my father if that was true or not everyone but supervisors and scientists affirmed it. There was also a couple iron pipes no larger than two inches in diameter that ran approximately 8-10 feet below the surface of the slush pond that drained into the Bullock Creek just past the bridge on Miller Rd on it's way to the Tittabawassee then Saginaw Rivers before they were obliterated for what were going to be cooling ponds for the nuclear plant. I don't remember the names of the retired Research Chemists or

64 To limited, and process is way too far down the line towards approval before public get chance to comment. Comment is much more effective before staff has their minds made up. 270 page "draft" State Forest Plan? And now I get to comment, THANKS.

65 The time allotted is too short to speak your mind.

66 I have not been aware of this opportunity.

67 staff comes across that they are providing public comment because of a statutory or adnministrative necessity without any genuine interest in the information received.

68 Timeliness of state park recreation master planning is questionable.

69 I explained this before - others' complaints have been met with the comment "We've gotten a lot of complaints on this, but so-and-so of the DNR doesn't care an says this is how it's going to be." Sounds to me like certain people don't realize they're in a service industry and they need to lose their jobs.

70 There is general understanding that the opportunity to speak may likely have little effect on the workings/decisions of the dEQ

71 I think the public is not as actively included as they could be.

72 You have sometimes worked in secrecsy as if you really didn't want public feedback and if we hadn't seen the notice we would not have know you were holding the meeting.

73 I am just checking out this survey. I thought I would be able to make a comment - but it keeps asking me questions about why I have not commented before. Geesh!

74 Public awareness of the issues is hard to come by. I learned from the Director of the DEQ at MSU forum in '02-03 that the funding was down and there were/are many env. concerns that cannot/are not being addressed due to lack of funding. That makes it frustrating to think citizens can do much of anything if the State is not providing funds.

75 Because you are illiterate.

76 The messages always come late- and are not distributed properly.

77 Too many times input was solicited after minds were made up regarding the intended course of action.

78 Suggestions seem to be ignored, if a mass of people don't have the same ideas. This is often due to lack of participation at public meetigs.

79 There is the public perception, and in my experience it's correct, that before the public comes to the hearing conclusions have already been reached and actions set in stone. Though concerns are addressed, they never seem to make any difference.

80 No reply from DEQ. Not even a response indicating my message was received.
81 It seems like such opportunities are offered after the policy issues have already been decided behind closed doors. The public comment seems/feels like it's 'just for show.'
82 Not enough advance notice for meetings. Meetings not advertised widely. So the public is very fortunate to become aware of one, unless you are continually on top of DEQ actions.
83 I have never receive feedback on my comments and I'm not sure they're even read or considered.
84 time, location
85 Public hearings on permits is badly flawed. Too late in planning process, for or against only, no negotiation, can't discuss merits.
86 Some issues meetings may held out of my area. Time frames maybe short to comment.
I like this forum to comment. It would be nice to be able to comment through a web or email

87 I felt that staff member seemed to listen and nodded their head, but I felt that they didn't have a genuine interest in the topic I was discusssing.
88 Not enough opportunities or didn't know about them.
89 I don't feel we were given an opportunity to opine about forestry practices.
90 Lack of pre-meeting information on issues being discussed. No time to review facts etc.
91 Tried to report erosion (silt fence violation) into a lake and tried to report a farmer dumping manure onto a field, middle of winter, without plowing less 500 feet from the a lake, with 2 direct runoff/creeks... got the run around. Applied for seawall and the field agent refused to listen, discuss alternatives.
92 I don't think the DEQ listened or responded to my concerns. They already had already made their decision.
93 The issues never seem to get resolved accordingly.
94 don't recall being asked for input by mail, e-mail
95 Even though meetings might be posted online, unless one is aware of an issue - one needs to seek out potential problems. Eg. When a developer files a permit to excavate in a flood zone, I don't have any way to know about it unless I conduct an extensive search or someone else informs me.
96 I have not been disatisfied. I just have not done it.
97 Often the oppotunities are more to inforce their opion than to actually learn for the pubic's views.
98 Mainly, haven't known about opportunities to share comments. Maybe there has been numeorus, but I didn't know it.
99 No direct acknowledgement of comments submitted in writing regarding rule changes
100 It appears the decision has already been made. You get a answer that says thanks but
101 The meeting times are often conflict with work schedules and get changed on short notice.
102 They do not listen well.
103 because when we have been asked for input, the decision for what we have been asked has already been decided and my input meant nothing. We were asked after the fact.
104 It seems that DEQ has there thought and that is what they are going to do no matter what.
105 just seems as if this state needs to start heading in the same direction as Montana or Florida in that the protection of waters and fisheries, or any outdoor or tourist happenings, needs to be nursed and cuddled instead of snagged and stringered which is still the priority of many who run the fisheries from what I have heard from people close to those forums.
106 Not enough people from non-outdoor walks of life or businesses are being reached on DEQ and DNR issues that affect them unknowingly.

with the staff, yes but with my legislators no. They either send a form letter from a staffer or tell you after the fact how much they appreciate
107 your comment that they never read.
108 Evident that decisions already made
109 do not have knowledge of what is going on

The DNR upper Management has preconcieved ideas and aren't open to change. It is a shame that the DNR in Michigan doesn't manage our resources for the benefit of the reasource and tourism. There is little to no consideratiion for trophy quality hunting or fishing that would promote
110 tourism and create jobs. Until the DNR changes it's course towards higher quality sporting opportunity I will continue to be very disappointed
For the Sulfide mine, Grandholm already had it pre-approved and was just going through the motions regarding public comment. It was a done
111 deal before the water and land quality studies were even done.
lack of speaking time
112 at times the decision seems to have been made beforehand
I would like to be able to provide comment thur E-Mail before the public hearing/ comment period. That way if the meeting is far away my letters
113 will still be present, comments, herd. If the meeting is local and I had notice I would attend up to 30-45 min drive..
Big Money and political pressures rule the day. Some DEQ field staff not technically or socially adept to adress concerns or follow thru. Staf credibility gap.
114 Note: you have a typo in this survey question (opprotunities).
115 Not enough jobs!
116 Seems my opinion does not matter.
117 never near my own home area .
118 I was unaware of opportunities, and unaware of the preferred comment process.
119 did not know - I am politically active
120 I called about a wounded swan at Wetzel 2 weeks ago and had no way of speaking to anyone
Takes effort to find out the ways to actually submit comments, concerns. Some people don't have internet access either which makes it even
121 harder for them.
122 Lack of control, making laws "you" can not inforce, and having people make decisions who know nothing of what there in charge of!!!!!!
123 I was unaware of any opportunities to provide comment.
124 Limited notice and background material. Limited availability (usually need to be there in person instead of participation by Live Meeting.
125 I prefer to coment by email and have had a very difficult time trying to find email addresses on your website.
126 INADEQUATE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION
127 They don't seem to listen. It is way to Political.
128 The sportsmen do not have a say on some laws like baiting and I'm srue soon to be the food plots.
The direction of the targeted goals of the DNR has already been established. Like the lack of deer for instance. The NRC has established goals
129 based on DNR findings and estimates of deer taken by hunters (not by coyotes or winter conditions)
130 lack of avalibilty
131 they dont listen

132 You guys dont care about the hunter, just the fisherman, all the money goes there. We need a sportsman running the DNR, not the ins compnys

133 I never know when they are holding a meeting till AFTER the fact.
134 was unaware of meeting dates, times, and location.
135 The meetings are most always at an unopertune time for the working man.
136 Not enough opportunity to do so.
137 NOTHING CHANGES OUR DEER REGS SUCK, NEED ONE BUCK RULE
138 They use to much social science instead of real science. Flywater only, two bucks killed, no sound management program to reduce the anterless herd. I would like to see this state advance the buck to doe ratio's, habitat improvement, ONE BUCK RULE. Money seems to be more important than the greater good of the hunting and fishing management that is needed to keep this state as a leader in the outdoors.
139 Democrat Liberal agenda for the most part and it is frustrating....they don't listen
140 no response to comments.
141 no knowledge of event
142 Was unaware
143 no one cares
144 I do not think that sportsmen voices are that important to what the DNR is trying to accomplish and I believe that money talks and that is the main proiority on their agenda.
145 rule changes related to deer hunting happened with little advanced notice
DNR's website is far too difficult to go through.

NRC meetings need to be dispersed from Lansing on a monthly basis.

146 Online opportunities need to be expanded with up-to-date programs.
147 I have sent e-mails to DNR officers in the past and get no response back.
148 To expensive
149 the dnr is useless, they do not want hunter/fishermen in the fields and lakes,they go out of their way to find creative ways to write tickets for nonviolators and often commit crimes to write said tickets
150 I dont think the average person is taken into consideration for comments. I think they take the comments of professionals over the public, which is not a bad thing.
151 Lack of education and communication between district offices and Lansing. I always get different answers to the same questions and none of them are ever right!
152 Lack of notice of how/where to provide comment
153 iF YOUR NOT A POLITICIAN YOU VOTE DOESNT COUNT, ITS ALL ABOUT THE ALL MIGHTY DOLLAR
154 I dont ever know of any issues or voting issues?
155 had i been notified, iwould at least send an email
156 Feel as if nobody will listen anyway
157 Meeting too far to travel....
158 no return responce
159 Dissatisfied because I can not attend any of the meetings.

160 The State of Michigan (DNR) over the last two decades has totally forgotten who their customer is. Actually they have two distinct customers. The wildlife and lands they are sworn to protect and nurture...and the outsdoors-person who pays the bills. Game management is not about the game, it is about managing people...or so I was taught at Michigan Tech!
161 No DNR staff available to speak with.
162 It had the appearance of being a token opportunity with noone in the DNR/NRC really listening.
163 never really new i had the chance.
164 Dnr has based a lot of its decicions based on a money choice rather than biological. Also no good place to leave comment
165 unaware of the meetings.
166 Not enough opportunities, before hand on many issues.
167 Not close enought to where I live.
168 To the ones i have talked to its like talking to a wall. Also i emailed a question of why they were not issueing any doe permits for emmet county and it took a month to answer me.
169 Its difficult to find a way to get a comment across and it seems like the DNR will do what they want to do anyway.
170 I've never been presented with any opportunities...
171 At the last meeting I went to the decisions being discussed already seemed to be made and the discussion seemed of little value.
172 DNR members seem condescending.
173 I never have because it is difficult to locate where the public can address issues with the DNR.
174 never have knowledge of when the meetings are or about.
175 input is needed from the people who are out there hunting, have a website where we can go and give our opinions, not answer questions that you think should be answered
176 lack of info to do so.
177 The only comments I,ve made is after paticipating in online surveys. Surveys are fine, but I dont feel that they represent the issues I would like to comment on.
178 Limited opportunities and short notice.
179 I have spoke with many on a one on one basis and it seems that they all have read from the same script. Politics and money are crippling this states future in hunting and outdoor opportunities. When you get many of the officals off record it is a totally different ball game, but on record it is the same old rhetoric. This needs to change!
180 public forum is not how i want to express my issues with the department, perfer an on-line. No body to interupt my thoughts
181 I have not seen any opportunities
182 goes on deaf ears! we need more quality deer management on both does and bucks. not just thousands of licenses to anyone to make money for the DNR.
183 The opportunities are too few.
184 kkklo
185 Wouldn't be taken seriously anyway. Officials do what they want w/o regard to results or justification. (i.e. banning baiting of deer due to 1 deer found w/cwd, when after testing, no others were found w/cwd and the 1 w/it was brought in illegally and on a ranch/farm.)
186 they never listen
187 don't hear of any surveys to participate in.
188 you dont care.

189 I would like to see a email sent out to all license holders asking how many deer they saw and shot.
190 inattentiveness of dnr commisioners to hear what you have to say.
191 It seems a waste of breath for us to speak out. We are just brushed off if it isn't profitable to them.
192 DNR and DEQ seem to be isolated and reluctant to mix with public. Also they seem overly conscious of possible political ramifications of their public statements and personal conversations.
193 have not beenaware opportunities existed
194 I don't think my opinions really matter to the DNR/NRC. Their minds are made up, and in the end, it is all political. Perhaps if I were a member of the Farm Bureau.....
195 I attended the Consumers Energy PTI application hearing at Bay Valley. It was not a suitable public hearing venue and the crowd wasn't controlled. Alcohol was being served in the building and people were allowed to intimidate people giving comments.
196 I said I was satisfied. I do feel that some past events did exclude folks who wanted to participate based on the limited meeting space.

197 Consumers proposed plant permit hearings last spring: Badly planned, poor venue (certain attendees drunk and disorfderly), badly moderated (supporters allowed to speak first andat length, opposed often allowed to be shouted down). Some panel members openly hostile at times.
198 Usually there is no reponse from letters or e-mails. Forestry Management in Gaylord never returns calls or e-mails.
199 They hear but don't listen
200 See previous information. Also, there is not always enough time. Having the information available far in advance -as much as possible -- before the required time line for public notice would be helpful.
201 It's frustrating to ask a question at a public hearing and not receive a response. An answer may calm down the situation.
202 It's a show. Decisions are already made behind the scenes.
203 Re: DNR, it seems in most occasions that the decision has already been made, prior to receiving comments from the public
204 it is never explained that there HAS to be a legal basis to deny a permit, otherwise the Dept. has no choice but to issue it, no matter how many 'upset' people show up at a hearing. That fact is never adequately communicated.
205 time limits are understandable, because we live in a republic, not a democracy. But when those giving actual information are limited to the same three minutes as those just having a tirade, it gets frustrating. Also, any heckler, whichever side of the aisle they live on, should be removed immediately and permanently. I'm not a fan of tea parties; intimidation should not be allowed by either side on an issue.
206 Lack of information and location.
207 Lack of willingness to really listen.
208 The last time I really tried was when I was in high school. It was about ten years ago. The internet, while having been in existence for some time, was new to a lot of people. E-mail was newer and not everything was available like it is now. Online postings, ways to post comments/questions, etc. Everything was still stamped and mailed. I shouldn't say I was dissatisfied, just discouraged.
209 The MI DEQ has shown me blatant disregard for Mich ACT 399 of 1976. They have inserted there own self serving words and opinions to enforce a definition that clearly does not apply to my business. Your directors NEED TO UNDERSTAND the laws and apply them to ONLY the businesses that they are applicable. That means don't add words and make interpetations to written laws, and then enforce them just because they can. If you would like to discuss this in further detail, contact me at " bikrbob017@hotmail.com "
210 Lack of return response
211 goverment does not listen anyway

It has been months since I first contacted Joy Brooks - DEQ regarding the Flood Base Number for my 2nd home located at 2948 Port Austin Rd., Port Austin MI 48467.

After numerous phone calls, emails, and voice mails, I feel that I have been very patient awaiting a response. My request has repeatedly gone unanswered by Ms. Brooks.

Can someone please take care of this immediately so that I do not need to pursue this information from the DEQ any longer.

Thank you.

Jeff Lowe - Mailing Address:
41419 Hidden Oaks
Clinton Twp., MI 48038
212 (586) 228-7975
I have not felt I have been provided sufficient notification or contact information on relevant topics. Deer baiting and deer management for
213 example are topisc I would like to see revisited or offered for comment.
As indicated in a previous response, location and time of the meeetings has been a concern.

Additionally, the DNR, in my opinion caters more to those large property owners than they do to the average citizen and thereby gives an
214 impression of not being responsive to that citizen.
215 There seams to be no easy way to get a hold of someone.
216 the dnr did what it wanted to do any way no matter what people had to say
217 Always quite a travel and always busy...
218 The public comment sessions are meaningless. The DNR and NRC do what ever they want to. The public comments have no bearing on it.
219 nothing gets done
220 comments on deer management seemed to be put down
221 I feel kids do not get enough say in politics exspecially ones so important as these.
222 every time i try to talk to some one they push me off like i dont matter and i am nobody and i dont know what i am talking about!
Seems to me the DNR is more interested in hearing from people who approve of what they are doing and don't care what the hunting public
223 wants from the DNR and the State of Michigan.
224 Lack of Notice
225 When you send an email you never hear anything back other than an auto response.
226 alot of hunters have comments,but the dnr board has the last word..

227 n/a
228 Not enough town hall meetings on important issuses concerning hunting and fishing
229 no opportunity to voice my option in surveys
Sportsmans ,Taxpayers,and average Joes oppinions dont seem to matter.The N.R.C. and state agencies seem to do what they want anyway.Prime example is the Baiting Ban in the lower penninsula.One deer ,that shouldnt have been here to begin with,Ruined it all for the rest of us.Junk science,just an excuse to impose Taxes on bait sellers, and JUST PLAIN BULLS*&T.The PEOPLE IN CHARGE fall down and bump there HEADS?.What an embarrasment to the Fee paying Sportspeople of Michigan.I hang my head in shame.I also spend my hunting dollars out of
230 state,and will continue to do so until things change.
231 The only opportunity I have is when I come north and stop at D&R at Baldwin, Mi. I like this opportunity on line.
232 I don't think common sence is used. I believe that everything is now politisized and has very little to do with what is right.
233 Always short staffed
234 Its Government. You dont care what we think
If the state had an adequate deer check program,Then the numbers would be more accurate.I've hunted and fished for over 35 years now and
235 have never beed survayed.
236 I couldn't attend them.
237 No Knowledge of upcoming events
In general I have been pleased. However, in 1997 I purchased a home in Hamburg Twp on Hall Road. I had called and inquired about the industrial uses across the street. I was told that there were no problems with them. Later I found out they were a contamination source. We
238 had well water -
239 dnr dont listen your dictated by lansings goons
The DNR does not listen to common sense. They always have a predetermined set of outcomes and they manipulate the questions and discussion
240 to get there.
241 na
242 Did not feel they were listing to the hunting population in general
243 .
244 wasn't aware that I could
245 Spoke to DNR Officer about concerns and or issues and they either didnt want to here it or they were too busy to listen.
246 Don't beleive that the DNR takes individual comments to heart.
Would attend meetings, if I knew when and where they were. Unfortuneatly, I don't always have the time to research the DNR site (or others).
247 E-mail notifications would be geat!
248 n/a
249 did not know about the opertunity
250 There simply is not enough notice on existing issues to be able to provide comment in a timely manner.
251 Does the DEQ or the DNR really care what Michigan Residents think!
DNR rep tried to placate my questions by replying, we are doing our best. Questions on deer management, forestry and cutting, and on water
252 quality issues.
253 Did not have a reasonable place close to me
254 I spoke, they did not listen! As it turned out, I was right in my opinion of the deer herd.

255 makes no difference how you feel, nothing changes
256 When comments have been made they have been ignored or not responded to.
257 Insufficient notification
258 it seems as though they have already made up their minds before they ask for the public input, and they only hold public forums as a dog and pony show
259 have had no opportunities
260 I feel that even though you comment there is no heed paid to what is said
261 I have seen others provide feedback and the DNR representitive ignored the feedback. IF they ignore others I will be in the same boat.
262 The dnr has its own agenda and will not listen to what people say anyway, unless the comments fit their agenda.
263 I dont feel that my opinion matters to the DNR.
264 Lack of notification
265 NO
266 .
267 i have not tried before
268 To short of notice on hearings

You might as well be talking to a brick wall.When talking to any representative they tell you they agree with you to avoid conflict then do what they want anyway.Case in point when hunters rose up to be heard by the different natural resourses commissions on making it a one buck limit until the herd bounced back everybody agreed with the sportsman but when it came to a vote they ruled in favor of the two buck rule. People if you continue to manage the deer herd this way people will not come to hunt in michigan which means fewer dollars for everyone from the state to businesses that rely on them. And if things don't change and i mean soon i for one will not buy a hunting license next year for any game.
269 Mabye thats what it will take all hunters to not buy a license for a couple of years the loss of money may make you hear us...
270 Most meeting are too large and not enough time to get to everyone's concerns.
271 personel in the field will not listen or give respect
272 coul not attend meetings.
273 tried e-mail, no responce
274 don't hear of any near my home
275 I felt that there was little response to my comments....it was like they were going thru the motions but already had their mind made up.
276 never recieved any indication that my message was ever read or considered.
277 i wish that there were better ways to express our opinions on how to make the State of Michigan a better place to hunt and fish
278 to much polictics
279 I did not think I could make a diference
280 Pompousness of the DNR representative!
281 I believe that the DNR has been strongly influenced by lobbyist and which methods will keep cash flow rolling in for hierarchy pet projects. The natural resources in this state have been poorly managed for the past two decades. Hopefully, this newly formed govt. entity will do what it is suppose to do and protect the natural resources of this state for all of its citizens. We need to use the best science and most educated people available to understand our ecosystem and make responsible choices to benefit all concerned. In other words, I believe by attempts to communicate with the DNR has fallen on deaf ears.

282 I informed a DNR officer of baiting my area last year and he told me that there isn't anything he cold do about it. He didn't really care.
283 Responses from DNR have not been topic specific - generic replies.
284 They are often during the day or during the evening in the winter when roads are bad. After working all day, I just need to get home.
285 date and time conflicks, on my part
286 Did not know how send comments
287 Mostly location of public meetings
288 I have taken the time out of my day to go to a Dnr station to speak with the staff and to be honest I get more enthusiasm out of a 6yr old. I will say again the DNR is a waste of time.
289 Seems to me DNR does pretty much what they want.
290 With lack of notice of meeting and other opportunities to discuss issues and my in person meetings with staff, I have felt that it was useless to comment on issues.
291 Because I have never gotten a response back
292 It seems like all we got was the run around. They did nothing to help, just excuses
293 Take this year's annual deer harvest survey for instance. You provide no opportunity in the survey for me to express why I thought this year's hunt was less than satisfactory. I hunt unit 060 and found extensive and unprecidented clear cutting drastically reduced the available huntable public land. It appears to me that clear cutting in the last two years in my area has been used to augment the State's budget at the expense of a quality deer hunting opportuntity and experience. When 80 % (having driven the length of Millersburg Road) of public land is clear cut, there is little chance of public forest holding deer density. I have hunted about the same number of days in each of the last 3 years (7) in Montmorency 060 and have only seen 1 deer in the woods while hunting in that time. Previously I could choose the deer I wished to harvest from several sightings.
What good are survey questions that provide no opportunity for comment...how do you know why rating is less than favorable or what you could do to change that rating with your policies?
294 Wasn't sure how to provide comment
295 I know my comments won't change anythinf
296 the staff, dnr officers, are VERY obnoxious, and have said in public, there (god) and can interpret the law anyway they want to. and the dnr gives the impression they only want the money,they could care less about the game or the sportsmen.
297 wanted to report wetland destruction but could not get a number to contact
298 felt it was blown off after the call ended
299 the hole comment process is just a dog and pony show the dnr is just interested in destroying the deer heard in mich for the special interest grounp ie insurance co, farmers ass. etc. you can not kill all the does, button bucks and small spike horn,s and have a heard ith dnr forgetes the deer belong toe peolpe of mich not to them or the ins cos, the people give you the authority manage the heard and you have taken advantage of it for special interest grops who buy you off i think it is about time you got back to representing the hunters and busines .
300 I never hear the information that needs to be done to improve our buck quality. "Allowing" hunters to shoot junk is not sportsmen like. It is appauling and shouldn't be allowed anymore. Make it happen! It is solely up to you! Not small property owners that are busting their asses to get their neighbors to agree with them.
301 Public input was limited to only a measley 3 minute discussion for public audience
302 no notice of hearings

303 I have not known of a local venue in which to express concerns
304 did not know where to make or post a comment
305 seemed like it fell on deaf ears.
306 dnr does not listen to the people.kind a like our president
307 They have made changes in the past without asking for public opions.
308 Not part of the sample survey
309 Wont speak because it would not make a difference anyway. The powers that be allready have their mind made up and will continue to blow smoke up us otherwise.
310 our opinions dont matter and good science is not used in dnr decision making
311 should have to fill out survey when buying a license
312 Haven't had adequate notice of meetings. It appears that the DNR does what the insurance regulators want, not what's best for the quality of hunting in Michigan. We have some wonderful habitat for whitetails in Michigan, but the poor management practices have led to terrible hunting. If we managed the herd for quality, not quantity the entire system would be better. Our surrounding states have an incredible draw to sportsmen from around the country, why not Michigan. I myself went to Illinois and harvested the biggest buck of my life after (4) day's of hunting, I've been an advid whitetail hunter for almost 25 years and couldn't have ever done this in Michigan without luck. I think this state is missing a huge opportunity to add revenue because of the dismal hunting throughout the state.
313 I'm not satisfied because of the lack of qdm or a balance of the michigan deer herd, here in southern michigan we have alot of does and a few bucks with not alot of quality bucks as well as limited hunting oppertunitys of hunter access property. aswell as some poor conditions at local area dnr boat ramps.
314 I contacted the dnr through email. about a cougar sighting and heard absolutley nothing back, but this was when they were still in denial.
315 The DNR are to influenced by big business, which hunters/sportsman should be the ones that matter.
316 I have not or know of anyone who has ever been given the opportunity to provide a comment.
317 This is the first time I have noticed a survey on the website. I visit the site once a month.
318 I don't know how or when to do that. I've felt laws were made, then the public is told
319 Once again I feel that our opinions as tax paying sportsmen and women have no impact on desisions made. I don't feel that there is a easy way for us to voice our opinion.
320 I think there should be more public notice of meetings rather than just online because there are still people who dont have internet
321 Because your going to do what you do anyway. Until things are broken...
322 DNR ignores public opinion.
323 let people ask questions out loud
324 Contact acted as though I was bothering him and did not follow up as discussed and agreed.
325 meetings always far away
326 never receive a response, when things are changed because of public concern it only last for a short period of time before the dnr does what they want anyway.
327 I was a surveyor and reported a wolf sighting in lower mi. and two weeks later it was annouced to the public that there were no wolves in lower michigan
328 They go ahead and do what they want anyway,think they can blow smoke up everyones rearend and think its a joke.
329 I doesn't seem to make a difference...

330 not enough opportunities known to me. When I do, no comment returned.
331 A blanket survey formed mailed out by the DNR to selected individuals isn't sufficient
332 no dnr out in the feild, if u do all thay want to do is write tickets, they are now no more than cops.
333 Nobody listens anyways
334 The departments fail to follow or do much of anything
335 Decisions appear to made before public comment is allowed.
336 They don't listen to what the people think.
337 NO RESPOND
338 If you don't attend a meeting, there is no way to get your point across or you opinion to the DNR
339 deer regersation give survays when we buy a deer tag
340 As far as meetings, they are always few and far away
341 infromed about the change after it has been change
342 It dont do any good
343 Automatic feedback to emails, and arrogance of game biologists at live meetings!
344 the dnr listing to much to insurance companys n big business n farm bureau
345 When I have provided constructive comments in the past, they have generally met with no response from the DNR.
346 The only reason is I never new the oppertunitie existed.
347 web site needs gross overhaul, too few dnr deer checkpoint posts
This is the first time that I can remember where I have been able to speak my mind. There are things that need to be addressed:
1. Gun season needs to be shortened and moved later in the year. We need to have the bucks be able to breed fully. Some years, the rut is later, and the bucks are moving right around November 15th, this is why we have some overkill of bucks. I would like to see the opener moved to the Friday after thanksgiving, or even in the first friday of december. This leads me to my second point:
2. There needs to be a system, like in Wisconsin, that ensures a doe is taken before a buck. QDM is starting to catch on, but we need to have the does thinned immediatley. We run 3 to 1 doe to buck ratios in central and southern michigan and most likely even higer in northern michigan, couple that with the buck kill, we are destroying the genetic potential of the herd. This brings me to the 3rd point:
348 3. You need to lift the baiting ban, we all know that there is an anti-hunting element in the NRC, who has been trying for years to derail hunting
349 Lack of response
350 No procedure that actually takes my opinion into consideration.
351 I need help buying fishing license gift certificates! They are advertisede on your DNR site but how do you access them and pay for them?
352 Always comments go unheard.
353 Your agencies are very one sided , they seem to be too busy to handle even small issues
354 Don.t know how to manage deer herd. Like upper pennisula antler resrtiction for combo licence but not single licence.
355 i don't think it will make a differents
The DNR said keeping eye on the baitting and older and the young hunters taking small deer buck like (4points or less) and even this yearing bucks the furture deer deer hunters will not have any thing look too see in season too come .A lot of hunters I talk to said to much baiting going
356 onor to many little getting kill off.
357 can't get through by phone, given the run around by receptionist
358 lack of response from eariler messages

359 seems like our dnr are out to remove our whitetail deer heard they only listen to the biologist that are employed by them. and they have been proven wrong numourous times also our nrc board members seem to not listen to the public and the last three that have been appointed are non fisherman and non hunters

360 The dnr is totally out of touch with the real outdoorsman and women of this great state.it seems to me and my fellow outdoorsman and women that the dnr has become to greedy and does mot like to tell the truth on most issues including money and where it is spent. the only time a co wants to talk to us is when he or she can write a ticket and thats a shame the feeding and baiting issues is one of the biggest injustices and lies of all time. but that will be rectified at election time as the silent majority of outdoorsman and women will be heard.

361 why did they ban baiting???? over reaction

362 there hasnt been any known opportunity to share on any matters in the dnr.

363 It appears that the group or organization who wines the loudest gets their way (ie. the equestrians who want to wanted free rein of State Land without little contribution in $$ or manpower). Hunters and ORV people will be more restricted than these YAHOOS!

364 Because you do not allow every one to comment and from what Ive seen you dont listen anyway

365 Past responses have been generic.

366 meeting locations to far away

367 We have way too many wolves in Gogebic county you aren't doing a thing to control them just protect them.

368 I have never heard of any opportunities to provide comment. This survey is the first time I've heard that these opportunities exist.

369 not permitted to comment on all issues. Some of importance to me , do not allow for public input.

370 unknown

371 We never hear of isue untill it has been debated and decision made on it behind closed doors

372 The people that I have spoke with seem to not care about the issues that I presented.

373 n/a last question should have a n/a option

374 no el.mail

375 never thought it mattered michigan has nevered cared about what the little guy thought

376 The answers you recieve are to general.

377 too little discussion or notice, or coverage !

378 Things are done without public input, such as the recent consolidation.

379 It's seems as though the DNR has already made up it's mind and public forums are just for show unless you are a powerfuly commerical or coporate entity. I have attended several public forumes where the citizens had a very strong view one way and the DNR went totaly in the other direction

380 I have never been given the opportunity due to no knowledge of meetings.

381 I have had no opportunities to comment.

382 worried about peer pressure

383 Speaking to deaf ears.....to much money and politics control the dnr.....and insurance companies

384 well dnr never shows up for example you have a report all poaching hot line and i called it on a guy poaching deer and no one showed.

385 I think that there should be votes on more DNR issues and the director should be elected by the people.

386 By the time an issue comes to the public's attention and you ask our opinion, the issue has already been decided internally (DNR) and you only hold a public meeting because it makes you look like you really care.

387 I am just one person, I see the problems but no is going to listen.

388 TOO FEW DNR OFFICERS, I'M AFFRAID MY LICENSE MONEYS ARE NOT GOING 100% BACK INTO THE HUNTING, FISHING RESOURCES
389 opportunity.
390 I like to talk to people and I never see anyone in the woods
391 ALL CHANGES,DIFERENT DATES, OPENING AND CLOSING SEASONS, RULES OF ALL SORTS LETS SET REGULATIONS, KEEP THEM SIMPLE STAY WITH THEM
392 if you dont know whats being done you cant say much about it ,it like you dont want us to know until youve made your descion
393 It's more of a questionair rather than a commentary. We need a forum for open comments and suggestions rather than a 1 sided list of questions that seem to be handpicked for a certain subject. You would certainly receive a given amount of "trash" in such a forum, but you might also get some good ideas about managing Michigan's natural resources.
394 because I didn't think my input would be taken into acount for the desicion being made.
395 emain would be nice
396 Called a DNR official for a hunters safety class and he was absolutely rude.

397 Comments were a mere formality as decisions had been pre-determined, regardless of fact and ignoring actual basis in science/engineering.
398 Your website is almost impossible to use. I have trying to obtain a 2010 turkey permit and I get all my info in but no place to input hunt 234?
399 All meetings must have time restraints.
400 Not dissatisfied, just haven't had a comment that I wanted to be heard.
401 You just keep thing secret so no one will be able to speak on there behalf.
402 Department representatives whose closed-minded approach strongly implied that decisions had already been made and they were only going through the motions to satisfy the rules.
403 missed the dates
404 I have not had the opportunity, due to my scheudule, to attend a meeting in the flesh. I would be more able to feed into these comment gathering seessions via email.
405 The DNR already know what they want to do and do it no matter what we say
406 did not know you could
407 Unaware on how to make comments.
408 Went to a deer hunting meeting and you had young girls there reprecenting the DNR that appeared to me you could'nt tell them anything. They new it all, and us hunters of 40 plus years new nothing.
409 didnt no it was available until today
410 DNR does not appear to be concerned with the public's opinion. They believe that they are more knowlegeable, so they just proceede!
411 Would like to to it on line
412 it is just a formallity, the dnr/deq already knows what it is going to do and if, IF they ever listen to what is being presented, they twist it to their own benefit.
413 i put suggestions in at van buren and they are never done or answered.the staff there is not responsive to suggestions
414 IM NOT THE TYPE OF PERSON TO SIT AND WAIT FOR AN EMAIL I WOULD RATHER HAVE A OFFICE WHERE I CAN GO AND TALK TO A DNR REPRESENTATIVE FACE TO FACE
415 Just seems like a lot of common sense is not used on key decisions, or lack of fully communicating your info to us so we better understand the decisions you have made

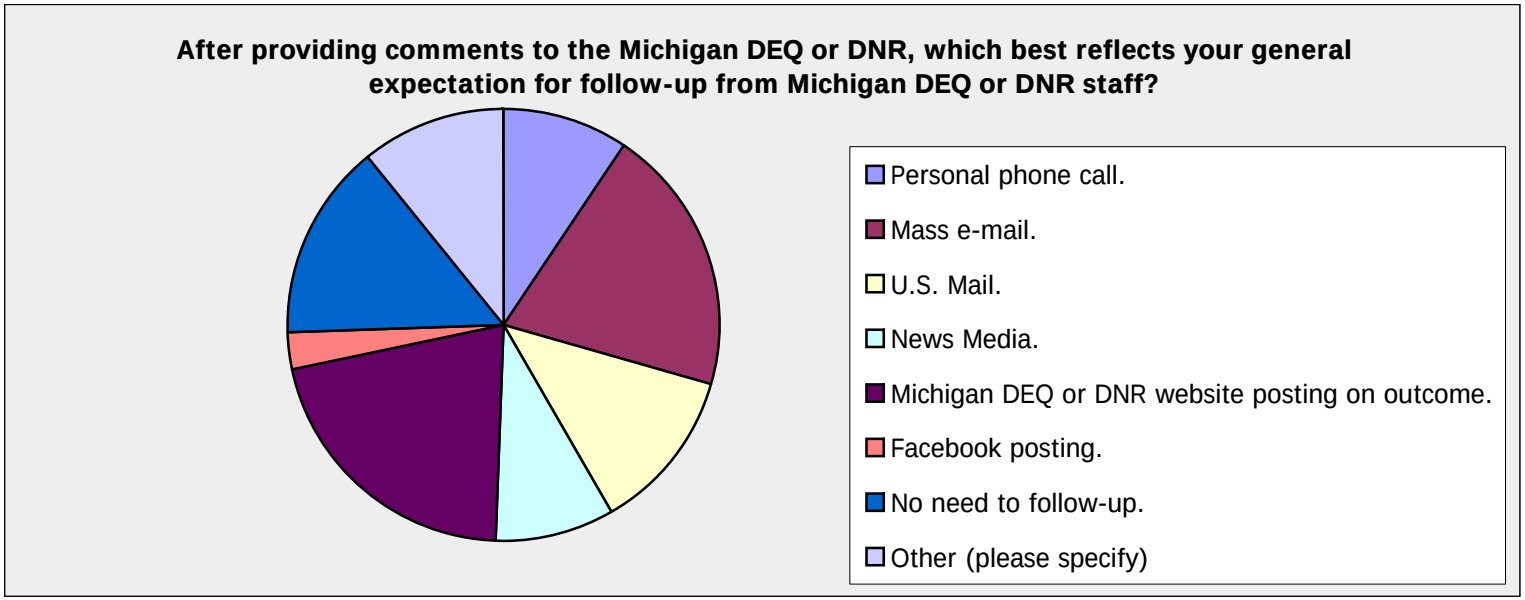
416 Incompetent. ineffective, unscientific - that is the mi DNR
The locations always seem to be located in one central location looking to me to be by population not in relationship with mass out doorsman
417 location.
418 Was not aware of the survey opportunity. I was told about them after the fact.
419 I was dissatisfied because nobody ever took the time to reply back to me. I felt like I wasted my time.
I am mostly disatisfied with hunting in the National forest of Michigan, Numbers are extremly low, we spend a week in the Mainstee National forest during gun season and see only 10 to 15 deer for the time peroid. And this area has been a no Doe area for the last five or six years now,
420 Whats up? I have harvested Deer in this area we just don't see many?
421 Does not matter what you say they wont do any thing about it.
422 I just attempted to comment on the merger and the method was confusing
423 no one listens
424 NO INFORMATION PROVIDED
425 Public comment will not change DNR policy
426 their arogant attitude
427 Just wasn't aware of meetings or given advance notice of issues being voted on by legislative bodies.
Industry permits affecting environmental quality
Water withdrawal
All Natural Resouces (Gas, oil, mineral, timber and water etc..) Permits and Royalties.
All Pubilc should be integrally involved
and it should be more than just a county/local or DEQ/DNR decision on these issues.
428 where these issues are involved.
I feel the DNR does what they want and not what is good for the Whitetail deer herd. The herd is depleeted to the point of extinction due to the many hunts you have and all the numerous doe tags given to farmers that just shoot without regard for the deer population. My family owns around 500 acres in Presque Isle County and we hardly see any deer anymore and know of 2 farmers nearby that were issued numerous permits to slay many deer. This so disgusting. Why am I payiing taxes on property to hunt when the deer herd is near extinction. Wake up before it's
429 too late.

430 mostly locatation. Antler restriction survey in U.P. was not available to us even though we have had a deer camp near Ispheming since 1964.
I recieved a ticket this year, that i should not have gotten. It was an honest mistake. When i called about the ticket. when i spoke to someone about the ticket, and said that i do not do those thing's, his reply was sure, right. Very unproffesonal. How do you respect that? I paid the ticket, when i should have fought it. I'm going to send an artical to the paper's about this. It is by far the most unbelieveabl thing that has ever
431 happened to me.
432 Meetings. I want to email direct.
433 they're going to do it their way anyway
I feel as a fully employed working father of 5 young children there arent enough opportunities to voice my opinions to those involved in the decission process.Whether that is before the sessions or as they are looking for input before the ending sessions,as in the information gathering
434 Phases.

435	I think the baiting ban is retarded, I would of put more meat in my freezer this year if I could of baited and helped the dnr with the deer herd
436	I have never seen an area set aside for our comments.
437	Meetings have normaly been set up to cover large areas of State per meetings instead of smaller more localize meetings where not as much travel time was needed to attend meeting and some problems are more localized
438	Lack of response
439	No response.

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q 13: After providing comments to the Michigan DEQ or DNR, which best reflects your general expectation for follow-up from Michigan DEQ or DNR		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Personal phone call.	9.4%	111
Mass e-mail.	20.2%	239
U.S. Mail.	12.1%	143
News Media.	9.0%	106
Michigan DEQ or DNR website posting on outcome.	21.0%	249
Facebook posting.	2.7%	32
No need to follow-up.	14.8%	175
Other (please specify)	10.9%	129
	answered question	**1184**
	skipped question	**290**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	It would depend on the issue.
2	www.michigansportsman.com
3	none, no ack, no thank you, no nothing.
4	Some sort of acknowledgment besides the same 'ol "Can't, can't, can't."
5	personal email
6	Email is good, I dont browse the website much because i find it to difficult to find what im looking for.
7	Most of the time I express an opinion, and I dont need a reply. A mass email would work to keep up on the topic.
8	michigan-sportsman.com
9	way to track progress/decisons on line
10	using information given in permitting decision. When file was FOIA'ed, our comments and request were ignored and not addressed
11	Some issues need follow up other did not
12	It depends upon the issue and the nature of the comments. Generally, for a significant issue, it should be media-worthy; for other (and all) issues, the commenter should at least receive an e-mail acknowledging his/her comments.
13	direct email
14	personal email
15	An email or a letter would be fine.
16	No follow up was provided, though it was expected.
17	I think it would be good to use new media, but most importantly to have a variety of ways to communicate that are consistently used, and that are responsive to citizen input
18	individual e-mail about my questions
19	The survey is diercting a choice from what someone in the department wants to do. Not a good survey. I expect a reply in plain English. I want to talk with and get answers form people who make decision rather than enforcers who do whatever those above them say. Enforcers are soemtimes OK for information.
20	I would not always expect a follow-up but would expect it via the mode that I used to provide the comment.
21	It depends on the comments what medium would be used.
22	Comment back by either email or mail. Phone call discussions can be hard for details to be retained accurately
23	Follow up is dependent on visibility of the issue and/or internal prioritization due to limited resources
24	Personel email
25	Prefer to be able to easily e-mail comments. Do not want Facebook or any service requiring me to register. Had my ID stolen twice and very uncomfortable with any site requesting specific information about myself or family. Would like even an "automated response" when I send an e-mail that confirms receipt of my e-mail. Thank you.
26	Publication on web site dedicated to the hearing/issue and possibly also the Michigan Register
27	Very dependent on the nature of the comments made.

28 personal email
29 personal e mail
30 nothing forom the feds
31 A phone call deserves a returned phone call, a Public comment period deserves a Responsiveness Summary, but either way - true genuine openminded consideration would be most appreciated. Oftentimes 'public comment period' seems to be a formality only.
32 A substantive response to substantive comments. Mass email notice of a website to access the responses.
33 Action reflecting public comments
34 personal email
35 personal email
36 A change in policy in line with my point of view:)
37 I want my comments to help them come to the right conclusion to protect Michigan's environment.
38 Token accomodations only
39 All.
40 have not provided comments
41 N/A
42 comment: we do not have high speed internet so must rely on U.S. mail.
43 personalized email
44 none
45 Very dependent on the issue and the comment or request. I would expect some kind of written notification of comments received and what the DEQ or DNR did in response to the comments. The written notification could be email or formal letter. If the issue is important, a phone call would be warranted and appreciated. When a request is made by letter to a specific person and you never receive a reply, that does not bode well with a taxpayer.
46 It would be nice to read on a website or in the media, but understand the current lack of funds and want you to spend time and money protecting and preserving the enviroment.
47 Did not see the impact and/or effects of comments made...Ignored at the Lansing level?
48 Haven't provided comments as of yet
49 personal Email
50 i'm not a good representative for this kind of interaction since i know several deq staffers by first name and talk to them regularly
51 Follow up as appropriate and via e-mail
52 it depends on the folowup. If additional meetigs are avialable, then various media should be used. e contacts tend to miss a significant portion of the population.
53 e-mail follow-up
54 Email, Facebook & news media
55 Change in policy or actions
56 email
57 If I send comments, an email with the info

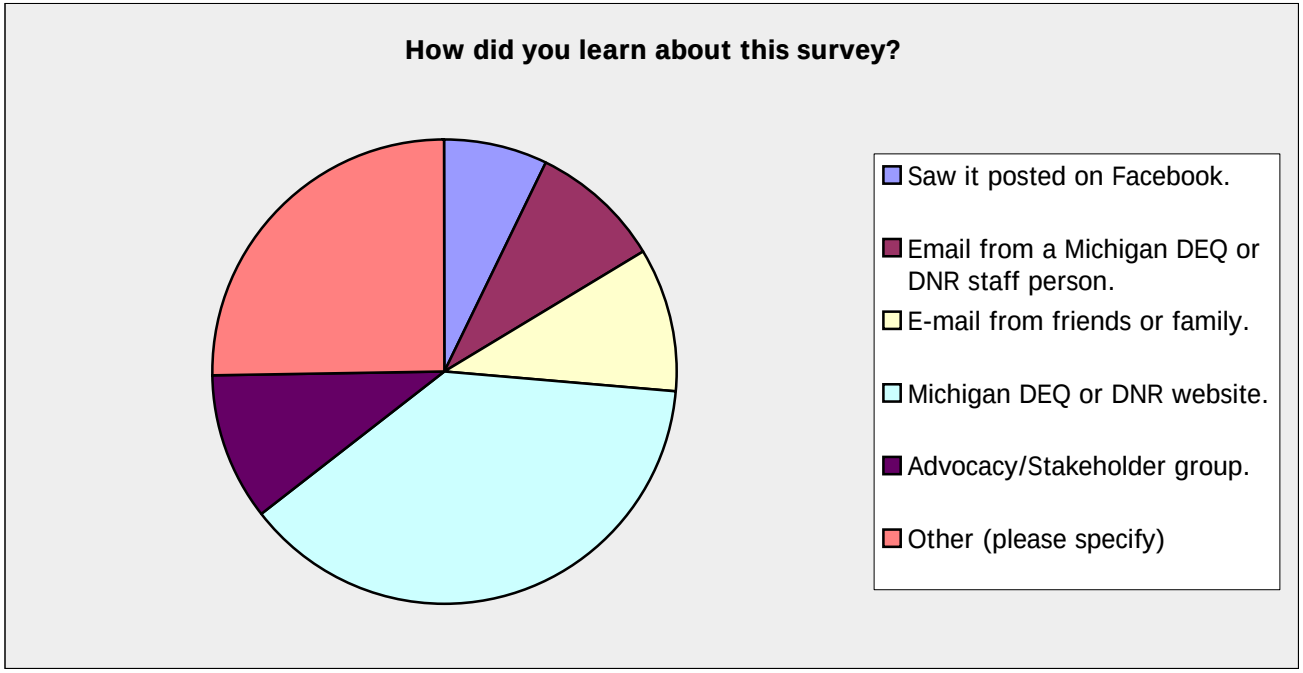
58 Both U.S. mail @ Mich. DEQ or DNR website posting on outcome
59 A detailed response should be entered in the record on all substantive issues raised on a major rulemaking. The detailed response must address economic issues.
60 This is a nonsensical question as each situation may require a different response not a genreral response!
61 Follow up if you have questions
62 A modification in policy which indicates that the voices of my "user group" were heard and valued
63 depends on what is being commented on. Need to be more transparent and tell all of the above.
64 Direct e-mail from staff person whom I contacted
65 personal email
66 just glad you will be listening to us for a change.
67 Typically no follow-up is done.
68 E-mail
69 Personal e-mail about the response to my specific comments.
70 Mass email and/or News media
71 it depends on what the comment is.
72 email
73 it really depends on the topic.. personal email would be the best for most cases
74 never had a follow up even though one was promised
75 e-mail or phone call
76 A combination of mass email and news media including periodicals with the compiled results and plans for follow up.
77 personal e-mail
78 email
79 Individual email, even a form letter, but manual, not mass mailing
80 Many modes are needed because lots of people don't have computers
81 minutes via email of all comments made
82 Email for those who have it, paper snail mail for those who don't.
83 Mass E-mail, with a list of how each member voted on each item, a copy of meeting minutes
84 In accordance with the processes dictated by rules.
85 Direct email
86 DEQ staff I work with
87 Varies with subject, could be personal phone call OR email, sometimes no need.
88 Noneed to followup, just do your job.
89 personal email to bikrbob017@hotmail.com
90 I would like the information that I requested by mail on your official letter head.
91 this survey is not what i thought it would be will not complete
92 personal email answering my questions or comments

93 WHAT? WHO? FOLLOW what?
94 a E-Mail would be great ..
95 Personal email
96 I'm confident that no one will follow up because thats the way the dnr is. I won't be holding my breath thats for sure
97 email response
98 PERSONAL E MAIL
99 personal email (not a form letter)
100 I would expect some type of contact, via email, U.S. mail or phone call.
101 Quantify and report survey results (including comments) and e-mail to licence holders and Michigan out of Doors magazine and TV show.
102 email
103 personal e-mail
104 lets face it, we sportsman have lost our right to change our laws to big insurance donators
105 an email response would suffice
106 Dnr does not listen to us
107 email
108 Depends on the issue. Personal should be a direct reply. Overall, in the media and on DNR website.
109 A response by e-mail would be sufficient and desirable within a week.
110 email My email address is ahayday@verizon.nmet Fred Day
111 to be honest with you, I DO NOT trust any information that you give. 532 Wolves, no mountain lions. Very truthful? not hardly
112 best follow-up is action on the issue/s brought up
113 mucc magazine or tv show
114 Like most I have come to not expect anything from you but what ever you political puppet masters want
115 they will not follow up because only getting re-elected matters to them
116 personnal email
117 personal email
118 Personal e-mail.
119 Depends upon issue and comments made. Just ignoring the comments should be discontinued and discouraged.
120 email
121 DNR isn't concerned with the opinion of others.
122 do not expect a follow-up, they just announce their decision.
123 You are not interested in what hunters say - This is just a cover your ass manouver
124 The type of communication would depend on what the comment was about.
125 A personal email would be fine
126 The least expensive most effective way probably email or text
127 Personal email.

128 I would expect you to do what the taxpayers of Michigan want you to do.
129 e-mail

DNRE Public Participation Survey

How did you learn about this survey?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Saw it posted on Facebook.	7.3%	86
Email from a Michigan DEQ or DNR staff person.	9.1%	107
E-mail from friends or family.	10.0%	117
Michigan DEQ or DNR website.	38.1%	447
Advocacy/Stakeholder group.	10.1%	118
Other (please specify)	25.4%	298
	answered question	**1173**
	skipped question	**301**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	Outdoors related web forum.
2	M-S.com
3	Michigan Sportsman Internet Forum
4	forum.
5	michigan-sportsman wedsite
6	web
7	Michigan sportsman website
8	michigan-sportsman.com
9	website forum
10	Michigan-Sportsman.com
11	Michigan-Sportsman.com
12	Michigan Sportsmen.com forum
13	michigan outdoors website
14	Posted on Michigan-Sportsman.com
15	Michigan-sportsman.com
16	Michigan-Sportsman.com
17	http://www.michigan-sportsman.com/forum/showthread.php?t=310222
18	On website for sportsmen
19	Michigan-sportsman.com
20	michigan-sportsman.com website
21	Michigan Sportsman Web Site michigan=sportsman.com
22	michigan sportsman site
23	michigan-sportsman.com
24	michigan sportsman forum
25	enviro-mich
26	enviromich
27	list-serv
28	Enviro-mich
29	enviro-mich
30	enviromich
31	Enviro-Mich web sie
32	enviromich listserve
33	Posted on Environmental Michigan Website

34 enviro mi list serve
35 environmental group email
36 forum
37 Enviro-Mich post
38 listserv
39 e mich
40 email on enviromich
41 Enviro-Mich picked it up from the DNR or DEQ
42 Forwarded from another colleague who received original email from DEQ
43 Enviro Mich email
44 Met DEQ staff member at the November Saginaw Dioxin public hearing. She suggested I take the survey.
45 EnviroMich posting
46 Bay City Times
47 NEWS ANOUNCMENTS ON WEB
48 news on internet
49 Jeff Kart - Bay City Times
50 The media
51 saginaw news on line
52 I had to hit 'Other' when I wanted to indicate it was from MDEQ staffperson, so please count it as MDEQ - Cheryl Howe does the best job at keeping folks informed - way better than any other state agency/staff person on any other project. Thank you
53 MLive.com
54 Enviromich
55 Posted on Enviro-mich list serve
56 on-line newspaper article with link
57 e-mail from MEC
58 Email from MEC
59 Informed by supervisor.
60 PAC e-mail list
61 MICORPS
62 email from MiCorps listserv
63 on a listserve!
64 e-mial from Michigan Environmental Council staff
65 A colleague contacted me.
66 e-Mail District Conservbation Office
67 Looking for information on state web site, which generally in itself is very difficult to find.
68 E-mail from advocacy / stakeholder group

69	White Lake Chamber of Commerce email posting
70	Enviromich list serv, then saw it on the intranet
71	Email from MICorps staff
72	Michigan River Guides Association
73	MRGA
74	MRGA mass E- Mail
75	Ferndale 115 Online Newspaper
76	Michigan Sportsman's Forum
77	Michigan Sportsman Website
78	michigan sportsman.com
79	Michigan Hunting forum
80	michigan-sportsman.com website
81	michigan sportsman forum
82	Michigan Sportsman Forum Website
83	Michigan sportsman forum
84	michigan sportsman forums
85	michigan sportsman web site
86	michigan-sportsman.com
87	michigan sportsnan
88	posted on outdoor web site
89	Michigan Sportsman Website
90	hyperlink from michigan sportsmen forum
91	forum
92	sporting forum (Michigan Sportsman Forum)
93	mich. sportsman web site
94	hunting site
95	Michigan Sportsman forum
96	Posted by a friend on Michan-Sportsman.com
97	Fellow Sportsman
98	m-s website
99	www.michigansportsman.com
100	Michigan-sportsman.com
101	michigan-sportsman.com
102	on a hunting forum
103	michigan-sportsman.com
104	Michigan Sportsman Website

105	michigan-sportsman.com forum
106	Posted on Michigan Sportsmen.com
107	hunting web ste
108	saw it on Michigan Sportsmen website
109	outdoor forum
110	Michigan-Sportsman website
111	michigan-sportsman forum
112	Michigan Sportsman web site
113	sportsman's web site
114	website
115	Michigan Sportsman.com
116	MI Sportsman Forum
117	Saw it on Michigan/sportsman
118	It was posted to the Michigan Sportsmens Forum
119	Michigan-Sportsman.com
120	from a posting on michigansportsmen.com
121	michigan-sportsman website
122	www.michigan-sportsman.com
123	MICHIGAN SPORTSMEN FORUM
124	Michigan-sportsman website
125	michigansportsman.com
126	Posted on Michigan-sportsman.com
127	Michigan Sportsmens Forum
128	michigan sportsman forums
129	michigan sportsman forum
130	Michigan Sportsman.com/forums
131	michigan-sportsman web site
132	Michigan-sportsman.com forum
133	mi sportsman forum
134	michigan sportsman website
135	MS
136	Michigan-sportsman.com
137	Michigan-Sportsman website
138	Michigan Sportsman web site
139	michigan sportsman.com
140	michigan-sportsman.com

141 Michigan Sportsman Forum
142 www.michigan-sportsman.com
143 michigan sportsman website
144 michigan based sportsman website.
145 Michigan-Sportsman.com
146 michigan-sportsman.com
147 Michigan Sprtsman's Forum
148 Mi sportsmans web site
149 michigansportsman.com
150 michigan Sportsman forum
151 MI Sportsman Forum
152 michigan sportsman
153 Michigan Sportsman website
154 Saw it on Michigan-Sportsman.com
155 the website www.michigan-sportsman.com
156 from a hunting forum on the web
157 post on a forum
158 michigansportsman.com
159 mich. sportsman.com
160 Michigan Sportsman
161 www.michigan-sportsman.com
162 www.michigan-sportsman.com
163 Michigan Sportsman Web-site
164 http://www.michigan-sportsman.com/forum/showthread.php?t=313926
165 Heard about it on michigan-sportsman.com
166 michigan sportsman forum
167 michigans sportsmans forum
168 michigan sportsman website
169 Saw it on ichigan-Sportsman.com
170 Sportsman website
171 michigan sportsman .com
172 Michigan Sportsman Website
173 Im a michigan sportsman.com member. its a great site that michigan sportsman share their info.It would be a good place for you to check into to see what people like or want.
174 MI Sportsman forum
175 Michigan-sportsman.com

176	www.michigan-sportsman.com/forum/
177	Michigan Sportsman Web Site
178	www.michigan.sportsman.com
179	Michigansportsman.com
180	michigan sportsmen.com
181	a link posted on michigan-sportsman.com by a member
182	Michigan Sportsman forurmn
183	Michigan-sportsman.com
184	michigan-sportsman.com
185	Michigan Sportsman Forum
186	michigan sportsman website
187	michigan-sportsman.com
188	michigan sportsman forum
189	sportsmans group
190	Michigan-Sportsman.com
191	website
192	michigan-sportsman.com
193	local online newspaper ferndale 115.com
194	Michigan Sportsman Forums
195	mi sportsmen
196	Sierra Club
197	Looking for information-engine search
198	Enviro-Mich
199	enviromich
200	EnviroMich posting
201	Michigan sportsmans forum
202	DNRE Executive order news release
203	Looking on line for information-web search
204	Conversation with my hunting buddies from Michigan, I hunt Spring Turkey in your state as well.
205	news online
206	news station webiste
207	clickondetroit.com
208	news
209	news media
210	local news website
211	clink on detroit

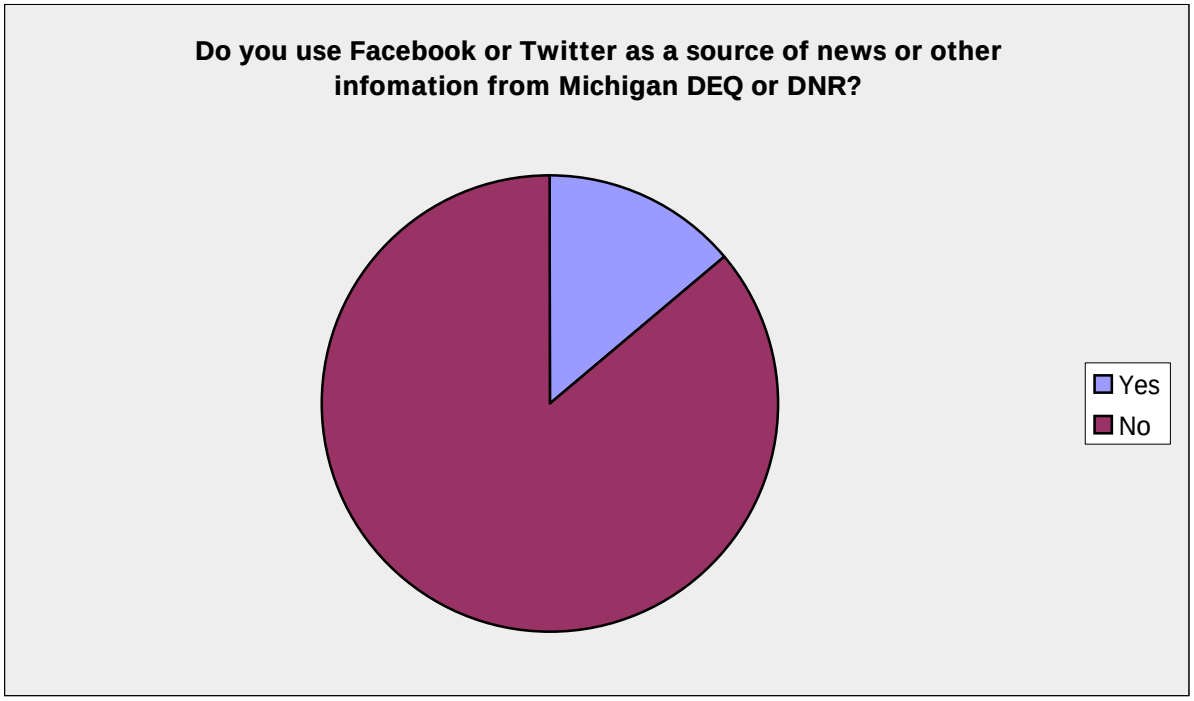
212	Detriot news
213	yahoo news site
214	Saw it listed in news while checking Elkhart,Indiana news paper.
215	tv
216	news paper
217	WDIV
218	click on detroit web sight
219	WDIV news clip
220	news media
221	Article in the online version of ClickOnDetroit (Charnnel 4 News from Detroit)
222	Yahoo Local News
223	TV News web site had a story on it.
224	News Media Website
225	channel 12 news in the am
226	T.V.
227	Click on Detroit
228	I was looking for the deer survey section to fill out and came across this one. By the way, I can't find the deer survey one.
229	clickondetroit.com
230	My local news at 6PM
231	news
232	Free Press article
233	news online
234	Detroit local 4 News. www.clickondetroit.com
235	Local news website....clickondetroit.com
236	google search
237	news website
238	wdiv web site
239	Detroit News
240	www.wdiv.com
241	clickondetroit.com
242	news
243	radio
244	news story
245	WLUC TV
246	tv6 website
247	click on detroit.com

248	found it on the DNR webpage, only cause I got a link from a friend to take the deer survey. havent found that yet, but am still looking.
249	Fox 2 news website link
250	internet news
251	wluc-tv6 website
252	local news media website
253	news media
254	just looking on the web site
255	wluctv6 website
256	channel TV 6 website
257	Wluc tv-6 news website
258	TV
259	tv
260	A friend of mine text me to take the survey he saw it on tv6 news web site
261	Newspaper
262	talking to a relative
263	newspaper
264	newspapper
265	news link
266	TV6 News
267	Story on TV6 news Marquette
268	Congressman
269	abc news channel 12 Flint
270	7@4 NEWS
271	From other hunters
272	other hunters
273	michigansportsman.com
274	news
275	news paper and friends/family suggestion
276	radio discusion and BowHunterPlanet.com
277	T.V.
278	news
279	Concerned friend
280	Short blurb on WHMI radio
281	news media
282	Exploring the DNR webpage
283	a friend at work metioned it to me

284	dnr web site
285	dnr website
286	Found this survey on your site!
287	news
288	some told me about it.
289	hit my computer
290	adrian paper
291	DNR web site
292	Father
293	My Dad lives in Michigan and has many questions about the present DNR practices which are not working(ie. bringing coyotes to control ground hog populations NOT WORKING stressing the deer)
294	TV
295	click on detroit .com channel 4 news
296	Valley Tribune
297	news paper
298	ask the DNR. Needed more than bi-annually

DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q15: Do you use Facebook or Twitter as a source of news or other infomation from Michigan DEQ or DNR?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	14.0%	163
No	86.0%	998
	answered question	**1161**
	skipped question	**313**



DNRE Public Participation Survey

Q16: Do you have other comments or concerns regarding public participation within Michigan DEQ or DNR?

answered question	***436***
skipped question	***1038***

1 Thank you for the opportunity to complete this survey. Obviously the individuals who created this are highly talented and very good looking.
2 END the baiting ban!
3 I wish that the DNR would utilize Michigans largest outdoor forum which has a membership base of almost 50,000 people.
4 yes, those that buy licenses should be heard. Those that do not fund the DNR/DEQ should not have a voice.
5 Bring back baiting as a sound mangement tool. There's no need to punish the many for an idiot in Kent Co. On a private deer farm no less.
6 no
7 Public participations seems to be merely a placebo when it appears that the DNR has already made their decision prior to one single comment being made. Again, the people who are out in the field, be it fishing or hunting, are not idiots. Please stop treating us as such and take a look around at how other states with far less resources, have surpassed us in many ways.
8 Please entertain using websites like Michigan-Sportsman.com to solicit opinions. Many can not make a 8 0'clock meeting but we all have internet. Thanks!
9 Should listen to the people who participate, not just a vocal minority. Should impose some type of user fee on non- hunting/fishing people who use state land, perhaps a "gatherers license" to pick berries and an additional "morel" endorsement for morel mushroom. Along with some type of park stickers for mountain bike and horseback riders. This is the type of participation the DNR should seek from the people they work for, the public.
10 I think that during the this portion, it be mandanted that all activities by the commisioners be suspended to give undivided attention to the speaker and show them respect. This would go a long way in trying to improve their PR image with the public.
11 Would be nice to have someway for input and feedback. There may already be but as i said before i dont browse the website often because i find it hard to locate info im looking for so i ask at the sportsman forum.
12 Someone NEEDS to figure out how to stop invasive species from completely ruining our Great Lakes. Quagga and Zebra Mussels are sucking the life out of the lakes, and Asian Bighead and Silver Carp are knocking at the door. Waiting to see what is going to happen isn't working. A more pro-active approach needs to be taken, before it is too late. Fill in the Chicago Shipping canal, before the Carp can get into our lakes. Find a parasite that will kill Quagga and Zebra Mussels. The DNR are the Stewards or our resources, and the resources are under phenominal attack. Something must be done.
13 Feel this right here is the best, but you should type your name, address and phone nr. (like signing a real letter)
14 Combining the two department is a bad idea and the governor shoud NOT pick the Director.

15 It all seems to be about money
not natural resources
16 I believe that information sessions regarding what the DNR does, other than the law enforcement sector, would be very beneficial to many individuals. When one hears "DNR" they immediately think of COs and nothing else.
17 I just wish it was easier than waiting ten years, or being the head honcho of the DNR, to get an elk license. The whole thing is stupid.
18 public needs more outreach from both groups ,mailings would help to all the register .
19 I like the facebook addition just found it yesterday, I work with MDEQ and MDNR staff on stormwater and water resources its nice to get info on other issues and this is a good way to do it... DEQ needs to update more
20 I could utilize Facebook or Twitter for general information and meetings, etc
21 Voluntary registration to a well publicized list-serve with an ad hoc option.
22 This survey is typical - little real opportunity for input, choices of canned and inadequate response options, no request for follow-up.
23 DNR Fish Division needs to repalce fish biologist Rich O'Neal (Cadillac-Muskegon office) with a qualified biologist. West MI hasn't had a qualified local biologist since biologist John Trimberger retired.
MRWA & Muskegon Lake sport fishermen.
24 You have a tough job. Try to teach the puplic more and remember that you are the only real defense of our natural resources. Most comments made by the public are only concerned about themselves and what are they going to get. We need long distance thinking and this has to be shown to the public by you.
25 When I do I take them directly to the staff affected.
26 better notification would be nice. I know - when I worked for the DEQ - that it isn't a requirement that people REALLY be told, just that it be posted somewhere. Not very helpful to those who really would like to comment!
27 I am concerned about the use by CAFOs of antibiotics, which could result in evolution of a tougher strain of germs that our antibiotics could not cope with.
28 I believe I was warmly allowed to participate and that the DNR and DEQ staff listened carefully to what I (and others) said.
29 Listen and don't lie.
30 Neither department has been nearly aggressive enough in engaging the public, and needs to find much more effective ways of reaching out to its constituents.
31 Until MDEQ, if ever, shows more concern for public health and the environment instead of big business and their pollution participation by the public is a wate of time. Frustration makes for minimal attendance at hearings.
32 I appreciate all the good people at MDEQ and commend you for all the good work you have done in very trying economic times (and political adversity to boot). Thank you Director Chester!
33 No.
34 no
35 No
36 With the closing or reduction of newspapers in the state, getting out information about DNR/DEQ meetings.

37 Please educate the public about your objectives and get us involved as participators in caring for our natural resources and environment. I am concerned that the combining of the DEQ and the DNR will create such an overload that urgent pollution issues will not be monitored properly or addressed. It is my hope that the DNR and DEQ will maintain high ethical service standards rising above pressure from the powerful rich cooperations that bully the rest of us and pollute our environment.

38 big money runs the government, not the peoples welfare

39 Yes information that DEQ gets from CAFO NPDES permit applicants must be verified by DEQ, at public participation DEQ denies knowing true information even if it is submitted by someone other than the applicant(examples: name of operations, animal numbers, acreage, etc.

40 I have a strong feeling that decisions have been made based on political considerations before hearings are held.

41 I wish that you could do the job you were hired for. I wish you would truly protect and serve us instead of the corporations. I wish you could have the final say on what really should be done to protect the environment.

42 It would be great to have more opportunities for citizen input beyond official public hearings - maybe the DEQ should do listening sessions. Also it would be better in controversial hearings to have multiple ways for people to provide input.

43 Citizen's should have input on management plans prior to the plan being oped up for public comment.

44 no

45 Thanks for all your efforts

46 Just the general one that public information and comment opportunities are important.

47 Why take comments if they are not acknowledged? Coal plant comments are just in a huge circular file for all we know, and the permits are under consideration. If we point out that there is no need for the pollution, we deserve to know why you feel there is. BEFORE the permit is given.

48 Our state givernment is underfunded. When I hear some persons say the DEQ is out of control; I cannot believe it. I can think of many times the DEQ has not had the funds to take of a problem. The people who work for the DEQ have to cover more and more territory with fewer employees. It is silly to talk abotu working smarter. There are not enough employees for this department or many state departments, like social services, state police, civil engineering inspections, electrical inspection, state attorney general's office, et cetera. Communications? If you are trying to do things cheaper, I would say do not make cut anymore; communications is weak right now.

49 I do have concerns about how enforcement and monitoring of permits is handled. It seems that direct monitoring is too infrequent if at all and that violations can continue after they are discovered.

50 I think that the MDEQ may be spending too much time in reviewing environmental issues of little or no significance.

51 I will not use Facebook or Twitter.

52 In too many cases public comment becomes a opportunity for a referendum on the public popularity of a project rather than an opportunity for the public to have input on the agency's technical review. Much more education of the public must be done to inform them of how to effectively participate in the process. However, many see public participation strictly as a way to slow an unpopular project that meets all environmental requirements. Use of the process in that way should not be tolerated.

53 It's important to keep the public informed. It makes it difficult when the DNR website does not have updated info such a meeting agendas and minutes. The website needs a fresh look and feel that makes it easy to navigate so the public can get correct info and make the appropriate comments when fully informed.

54 I appreciate all their efforts in working with people to help protect, preserve, and improve our enviroment. I appreciate their patience and time spent in helping educate people because so many of us have a lot to learn. Ingorance can create some very frustrated, angry, and impatient people. Staff's time and patience in helping to bring knowledge and awareness is a major key for the environmental future of our State. I think it must be frustrating at times.

55 Communication with constituents plus realistic expectations is key to effective operation of the department.

56 As a former tax assessor, I appreciate the hard work you folk do under often very contentious circumstances. It is not easy to make decisions in that forum. At this time of Thanksgiving, thank you for the sincere and dedicated efforts you make to do your job correctly. Best regards, Joe Turner, Saginaw, Michigan

57 Having an easy-to-use web site is most key. Web pages (with links) dedicated to an issue/hearing is easiest, but must be easy to find. Further, sign-up for e-mail distribution lists should also be available, e.g., with links to the web site pages.

58 Lonetree council is NOT a community orginization, they are activist. Do not confuse the two.

59 please try to keep the comments focused on the issue rather then issues outside of the techincal issue you seek. It is discouraging to have to wait to talk when many of the people waiting in line to talk have no comments related to the issue at hand.

60 They have been friendly and helpful with questions.

61 MOST ATTENDIES ARE LOOKING TO SEE WHO IS GETTING THE BIGEST HANDOUT OR TRYING TO BANKROPED DOW CHEMICAL

62 During public comment, public officals , lawmakers , etc. should be able to speak first. First come, first serve or randomize.
Pulic notification should be made in all news media , most popular more than once, just in case you miss that one day.

63 Just that it would be nice if they really listened and used our input, rather than saying they will and don't. We are smarter than you give us credit for.

64 Yes, be PROACTIVE, try to help the State grow in leaps and bounds instead of stopping progress.

65 It would be great if SOUND science, not emotion, drove decisions. The U of M DES team was treated poorly by DEQ. DEQ should be a partner like DNR and focus resources on issues that matter. Please stop harassing homeowners and wasting our tax dollars. Can we wrk with EPA and DNR instead?

66 Some of your questions allowed for only one input, but I just wanted to say that because I read the newspaper online regularly, Jeff Kart's postings on MLive - Bay City Times have been very helpful in keeping me aware of what is going on that will directly affect me in my area of the state. I think that he has found an effective method of disseminating important information that encourages average people to participate.

67 I think the DNR and the DEQ should still be seperate.

68 Sometimes I think the agency and agency staff forget or lose sight of who the "public" are. The public are not just individual single interest groups. They are not only the people who agree with your mission. Even those folks who don't agree with the rules or the mission are part of 'your' public and they need to be considered. And even if happy agreement cannot or will never be reached, it remains important for the agencies/staff to "walk a mile in their 'public's' shoes" and not just say you reviewed/considered a project, but to really try and work with whatever a regulated entity is trying to accomplish (factoring in why they are trying to do it) - only then applying all the proper rules and regulations - so that together, even if a proposed project/action can't be done, then good responsible alternatives can be identified. But in the end holding firm to those not-to-be-crossed boundaries and stop caving to incongruent/inconsistent application of the rules for political expediency. People usually accept a decision if its applied fairly across the board to everyone, not just handpicked exceptions.

69 The survey seems fairly limited and general in its scope. Would have helped to know more its purpose.

70 Would like more suggestions as to how to most effectively participate in NRC meetings & more widespread posting of those meetings.

71 We live across from farmland which we support fully however they are large farmers with no regards for the residences surrounding. Tear up the road with driving semi like mad men and driving too fast. Recently they have been spreading, saturating liquid manure weekly in the hay fields all around us that comes from their methon facility. Air pollution is horrible for weeks.

72 MDEQ needs more public participation events

73 I am delighted that you are interested in public points of view.

74 Another option for getting the word out about public participation opportunities is http://publicdrum.org. Please check it out, contact me for questions, rita.jack@sierraclub.org.

75 Sometimes the public participation appears to be pro-forma rather than a substantive opportunity for input.

76 my work does not allow me to use Facebook, otherwise I would like to use the site.

77 More public hearings should be held on issues like deep injection wells, wetland fills, and serious violations of state and federal laws. Fines need to be greatly increased to discourage environmental law violations. Dept. of Agriculture should not get involved in DEQ issues. In one case, a wetland law violation was overturned by Dept. of AG.

78 Where does a person go to just make a comment about the DEQ or DNR without going thru all these questions that are of no interest to me?

79 The facebook and email approach should elicit much public comment. Assuming that is desired, it should help DEQ move in the direction of greater protection of our lands and waters and responding to citizens concerns.

80 no

81 MDNR has rarely stepped into the city of Detroit. MDEQ has recently been very receptive to the concerns of the community, thanks to Steve Chester. I would hate to see this trend slow or stop.

82 Thanks for the opportunity. It is hard to get news in Watersmeet - no local paper or radio station. We use internet at library. So email could be used if not urgent.

83 The DNR does a better job with their public meetings than the DEQ. Many of the DEQ staff are holding a hearing only because it is mandated, and do not put much extra effort into the event. Getting a change in this attitude is going to be one of the challenges of the department. However, we helped run a couple of "test" hearings with the LWMD staff in the Kalamazoo District during the last academy, incorporating an informational session prior to the formal hearing. The staff was skeptical, but realized that it was helpful, and have continued to add this feature after the study was complete. Continuing to train the staff and to provide facilitators, at least until they are comfortable with a revised format, is something that would benefit the department.

84 It's critical, and needs to come at an earlier point in the process.

85 I have a strong and sincere belief (HOPE) that MDEQ/DNR will protect Michigan's natural resources and environment.

86 The previous question related to Facebook/Twitter has a typo. It should be "information" not infomation.

87 I hope public participation is expected, encouraged and heeded in the decision-making process. Prior to the Granholm administration, public participation did seem to make any difference in the decision-making process. In fact, I have observed DEQ personnel scoff at the public comments in public hearings when they did not agree. That all changed with the present administration and I am very grateful.

88 I did not know you had a facebook page; I will look for it.

89 It is important to keep the public involved as much as possible in decisions made regarding our environment ant natural resources.

90 I know it is hard with current problems, but a big concern is lack of testing, permitting and monitoring CAFOs, maybe the farms can pay for it through permitting fees and voilations fees. Also fight to keep parks open, suggestion, parks that are busy and over booked raise fees, you could even have varied pricing like choice lots are higher, the first so many reserved lots are $25 and go up as campground get full up $50 or $75. Charge for extra people, ie over 4 $5 per person, the more people the more use of ranger time and facilities. Would that raise some money fast! It would also encourage less popular parks that are at a lower fee to be used.

91 Annual "Meet the staff" meetings are effective, have not seen one recently. Greater amount of face to face contact are greatly appreciated by the public. Thank You!

92 They need to spend whatever time is necessaryeliminating waste and duplication ofstaff and maybe save their existance

93 I would like to work for the DEQ and DNR.

94 No. Thank you for this opportunity.

95 I hope DEQ will remain a viable public entity given the MI budget situation.

96 I want to know more about discharge permits.

97 I'd like to be added to press releases if possible - editor@ferndale115.com. Thanks.

98 Public meetings require professional/experienced moderators

99 While MDEQ Public hearings are generally productive, MDNR hearings are generally a waste of time, because more often than not, one gets the impression the issue(s) has already been decided at some Dept. level, that is NOT present at the hearing.

100 DNR Officers have always been responsive and professional except 2008 when I report swans being run over buy a boater. there was no response to my message. KCSD did respond however, I think wildlife (especially protected) distructions should be handled by the DNR.

101 Your website has very little information about how to contact specific DEQ staff members. No phone numbers or email addresses. It makes it very difficult.

102 For suggestions on how to attract working and middle class to your meetings, check out the following reference:

Kathleen E. Halvorsen and Michelle E. Jarvie, "Working and Lower Middle Class Women and Obstacles to Environmentally Related Public Meeting Participation" Environmental Practice (2002), 4:1:36-44 Cambridge University Press

Make sure to provide some activity for children or make it known that children are welcome. Many single women can not attend due to lack of child care.

103 keep up the good work

104 immediate concern is water quality and invasive weeds/species

105 No

106 I think in many ways, your agencies do a very good job. However, you have a problem with your bumping system, which allows unqualified people to stay in a job they have no training to perform.

Also, you need to begin listening to professionals and those with experience outside of your agencies. There are colleagues on the ground, who have a real experience in resource maters and are willing to help.

For example, I know a forester who told the state how they could handle ash bore, when it first hit Michigan. He was ridiculed for his comments. However a couple of years later they attempted exactly what he had suggested. Buy then it far was too late.

I could give many more examples, but they only matter, if you are willing to see yourselves as a part of the available knowledge base in this state. You need to realize that your vantage point is not always a view of the whole picture. There are many other pieces. You have too much political influence at times from special interest groups, to actually see reality sometimes.

107 In my experience, public participation opportunities have been reasonable. Given my limited opportunity to actually attend public hearings, I'm not real familiar with the typical feedback from the agencies during such meetings. But do not feel that the feedback recieved in my experience has not been to the extent desirable in many instances. The result of this is that it is difficult to determine what if any impact your input may have had or whether it was worthy of consideration.

108 Yes, I'd like to have a job with either department and get paid for my participation since I have knowledge and interest in preserving Michigan's natural resources. But, funds are limited and I feel let down because F&W Mgmt is what I am degreed in.

109 Send info to GREAT (Grand River Environmental Action Team) ; P.O. Box 223, Jackson, MI 49204

110 No

111 Consistently there are more green shirts present at the meetings than members of the general public. That seems like such a waste of resources...I hate to ask it of over-worked and harried staff, but they need to take their message to the advocacy groups rather than expecting the public to come to them...DNR/DEQ agency public speakers need to go to sportsmans orgs., Kiwanis, Rotary, etc. with appropriately prepared slide shows, etc. Also the little magazine subscription that used to be sold with your license plate renewal was an AWESOME way to disseminate the message (it was about $10). NOT the rag it turned into when it was turned over to VanFrankenhuyzen and co. and became an Arizona Highways wannabe...

112 Our comments are accepted, but many times I feel they aren't considered even an option. It must be this way is what we hear a lot, when it's not that way in the other States.

113 I would like to see some public involvement of applications by commercial or private businesses wanting access to public lands for business gain at the start of the application process not in the middle of the process.

114 Please watch out for our natural resoures

115 The Michigan DEQ receives public comment but does not seriously address shortcomings in rules.

116 Recreate you web site. I worked for the state for over 20 years and still can't find basic information without extensive searching. You really need to get your act together!

117 Important that it continues

118 When attending a public hearing on Leather Co. at White Lake, we were told that public opinion could affect the decision, but not how to express that public opinion. Everyone in the room favored digging up the retension ponds, but we were never told we were having an impact on the process. What does the public need to do to have an impact--picketing, shouting is tha the way to be recognized?

119 I was confused when you asked if I "spoke" (at MDEQ/DNR meeting) should have asked if I made a statement at the meeting to the group. I "spoke" to lots of people... one on one!

120 no

121 I look to DEQ/DNR for expertise and guidance for land and water stewardship and have not been satisfied with the level of leadership that DNR/DEQ can provide.

122 Time to expand our horizons in terms of how we think about the way people receive news. Maybe we need to offer churches, community groups, etc. access to our Press Releases and communicate directly to those folks. Expand use of web 2.0 in communications (develop a plan).

123 Recombining the two agencies is a good thing. I believe that MDA should be added and that all depts. involving onsite sewage, water and food service be moved to MDCH under an Environmental Health Bureau.

124 Keep Rebecca

125 Special interest groups are definitely "squeaky wheels". I am always concerned that resources are directed towards "quieting" the "squeaky wheel", at the possible expense of correcting more salient issues. I am concerned about maintaining balance, where real environmental issues can be corrected, but not at the loss of statewide or global competetiveness... Yes, that's hard. Without industry, we'd have much less pollution.. but the real work is in striking a regulatory balance where commerce and the public can thrive together, in a cleaner environment.

126

It is my opinion that like so much of the gov't, the DEQ & DNR are more than happy to take tax dollars but feel little obligation to use those dollars to benefit ALL user groups and, in fact, they act with bias toward some. Like all bureaucrats, the DNR & DEQ do best at preserving their own employment by giving the appearance of being important and valuable while causing those who pay their wages to be over-regulated, provided with poor service and often relieved of the opportunity to use the very lands we tax payers purchased and maintain.

127 If you are going to ask for input, actually use and LISTEN to input. It seems you guys forget you work for the people, not your own interests.

128 I would like to see the DEQ or DNR work more with the users than have there own agenda.

129 Participation from the all persons involved is a good thing provided all parties involved listen to each other.
130 Be pro Brown Trout and Steelhead instead of Salmon and Walleye and I'll bet the fisheries would impress even the most seasoned fisherman. Look at the Fly Water of the PM or even other rivers that have added additional regs and rules,,, the rivers in question rebound huge with all kinds of numbers!!
131 The general public needs to be more involved on a daily basis regarding issues that the DEQ/DNR are working to resolve.
132 Not sure how frequently you invite citizens to send you their "Wish Lists." Could be an administrative nightmare, but I for one would welcome it. Here's mine: as a deer hunter who travels to Illinois and Ohio, I am struck by how much more tightly deer harvesting is regulated (e.g., all deer checked). I wish you would take a controversial but strong position of leadership to end the slaughter of baby bucks (1.5 year olds) and mandate QDM standards (ala Leelanau County) statewide. Pennsylvania did it. Citizens of Leellanau would never go back to the old standard. Hunters from other counties are now hunting Leelanau because the word is out that larger bucks are more common. Imagine the tourism potential and the dollars it would bring if QDM were statewide with guys like me keeping their dollars in Michigan and out-of-staters flocking in to get their chance at a big one. That's my take. Good luck with your survey.
133 As long as the public comments and concerns are heared and weighed, before new policy is made, I have no concerns.
134 Water quality is a huge issue, and is not only vital to the Michigan economy but in the future it wil be one of the planet's essential resources.
135 no
136 DEQ employees are the best!
137 No
138 It is much more difficult with the demise of print media in Michigan. Most newspapers are not even printed/delivered daily.
139 From what I have seen of the DNR officers I think they do a great job, even though they are understaffed. They have always answered my questions when I have met them in public.
140 Facebook is a great way to get out info but i think it eventually will become overwhelmed with input from people. Maybe DNR could hire interns or students pursuing careers in DNR (ha me) to help out with publicizing DNR events and any other issues.
141 I like the DNR and what they do , they need more funding from the goverment .
142 Being everything is so tech based... I think a way to receive (mass) emails from the DNR/DEQ about upcoming events/meetings/ important issues should be examined. I have subscribed to the RSS feed in the past but never received up dates. Should get the info out more and not cost the department(s) very much to set up.
143 The DNR and DEQ have suffered from poor public outreach and relations in the past. The agency really needs to improve its efforts in these areas. You need more communication with and from the people you serve.
144 I think it's critical that the departments truly engage with stakeholders in seeking solutions to natural resources and environmental problems and encourage people's active participation in stewardship. Because the departments have a regulatory function, I think it's important to collaborate with educational organizations and institutions that can enhance people's awareness and understanding of complex, sensitive and potentially controversial matters.
145 The MDNR has to communicate with the public. You have a list of license holders....start there with emails/letters
146 I am a serious birder. I would like to be able to contact someone at DNR concering things I see involving the conservation of birding habitat and individual birds.

147 Appreciate that info from DEQ is a vailable on facebook. Will pay more attention to info and issues posted.
148 We Need to change the negative attitude towards DEQ DNR and all law enforcement.
149 Thank you for your communication efforts. I also read Michigan Out of Doors and Michigan Outdoor News to learn of DNR/DEQ issues.
150 yes, if you give me a call, i can tell you where 10 bait piles that i have reported and the DNR does nothing about!!!!!!!
151 I really enjoy the updates on facebook. I do take the time to find out what's going on with you guys through your web sites, but I don't always remember.
152 I participate in meetings within my company all the time via telecons and Live Meeting, where multi million dollar decisions are made. My professional organization hosts webinars where hundreds of people call in. Why can't you do the same, instead of requiring physical attendance??? The technology is there and it's cheap.
153 It is nice to get updates and reminders on facebook from the DNR. I normaly go on facebook once a day and the DNR page one to two times a week, to check fishing report, and see if anything news worthy has been posted to the DNR websight
154 Yes, with todays busier lifestyles, you need to make it easier for the public to comment, without having to show up at all the meetings.. Email would be one suggestion..
155 You need to listen to us. This States Deer Herd is in trouble.
156 The best public participation would be hearing comments from an equal number of people who bowhunt, fish, hike, rifle hunt, muzzleload hunt, turkey hunt and these comments should be divided up per county. Too often decisions are made Statewide rather than in localized areas.
157 no
158 Make meetings available to more participation. Have them early evenings and notify the general public as soon as possable. Afterall, what good is a public survey if you don't get oppinoins from all who are willing to participate and voice concern. We need more solid data regarding public approval than what the DNR has been using in the past for policy change acceptance ratings.
159 no
160 Make Michigan some MONEY$$$$ and have the quality of bucks become bigger. Make a statewide 3 on one side rule for any buck shot whether you are allowed 2 bucks or a 1 buck rule. MAKE MICHIGAN A STATE THAT WILL MAKE OTHER NON RESIDENTS WANT TO COME HERE AND HUNT BIG BUCKS AND MAKE THE STATE SOME BIG BUCKS $$$$$ IN THE PROCESS. Business and economics 101
161 I have yet to see any outcome from the public forums.. Keeping Us updated is the most important thing yo can do. It seems like everything is a secret.. Example the baiting ban?
162 They need to have a more PUBLICIZED meeting in more locations so everyone will know and attend.
163 I just would like the DNR to take a look at states that have good plans in place.

Our Deer Hunting really needs some help!!!
164 I think it's important to try and make some changes with our deer hunting practices and start providing michigan hunters with opportunites that other states are successful with.
165 You could send e-mail surveys asking peoples opinions on the different issues.
166 I would like to see the DNR talk to more hunters and listen to what they see and say about the wildlife, and use it as a tool.

167 I'm not aware as how to use FaceBook with the DNR or DEQ.

My main concern is the difficulty of trying to use the DNR's website. I haven't looked at the DEQ's.

168 yes

169 I just would like to get a response when I do sned a e-mail or leave a message. I spend a lot of money in the outdoors and should have the respect of the DNR to get back to me.

170 I would love to see the Dnr shut down / disbanded

171 All I can say is! I would like to make it mandatory that a person that hunts for especially deer season. Has to report on the hunt and give some definite data, before he can get a license the next year. That and a "ONE" buck rule. Shoot a small one and your done. Let Michigan be a state where everyone wants to come to, to be able to get a "Trophy" deer.

172 if the DNR/DEQ is contimplating twitter as a news source I am scared!

173 I think the public or persons buying licenses should have a voice in hot topics when they are directly effected by those decisions made , like no baiting ,3pts on one side in the upper peninsula and not the lower peninsula why is the state divided all or none to me??

174 only apathy amongst the ranks

175 a little more personell

176 I get emails from the MDNR since I have purchased licenses online. I don't recall recieving emails about public comment.
I would really like to see decisions made for the wildlife / general population versus special interests.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

177 While it would be a monumental task to conduct "general meetings" due to the multiple agendas on everyones mind (hunting, fishing, camping, logging, mining etc) I believe that the DNR/DEQ should have more exposure to the general public. This could be accomplished in a variety of ways. There are literally dozens of Sportsmens clubs located throughout the state. It would not take much to get an invite to one of their monthly meetings. This would reach out and touch people who are passionate about our outdoors and environment. Second, the same type of invitation I am sure could be had at the gun/knive shows. The promoters would gladly offer up table space to have a Conservation Officer and another representative in attendance. Then there are the box stores like Gander Mountain, Bass Pro and Cabela's where the DNR/DEQ should have a presence 3 to 4 times a year. The general public's perception of the DNR/DEQ is that of an adversary and not of an allie.

178 Re instate baiting and feeding deer

179 There should be some indication that public comments are taken in a receptive and concerned manner.

180 Do more public deer meetings and MDNR needs to better explain to the masses why more modern/QDM style regs are needed to control deer herds. The masses need to have it explained to them why certain things need to be done.
I would also do MDNR articles by biologists in Woods and Waters magazine explaining why things change and why they need to constantly change. If hunters don't know why, they get angry. If explained "why" we have certain rules and need new rules, it will settle them down a bit.

181 I was disappointed that the DNR and DEQ had to merge as we lobbied for the DEQ and wetlands protection and thought you were doing a good job.

182 I will participate if given the location, time and date with advance notice

183 I dont believe they listen to us (hunters & Fisherman) on ideas to help our resources.
184 only that the DEQ/DNR take the public seriously. CWD what's the status? Has it been found in free ranging deer?
185 Why they don't listen to the public more for one but stop the BSing about deer numbers and this whole ban on baiting in the LP! If that would end you would gane alot of trust and support from sportsman and women.
186 I just wish DNR would listen to public concerns a little more.
187 I just began using Facebook for DNR - DEQ information.
188 no
189 I would like to see the DNR listen to the public opinion on the overall deer heard health and population. I believe some of the regulations for zone 3 should be changed. Example, only 1 buck, or 4 points or more for both bucks (on both sides). Southern michigan has great potential for high quality deer. Look at Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. Why is their deer quality so much better? We need to look into their regulations, and possibly adopt their rules. I would like to see the focus be on the health of the herd not the $.
190 no
191 DNR needs to consider Michigan residents as partners and not an necessary evil.
192 Yes, make it well known and listen to what we have to say. Many people want changes and we don't seem to be getting them.
193 I would like the DEQ and DNR to actually listen to the sportsmen and sportswomen of this state. The departments are short handed as it is o the best resource they have are the sports people in the field. Also I would like decisions made based on what the actual sportmen and sportswomen want not based on who can influence them more politicaly. I know the departments know that as a group sports people will still by licenses and pay fees, and figure this money will always be there, but if you do not start listening to us those dollars will be spent else where. The people that take time out of there personal time to attend meeting and do serveys are the people you should be listening to not the groups that come to the office to lobby and fill your bank accounts. Show us that you are lookingout for the public and you will have more participation right now the public does not believe in or have trust in either the DNR or the DEQ, all you have to do is take a look at many website forums or even do a one question survey asking yes or no, do you trust the DNR and DEQ. Get the trust back and
194 the public needs to be involved more. we are out there seeing what is going on. ask us to give you our take on the seasons, one buck, anterless, etc. other states have big bucks, we can too but restrictions need to be in place
195 There is no silver bullet for public input and meeting the requirements of the law for considering public opinion and information. Many poor people, rural people, and others without resources may not have access to electronic tools -- you must assure that those who will be directly affected are notified. One thing not mentioned was a requirement to use signs at the site of a proposed action of a substantial period of time, with a phone number and address that tells someone how to find out more about what is proposed, with a real person at the agency who can answer those questions. DNR and DEQ are owned by the people of Michigan, not by the people or corporations who want permits or leases -- it is MOST important to assure that those owners of the state have full, easy, and multifaceted access to decisions that will affect their homes, their families and this state's future.
196 Nope
197 It's vital for the agencies to not go to all-electronic communications. There are still many people who don't use computers or email, and they need equal access to information. Posted signs on proposed sites of activity and public gathering places (grocery stores, etc), in local newspapers, and yes by email - all are important.

198 Active solicitation of public input, dissemination of complete information to the public and significant involvement of the public are essential for the best environmental programs.
199 Not at this time.
200 Please provide updates on what is being done to control the population of wolves in the UP.
201 Make your decisions based on sound biological science and not social science. I have heard over and over again, that what is right biologically cannot be done, because it doesn't work politically.
202 teach QDM to hunters not to just shoot deer after deer after deer.
203 Start taking license holders more seriously before we lose more participents.
204 remember proposal G, when you ignore it, I FEEL WHY BOTHER!!!!!
205 care about what hunters and fishermen say
206 I would love to see a one buck or earn a buck rule come in to effect I truely believe this would help or deer herd immensly. Along with a mandatory deer check in. Look at what Ohio and Wisconsin officials have done with their deer herds.
207 listen to the people,no politics ughhh
208 Be productive!!!! Listen to sportsman as they are in touch with what's going on in our forests, lakes, and rivers!!!!
209 Many people do not easy access to computers, so information needs to be on the internet and in the news media.
210 Both DEQ and DNR should use interested citizens to collect and report scientific data that might ultimately benefit the public. Some training may be required, but it would allow DEQ and DNR personel to interact with public in non adversarial situations
211 Why is our deer hunting season only 90 days when other states have longer hunting seasons? I would like to see our season go longer, as that would help decrease the heards to a more siutable living quality and reduce car, deer accidents. I live in Calhoun County, and on M-66 between the highway and Q drive south
there are at least a half dozen or more dead doe on the side of the road. That proves we need more time to help in reducing the heards to a stable population. By reducing them to suitable numbers, I believe that will decrease the amount of accidents. Sincerly, Leon DeLoof
212 keep our greatlakes safe and clean - a national treasure
213 I think the DNR/NRC/DEQ need to be held accountable for their actions. I feel every input should be considered based on merit, not based on political agenda.
214 It is important to recognize that there are many without computers and their voices will be unheard without additional outreach. Please do not hold any further public hearings where there is a bar (i.e. Bay Valley)
215 Facebook and Twitter are both lame and serious matters should never be posted in them.
216 In the past, it seems to me that the DEQ is only concerned with conducting hearings as they are required by law. They do not really seem to be interested in public comments, so the planners would have little incentive to ensure that the hearings are fair and well-moderated in a neutral venue.
217 I currently have a Facebook account, just haven't found DEQ/DNR on it yet. My plan is to find it and join the group.
218 More meetings on enviromental issues of concern to the public
219 DEQ needs to be disbanned. Bay county water is a joke . The air is even worst. EPA rates us a 30 on water and a 41 on air. Great job.
220 The agency should always be as accessible as possible

221 When a public process begins, stakeholders of ALL aspects should be involved, not just the loudest groups.
222 Do your best to keep those staff with experience with special projects and grants such as the Saginaw Bay/River AOC in their respective positions.
223 Staff of both are dedicated and talented individuals who will make the recombination work in spite of difficult and funding impossibilities
224 Neither regulatory DEQ nor resource management DNR have encompassed the hopes and expectations for Michigan as an environmental leader. Beyond hearings or petitioning a legislator, is it possible to build dialog with the public at large on a vision for the future?
225 THE MDNR MAGAZINE WAS WIDLY CIRCULATED, RESPECTED, AND MADE MONEY WHEN MADE BY DNR STAFF. THERE MUST BE A WAY TO REJUVENATE IT WITH THE LEGISLATURE. I BELIEVE IT WAS KILLED FOR SPITE. GLEN T. HARE. GLENHARE@THINKEXTREME. NET
226 Once the agencies are re-merged, their purpose should lean more toward cleanup, remediation, restoration and management, and much, much less toward property acquisition. To that end, it would seem the public would be considerably more willing to participate, since the public would see their monies going to something positive.
227 Yes, but too much for this limited space to accomodate.
228 clean water
229 The location should be more centrally chosen and of easy access for everyone. Yelisa.
230 Facilitated public input is best and most I think more useful. Ask specific questions and have the public answer them, before its a free for all.
231 overall I'm glad to have the chance to comment, and I feel the DNR/DEQ staff do a remarkable job of being buffeted back and forth!
232 The public doesn't have much voice in the proceedings and enactments of the DNR/DEQ.
233 get the everyday sportsman involved and not just private land owner and clubs
234 I feel more people should be made aware of the issues our state and region are dealing with. Unfortunately in the Detroit area, people don't know and many do not care. They are used to the "Motor City" mentality. The big 3. 380hp V8's. More Power! Bigger Engines! The American way!
People need to realize it is different now. Now we have to go back and try to fix all the damage that has been done to our planet. Alternative fuels, alternative energy and most important, alternative thinking!
235 No.
236 One comment related to resource managment: The CZM and the DNR are in need of developing a GL islands comprehensive management approach based on an island eco-system team approach or by Lake basin. By geographically separating resource mangement, it weakens the protection of these biologically unique and fragile areas. Management looks very much like large mainland land tracts. The State of Michigan has old enviromental assessments of many islands and have not put into place resource management approaches based on the best scientific data available. Thank you for providing an area for public comment/participation and be aware that many communities in northern Michigan do not have internet access.
237 Please forward my concerns to Joy Brooks' SUPERVISOR AT DEQ - HURON COUNTY so that I can have this request filled promptly.
238 Website updates are most informative and easiest to access for me.

239 Forget about PC opinion surveys. Just manage for wildlife.

240 read your woods and water we want qdm. what are you waiting for. michigan has become a joke.why?we want to shoot big bucks.michigan could be and should be a big buck state. ive been hunting for 28 years we want a change

241 I,m concerned about the joining of the two departments as I see the DEQ utilizing funds from from DNR generated by sprotsman. These funds were and are to be used for the benefit of wildlife and sportsman.

242 None

243 I really hope the funds are dispersed proportional to the amount of revenue each "trail" user produces. In short I hope it is fair. You can't take self supporting trail users funds to fund non-self supported trails. In short your best option is to make everyone buy a trail permit... Yes $35 each trail user! Then disperse the funds proportionally.

244 I could not be less satisfied with the MI DNR, and NRC. I can only speculate on how things will work now that the DNR and DEQ are combined. I suspect there will be even less priorities put on public interests than there were before.
In my opinion the DNR and NRC want to take money from the good people of this state without earning it. I don't trust you, I don't believe anything you say, and if it was up to me you would all be out of a job!!!

245 It should not be solely done through email or website. Not everyone has a computer or checks it frequently.

246 My concern is with the deer population in central to northern LP. The deer have been reduced too far. This year is the worst hunting season thus far. Not very many folks have seen deer. This is a trend of the last five years, each year is worse than the previous. We have fewer and fewer deer. The block permits for farmers is out of hand. I would like to see a 3 point minimum buck restriction for the entire state. It would make hunting more enjoyable.

247 need more walleye plantings in the upper pennsulia

248 I believe this baiting ban is neccessary but I dislike how it affects my bowhunting opprotunities.

249 The people that are coming up with the number of doe permits, need to spend some time out in the woods and count the actual deer that are out there. I"ve been a deer hunter for forty years and it makes me sad at what I'm seeing happen with my sport. I sit for days and not seeing one deer let alone a buck. I've talked to guys that just spent a week up north hunting and the whole group saw one deer. Back in the sixties I've counted as many as seventy deer pass by my stand. I hunt in Berrien county I saw one doe this year with a fawns I don't know what's happening but it's not right. You aways see does with young, but not this year. I hate to see what next year will bring. I hear a lot of coyote at dawn and daybreak, they maybe getting the fawns. We saw the pheasant disappear from southwest Mi. I don't want to see the whitetail deer to go the same way. My point is don't let the big insurance companies tell you how many doe permits to issue next year ask the one's that can give you the eye witness report the "Hunters" Thank You

250 yes when a person shoots a deer and leaves them lay why dont every one get the same punishment the law is the law please let me know thanks thetitan2@comcast.net

251 You need to listen to the people that pay your salary's and protect and manage our Natural Resources by having public meetings that are more accessible to the public and try to pay attention to what is being said.

252 wish the State of Michigan/DNR website was easier to navigate. Very hard site to negotiate (SOM site)

253 mail questionairs to the public,use the results for a % of your decisions.

254
yes talk to hunters about hunting/bag limits, and hunting seasons. Get new ideas on how to generate more revenue for DNR. Thank You

255 Being retired and living on Soc Sec.. I can't afford to pay $150 or more for a out of State lic.
I own property & pay taxes in Irons, Mi and would think it would be possible to get a resident license or a cheaper license for seniors.
Thank You
Gary Sevison

256 there has/was very little communication over the govenors executive order concerning the fate of mndr/mdnre and the ocean policy task force

257 Do something about our pheasant population it is nonexistant , get rid of the December hunt it don't make sence. buy ringnecks from China and re-populate the thumb like it used to be.

258 Just another bullshit poliitical div of state government

259 I believe the DNR and it's moneys should remain just that. Keep the sportsman's paid funds for wildlife

260 I understand that feeding deer will be acceptable next year with the possession of a $25 permit issued by the DNR - is that true?

261 Put a face/name to the community being served.

262 none

263 Yes, the DNR should listen and the DEQ needs to follow the law for once.

264 No

265 Keep up the good work and protect out natural resources!

266 no

267 Not enough deer in the UP. Get rid of the wolves.

268 no!

269 no

270 Very concerned with the wholesale slaughter of the deer population in NE Michigan. It appears that DNR is interested in only the farmers and
insurance companies, and not in the general hunting poulation. It is no wonder that hunter numbers are down. Four hunters in my party, hunting for 10 days on public land saw a total of 1 doe and 1 fawn. We hunted in northern Iosco, and southern Alcona and NE Ogema counties.

271 You should ask landowners and year-round residents their opinions/advice on local deer population.

272 I thought this was a link for OUR deer survey

273 combining the two agencies is the start of the end. DNR has been spread to thin. Poaching is at an all time high.

274 Fix the age structure of our deer herd!

275 provide a public explaination as to the DNR approach to whitetail deer management.

276 Listen to the public, they are seeing more than any biologist in a lab or in a small land tract to study. I know its hard to please everyone, but when the majority views things the same, shouldn't you at least listen?

277 I feel that the DNR does not actually take public opinoin into consideration. I have seen it personnally and state wide with the whitetail deer issues.

278 the dnr should not be in the qdm business. The dnr should be looking at raw numbers of deer, not rack size. If rack size matters so much to a deer harvester, go to one of the many game farms and harvest the size you want. With the stupid and secretive bringing in of wolves and cougars, there won't be deer around for many years either. Nobody trusts a thing the dnr says because of the lies they have been trying to get people to believe for so many years.

279 Yes I VERY UNHAPPY with the DEQ/DNR Management of the deer in Michigan. 20 years ago we would see at least 15 to 30 deer buy end of opening day. Now we heard 5 shots made in 2 days, with no activity. We have called and talk to many other hunters and they feel the same way. This is a bad joke. I feel that the results speaks for itself. My family has quit hunting. My sons dont understand how anyone could have any fun sitting in the Michigan woods with this kind of results.
I am looking to start a grass root blog protesting your miss management! The issuing of all the dear tags has brought the population to its knees.

Also, the baiting ban is also a joke. other parts of state and country allow this. The fact of that one pent of deer brought in and killed does not deam this to be an approiate action for the baiting ban.

We are NOT with you!

280 lift the no baiting restrictions

281 Please resrore deer baiting..We lost 8 hunters out of 12. Hard to hunt North of West Branch without baiting deer. Make it: can only feed 5 gallons of feed, only corn would be OK. bye.

282 none

283
They need to let people know well in advance about their meetings on the media circuit as well as papers fliers and such and make it more accessable not group the entire up in marquette have the meetings in houghton or bruce crossing places like that so people can attend

284 open avenues to accept comments and ideas for hunting and fishing

285 There should be more then one opportunity because some people work shifts and with just one meeting some people can't attend

286 Eliminating the Snowmobile Advisory Commitee (SAC) is a bad sign. It shows that the Administration is short sighted as to what brings money to the state and helps local small buisiness and that the funds from snowmobile activity which are clearly user provided are going to be siphoned of with no transparency.

287 We need better deer management policies. Even a limited hunt to bring back our bigger herds back into state land.

288 no

289 Seems that the general publics input means nothing decisions are already made and meetings and postings are just formalitys to cover butt.

290 MI DNR is political lobyist driven, public opinion is of secondary importance.

291 Don't like the combining of DNR and DEQ. Very bad idea! The DNR does not have the funding now to do a good job.

292 MI DNR are doing a fantastic job on hunting, fishing and all outdoor issues. Keep up the good work. P.S. NO BAITING IN MICHIGAN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

293 As I have offered many times before, I would welcome phone calls or emails that would allow me to share many years of outdoor experience in an effort to help make our state a better place to spend time outdoors.

sincerely Richard LaVere (rlavere@charter.net)(989-450-0762)

294 The DNR has not been receiptive of complaints regarding snowmobile use on cross country ski trails. This too is an important source of tourism that the state has overlooked. Many skiers are turned off by the lack of trails and the abuse of what little trails there are by snowmobilers. There is too little education on how the use of snowmobiles on ski trails ruins the trails for that use and the snowmobile association and the DNR continues to downplay the issue. Other states have found that cross country ski trails have brought in great revenue with less environmental damage, less oversight and certainly less polluting and quiet.

295 no

296 Keep politics out of game and fish management. Let the biologists make the decisions.

297 Not at this time.

298 I believe that the meetings are very useful and even though for some folks they are just a personal venting venue, I feel that the transparency of the DNR is extremely important in these days of mixed opinion on the trust worthyness of its leadership. The DNR also has to realize that all of its public statements need to be completely straight forward and honest, so as not to reinforce the recent distrust created with the license fee increase issue a year ago

299

It has never has been a public friendly place to get info and I would bet that I am not the only person to agree with this. It is nice to see that the two departments are joining but, some part of the DNR is still there witch is a real disappointment. We need a department that has concern for the wildlife and the hunters not just concern of how much money they can put in the bank. Please get someone who can actually count and be honest in the deer numbers. This ban on baiting in lower Michigan is way off base there is more CWD in Wisc. that borders the UP then there is in lower Michigan, (one case in kent county) please pull your heads out of your rearends

300 Most of the meetings look like they are just for public relations. The DNR has already made up its mind and just wants to create an impression that it's interested in the public's opinion.

301 The UP should be regulated as it's own,from lower Michigan.

302 I would like to know why we need an early doe season in semptember or a youth hunt? I never had any of those when i was growing up and did just fine hunting. I have noticed a huge decline in seeing deer. When you have these early hunts all the people out there shoot button bucks, small does and small bucks.

303 As a Michigan resident, hunter and fisherman, I have been dissatisfied with my in person contact with the staff when I have voiced my concerns with the direction of some of the issues or direction that the DNR has taken with Michigan's resources.

304 I think they need to listen to the people that hunt in each county rather than base rules and quotas off what someone sitting behind a desk thinks is right. Example. The baiting ban is ridiculus and should have been lifted a long time ago. Now our deer herd has been hurt severly by the people sitting behind their desk guessing what is going on in each county. Pick a few guys from each county in michigan and nominate them to a board and vote on rules and regulations and quotas

305 Yes, more handicap accessable hunting opportunities.

306 I'd like to know how deer hunters can provide input.

307 Bad idea to combine the two agencies

308 they need to care about the game,all these tags in the (TB)zones is an outrage.Killing all the deer because of one pen raised deer and destroying our quality of hunting we used to know is unacceptable, your driving more people to other states to hunt where the quality of game is better and we can hunt with our children without age limatations.Even the U.S.fish and wildlife service agree that parents should decide when children are ready,not government.I dont think you have any idea how many sportsman your obnoxious officers,poor game numbers,and not being able to hunt with our childern, have taken their familys and dollars to other states.I,m one,Iknow a dozen others,and they all know a few.When no one hunts here anymore it will be because of the DNR your current practices are destroyin what used to be a pretty good place to enjoy the outdoors.Now we need to go elsewhere to enjoy what we once had.LOOK at the number of hunters today.

309 I brought reuse to michigan to lesson paperwork and generator status for the state. I have worked with the watershed coilition on water based cleaners. I still stand shaken my head at the lack of resonable applications. In the DEQ and the DNR both.

310 yes separate deq and dnr let the dnr run it self

311 Nope, like Nike. Just do it!

312 I do not like the Governors EO for the DNR/DEQ Merger. She has no right to take away the ORV Advisory Board from User's who pay fee's to have their voices heard.

313 How about making it a no spike rule for the whole state? It is working in the Tawas area(135)

314 if requested to send by e-mail notification of upcoming hunting entry deadlines; like for spring turkey, bear licenseing and doe permits

315 Out law shooting spikes. Unless it is your first ever deer season deer tags should be good for 2 or more points on one side. IF we don't shoot spikes more of those deer will make it to maturity. They are much smarter at 2.5 than 1.5 yrs. Less of these bucks will get shot at 2.5 than at 1.5.

316 It seems to me and others I've talked to that the deer population is very low in the U.P. Does the DNR feel that the wolf population has attributed to the decline in deer? If so, are there any management plans to decrease the wolf population?
While hunting in the U.P. this past deer season we saw very few deer, significantly fewer deer than we normally see. Also we saw less deer sign than ever, while seeing and hearing more wolves and wolf sign than in years past.

317 yes...do we really need a youth hunt...and why so early when bow hunting starts the next week

318 Like most public officers, you people work for the citizens the the Great State of Michigan and need to adhere to their wishes.

319 No. However I would like to thank the mindless nimrod that reintroduced the wolves to the UP and ruined so many peoples pleasure of deer hunting.

320 I want a vote on what happens. Anter regulation, Doe harvest, ecct.

321 The dnr to hold meetings in the southwestern michigan area.

322 dnr needs to be a bit more trasparent to the public. Honesty is the best policy, even if you are in the wrong.

323 There are still alot of people that do not use twitter or facebook. It may look like a good option however people do not want to open themselfs up to the clutter on the sites. It is my opinion that website surveys do not truely reflect public opinion on issues such as baiting deer.

324 There needs to be more accessible, simplified resources for education on issues and possibly some sort of calender for meetings/events so people can plan to attend. I don't know if there is a page on facebook, but that would give people updates on issues and ways to be proactive as well.

325 no

326 I would hope that if I take the time to voice my opinion about something that obviously matters to me, someone would have the time to listen, comment, or respond in some way back.

327 I'd like to know when the baiting ban in the Lower Peninsula is going to be lifted. I feel the ban was too extreme considering the one deer found with CWD was a privately owned deer in a fenced in enclosure that was not exposed to the wild deer herd. It would seem to me that the clown who owned that deer smuggled it into Michigan and now all of us are suffering for it. Lift the ban, I've read the literature and what the Michigan DNR has done is overkill. But I still want to know when the ban will be lifted.

328 none

329 Giving tags if you have a Cow.. Letting farmers shoot all the Deer they want..

330 listen to the people

331 my concern is the michigan dnr does not listen to the public.

332 When will they leave our deer herd alone and let it come back to a ecient level.land owners have a lot of money invested in their only to have the DNR issue a pile of doe permits in the area and shoot them off. Their deer counting system is a joke and not iven close....shouuld look at the way other states do things because the Mich.way is all wrong.Have a cottage and hunting land in Gladwin county can`t even hind a deer in this area but still almost 10,000 doe permits were issued.Huron country on the other hand has deer all over the place and 12.000 permits were issued,come on now !!!!!!1,000 permits in Gladwin would be too many.

333

tax break on preserving woodlands for wildlife for private owners.owning property without building on it should not be considered a luxery!

334 You should consider actually listening to the hunting public. the DNR should consider viewing forums such as michigan sportsman. As a whole sportsmen do not believe the DNR is doing a good job managing the herd and making sound biological decisions.

335 Keep up the good work in protectinjg and managing our natural resources

336 The DNR needs to participate with local enviromental orgaizations

337 My specific example is the elimination of the snowmobile advisory committee. This was a self funded enterprise that was eliminated WITHOUT PUBLIC INPUT.

338 whake up go to 1 buck now

339 I would like to see more public participation and follow ups or outcomes of public opinion.

340 yes

341 Listen to the hunters before there is no hunting. The drop in hunters and deer kills should be telling you's something and it aint the weather. The numbers dont lie.

342 It would be nice to have a few just ordinary hunters and fishermen on some of the advisory panels, rather than simply members of this or that group, that all have an agenda of some sort!

343 they need to look at all the deer seasons the deer are hunting for amost three months out of the year that is way to much

344 My general impression is that public meetings set up by the DNR are designed to defend a decision or direction that the DNR has already decided to take rather than listening to the views of licensed hunters. (e.g., the baiting ban in the L.P.)

345 one of the previous questions asked how i would like to be contacted or notified, i put by phone, yet it never asked for my number. well here it is, 810-765-3898, lets see if i get a reply

346 it don't matter you do what you want anyway

347 Nope, I think I said everything I needed to say

348 It is good to know what the public thinks on topics of concern, but desisions should be based on scientific results of studies done in Mi and other states. Topics are usually controversial, and Joe Public typically expresses opinions based on feel good ideas, and not necessarily after educating himself.

349 None right now! Thanks though.

350 Dnr/Deq have screwed most projects up or plans they have handled, the baiting fiasco, more people baiting then ever,check bait sales. People are being more creative with baiting. Try to get a return call from deq. Left many messages in Gaylor office, no return call, have left message in Cadillac office and did get return call.

351 I only wish these agencies were more intersted in actually taking the public opinion more seriously .

352 no

353 Try being honest with the public. I view your Biologists as most dishonest. It's a possibility they are only holding the company line as described by their superiors, but that shows a total disregard to the public.

354 YES!! I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE DOE HUNT IN SEPTEMBER STOPPED BY THE DNR!

355 Yes I do. There should be a lot more public participation, in order to protect the natural resources/privilages that we have available to us in this great state. Here's a start...Stop accepting garbage from Canada, and if not then charge $20 per ton. And the threat of severe punishment for dumping waste into our Great Lakes.

356 hope this department can force Grand Rapids to stop dumping sewer in the river after heavy rains. It doesn't seem that the DEQ ever made any effort. In fact I didn't see any reason not to eliminate that Agency for years. What have they been doing all this time.

357 the dnr should take over the nrc and rebbecca humphries should resign

358 get in touch with the real outdoor world get out from behind the desk I,ll be glad to help you.feeding and baiting what a joke.

359 as in the past record in working with the hunting and outdoor people whom have problems with hunting, and outdoor activities, this is just another activity that will do nothing what the outdoors people wish to have done. Look at what all the complaints about excessive TB doe taking has ruined the deer hunting in the state of michigan. STOP DOE HUNTING. THE TB ISSUE IS NOT A REAL THING. Meetings have done nothing to improve this problem. The DNR does not listen to the people of Michigan. What good will this new agency do. The answer is as usual NOTHING.

360 This is a bs survey. All it really asked me was how I read about the governmental bs. the state of MI should start thinking about creating jobs and revenue instead of reducing jobs by combining useful departments. How about eliminating some useless senate and house jobs or taking lifetime benefits away from people who have means to secure their future. The state could benefit from both of these departments. MI is an outdoor/tourist state why dont we gear to help our state with these depts instead of shrinking them. Must be future revenue and education fall into the same catagorie. None of which are as important as a senator or represenatives retirement. Lets get things right for our future and stop the nonsense in the government offices. Start by making the right cuts instead of screwing over what residents we have left!

361 Deer hunting, turkey hunting and fishing should be the major focus of the DNR. Maintenance of campgrounds benefits lower middle class and middle classs famlies. It is inexpensive recreation for the main stream outdoor family. I benchmark MI DNR performance against Wyoming and Missouri. MI is not competative nor does it provide the service.

362 Even though 60% of Michigan's population lives in S.E. Michigan, it is difficult to find a DNR/DEQ meeting to attend that is within a reasonable distance or timeframe. Sometimes, it appears that the Department "hides" in Lansing behind distance and business hours to avoid true contact with a larger audience of people. The recent equestrian bullsh$#@! is a prime example.

363 How can this merger of two financially broke departments and State with too many Chiefs and not enough Indians be any better then it was before DNRE?

364 Will it do any good? Do not merge, start serving the people of Michigan and not your political masters and as usual I will not expect anything from you but what your political masters tell you what they want for us.

365 Do not take away our resources because you can't patrol them.

366 listen to the sportsman and ladys of this state that buy and support these departments by buying liesenes.and forget the polotics

367 Everyone here in the UP is sick of the wolves we got shoved up our ass's, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!!

368 no

369 I believe the DNR have mismanaged the deer population in the State of Michigan. It is pretty bad when you can sit for 7 days from sun up to sun down and not see a single deer! In years past before the introduction of wolves that some morans in Lansing decided to introduce to the state, a person would see multiple deer in a days time. I realize that Mother Nature plays a big part in the decreased amounts of deer, but the wolf introduction hasn't helped things any either. Another issue that I find to be a JOKE is the DNR's kill survey. Why doesn't Michigan adopt a check-in method such as Ohio's that requires one to check their deer with a check-in station to acquire their kill tag?

370 They need to involve hunters in the dission making. That is who it effects!!

371 I am 49 and have been hunting &fishing in michigan since i was a child. currently i believe the dnr does more damage for mi. fish&wildlife and sportsmen then good.

372 yes call 313-255-9193 /7am-4pm

373 Yeah, you all expect us to bring our deer into check stations, well leave them check the road kill, there is alot of them. No baiting, less deer being shot. What gives the DNR the right to enter peoples property, when the sheriff or state cant do it without a warant. Why do they all have this "I'm God complex". Every DNR officer I have talked with, even if I'm not even hunting or fishing is, "sorry to say it like this, but its only the truth" a DICK. Alot of the public has lost the respect for the officers because they are so rude.

374 You do fantastic. Help reduce/eliminate wolves and coyotes. Michigan needs money. Deer, turkey, elk, rabbits, etc. help contribute money.

375 no other than you people need to start listening to the people that spend time in the woods

376 please keep the devoted staff at the DNR who promote camping, tourism, hunting, fishing ! the deq is too dissimilar to be merged or share any duties with our good ambassadors of the great outdoors in Mich

377 Do a better job educating the public on the need for hunting in this state. Wild pigs are not a concern, car - deer accidents are.
NEVER use my license fees for anything other than improving hunting and fishing in this state.
Listen to hunters. Adopting gun hunting from tree stands and hunting with crossbows took years longer than it should have. If it works in other states it can work here.
Implement a better reminder system for annual hunt drawing applications (Bear, Turkey, Etc.). You are losing money if hunters forget when to apply.

378 they should be left the way they were

379 Minimize the impact of comments from people with vested interests, e.g. guides, charter captains.

380 To bad it doesnt work...the paying public have lost their voices to governmental control....no common sense principles can b heard let alone used.

381 you need to hire people that know somthing about deer hunting and managment of deer.There should not be a youth hunt a early doe season or a late doe season.Are deer season in michigan goes way to long in late doe season they are already bred. I shot a doe with two fawns in her made me sick.Early season it is way to warm to be killing deer and it spooks them for us bowhunters they start running after dark.

382 I think that there should be more regulations on deer ranches like the one that had the CWD deer. I also think that the bating ban has hurt the hunting industry and discouraged many new and old time hunters to the point of disgust with the DNR and its director.

383 I believe that when putting this order into effect you neglected to get the publics opinion on how this will effect revenues from trail riders in Michigan like snowmobilers. The Michigan Snowmobile Advisory Committee, as I understand it, is now abolished along with the Michigan Trailways Advisory Council. Michigan Snowmobilers pay to have the trails maintained and contribute a healthy amount towards the states revenues. I don't see how the public if notified about this would be so accepting. I understand that in tough economic times we must conserve and tighten the slack, but in an area that brings such great revenue from within and from non-residents to Michigan, I would hate to see such a great sport die in Michigan.

384 Why do you guys hinder hunting and fishing ? You should be promoting it. Your DNR officers are not promoting outdoor friendliness. They think every sportsman is a criminal. Get a grip guys!!!

385 no

386 you need to make a two week crossbow hunt in septerber and a week more to shot gun deer hunt hunt in Numerber. And put a stop all the baiting and people to who sell bait too. Start leting hunter know that food plots are the way to go for deer .

387 I,M TIRED OF THE DNR REVOLVING EVERYTHING AROUND OUR WHITETAIL HERD AND TURKEYS. WHAT ABOUT PHESANTS?

388 Just that I would like to see more conservation officers in the field

389 I have been hunting in the U.P. for years. I feel that the DNR should get back to the 1 Buck limit for all seasons combined. It used to be one you met someone, you would say "Did you get your buck"? Now days, its "How many did you get"? Combination licenses are just a money making deal. I purchase and out of state license. Besides the fact that the enormous wolf population in the U.P. has definitely taken a bite out of the deer population enough already, why shoot more deer? Everyone knows across the U.P. that the wolves are a hot subject. The DNR stated that the had a bad winter last year, well not according to the people that live there! Your own wildlife biologist in a U.P. newspaper, stated that the U.P. didnt have a bad winter. I really think, that the DNR should really consider, going back to the 1 buck limit and quit worrying about the tourist end of it. You say "Let em go, let em grow", well how about a one buck tag, for six points or better? Letting deer grow is also Quality Deer Management. The DNR should really listen to the people who are out there sitting in the woods and

390 I think you have taken a toll on mi business with your bait ban alot of mom an pop stores count on the sells ,all of this when mi is in depression you should be ashamemed

391 I think that some of the descions being made should reflect more of the publics opion and ideas.

392 It doesn't matter anyhow.

393 Require that responses to questions and comments be addressed with science, logic, and facts.

394 I have not been able to apply for a license last year and this year because of the poor design of your web site.????? can I do this on the phone?

395 I have not heard of an opportunity to publicly comment on the proposed Crystal Lake Boat Launch, Benzie Co.

396 I fully support the Michigan DNR and wish more of my tax dollars would be used to support there hard work and not wasted on other things.

397 Now that I have computer acess I have the information to attend a town hall meeting

398 Cut out the damn doe permits

399 Yeah. I've had the opportunity to search for information at the websites of a lot of different states' DNRs. Michigan's is the most difficult to navigate and the one that seems designed to prevent citizens from becoming informed instead of to assist them in that task. Very weak, and it has been since its inception.

400 no

401 i filled out hunting survrey and there was no place to fill out opions. when you disagree on a sublects thanks carl

402 It needs to accomodate non-attendees.

403 listen to the public demands and requests

404 I wonder if DNR ever really listens to the people who hunt and fish regularly in Michigan, or do they just listen to themselves make the laws etc. that concern the rest of us..

405 If you keep letting people shoot 2 bucks and several does every year you won't have to worry about selling lic. there won't be any deer left. I've been hunting for 42 years and this is the worst year I have ever seen for seeing deer. I've heard several other people say the same thing. Your paying customers are leaving the sport fast, because of you peoples greed.

406 would like to see the baiting restriction lifted and wonder why you would the dnr allow a bicycle marathon to take place during hunting season in brighton

407 I believe that the merger is method to divert Pittman Robertsons funds to support the DEQ

408 I think you have taken the deer herd down so far it is not worth getting a license in newaygo co. and most of southern mecosta co.

409 The 2009 deer hunting season in my opinion was an absolute joke. The State of Michigan has completely destroyed the sport of deer hunting because of the excessive distribution, sale of antlerless deer permits leading to the lack of deer on state public land. I am in support of the "NO Baiting Law" but based on the number of facilities in the state which sell unlimited amounts of sugar beets, corn, apples etc the law is NOT ENFORCED at all and is completely disregarded by the private landowners and many hunters in general. If the law is to be enforced, then the busineses which sell these items must be fined or ticketed for each sale and likewise the hunter which uses these baiting items. Like any other lawbreaker, ie poacher, these hunters should suffer consequences by losing their hunting privileges.

410 combining them under Granholm's was one more nail on the sign that she is one of the worst Govenor/Governess we have EVER had.

411 need more rangers during the week to protect seniors

412 The deer harvest is down because of the farmers not cutting the miles of corn feilds in a timely manner to allow a better deer havest. Cutting the feilds before hunting season will give hunters a better opporunity to harvest and help manage the large deer populations.

Thanks

413 I THINK THAT IN WAYNE COUNTY THERE NEEDS TO BE A BETTER WAY OF EXPLAINING WHERE PEOPLE CAN HUNT I LIVE IN CANTON THE LAW STATES THAT THERES NO HUNTING WITH A FIREARM EAST OF CANTON CENTER RD DOES THAT INCLUDE BOW AND ARROWS CAUSE IT SAYS ANYTHING THAT SHOOTS A PROJECTILE?

414 Just be sure to gather your info on key issues like deer population numbers and how you manage and issue permits and licenses from good sources across the state. Share those with us and let's make a decision on the value of the deer herd not the $$$ in your coffers. We may take a license revenue hit for a few years but if managed correctly all of us will win in the long run

415 YES, There is alot of buzz right now about the deer baiting ban, the crossbow rights, and the catering to the south zone folks. First off the deer baiting ban has really made the DNR have a really poor public image. In 2 years not one single additional case of CWD, remove the ban or limit the ban to the 9 county area around the ranch. This decision looks to be made with emotion instead of sound scientific data. Crossbows, tell me what makes it right to allow only the favored south zone hunters to use this weapon. Open the whole state to this weapon and let the hunter decide. Don't force the decision down my throat, I'm have a hard time swollowing this dumb DNR decision. This leads to my final thought about the opportunities the south zone receives over the rest of the state. Do you people wonder why the Dove Hunting was lost? Let me tell you why, you alienated the majority of the states hunters by only allowing dove hunting in the SOUTH ZONE! Late doe season only in the SOUTH ZONE! Late goose season only in the SOUTH ZONE! Crossbow hunting for everyone only in

416 stop sprearing muskies through ice

417 Just spend some time talking to hunter instead of insurance agencies and farmers who don't let anyone hunt on their frams. National forest is where alot of poeople still hunt and would enjoy on seeing game.

418 They should listen to the public. Quet spending all our lience money on airplanes to check bait piles. Do somthing constructive with it. Quit wasting it.

419 I'm just concerned that the ols DEQ will take money from the funds recieved from sportsman and taxes and license fees If licenses increase? Will it be an action caused by the merger.

420 you should listen to regerstered hunters people who have bought at least 2 lic in the past 5 years

421 The deer baiting ban has left many hunters ready to quit deer hunting. If you can not waqrch deer, then deer hunting is not much fun. Sitting in the barber shop, it appears that most of the successful deer hunters are baiting anyway leaving those of us that will not break the law nothing to see nor harvest

422 where is the deer

423 very unhappy with the recent feeding restrictions for the deer herd in the lower peninsula. The 2.5 gallon limit was already in affect and any limitations to this should have concentrated on the counties surrounding the problem area of one CWD animal. There are too many deer in the lower peninsuala and this contradicts the DNR management practices to help lower the size of the herd.

424 no

425 Maybe have public info broadcast on the local public access channel and website

426 Yes. I also have hunted bear and I feel it is very disgusting to have a youth hunt start on the same day. Bear season is so short and when you stir up the woods with young hunters, it just means you have paid for a bear license for nothing. Another disguting season when there are no deer left.

427 With this new Legislation being rammed down our throats on the Horse riding thru State Forest lands - I am very afraid that we are all about to lose alot of fish/wildlife funding and setting Conservation back 100 years in this State, VERY SAD !!!

428 Voters overwhemingly voted to have regulations be set by commision based on sound principles of wildmanagement.I personally know that at least one commisioner favors hunters only able to take one buck a year even thought your biolgists report that the ability to purchase second liscense resulted in an insignificant affect on the resource. As a retired wildlife manager for USFWS I know that there is no scientific evidense that antler restriction improve the health of the herd. At a time when we need more people in the sport regulations seen to point toward discouraging them. We are told that we need to harvest more deer when regulations in fact reduce the harvest. CWD would obviously be devestating but none has been found except for that one even though you have done an outsanding job of surveying. Baiting (while disturbing to some) is a valid management tool and to some of us elder hunters may be the only way we can have a reasonable opportunity for success. Please consider the majority of your constituants and not a few vocal interests. Telling me that

429 NO!!!!

430 I took this survey to tell you what I think. I am very disappointed with a couple items in the Hunting and Fishing regulations.

First: I see no logical reason why Fishing Licenses expire on March 31. With the electronic license system we have they should expire 1 year from the date of purchase. This will allow more people to get the 4 license purchased at one time discount.

Second: Why make it so hard to find out what the age for Senior Citizen Discounted Licenses is? This should be stated where licenses are purchased on the website. Would it be so hard to include there? I did finally find it for a friend after much searching.

These are such simple things to take care of, but I suppose it will take an act of legislation before it can be accomplished.

Thank you,
Ron O'Dell

431 do something about the wolves and terrible hunting and fishing around here

432	please lift the bait ban
433	Yes I am appalled that you would shut down a large income source for farmers (and I am not a farmer) on the bases of one animal in captivity that was brought in from out state. Clearly you were waiting for any excuse to shut down baiting in the lower penn. Baiting is great for our economy, makes a level playing field against those who are going to bait anyway,and keeps the deer moving around during hunting season after they are spooked. Allowing the U.P. to have this privledge and not the lower Penn, is not only unfair but allows over population and danger of extra deaths of people on our roads. What are you thinking?
434	None at this time.
435	Michigan DNR has the deer hunting experience at an all time low. Many of us including myself hunt Ohio and Indiana instead because of the experience.
436	I have been trying to get an answer for my question and i keep getting the run around. There is a law that states that you are not allowed to use a "cocking" device to hold your "bowstring" at full draw. My simple question is the is how are crossbows legal and/or why can't you do the same with a compound (for the people that would rather use a compound but are physically unable to hold all that weight.) If this law was reversed in the first place you wouldn't even have to have crossbows legalized

Staff Survey Results
(Internal)

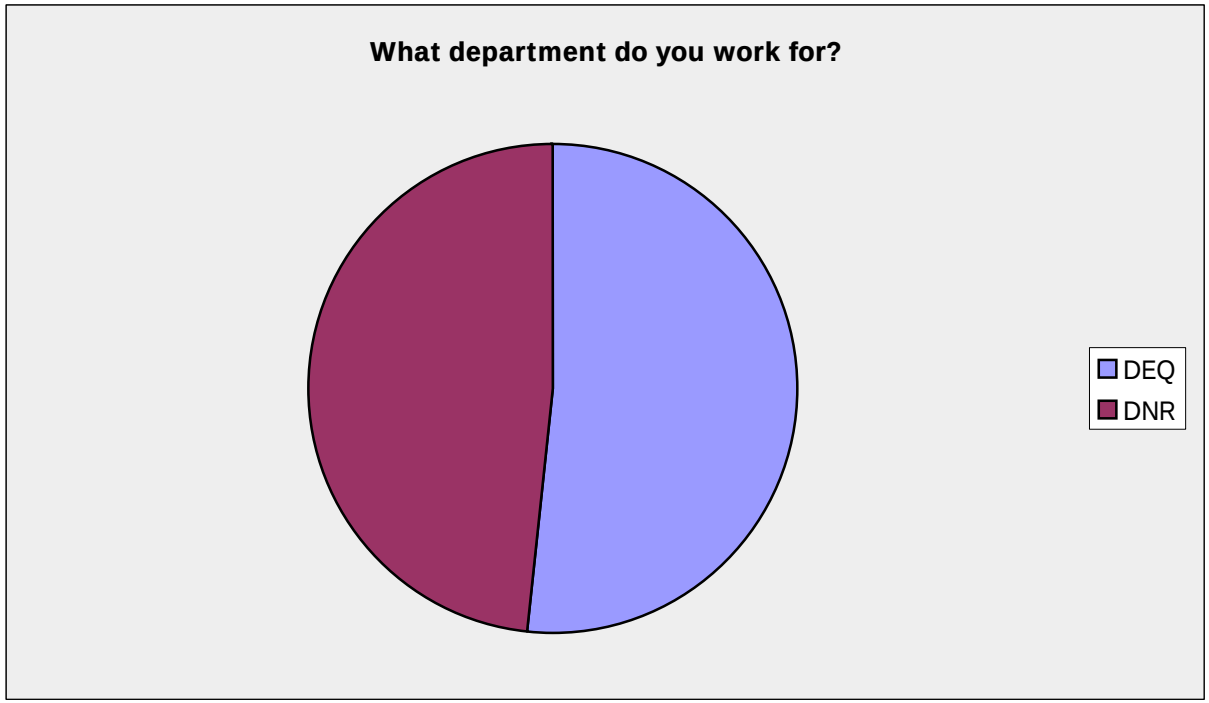
2009-2010 DNRE Action Learning Team Project

Encouraging, Managing, and Responding to Public Comment

Spring 2010

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

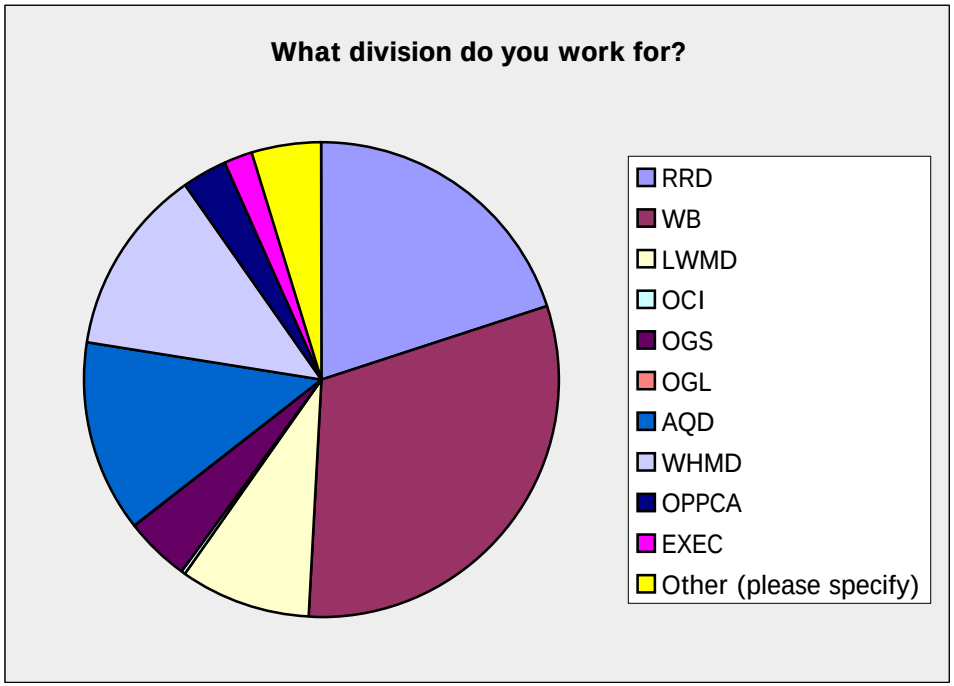
Q1: What department do you work for?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
DEQ	51.7%	483
DNR	48.3%	451
	answered question	**934**
	skipped question	**0**



DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q2. What division do you work for? (DEQ Staff Only)

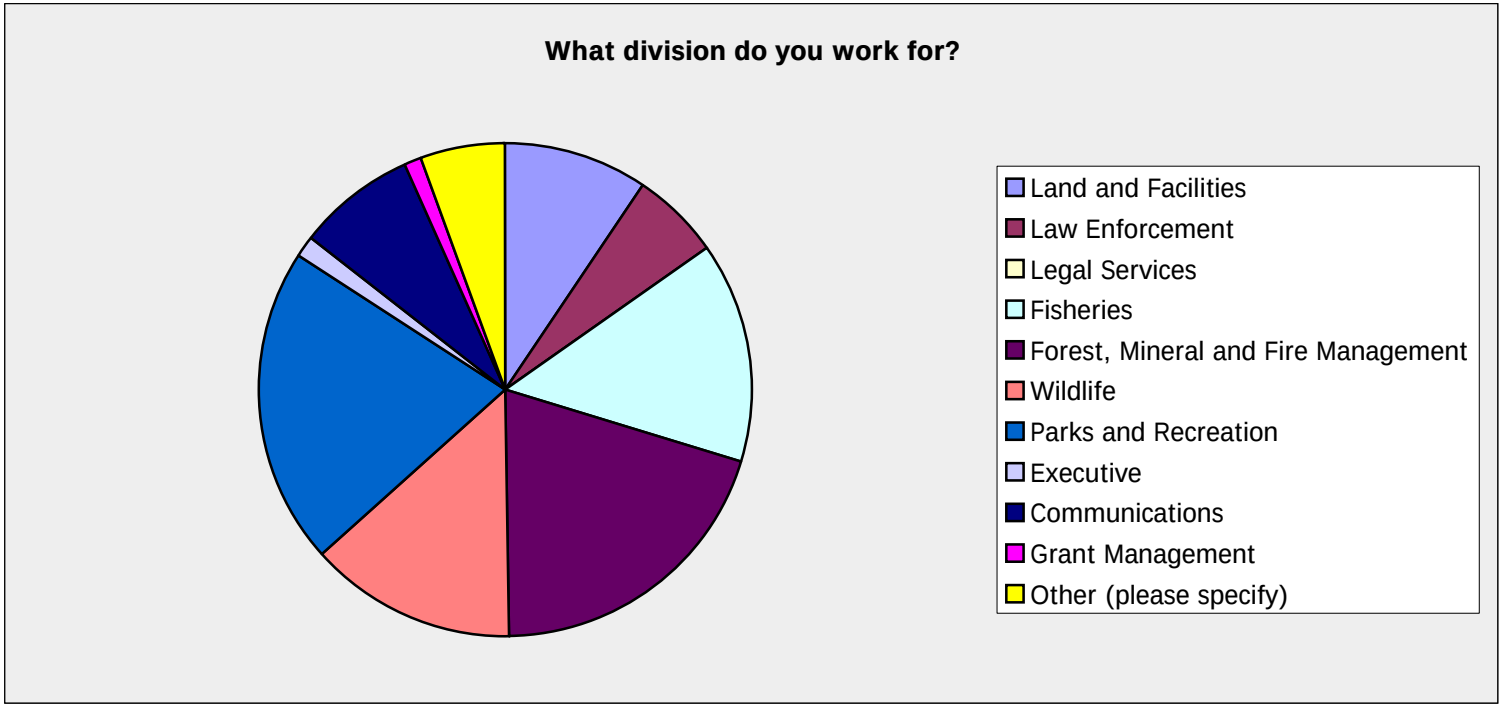
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
RRD	20.1%	95
WB	30.7%	145
LWMD	8.9%	42
OCI	0.2%	1
OGS	4.4%	21
OGL	0.0%	0
AQD	13.1%	62
WHMD	12.9%	61
OPPCA	3.0%	14
EXEC	1.9%	9
Other (please specify)	4.7%	22
	answered question	**472**
	skipped question	**462**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	fbsd
2	FBSD
3	FBSD
4	FBSD
5	FBSD
6	OHR
7	OCI
8	finance
9	FBSD
10	OHR
11	FBSD
12	FBSD
13	OGS and AQD
14	I am secretary for both WHMD and AQD in the district
15	FBSD
16	both OGS and OPPCA
17	FBSD
18	FBSD
19	Financial and Business Services Division
20	Financial Business and Services Division
21	FBSD
22	FBSD

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q3. What division do you work for? (DNR Staff Only)		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Land and Facilities	9.4%	42
Law Enforcement	5.8%	26
Legal Services	0.2%	1
Fisheries	14.2%	63
Forest, Mineral and Fire Management	20.2%	90
Wildlife	13.5%	60
Parks and Recreation	20.7%	92
Executive	1.6%	7
Communications	7.6%	34
Grant Management	1.1%	5
Other (please specify)	5.6%	25
	answered question	**445**
	skipped question	**489**

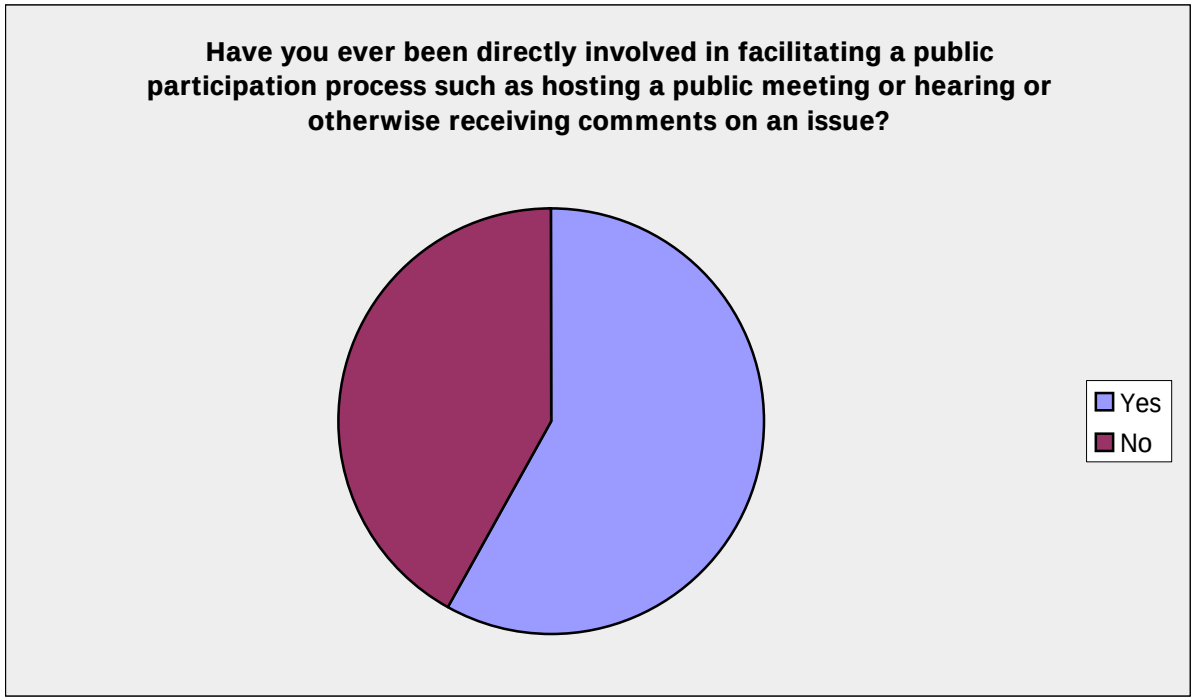


Number	Other (please specify)
1	rrd
2	OLAF/FOS
3	r
4	FINANCIAL SERVICES
5	Adm support
6	Office of Financial Services
7	Mackinac Island State Park Commission
8	Financial Services
9	Financial Services
10	Office of Financial Services
11	Budget and Support Services
12	Mackinac Island State Park Commission
13	Emergency Management
14	HR
15	Financial Services
16	Human Resources
17	admin
18	Budget and Support Services
19	MISPC
20	no comment
21	Office of Financial Services
22	Human Resources
23	HR
24	Mackinac Island State Park
25	Budget

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

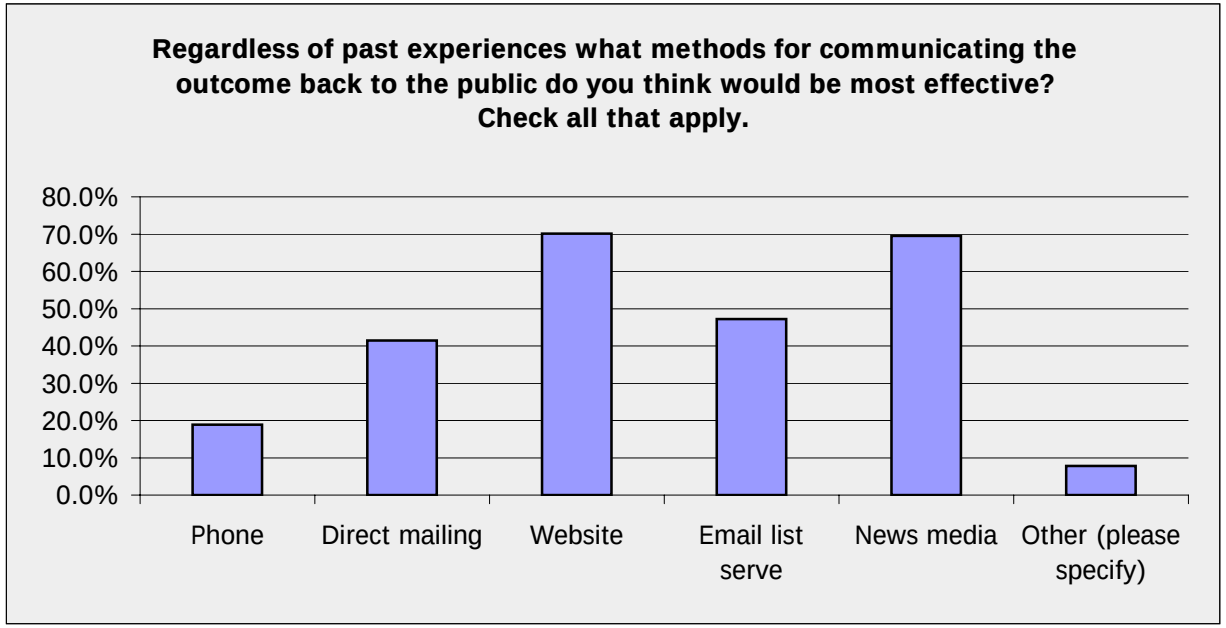
Q4. Have you ever been directly involved in facilitating a public participation process such as hosting a public meeting or hearing or otherwise receiving comments on an issue?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	58.0%	528
No	42.0%	383
	answered question	**911**
	skipped question	**23**



DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

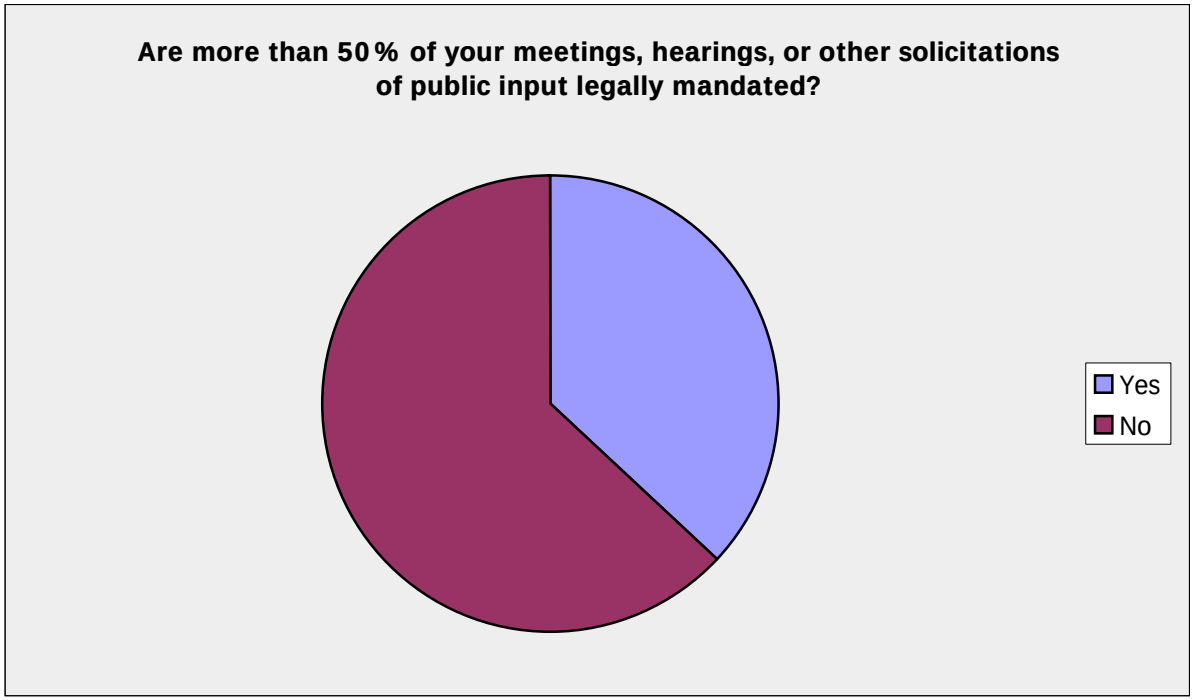
Q5. Regardless of past experiences what methods for communicating the outcome back to the public do you think would be most effective? Check all that apply.		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Phone	18.9%	70
Direct mailing	41.5%	154
Website	70.1%	260
Email list serve	47.2%	175
News media	69.5%	258
Other (please specify)	7.8%	29
	answered question	**371**
	skipped question	**563**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	blogs
2	Personal contact.
3	Social media posting
4	Newspaper Notice
5	Cable bulletin board channel, community newsletter
6	Social networking tools, e.g., FaceBook, Twitter, etc.
7	For oil and natural gas drilling applications, I try to make a personal visit to the landowner(s).
8	Whatever it takes to communicate the outcome
9	all of the above depending on audience
10	Blog post, facebook, or other electronic media
11	NEWSLETTER
12	Face to face
13	facebook
14	smoke signal
15	People to people contact
16	Meetings
17	Immediate response to some questions can be gathered from the audience using and audience response and voting system called "TurningPoint" (which is a toolbar add-on in PowerPoint) and the wireless ResponseCard keypads or clickers to submit their answers on queue.
18	Announced public meeting where dialog is invited, but not where questions/feedback have no answers.
19	For communicating with the public other then target groups
20	State Fair
21	social media (e.g., Facebook)
22	Social Networking Websites
23	website would work if it was made more user friendly
24	sportsman groups or constituent groups
25	Direct mailing only as a back-up for those with no web/email capability.
26	social media, such as Twitter and Facebook
27	in person
28	In person communication
29	Trade magazines/publications; live presentations at stockholder meetings

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

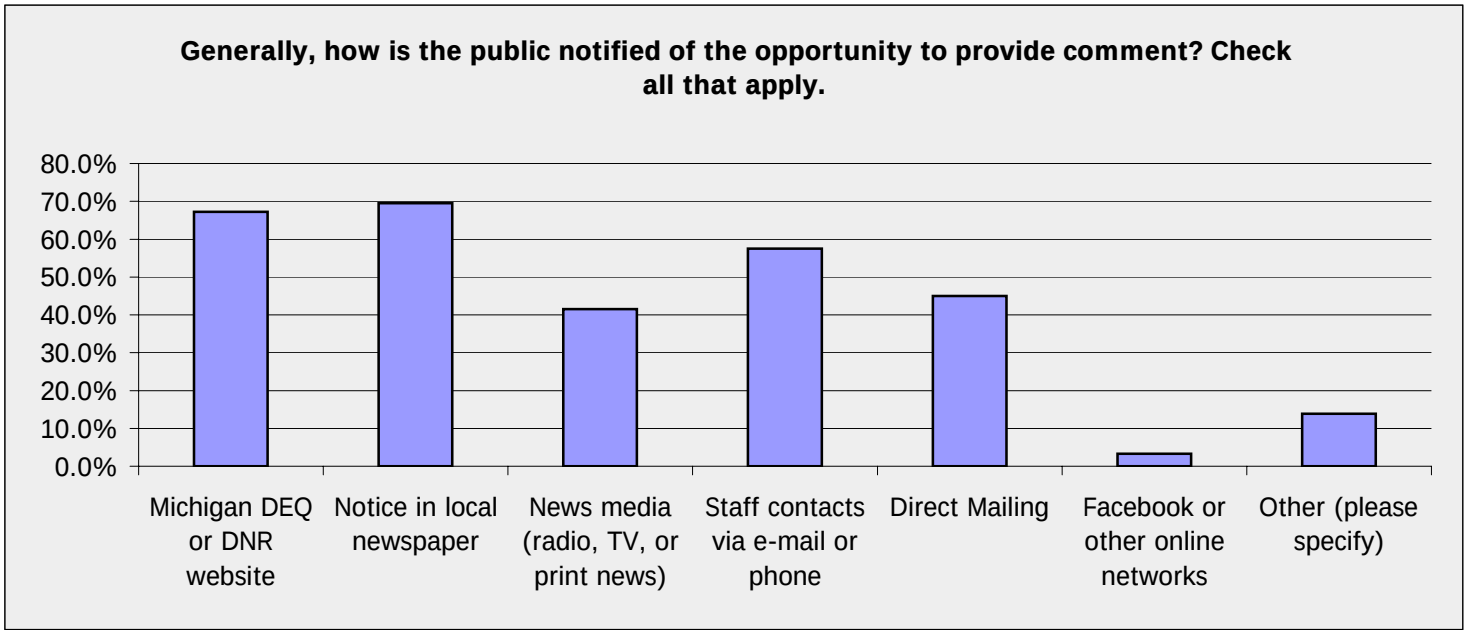
Q6. Are more than 50% of your meetings, hearings, or other solicitations of public input legally mandated?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	37.0%	199
No	63.0%	339
	answered question	**538**
	skipped question	**396**



DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q7. Generally, how is the public notified of the opportunity to provide comment? Check all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Michigan DEQ or DNR website	67.2%	348
Notice in local newspaper	69.5%	360
News media (radio, TV, or print news)	41.5%	215
Staff contacts via e-mail or phone	57.5%	298
Direct Mailing	45.0%	233
Facebook or other online networks	3.3%	17
Other (please specify)	13.9%	72
	answered question	**518**
	skipped question	**416**



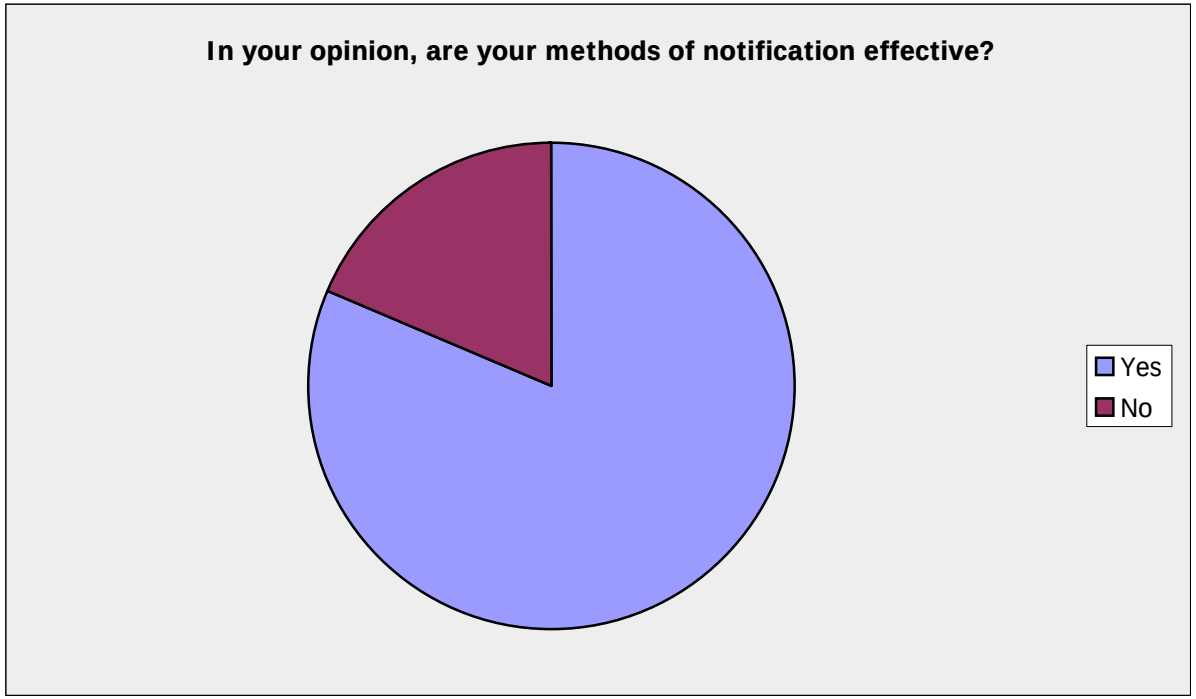
Number	Other (please specify)
1	List server email notices
2	For a Director's Town Hall meeting in SW Detroit, we partnered with the Sierra Club & local environmental activists who notified local residents (mostly by going door-to-door & word of mouth).
3	If the meeting occurs in a township hall or other public meeting, a meeting announcement is posted there.
4	Not part of my job, I do not set up the public notice requirements just attend the meetings.
5	Postings in locations where the community congregrates - churches, feed stores, etc.
6	staff contacts by mail or through their own networks (i.e. lake associations)
7	My meetings were not Statea related - I was on city council & mayor. Your question did not specify job relatead meetings etc
8	The one incident (I can remember) that I was directly involved in, an 'advisory group' was assembled, by invitation (via phone and/or e-mail)
9	Direct mailing to local government officials where the permit action is taking place.
10	Community centers, local library, and county and city offices.
11	We work with local units of government, counties, townships, cities and villages who host and notify their constituents of a public meeting.
12	word of mouth in the community
13	Mich-RAP and GLIN-Announce
14	DEQ Calendar
15	Watershed groups email notices to members. Comment can be made directly at scheduled watershed group meetings.
16	We hold free workshops to provide program updates and training on various aspects of the program.
17	press releases
18	News media may produce articles on specific projects but their involvement is not solicited.
19	Don't know.
20	Both press releases and staff contacts have occasionally been used. These have been rare. Occasionally, news media contact with me before public hearing has led to a promise to advise the reporter when public comment begins. In that case, I then contact the reporter at that time.
21	multliple avenues
22	Adjoining property owners are contacted through the mail when a project is Public Noticed.
23	Email list of interested parties.
24	email
25	e-mail
26	posting of notice at property
27	Public Notice at township mailing

28 Public Notifications
29 The public is generally not notified, unless it is legally mandated, or unless staff or an interest group go out of their way to spread the word.
30 Local environmental groups often help spread the word by forwarding public meeting/hearing notices to their listservs or putting them on their Web sites or Enviro-Mich.
31 DEQ Calendar
32 one page flyers placed at coffee shops & hair salons also email
33 Ad Hoc Committee members from the private/public sectors often inform their constituents/members.
34 DMB web site
35 For clarification, Website = CIWPIS; additionally we e-mail copies of public notices to solicite public comment
36 MDEQ Calendar
37 business magazines
38 on line service (ciwpis on line)
39 copy of public notice sent to local municipalities to post
40 Very little in my current job. Mostly internal workgroups.
41 Interaction with the public is always a part of the Interpretation program. People feel confortable giving us feed back on the positions or practices of the DNR
42 License Agent Bulletins
43 Posting
44 questions at the end of the meeting
45 going to groups and telling them of the meeting
46 Press release
47 direct mailing to involved landowners; general public notified via local newspaper
48 press release, notice in partner publications (i.e. conservation districts)
49 Report / Comment Cards distributed
50 Postings in local community
51 NRC notifications
52 MSHP website; public postings
53 public meetings
54 Listserv
55 Mail survey of a sample of license buyers or MI residents (attitude/opinion surveys)
56 public finds you ..issues of area, tribe,plantings
57 word of mouth circulation from those who may have seen notice via above methods
58 Email listservs
59 Most often in direct contact with public - either in a meeting format, or even more often on a one-on one basis. Talking with individuals or groups.

60	Comment cards
61	word of mouth, fliers in local establishments, announcments at public meetings.
62	Snail mail to neighbors of adjacent property for proposed improvements
63	DEQ Calendar (as opposed to the website in general)
64	Meetings with stakeholders and community groups
65	Neighborhood association meetings
66	comment cards
67	Postings at City Hall and local libraries
68	In person
69	word of mouth for citizen/neighborhood watch groups, fliers posted in use areas
70	e-mail
71	On-site postings; local govt. postings
72	e-license users

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q8. In your opinion, are your methods of notification effective?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Yes	81.3%	418
No	18.7%	96
	answered question	**514**
	skipped question	**420**



DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q9. What methods do you believe would be more effective notification?	
Answer Options	**Response Count**
	78
answered question	**78**
skipped question	**856**

Number	Response Text
1	Partnering with local organizations & activists proved to be quite effective in getting the word out to area residents.
2	Direct random mailings, notices on DEQ facebook, website, etc.
3	Our communciation style could use some updating from both a technological as well as how we go about working with and communicating with our public communities.
4	I believe that a public notice should always be put out in a community in the fashion that is most likely to inform the largest number of people possible. Putting the notice on a work site or on a web page where people have to go looking for it is a disservice to the public.
5	Internet-Facebook and the like for younger generations. News papers is a must to inform a lot of the 40+ population.
6	Post on internet paper as many papers do not actually "print" papers anymore.
7	Web access.
8	Department web posting, mass mailings
9	More use of Facebook, internet listserv, Twitter, etc. Some type of outreach with local units of government, etc.
10	Radio or TV ads. Community groups.
11	Radio
12	a broad general public information campaign, complete with radio, billboard and working with other groups to educate the public about their ability to review and comment and have an impact. Make them part of the environmental picture and make it eassy for them to participate, ask questions, etc.
13	Facebook, direct e-mail
14	Outreach to more neighborhood groups and adjacent property owners
15	Probably direct mailing to all neighbors in the area. Due to cost if the area is very populated we randomly choose addresses to send out written notices.
16	Direct mailing
17	More medias, more often.

18 e-mail and websites (if consumer has a computer and is linked to the internet. It is a big misconception that everyone has access to a computer and the internet; therefore, it is highly suggested to continue notifications by U.S. mail.
19 None
20 email. fax. phone calls. numerous newspaper rather than one.
21 if not already, post on web site
22 Citizens have requested notices be posted via local churches, community centers or direct mailings - and in more than one language
23 direct mailing
24 A monthly publication directly from the Department to notify interest groups, and provide background information or context of the proposals and procedures.
25 Use of facebook, more direct contact with 3X5 cards, mandated public involvement where it doesn't exist now but should
26 I'm not sure. We often face a polarized, adversarial public. We need to reach those who normally don't show up at meetings.
27 Direct notification
28 Facebook is a great tool to get information to the growing population that is connected to the internet. I am glad to see that the State is finally embracing this form of communication. It will only become more important as more and more people connect.
29 Direct contact from staff would be most effective, but we don't have the staff to do that at this point. It's very time consuming.
30 e-mail lists, Facebook
31 The legal process for required meetings for licenses or permits are frustrating to the public and to staff. The public is let to believe they may have an impact on the decision where in fact if the regualtory requirements are met then the license and permit is issued. This always puts staff into an adversary position and frustrates the public also.
32 direct mail notifications
33 Direct mailings to persons likely to be affected by the issue at hand
34 send email w/calender announcement to local newspaper, public television station & property owners adjacent to the facility.
35 Community groups and local units of government
36 Provide more up front detail on what will be addressed, and other methods of providing input or feedback
37 Other media outlets, TV/Radio etc...
38 press releases, flollowed up by phone contacts in core areas
39 social media, blogs, simpler web site that makes it easier to find content
40 Better website visibility. PSA's. The encouragement of local relationship building between groups and our agency staff in the area.
41 Television 5:00 news
42 public meetings
43 Hard to say. Apparently fewer people are reading the newspaper and that has been a traditional way to get the word out. Perhaps making sure that a variety of media are used including website, email, facebook, newspaper, TV, radio, etc.
44 A DNR/DNRE newsletter to all license buyers is the only way to reach all license buyers. Internet and more media outreach (TV Ask DNR type show, web based, radio) is needed to reach the larger audience of nonconsumptive resource users.
45 public meetings are boring and the agency staff do not really listen or use the information gathered - this is the impression people have. So we should do less soliciting of public input when we are not really looking for input but are trying to get information out

and buy-in from the public

46 Press releases, notice on Twitter and My space
47 more web-based updates and notices sent out
48 Direct quote from a phone call I took this year: Me : "The hunt unit boundaries are mapped out in the hunt guide..."; Caller: "Nobody reads those things - you should put up some billboards, or sign the boundaries." My point is this: You can try every known method of outreach/communication ; but you can't insure comprehension.
49 I wish I knew, I would use it/them.
50 The average public typically do not come to us unless they are upset or very concerned over a certain issue. We need to go to appropriate forums of people to network and obtain general input before developing mgt plans and recommendations- such as township meetings, user group meetings, etc.
51 More notification on sportsmans websites
52 More direct mailing, maybe. We try and get more people to participate, but it seems we see a lot of the same faces over and over.
53 Mailing list to all sportsman clubs, non-profit groups and all members of those groups. A mass e-mail to all those individuals.
54 Public involvement appears to be based on level of interest if projects could impact them. Generally it appears that the public believes we are doing the right things and by not participating mandate that we continue.
55 Face to face interaction (where appropriate), local news media outlets, twitter, press releases
56 More direct contact with the public. Rather than putting out press releases that are then interpreted (sometimes innacurately) by media outlets, establish a way to directly & simply explain issues to the general public.
57 Its not always a function of how people are "notified" but the venue we offer for the input which is almost always a public face-to-face meeting or mail-in comments. The hard part is the necessary issue education that you normally need to do with the public before they can submit usable comments. The biggest mistake we make in my opinion is that we ask for participation at the wrong stage. We usually want the public to react to "our" plan or idea. We instead should be involving the public to help us craft management goals and visions and then we (as the experts) design the plans to achieve the public's goals and vision. If you have buyin on the goal/vision, then the rest is much easier or at least doable.
58 email, facebook, TV
59 perhaps not more tmethods but better coordination so that more DNR/DEQ staffed are informed and more likely to get the word out.
60 Make a stronger effort in media relations to attempt to educate them and hopefully get them to pick up the stories/press releases that we issue.
61 Not sure, but traditional and non-traditional media reach a less than 50% share of the population who should care about the issues. This has to do with people's priorities, busy lives, apathy, and not so much the fault of the communicators in hitting all of the potential avenues for communicating. The same people (repeat players) who make it a point to be interested in our issues get the information via all of the methods listed. Perhaps TV news stories on conventional networks would reach a broader audience. Getting those avenues interested in our stories while there's a few wars going on, tabloid tragedies and scandals, public healthcare debate, and of course the economy, is a good feat. I know that if our stories are relegated to the sports section, for example, I walk away by that point in the news show (there's that priorities and apathy I mentioned). Not to say we shouldn't keep trying any and all avenues, though.

62 probably not much else you can do besides media contacts but the press releases dont seem to drum up much public input...the general public likes to get involved later on when the paint is hitting the trees or the well is being drilled, instead of the compartment review, open house or public meeting, instead they contact their local legislator instead of the local DNR office, most of which are now closed to the public anyways...perhaps a flyer going out in the mail to the taxpayers of each township that are having public meetings...not sure what the best method is..good luck thats why you guys make the big bucks:-)

63 Having a more long term, interactive relationship with a representative group of interested parties.

64 N/A

65 I don't know. It is easy to contact the focused interest groups but hard to reach the less passionate rank and file

66 Our current methods cater to the demographic of 55 and older (newspaper readers). Yet, we want to be all-inclusive, so we need to make connections with people of all ages where they get their news or recreation-related info. For example, it would be nice to create email databases of interest-specific individuals by advertising on Facebook, google Adwords, or via the web sites of local medias. We could segment them by asking them to register for email databases by interest..."Would you like to receive updates from the DNR on paddling related information, including trip ideas, legislative updates, public forums, and special discounts from related businesses?" (The special discounts would give them an added incentive to sign-up). We could also take a grass roots approach to building the database, by reaching out to interest-specific groups around the state (snowmobiling groups, paddling clubs, etc.) and making them aware of the opportunity to be "in the know" on the topics they are passionate about.

67 Problem may not be so much the methods as who is targeted.

68 Ongoing collaborative involvement of stakeholders from industry, ACO's, local government and general citizenry.

69 Other/additional methods may improve effectiveness, but I also feel unsufficient advance notice is also given. I also think a consistent schedule of local open houses to discuss issues of department or public interest would be worthwhile, so that stakeholders could come to count on these opportunities.

70 Notification of landowners adjacent to areas that will be reviewed for potential management.

71 Whatever method will bring out both sides of an issue. The problem faced by all agencies is only the antis should up and the supporters do not.

72 Turn out at public meetings continues to decline. We are getting more feedback from email, blogs, and web sites. Focus groups and advisory teams may be more useful to build relationships and get more meaningful feedback and participation.

73 Direct mailings and follow-up phone calls to stakeholder organizations.

74 I think we could use email much more than we currently do.

75 Colaborative teams and process, face to face meetings, informal.

76 television notifications, direct mailing, notices in local newspapers

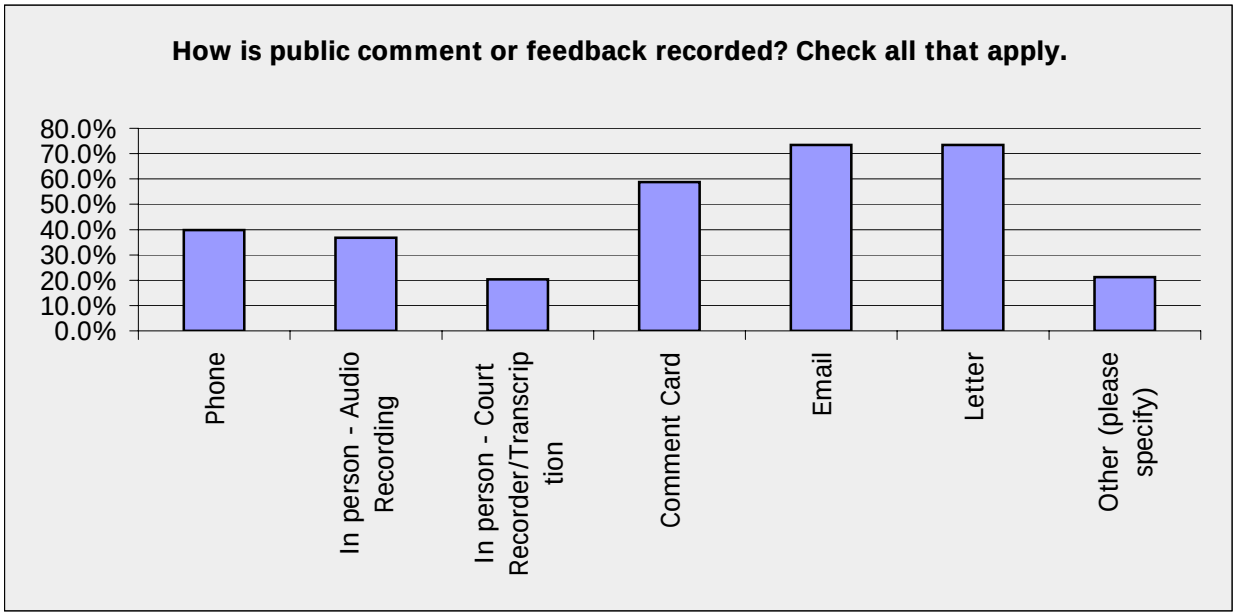
77 email distribution lists for projects; assembling the notification lists could be a requirement of the applicants if mandated by statute revisions;

78 something electronic. People don't read newspapers anymore.

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q10. How is public comment or feedback recorded? Check all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Phone	39.8%	199
In person - Audio Recording	36.8%	184
In person - Court Recorder/Transcription	20.4%	102
Comment Card	58.8%	294
Email	73.4%	367
Letter	73.4%	367
Other (please specify)	21.2%	106
	answered question	**500**
	skipped question	**434**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	not recorded
2	comments during the meeting, individual conversations before and after the meeting
3	meeting notes
4	Audience surveys after public meetings & hearings, although my surveys were designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the public participation techniqes used.
5	Since the meetings I hold are not mandated, public comment is informal generally through email or phone call to me, or answered directly at the meetings.
6	Staff typing what they believe they heard-not a professional court recorder or master of short hand. Not sure it is shared publically.
7	Minutes were taken at the advisory group meetings. Some participants provided written comment later, via letter.
8	No comment recorded.
9	Transcription in some cases.
10	On site discussions
11	staff notes during the meeting
12	Additional personal notes
13	Direct discussions at the public meeting; Phone
14	Notes taken by DEQ staff
15	Watershed meeting notes
16	Dialog at workshops
17	DEQ staff written notes
18	In person - meeting notes
19	meeting notes
20	Don't know.
21	Viable and Pertitant issues addressed in Permitting Rules.
22	This question is confusing. Email is a communication tool. Comments received via email are printed for the file. Letters received are filed, not recorded. Phone calls are not recorded, although we may receive them.
23	multiple methods
24	in person at meetings
25	In person, any notes we take.
26	These are stakeholder meetings to comment on draft rules before they begin the formal SOAHR rulemaking process. Staff take notes and produce a meeting summary.
27	comments and responses are recorded as minutes and displayed on website
28	fax
29	Notes taken and summarized by staff

30 Sometimes there is little to no public involvement.
31 It could be any one of these depending some on how formal a public input the program is seeking.
32 one on one staff time
33 in person - verbal/notes
34 I can only accept written comments
35 Comments are also received at the time of the hearing in hard copy.
36 notes of discussion taken by DEQ staff
37 In person - Hand written notes
38 feedback is generally only collected if the public is commenting on a draft document
39 ciwpis on line allows for direct email response through this system
40 Compartment review and open house notes
41 Personal conservations with participants at programs
42 Agent or Customer Diary
43 form, thank you note
44 People comment at our open houses and sometimes make writtem comments. They also comment at compartment reviews. Sometimes they just call in, email, or write to voice concerns.
45 general note taking by an appointed person in the group
46 It seems that often one person who is very vocal sways a decision-although their opinion may be the minority.
47 "sign in" list
48 In person, but generally not recorded
49 Electronic facilitated survey tools at meetings.
50 it's not
51 Meeting reports/summaries.
52 comment box on Fisheries Division's website
53 Notes taken at the meeting by a DNR staff person other than the facilitator
54 Taking notes at meetings.
55 Flip charts in meetings to record comments
56 Minutes at council meetings
57 written notes of meeting by DNR employee
58 Regular meeting minutes, formal mail survey results
59 survey
60 take notes at meetings
61 We take minutes of the meetings and then post them on the intranet to also share feedback
62 Notes taken at the meeting
63 video
64 IN PERSON

65 largely informally; "recorded" or documented by/within my notes on project details relevant to my position
66 Staff notes
67 Official notes taken at a meeting
68 Personal Notes
69 in person (not recorded officially)
70 Notes taken longhand at the meeting.
71 Notes taken during public comment
72 written notes/minutes of meeting
73 In person, usually not formally recorded (except possibly in police reports), but rather passed on by word of mouth from officers, and x Sometimes they just call in, email, or write to voice concerns.
74 Sign in sheet
75 notes taken by employees durign the meetings
76 in person verbal discussion followed up with staff notes.
77 Survey results and statistical analysis performed
78 I take notes
79 Lots of time comments are made in general conversation and then we make notes afterwards
80 Notes taken by Officer
81 Past master plan meetings, comments made and directly answered and recorded
82 facilitator notes, meeting minutes,
83 flip charts and nominal voting
84 written notes, facilitated decion making, concsensus building,
85 some in-person visits. Much of what we do is one-on-one or via public input gathered by client divisions (PRD, WLD, etc.) All public comment we receive directly is recorded in our files in written format.
86 meeting notes
87 Staff taking notes
88 direct conversation, face to face comment
89 my notes
90 in person, face to face, unrecorded
91 General meeting notes summarizing categories of commments; content-specific surveys delivered to meeting participants
92 Notes from meetings where comments are made are incorporated into the subject files.
93 We may take our own notes and share a draft with the commenters
94 In person with staff taking notes
95 Taking notes or minutes of the meeting.
96 Note-taker
97 written survey/comment
98 I recorded notes after the meeting

99	In person
100	Meeting notes kept by secretary.
101	written notes during meeting
102	Had meetings with no recording.
103	In person - written or typed transcription (not court recorder)
104	my secretary takes notes.
105	Mtg. notes
106	note taking

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q11. Once comments or feedback is received, how do you typically analyze and compile the information?

Number	Response Text
1	Internal teams review/organize then farm out to appropriate staff for response
2	We review all the comments and feedback.
3	our meetings are purely educational and if we receive feedback we review it on an individual basis
4	summary document
5	group discussion, compiled in written form
6	I don't coordinate this aspect.
7	Comments noted in file; and as part of decision-making process.
8	Reviewing our statues and determining if the comments and/or feedback apply to these statutes.
9	Meeting minutes and follow-up.
10	Incorporation of accepted comments into document. Verbal or e-mail response for comments that are not included.
11	I summarize and categorize the comments/feedback to insure that the basic questions have been answered and problems, resolved, where possible.
12	Read it and respond directly if appropriate
13	Determine if the comments are legitimate and realistic. Compile in spreadsheet for dissemination.
14	Yes & we respond to every comment received
15	WRITTEN REPORT
16	I don't. that's done in lansing.
17	Review comments and apply them to permit requirements, if applicable. Resolve conflicting comments. All comments go in the files.
18	All comments are forwarded to the staff making the permitting decision for review and become part of the administrative record. Some processes, such as rule making, require staff to compile a record of the comments received and the agency's response to the comments. That typically isn't done for a permitting decision.
19	Comments are heard & responded to during the information meeting, an opportunity is provided to write questions on cards or add to a separate list provided after the meeting. Any questions that cannot be answered at the meeting or personally are researched and provided to the requester when known.
20	Analyze input for common topics/themes and applicable infromation
21	I do not receive the feedback/comments, just questions that require follow-up. Generally, I directly communicate the answer to the person/party posing the question, either by e-mail or letter.
22	Review if pertinent. Evaluate if more anaysis needs to be complete. Compile comments and provide written response.
23	Responsiveness Summary
24	Evaluate comments against statutory criteria and compile findings document as part of project review file.
25	Not part of my job.
26	Analyze comment using statuatory criteria.
27	Based on file we have, we respond to the public in a letter or e-mail.
28	OFten times it seems that we may not very responsive to questions. Some Q&A has been prepared but never finalized. We take years to get back on some of the issues raised by stakeholder groups. Sometimes it may appear that we pick and chose what we respond to and how-and it appears very ad hoc.
29	I evaluate common concerns, if a large volume of responses come in I use a spreadsheet to compile and evaluate the information.

30 Responce to comment document in most cases.
31 Review it in the context of the application at hand. We respond if requested or deemed necessary.
32 Generally one person is assigned the task of reducing gthe information into similar comments and acquiring answers from the appropriate staff person.
33 record on spreadsheet
34 I review it and respond to it accordingly. The results are documented in a report.
35 I don't do this task.
36 sort into bundles of similar comments and provide single response to cover those combined comments
37 In a manner similar to creation of an administrative record.
38 Respond by e-mail or follow-up with a telephone call.
39 thoughtfully and intelligently. sheesh.
40 Via staff review and discussions.
41 All comments are read and referred to the decision maker for a decision.
42 Read the comments and respond directly if needed or change the permit according to the comments
43 All information received was ostensibly synthesized and taken into consideration in preparing a final work product (i.e., report). All comments received were compiled in an appendix of the report.
44 Read comments for response.
45 Project manager for the review team compiles comments from all sources, drafts responses which are reviewed by project team. Comments reviewed against the pertinent statute and associated rules, including any policy or guidance documents the division has.
46 Review each comment, compare them with other received public input, evaluate our dept findings in relation to the public comment and public interest of the project, place our findings in file.
47 Memory
48 All comments received are read, compiled, and answered. Listed and printed with permit application
49 Review and categorize
50 sort like comments, vet internally.
51 By common concern, position, or comment.
52 Each comment is repsonded to in a "Response to Comments" document. If the comments are such, sometimes they are grouped for one response; otherwise they are responded to individually.
53 Responsiveness summary is prepared and distibuted.
54 Review information. Provide answers when appropriate.
55 Varies depending on type of meeting.
56 Staff is assigned to review and prepare response.
57 Determine the type of feedback. Some is too general, or in areas we have no authority (such as noise, property values). Relevant feedback is analyzed to determine if changes to the proposed permit should be made. In some cases, a "Response to Comments" document is prepared and made available to the public that summarizes the comments and responses. Sometimes there is no document, but the person making the comment may receive a phone call or letter.
58 All comments are reviewed and analyzed. The comments are categorized for responses when appropriate. Non all require a response document.
59 Consider comments relative to regulatory requirements.
60 stored in a box
61 All concerns/questions are addressed in a letter/e-mail to all interested parties.
62 Preparation of a responiveness summary to be placed in the file.
63 this is done in Lansing
64 Communication back to person asking for assistance
65 I review all written comments along with my notes and other information in the file.
66 Meeting

67 We review the comments internally. If there are controversial issues we notify senior management. We typically write the issues out and determine which are most important based on statutory requirements as they relate to human health and the environment.
68 Summarize comments and answers in a document.
69 Summarized for decision maker and file
70 Take the media received and compare and summarize comments. Like comments are compiled and answered together.
71 I review comments and depending on the activity needed, comments are answered directly via phone, email, or letter. If the documentation requires it, these comments can become an attachment to the document.
72 Information is reviewed and taken into account during decision making. It may be responded to directly or referred to another agency if appropriate.
73 ? Take comment, list comments, write responses.
74 Comments are evaluated based upon technical merit in relation to pending action.
75 Usually look at all the responses and group similar ones together and develop resonse to each group.
76 Read comments.
77 Listen (audio)/Read (writen) all comments received, compile, and organize based on similarity, resources needed to address comments such as soliciting inputs from concerned agencies/divisions/staff, applicability or relevance to the issues/problems/agenda, and write notes. After gathering all data relative to the organized comments, write a draft response to comments for approval by supervisor/management prior to finalizing a formal response.
78 Address/answer comments in Responsiveness Summary. Generally technical comments.
79 Divide into for and against, break responses into categories
80 Write memo addressing concerns.
81 Depends on the topic.
82 The comments are included in a response to comments document along with the DEQ's responses to each comment received.
83 varies, create public comment and resposne document. Administartive reocrd or just note and consider.
84 Information is compiled in a comment/response document.
85 Response to comments document
86 Evaluate against legal standards and consider validity of comments
87 We review all comments and prepare a responsiveness summary on major points to address how the comments were addressed, or why they were not.
88 Comments are compiled into a report with staff answering comments.
89 I read through all of the comments and make a list of the individual comments. I will then segregate those thay may result in changes to the program, permit, or document for further internal discussion and consideration. A formal response to comments document may or may not be prepared. A formal public hearing and lots of submitted comments is likely to result in a response to comments document.
90 % positive comments
% negative comments
% with recommendation for improvement
91 Create a written summary of all comments, look for duplications, review by DEQ project team with a particular focus on any new information presented by comments, create a response based on statute and rule.
92 I listen to comments during the public hearing, and read written comments received.
93 I prepare a meeting summary that contains notes.
94 Don't know.
95 The comments are devided into like ones which staff then review and discuss with the Decision Maker. A response to comments document is not requirred for all AQD actions.
96 Staff review and provide written responses.

97 If the comments are received when a permit is on public notice staff determines if a public meeting or hearing is required. Some comments can be answered by mail.

If a hearing or meeting has been held the comments are grouped by content and a responsiveness summary is prepared and mail to all who requested it at the meeting or hearing. The summary would include the final decision.

98 Rarely receive comments.
99 Review, summarize,and prepare responses
100 review with supervisor
101 review comment, adjust our process or permit if necessary, and provide respond where appropriate
102 The information is mailed a letter answering and educating them about the issues, and if the concern/issue is reguarding public health, than it is entered into the permit.
103 Forward to Lansing for their analysis.
104 review comments and information sources for complete response.
105 The comments are placed in the application file. I review the comments to determine if there are concerns raised that can be reviewed under the criteria in the statute. The comments are often provided to the applicant, or their agent, so that they can address any concerns and provide a response. The number of comments received is often compiled as well.
106 I don't compile
107 I don't know how Lansing does this.
108 1. Read and compile/categorize/summarize. 2. Consider relevant comments. 3. Discuss with other staff and management, as needed.
109 list all response categories to assess impacts of proposed project.
110 The most important thing to consider when reviewing comments/feedback is whether or not they have merit. That is, the comments/feedback relate to the project at hand. Frequently, we receive comments/feedback indicating a neighbor dispute that has nothing to do with the project. Those situations are filtered out, and the rest of the comments/feedback are reviewed for things such as environmental impacts.
111 Pass it on to management and make suggestions through committee work.
112 Look at questions and comments, decide as a group (staff and supervisors) how to respond. Make changes if necessary.
113 Write a response or comments which are forwarded to apppropriate public response AQD official.
114 Draft a meeting summary reflecting significant discussion topics during the stakeholder meeting. Also, use the comments to produce a second draft of the proposed rules.
115 Read through comments, create summary sheets grouping similar comments.
116 Generally, not my responsibility as a field person, because most meetings are permits or TMDL related. On some voluntary trainings, I have handed out comment cards and reviewed the comment cards for self evaluation.
117 REVIEW COMMENTS AND WRITE LETTERS BACK TO THE PERSONS WHO COMMENTED (LANDFILL PROGRAM)
118 I personally don't analyze abd compile information, other than for a specific site or issues at a site.
119 Responsiveness summary - list each issue and our response to it.
120 Review the comments and look for comments that are applicable to our statutory criteria. Most of the time the comments are not very useful.
121 committee reviews and then responds to the stakeholders with what is possible based on the rules
122 All comments received are logged, grouped by comment subject and assigned to the best group to handle the response.
123 Yes.
124 Since being with the state have given e-mail feedback to Lansing staff handling the assessments
125 We compile all of the questions and comments that we receive and group them by subject matter. We record all comments and questions that are received.
126 Sent to file or NMS
127 we tend to look for information about the project that we did not know and potential impacts that the project may cause, as brought up by the commenter.
128 Read over the information and relevant information is used to make a decision on an application.
129 aggregate the responses into similar topic areas.

130 A responsiveness summary is prepared for public hearings.
131 Any comments that are actually related to the permit review or resource impacts are looked into and often a written answer is added to the file by staff to address the concern. Often the public feedback is not related to criteria from the statutue that is used to make a decision, therefore these comments are added to the file but staff does not investigate or add comments about these concerns.
132 By category/similarity relative to legislation
133 Personally, as a licensing program is conducted, information is input into the database, file copy is scanned to files, and if it pertains to DEQ district area staff, e-mail information (copies are attached to an e-mail, or update staff with direct e-mail from me if information received via a phone message) regarding compiled information from public or licensee.
134 Within a few weeks after the public hearing, I review all of the compiled comments received (written and audio-tape) for inclusion into the overall evaluation of the resources impacts by the proposed project.
135 Scan for any comments that have bearing upon the statute involved. These are typically very few. If the feedback is pertinent and involves a new piece of information, the information and interpretation should be related to the applicant.
136 Review documents for pertinent comments, prepare responsiveness summary, when warrented.
137 review information and provide feedback in session or if review is necessary by written correspondence to requester
138 Review the feedback and prepare a responsiveness summary with other staff and supervisors
139 All comments are read by the reviewer and placed in the file. Any pertinent comments are forwarded on to the applicant to address.
140 This depends on the nature of the issue; if more formal (e.g. rulemaking) then a formal written report is compiled with written responses that are reviewed by management prior to issuance. If less formal (e.g. participation with stakeholders on a grant-funded project) - comments received may be incorporated into a final work product (e.g. grant report).
141 Summary memo or report
142 comments are kept on file or entered to database
143 Enter information on a spread sheet
144 Compile relevant comments; determine if relevant and applicable to statutory review, etc.
145 Group them by topic.
146 Summarize the comments/questions into a frequently asked question format.
147 If public hearing on a permit - via response to comment document preparation. If general issue, just routine request logs.
148 staff consensus - and all Q & A are printed and mailed to all parties who have indicated interest
149 review transcribe review again
150 Work grop coments are incorporated and new drafts are distributed
151 Read every comment. Summarize similar comments by topic.
152 Review the concerns and follow-up personally with the concerned parties. If the concerns seem appropriate, then they can be incorporated into the proposed changes.
153 Notes to the file from phone calls. E-mails and letters placed in file. Recordings from public hearing placed in file. Comment cards placed in file.
154 Assemble a response to comment document.
155 Comments received are compiled in word or excel and shared with staff for comment review.
156 We typically develop a response to comments document in which we group and respond to like comments that are relevant to the permitting or related matter. Unique comments are listed and responded to separately.
157 not involved currently but would expect to see a review of all comments with summary circulated for comment from department parties
158 Staff review comments and prepare a response to comments document.
159 read the comment letters and go back over any notes taken at the public hearing
160 paste and copy to common sheet, redistribute to attendees of meeting
161 by hand
162 grouped by similar concerns, group by same subject or statutory issue & by group by interest area
163 Determine if I need to clarify or provide an explanation.

164 I did not personally analyze the data.
165 First, must be familiar with the applicable environmental laws and current Department policies. Then I either respond accordingly by phone, e-mail or letter or consult with supervisor depending on the specifics of the responses and requests received.
166 Transcript of tape. If there are letters from the public each one is read and they receive an answer in writing. The answer may be a form letter signed by the permits unit chief.
167 I was not involved in the feedback.
168 Gain an understanding of the comment, consult with involved agency staff to evaluate it's merit, decide to implement the comment or not.
169 Information is typically compiled in formal response documents
170 sort comments by subject, and prepare written answers which are incorporated into the master document. Master document is finalized and posted on the internet and sent to EPA
171 Each of the comments are placed in a table so the responsible person(s) can comment on each separately.
172 I would review all the comments to see which ones directly relate to the issue and which are out of our control (such as zoning, and other local issues).
173 It varies, some are shared in a small group mtg, others are tallied and then we look at ways to make improvements. Some of the public and legislature forget that "we" are tax payers also and we are constantly looking for ways to give quality service. I believe with the leadership we have had with Director Chester and Andy Hogarth, Mr. Sygo, Ms. Lynelle Marolf and Phil Schantz, we are all actively looking for ways to become a better Organization for our Great State.
174 NA
175 Group like comments/responses together and review. Identify concerns and address them in writing.
176 Write up comments/concerns in minutes and distribute them to all stakeholders. Also, address and questions/concerns as appropriate in a timely manner.
177 We sort the comments to group similar or identical ones by issue. Then we research the issue and write a response.
178 Questions have to be written on cards and we respond to each writer with letter.
179 Transcribe all comments to a common document. group similar comments and provide written response.
180 Review comments, coordinate responses and send out copies to those who requested response; keep a file copy in the site file
181 All comments are read and incorporated into the appopriate file. Copies of the comments are mailed to the applicant for rebuttle. A summary of the comments is usually summerized in my permit review report (PRR).
182 Compile written comments and write responses
183 appropriately
184 All comments are reviewed and any changes warranted are made to the permit. We develop mailing lists/email lists of all commenters. If required, we develop response to comments documents. Everyone who participated in the process are notified of the decision. The documents are also placed on the website.
185 Type the notes in Word
186 It is reviewed for a response and whether new information might have been received that would change the decision.
187 Keep with file. Prepare report that includes all comments.
188 I generally summarize comments and forward them to other agency staff who may be interested in the comments.
189 Sort through it individually, compile and assess the key points.
190 Compile input into a single document to create record of input and track response/changes that result (if any) or why not
191 Comments are composed into reports and filed.
192 Review individual comments and evaluate whether the adminstrative record is responsive to same and take action as appropriate.
193 Individual review of comments with appropriate followup as needed.
194 Usually only receive very few comments, talk with commenters directly
195 with a comment response document
196 Comments are grouped by subject area or similarity of concerns expresed.
197 If permit related, permit section staff review. Meeting transcibed & filed
198 respond at the time
199 Condense comments into a summary document which is posted on the web and included in the hearing file
200 electronically, in writing

201 Staff review all of the comments received, prepare a response to each comment or series of similar comments, and incorporate the comments and responses into a Response to Comments document that is available to the public online and mailed or emailed to those individuals who have asked for the document.
202 All information/transcripts are read and considered by scientific staff, and if appropriate addressed in a summary document.
203 Take each comment, group common comments together, respond to the comments in a response document.
204 Yes. We are requried to produce a response to comments and do this either individually (as a letter or e-mail)or as a 'Responsiveness Summary' (which may also be posted on DEQ website), depending on the amount of comments/topics.
205 Review with staff involved in project
206 review while making specific decisions.
207 Manually
208 Compiled and reveiwed internally. Recorded in formal meeting minutes.
209 insert into access db or excel file
210 group review
211 It is compiled, summarized, and a disposition table is developed as part of the public record.
212 Interpreters pass on the general consences of public opinions and reactions in the year-end report and through conservations with their supervisor.
213 By handusing spreadsheets.
214 Forward to the correct DNR personnel for direct answers/feedback to questions from the concerned parties.
215 Compartment review
216 spread sheet
217 Minutes of the meetings are developed and distributed.
218 Just review it and make notes on the various comments.
219 Public comment is reviewed and a letter response is prepared and sent.
220 graphs according to number of responses
221 comment/responce spreadsheet
222 O am
223 Consolidate comments by category (internal, external, type of comments, subject).
224 Depends on how coments were received; return phone calls, return emails, verbal in-person responses. Comments received from open houses are captured and read aloud at compartment reviews.
225 tallies.
226 Spreadsheets and databases.
227 reports
228 review with peers
229 Compiled, analized and sent out for public revewew.
230 Read and assemble
231 Discussion with staff to determine course of action or if no action is required
232 It is reviewed, compiled into similar types of feedback or specific subject, an internal meeting is held to discuss what things are pertinent and the types of changes to be made from that input
233 categorize comments by neg vs. pos and other criteria
234 Done by others.
235 Respond individually
236 Depends on the situation. I try to group repondents to see how the numbers compare on an issue, but must also listen to suggestions.
237 Final Report prepaired
238 Yes
239 someone else compiles data

240 Comments and concerns are addressed in person at our Open Houses and incorporated into our decision making process if possible (not in conflict with our goals and good scientific management practices). Written comments are given the same consideration in the formulation of treatment prescriptions.
241 In tabular form then by catagory
242 transcription
243 Information is added to paper file as recieved; information is also compiled into a "hearing report" and considered when making final decision on applications.
244 Department heads take the information
245 Compile results in Word, Excel or Access summaries depending on the survey type.
246 categorize into feasible format for action
247 Documentation in compartment files, Internal discussions. Verbal discourse with commenter.
248 Summarize the comments and try to look for trends, consensus, etc
249 Comments are collected, scanned and retained in file. They are forwarded to appropriate decision makers.
250 For major issues (e.g., statewide regulation changes), information typically is compiled in an Access database or an Excel spreadsheet. When applicable, the information may be summarized (e.g., percentage of respondents supporting a particular change) and provided to the appropriate field staff and/or the Division management team.
251 Spreadsheet
252 We are currently looking at "Turning Point" software for collection of opinions and attitudes. Currently we summarize comments and post our responses. How and where we post responses depends on the issue and the setting.
253 compiled in the form of spreadsheet
254 Most of my public gathering meetings have been NEPA. The comments and feedback are incorporated into the alternatives that are considered in the process. Good ideas that may not apply are also passed along to other staff.
255 sent to Lansing staff as directed
256 Compile comments into categories of response.
257 I have been involved in the process by scribing and taking notes -- not actually leading the meetings.
258 We analyze the comments for appropriate or pertinent information relative to the subject and then accept, partially accept, or reject the comment. Comments are typically compiled as part of the permanent public record or file.
259 Look at relevence of feedback to topic, and review with 'Planning Team.' In some cases develop classification of responses with % attached.
260 Put in catagories.
261 If complaint by official response, otherwise referr to appropriate division liaison or Council, also ensure any relevant divisions are aware and work with them to resolve negative issues and build upon positive comments and ideas to develop partnerships
262 written response to each comment included in a report
263 Enter comments into a word document or spreadsheet and sort by subject.
264 Classify individual comments based on attitudes about specific issues. Often formal survey results are discussed with special interest groups in public meetings.
265 The comments are sent to whomever is the expert in that area, the questions are answered then sent back to the lead and a document compiled.
266 For one of my recent meetings - I summarized the meeting (invited talks and group discussions) in a newsletter type format and sent it to all participants. This summary also included information about the evaluations that were recieved (I created graphs to show responses).
267 Spread sheet, rating of request, budgetary constraints/availibiy.
268 Typicality, zero to few comments are received and are addressed individually and noted in writing.
269 Summarize, categorize and provide to supervisors
270 Feedback usually deals with improvements to our financial reports so it is reviewed internally and discussed with Executive is the change deems a higher level of authority.
271 Recorded in meeting minutes. Reviewed by staff and incorporated as appropriate into decision.
272 Categorizing and summarizing comments
273 survey monkey or tally by hand
274 compiled into a report format with recommendations for action

275 Planners/specialist review the comments and prepare summary.
276 Each comment is read and categorized if possible. Each comment or group is responded to.
277 Review and summarize in relation to the proposed mgt and discuss with other staff and determine if we need to make changes. We try to get back with folks on any changes but there are many cases in which public who give input never hear back to confirm their input was considered and how it may have changed things.
278 We either come to a consensus at the meeting, or we describe how the decision will be made externally.
279 it gets sorted by topic and then is summarized for consideration.
280 Depends on the situation or circumstance. Some require statistical analysis others a more informal approch.
281 I have not be involved with the process at the level
282 Summarize responses
283 It is reviewed and compiled by our unit supervisor.
284 Depends on program/project. Most info is added to spreadsheets and/or databases.
285 No formal analyzed unless the meeting went terribly wrong. In this case, we modify format for future meetings.
286 Assemble comments and sort according to topic. Team reads and discusses.
287 list
categorize
prepare summary
send info
288 A written summery
289 Compile the comments and then evaluate depending on the type of input or project it is for.
290 summarized, general responses prepared and any modifications to the plan identified
291 Simple arithmetic, then analyze to see if there is a significant trend in the comments, or if someone has mentioned something overlooked in the planning stage.
292 Comments are compiled in management reports, management plans, and water specific management prescriptions.
293 <this and couple other questions in this survey are confusing - needs an example or two>. In my situation, information is compiled from the discussion (either phone call or email) with the public requestor/contact or multiple contacts providing comments, then (or during) I write notes, then I act/analyze the information as appropriate and/or pass it to officially designated or an assumed appropriate contact in office/ Division / Department / State-gov't, and/or then "compile" either response info from me with other appropriate staff contacts details into response for requestor/contact -or- the responsibility of appropriate response is passed to the other state staffer who is the appropriate contact. Typicvally I do my best as would want someone to do for me, while balancing the need for appropriate brevity, speed and effeciencies as per appropriate time/effort of state's valuable expenses, equipment and my time/pay. This question should be multiple choice with an example, because it's way open-ended and because of the differences in how the adjectives might be applied and the possible circulmstances.
294 have not been part of the analysis
295 In a group setting with colleagues.
296 A secretary enters all the comments into the computer and then I analyze the information. If responses are needed I will send an e-mail or letter back to the individual
297 Discussion with other DNR employees.
298 The number of comments was relatively small, so they were compiled as individual comments.
299 spread sheet
300 pass on to next supervision level
301 It is summarized and typed up accordingly.
302 Read and have subordinates read. Comments at staff meetings.
303 It is discussed and considered.
304 Typically: a simple summary of comments received by category (e.g. want more deer, want less crop damage, want lower bag limit on bobcat, etc.)
305 1.) What can be handled in the park is completed
2.) What needs funding or input goes to the DistrictPRD or DNR Office

306 prepare a list of written comments from public and distribute to project team and sometimes stakeholders for consideration and potential implementation into project
307 Look at the comments, take them into consideration if proper, respond to the commenting individual and explain what action was taken and why.
308 using statistical analysis
309 Verbal communication with co-workers
310 tabulate and report results
311 If implementation does not occur immediately then a hard copy file is created and referred to at a later time.
312 Survey results, note summaries, post meeting evaluations
313 It is passed on to the relevant division/supervisor
314 Internal review by appropriate staff. Attempts are made to summarize major themes.
315 per management prerogative
316 I review and summarized the comments myself
317 ALL COMMENTS ARE CONVERTED TO PAPER FORM (IF NEEDED) AND DISCUSSED (WITH TEAM OR MANAGER) IN RELATION TO THE IMPACTS INVOLVING THE TOPIC(S).
318 Someone will put them in a category of something like "favors" or "opposes" and its all pretty useless. Not to mention that we usually get like 25 to 30 respondents and given that there are 9 million residents in Michigan, how does one really intrepret that?
319 Meeting minutes.
320 Group comments into similar categories. Try to differentiate more substanitive comments from those who are grandstanding or providing comments which are not pertinent to topics
321 It is forwarded to Unit Manager or Supervisors
322 Compile comments by subject or specific question addressed and summarize the variety of opinions on that topic/question. If public sentiment favors one side or another of an issue then review the management plan or other document for which we are requesting input and modify it accordingly if warranted. If no modifications are made then at least record the public input/viewpoint in the plan/document.
323 Just done by hand on excel spreadsheet
324 Sort and answer via some kind of responce document often together with EPA. Personal feedback is also done.
325 Staff review the comments. A response to comments document is generally prepared detailing the division's response to the pertinent comments
326 We don't get a lot of these so staff read them and incorporate the comments into plans as appropriate
327 Entered into official meeting minutes and posted to website. Spreadsheets may be used to tabulate and summarize input as needed.
328 by issue, complaint or interest
329 I forward the info up the chain of command
330 Analyze info for frequency of coment and like issues. Compiled in a Q&A format. Look for ways to change business based on frequency of good comments.
331 In a word document.
332 Read it into the records. Discuss internally and consider making changes where appropriate.
333 Meeting minutes are prepared, distributed and posted on the DNR website
334 they are put together and then covered in the compartment review process...then after the decision is made I think that the person is contacted with the decision that was made if they stated that they wanted to be contacted on the comment sheet from the open house. As you know some comments are not able to be accomidated... Eg. "the state should not clearcut trees"... "the state should not allow well drilling" all we can do is explain why we do some things but you can never keep everyone happy...if everyone is somewhat disappointed then we are probably doing a pretty good job...multiple use can get a bit complicated and it is impossible to keep everyone 100% happy.
335 written report
336 Project managers organize comments and respond, typicallyu via a Response to Comments document that is provided to meeting/hearing attendees and other interested parties.
337 Generalize comments to get an overall picture and do counts on issues to see if reactions are more favorable then not.
338 Count of For or Against a proposal.

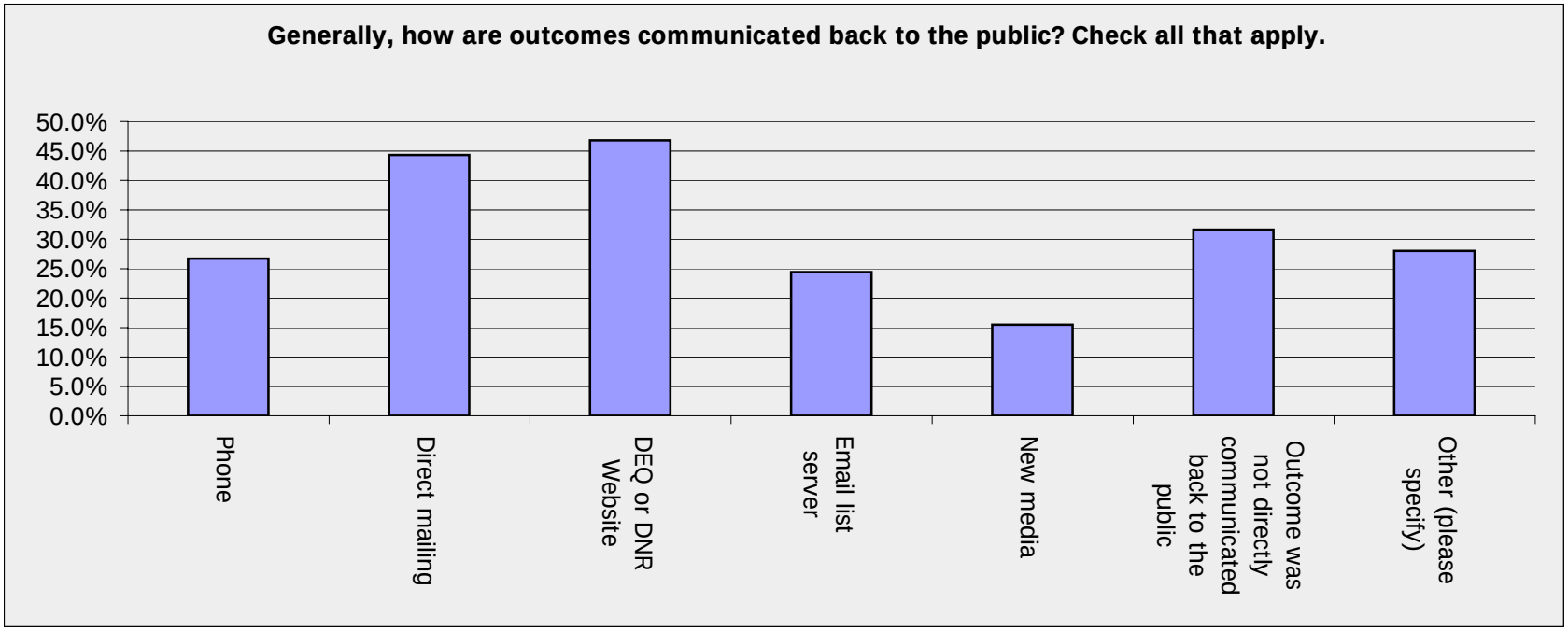
339 analyze by the issue, concern or interest. Compile at local field office on spreadsheets
340 Written collabrative response
341 Document comment, response, and why or why not comment was incorporated into decision
342 Notes are compiled.
343 Gather information and tally into categories.
344 Sort and tally by responses or by subjects
345 Review the questions and comments and prepare a response to be sent to the appropriate parties.
346 Review by staff
347 Apply to future processes.
348 committee review, ECO team review, Mgt. tm. review, analyst review, direct contact with contributor,
349 Analyze/discussion with on-site staff and through Div. mtgs.
350 Simple summaries in tabular form
351 By compiling the information in a statistical format and listing all the comments in one document.
352 Review a summary created by staff.
353 in tabular or narrative form
354 It depends on the purpose for the data. eComment card data is shared both anecdotally and with individual parks to give kudos or pass along a need for improvement. Public forum data is gathered by our Planning Section and how it is used depends greatly on its purpose for being collected.
355 Each suggestion is evaluated for feasibility. Each complaint is investigated and answered.
356 Comment Cards are sent to the Division Office and dispersed to the Parks. Then shared with staff.
357 In some instances, the comments are considered as we move forward with making management recommendations or in writing management plans.
358 Rough estimates of percentages of opinions.
359 Depending on the methodology used will direct analysis. If using a survey of some comments are aggregated, sticky dots counted, labeled decision making and level of agreement
360 We convey primary comment materials as well as our commentary to the client division for there use in responding: Boating and Waterways via public meetings, etc.
361 Compile comments and send letter responses.
362 Typically, they are grouped within subgroups of like comments to help quantify the comments received.
363 Attached to minutes of meeting after review by staff
364 mentally
365 Formal reports (internal or external) are often generated when meetings address specific topics; for more general meetings, email is often used to circulate summaries to co-workers and other interested parties
366 Depending on their intended purpose, the comments/feedback may become part of the record of decision and evaluated in their application to the statute criteria that is controlling in the decision process. Also depending on the nature and source of the comments/feedback, staff will notify division management of issues where they or members of the executive division may be contacted directly by persons wishing to provide comments/feedback.
367 The staff most familiar with the area in question (often a timber harvest) responds.
368 provide a written summary of comments and the Department's responses.
369 We try to summarize the feedback into similar groupings of comments, when possible. Then develop comment resolution tables to show how the information was used.
370 Depends on the amount of feedback. Try to group like comments. Looks at how comments/opinions are spatially distributed and how different groups have commented.
371 Review raw information and note if pertinent.
372 no set method

373 In the case of boat access site or harbor projects, the information is gathered and consideration is given to not only the majority of those attending the particular public meeting, but all comments provided from all sources (i.e. letters, e-mails, calls, etc.) relative to the topic. The comments (pros/cons) are considered from all and then consideration of the comments are given as to how to use the information/comments relative to the project.
374 group like comment topics/informs planning group decisions on proposals/project
375 I personally utilize a decision matrix to analyze data. Or, I simply count the number of times something was mentione. Sometimes the data is sent to Lansing; their methods I'm unaware of.
376 I forwarded notes to the person in charge
377 Report
378 Summarization.
379 Hearing officer looks at the comments and utilizes it in the decision
380 meet with staff to discuss comments and implement changes as nencessary
381 Report format
382 Copies made, placed in a file
383 I've never personally compiled the feedback.
384 Staff discussion.
385 compile similar responses. Provide attendees or other public with copies of the minutes.
386 Appropriate staff members review comments, prepare and distribute response document
387 I don't.
388 Read through comments for reasonableness and viable alternate solutions.
389 for hearings: type it up and type up responses; responsiveness summary is distributed and filed for the record;
for meetings, there is not a formal process, ususally provide info and answers at the public meeting and/or on DEQ website;
390 Review and respond if necessary, file for future reference
391 Meeting notes / minutes, personal notes, "action items"
392 We just look at it and summarize it. We include the summary as part of the document if a document was being reviewed.
393 We read through it and incorporate ideas that make sense.
394 The staff compiles both pos and neg comments and then it is analzed as to it's merit.
395 Review and discuss with program manager, and compile the information in report (JCAR)
396 Provide information on responses in published document or internet page.
397 Staff are assigned to evaluate each comment in accordance with statutes/admin. rules
398 depends on the situation. . . very difficult to answer so subjective to the situation.

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q12. Generally, how are outcomes communicated back to the public? Check all that apply.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Phone	26.7%	126
Direct mailing	44.3%	209
DEQ or DNR Website	46.8%	221
Email list server	24.4%	115
New media	15.5%	73
Outcome was not directly communicated back to the	31.6%	149
Other (please specify)	28.0%	132
	answered question	**472**
	skipped question	**462**



Number	Other (please specify)
1	follow up meeting
2	Revised document.
3	Division did not follow through.
4	Most issues can be resolved at the public meetings, via answers provided by stakeholders.
5	modifications to document based on comments
6	not part of my job.
7	I assume "New media" should read "News media".
8	The DEQ website indicates the final permit decision but the outcomes aren't directly communicated back to the people who commented, unless they contact us directly and ask what the outcome was or ask us why we made the decision we did.
9	Directly at meetings when possible.
10	Outcome results in a final permit decision which is posted in the division on-line database, mailed to LUG and applicant. Participants at public hearings and anyone who receives a public notice is told that the final decision will be posted on the on-line database.
11	Verbally in subsequent roll out session-the commentor may or may not be present.
12	email
13	response to comment document posted and sent
14	By development of a responsiveness summary.
15	I suppose all advisory group participants were provided copies of the final report. But, there's a chance that didn't happen (in part because so much time had elapsed from when they participated, to when the report was finalized).
16	email
17	Response to Comments are mailed to all commenters and a copy is place in the Public Respository where the license is located for public reviewing.
18	Mailings to community organizations.
19	Customized service to the person(s) requesting clarification/ service.
20	permit or denial letter to applicant w/ copies to Township and County
21	Administrative record in a local public library.
22	direct email
23	Email to commenter
24	Issuance of permit
25	Watershed group meetings.
26	Technical responses to applicable comments become part of a facility's file and are subject to public review.
27	Responsiveness Summary in document files available
28	future workshops
29	email
30	Don't know.
31	a single reply may be by e-mail especially if the original contact was by e-mail. Typically staff would have telephoned the party first.

32 Responses made if necessary
33 New Changes to permit allow for another public comment to allow for additional comments and for the public to see that the issue was addressed.
34 If they request specific notification in their written comments, an e-mail is sent with information on the final outcome.
35 There are no other methods used that I can think of. But what does "new media" mean?
36 Document is released.
37 A little unsure of this.
38 The meeting summary and redraft of the rules is distributed to the members on the advisory committee. The redraft of the rules contain comment boxes responding to the input of the stakeholders showing whether the draft rules were modified or, in not modified, the rationale behind the current wording. After the committee has a chance to respond, the draft rules and the meeting summary are put on a website and sent to all on the email list. The new draft of the rules does not contain comment boxes that answered specific questions brought by the stakeholders, but it does contain general comment boxes explaining why changes were incorportated in the draft rules.
39 direct email
40 e-mail
41 We e-mail individuals that provide us with e-mail addresses. We also make certain information available on CD and provide copies to those who request it.
42 Typically the attendees at our permit application hearings can only check the website to see if the permit was issued or not. Copies always supplied to the local government.
43 At the public hearing, I also make my phone number available.
44 written reports
45 email
46 Returned phone calls from staff
47 Public is directed to website to check on permit application status. there is not ample opportunity, due to workload, to respond to comments. LDP
48 for rulemaking, the drafts are updated and made available on the workgroup website
49 issuance of a permit or denial
50 In a Department Response to Comments document
51 The Notice of Final Decision and Responsiveness Summary are usually also placed at the local information repository (e.g., library).
52 use of regional stakeholder groups, presentations to LUGS and NGOs
53 Direct e-mail
54 e-mail to stakeholders, meetings/verbal/direct interaction
55 The press may run a story
56 formal response documents
57 The document they are commenting on specifies the way the outcome will be communicated back to t eh public
58 Adhoc Members communicate information back to their members/constituents.
59 For certain permits, pertinent public comments and our response to them are incorporated into the official staff activity report, which is available online, in our files, or by mail upon request.

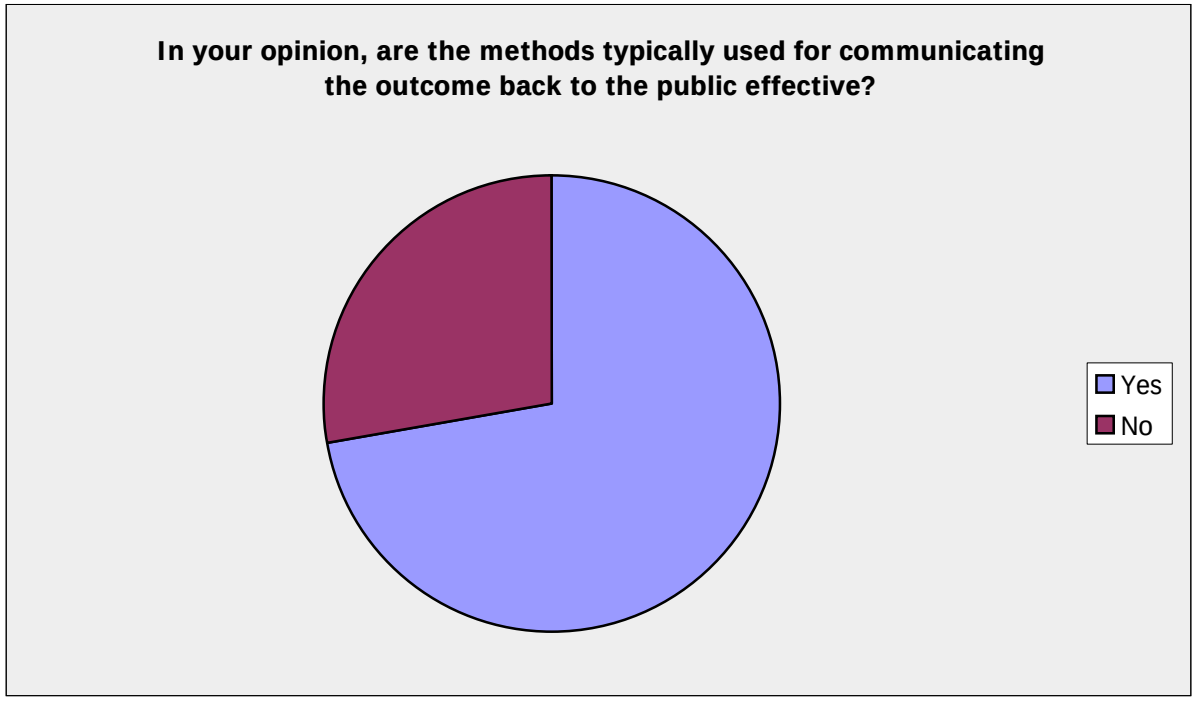
60 Out comes of applicaiton reviews can be tracked at CIWPIS on-line.
61 On the spot at the hearing after read comment card
62 personal email
63 status of application can be tracked on ciwpis on line
64 Indirectly, such as posting revised information on a website when public was asked to comment
65 not sure how often it initates any change.
66 Sometimes by letter or email if the person requests it.
67 through the govermental entity requesting the meeting/information
68 inbdividual e-mails
69 Consulting Website
70 direct emailing
71 outcome is direct mailed to relevant landowner; general public is not notified
72 Follow-up meeting
73 Follow-up meetings or workshops.
74 The product (Game area master plan, deer management plan, etc.) references that input was included
75 Web pages, Advisory Committee meetings
76 publication in federal register for federal projects with NEPA nexus, not that many people read that.
77 Follow up meetings to discuss results.
78 NRC meetings
79 In most cases, outcomes are reflected in the final recommendations. In some cases, we have communicated back directly to the commenter.
80 Minutes posted on webpage of council meetings
81 Included comment and response in final report
82 public meetings with specialized groups (e.g., stakeholder involvement committees)
83 Local units of government are notified in writing.
84 Decision generally made at meeting at which comment was recorded.
85 Generic Letter
86 Recommended changes are usually reflected in the next month's reports.
87 Public meetings, traditional media(print, radio, TV)
88 publications
89 Minutes are distributed at each subsequent meeting, with appropriate followup.
90 Meeting
91 emailed results
92 Newsletter
93 printed reports also available on line
94 e mail to informal group of interests
95 We do not generally issue a new news release, but we would phone someone who was adamantly opposed to the project.
96 Annual Managment Unit plan provided as a news release.

97 outcome or new information was developed but public was told to look for it at location they noticed questions / posting / etc.
98 Usually by word of mouth to the public at random locations encountered while on and off the job.
99 meeting summaries to intersted attendees (e.g. representatives of the groups who come to bear, deer, furbearer stakeholder meetings.
100 Report back at meeting
101 Public input to planning process will be communicated but hasn't been yet.
102 Report to some of our standing Citizen's Advisory Committees.
103 in person
104 This really depends on the issue, it usually is a phone call, e-mail or posting to the DNR website
105 Letter/e-mail to individual commentor.
106 Public meeting where results are announced and discussed.
107 directly at a Master Plan meeting if the outcome is already known
108 attached to permit draft
109 depends on the type of meeting and input received
110 Public meeting
111 Worskhops
112 Sometimes a follow-up meeting
113 Many public forums were held to create the PRD strategic plan which is now available in final form online and in every park office
114 A letter of reply is sent if the public writes a letter or email.
115 Public meeting, individual email
116 When comments are directed to our office specifically, we respond in writing to the individual or stakeholder group in letter format.
117 Usually, a second meeting is held to show the changes made based on comments from the intial meeting.
118 Much of my public presentations are informative. Feedback is typically generated during the presentation.
119 In person
120 in person, possible press release
121 Summarized in presentations and handouts for future meetings; Division Reports or technical papers for reporting on more structured surveys
122 on-site meeting
123 Blog sites
124 in person
125 For internal use
126 sometimes in-person follow-up to discuss what has happened since comments were made
127 Local authority is notified of outcome.
128 Public info boards on area, other meetings, press reports.
129 Unknown
130 Email
131 At commission, board and citizen advisory committee mtgs.
132 Responsive summary prepared/posted

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q13. In your opinion, are the methods typically used for communicating the outcome back to the public effective?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	72.1%	338
No	27.9%	131
	answered question	**469**
	skipped question	**465**



DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q14. What methods, for communication outcomes back to the public, do you believe would be more effective?

Number	Response Text
1	Broader distribution.
2	Improved media presence
3	Facebbok, Website
4	follow through...or don't bother.
5	follow up notice in newspaper
6	Media
7	Compiling a listserve of all the people who commented on a project and then e-mailing them directly w/ the outcome. A collaborative public participation process for larger projects with feedback mechanisms designed into the process. Partnering with non-governmental organizations and getting their assistance in getting the word out after a decision has been made.
8	Web access.
9	Web posting
10	In the case I'm thinking of, there should've been more 'follow-through', in contacting advisory group members at the end. But, as I said, a long time (i.e., years) elapsed, in the interim.
11	We generally do a poor job of communicating our final decision back to an individual. With the available electronic means of email, etc, we could send notices of final review/ permits/ etc to each person.
12	More use of new media. Need better grounding of issues (big picture-as we often get too bogged down in detail losing sight of big picture). DNR's web site lays out big picture facts in a more "news" worthy approach -e.g. why the public should care. At times, some of our programs seem to come across as dictatorial rather than collaberative when working with stakeholder groups. I believe the current legislative actions regarding our programs are a suffering as a result of our ineffective public outreach, education and development of support groups. More collaberation-less command and control.
13	Direct communication, as time allows.
14	List all comments and responses in a document that memorializes responsiveness.
15	press release? the local media stories are pretty slanted.
16	e-mail, facebook...
17	Make a decision document available on line
18	Press release in paper and on web site
19	Notice to all who comment.
20	Effective use of the web site. Our response was too limited if any any all

21 Letters with follow up phone calls or email notes.
22 direct repsonses via emails
23 reply back to all participants and a website with questions and answers posted.
24 facebook, e-mail, newspaper
25 News outlets, print and TV, DEQ website.
26 Website needs an explaination of why we took the action that was taken. Most of the public do not understand the criteria even when we try to explain it at the meeting. Maybe we need an explaination of our criteria on our website and then we can direct the public there.
27 More media, more often.
28 None
29 Post a copy of the permit within an online tracking system. Potentially even post it for 7 days before it's finalized.
30 At a minimum, post responsiveness summary on the DEQ website. We should announce this at the meeting, along with a proposed date. Provide copies to people upon request.
31 Print mailings and emails.
32 email and/or letters to the people who had the comments.
33 add new media to list, post on web
34 A monthly publication, such as the former DNR magazine.
35 If the issues are significant a follow up meeting locally would be helpful. Or have small group sessions for further interaction before annoucing outcome.
36 Possibly a list server, though that is limited to only those with internet access.
37 email/web based
38 More press releases demonstrating what he did and the outcome
39 The problem is not in understanding how to communicate decisions back to the public. The problem is that the agency does not have a clear plan for how to include the public. DEQ indicates that it wants to include the public, but when decisions are controversial, public input tends to be emotional rather than technical. As such, public input tends to be ignored and the public feels slighted.

40 Again, facebook. However, we need to remember that there is still a large sector of the population that is not connected and require more conventional avenues of communication.
41 Personal response to everyone who comments. This is sometimes done, but not always.
42 Posting on DEQ website
43 We need to make decisions public.
44 If the DEQ woudl take more official positions proactively, and communicate those back to permittees statewide, rather than doing little to no statewide communication to permittees and having communications come from proactive districts. There is currently an MS4 implementation team that has been formed but discussions from that team are not communicated to staff to non-participating permittees effectively.
45 Direct contact or follow-up meetings to address changes or reasons changes weren't made.

46 Depends. On smaller issues individual contact (phone) with concerned individuals. On larger issues a news release or other public forum.
47 direct mailing
48 Our responses are very formal. If the process allowed for more direct & flexible communication the public would be better informed. Public is often not familiar w/our permit or meeting procedures & seeks infomal communication, including some background on the particular issue & the role of the deptartment
49 Perhaps having periodic meetings with affected community. Although, resources come into that decision.
50 regular interactions with feedback loop mechanism in place
51 in writing
52 Mailing a report of the information to those who leave a name and address
53 Ability for employees to change web pages for their own sites, Face booking allowed. Up-date the dial-up system in the field.
54 Press release, direct mailings
55 Complete, 1 page summary in a visible location on the website, email
56 media outlets, a meeting providing the results, website
57 E mail, Web Site and mailing.
58 e-mail or social media
59 Follow-up public meeting where the information gathered can be explained to the group.
60 Website, or direct mailing if they have checked that they do not have computer access.
61 probably direct mailing to those that attend the meeting; maybe a press release, depending on the project;
62 Develop a specific location on the DNR or DEQ website called "Public Meeting Results" or some such title & do mass communication about it's availability and purpose
63 Not sure
64 Direct contact...letters, emails, etc.
65 There needs to be a place on the website where a person could look and see the outcome of a public survey.
66 More use of internet, video, DNR news program/weekly show, DNR magazine
67 direct contact with participants
68 E-mail or mail everyone that attended the meeting and post the outcomes one the DNR web site. Allow all the other organizations to post it up on their web sites. Post it up on the major Internet Talk forums (Michigan Sportsman)
69 Depending on the issue or size of the affected group, a combination of methods would be appropriate: email, phone, letter, news release.
70 direct contact
71 Personal contact, Newspaper for the smaller issues but the bigger issues should go out into all the media
72 WE don't do a good job of targeting who should be receivig the message, determining the points we need to get across, or making the points in plain language. Too many of our communications are presented in a manner that would be best suited for a scientific journal or court proceding. We need to "loosen up" and tell the story, not caveat everything out to the point that you have to search for the real meat of the communication.

73 The results of the survey have yet to be communicated back, but will be in the form of a letter I believe and/or posted on the Web site.
74 A secondary interaction showing how the publics comments were incorporated into the decision making process (direct relationship). This could be available through a public open house type of format
75 posting on the web page
76 Not sure. At the very least we should write back to anyone submitting comments if we have their address. I often miss our old DNR magazine. I think that could have been a very useful communications tool. Mail it to every license holder and park registrant in the state. Costly? perhaps but in the big scheme of things it could build a very informed and supportive user base. However, the magizine can't just be another sanitized 'feel-good' fluffy thing with where and when to go fishing and hunting. It would need to go deeper into some of the real issues facing modern Natural Resoruce managmenet and research in our state and talk about issues that before they are resolved. The issues as they are happening. My hunch is that this would make our administration too nervous, but to leave the public poorly informed or leave the discussion to be defined by others is no way to do business either.
77 Press release, internet, facebook.
78 More direct communication to the commenter,
79 Provide better public notification of finalized plans for which public input was gathered.
80 Again, better coordination may be more important than actually new methods of delivery system
81 Direct mailings or direct contact with the news media to ensure that they publish the stories/press releases that we issue.
82 Web-site, e-mail
83 Continual interaction.
84 Unknown
85 N/A
86 Posting outcomes on the internet for those interested in reading about them.
87 Follow up meetings of results, findings, etc.
88 I believe that the raw outcome data are probably communicated back to the public ok, but it is harder to communicate why we might not have chosen to do what some individuals/groups want us to do. I.e. the rationale behind why we accepted or rejected specific suggestions is not well described back to the public.
89 Direct seems to work, but also need to communicate via electronic media and mass media.
90 I do believe we do a great job of reporting back to the people who attend meetings or weigh-in on issues. However, it would be nice to create an annual report of accomplishments and future objectives for the public so they get a broad overview of why we do what we do and the prioritization for how we do them (the budget that may or may not prevent us from doing everything).
91 create a better, more informative website
92 A personal response at the local level in regards to comment cards with detailed comments/concerns.
93 Public representative on committee meetings, when appropriate.

94 I work in real estate. Current philosophy is operative in nature and a "top secret" approach that does not create trust in the general public. Rumors abound! This approaclacks any strategic initiative. Instead Real Estate functions need to be out in front with strategic planning, stakeholder collaboration and public contact so as to instill transparency, create trust and harness the creative thinking of the interested publics we deal with. Except in the actual act of negotiating a deal, secrecy is our enemy. There is no better time for DNRE to begin talking about the value shaping characteristics of public lands than now when cities, counties, twps, industry and private citizens are pondering the same issues. We need to be one of them - fellow stakholders - and not the closeted source of rumors.

95 Public annoucement and direct mailing to stakeholder organizations.

96 email

97 Press releases and DNR website updates would be an effective place to communicate the project status.

98 The best is one on one. Beyond that the newspaper and Television are best. The most imporrtant thing is to have the right person speaking and analyzing. It is important to realize we are a public service organization, and we are here to serve the public. The the things the public says aren't dumb, and shouldn't be made fun of; they present opportunities to provide explanation and positive feedback. Some DNR employees laugh and make fun of the public and then develop policies that don't serve the public well. I don't like that and troubles me a lot. I'm somewhat new to the orginazation. I really care - and it bothers me when others don't.

99 Follow up meetings, phone calls, surveys?

100 E-mail, direct mail, television notifications

101 E-mail or web.

102 Many methods, but we need to explicitly communicate back to the particular public involved on an issue. This sometimes doesn't happen.

103 We have nothing now, so anything would be better. I'm not sure what the public expects or desires for feedback. Sometimes, I think they just want to complain and grandstand.

104 I have no suggestions. If I had I would have tried them.

105 Posting the comments and management decisions to address those comments could be published on DNR web site

106 more list serv and compile of interested participants information

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q15. What type of guidance, templates, or checklists would help you manage the public participation process?

Number	Response Text
1	Not sure.
2	don't know
3	No suggestion
4	NA
5	none needed at this time
6	NOE THAT i CAN THINK OF NOW
7	Project planning guidance
8	N/A, to me
9	Specific to program
10	none of these would help - a course on working with the oublic would be mroe helpful, or on effective communication skills, or conflict resolution
11	Because of the wide variety of topics addressed, guidance, templates and checklists would vary by the nature of the meeting/discussion.
12	I do not participate in public meeting very often. If I were required to run a public meeting I would probably be lost. I believe having "experts" in every program and function is essential and efficient. We should have a public participation expert to handle these issues. They don't have to be experts in all of the programs just on how to run meetings and such.
13	corresponse guidance or log letter templates
14	handouts, pamphlets etc...
15	I don't think guidance, template or checklists are needed, LWMD has created program specific checklists and guidance.
16	It all depends on the individual situation. A general policy always applicable across the board. These decisions are best made case by case for this program.
17	We already use the above.
18	All staff would benefit from additional training on public participation. However many staff have direct interactions with the public so infrequently that they wouldn't have the opportunity to practice what they learned in the training sessions and that will limit the benefits of the training. So developing a group of staff who specialize in public participation that can assist other agency staff may be more effective. Guidance, checklists & templates on the intranet will be utilized by some staff but not by others. That's another argument for creating a group of public participation specialists because some staff aren't that interested, don't know what or who to ask or just don't have the time.

19 This process is well thought out and practiced in AQD. I cant really think of any additonal information that would streamline the process.
20 Standardized checklist
21 A department wide policy and procedure that details who does what.
22 RRD's public liaison person (Pat Lawton) is a huge help with logistics and planning.
23 Guidance on ways to convert complex scientific or statutory language into layman speak.
24 Existing guidance and templates appear to work fine.
25 NA
26 A different way to record comments/emai addresses
27 We don't have any templates or checklists. A good start would be to define the process.
28 Already have such things in place.
29 Knowing or having some idea of who your audience is going to be, but being prepared for anything. Making sure your presentation method (powerpoint, notes, etc.) and necessary equipment are fuctioning properly prior to the meeting. Make sure response to questions are clear and accurate.
30 Standardized templates for sign in, recording comments, etc.
31 Not really sure any would've helped. An up-to-date advisory group participant contact list was maintained, that included address, phone, and e-mail. The key was actually USING the information. I.e., again, following through, and contacting everybody, with the final product.
32 I would recommend "personalizing" our public participation process. The focus on guidance, templates, and checklists "de-personalizes" the process. What it comes down to is that people want to know that we have heard them, and the best way to do this is to have staff discuss the issues directly with them at meetings. Having staff available before and after meetings "personalizes" the discussion for the public because they can put a name and face on DEQ and really ask the questions they want to in the depth that they want to. Follow up questions could be done via email or phone, but they still have a personal experience.
33 Not sure?
34 A checklist would be helpful. Guidance is already pretty much in place.
35 Having a website that managed public comments and responses would be helpful.
36 Not sure that there can be a one size all fits approach.
37 N/A
38 stop holding meetings
39 Something that is clear and accepted by management and politicians.
40 don't know
41 None
42 We already have some guidance and templates. The biggest challenges seems to be getting the public to understand what authority we have vs. what we cannot do and explaining the complex regulations to the general public.
43 Not sure

44 There are key components of getting to yes, negotiating, etc. that we fail to implement in our public processes. A process listing of steps and desired outcomes from each step. E.g. 1) define roles One basic flaw is having facilitators who are too emotionally attached to the feedback-who become defensive as opposed to trying to reach a mutual understanding so that solutions can be achieved. 2) Define golas and issues, with consensus of stakeholders, etc. 3) describe communication feedback loops and stick with them or agree with the outside for alternate resloution, etc. Some of this is pretty basic-but we don't follow it.

45 If there are any new directives or guidance please let us know via email.
46 Permit processing procedures. Previous examples.
47 none
48 We receive a lot of comments and therefore can not respond to every letter. It would be nice for the public if there was a generic letter we could send letting them know we recived the comments and also thanking them for the comments.
49 Unsure
50 not sure
51 Announcement
Open forum
Written forum
Meeting
Written comment period
Compile info
Report Findings
52 None, comments are unique to each watershed area.
53 None. Our Program has specific guidance, templates, and checklists developed for our specific uses which we update as needed.

54 Current system is adequate. However, significant changes, if implemented should come with some sort of guide-sheet.
55 ?
56 AQD has a procedure written for a public participation process for Title V permits.
57 a step by step checklist that includes a list of templates for each step that applies would be helpful.
58 ?
59 None that I can think of at this point
60 online template
61 We used guidance found within the 632 mining statue.
62 Brief and easy to understand such as yes or no questions or multiple choice.
63 Nothing we don't already have; this stuff is pretty common sense.
64 Program-specific guidance/procedures would be helpful, especially for newer staff.
65 Public hearing template, a pre-meeting explaining the hearing also helps.
66 Example documents would be helpful.

67 Don't know.
68 The DEQ intranet does have a communications page, but staff may not be aware of this resource or remember to use it. I have not used it much myelf, though it obviously has useful information.
69 Checklist with steps and required timelines.
70 Guidance is provided by our Section procedures and by experienced staff.
71 don't know
72 It depends on the reason for and type of public meeting. Some meetings need less structure. Checklists should be (and often are) available if they are needed.
73 AQD has templates for its public comment documents, but they are forever being changed and updated. It would be nice (also efficiency would be greatly improved), if the documents could be finalized once and for all and not continue to be changed.

74 LWMD has a number of checklists and guidance documents that provide sufficient information on how to manage public participation.
75 They already exist
76 Requirements/laws and in-house policies should be included in a checklist/guidance.
77 Unsure
78 SOAHR had checklists for the rules process.
79 SUGGEST ALL FUTURE PUBLIC MEETINGS AND HEARING SHOULD BE HANDLE BY LANSING STAFF.
80 Difficult to say. My experience with the process is that the public involvement is often agenda driven (ie. being for or against the project) and not necessarily directly related to the limited scope of the meeting. I think we need to do a better job with selecting the people who represent us at these meetings rather than improving the process. I believe that the manner in which our representatives conduct themselves is much more important than the process when it comes to the opinion of the general public. Some are good at it, others are not.
81 Examples of scripts and handout material.
82 An explaination of the statutory criteria that explains in layman's terms how we review applications.
83 Leave the anti-mining weenies off our invite list. Or how how about a limit on the number of public hearings/meetings that can be held for a single project, such as the Kennecott Mine in the UP. We are going overboard for anti's who will be against it no matter what.
84 We use the guidance, templates and checklists that are already available.
85 A screened list of public facilities available for public hearings around the state would be very beneficial. Time and funding do not allow visits to most facilities in advance and many are not optimal for the situation. A general checklist is beneficial, but each situation has to be analyzed, individually, to determine the tweaks needed.
86 The process, itself, seems to go smoothly. The problems arise when participants do not approve of the decisions made by the Department, and want to know what their next step/recourse is.
87 better/easier to find information on application decisions on the DEQ web site are needed
88 They are already established - we just need to get the public more involved!

89 Access database works fine.
90 None
91 Whenever there is a change or update pertaining to the program that the public should be aware of, when annual invoices and license applications are mailed, the cover letter/information sheet directs them to our website (where pertinent information is updated and can be found) or a telephone number is provided where they can contact me directly (if they do not have access to a website). We have several template letters within our Unit, which are used to inform the licensee of issues or why their licenses are not being renewed (if this is the case). We are open to public input and participation to enhance our program and encourage communication with the public.
92 Regulatory guidance documents in simplified form held the public understand what is expected.
93 these can and should be developed by the department or division for use by it's employees. The process and various parts of it change dramatically from one program to another.

I'm a fan of checklists, to ensure each step has been or will be followed.
94 We don't have a lot of guidance in how to prepare a responsiveness summary in our Division, or even an awareness on the part of many staff that one is required. Any guidance would be good - preferrably in written form and available in the intra or internet.
95 General guidance for meeting agendas, constraints (restriction) of time.
96 Training in general on public participation is needed
97 None - the most significant problem with public participation is weak and specific laws that don't allow the DEQ to directly address public comments.
98 "Public participation" covers numerous situations. There is not one correct approach for all of these. However, past recommendations regarding meeting format, etc. has been helpful.
99 do know of anything at this time
100 N/A
101 ? Depends on the issue.
102 Guidance in place; informal pre-hearing info. sessions take place; we have several hand-outs at hearings, etc.
103 Need an un-biased thrid party who is effective at facilitating the meetings.
104 not sure
105 I can't think of anything
106 This survey is confusing. Which specific process are you referring to. I think you need to break the questions down futher. A simple guidance document that lays out the proces of rulemaking including DEQ and public's responsibilities will help. also a PPT that can be shown at the first rulemaking meeting will be helpful.
107 Have already developed template responses to common questions and comments. Also have useful checklists for public comment notification and hearings. All are revised based on latest experience.
108 nothing new required

109 Having a unit in OPCCA to help facilitate and coordinate public communication. Most DEQ staff are not be trained or do not have time necessary to coordinate effective public involvement, so training would be helpful along with assistance from the OPCCA.

110 We do a very good job of getting and responding to comments. Some folks may not get the response they are looking for, but we are prompt and effective.

111 We have regulations, document templates, and internal procedures (that are based on our program regulations) that guide us in managing the public participation process.

112 Existing AQD procedures and templates are helpful.

113 Just instructions for each participant level. My capacity is usually technical support, meet and greet, questions before and after. Would like to know what my role SHOULD be and what I could do to help the primary facilitators

114 RRD public participation guidance, use of public particpation resources on the web & solicitation of public, NGOs & LUGs desired process.

115 Guidance on what minimum standard of information must be provided and specific instructions on the process (from start to end)

116 The applicable environmental laws and Department policies first. Checklists always used that suit the situations or projects at hand.

117 I don't know that the above items are needed.

118 Having them provide specific written input.

119 Clear guidance on how to weigh public comment, guidance on how to educate the public about "risk", and guidance on how to communicate to the public exactly what public involvment means. Oftent the public views the process as "democratic" (i.e. if the public can get enough people to "vote" against a plan then the agency can't implement a particular remedy). What does public involvment mean when the public has an opinion that is not consistent with the data for the site, or if the public will only accept a no risk scenario?

120 For consistency...there should be a procedure/checklist that gives exact steps of what needs to be done. I have not been to any public hearings that were consistent in how they have been handled. If meetings were done in a consistent way...the public would know what to expect. It might good to also have the information posted in a consistent way on the Internet.

121 Guidance on which ways to communicate with the public are appropriate/allowed for various situations. A checklist of reminders of what (and/or how) to communicate would be helpful as well.

122 stepwise approach to what is expected - whether legally mandated or not - any format is fine

123 we would be open for further improvements to our process.

124 Guidance on how to go about each type of public participation and for hearings and public meetings, a checklist as to what needs to be done to set up the meeting/hearing, who to invite who to notify and how to set up the room for a meeting/hearing, and how to actually conduct the meeting/hearing.

125 A better understanding of what we can do under our mandate (and what we are unable to do) would be helpful as the public tends to be under the impression that we can do more than we are able to do under our mandate.

126 Oh, for God's sakes! We already have lists, templates, logs, charts, and logs of lists, charts of logs, templates of lists charts logs charts and templates. Things would be vastly better if we scrapped at least 90% of them. Or at least print them all on soft double-ply tissue paper so they serve SOME useful purpose.

127 I think the current LWMD system is affective and no additional paperwork is needed.

128 Guidance on notification methods that result in good attendance at public meetings. This tends to be for noncontroversial subject matter- watershed planning.

129 None. This is an issue-by-issue guidance using common sense

130 We have developed guidance documents, templates, and checklists to supplement the legal requirements.

131 Email message templates (frequently sent) that each district commits to send out would be helpful, so that we have proactive frequent consistent communication to permittees.

132 I think more Web based guidance for the public, such as surveys and informational pages on how to and what types of information to submit for input, would be very useful.

133 Suggestions/prompts to make sure full scope of public is invited and ideas to reach those groups or segments as well as ideas for inviting participation, fostering it, and responding to it.

134 An informal checklist as a reminder where notices should posted, ADA compliant meeting locations, comment cards, sign in, etc.

135 I think there is too much of this already. You can not create a one size fits all for dealing with the public. I think that the public sees right through the "canned" press releases and such that we typically put out there because we are so afraid we might step on someones toes. We need to get back to making decisions based on field staff imput and then be ready to stand behind them. Trying to use the "Lansing teflon shield" doesn't cut it in my opinion.

136 Our meetings are generally small and targeted so guidance on increasing participation would be helpful.

137 A check list would be good. Just a cryptic outline with the main points lising the steps.

138 model letters

139 Have one or more people trained to arrange public meetings & hearings that anyone can contact. This person would assure all equipment, procedures & notifications were done & recorded. For each meeting have readily available references for the public regarding "who does what" so they can follow up.

140 The process is managed effectively and as per law. However public participation would be much more effective if the public was engaged very early on and not at the time a permit approval/denial is being considered.

141 Our public notices are emailed through a data base to all required agency recipients and mailed to others via a checklist of mandatory recipients. Others can view all application status on line at any time.

142 I believe staff would benefit from training on how to plan, organize, and conduct a public meeting/hearing.

143 None--we do just fine.

144 We have some in AQD but some of what we do comes out of experience with different processes.

145 not sure. current system seems to work.

146 Need to be customized for the few I am involved with

147 a leadership academy group guiding the way

148 Most important is to maintain an accurate list of people and groups to respond to, with appropriate contact information so we can respond via e-mail and regular mail when necessary.
149 We have a 'DNR Use only' section on the comment card to be completed by the person responding to the comment/question. Date, time, answer, etc.
150 a written checklist with a final outcome block on the same form.
151 We have cards, forms etc. that work well.
152 More of all of it
153 Templates and checklist would be helpful.
154 The subject file.
155 new evalution forms
156 We have prceedures for open houses and compartment reviews that we follow. For public complaints that come from legislators we have a log letter process.
157 Provide us a trained facilitator to run the process
158 press
159 We try to use general templates, but any additonal comments or templates are always welcome
160 Maybe some type of evaluation from participants on how they heard about the input process and/or topic?
161 laws on open meetings act, dept. policy & procedures
162 Some set guidelines or Policy and Procedure?
163 ?
164 unsure at my lower level
165 policy guidlines
166 None.
167 Legal guidance(parameters), Does and Don't
168 Clear outlined agenda
169 Not sure what is meant here...
170 one specific to the issue
171 Make sure contact lists are kept up to date.
Recognize that many citizens are not aware of the intricate issues regarding resource management and may only have a particular concern about an area or resource that affects them personally.
172 List of appropriate media outlets/contacts that should be used
173 unsure
174 Instructions on how to best obtain representive data.
175 Seldom would need these. Each event involving public participation is different - some are educational, some regard narrow interests, some involve a broad base of users. Approach needs to be appropriate to the situation.
176 key to which kind of process is needed (i.e. NEPA is different than others), then flow chart of steps needed, requirements of Open Meeting Act in plain English

177 Not sure what is available.
178 Not sure...
179 Statistical assesment of comments. How to manage dominance of the input process by one particular user or interest group.
180 A form that collected all decisions the public may want to be a part of/have a voice in, and a process or committe that decided the priority of the public input required for each decision...so thime was spent by staff on gathering public input when the Dept. deems it important, so we don't get caught up in a tiny project...
181 Need the genral departwide systems available to also publish access informaiton in the main stream not as a seperate special notice. Need all coomunication methods to be accessible, need communicaiton policy updated to ensure everything is in accessbile format, need web page revised for usability and accessibility.
182 A check list to ensure that the pertinent points are covered would be useful.
183 A check list might be useful to help better ensure that important steps at the Departmental level are taken. For example, getting the participants list reviewed by the 6th floor.
184 Ideas for the best practices in getting information out.
185 need more "tools" to facilitate larger surveys or a subscription surveymonkey.com for more in depth surveys
186 Because public participation is low, formal guidance on conducting meetings is currently not required.
187 requirements in place as to how much notice public should be given and timeframes on when they should get responses.
188 Document with Commonly Asked Questions instruction sheet, sample press release for newspaper or tv, sample letter for mass mailing to public, checklist of items to make sure you bring to a public meeting, procedures for requesting authorization to hold a public meeting, list of all types of employees that should be involved with public hearing like Law Enforcement, etc. and when needed
189 Mentoring, FAQ's, Talking Points and a designated go-to person.
190 Should work directly with public participation specialists.
191 process lists
192 Not sure at this point- not sure what you are looking for. We deal with so many different issues at different levels.
193 Not sure
194 Generally our process works well with all of the above used when necessary.
195 Dedicated staff would be best
196 unknown
197 Each group is somewhat unique and meetings need to be crafted to best fit that group. Obvious consideration need to be made regarding the availability of alcohol at the meeting. But many meetings that we participate in, we do not have control of the venue.
198 list of available options, protocalls and standard criterias
199 Better standard operating procedures for when and why public comment should be gathered.
200 none
201 Having standard formats that could be used to capture the input and interface with a data base would be helpful

202 1. Start with who, what, when, where, and why; 2. Allow public comment; 3. Since we seldom have more than 10 people at the public meeting, try to address the comments at the meeting; 4. Ask for public comment on the new issues brought up.

203 a "Who's Who" or "Who does what" or "Who to contact for ..." type of DNR-DEQ index for staff reference. This would allow me to quickly, effectively, and effeciently deal with stuff and move on to other tasks.

204 More guidance by those schooled in marketing/sales- instead of scientists operating outside of their comfort zones.

205 department facilitator

206 Drawings and specifications.

207 It should be a unified process

208 The process described is effective by indivdual, but unfortunatley not on a wide-scale basis.

209 Facilitator training, a standard comment card (that asked for name and email address if the respondent wanted to receive results)

210 ?

211 Templates and checklists would be fine. Who does what? Forms to use?

212 Status quo is fine.

213 Template for press releases, instruction in dealing with the public issues, the authority to handle some of this stuff at the park level

214 To manage, none that I can think of at this time.

215 "The public participation process" is a giant thing. It seems to me that what is needed more than the items listed above is a measure of effectiveness and then making improvements based on those measures of effectiveness. We can have guidelines, templates, protocols and checklists all over the place but if they are not effective, they don't contribute much. Furthermore, I am not sure we really go into some of our meetings knowing what we expect to get out of the "public participation." We have made some huge strides in this area recently but there are still times when we hold "public meetings" without knowing precisely what we hope to accomplish with the meeting.

216 Not sure, seems like alot is already being done.

217 Public open house format works well. That being for example a 4 hour time frame that intrested parties can come in, view plans and proposals, engage staff on a personal level and get one on one question and answer interactions.....most folks leave feeling very satisfied and like they have had an opportunity to contribute.

218 templates that can be customized to take online comments can be very effective

219 Unsure

220 standardized process for evaluation, something that could be reported upon to gauge the overall effectiveness of the process

221 Some of what we try to communicate is of little/no interest to most of the public (compartment review decisions, forest management plans). It would be helpful to figure out what parts of our resource management process is of interest to which publics.

222 An easier to navigate website. Flow charts for response to situations (when something needs immediate attention opposed to what is less serious).

223 It's difficult to say-- we may need greater availability of professional facilitators so that the program staff aren't simultaneously facilitating and resposible for presenting the Division's message

224 PLEASE, NO MORE TEMPLATES OR CHECKLISTS! I FEEL THAT WE ARE SET ON HOW WE INCLUDE THE PUBLIC WITH COMMON ACTIVITIES. SOMETIMES WE NEED TO SPEND A LITTLE MORE TIME EXPLAINING WHAT OUR INTENTIONS ARE. MOST OF THE TIME THIS WORKS.

225 (1) Bring the public in early to help define management goals and visions.
(2) Staff then crafts the management plans. We then try to get public support for the plan. If they are already in agreement on the goal/vision, then much easier.
(3) The issue isn't really one of the mechanics or logistics of public input/participation... its how we are trying to use it.

226 How to deal with time limits of comments, unruly crowds, basically managing the meeting.

227 OK as is

228 Flow chart and/or checklist of appropriate steps and considerations to get public input and guidance on when public input is generally appropriate/expected.

229 power point

230 No sure

231 Examples of press releases and comment cards. Guidance on how to deal with the media would also be helpful.

232 Timely participation, timely responces, public involvement session rather than public meetings

233 We have written public participation process guides to assist staff in completing all necessary steps in the public participation process

234 Ours is almost exclusively an open house and compartment review. Current guidance is sufficient

235 none

236 Department protocol for minimum requirements.

237 Currently logged letters help to manage the participation process to insure that a timely response is completed. Phone logs are a good concept that can get out of hand in a high volume call situation but is good if you want to know stats. I'm thinking of "bublic participation" here as not a formal meeting but rather the day-to-day interactions where we convey info and create a realtionship with the public one-on-one.

238 I think its pretty well structured as is but im sure some from the outside see us as a black box where they dont even know the duties that we carry out on a day to day basis...perhaps if the pocket parks had a "DNRE in a nut shell" poster explaining what we do and why we do it...or the DNRE web site had a DNR and DEQ at a glance, or maybe they already do...I think the 1000's of templates/official documents we already have are getting a bit tough to keep track of as is...

239 Organizing all of the existing information from the various divisions and programs would be helpful.

240 A good adgenda is a must to stay on track.

241 Comment cards that guide a comment regarding the issue(s) at hand, keeping on task.

242 I'm not sure

243 Not needed.

244 List and make follow successful ways of communication.

245 A template for tallying the reposes and input in a form that can be easily sent to public participants OR placed on a website for their review.
246 Depends on the process.
247 use of unaffected, qualified facilitators for decision making at public meetings
248 A standard format that an expert has devised that is universal and user friendly.
249 PRD has an effective process that gathers public input for both existing programs and new projects.
250 Make the public aware of how decisions are made.
251 A written how-to guide for public input meetings accessible on line.
252 A directory of content names, emails, and phone numbers to direct the public.
253 I'm not sure what this question is getting at exactly. Having clearly established deadlines for submission of comments is helpful, as is allowing for public participation through several mediums (e.g., verbal, email, formal letter). Sometimes it is not clear to staff when decisions should be made with public input.
254 Simple encouragement would help.
255 tools that help identify decision making process to use, checklist of steps to host a public meeting
256 Infusing the real estate function (as it exists now) with a sense of proactive involvement/advisery service role to the divisions, field staff and long range planning functions. This is standard practice in county, municipal, NGO and private sector affairs and seems only to be absent here. Direct first-hand involvement in the public participation processes of our client divisions would certainly inform the process (in both directions) and create smarter, more cost effective, more efficient management of our land resources. Further, it would do much to erase/correct the mistrust that local government, industry and private land owners have of our agency when it comes to land dealings, land use planning and resource protection.
257 RRD templates
258 If there was a "DNR" template that was understood and accepted by the public as the "DNR" process it would save explaining the public participation process to participants.
259 A calendar of public input events would help with coordination
260 guidance, by issue type, on the chain of supervisors/managers who should be notified
261 Other than what is statutorally required, the WHMD doesn't encourage public participation at this time. I think we could/should ask ourselves 1) what information would be most helpful to the general public in understanding how WHMD programs are working for them and then 2) how can we make this information available efficiently and cost effectively.
262 It would be helpful to have public participation case studies that identify things that have worked and have not worked. This could be combined with an evaluation of these cases which offered suggestions about what worked and what didn't, and also what might be done differently.
263 We could use a cadre of trained public facilitators.
264 Some guidance on new communication tools such as blogs. Some employees are participating in them but there is no Department guidance on what is appropriate.
265 group training with handout of short summary or checklist of major factors.
266 A set of instructions on how to present to our Board--time available, relevant information to present, dos and don'ts, etc.

267	internal business process for review/sign off
268	One on one meetings prior to presentation. Then a presentation followed by public input (questions and comments). This is important and should go as long as folks want to talk. Limiting folks minimizes their issue and angers them. Let them talk as long as they want, until they feel listened to and validated; then you can reach them.
269	not sure
270	N/A
271	An electronic bulletin board.
272	List of feedback methods to adapt Suggestions for how Suggestions for who is available to assist
273	Training so, as much as possible, we use the same methods, and the public is engaged.
274	unknown
275	standardized format
276	Templates and someone in charge whose sole responsibility is public outreach and follow-up
277	some type of flowchart from the Dept. would be useful so that its always done the same way; include DNR contacts.
278	None
279	Unknown.
280	this would be a good idea, with details specific to each division program and statute.
281	unknown
282	??
283	I am a wildlife biologist by training and we just kind of wing it most of the time. If the Dept wants to standardize how meetings are run and information shared, then an outline or template would be helpful.

DNRE Public Participation Survey - Internal

Q16. What suggestions do you have for improving the public participation process within DEQ and DNR?

Number	Response Text
1	More personal distribution of notices through local groups directly to neighborhoods, and follow up actions when warranted by the issue.
2	none
3	none
4	no ideas.
5	don't have any suggestions
6	Make electronically available all administrative records for NPDES permits. In my experience, transgressing staff have hidden their transgressions behind the veil of paper files. Placing the entire record on a searchable e-file would end this practice. Simple, effective, and the right thing to do. "We say what we do, and we do what we say"
7	NA
8	none
9	Get it right, get it out fast and answer any questions.
10	Web site based comments
11	Webcast or teleconferece for public to participate without travelling.
12	Public participation? What about the employees?
13	None at this time.
14	Stronger effort for soliciting the comments of those that don't usually bother to comment.
15	Seek advice on interest groups that should be part of the public participation process prior to meetings, advisory group appointments, etc. This will eliminate accusations of lack of representation and reduce public acrimony.
16	Keep an open mind and consider the input.
17	None, But we should start listening to the public and what they want from the MDEQ.
18	More face to face
19	Keep web links active. These are great sources of getting all the information to everyone. Keep employees informed so they can be responsive to requests.
20	PERHAPS AN ARTICLE ON THE MICHIGAN WEB PAGE ABOUT WHY WE PROTECT THE WETLANDS, MANY PEOPLE ONLY READ WHAT NEGITIVE COMPANIES WANT THEM TO READ WHICH IS NOT ALWAYS THE TRUTH (LETS SAY IT'S SLANTED TO ONLY THEIR VIEW POINT)
21	I'ts better to communicate via phone or office meeting.

22 Perhaps we could encourage comments based on publishing our positions in local papers or other media outlets.
23 Marketing the department's mission, so the public first understands the importance of what we do. Then the general public may get more involved, instead of just special interests.
24 Go back to commissions and get the department out of the final decision.
25 Using local radio stations
26 Having a direct line/point of contact as opposed to a hotline or unstaffed call line. People like to be able to reach someone and know exactly who to contact.
27 I would think providing a variety of methods for conveying information and receiving public comments is the best approach ensuring that information exchange is not limited to and from the most vocal personalities and organizations that, frequently, are the parties attending public meetings and getting news coverage. So, in addition to the public meeting, have direct mailings, interactive web site, emails with hyperlinks to You Tube clips.
28 More outreach can never hurt, otherwise it seems fine.
29 Emphasize to middle management that timeliness of responses are important. They tend to unnecessarily delay responses.
30 There is a lot of emphasis placed on the DEQ Calendar. However, only those that subscribe or seek it out on the website (typically industry and consultants) receive the calendar. The general public is usually unaware of the public activities through the Calendar. Use of more local media sources should be used.
31 The public doesnt understand the process in general. It would probabyl be worthwhile to provide some sort of short written summary of how the comment process works that could be handed out prior to meetings.
32 Not involved enough to really have an answer but, I believe we should have more public participation up front not per facility. For example we should say this is our NPDES permitting process. This is how we do our evaluation. We issue permits because in this way because the law requires us to and we believe it is environmentally responsible. Once we have provided the public a chance to comment on the process issuing a permit to a facility shouldn't need a comment period.
33 Be more willing to let the public have their say, don't try to "manage" them by sepearating those who wish to comment from the rest (recent attempts to allow public comment to a recorder rathetr than an audience, efforts to split the public into those who wish "informal contact" with the DEQ from those who wish to make official comments.
34 Listing the limits on decision making as well as clearly state what is open to discussion for that process.
35 Offer one stop shopping for all issues pertaining to DNRE with the appropriate dates/times/method for public participation.
36 Shorten the turn around time to get notices posted on the DEQ calendar. The current turn around time results in either meetings and hearings not being posted in the calendar, or very short notice. It would be helpful it the web site had a place other than the calendar where divisions could post public hearings or meetings.
37 Providing the "public suggestions/comments" section on the DEQ/DNR website is a good way to start.
38 Be consistent

39	One problem we run into in LWMD is the timing of the public notice process for projects (e.g., on inland lakes) where many of the area residents are only there during the summer. The timing of the public notice process is dictated by when we receive the permit application and the statutory deadlines for processing the permit application. If the applicant submits an application over the winter (which we often encourage take advantage of our lighter work loads outside the construction season), many seasonal residents who might be interested in the project may never hear about it in time to comment.
40	Annouce in the nearby churches, grocery stores, so the people really affected knows about the meeting and come to the meeting. Let them feel that their participation could make a difference.
41	Define the process. Review, update and train staff.
42	Standardization
43	no
44	You ask was the public participation process "effective." Just exactly how do we measure the effectiveness of public participation? We could publish notices on the web and in papers and if nobody replys or shows up for a meeting, is that effective? Also, publication in newspapers will likely become obsolete in the near future as papers switch to an electronic "web" publication format (i.e. Ann Arbor News). How will the message get to the populace when the traditional means of notification is no longer effective or efficient?
45	None
46	First of all, we have done a darn good job of making ourselves available to various publics and encouraging their participation. Back in 2005 the DEQ twice brought EPA expert Alvin Chum to Michigan for a public involvement workshop with staff and supervisors to improve the public process. The tools that were delveloped as a result of those workshops have served our agency well during a period of extreme budget constraints. Can we improve? Of course we can. But I am a bit insulted that our own agency fails to recognize how much we have accomplished [with few resources other than staff efforts] thus far. One of our greatest impediments is the small size of the DEQ press office. Getting information to the news media about controversial situations, general information, and upcoming events has been slow or ignored due to workload. If the DEQ press office had the mandate and the staff to help market newsworthy public information (not simply respond to "hot" issues), it would serve us well.
47	None at this time.
48	Increase the use of our dept calendar and the ability to receive input through that source.
49	Another effective method might be a mass mailing to all addresses within a given zip code, or a certain radius (1,2,5 miles, etc) aroung the site in question. The problem with mass maililng is cost. Newspaper, radio and the State website advertisements work, but can be easily overlooked by the public. We always get some surprised people about a project, even after years of going through the process.

50	The public participation process in place now seems to work pretty well. The biggest problem with it is not caused by the process itself, but rather the statutes and rules. In many cases the statutes and rules dictate that if a permit application for a facility meet the criteria set out in the statute and rules, the agency is obligated to issue the authorization. As a result of this, it is often difficult in the public participation process to convince interested parties that the process is anything more than a formality. Something needs to be interjected in the process that helps the public to better understand the permitting and license process and the relavance of the statute and rules.
51	Reduce costs associated with public notices in newspapers. These are too expensive. If notices need to be placed in newspapers, we need the facilities to pay for these costs. Make more effective use of electronic notifications, e-calendars and FAQ responses via e-postings.
52	We should be more active in soliciting comments from the public instead of trying to avoid getting comments. Current system is more designed to meet the bare minimum as required be rule or law.
53	Personalize it. People respond better to people than they do to agencies and Departments. Get staff out to the meetings to interact with the public one on one before and after the meetings informally. Make sure they bring business cards to hand out to people if they have follow up questions. People don't always remember what you said, but they remember how you treat them, or put a different way "You have to let people know you care, before they'll care about what you know."
54	Generally I believe it presently works well.
55	be honest and tell them that it's only for show
56	Informational meetings rather than just the formal hearings are very helpful. We need to hone public communication skills therefore more training would be helpful.
57	Assure those that comment that their input was heard and how it was addressed. Many may not like the answers, but at least they will know they weren't completely ignored.
58	A summary newsletter email and YouTube presentations.
59	More media notification
60	Advertise universal open meetings, open public comment acceptance. Offer a better more visible one-stop location for posting all notices online, sorted by broad category or whatever.
61	I am not aware of any need for improvments. However, in the past it was mainly by public hearing or submission of a written letter. I can see allowing more electronic submission of comments to a website or email address.
62	Train DEQ/DNR staff to improve staff attitude's about the value of the public's suggestions. Make easy quick surveys like this one available to the public through multiple avenues, such as social networking sites, department website 'headlines', and through email/listserves. Implement suggested changes and publicize the change and emphasize the change was made becasue of suggestions from the public.
63	Easy to understand information describing our authority and what we cannot consider in making a decision. General education for the public that the best way to stop a proposal is at the local level - DEQ has no authority over zoning and cannot consider whether or not a propoasl is popular, only if it meets the legal requirements.

64	DEQ needs more focus and support systems to come into the 21st centruy on how to communciate and keep our public involved, informed and as a result more supportive. We need structural changes to achieve this and processes/people who are good at working with people and confrontation and turning it into a positive outcome for all.
65	It is difficult to know whether we are actually reaching the audience most of the time. You need to add a "unknown" choice to the questions regarding the effectiveness of the process. It is hard to tell whether people are just not seeing notices sometimes, or are just apathetic to the process. I suspect it is more of the latter. It doesn't seem like they don't care really, but rather that the choices that they are given in terms of commenting don't really fit with their concerns on the topics. Since the process is already structured, some participants feel the outcome is pre-determined.
66	Generally, the attendees either have questions about the given project or have concerns that are not under our jurisdiction. The applicant or agent provides information on the project that may or may not be clear. Although DEQ staff can talk about the statute, rules, and process, we cannot and should not been seen as advocates for or against a project. Frequently, our public hearings provide a forum for citizens to talk to local officials, staff from other state agencies, or the applicants. Although this is not an efficednt use of AGENCY time or money, it provides auseful public benefit.
67	decision documents should be readily available on line so people can find out what we decided and how the decision was made. It will be helpful for us to acknowledge the main issues raised by the public and how they factor into the decision.
68	Making it easier to find the right person to talk to and better delineating the extent of our authority.
69	More communication with grassroots community organizers that are actually in teh community of concern. These folks may not reach out to us on their own.
70	Inform people how much merit or weight their comment, not specifically, has on the decission. We allow people to believe their comments have more impact than they really do. Be honest from the beginning.
71	More staff needed to decrease individual workloads and allow staff to interact more with the public.
72	None
73	In general, I hear a lot of complaints from the public about timeleness of responses. Not only from formal comments but general e-mail responses and return phone calls. I think that upper level management needs to clairify to lower level managers the priority of responding to ALL public comments and inquiries. If this is not a priority, then lets not give mixed signals.
74	none
75	See previous response.
76	Open communication and cooperation between state and federal agencies would be most helpful. The DEQ needs to communicate environmental issues more effectively, efficiently, and speedily to the public and other agency staff. DEQ needs to actually put emphasis on this by the director to the division/bureaus/offices and provide each with a mandate for staffing and product funding to do the needed work. We are horrible at this. I still have people at public meetings who do not know what the DEQ is and assumes we are just part of the DNR. We need another CMI like proposal to provide the needed funding (match) to take advantage of the potential funding available fron the GLRI and GLLA.
77	Provide comment box on Department websites for input from the public.
78	Know your stakeholders and inform them of the process by the best method depending on the circumstances. Not everyone has access to a computer.

79 Set up web site for public/steakholder comments. Public meetings?
80 An improved website. Information can be very difficult to locate on the present DEQ website.
81 Train or OJT more of the agency staff, so they can experience the public participation process.
82 No comment at this time.
83 I believe ALL DNRE public comment should be structured the SAME. Same input time frame, same decision time frame, same means of communication, so that the interested public won't be confused and put off by different deadlines/methods/means from program to program. I understand this may require a legislative fix...but so be it. There's no way to adequately "fix" the process as is. If you 'harmonize' them and make them consistent from program to program the public will know what to expect and manage their expectations accordingly.
84 make everything online, including apps, permits, comments, etc
85 It's fine...how much info do they need?
86 Involve Field office staff in developing templates or guidance for they interact with public more.
87 Have the legislature provide additional money for outreach early in any process where a decision affecting the public is likely to be made.
88 None.
89 None now. Ask again in a few years if we get a republican governor.
90 Pre meetings before official hearings.
91 Posting meeting videos on our internet page.
92 I would minimize public participation. Please leave the job to the pros.
93 These aren't suggestions for improving the process so much as thoughts about a couple of general aspects of the process. First, I think it's important to develop supporting written background and outreach material that is in plain english, and keeps regulatory jargon to a minimum. It should also explain what the regulatory jargon means, if the use of jargon is unavoidable! For example, explaining the difference between a statute and an administrative rule would help some sectors of the public gain a better understanding of the issue at hand.

The second thought relates to the concept of "stakeholders." When getting the input of the broad, general public on an issue isn't feasible, the department often seems to pull together a stakeholder group to represent different interests. This method seems to result in at least fair representation for industry, government, and environmental groups, for example, but I think that other types of interests aren't well-served by this approach. For example, I have the impression that the home construction industry or realtors are
94 AQD Southeast Michigan also conducts outreach, informational meetings with concerned citizens on top of the permit public participation process for Title V permits. Timely responses to customer/citizen inquiries, transparency, creating an atmosphere of cooperation among customers (companies), citizens, and DEQ/DNR instead of antagonism and indiference to work on a win-win situation for all parties concerned may be a better alternative and the final objective is protecting/benefit to human health and the environment.

95 There should be an annual or semi-annual reminder to staff that we are here to serve the public as well as to protect the environment. Maybe include a new case study or two each year that examines what went well and what didn't. Some of the issues we cover are so complex that it would help to have some training on how to inform the public about these issues.
96 Occassional public service announcements telling the public where to find public notices on our web pages.
97 Public workshops and media ads/news clips
98 More email, less public meetings
99 none currently
100 Do not rely soley on web site or newspaper notifications. Nobody, including myself, looks at these.
101 have more public information meetings where panel members actually engatge in a dialogue with the public. But, must have a strong moderator to squelch public comments and or opinions not germane to the subject of the meeting or not able to actually be addressed by our agency. Example: comments related to truck traffic - DEQ does not regulate the roads!
102 The process works ok. I have no suggestions.
103 P.R. efforts (example: MDOT radio ads, highway billboards)
104 Make public more aware of their importance, ability and responsibility to participate
105 Working together and keeping everyone in the loop as to what is happening.
106 The public notice procedures and timelines as well as hearing requirements throughout the varrious Divisions should be made as consistant as possible. This would again improve efficiency and be a cost savings.
107 I believe the LWMD is doing a good job with public participation. Once merged, I look forward to all internal participation process improving between LWMD and DNR-Fisheries and Wildlife Division. This should include allowing those DNR Division a "view only" option to our permit database-CIWPIS. This would allow DNR staff to review deadlines, documents, and photographs.
108 education of the public before an issue is identified.
109 Allow for more informal comment. Many people are intimidated by the formal hearings processes for permits particularly. Information and q&a sessions may do a better job of eliciting useful comment than formal processes that tend to get careful comment from lawyers or lobbyists looking to shore up a particular party's viewpoint or interests.
110 none at this time
111 Use radio public broadcasting stations more and give specific named contact person
112 None.
113 See previous answer. It's people and/or personality driven, and not process driven. I think our process is fine. We need to carefully pick the people who represent us during meetings and hearings. Highly technical and/or permit staff are not always the right people.
114 Impress on staff the importance of this work, and the effort that should be put into it.

	I know that public meetings are already posted in newspaper ads, but internet listings on our sites and television announcements in newscasts could also help. Also, be open to what people are really saying. Lots of times the public feels that they aren't being listened to which really
115	frustrates them.
	More educational materials especially written information. Not everyone uses the internet especially in rural areas where dial-up
116	connections are very common.
117	See last comment.
	Informal meetings and allowing interested parties file reviews to better inform public on issues and hopefully reduce the volume of
118	comments that would have to be responded too.
	The FOI process is excessively burdensome. Making files available is OK; but nearly 50% of clerical time is used pulling files and
119	making copies. Electronic files would streamline this process and free up time.
120	more information on the web site would be a good place to start
121	Funding to handle the resource commitment involved.
	More outreach, education, advertising to the public to get them knowledgable about our processes and that we want their input. Putting our information on our website is so limited. We need to use the tv, radio, newspapers, magazines. I know that some stuff are worried about having to deal with the public, but we are a public agency and their input helps us create a better product. I also think it would be beneficial for us to reach out to the public and have open meetings to discuss anything (within our specific
122	programs) - like maybe have coffee shops days out in the community.
	If there were more money available we could run radio spots which may help. Generally speaking we get favorable comments from the people who attend our public meetings. We have received the occasional comment that "We didn't get the notice soon enough" and while we are sensitive to this issue we also know that you can't please everybody. Many times what I notice is that it is not frustration with the process per se but frustration with the outcome. Needless to say there are two sides to our issues and somebody is always going to be disatisfied with the outcome. Knowing this we try to be very open with the process and
123	professional with all that are involved. We also try very hard to make ourselves available to all so that they can be heard.
124	Public announcements through radio, television, websites.
125	More public notifications through press releases, as the DEQ calendar is too narrow in its distribution.
126	The applicants should be required to do more public outreach on the front end for controversial projects.
	Reduce the necessity of its role. There is far to much meaningless input by special interest groups - true believers with an axe to
127	grind
	Be "pro-active" rather than "re-active." In other words inform the public of requirements or changes and give the recipients time to bring their facilities (if this is the case) into compliance, rather than telephone and indicate an inspection has been scheduled (yesterday) and if noncomplying items are found to automatically issue "fines" and enforcement correspondence. Work with the public rather than against them to gain the necessary compliance, but keep it within the required act, rules, and laws; but explain "why" it is necessary in order to gain compliance - just don't cite the act and rules (as this seems to be the case in most instances).
128	

129 Simplify negotiating the State website.
130 More digital forms of communication. If interested parties provide the DEQ with email address, this would be the most efficient and effective way of involving and notifying the public.
131 That's a tough one. Many technical staff may not be comfortable doing public outreach and we don't have much in the way of communicatons support staff - press liason people. DNR used to have some communications reps in the district, don't know if they even have that anymore. Please the Divisions usually want some control over the message going out. More guidance and/or coordination on how to handle public outreach and/or participation process would be helpful.
132 None
133 More training, more staff present at the time of the public meeting/hearing
134 None - there is plenty of opportunity to interact with staff (phone, emial, website, etc.)
135 The format of the DEQ website does not make it easy to provide updates on current issues/track issues over time in a manner that is readily available to the public. Notices/updates can be posted on specific web pages, but generally the public has to know what they are looking for to find those pages, and then space is limited.
136 simplify web page and allow comments to be submitted through web page.
137 I am not familiar enough with our process to propose an improvement. But I would think good follow up, informing those that attended (and others) of the comments and results would be important.
138 Better advertising outlining why public participation is important. Providing ways that the decisions made could effect them.
139 none
140 The public is frustrated that the public participation process is patronizing and only being done to follow requirements. The public participation process should be more than informative.
141 Better ability to send out printed materials, post public notices via compiling organizational addresses (i.e., churches, community centers, mailing lists) and ability to translate to Spanish and Arabic.
142 Do more public announcements.
143 multiple radio, tv, cable, newsprint notices, each spread out over time prior to comment deadlines
144 Mora ability to move our rulemaking meetings around the state rather than always having them come to us.
145 Each case is unique. Guidelines for routine issues are good, but flexibility is necessary. More involvement for all staff to learn from experience is one suggestion.
146 Greater outreach to non-traditional and non-environmental groups, to broaden the spectrum of participants. Getting hunting groups, ag leaders, etc involved with public participation. Tapping some groups that we might not otherwise think of. We never know where the next great idea may come from!
147 none
148 Additional informational meetings at the location of interest, if resources allow.
149 Often 3rd parties have insights when I read newspaper articles. Similar to a newspaper, we could create a publication where people can comment. Concerned citizens, local governments, or businesses can leave comments at the end of the article. They could request follow-up, or at least allow for responses to be posted by informed parties.
150 Don't know, I have not been invovled with the DEQ's public participation process.

151 finding ways to get more of the "silent majority" involved in the public participation process. Electronic Surveys are one way. Folks dont always have the time to physically drive out and make time for a public meeting....use more "Electronic Town Hall" forums.

152 provide sufficient opportunity: website, mailing list, newsletter, media (local & regional), cable bulletin board channel, public service announcment, etc. All in multiple languages.

153 Better training of staff on how to conduct sessions with local community. More specific guidlines on when public meetings or other public input is appropriate.

154 Working within budget constraints has made it more challenging to find meeting venues and publish public notices over the last year. Changing the regulations to be able to routinely back-charge these expenses to permittees would be helpful. The use of social networking might help spread the word better, however these sites are often blocked within DEQ. If there were a way of accessing only the DEQ's Facebook site, that would be helpful. Otherwise, there would need to be selected staff within each Division who have the ability to post project-related information and access the public's feedback.

155 Coordination will be improved when the departments are combined. For instance, when a public hearing is held on an NPDES discharge permit to a trout stream, it will be easier to coordinate having Fisheries staff present at the meeting.

156 there is a fine line between public participation and giving the public the percpetion that they are a part of the decision making process. Its not a democracy, we don't issue permits based on a vote of the residents, hearing attendants etc...We need to manage the public's expectation of thier involvement better.

157 Reachout by attending their meetings, facilitate stakeholder groups, use email, publications & flyers to reach a diverse audience, seek out stakeholder preferences & concerns regarding the process to be used.

158 1. Properly resource the effort, with both a dedicated Communictions unit and staff liaisons assigned from each division.
2. For issues that do not require an immediate response, develop a communications plan based on the DNRE Strategic Plan. This primarily would identify areas of outreach and education for DNRE issues and identify the audience target for each issue area, e.g., stakeholders, general public, legislators, department employees, etc.
3. For issues requiring a time-sensitive response, develop a response plan that targets the identified audience(s) with a comprehensive response that is appropriate to the issue and the audience(s).

159 Do more pre-educating before the hearing to get the public more informed and therefore make more relavant comments instead of emotional ones.

160 Haven't been involved in enough to be able to say.

161 Often public participation is required by statute, but the actual inpact from the public is minimal. If a permit applicant meets the requirements of a law a permit is issued no matter what the public thinks of it. True public input in decision making is a farce.

162 No suggestions

163 Have a Lansing public information office that periodically sends out representatives to various areas of the State to do public outreach and education. The representatives could tap experts and expertise from individuals in the various divisions of the agency to assist with the education and outreach.

164 Simpler language and more complete project description in public notices.

165 DEQ has to decide what we want from public invoment, especially for controversial decisions.

166 Gave my suggestions in the last entry.
167 A general e-mailbox where citizens can send a message to the department. Appointed dept staff would distribute the messages appropriately.
168 Creating a public communication manager or similar position with staff and meaningful goals
169 I think we need to work on notifying the public of participation opportunities. I don't think we advertise very well.
170 We need to be careful. Yes, we want public input but we are regulators first (at least on the DEQ side) and sometimes (many times) the law dictates what we can and cannot do. That needs to be clear to the public as there are many things we have no control over.
171 continue to provide notifications via web, local newspapers, etc. also provide direct mailings to those who request it.
172 Education thru the media and possibly thru facebook.
173 Most of my involvement is with public notice of NPDES permits and Industrial Pretreatment Program Modifications. Those processes are generally well understood by the interested parties.
174 I think we are doing pretty well, but we should not rely too heavily on electronic media for dispersion of information to people who may not have access to computers to disseminate information. Also, some of our constituents may not speak english, so an attempt to disseminate information via other media and languages may be helpful.
175 We need to arrange announcements via TV or radio community calendar programs. We're still using newspapers but few people read newspapers any more. Also-- this is not a suggestion as much as an observation about problems-- not many people show up for the "routine" meetings. If something blows up into a hysterical media circus we get attendees, but if it does not we get the same two or three people from the company involved and the same two or three people from the local environmental group, and that's about it. What we could do to interest people in showing up I do not know. I do know that this is a general problem everywhere, with government meetings and indeed with civic organizations and meetings of all kinds.
176 None.
177 People need to voice their thoughts, opinions, and ideas when an issue/problem/process is presented to them. Acknowledging their fears and questions first and then providing them with honest answers, whether good or bad, in any process will calm their worries. It is a wonderful feeling to know that someone is listening. It doesn't hurt to go the extra mile to solve a problem and/or issue and it may save frustration, time, and money in the long run. Speaking as an average citizen, I believe we all feel that same way, but some days we are so caught up in the daily struggle of living we forget about the basic joy of being heard.
178 none
179 I have no suggestions. The public can regulary search CIWPIS to see if there are any projects in their area of concerns. If they want copies of the application they may FOIA the file; if they want to submit comments, they may contact field staff.
180 none
181 Consider eliminating the requirement to publish in newspapers. The notices are placed in the legal section. This is very costly ($1000+) and not effective.
182 additional efforts for education of the public on per issue basis to improve understanding and communications
183 More community involvement with the possibilty of following the desires of the public. Something to force the facilities to address concerns above and beyond the statutory authority.

	Typically, the only participants that attend a public meeting either have a vested interest in the topic (preaching to the chior), or want to take the opportunity to express their opinion about something not directly related to the meeting's focus (destracted from the issue at hand). The public participation process might be more effective if more of the general public understood the importance of the public participation process in government/public-related decisions. Raising more awareness might be accomplished through increased, localized outreach/education on the importance of how decision are made and how these decision have an effect on the environment, social, and economic assets of their community - give them a reason to care and engage.
184	
185	Publish decisions on the calendar or a web site, especially consent agreements, director decisions, etc.
186	Just trying to be more proactive - thinking abourt problems that may arise before they arise rather than after. Also sending a consistent message, and implementing permit programs consistently across the state.
187	Improve the website. Many people like to be informed but our website is terrible and hard to navigate. We should offer far more features and a better organized site.
188	Participation needs to be better built into our processes and procedures where it makes sense- any decision or process that can benefit from public support, public buy-in, information gathering from the public, or information dissemination seems to be a good place to start.
189	Discounts on state park stickers, hunting/fishing licenses
190	In order for the public to participate they need to understand what the DEQ and DNR actually do. Neither department has done a very good job of informing the public about what functions these departments really serve and or what is lost to the people of the state in decline in the natural resources so abundant and unique to this state. Never do I hear anything in the media about legislation that is pending or in place that has or would have a negative impact on the environment and ultimately the safety of the people of the state. I realize there are political machines at work in almost everything done in these departments, which didn't seem to exist to such an extent 10-15 years ago, but the DEQ especially needs to do a better job of informing the people of legislation developed by a business community whose agenda is not in the best interest of the environment which the people of this state reside and enjoy.
191	Possibly providing tools to the public as to what to expect in a public hearing, and how they can effectively participate.
192	NA
193	The program that I work in is fairly open and transparent and accessible to the public. As such, thoughts for improvement do not immediately come to mind.
194	Let it be driven from the field. Let the field staff bring the issues forward and come up with the solutions. Lansing needs to provide support for field generated decisions and step in when the field staff request their help.
195	More open meetings, direct communication. Meet with smaller groups of people face to face
196	Coordinate with local municipalities to hold "townhall" meetings to discuss issues, whether generic or specific to the region, to allow the public to see the "approachable" side of the DEQ.
197	Currently we use the DEQ Calendar to advertise our public meetings. I'm interested in more effective ways to 'get the word out' about our meetings for better participation.

198	Hold regularly scheduled (e.g. quarterly, semi-annual, annual), district or county-wide public, town hall meetings with agenda for current and/or controversial issues/processes to channel (in both directions) ideas. This could be an integrated part of a larger outreach event (apart from Earth Day) such as 'Waterway Day' or 'Great Lake Day', which could be partnered with local universities, NGOs, etc. with a variety of information and activities to draw masses of interest and interaction from broad demographics.
199	More public awareness of our programs and services that we provide for the citizens
200	Recommend that a public information session be required prior to all public hearings. Many people come to hearing, expecting to hear details on a project and getting some information form the dept. A well constructed .5-1 hr public info session may resolve a lot of the issues potential commentors may have.
201	Participants at public meetings often seem to have the opinion that the meeting is a plebiscite or referendum on the matter at hand and that the DEQ should simply deny approval to an applicant to proceed if "the public doesn't want it." Holding such meetings in the format of a contested case hearing, I believe, will result in better and more useful informtion being received by DEQ and less of the "NIMBY; the DEQ is in the industry's pocket; the public is never listened to" comments which are of no use in evaluating potential impacts and negative aspects of an application. Note that the above is given in the context of a permit application requiring a public meeting. Purely informational meetings are another matter, although such meetings can also degenerate into forums for criticizing the DEQ and straying far from the matter at hand.
202	Depends on the program. But I think being more proactive and clearly stating the facts. As well as defining the ramifications of these actions or non-actions.
203	Every division should do what the AQD is doing - hold info sessions before the public hearing. Also make enough staff available for answering questions. More people communicating and educating local organizations about key issues. Maybe as grass root at holding meetings in churches in schools and asking local leaders to help spread the word.
204	Engage the public the public early on. For example Wind Energy or Coal Fired Power Plants, have public meetings and information on the website giving the pros and cons. Seek input and develop a plan to work by. Dont' let the debate be controled by special interests or emotionalism.
205	Our public hearings are a very formal process that in and of itself tends to alienate the public. The current practice of some divisions of conducting an informal informational meeting prior to the formal hearing has been very helpful in providing answers to the public. The secondary benefit of one on one answers is to provide the public with the human element of the agency.
206	Continuing to hold public hearings on mandated issues and/or major rule changes.

207	We need to improve public participation in rule making and development of operational memos. Currently, we rely on stakeholders which generally have little (if any) representation/input by the public. The issues need to be set forth in layman's terms and a link for comments needs to be made available. Surveymonkey may also be a way of getting input, especially where there are differences between the stakeholders and the department. The Department calendar should also list stakeholder meetings, the members, the reason for the meetings, a way (i.e., webpage) for keeping track of the progress of the stakeholder group, and for providing input. Also, the Department's budget needs to be made much more transparent. As it currently stands, it is nearly impossible to figure out what the budget line items relate to in real terms; for example, how many inspections can be expected in the upcoming year in a given regulatory program, how may permits, licenses, or registrations can be expected to be processed (based on past history), the distribution of staff assigned to sub-program areas, what inspections cost in terms of staff time, travel expenses, laboratory costs. It \
208	I'm to new to the department to comment on this
209	Renew participation at outdoor shows and state fair
210	not sure.
211	Creating a well-informed public by not only improving our communication skills, but also our education and outreach efforts so our stakeholders have a better idea of why we do what we do, as well as the budget and legal restrictions that shape our work. Inviting them to public meetings.
212	Posting merger updates on both DEQ/DNR websites.
213	Decentralize the DNR and let Field Staff take on more responsibilities
214	The public usually lets us know when they don't approve of something. I think just a person or contact for problems help.
215	Make the website more user friendly.
216	Many DNR field offices have been closed to the public. Basically eliminating voluntary face to face cummunication opportunities for at least portions of the public. Also the UP border offices were very busy during the hunting seasons with public questions. To much of the public, we have in effect, built a wall to keep them out.
217	Dept makes strong efforts to share information - usually nothing occurs until it becomes personal to the impacted party, at which time it is late in the process and more difficult to address. Despite trying multiple tools, the Depart remains less effective than desired .
218	formalizing the interaction process and making it mandatory
219	When the media sheds us in a negative light it really impacts the perception the people have on the DNR. When something negative is published we don't respond in a timely manner or ignore it all together. Once the public is aware of the correct information on a more regular basis, I think the public will be more willing to help participate and help us achieve our goals instead of lashing out at us. We need to address the media in a more streamlined fashion before bad press comes out. If it comes out we need to correct the misinformation as soon as possible. Some comments that the regular customer may leave on a website after an article is published tells you just how many people do not really understand what we do.
220	Publicity, publicity, publicity before, during, and after important meetings, decisions, etc.
221	Continue and broaden segments like "Ask the DNR".
222	Niether the DEQ or the DNR do a very good job at getting out in front of an issue to explain why we are doing what we do. We also tend to not defend our decisions well in the media.

223 Other than having a big turn out of the public on issues that are otherwise non-contentious, it seems that all the avenues to request the public to show up and give input have been covered.

224 be more responsive to public comment, whether its negative or positive. Provide supporting documentation in either case, this was the final decision do to these factors.

225 We have been doing more with less for a while now. That translates into less time to do more - if you follow me. That means there is little time to do the "nice" things like communicate and less to do the "necessary" things. It's a matter of just trying to get your job done. Priorities need to be made and you do the best you can with what you have the time to do.

226 Keep the public up to date on all that is going on within the DNR & DEQ. Shows we care that they are informed and shows our dedication that we put forth in our jobs.

227 Personally, I think the DNR does a good job. Making the web site as user friendly as possible is always a challenge. Always need to look for new ways to get info. out...through text messages on phones?

228 Clean up the search results on department websites. It is rather difficult to naviagate the websites and find pertinent/current information.

229 None

230 Utilize more online participation opportunities rather than public meetings.

231 none

232 Consistent handling of issues by DNR & DEQ regarding public trust land use and restoration.

233 Allow for more travel for employees to go into the community to interact with the public. Provide more information to the employees for them to deliver to the public. DNRE issues trainings, sharing of information between divisions on issues that need to be delivered to the public or information that is wanted by the department from the public.

234 1. Hand out survey/suggestion forms with hunting/fishing licensing or camping reservations. 2. Give a DIRECT on-line link and print the link on all public forms/licenses. People don't like to click all over to find what they are looking for. Make surveys short, only ask the most relevant questions. Leave an open options for comments or suggestions.

235 everyone has a differant opinion. we need to just make decisions as a state government.

236 I think that we should stop cutting funding for the efforts that we have in place.

For instance the creel program (Fish Division) has personnel across the state communicating face-to-face with ~150,000 people per year. However, it's been next to impossible to find funding to produce outreach materials to provide to the public during these interactions.

In the meantime, people consistently approach us, producing the rulers, bobbers, stickers, etc. that they got years ago and have saved. And when children receive these materials they treasure them.

237 We spend a lot of time on these presentations, some time there is great turnout, and sometimes it is poor, it is a disappointment when turnout is low, improvement to getting the word out is helpfull..

238 Good question! we have been tring for years to better reach people. The problem is people seem to only be interested if it personally affects them or if they belong to an organization that is highly motivated to interact with us.

239 Allow the field more latituded to conduct its own meeting and processes. Too much Division Office interference or manipulation of the processes. Public looses trust in the procees as a result of this.
240 Move more decision making to the field to re-establish credibility in the field.
241 Just say no. It is not productive when we are always reacting and defending rather than being proactive. Sometimes no is a good answer with an explanation
242 Some way to survey the various publics for other suggested methods for them to participate. Participation varies from subject to subject but we reach a large pool but how do we get them to come unless they have a specific problem?
243 Public Town Hall
244 We keep getting away from phone contact. Alot of public do not and will not use the internet. I see and hear this more and more. Alot of older citizens and our amish friends do not have a computer. They need a burn permit they call our offices and may not get a employee. So they believe they can burn.
245 Advertise more and make it easier for the general public to find the information on the meetings. Also, if it is the type of meeting where a local form of government has to request the meeting, they should have to be held to some standard for advertising as well.
246 Making sure all parties are included in the discussions and to a point some of the decision-making.
247 unsure
248 Have our office open to the public at least 5 days a week and 8 hours per day.
249 Remove the politics in decision making. When people perceive there is already an adgenda in place, they are wasting their time by participating.
250 Make sure to try and hit all user groups, not just those that are actively involved on a regular basis (special interest groups). We must also get opinions from those who are not in any SIG but still value the resource or activity. This is a tough challenge...
251 Continue with the public collaboration process develped by the eco teams.
252 None.
253 Better communication between the divisions with the departments
254 when people speak, really listen and take suggestions into serious consideration.
255 Incorporate feed-back from professional facilitators. Incorporate review and process evaluation into the process.
256 Listen to the public comments and dont go into meetings with plans allready in place. (fish div.)
257 Give ample notice of an upcoming public meeting via television news media, such as TV7&4, and 9&10. I do not feel enough people living in the northern lower peninsula use the computer to access news and information. I also believe that every office, no matter if it is an OSC, District, Regional or field office should have up to date knowledge of what meetings are scheduled within the department, so that information can be relayed to the public when they approach the front desk.
258 Provide follow-up to public between multiple meetings so they are aware of what is happening and what the next step will be.

	Public participation is hit or miss depending on the issue. It seems that most people are fairly satisfied overall with the Department and their lack of communication to us constitutes tacit approval. Then there are some who have no interest until it's regarding something particular to them, and then there's no satisfying them.
259	I don't like how complaints are handled: Right out of the chute the citizen complains to their state rep, senator or director, who in turn calls someone in the upper level of the offending department, who then passes the buck on down to the level where the issue originated for resolution - which is sometimes appropriate, but sometimes it seems that the issue could be taken care without passing is down. Sometimes someone with a complaint should be plainly told his issue is contrary to the health of the resources, is unscientific, or it would be detrimental to future generations or whatever. Sometimes they need to be told the answer is no - sorry. It seems that we try too hard to please everyone - especially the most vocal.
260	Move away from "passive" communication (website, news, etc.) as not all constituents (those in rural or economically challenged areas) have access or schedules that are condusive to receiving information directed in that fashion.
261	Identify the appropriate stakeholders and try to use their existing networks (eg. MUCC newsletter or QDMA email lists, etc.)
262	During news broadcast, provide a 800 number for people to call with suggestions.
263	As public servents it seems we do less and less everyday to help serve the public. I hope the new DNRE improves on public service. The old Department went about solving budget problems by cutting services (closing campgrounds, ski trails, etc) to save money. I think the new Department should be looking at ways of better marketing of the services to get the public to these facilities (campgrounds, ski trails, etc) more thus would generate more revenue.
264	The existing mechanisms (especially news releases and comment boxes on the Fisheries Division website) seem to be working well. Some (but not all) of the fisheries management units write annual news releases that update stakeholders on major management changes or habitat improvement projects in their region. This practice has been effective and should be encouraged.
265	I'm not sure how to improve this, but most attendees are the same at each meeting. Local interest groups turn out in large numbers so the information gathered is not always representative of the general public.
266	Have several people trained in Public Deliberation and Issue Framing. They key people would be trained moderators that would lead public deliberation sessions. This training is provided by MSU Extension. The Kettering Foundation is a major organization that provides funding and resources for public deliberation. As part of the public deliberation training I went through at MSU, we studied and used the National Issues Forums (www.nifi.org) study guides on an issue. We could create our own study guides on any issue.
267	unsure
268	Have mandatory participation required during the permitting process, just as other pertinent data is required (name, address, dob, etc.)
269	TV Commercials-expensive but viewed by many. Also radio spots (NPR, local stations)
270	We fail to reach the less vocal, less involved users, who make up most of our base. The most important need is to better reach all resource stakeholders. We could use our license data base more effectively to reach license buyers, but we need a better means of reaching those who do not buy licenses (nonconsumptive interests). A magazine, newsletter, and/or TV/radio approach would help to do that.

271 Multiple notification methods to reach a maximum number of interested participants. There are always a few that complain about being uninformed but yet have limited avenues of information resources. Their expectation is sometimes personal phone calls or individual letters to all stakeholders, an impossible task.

272 More communications via email

273 Use internet and social media much much more. Regular podcasts, expect experts in agencies to maintain public blogs, encourage field staff to be proactive in using traditional media like TV or radio.

274 We need to be careful about the number of public input sessions we hold. Some constituents have stated that our requests for input have become too numerous.

275 Establish an 800 "Information Hotline".

276 We need to address our failing infrastructure at our public use areas. Our failing system is causing our users to look elsewhere. Whether it is old worn out restrooms, lack of playgrounds, worn out roads in campgrounds or buildings in need of paint / stain, we need to improve our public appearances for their use to show we value them and their thoughts.

277 Openness and letting the public see up close sometimes what the DNR/DEQ are doing.

278 Not sure...however, I would caution against delegating too much decision-making authority (or the expectation or appearance of) to the public. I support the open flow of information and process, but oppose delegating DNR/DEQ decision making authority to advisory groups, ect.

279 I don't know how you get more people involved, but our current process doesn't work. THe same people show up regardless of the issue. The CAC's in the UP are a classic example of management by groups that are not productive and simply shift responsibility away from the people paid to do it. If you don't have an idea of what the general public thinks, working with them and for them year after year, you probably aren't real productive in your job.

280 Getting the general public excited and interested in participating would go a long way. John Doe that really doesn't know what we do would probably not even consider attending a public input meeting because of non-interest. Use the media to get people excited and ask them for their input. It may seem that FaceBook and Twitter is the way to go and yes, use them BUT put notices in the local newspapers, get it on the local radio and TV. Also, use these local media to showcase the agencies and the good things we are doing. Too often it is the negative stories that make top billing when there are so many good things we do everyday.

281 Faster turn around in getting information onto DNR wbsites such as the Dept's. own web page and on facebook. Too often we have sent notices of events or meetings months in advance and have never seen them listed.

282 If the topic is not controversial, it is difficult to get participation. Incorporate stakeholders and their input as part of the working team so that at least you have that perspective to help drive results that reflect more than just agency input.

283 none.

284 We seem to focus on the representatives of groups to do all the talking for segments of the population. We should be focusing on getting information from and getting information to common individuals. Written informaton doesn't seem to work, since most don't get their info from papers, etc., anymore and many will not fill out and return paper surveys. Emails are more effective and are the usual mode of communication for most age classes. For those that do not use email, a real live person is the best way to disseminate information. Someone to speak with, in person, at an office or by phone is the best way to explain new or complicated information. To obtain information from individuals, we should utilize computer surveys that are readily accessible and easy to complete. This could also be done through automated call-in phone voice and text surveys for those that don't have access to computers.

285 Better stakeholder contact list.

286 None.

287 Conduct mail/telephone surveys of public for important issues when it is important that we understand the attitudes/beliefs of the public. Public meetings may not always be the most effective means to obtain understanding about the publics desires because these meetings are often attended by people who do not represent the public at large.

288 We should have public participation in all our major decisions affecting access to Natural Resources. The Accessiblity Advisory Council is a great example of public interaction. We need more not less. Accessibity should be a part of every major resource and access deicison made by the department especially with our aging population and need to increase the user base. Accessibility is a way of magnifying resources including collaboration building to improve our infrastructure for cititzen access. We need more statewide department wide planning to look at how we manage our land and to plan for infrastructure improvements that give us the most bang for the buck similiar to PRD's GPS based inventory and assessment of accessiblity. A regional approach with in the statewide plan can capitalize on collaboratin builders with user groups, educaitonal institutions, and businesses.

Have a strategic plan for when that public participation is needed then implement.

289 Have the tools in place to make the process easy and cost effective.

290 Continue to be upfront with what kinds of recommended changes are being proposed. Perhaps provide a blog type of site where comments could be posted on recommendations and progress.

291 Having a Welcoming commitee

292 Develop on-going relationship with local newspaper, radio and TV and consider designated field media Department contacts that can build that relationship

293 An understanding throughout all levels of the organization that although all of our customers have opinions, not all of those opinions merit consideration.

294 Open offices and make staff more available to the public, encourage/allow staff to spend time interfacing with public at educational events and user group meetings. Right now these are low priority and get passed off so we can complete priority work. We need to invest in developing relations with public and user groups which is a long term investment or we will pay later.

295 have town hall meeting.

296	Be very forward about the decision making process from the start. Also, provide structure to the meetings so the loudest person isn't the one getting all the time, and some participants get missed. Also, it is not necesary that each participant be given equal weight in a decision - there may be 20 members of one org there, and only one of another, and the weight of decsion making must be carefully applied.
297	Sometimes we loose sight of the fact we do a good job at public participation. Some of our decisions and choices will have negitive effects on some segments of the public. When we measure the effectiveness of our public participation process by the existance of dis-satisfaction we get our selves in trouble.
298	I feel like we should actually ask the public what they would like? Most people are not happy about the merger.
299	internet forum
300	Communicate to the public about our work in a way that's meaningful to them - less scientific (at least for many segments of the public), and in a way that makes clear the importance of what we're doing and how it impacts them. Make clear that we value their input and will give consideration to all suggestions and concerns.
301	Needs to be more user freindly, not a wall between feild staff and Lansing, we are all one department now for better or worse, start acting like.....
302	Larger commitment and a detailed, transparent process
303	Offer some type of discounted service to those who participate.
304	Specific program surveys similar to this one would be helpful.
305	Open up more meetings to the public.
306	Determine the level of decision making that requires public venting. Obviously, we can not get public participation on every decision that we make or we will loose their interest. Need to pick out the ones that we really need public feedback on.
307	none
308	More public annoucements that let the public know the issues, so they can have input on them in a timely fashion.
309	To solicit input from all Park Users, not just the special interest groups. I see all kinds of "Input" from the vocal special interst groups and not any from the ordinary Park Users who have and will provide revenue to keep the Parks in buisness.
310	need a consistent delivery method to build a stronger understand about the agency (such as magazine used to provide) generally upon which specific initiatives can be highlighted
311	We need to be more open. We should use the state parks and recreation areas as gateways and have weekly open sessions where people copuld come and share ideas and get questions answered. Area staff could come "Ask the DNRE" that way it allows for engagement when it is not issue based. Then when something does come up people feel comfortable with us.

312 I think that in most public meetings most of the participants are from organized groups like the Quality Deer Management groups who think that only the big bucks are trophies, or Trout Unlimited who don't think there is a need to fish for food, just recreational fishing. Alot of regular people feel that they don't have a chance when it comes to expressing their views in these circumstances. I have heard alot of people say they feel the department always favors the groups and their opinions don't count anyways. What ever means you come up with it has to be easy, and it has to be free or alot of people won't do it. I know the majority of the people want everything to be electronic these days but there is a good size group of people out there who don't use or own computers, but who do fish for food and hunt and go camping in our parks. They should count. Not everyone is sitting at a desk every night. Maybe short surveys when you enter a park or buy your licesnse, or go to bait shop. People will answer short surveys if they think it's not a waste of their time.

313 None

314 Don't become overly reliant on new media, many of our clients are still not on "the web" and as a result get left behind when decisions are being made.

315 We should be more accessable by phone, many people call the state parks looking for information on various subjects, they cannot find phone #s for the service centers,fmfm,conservation officers,etc. we should have multiple listings under various headings, DNR, state parks, DEQ. conservation,etc...

316 Outdoor news TV shows, more involvement in schools - to establish connection with future voters

317 I have huge extended family on all sides, they know I work with DNR - and they have no problem complaining. One concern is when the meeger occurs DNR-with-DEQ that the organized website services and information will be completely confusing again for years. I would strongly recommend merging the major groupings (essentially the left-side buttons on the DNR and DEQ websites) into one group and still keep the major headings / buttons that the public is used to seeing. I know, as does many of the public, that we just don't have the budget funds to spend on the complete bottom-up revamp of the combined DNR-DEQ / DNRE website, so finding a balnace point of mergine the two then resolving things as we go is easier than complete tear-down and restart. That's my educated and experienced opionion - if need better verbal explanation, I offer to quickly discuss, I am Marshall Strong (ph 517-241-3102, email strongm@michigan.gov)

318 Encourage participation in the sport shows throughout the winter.

319 Internet use.

320 Realize that the UP is larger than the Marquette, Newberry, Escanaba areas. Most people in the Western UP have to drive way too far to attend. Draw lines between these three towns and see just how much is left out.

321 Gain back credibility from the Public to the DNR first.

322 Town hall type meetings appear to be an effective means of public participation and communication with the public.

323 more public meetings. Go out in the field and answer questions

324 I think getting away from the standard "hearing" type format would improve things.

325 Leave the local office open so that walk in traffic can have direct contact with the program people outside of a formal meeting.

326 Update web site and its abilities. Offer to send texts with info. Mail and papers are not environmentally friendly and not what people are really using.

327 I have no suggestions. Our experience in the SWMU with public information meetings is that they are not well attended, no matter how much emphasis is placed on publicity. The vocal folks are in the minority and it seems the majority of folks are silent...either too busy with life or not interested in our overall management goals and direction.

328 Anything we can do to use more televised media would be more effective. Television just works better accross the board than any other form of communication.

329 Not sure. We advertise it fairly well when we have our open house and that information is available on the website but the participation stays the same. The only time it increases is if a contentious compartment is up for review.

330 listening to the public input

331 CAC

332 Ensure that the answers being provided to the public are accurate. Perhaps this would require more informed staff to participate in the actual Q&A process versus willy-nilly assigning someone the task.

333 I would like to see some general guidance about how to conduct meetings for which the purpose is x, y, z or k. That way, planning will include categorizing what type of meeting it is, the desired outcome, the methodology for recording what happened there, and the means for reporting the results out.

334 None at this time. In my opinion we already have too many committees and groups helping to steer decisions that are made. Often times it seems like a decision is not made or the direction taken is too complicated.

335 Through our website - offer surveys for public to take.

336 Expand public "open house" meeting format.

337 Improve website, expand use of email.

338 None at this time

339 Keep the process on point and communicated realistic expectations (outcomes)

340 Early engagement during conceptual phases not when decisions have already been made

341 Make it as Simple as possiable. Leave the name DNR seeing the environment is part of natural resources.

342 clarification of the process, so the public does not think it is 'black box' decision making

343 Make professional facilitators more available, and assign well-trained note takers for public meetings

344 Simplify the website by making the "Hot Topic" issues easier to find and explained in a simple, to the point manner.

345 TAKE THE TIME TO HEAR THEM AND UNDERSTAND THAT WE WILL STILL HAVE A PERCENTAGE THAT WILL REMAIN UNHAPPY.

346 Wew need to get out in front on issues and be leaders. We do that by involving the public in the development of management plans. We do a lot of lip-service to planning but we really don't do enough of it or go about it the right way. The public should be for helping us devise goals and visions. We (as teh experts) then write management plans to achieve the public's goals and vision. This makes a lot of natural resource professionals uncomfortable. Of course we have to help the public develop reasonable and realistic goals/visions... but I really believe that its the public's privilage to do that, not ours. Then its our role to develop the plan to make that happen (the golas and vision). The publc loves to debate our methods (stocking, regulations, etc) but really those are tools and they need to trust in us that we know best how to achieve their goals. There is lots of give and take in practice but if we go in there (to a public meeting) with our vision/goals and our plan to make it happen, how is the publc going to react? like the decision is already made and we are there "selling" it and they are there just to put their stamp on it. I have seen us do that a thousand times. \

347 Become more transparent.
348 It seems the public doesn't seem to see a lot of outcome from their suggestions. Maybe something to show what was done and why.
349 None
350 Seems like a more standardized process. Maybe provide a blog environment so people could make their statements public and go on at length as they desire. What is really lacking is meaningful response to questions posed. Are reluctant to do that in a meeting/hostile environment because the crowd can become unruly just to show their anger (recall town meetings on health care). So a blog atmosphere may let them go on about their points and provide a forum for a measured response - and other comments from the public on that topic.
351 Most suggestions that are put to me as a DNR employee either involve expanding services for programs that have no money or involve a hunting or fishing regulation that they don't like. It's pretty tough to turn these types of conversations into something that they are going to be happy with the outcome. I think that our top management need to be more visible in the media to explain why things are as they are. That is the first step in getting a public understanding of where we are going.
352 Better integration among all divisions/offices and a common system for public participation.
353 A public campaign that would generate excitement and interest in resource issues and being ahead of the curve, proactive rather than reactive
354 More exsposer to the public.
355 We need to make a stronger effort to reach out to the public outside of our stakeholder groups to ensure that they are aware of what the Department is doing and the opportunities that are available for them to get involved.
356 Usa the public involvement session where one on one time can be spent rather than the public meeting format which is more formal and less productive
357 I would encourage more use of radio spots and contact with local papers to provide information for actual articles in the paper rather than the standard notice that appears in the legal notice section of the paper. This would provide a more "public" notice to interested citizens. Also, look for locations to post information in the local area that are specific to interested groups. This is done in some areas of the state, but could be useful in all areas to make sure that the interested public is aware of any proposed meetings.
358 Talk to people rather than at people. Be very honest upfront and no spin. Encourage 1 on 1 at the local level if that's where the issue is.
359 none
360 none
361 I have tried everything imaginable over the last three decades and unless something controvercial is on the agenda public participation seems to be minimal.
362 I think we do well

Engage non-consumptive users as a targeted audience through time at the level and with the ferocity that we do our traditional paying customers (hunters, anglers, boaters and campers). I believe this is the path to eventual shared responsibility for the upkeep and use of the resources. At the outset, let them know that your agenda is to elevate their involvment to that of a "paying customer" with equal footing, and in return they get an equal share in the public process and enjoyment of the recreational opportunities.

363 Public process in a regulatory setting (DEQ) has to feel like the people have a say and the decisions were not previously made. So hard to accomplish when there are always winners and losers.

364 closing more offices to the public is probably a step in the wrong direction...over the years it seems that we have given ourselves a few black eyes by not being 100% transparent...asking for the hunting license fees increases when we had the extra $ left over so now we wont have support for a license fee increase untill the people get the bitter taste out of their mouth. Using the new technologies is a good idea... facebook twitter etc... I think we need to try to be as transparent as possible but sometimes we dont do a good job of explaining why we do some of the things we do...deer baiting ban in the LP, budget issues...etc

365 There is really nothing new under the sun with regard to public participation, except perhaps the new technology available. Nevertheless, it is valuable to re-visit the existing methods and determine which are the most effective for the current programs and applications. The previous LA class prepared an exhaustive matrix that categorized public participation techniques. Perhaps this calls could refine/prioritize that list for specific programs.

366 Better marketing and making the public aware of internal processes; i.e. how the Department/Divisions are structured, how decisions are made, who makes them, etc.

367 see above comment...make website more user friendly

368 Give persons a fairly long time period to make comment since if an issue is site specific and folks only visit once a year, you may miss out on collecting a lot of potentially worth while data. Try to focus on peak attendance periods as well as shoulder periods or "seasons".

369 I think that we need to poll the public and see what they rank as our natural resource and deq consearns

370 Use all media sources

371 Better, easier access to feedback

372 We need to do a better job of reaching those people who are not well organized, those who aren't driven by an agenda with narrow interests. I don't think we get a representative sample of opinions from the public, only special interests.

373 None at this time.

374 Find a way so the people feel like they have a voice.

375 First, we have requested public participation on so many items the "involved" public are actually getting tired of "participating". We need to be more selective to when and how we request public participation.

376 Improved notification process

377 allow the issue to determine the level of scope and participation needed for managing Michigan's natural resources for the public good.

378 Allow the public to use the internet to complete a survey and provide feedback.
379 Keep the public informed about current and upcoming issues. Provide avenues for the public to comment on those issues, such as comment sections on the website and holding more public meetings.
380 Include a specific legislative component to the communication process.
381 I would suggest that divisions work together to maximize public forums. For example, if we're hosting a snowmobile trails forum, it would be nice if we reached out to other divisions to see if they could benefit from this "focus group." These opportunities to survey or get input are invaluable, so each meeting time should be maximized.
382 Speed up the process.
383 No suggestions
384 User Friendly, Press Releases, Downsize Guides; i.e. all Hunting & Trapping to be put in one handout, all Fishing Info. to be put in one handout, etc.
385 Help the publice to understand what each office is responsible for.
386 We need to clearly define when public participation is required, recommended, or not needed.
387 Open field offices with standard hours. The public is not happy with the small windows of oppurtunity.
388 Provide for diverse process such as meetings, email, snail mail. Also, if having a public meeting we may evalaute the timing, location and meeting day as compared to the availabiliy of our audience
389 ~ Collaborative efforts on key issues that require direct and ongoing support from local government, interest groups and general public to be effective.
~ Get rid of the podiums - make the public meeting and open house process more participatory and regular instead of one night stands.
~ Develop "working groups" to use stakeholders as go to resources when testing ideas.
~ Enable field staff and program staff to answer questions from the public without having to fly every little thing by two layers of management. Give them training if needed but stop gagging the people with intimate knowledge about the program in favor of management. The public wants answers now and becomes cynical when responses come late, in bureaucratic speech, from someone they've never heard of.
Have program staff actually do presentations to the NRC and TF boards and public instead of designated spokespersons.
...There's more but I'll save it.
390 I've asked questions on the DNR webpage and gotten a reply. Continuing to give replies in a timely manner
391 There needs to be an equalizing weight process to address skewed comments received. Generally, when the public participates, it is the special interest groups that show up and comment. Those satisfied with the department do not show up and comment expecting that the DNR will represent their interests. Special interests (stakeholders) are more than willing to give us comments and have stacked the responses by soliciting their friends to comment through a variety of communication methods. We have received comments on projects from other countries such as England and Australia that were solicited by a special interest group. Weighting response groups, and non-responsive groups, would be an appropriate way to objectively include all interests and not just those who can win the numbers game.
392 I don't have any at this time.

393 Reporting back to the public regarding how input is used in decision-making is vital, including an accounting of what options were considered and how/why the final choice was made

394 Better avenues for making people aware of the Open House public participation process, and an easier to navigate web page.

395 We have tons of information/data, but we don't necessarily use the information effectively for our own decision making (strategic planning, setting priorities, evaluating if what we're doing is working) and we seem hesitant to share some of this information with the general public for fear that might prompt too many or uncomfortable questions. We need to get past this mind set and accept that public input can make us stronger. Improved information sharing will improve the public participation process.

396 Especially within DEQ, the focus too often is on following procedure and just getting done what's required or expected. The needs of the public are often secondary or not even considered. An internal attitude change is important for correcting that. On the other hand, in the majority of our actions the public doesn't seem to care or have anything to say, so what we do is adequate. When people do respond or contribute, we need to treat that as important, and make sure we respond with sound science and a good listening ear. Often the public input is wrong or misinformed, but we need to deal with that respectfully and as much as possible to the satisfaction of the participant.

397 Support technical assistance and environmental education programs. Advisory committees...and make the committeee list and contacts available and easily accessed via Web site. Government also needs to make changes or statements that reflect the public's responses and comments. Otherwise, the public will begin to feel that any participation is futile.

398 The key is to be open and honest. It is very difficult to build trust, very easy to lose it, and nearly impossible to regain it.

399 Although technology has helped us to communicate with lots of folks very quickly, there is no replacement for in person communications. Just meeting partners for lunch or coffee can go a long way. Recent restrictions on meals and travel have really prevented us from getting out and talking to people. We need to have a face out there not just an email account.

400 Make more use of the style of public meetings with specific staffed stations for more personalized communications. Determine best facilitation tools for gathering group input.

401 Sometimes we just need to make the effort by any means, even when we are not legally required to do so.

402 Post meeting status and updates should be a part of the process as a general rule.

403 on line audio/visual presentations to allow people unable to attend scheduled meetings/ then comment input electronically

404 Put the people who really care out on the front lines. Great scientists don't typically make great managers or communicators. Use those that enjoy public participation and communication and put them on the front lines. Send the others to the rear; let them do their work but hide them from the general public.

405 none

406 Advanced Notice, Contact specific user groups

407 Possibly working with the local gov'ts and having quarterly meetings with the public about what the DEQ/DNR are doing in that particular area (projects - present & upcoming, educational, etc.).

408 Develop plan to reach more non-traditional users about the role DNR plays in Michigan

409 Organized training with instructors who are able to convey the need to engage the public.

410 I'm most familiar with the DNR Compartment Review process. I think it's time to put together a committee of DNR staff, and have that group look at what the true goal is of this process, and draw up a new approach to satisfy those goals and objectives. Next solicit input from the public (this could even be done in advance of assembling the group) that has engaged in the current process and ask them to give feedback about what has worked and what hasn't for them in the past. Attempt to identify barriers to participation. This group shouldn't be afraid to consider wiping the slate clean and developing a new process, if that is what it takes to make it a worthwhile and effective exercise.

411 keep public informed of ongoing budget situation and areas of development so that they feel part of the process

412 More advertising, using lots of different venues.

413 Public Service Announcements on TV or Radio

414 none

415 Minimize the number of public meetings. In my opinion the public seems overwhelmed by public meetings from all the Divisions and Departments. Maybe have regional quarterly public meetings where all DNRE issues are discussed with the public.

416 Allow formal public input to be taken on the Web site, give more notice of public meetings, make sure we follow up with information letting people know what the outcome of the meeting or hearing was, so they can see how they may have had an impact by participating. Make public input available to the public for review online.

417 I like the things I am seeing with the communication folks like Mark (Hanson?). Having a full-time, experienced and dedicated team to help us with our communication messages and process is a much needed asset. I support this effort fully.

418 An easy link from the front page to all upcoming events allowing for public comment. I've seen all too often, though, that some people in charge simply do not want the public to know about certain public comment opportunities. It's downright disgraceful.

419 Use more television and direct mail notifications.

420 None

421 communications is the key

422 none at this time

Make communications simple and easy to understand (including redesigning the webpage). Have a clear and concise message. Be consistent.

I really like the Facebook page and "Ask the DNR" where people can just ask questions and get the answers.

423 Have online, searchable, databases for the public to search out data and information.

424 Continue promoting the positive programs/projects and continue presenting the big picture to put issues in proper perspective.

425 Try to get stakeholders involved earlier in the process through voluntary actions

426 I'm not sure that you can get more people to participate. Most only like to complain.

427 the process should convey what value is added by state workers to the whole process, e.g., in defining the problems to be corrected, setting criteria and what their objectives are to be, choosing alternatives to evaluate, reviews and comparisons, improvements to be gained, approvals, certifications, financial assistance, inspections, etc.

428 increase availability, increased locations, esp in UP and northern lower

429 ??
430 collaboration not just tell them how it is.
431 Public needs to be educated on the different department programs using the mass media.
There still remains a large amount of people that don't use computers so it's still important to include other media sources. Phones, radio, newspapers and TV stilll work. The inernet access is excluding many people when that is the only means of communication. If we intend to keep soliciting public comment in a fair and effective means we will need to make sure to include those people who
432 don't use these tools.
433 Publishing the public hearing information on the web site
434 Resource persons who are current on best techniques and tools, that general staff can go to with questions.
435 Eliminate newspaper notices whenever possible - they are simply not effective
Avoid defensive action as our first line of communication. Promote any and all input, and educate, educate, educate. Most people
436 are not aware of our statuatory obligations (both state and federal).
437 Use the press to inform people.
438 have strategies in place for each process with suggested outcomes and evaluations