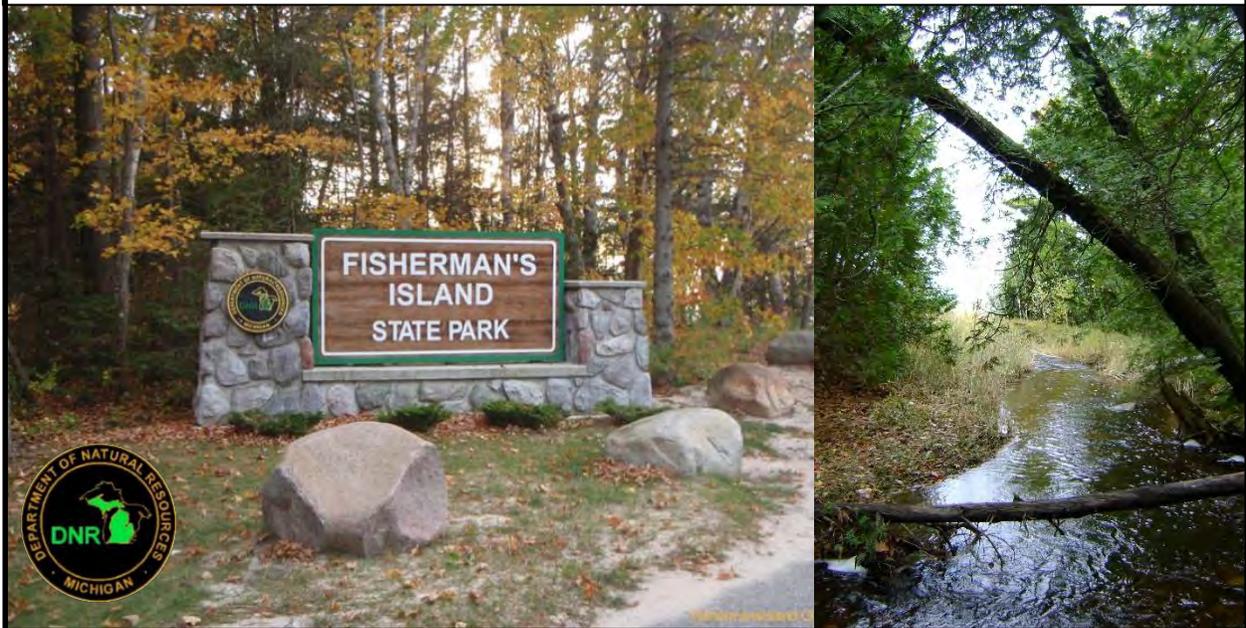




General Management Plan

Fisherman's Island State Park

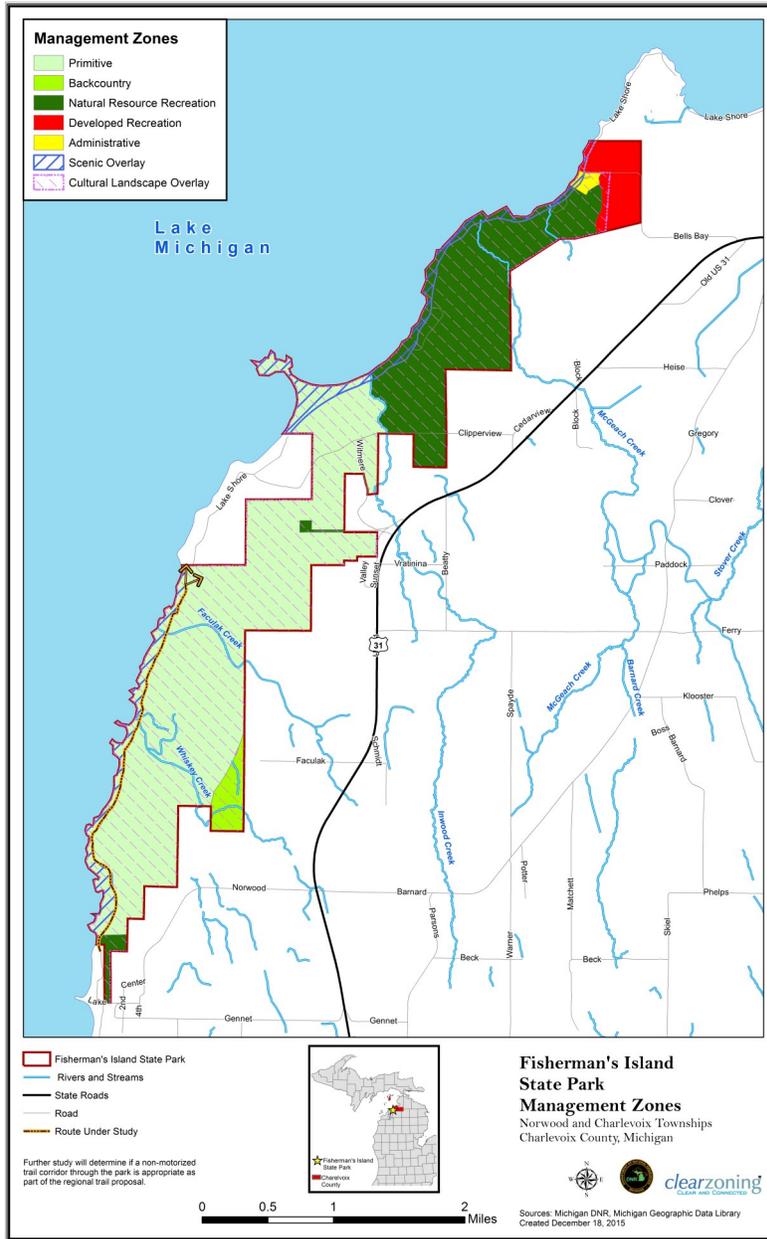


Approved May 18, 2016
Michigan DNR Parks and Recreation Division

Prepared with assistance of:

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FISHERMAN'S ISLAND STATE PARK PLAN APPROVALS:

The project was directed by Deborah Jensen, Management Plan Administrator, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation Division with assistance from Clearzoning, Inc.

[Signature]

 Chief, Parks & Recreation Division

5/6/16

 Date

[Signature]

 Natural Resources Deputy

5/18/16

 Date

[Signature]

 Director, Department of Natural Resources

5/18/16

 Date

FISHERMAN’S ISLAND STATE PARK PLAN APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following dates reference when the plans were presented for recommendation. In some instances, additional time was allotted for plan review following the presentation with subsequent approval received by Email.

PRD – SECTION CHIEFS:	<u>02/22/2016</u> Date
DNR – RESOURCE MANAGEMENT BUREAU:	<u>03/08/2016</u> Date
MSPAC – STEWARDSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE	<u>03/30/2016</u> Date
NRC – MICHIGAN STATE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE:	<u>04/14/2016</u> Date

Resolution No. 04-2016-1

MICHIGAN STATE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MSPAC)

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE “FISHERMAN’S ISLAND STATE PARK GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN”

ADOPTED: April 14, 2016

WHEREAS, the Department of Natural Resources’ (DNR) Parks and Recreation Division has completed the General Management Plan for Fisherman’s Island State Park; and

WHEREAS, the planning process reflects sensitivity to natural resource values, historic and cultural resource values, recreation and education opportunities, and is inclusive of all DNR programs and representative of eco-management; and

WHEREAS, the planning process was further inclusive of stakeholder, constituent, and public input; and

WHEREAS, the General Management Plan represents sound guidance for future planning phases that will be consistent with the mission of the DNR and the Parks and Recreation Division, and reflective of the purpose and significance of Fisherman’s Island State Park; and

WHEREAS, the General Management Plan is consistent with the recommendations of the Michigan State Parks and Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel report submitted to Governor Rick Snyder; and

WHEREAS, the General Management Plan has been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Parks and Recreation Division and the MSPAC Stewardship Subcommittee.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee recommends approval of the Fisherman’s Island State Park General Management Plan; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee further recommends that the DNR Director approve the General Management Plan for Fisherman’s Island State Park;

Submitted by: Chris Graham, Chair, MSPAC Stewardship Subcommittee

Motioned by: Commission Chair, Louise Klarr
Seconded by: Committee Member, Julie Clark

Yeas: 10
Nays: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 4

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Executive Summary

Fisherman's Island State Park, with 2,678 acres, is located west of US-31, south of the city of Charlevoix, in the northwest of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The park has six miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, offering remote access for quiet exploration and enjoyment of the natural habitat and scenic views.

The park offers opportunities for camping, hiking, hunting, and fishing. There are eighty campsites available within the three rustic campgrounds, with fifteen located along the shoreline. There are 3.4 miles of foot trails that are utilized by hikers and cross-country skiers. Fisherman's Island is the largest state-owned hunting ground on the west side of mainland Charlevoix County, and is home to deer, grouse, coyote, squirrels, rabbit, and several other game species. Whiskey, McGeach, and Inwood Creeks are designated trout streams and can be accessed through the park.



Lake Michigan Shoreline at Fisherman's Island State Park

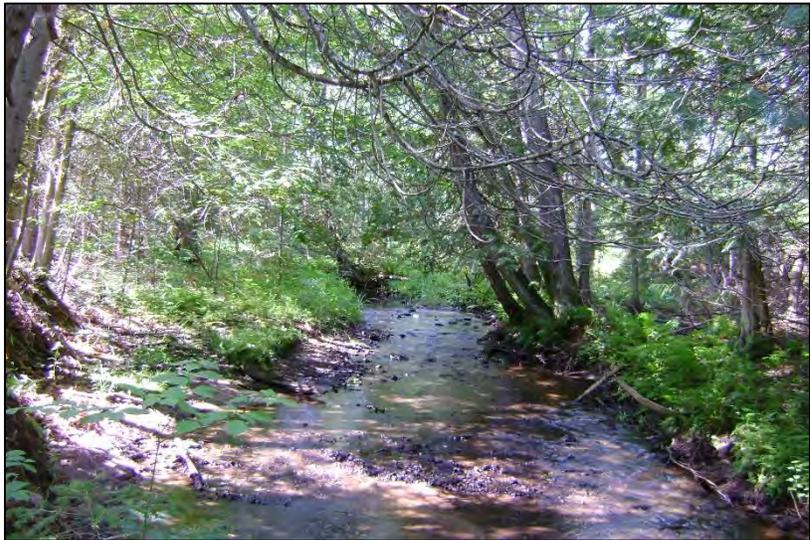
Future management of this park is guided by the General Management Plan (GMP), which serves two primary purposes. First, it establishes a 20-Year Management Zone Plan that provides specific guidance for development, stewardship, public use, education & interpretation and park operations & management at Fisherman's Island State Park. Second, the Plan provides 10-Year Action Goals that address the desired future condition within each Management Zone. Overall, this Plan seeks to uphold the Parks and Recreation Division's (PRD) Mission Statement: *to acquire, protect, and preserve the natural and cultural features of Michigan's unique resources, and to provide access to land and water based public recreation and educational opportunities.*

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) oversaw the planning process. The Plan was developed with significant and valuable input from the Planning Team, stakeholders, and the public. Additionally, several existing planning documents, including the Michigan Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the Michigan State Parks Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel Report, were used as guiding references (See Chapter 1 for additional information on guiding references).

Significance of Fisherman’s Island State Park

Each GMP developed by the PRD is built upon the park’s significant features that make it distinct from other parks in the state’s system. Fisherman’s Island State Park was determined significant due to the following:

- **Archaeological Resources** – There are numerous archaeological sites located within Fisherman’s Island State Park. Most of the currently known sites were once home to early Native Americans. These locations hold archaeological information about Native American life in this region over the course of thousands of years. An outcrop of Norwood chert within the park is particularly significant. This is one of the few places in Michigan where Native people extracted chert from a geological formation for use in stone tool-making. Within the state park system, Fisherman’s Island State Park is particularly sensitive for the presence of significant archaeological sites and artifacts.
- **Lake Michigan Shoreline** – Fisherman’s Island State Park provides six miles of remote, scenic Lake Michigan shoreline for quiet enjoyment and exploration, just minutes from downtown Charlevoix. The mostly rocky shore offers one of the finest locations in the state for Petoskey stone hunting.
- **Natural Resources** – Fisherman’s Island State Park provides migratory bird stop-over and breeding habitat, including nesting habitat for the endangered piping plover. The park’s combination of open dunes, interdunal wetlands, limestone cobble shorelines, and rich conifer swamps support rare Great Lakes endemic species such as Houghton’s goldenrod, Lake Huron locust, and Pitcher’s thistle.
- **Recreation** – Fisherman’s Island State Park provides the largest intact area open to public hunting in mainland western Charlevoix County and fishing access on three trout streams. Rustic camping



McGeach Creek runs through Fisherman’s Island State Park.

is available in designated areas on the shoreline and on wooded sites, providing a natural resource recreation experience. High quality undeveloped natural features, with hiking and cross-country skiing backcountry trails, are just around the corner from the developed Charlevoix area.

Management Zones

A key goal in the development of this General Management Plan is to continue providing the opportunities and features that attract visitors to the park each year, while simultaneously protecting the park's resources. Taking this into account, the Planning Team, with stakeholder and public input, established appropriate Management Zones for the park. From a palette of nine standard zones, seven zones (including two overlay zones) were applied to Fisherman's Island State Park. The Management Zone Map and a thorough review of each Management Zone are found in Chapter 4 of this Plan. A condensed description of each of the applied Management Zones is as follows:

Primitive Zone comprises 62% of the park, and emphasizes the natural resources of the area. It is managed to allow only dispersed, low frequency and low impact recreational use in the zone. Maintaining a high quality natural resource condition dictates the extent to which recreational improvements and recreational uses are allowed.

Backcountry Zone comprises 2.4% of the park and emphasizes resource quality over recreation, but allows for modification of landscape to allow for moderate levels of active recreation uses. This area contains interdunal land forms, and a portion of Whiskey Creek.

Natural Resource Recreation Zone comprises 30% of the park and permits active recreation with medium to high density of use conducted in natural areas. The park's campground and day use area are located within this zone.

Developed Recreation Zone comprises 5% of the park and allows active recreation with high density of use conducted in areas not designated for natural resource significance. The zone is located at the northerly most portion of the park and includes the park's entrance and land north and south of Bells Bay Road.



View of Lake Michigan from the Park's entrance drive.

Administrative Zone comprises 0.5% of the park and encompasses the developed areas required for program administration and operations. The zone includes the park camp office, maintenance facilities and all related land required to conduct the business of running the park.

Cultural Landscape Overlay has been applied over the majority of Fisherman's Island State Park (93%). Management within the Cultural Landscape Overlay highlights the preservation and protection of the cultural resources.

Scenic Overlay has been applied to 9% of Fisherman's Island State Park, encompassing the entire Lake Michigan shoreline in recognition of its natural beauty.

10-Year Action Goals

The General Management Plan identifies 10-Year Action Goals that the Planning Team believes are necessary to guide management and development of the park in order to achieve the desired user experience and natural resource protection. Action goals are categorized under General Action Goals if they pertain to the entire park or under specific zones, which are identified on the Management Zone Map. Highlights from the Action Goals detailed in Chapter 5 include the following:

General Action Goals (apply park-wide)

- Conduct a Phase I archeological survey of the park
- Develop and implement an education and enforcement plan for protecting cultural resources and artifacts to prevent damage/collecting
- Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/fishing/gathering/trapping/birding
- Work with regional partners to identify potential for connectivity to community trails beyond the park boundary
- Study route options and analyze the impact of a non-motorized trail running through the park as part of the regional trail proposal
- Resolve ownership and public access rights at the south end of the park
- Evaluate and make recommendations for existing motor vehicles access and parking at the south end of the park

Primitive Zone

- Develop educational and interpretive signage for the cultural and natural features appropriate to the zone
- Evaluate and make recommendations for trail crossings over Inwood and Whiskey Creeks

Backcountry Zone

No action goals specific to this zone are proposed at this time. See Chapter 5.

Natural Resource Recreation Zone

- Conduct an engineering study to identify techniques to repair drainage and driving surface deficiencies on park roads
- Evaluate alternative lodging in the park; additional campsites or hike-in campsites; yurts, camper cabins, and similar options
- Evaluate potential for accessible campsites

Developed Recreation Zone

- Evaluate the need for a designated beach area

Administrative Zone

- Continue to explore options for electronic/communication connectivity
- Provide septic system and water for campground office

Cultural Landscape Overlay and Scenic Overlay

Actions within the overlay are directed by their underlying zone designation, while ensuring that the cultural and scenic qualities of these areas of the park are taken into account.



Scenic and Cultural Landscape Overlays recognize the cultural and natural beauty found in the park.

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1. Core Values and Guiding Resources

Core values are the foundation upon which the General Management Plan is based. Core values are derived from the mission statements of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Parks & Recreation Division (PRD), as well as the priorities of the Director, to ensure that the state will acquire, preserve, and protect 1) natural resources and 2) cultural resources, and continue to provide 3) public recreation, and 4) educational opportunities throughout the state park system.

1.1 Mission Statements

DNR Mission Statement

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

PRD Mission Statement

The Parks & Recreation Division's mission is to acquire, protect, and preserve the natural and cultural features of Michigan's unique resources, and to provide access to land and water based public recreation and educational opportunities.

Five Goals of the DNR

1. Protect the natural and cultural resources
2. Ensure sustainable recreation use and enjoyment
3. Enable strong and natural resource-based economies
4. Improve and build strong relationships and partnerships
5. Foster effective business practices and good governance



Camping site overlooking Lake Michigan.

“These assets provide a place to recreate and . . . help make our communities cohesive, connect people to their places and to each other, engender civic engagement, and remind us of our connection to the natural world and to our history.”

Blue Ribbon Panel
(2012)

1.2 Additional Guiding Resources

The General Management Planning process is guided and shaped by several resources developed to provide recommendations for managing Michigan's park and recreation system. In particular, these resources have helped shape the 10-Year Action Goals established in this Plan.

Michigan Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) (2013-2017)

SCORP is a five-year strategic plan that shapes investment by the state and local communities in priority outdoor recreation infrastructure and programming. The Plan's overarching goal is to utilize Michigan's diverse and abundant natural assets to meet the fun, relaxation, and health needs of Michigan's residents and visitors, and the economic development needs of the state and local communities, by:

- Collaboration and cooperation
- Maintenance and continuous improvement of facilities
- Access to and connectivity between facilities
- Integration with economic development plans
- Effective marketing
- Protection and interpretation of natural resources



Michigan State Parks & Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel Report (2012)

The Blue Ribbon Panel's report to Governor Snyder identifies a number of recommendations for system-wide changes to programs, management, infrastructure type, and investment strategies that set up the visionary framework for the next 30-50 years of park and outdoor recreation management in Michigan. The recommendations in the report include:

- Identify and protect important natural, cultural, historic, and prehistoric resources
- Diversify funding and use new criteria to target investments
- Prioritize development of statewide and regional systems of connected trail networks
- Encourage greater connections between communities and their recreational assets to strengthen regional identities
- Use parks and recreation areas as a key tool for revitalizing Michigan's core urban areas
- Integrate tourism and economic development marketing
- Prioritize investment in parks and recreation

Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan (2013 - 2018)

The Trail Plan, developed by an 11-member committee appointed by Governor Snyder, includes eight priority recommendations with associated key actions that should be implemented to assist in achieving the vision of establishing a high quality, nationally-recognized, state-wide trail system. The eight recommendations are as follows:

- Maintain trails to ensure a sustainable & quality trail system
- Expand trails and trail experiences and opportunities to ensure accessibility to trail systems, outdoor recreation opportunities and natural and cultural resources
- The Michigan Trails Advisory Council leads the effort to maintain and enhance Michigan's reputation as the trail state
- Link trails, trail users and adjoining towns to create memorable trail experiences and enhance economic prosperity
- Develop, enhance and celebrate partnerships and collaborations
- Implement a marketing plan including an electronic portal that allows citizens and visitors to be aware of all trails and related amenities
- Develop funding sources and mechanisms for trail maintenance, acquisition and development
- Ensure that the state's trail system compliments other plans and planning efforts

PRD Strategic Plan (2009-2019)

The PRD Strategic Plan, approved in 2009, was developed to establish one cohesive plan for the division that spells out long-range goals, objectives, actions, and specific tasks for Michigan's state park and recreation system. General Management Plans are a defined process in the strategic plan.

Managed Public Land Strategy (2013)

The DNR-Managed Public Land Strategy provides a framework for the continued conservation, use and management of public lands to provide an enhanced quality of life for Michigan residents, create jobs and protect the essence of Michigan, its woods, waters, wildlife and other natural and cultural assets. The Strategy identifies three broad goals with desired outcomes, metrics, and measurable objectives identified for each goal. These goals are to:

- Provide quality outdoor public recreation opportunities
- Foster regional economic prosperity
- Protect natural and cultural resources for future generations

1.3 Summary of Legal Mandates

For all park General Management Plans, legal mandates are identified that serve to further guide the development of the General Management Plan and subsequent Action Plans. For our planning purposes, the term “Legal Mandates” refers to not only state law, but also the administrative tools of “Policy” and “Directive” of the Natural Resource Commission, the Department of Natural Resources, and the Parks & Recreation Division. There are several general and site specific legal mandates applicable to Fisherman’s Island State Park listed in Appendix A: Supporting Analysis.

The legal mandates that most directly impact planning and management of Fisherman’s Island State Park focus on the following areas:

- Endangered species protection: Fisherman’s Island State Park has areas designated as critical habitat for piping plover. The piping plover nesting habitat is also addressed as a part of the Director’s Land Use Order.
- Critical Dunes: a portion of the lakeshore is designated as critical dune area and protected from certain uses unless a permit is obtained.
- Identification of the duties of the DNR in reinforcing its core values concerning preservation, protection and management.
- Requirement of a Recreation Passport for entry into the park.
- Aboriginal Records and Antiquities: the state reserves the exclusive rights to all aboriginal records and other antiquities found on state land. Fisherman’s Island State Park is closed to metal detecting under authority of this act.

2. Plan Process Overview

2.1 Why Plan?

Park planning is not a new concept. The DNR has developed Master Plans in the past for many of Michigan's state parks. Most of these plans are now 20-40 years old and do not reflect today's realities or desires of recreational users. Furthermore, past plans put a strong emphasis on development and did not often include stewardship of natural and cultural features or opportunities for education and interpretation.

The last park-wide planning document for Fisherman's Island State Park was completed in 1974, before the site became part of the state park system.



Planning Team members tour the park.

The General Management Planning (GMP) process provides a fresh approach to planning for a park. The GMP sets out a framework for protecting park resources while providing for meaningful visitor experiences. The long-range vision and management objectives for the park are derived from applicable legal directives, the purpose of the park, and the park's significant natural and cultural resources.

A GMP develops as a result of a series of planning steps. Each step builds upon the previous, and action goals focus on (1) the mission of the Parks & Recreation Division (PRD), and (2) the specific purpose and significance of the park. There are three stages of planning, which are undertaken in the following order:

- 1) **General Management Plan (GMP)** that presents a 20-Year Management Zone Plan used to guide park planning decisions and a 10-Year Action Goals Plan that establishes specific action strategies within each management zone.
- 2) **5-Year Implementation Plan** outlines specific actions to implement based on the realities of staffing and funding opportunities.
- 3) **Annual Work Plan** addresses what will be done during a given year, and what progress was made throughout the previous year.

In order for a plan to be successful it must allow for some degree of flexibility to adapt to changes that cannot be predicted 10-20 years out. The GMP will be reviewed every five years to ensure it is still meeting its intended purpose.

2.3 Planning Team

The General Management Plan would not exist without the valuable input and expertise provided by all members of the Planning Team. Please refer to the Appendix for summaries of all Planning Team meetings.

DNR Staff		
Name	Title	Division
Debbie Jensen	Management Plan Administrator	PRD
Tom Copenhaver	Unit Supervisor	PRD
Rich Hill	District Supervisor	PRD
Annamarie Bauer	Regional Planner	PRD
Ray Fahlsing	Stewardship Unit Manager	PRD
Paul Yauk	Land Manager	PRD
Lisa Gamero	Cultural Resources Analyst	PRD
Kerry Wieber	DNR Regional Coordinator	Forest Resources
Heather Hettinger	Field Operations	Fisheries
Andrea Erratt	Conservation Officer	Law
Jon Spieles	Interpretive Manager	Marketing & Outreach
Jennifer Kleitch	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife
Joyce Angel	Gaylord Unit Manager	Forest Resources
Cynthia Watson	Property Specialist	Minerals Management
Peter Rose	Geologist	Minerals Management
Dean Anderson	State Archeologist	MSHDA

Clearzoning Consultants

David Birchler, AICP, Chief Executive Officer

Mardy Stirling, Senior Planner

Karen Zarowny, Staff Planner

Sheila Starks, GIS Specialist

2.4 Summary of Public Input Survey

Understanding the important role of the public in developing this plan, the Planning Team applied a variety of methods to collect feedback and input from Fisherman’s Island State Park users. In particular, the public input survey was utilized to gather general information about visitors, how they use the park, as well as recommendations for improving features and amenities offered. The survey was available for five (5) weeks beginning May 13, 2015. It was advertised by a DNR Press Release and an Email bulletin sent to nearly 13,300 individuals registered to receive state park news, as well as visitors known to have camped at Fisherman’s Island. Over 400 individuals responded to the survey and provided input. See Appendix B: Public Input Summary for more survey results.

The public input survey provided the following information to the Planning Team:

- The type of visitors using the state park (ex: age, distance traveled...etc.)
- The activities that visitors participate in the park and the surrounding community
- The tendencies of campers
- Additional amenities or improvements that visitors would like to see prioritized

Section	Qn #s	Type of Questions
About You	1-7	This section asked general questions about the respondent including age, zip code, number of visits per year, reasons for not visiting, how and where they enter the park, and the season of year that they visit.
Activities	8-11	This section asked respondents to identify their favorite activities.
Campers	12-15	Campers were asked about their typical length of stay and if they visit other destinations in the area.
General Comments	16	The section asked respondents to provide comments on the current condition of the park and if they would like to see any improvements.
Other State Parks Visited	17	Respondents were asked if they visited other state parks in the area, and to indicate which ones.
Wrapping Up	18	This section asked respondents to provide any additional comments they have about the State Park or General Management Planning process.

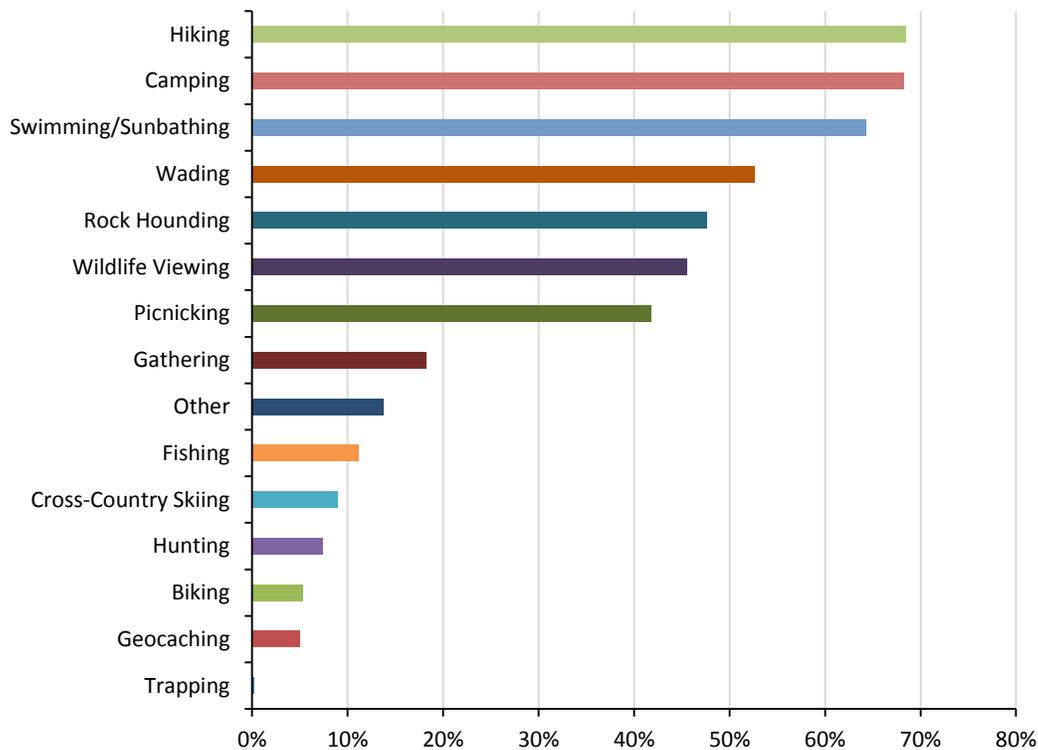
About You

Respondents of all ages completed the survey, with 50 to 64 year olds being the largest cohort (40%). Most visited the park one to two times a year, with summer (71%) and fall (36%) being the most popular seasons. Most entered the park through the northern access point (79%) and traveled by car (92%). The majority of respondents reside in the Charlevoix area.

Activities

The majority (84%) of survey respondents gave their support for a proposed regional trail initiative linking Charlevoix to Traverse City and extending the Little Traverse Wheelway south, with a portion of the non-motorized pathway running through Fisherman’s Island State Park. Respondents in favor of the trail expansion commented that it would attract more visitors, especially cyclists to the park, and would be a great connection to other regional destinations. Some stated their support for the trail was dependent on its location and suggested that there should be a connection between the park and the trail but that it should not run through the campground or the “wild” areas of the park. Those opposed to incorporating the trail wished the park to remain as undeveloped as possible to preserve its rustic beauty.

Fisherman’s Island State Park Activities By Popularity



Campers

Two-thirds of all respondents camp at Fisherman’s Island (68%), with over half staying one to two nights (52%), followed closely by three to six nights (40%). Campers indicated they visited other nearby attractions when traveling to the park, with Young State Park, Wilderness State Park, Petoskey State Park, and Traverse City State Park being the most popular neighboring destinations for park-goers. Campers also visited Downtown Charlevoix, Petoskey, Traverse City, Harbor Springs, and Boyne.

General State Park Comments

Half of respondents agreed they would like to see changes at Fisherman’s Island State Park. The most popular suggestions were road and entrance improvements, the addition of a non-motorized trail, more bike trails, and modern bathroom facilities for campgrounds. However, it was reiterated that the rustic nature of the park is key to its identity (and a desire amongst the patrons for it to remain preserved).

Wrapping Up

Finally, respondents were asked to choose three words to describe Fisherman’s Island State Park. Their responses are provided in the graphic below. The larger the word, the more times it was offered.



3. Purpose and Significance

There are over 100 parks in Michigan's State Park system and each park has its own unique and defining characteristics. This chapter describes what makes Fisherman's Island State Park a significant asset to the state's park system.

3.1 Park Purpose

Park purpose statements are based on park legislation, legislative history, special designations and DNR policies. These statements reaffirm the reasons for which Fisherman's Island State Park was identified as part of the state park system.

- To be used as a public park, pursuant to the intentions of the State Legislature when it created the park and authorized its purchase, beginning in 1974.
- To preserve and protect Fisherman's Island State Park's significant natural resources and areas of natural beauty or historic significance.
- To provide open space for public outdoor recreation.
- To provide an opportunity to understand Michigan's natural resources and the need to protect and manage those resources.

3.2 Statements of Significance

Archaeological Resources

There are numerous archaeological sites located within Fisherman's Island State Park. Most of the currently known sites were once home to early Native Americans. These locations hold archaeological information about Native American life in this region over the course of thousands of years. An outcrop of Norwood chert within the park is particularly significant. This is one of the few places in Michigan where Native people extracted chert from a geological formation for use in stone tool-making. Within the state park system, Fisherman's Island State Park is particularly sensitive for the presence of significant archaeological sites and artifacts.



Expansive Lake Michigan shoreline.

Lake Michigan Shoreline

Fisherman’s Island State Park provides six miles of remote, scenic Lake Michigan shoreline for quiet enjoyment and exploration, just minutes from downtown Charlevoix. The mostly rocky shore offers one of the finest locations in the state for Petoskey stone hunting.

Natural Resources

Fisherman’s Island State Park provides migratory bird stop-over and breeding habitat, including nesting habitat for the endangered piping plover. The park’s combination of open dunes, interdunal wetlands, limestone cobble shorelines, and rich conifer swamps support rare Great Lakes endemic species such as Houghton’s goldenrod, Lake Huron locust, and Pitcher’s thistle.

Recreation

Fisherman’s Island State Park provides the largest intact area open to public hunting in mainland western Charlevoix County and fishing access on three trout streams. Rustic camping is available in designated areas on the shoreline and on wooded sites, providing a natural resource recreation experience. High quality undeveloped natural features, with hiking and cross-country skiing backcountry trails, are just around the corner from the developed Charlevoix area.



Campsite on the shoreline of Lake Michigan

3.3 Public Affirmation of Significance Statements

Stakeholder and public input assisted the Planning Team with identifying significant features and opportunities at Fisherman’s Island State Park. The feedback they provided via the online survey, the on-site workshops, and email affirmed the value of the park. Comments from stakeholders and the public further affirmed the unique characteristics of Fisherman’s Island and its significance within the State Park’s recreation system. Below are just a few comments from the online survey:

What are people saying about Fisherman’s Island?

“The best part about Fisherman’s Island is that it is rustic and undeveloped, it truly is a nature lover’s paradise. There is nowhere else like it in the state of Michigan.”

“It is a beautiful, quiet little gem. We were there over 4th of July weekend, and even though the park was completely full, it was serene. We enjoyed the beach and close access to Lake Michigan. Please keep it rustic!”

“There are so few places left like this.”

“Great place to hike and jog. Thank you!”

“I value the solitude and feeling of wilderness that the park provides. The long stretches of undeveloped shoreline are priceless, but I also treasure hiking through the woods.

“A lot of the appeal of Fisherman's Island State Park is its seclusion. It's hard to find a quiet state park that offers campsites a stone's throw from Lake Michigan - I'd like to keep it that way.”

“It's so beautiful and the park gives you the experience of being ‘away from it all.’”

3.4 Relationship with the Local Community

Fisherman’s Island State Park draws an estimated 30,300 visitors a year and generates approximately \$94,000 in direct revenues annually (2014 data). The nearly 2,678 acre park is located just south of the City of Charlevoix. Commonly referred to as “Charlevoix the Beautiful”, the city is renowned as a tourist destination, featuring beaches, boating, parks, orchards and seasonal activities and events catering to a variety of tastes. The online survey undertaken as part of this Management Plan indicated that the vast majority of visitors camping at the park frequent the stores and restaurants of Charlevoix, as well as the nearby cities of Petoskey, East Jordan and Boyne City, and further afield to Traverse City or Mackinac City.

Many local residents have a strong sense of ownership and connection to the park, beginning with the development of the campground in the 1960’s (then known as Bells Bay State Forest campground) with assistance from Charlevoix Township and local community volunteers. Fisherman’s Island is also important to the Native American Tribes, including the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, not only due to the historic use of this area of the shoreline, but also for the lake access and trout fishing opportunities that continue today.

With the recent completion of the Charlevoix Lake to Lake multi-use trail connecting Bells Bay Road to Lake Charlevoix, the Little Traverse Wheelway from Charlevoix along the shoreline to Harbor Springs, and planning for the Traverse City to Charlevoix Trail underway, the park will continue to be a major feature in the connectivity of this area.

4. Management Zones

The 20-Year Management Zone Plan was developed in keeping with the park’s significance, identity, and purpose. The primary goal in the development of the management zones is to protect the park’s resources while also preserving the opportunities and features that attract visitors to the park each year. From a palette of nine management zones, the Planning Team studied the park and applied zones that best fit, given the significant features of the park. Management zones describe a variety of activities that **may be** appropriate within the zone. The resource condition, visitor experience, and development level varies in each zone, as indicated in the figure below.

Management Zone Progression			
Management Zone	Resource Condition	Visitor Experience	Development Level
Ecologically Sensitive	Pristine	Restricted	None
Primitive			
Backcountry			
Cultural Landscape			
History Education			
Scenic			
Natural Resource Recreation			
Developed Recreation			
Administrative			

Park Boundary

The 2004 Project Boundary approved by the Natural Resources Commission (NRC), includes approximately 2,500 acres of land currently in private ownership. The Project Boundary is a geographic area in which the DNR has an interest in acquiring property on a willing seller/willing buyer basis.

Land acquisition of this scale over the life of this Management Plan is likely unrealistic and may not be in the best public interest. The Planning Team recommends that the land within the Project Boundary should be considered for acquisition on a case-by-case basis, if and when it becomes available, based on the ability to support the mission of the DNR/PRD. Department-wide boundary reviews occur periodically for all DNR properties, and at that time the Project Boundary for Fisherman’s Island State Park should be reconsidered. The 2004 Project Boundary includes a unique geological feature (drumlin field) in the south, designated trout streams, land with a high potential for important natural communities and cultural

resources and as a stop-over for migrating birds: all factors that should be taken into consideration in any boundary review.

Management Zones

The Fisherman’s Island General Management Plan identifies management zone boundaries which reflects the resource protection goals and recreation development opportunities for different areas within the park. The following descriptions for each management zone describe the existing and future conditions in relation to each of the following:

- Natural Resources
- Historic/Cultural Resources
- Recreation Opportunities
- Education Opportunities
- Visitor Experience
- Management Focus
- Development

Any revisions to the zoning map will require public notification and the same review and approval process as the General Management Plan.

In addition to the five management zones and two overlays, the Planning Team identified the old Lakeshore Drive roadbed between Norwood and the Clipperview subdivision as a “Route Under Study”. Action Goals have been developed that will study the appropriate use of this corridor in the future, in relation to existing vehicular use, a proposed regional non-motorized trail initiative from Charlevoix to Traverse City, and emergency and maintenance access needs. The recommendations of this study will determine the appropriate future use of the former Lakeshore Drive through the park.



Trailhead at Fisherman's Island State Park.

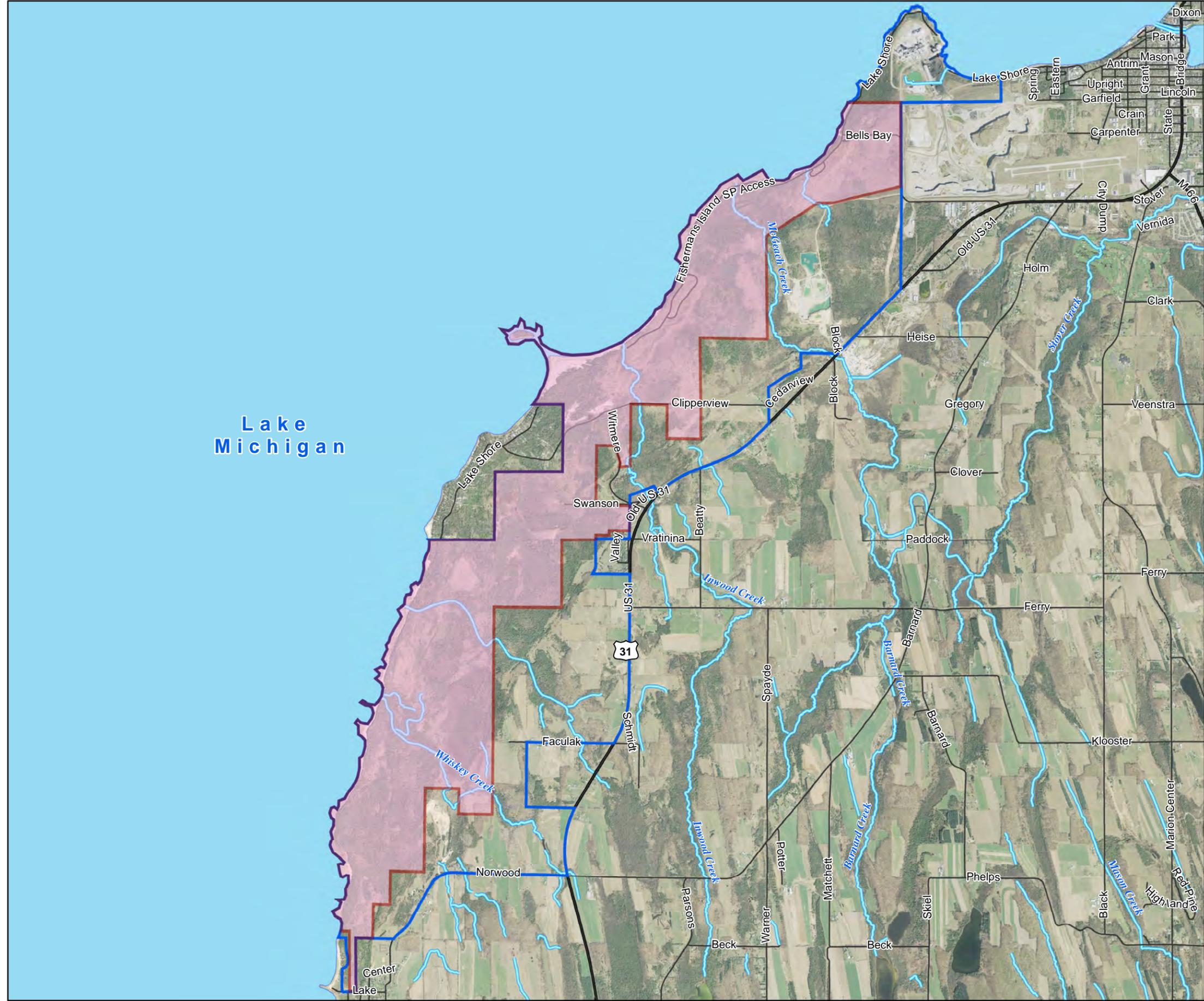
Fisherman's Island State Park

Boundary Aerial

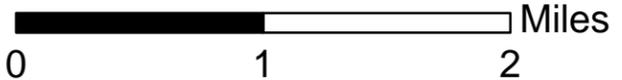
Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan



- Fisherman's Island State Park
- 2004 Project Boundary* Approved by the NRC



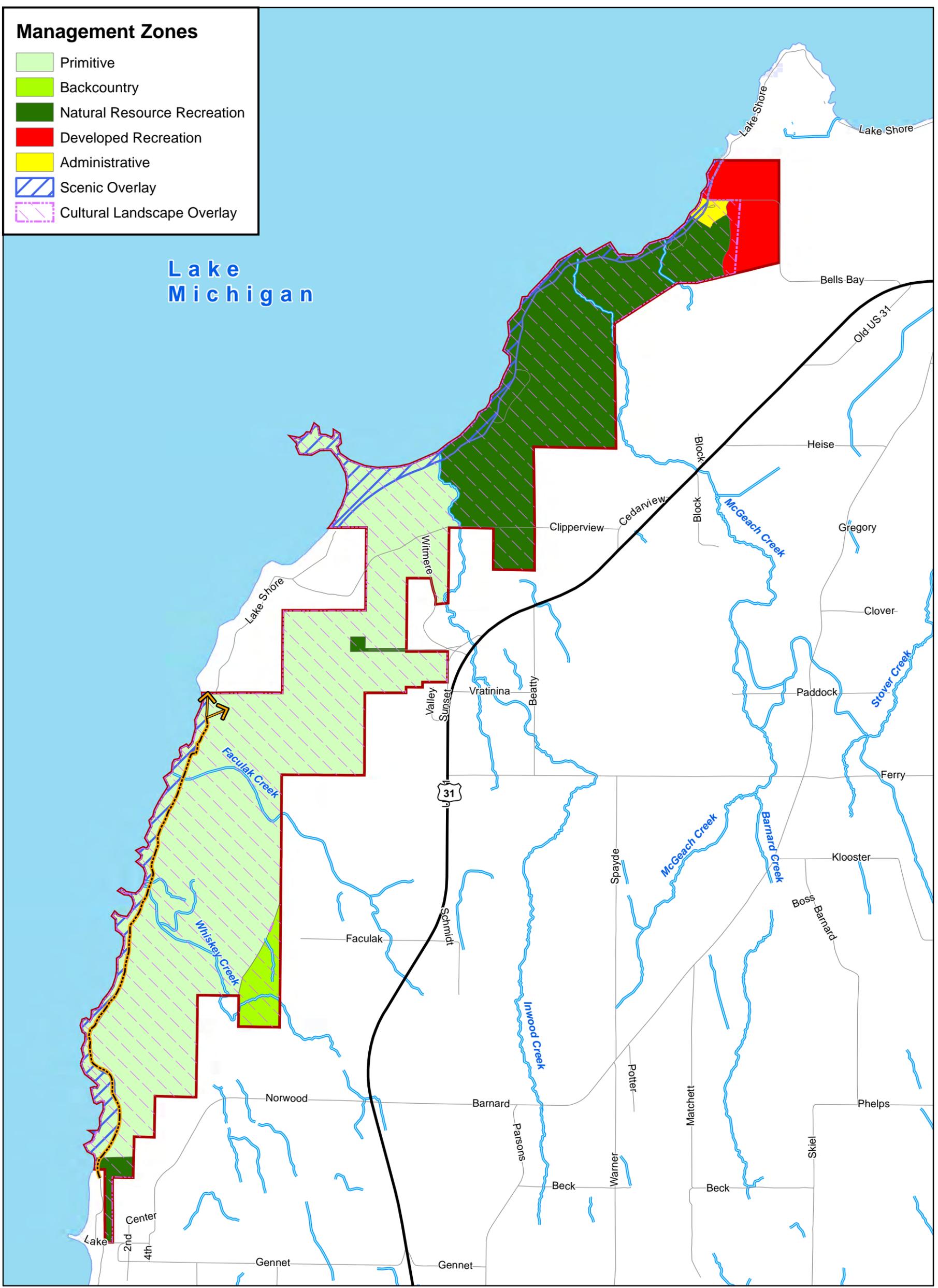
*A Project Boundary is a geographic area in which the DNR is seeking to acquire property that supports the mission of the DNR on a willing buyer/seller basis.



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Management Zones

- Primitive
- Backcountry
- Natural Resource Recreation
- Developed Recreation
- Administrative
- Scenic Overlay
- Cultural Landscape Overlay



- Fisherman's Island State Park
- Rivers and Streams
- State Roads
- Road
- Route Under Study

Further study will determine if a non-motorized trail corridor through the park is appropriate as part of the regional trail proposal.



Fisherman's Island State Park Management Zones

Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan



Sources: Michigan DNR, Michigan Geographic Data Library
Created December 18, 2015

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4.1 Primitive Zone

Approximately 62% of Fisherman’s Island State Park is designated Primitive. This zone preserves and protects natural habitats within the park. Only foot traffic will be allowed in this zone to ensure that the natural features are not damaged or compromised. The Primitive Zone is located south of Inwood Creek and Clipperview Road. Fisherman’s Island and a large proportion of the Lake Michigan shoreline are included within this Zone. A small portion of the rocky shoreline between Inwood and Whiskey Creeks is also identified within the Primitive Zone; a prime nesting condition for piping plover. The Primitive Zone is rich in natural and cultural resources. The land area is characterized by Lake Michigan shoreline, wetlands, interdunal land formations, and Whiskey Creek and Inwood Creek. This Zone is home to many archaeological sites, including an outcrop of Norwood chert. The development and management of this area is bound by the knowledge that these rich resources need to be protected and preserved while still providing public access. Much of this zone is characterized by wetlands. A large proportion of the area between Inwood Creek and Clipperview Road is designated Piping Plover Critical Habitat and Critical Dunes (refer to maps in Appendix A of this report).



Natural Resources

Native species and natural processes take precedence over visitor accommodations. This zone will reflect natural processes, with vegetative management allowed only where necessary to restore and maintain natural ecological structure and processes (such as removing invasive species), to address hazard trees, and to manage pests and disease. The maintenance and restoration of natural communities will be a priority in this zone, including protection of state threatened species such as Lake Huron tansy and Lake Huron locust.

Historic / Cultural Resources

There are no known historic structures within this zone. The area of the park is rich in archeological sites which should be preserved and protected.

Recreation Opportunities

Dispersed, low density off-trail or trailed, self-reliant outdoor activities, such as hiking, back-packing, cross-country skiing, hunting/trapping/fishing and nature observation are typical of the Primitive Zone. This area of the park offers a large intact undeveloped area for hunting and includes Whiskey Creek, a designated trout stream. The Primitive Zone permits only non-motorized use and bicycle and equestrian trails are not permitted. The old Lakeshore Road bed traverses parallel to the lakeshore through this zone. This is identified as a “Route Under Study” on the zoning map in recognition of the current vehicular use and the potential as a non-motorized trail corridor.

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Informing the public of the value of natural and cultural resources located within the Primitive Zone is valuable. However, in recognition of the undeveloped nature of this zone, interpretive signage should be primarily off-site or at trailheads.

Visitor Experience

Visitor experience is focused on the significant natural character of the zone, along with a sense of solitude, and a lack of man-made improvements. Overall, there will be relatively low interaction with other visitors.

Management Focus

Management will focus on maintaining the low-impact character of the zone, with emphasis on natural resource quality and cultural resource protection. An evaluation of the old roadbed and access from the south, as well as control over illegal motor vehicle and ORV use will be a primary management focus of this area.

Development

A very low level of development is allowed to support visitor access. The focus is to maintain as little evidence of human activity as possible. Trail and creek crossing improvements will be considered to protect sensitive resources.



Lake Michigan shoreline with natural habitats.

Management Focus

Management focuses on maintaining the low-impact character of this zone, with an emphasis on natural resource quality.

Development

A low level of development to support visitor access to outdoor activities (i.e. trailheads, trailhead parking) and education opportunities are appropriate in the Backcountry Zone. Any development should be unobtrusive and blend into the natural environment.

4.3 Natural Resource Recreation Zone

Approximately 30% of Fisherman’s Island State Park is zoned Natural Resource Recreation. This zone provides for active recreation with medium to high density use conducted in natural areas. The Natural Resource Recreation area is located south of Bells Bay Road to Inwood Creek and includes an area at the far south end of the park. Many of the camp roads and rustic campsites and the day use area are located within this zone. While the zone designation emphasizes resource protection, landscape modification is permitted to allow for moderate interaction and recreation, as well as more intensively used trail corridors. A portion of the lakeshore within this zone is designated as Critical Dune and Piping Plover Critical Habitat (refer to Resource Maps in Appendix A). In addition, there are some significant natural communities and rare plants and animals along the lakeshore that are protected under the Endangered Species Act



Natural Resources

Natural resources support visitor activities with moderate impacts. This zone reflects natural processes, with vegetative management focused on restoring and maintaining natural ecological structure and processes (such as removing of invasive species), to address hazard trees, and to manage pests and disease. Vegetation may also be managed to facilitate recreational use and to maintain an aesthetically appealing landscape.

Historic / Cultural Resources

There are no historic structures within this zone. Cultural resources will generally be preserved and protected.

Recreational Opportunities

Moderate to high levels of recreation compatible with the natural character of the zone are to be expected. Visitors may be engaged in outdoor activities in diverse land and water natural settings, including hiking, rustic camping, bicycling, canoeing, kayaking, nature observation and hunting/trapping/fishing. Snowmobiling is permitted in the Natural Resource Recreation Zone.

Education Opportunities

Interpretive signage may be used along trails and at specific points of interest along the shoreline.

Visitor Experience

Visitors may be engaged in outdoor activities in diverse land and water natural settings for recreation and education. Variable time commitment, challenge and adventure; moderate noise tolerance and interaction with DNR staff; and, moderate to high visitor encounters can be accommodated.

Management Focus

Management focuses on maintaining the use of the zone appropriate to the PRD’s mission. Public safety, protection of resources, and improved visitor accessibility are management priorities. The camp roads are in poor condition with ongoing drainage issues and general deterioration. An engineering study to identify techniques to repair drainage and driving surface deficiencies is part of the 10-year action goals. In addition, an evaluation of alternative lodging in the park is needed, and consideration of the need and feasibility of ADA campsites.

Development

A moderate level of development of facilities for support of visitor activities is permitted in this zone. Examples of development include walkways and parking, trails, benches, rustic cabins, and picnic tables. This zone allows site hardening as necessary to facilitate activities (such as ADA compliance) and protect natural resources.



Campsites at Fisherman’s Island State Park are rustic.



Many campsites are located along the Lake Michigan shoreline.



Drainage issues exist along park roads - making access difficult in the winter/spring seasons.

4.4 Developed Recreation Zone

Approximately 5% of Fisherman’s Island State Park is designated Developed Recreation. This zone allows active recreation with high density of use conducted in areas not designated for natural resource significance. The Developed Recreation Zone includes the area north and west of Bell’s Bay Road.



Natural Resources

Natural resources are actively managed and modified to support visitor activities, but at this park it is recognized that the wooded setting is an important component to the park’s success and currently provides a buffer to adjacent land uses. Vegetative management in this zone will address hazard trees, invasive species, and pests and disease, and will also be allowed for purposes of facilitating development and recreational use and maintaining an aesthetically appealing landscape.

Historic / Cultural Resources

There are no known historic or cultural resources within this zone.

Recreational Opportunities

High levels of recreation in a highly structured environment may be found in this zone. Visitor’s engage in recreation activities in diverse and modified land and water settings, which could include modern or semi-modern camping, boating, day-use areas, trails and support facilities such as parking areas and bathrooms.

Education Opportunities

Interpretive signage and information could be provided at campgrounds, day-use facilities, trailheads or along trails. Active programming would be appropriate in areas where people congregate.

Visitor Experience

A high level of visitor encounters can be accommodated. High noise tolerance and high interaction with DNR staff and other users can be expected.

Management Focus

Management focuses on maintaining the use of the zone appropriate to the PRD’s mission, promoting and supporting a diversity of facilities and activities and providing a high level of accessibility. Evaluating the need for a designated beach area, dump and fill station, and alternative options for lodging in the park are management priorities.

Development

A high level of development of facilities for support of visitor activities is permitted in this zone.



Entrance to Fisherman's Island State Park.



Bench donated to the park provides a seating area overlooking Lake Michigan.

4.5 Administrative Zone

This zone is 0.5% of total land and encompasses the developed areas required for program administration, operations, and the business of running the state park. The Administrative zone in Fisherman’s Island State Park includes the campground contact station.



Natural Resources

Natural resources are actively managed and modified to support administrative and support activities. Vegetative management is allowed (primarily tree removal for safety).

Historic / Cultural Resources

There are no known historic or cultural resources within this zone.

Recreational Opportunities

There are no recreational activities provided in the Administrative Zone.

Education Opportunities

Person to person contact at park office for general information; informational kiosk may be available.

Visitor Experience

Visitors typically access the zone for business and information only. High noise tolerance and high interaction with others can be expected.

Management Focus

Management focuses on the business of running the park, appropriate facilities for staff, employee safety and the like. The park will focus on identifying electronic and communication connectivity within the park and upgrading the staff facilities.



Camp Contact Station

Development

A high level of development of facilities and high levels of accessibility are expected in this zone. Proposed development in this zone includes providing septic and water for campground offices, as well as the construction of an equipment storage building.

4.7 Scenic Overlay

Approximately 9% of Fisherman’s Island State Park is included within the Scenic Overlay. The overlay has been applied to the entire Lake Michigan shoreline in recognition of its natural beauty.

Management within the overlay will focus on maintaining the quality of the viewsapes on which the zone is based and all activities and developments in the Scenic Overlay must be compatible with the overriding purpose of view quality. Natural resources may be modified, to the level permitted in the underlying zone, to support both visitor use and viewing.

Because the overlay crosses the boundaries of one or more management zones, refer to the underlying zone for planned actions at specific locations.



Viewsapes along the Lake Michigan

5. 10-Year Action Goals

The Action Goals proposed for Fisherman’s Island State Park were developed by the Planning Team in response to stakeholder and public input and in context with the core values and guiding resources discussed in Chapter 1 of this plan.

One of the priorities identified in this plan is to work with partners to improve trail connectivity between Fisherman’s Island State Park, other trail networks and local communities. Connections between communities and recreational assets will strengthen the regional identity and enhance economic prosperity. This action is supported by the recommendations of all of the major planning efforts guiding recreation in Michigan, including the Blue Ribbon Panel Report to Governor Snyder and the Michigan Comprehensive Trail Plan. The Governor’s Economic Prosperity initiative is another illustration of the importance of planning regionally. Fisherman’s Island State Park is located in Economic Prosperity Region 2.

The proposal from the Charlevoix to Traverse City trail planners to route part of the non-motorized linear trail through Fisherman’s Island State Park was the focus of much discussion during this planning process. While supporting the initiative and wishing to connect Fisherman’s Island to the proposed trail, the planning team felt that additional analysis is needed before a final decision can be made regarding the ability of the park to support a trail of this nature and the route it might take. This evaluation is one of the primary General Action Goals included in the list that follows.

Other improvements proposed will continue to maintain, improve and expand the recreation opportunities available while protecting the natural and cultural resources and maintaining the rustic nature which many visitors value in the park.

The Planning Team has developed 10-Year Action Goals that it believes are necessary to guide management and development within the park as a whole and the five designated management zones in order to achieve the desired user experience. For each management zone in the plan, action goals are recommended that address one or more of the following categories:

- Natural Resources
- Historic/Cultural Resources
- Recreation Opportunities
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities
- Management Focus
- Development

Management Plans do not guarantee future PRD funding to implement them. PRD will seek internal funding, alternative funding sources, partnerships and other potential mechanisms for implementing the desired future conditions defined in this plan. The 10-Year Action Goals address the desired future condition at the park, and serve as a blueprint for management decisions.

General Action Goals

Many of the 10-Year Action Goals for **Fisherman's Island State Park** are general in nature and apply within all of the management zones. These often deal with park-wide issues, such as invasive species control, universal access, developing Stewardship, Wildlife and Emergency plans, or marketing the park's many recreational opportunities to a wider audience of potential users. Many of the overall maintenance and operational issues of running a state park also result in the need for actions across all zone boundaries, such as law enforcement.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Natural Resources			
Create Phase I Natural Resource Stewardship Plan.	3-5 years	Regional Planner Stewardship Park Manager	Stewardship Ecologist
Implement invasive species control, with a strong emphasis on early detection and rapid response. Monitor roads, trails, and any new development sites for possible invasive species introductions.	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship Fisheries	Park Manager
Protect piping plover nesting areas during the breeding season.	Ongoing	Stewardship Wildlife Park Manager Volunteers USFWS	Park Manager Stewardship
Continue to follow the administrative regulations for the critical dunes protection.	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship	Park Manager
Continue to protect the exemplary natural communities and legally protected species.	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship DEQ	Park Manager
Complete the Michigan Forest Inventory cover type mapping for the park.	5-10 Years	Stewardship	Stewardship
Historic/ Cultural Resources			
Review all proposed ground disturbing activities for potential impact on historic/cultural resources.	Ongoing	Regional Planner Stewardship SHPO	Cultural Resource Analyst State Archaeologist
Conduct a Phase I archeological survey of the park.	10 Years	Stewardship SHPO	Cultural Resource Analyst Park Manager
Evaluate the condition and extent of known archeological sites.	5 Years	Stewardship SHPO	Cultural Resource Analyst Park Manager
Develop and implement an education and enforcement plan for protecting cultural resources and artifacts to prevent damage/collecting.	1-2 Years	Stewardship SHPO Law Enforcement Marketing & Outreach Park Manager	Cultural Resource Analyst Park Manager
Develop a monitoring program for cultural resources.	1-2 years	Park Manager Stewardship SHPO	Cultural Resource Analyst Park Manager

General Action Goals			
Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Recreation Opportunities			
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/fishing/gathering /trapping/birding.	Ongoing	Stewardship Wildlife Park Manager Fisheries	Park Manager
Work with regional partners to identify potential for connectivity to community trails beyond the park boundary.	Ongoing	Park Manager Regional Planner Recreation Partners Trails Coordinator	Regional Planner
Work with partners to evaluate and identify appropriate Lake Michigan Water Trail access and amenities.	Ongoing	Regional Planner Park Manager Recreation Partners Trails Coordinator	Regional Planner
Evaluate existing park trails for appropriate use.	1-3 Years	Regional Planner Park Manager Stewardship	Park Manager
Collaborate with key stakeholders to study route options and analyze the impact of a non-motorized trail running through the park as part of the regional trail proposal.	1-2 Years	Regional Planner Park Manager Recreation Partners	Regional Planner
Education/Interpretive Opportunities			
Develop an Interpretive Plan that considers a variety of traditional and new media, including audio and video technologies, podcasts, and other emerging technologies for interpretation opportunities.	TBD by state-wide priority	Park Manager Stewardship Historical Center Marketing & Outreach	Marketing & Outreach Historical Center Park Manager
Implement the Interpretive Plan.	TBD by state-wide priority	Park Manager Historical Center Marketing & Outreach	Park Manager Marketing & Outreach
Implement strategies to include PRD field staff in interpretive programs.	1-2 Years	Park Manager Historical Center Marketing & Outreach	Park Manager Marketing & Outreach
Management			
Resolve ownership and public access rights at south end of the park.	1-2 years	Park Manager Regional Planner Real Estate	Regional Planner
Evaluate and make recommendations for existing motor vehicle access and parking at south end of the park.	1-2 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner
Continue to explore strategic land acquisition within the park's project boundary.	Ongoing	Land Manager Park Manager	Land Manager
Define park boundaries with appropriate markers.	5 Years	Land Manager Park Manager	Park Manager

General Action Goals			
Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Development			
Continue efforts to achieve greater visitor accessibility in all development opportunities.	Ongoing	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Resolve ownership and public access rights at the south end of the park.	TBD by study	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager

Primitive Zone			
<p>The Primitive Zone emphasizes the natural resources of the area. It is managed to allow only dispersed, low frequency and low impact recreational use in the zone. Maintaining a high quality natural resource condition dictates the extent to which recreational improvements are allowed. For this reason, native species and natural processes take precedence over visitor accommodation. The following 10-Year Action Goals propose only very low levels of development, in order to protect the important habitat. The Cultural Landscape and Scenic Overlays are used in recognition of cultural resources and the scenic lakefront.</p>			
Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Recreation Opportunities			
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/fishing/gathering/trapping/birding.	Ongoing	Stewardship Wildlife Park Manager Fisheries	Park Manager
Education / Interpretation Opportunities			
Inform the public of the value of natural and cultural resources in the primitive areas.	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship Historical Center	Park Manager
Develop educational and interpretive signage for the cultural and natural features appropriate to the zone.	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship Marketing & Outreach	Park Manager
Management			
Evaluate and make recommendations for trail crossings over Inwood and Whiskey Creeks.	1-2 Years	Stewardship Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner
Continue to focus on control of illegal motor vehicle use and evaluate and implement measures to prevent illegal use.	Ongoing	Park Manager Law Enforcement	Law
Evaluate the need for land use order to control snowmobile use.	3 Years	Stewardship District Supervisor Park Manager	District Supervisor
Development			
Implement the recommendations of the trail crossings evaluation for Inwood and Whiskey Creeks.	5-10 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner District Supervisor Stewardship	Park Manager

Backcountry Zone

This zone emphasizes resource quality, but allows for limited modification of the landscape to accommodate a moderate level of non-motorized recreational use. At Fisherman’s Island State Park, the Backcountry Zone follows the interdunal land forms and extends east to the park boundary. The Backcountry Zone also includes a portion of Whiskey Creek and other tributaries to Lake Michigan. The Cultural Landscape Overlay is overlaid in recognition of historic and cultural resources.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
<i>Since much of this land is not currently in state ownership, no actions specific to this zone are proposed at this time. Refer to General Action Goals.</i>			

Natural Resource Recreation

Active recreation at a medium to high density of use conducted in a natural setting is the hallmark of the Natural Resource Recreation Zone. There is still an emphasis on resource quality over recreation, but in this zone higher levels of use are allowed. Vegetation may be managed to facilitate recreational use and maintain an aesthetically appealing landscape, as well as address such issues as hazard trees and to manage pests and disease. The 10-year Action Goals are intended to promote and enhance diverse recreation opportunities. The Cultural and Scenic Overlay are overlaid in recognition of historic and cultural resources and the scenic lakefront.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Management			
Evaluate alternative lodging in the park: additional campsites or hike-in campsites; yurts, camper cabins, and similar options.	5 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Evaluate potential for accessible campsites.	1-2 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Development			
Improve campsites for accessibility compliance based on evaluation.	3-5 Years	Park Manager	Park Manager
Conduct an engineering study to identify techniques to repair drainage and driving surface deficiencies on park roads.	2-3 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Evaluate appropriate recreational and access opportunities for the recently acquired 5-acre parcel at the end of Swanson Road.	1-5 Years	District Supervisor Regional Planner Park Manager	Park Manager

Developed Recreation

Active recreation with high density of use, conducted in areas not identified as having natural resource significance is characteristic of the Developed Recreation Zone. In this zone, recreation dominates with natural resource attributes enhanced where possible. An area north and west of Bells Bay Road has been identified as an area where a higher density of use may occur. Although few action goals have been identified for the upcoming 10-year planning period, the zoning allows for more intensive recreation development should it be deemed appropriate in the future. The Scenic Overlay runs along the shoreline of Lake Michigan.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Management			
Evaluate the need for a designated beach area.	5-10 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Evaluate demand and feasibility of a dump and fill station.	5-10 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Evaluate alternative lodging in the park – modern campsites, yurt and/or camper cabin.	5-10 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager

Administrative Zone

This zone encompasses the developed areas required for program administration, operations, and the business of running the state park. The Administrative zone at Fisherman’s Island includes the park contact station/office and service yard.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Management			
Continue to explore options for electronic/communication connectivity.	Ongoing	Park Manager District Supervisor	Park Manager
Development			
Provide septic system and water for campground office.	3 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Construct an equipment storage building.	3 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Provide modern bathroom/shower facilities for campers in the zone.	5-10 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager

Cultural Landscape Zone

The Cultural Landscape Overlay addresses the overall setting in which is found not only historic structures, but all non-structural evidence of the traditions, beliefs, practices, life ways, arts, crafts and social institutions of any community. A Cultural Landscape Overlay has been applied over the majority of Fisherman’s Island State Park in recognition of the cultural resources known to be present in this area.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
<i>Refer to General Action Goals.</i>			

Scenic Zone

The Scenic Overlay is applied to the entire Lake Michigan shoreline in recognition its scenic value. The priority in this overlay is to maintain the natural beauty of the lakeshore for quiet enjoyment.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
<i>Refer to General Action Goals.</i>			

APPENDIX A

Supporting Analysis

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A.1 PARK SETTING

Park Profile

Area: 2678 acres
County: Charlevoix County
Township: Charlevoix & Norwood Township
Latitude: 45.2700° N
Longitude: 85.3569° W

Address: Bell's Bay Road
Charlevoix, MI 49720
Phone #: (231) 547-6641

**Fisherman's Island
State Park**



Location & Community

Fisherman's Island State Park is located on the shores of Lake Michigan in Charlevoix County, in the far northwest corner of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. It is approximately three miles southwest of the City of Charlevoix, and 24 miles northwest of East Jordan. Fisherman's Island State Park is accessed from US-31, which runs north-south along the lakeshore, connecting Traverse City, Charlevoix and Petoskey. The park is named after a small island, which has now become a peninsula after years of lower water levels.

Within 60 miles of Fisherman's Island State Park are several popular tourist destinations. To the north are Mackinaw City, City of Petoskey, City of Charlevoix, and Wilderness State Park. To the south are Traverse City and Sleeping Bear Dunes. To the east around Lake Charlevoix is Young State Park, which offers year-round activities for day and overnight use. There are also many large inland lakes in the area, including Lake Charlevoix, Torch Lake and Walloon Lake.



Source: Charlevoix County

Planning & Zoning

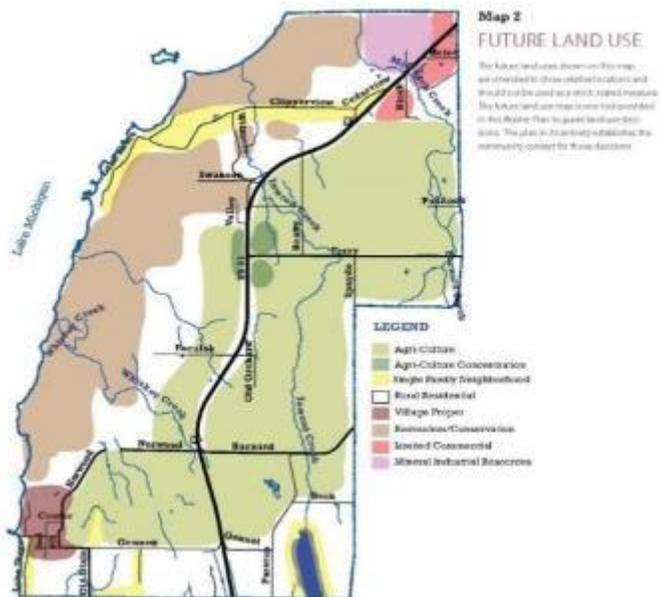
Fisherman’s Island State Park is located in Norwood Township and Charlevoix Township, between Little Traverse Bay and Grand Traverse Bay.

Norwood Township

Norwood Township is primarily rural in character with large tracts of agricultural parcels mixed with water bodies, forested lands and open space. Single-family homes are concentrated around shared amenities such as Lake Michigan and Harwood Lake. The unincorporated village of Norwood, platted in 1867, has retained much of its historic character and is located to the south of Fisherman’s Island State Park.

Norwood Township Master Plan/Future Land Use Map

The 2015 Draft Master Plan for Norwood Township designates Fisherman’s Island State Park as Recreation/Conservation. The properties to the east of the park are designated as Rural Residential, to the north are Mineral Industrial, and to the south are Rural Residential and Village Proper. The area adjacent to Clipperview Road is designated as Single-Family Residential. The Recreation/Conservation designation is intended to “protect, preserve and enhance unique and vital natural features and provide areas for parks, recreation, and open-spaces which preserve and enhance the rural character of the Township while, at the same time, broadening recreation and conservation opportunities in appropriate areas.” Rural Residential allows for larger lot sizes and/or cluster development to maintain open-space and rural character and Agriculture allows for agritourism and cultural accessory uses. Along Clipperview Road, the Single-Family Neighborhood designation is intended to provide livable and desirable neighborhoods with an overall density of one unit per acre.



Norwood Township DRAFT Future Land Use Map

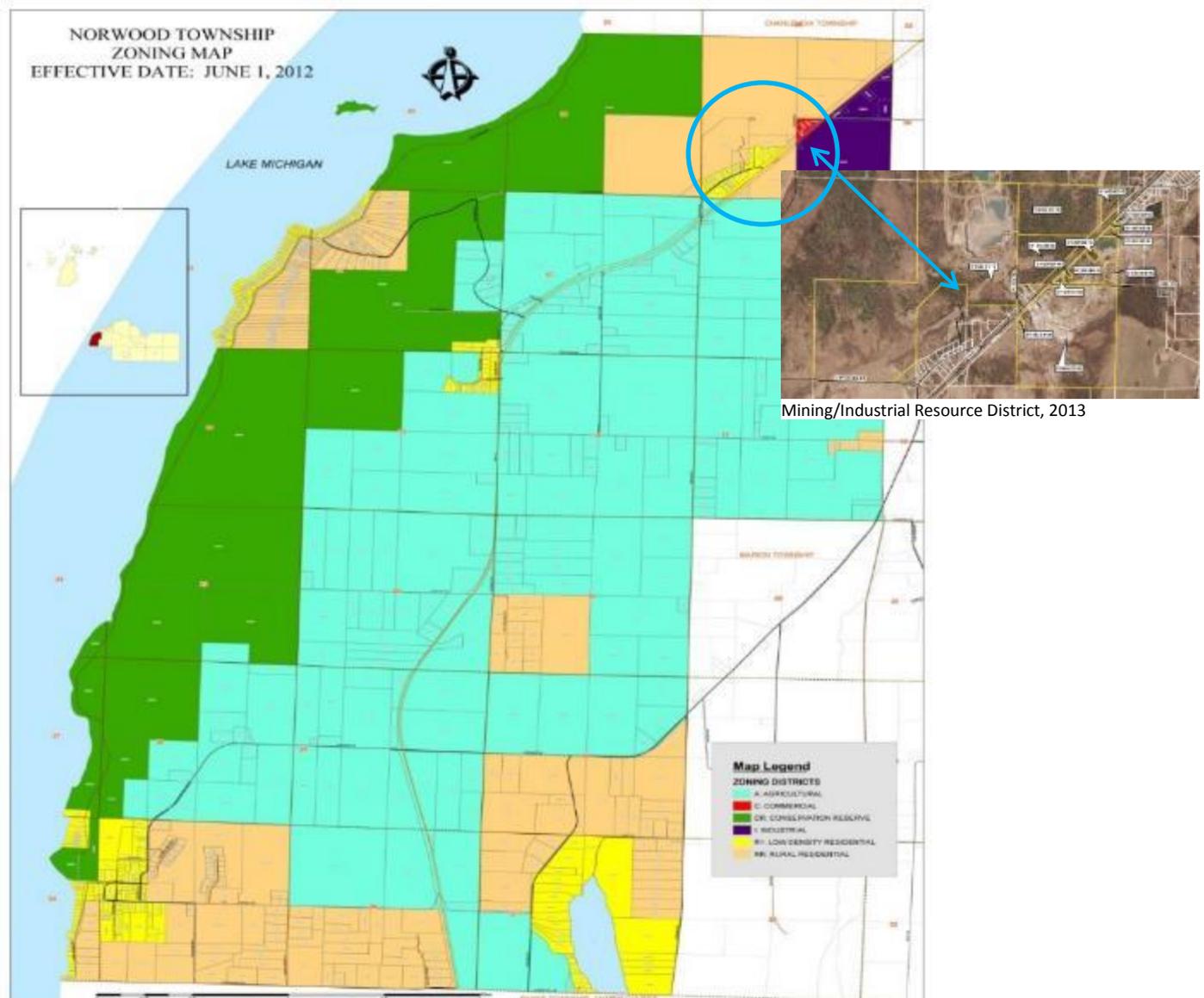
Norwood Township Zoning

Within Norwood Township, Fisherman’s Island State Park is zoned Conservation Reserve. The intent of the Conservation Reserve District is to promote the proper use, enjoyment and conservation of water, land, topographic and forest resources of the Township particularly adapted to recreational and forest uses. The provisions of this section also recognize the gradual extension of other uses into the district, and the importance of adopting good standards to guide such developments. These extensions are provided for through the special land use approval process. The majority of adjacent properties are designated as Agricultural with some centrally located low-density and rural residential areas.

Zoning of properties adjacent to Fisherman’s Island State Park:

Zone/Plan Districts	General Location	Purpose
Agricultural	Majority of easterly border	To conserve and promote the general continuance of agricultural and natural resources uses, where suitable conditions exist. The other land use prominent in the agricultural district is rural residential, which is compatible with the agricultural uses and will be allowed to continue. The provisions of this section also recognize the gradual extension of other property uses into the district, and the importance of adopting good standards to guide such developments, if properly integrated, the inclusion of such uses is provided by special approval.
Rural Residential	Mid-point along Lake Michigan Dr.	To provide a location within the Township for low density single family residential housing.
Low-Density Residential	Mid-point adjacent to Lake Michigan & US 31/SE border	Intended to encourage and accommodate residential structures located on existing smaller individual lots, parcels, or site condominiums along with other residential related facilities which serve the residents within the District.
Mining/Industrial Resources	Northeast border of park	To promote the orderly development of quarrying operations, mining operations, excavation operations and mineral extraction operations, including all onsite processing related thereto. Additionally, the District addresses the management and reclamation upon completion.
Norwood Township Zoning Plan, n.d.		

Norwood Township regulates land for the extraction of mineral resources in the Mineral/Industrial Resources District (MIRD). In 2013, several properties adjacent to the northeast boundary of Fisherman’s Island State Park were rezoned to MIRD.



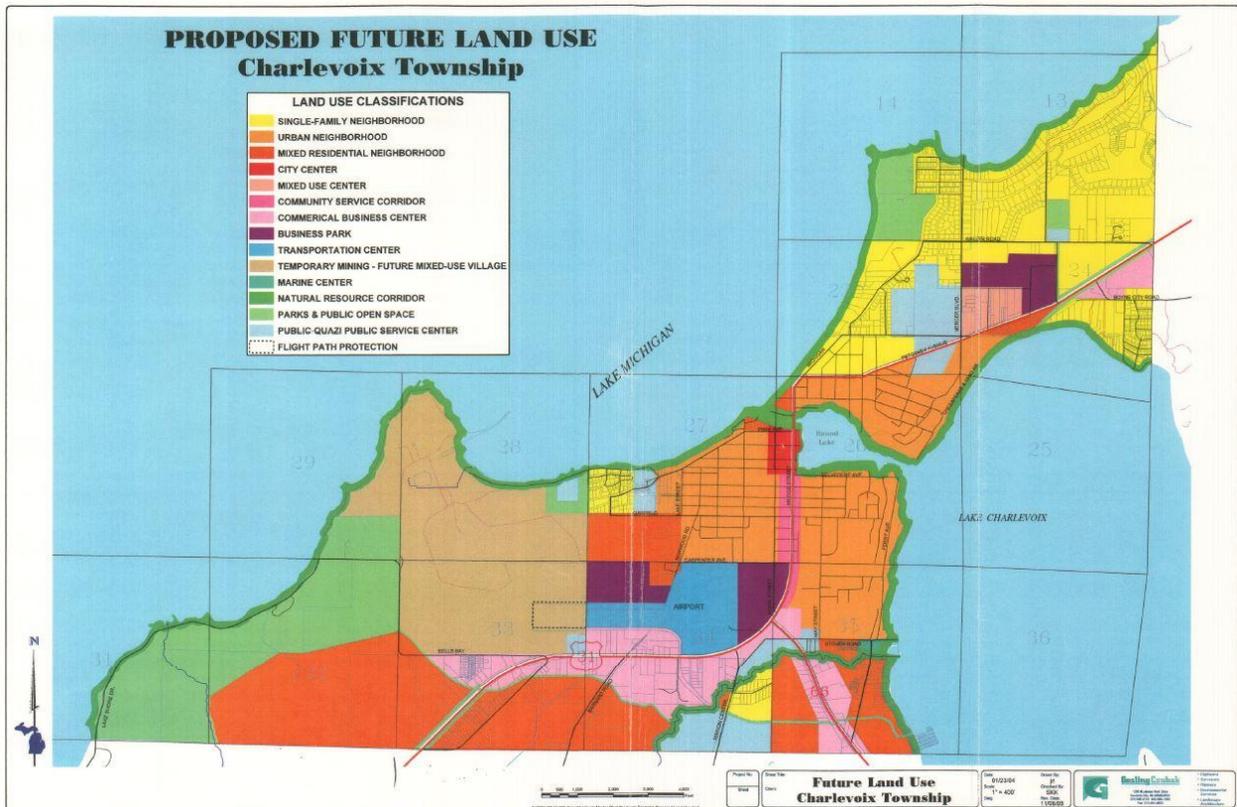
Norwood Township, 2012 with 2013 Amendment inset

Charlevoix Township

Charlevoix Township, to the north of the park surrounds the City of Charlevoix. The northerly portion of Charlevoix Township is largely developed with single-family residential homes. The southerly portion of the Township is influenced by higher intensity uses such as industrial, multiple-family residential, commercial land uses, as well as the highway and the airport. St. Mary's Cement (formerly Cemex) is the largest private landowner in the Township and operates a limestone quarry immediately adjacent to Fisherman's Island State Park. The quarry has a large visual and economic impact on the area and is likely to be in operation for many years to come.

Charlevoix Township Master Plan/Future Land Use Map

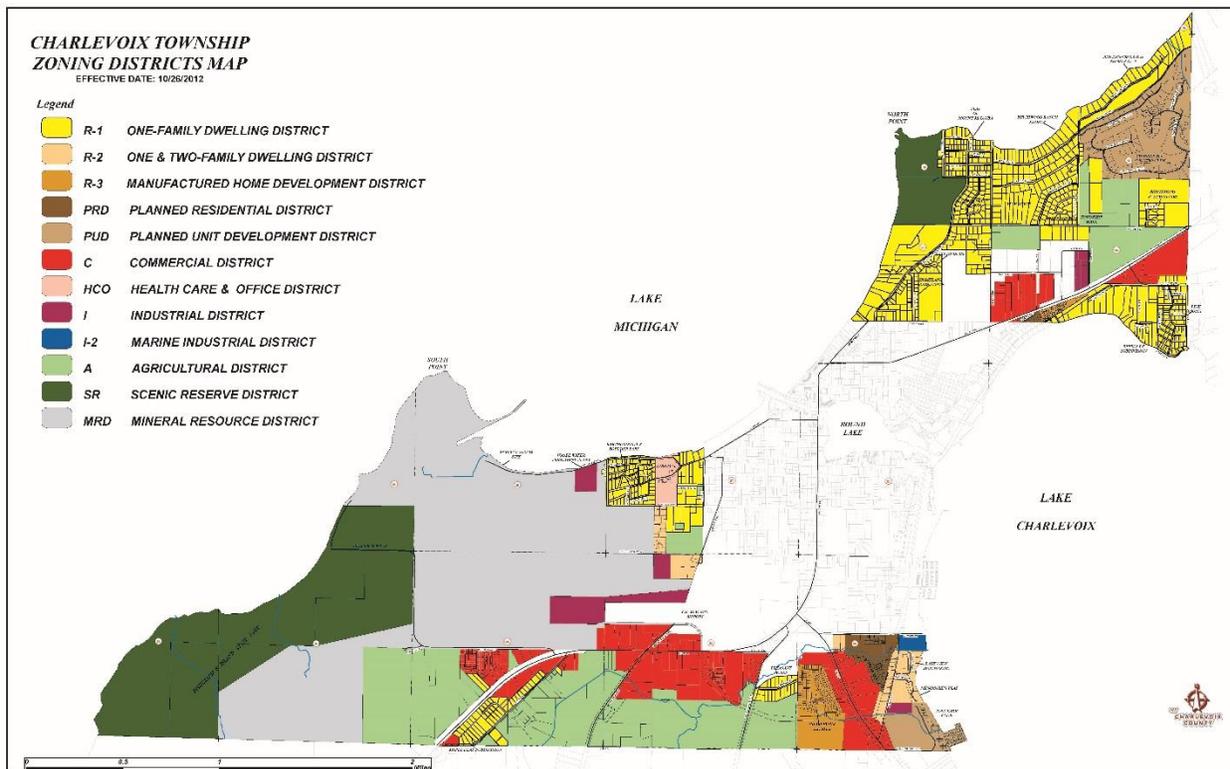
The Future Land Use Map for Charlevoix Township designates Fisherman’s Island State Park as Parks & Public Open Space. The area to the north and east is designated as Temporary Mining – Future Mixed-Use Village. The 2008 Charlevoix Township Master Plan recognizes that a significant percentage of the Township’s land is owned and operated as a cement quarry. This land is adjacent to and north of Fisherman’s Island State Park. The Master Plan notes that the “interim use of the property is expected to be quarrying and any change in use is intended to be reviewed and approved as a Planned Unit Development.” The intent of the Temporary Mining – Future Mixed-Use Village, upon cessation of the mining operation, is to encourage the establishment of a self-contained compact village with a lake or marina as its focus, village center, parkland and pedestrian linkages. This mixed-use development proposes public access along the entire perimeter of the Lake Michigan shoreline, and a variety of complementary and supportive uses, including housing. A great deal of flexibility is intended in this designation, provided the existing developments that border the site are protected from new development to the maximum degree possible, especially adjacent to Boulder Park and Fisherman’s Island State Park.



Charlevoix Township Proposed Future Land Use Map, 2008

Charlevoix Township Zoning

The portion of Fisherman’s Island State Park located within Charlevoix Township is zoned Scenic Reserve District. The purpose of the Scenic Reserve District is to maintain and protect large areas of publicly owned Lake Michigan shore lands and critical dune areas for limited public recreation and scenic use. Properties within Charlevoix Township and adjacent to Fisherman’s Island are zoned Mineral Resource District. This district establishes standards that promote good quarrying practices, control adverse environmental effects, preserve the natural resources and encourage the reclamation of lands.



Charlevoix Township Zoning Map, 2012

Although Fisherman’s Island State Park is not subject to local zoning, the Park and Recreation Division intends to work with local communities to establish the park as a land use that is compatible with local planning and zoning initiatives.

A.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

Charlevoix County is located in the northwest corner of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, on the shores of Lake Michigan, and includes the Beaver Island archipelago. The county contains 452 square miles; 37 square miles of which is inland water.

Archaeological evidence indicates that Native Americans have lived in what is now Charlevoix County for several thousand years. Today, there are roughly 500 Native American people residing in the county.

In 1840, the land area was divided into several sections from territory acquired in 1836 by the Treaty of Washington. Originally being named Keskkauko, it was renamed in 1843 after French Explorer Pierre François-Xavier de Charlevoix, and officially organized as a county in 1869, comprised from portions of Emmet and Antrim Counties. ¹

Charlevoix County experienced slow growth until the 1870s, when the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad opened up the area to commercial timber cutting. Harvestable timber and farmland dominated the landscape prior to the mid-1960s with some locations developed to support tourism and seasonal residents from throughout the Midwest as summer resorts or hunting lodges.

In the late 1950s lake-frontage in the County began to attract interest for recreational development. Residential development, and a corresponding reduction in agricultural land, has continued to the present day. Projections forecast continued build-out of rural land for residential use. In addition, areas dedicated to outdoor recreation have been increasing, especially in golf course development. ²

¹ Source: <http://charlevoix.migenweb.net/history.htm>

² Source: Charlevoix County Future Land Use Plan, 2009

2010 U.S. Census Data for Charlevoix County

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the 2010 population of Charlevoix County was 25,949. The 2000 census was reported at 26,090, so the population had dropped, but is on the rise again. The County projects a growing trend in rural subdivisions and condominiums, with increased residential development around lakes. By 2015, the County's population is projected to increase to 31,300, a 20 percent increase from 2000. While Charlevoix County's population was flat, from 2000 to 2010, it experienced a 12% increase in housing units. Looking at the impact of seasonal housing units reveals that the growth of seasonal units was nearly 20% from 2000 to 2010. This is more than twice the rate of growth of year-round housing during the same period.

Geography QuickFacts	Charlevoix County	Michigan
Land area in square miles, 2010	416.34	56,538.90
Persons per square mile, 2010	62.3	174.8
FIPS Code	029	26
Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area	None	
People QuickFacts	Charlevoix County	Michigan
Population, 2013 estimate	26,129	9,895,622
Population, 2010 (April 1) estimates base	25,949	9,883,701
Population, percent change, April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2013	0.7%	0.1%
Population, 2010	25,949	9,883,640
Persons under 5 years, percent, 2013	4.8%	5.8%
Persons under 18 years, percent, 2013	20.7%	22.7%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, 2013	20.8%	15.0%
Female persons, percent, 2013	50.5%	50.9%
White alone, percent, 2013 (a)	95.7%	80.1%
Black or African American alone, percent, 2013 (a)	0.4%	14.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent, 2013 (a)	1.7%	0.7%
Asian alone, percent, 2013 (a)	0.4%	2.7%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, 2013 (a)	Z	Z
Two or More Races, percent, 2013	1.8%	2.2%
Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2013 (b)	1.6%	4.7%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2013	94.5%	76.1%
Living in same house 1 year & over, percent, 2008-2012	89.7%	85.4%
Foreign born persons, percent, 2008-2012	2.0%	6.0%
Language other than English spoken at home, pct age 5+, 2008-2012	3.1%	9.0%
High school graduate or higher, percent of persons age 25+, 2008-2012	91.6%	88.7%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent of persons age 25+, 2008-2012	25.4%	25.5%
Veterans, 2008-2012	2,550	692,582
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2008-2012	18.8	23.9
Housing units, 2013	17,287	4,525,141
Homeownership rate, 2008-2012	83.4%	72.8%
Housing units in multi-unit structures, percent, 2008-2012	10.8%	18.0%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2008-2012	\$154,400	\$128,600
Households, 2008-2012	10,699	3,818,931
Persons per household, 2008-2012	2.40	2.53
Per capita money income in past 12 months (2012 dollars), 2008-2012	\$27,487	\$25,547
Median household income, 2008-2012	\$47,177	\$48,471
Persons below poverty level, percent, 2008-2012	12.4%	16.3%

Comparing Charlevoix County to Michigan's average, Charlevoix County has a higher average per capita income but lower household income. There are also a larger percentage of residents over the age of 65: 20.8% compared to 15% in the state. It is also worth noting that according to census bureau data, 30% of homes in the County are reported to be for seasonal, recreational or occasional use

A.3 HISTORY OF FISHERMAN'S ISLAND STATE PARK

In 1936, "Fisherman's Island Site" was first identified as having state park potential by the Chief of the Parks Division. The 1936-1937 Conservation Commission Proceedings include a report on the current condition of the proposed park site south of Charlevoix. At that time, a gravel road along the lake frontage was reported to be under construction by Works Progress Administration (WPA) labor. The road was intended as a scenic drive, but was constructed very close to the shore "in some places directly on the beach". Although the report recommended that a state park of at least 500 acres be established southwest of Charlevoix on Lake Michigan, including "Fisherman's Island", nothing materialized at that time. In 1959, the National Park Service (NPS) completed a report on the remaining shoreline opportunities of the Great Lakes, and "Fisherman's Island" was one of those sites. The fine sand beaches, long shoreline, undeveloped natural character, high summer resort area in Michigan, and easily accessible inland, made it a great choice for a potential park.

In 1968 a Woodland Indian National Memorial was proposed by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITCM). A Task Force was established in 1969 to provide technical assistance and further study of the proposal. The first proposal was prepared in September of 1969, and its stated purpose was "preserving, perpetuating, depicting and displaying the forest culture, history, lore and life of the Indian of the Woodland."

The ITCM asked the Task Force to select a site for the memorial and with help from Michigan State University, 27 potential sites were chosen and "Fisherman's Island" was one of them. After thorough evaluations of all sites, "Fisherman's Island" was selected as having the greatest potential for development of the Woodland Indian National Memorial.

The Task Force then studied the area and presented a proposal to the ITCM. On January 14, 1972, the Task Force Report was then presented to the Secretary of the Interior, and on March 31, 1972 the Task Force was officially terminated and disbanded.

The Secretary of the Interior took over the project and after careful consideration and evaluation, it was decided that the Woodland Indian National Memorial was not significant enough to warrant funding under the NPS due to other commitments in the State of Michigan, such as Isle Royale, Sleeping Bear, and Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. The ITCM applied for funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission for Economic Development, but due to complications and technicalities the project could not be funded.

Much of the land that is now Fisherman's Island State Park was initially managed as part of the Pigeon River State Forest and then later the Jordan River State Forest. The forest land consisted of two units: the Bells Bay Unit in the north and the Norwood Unit in the south. The northern unit (approximately 450 acres) was initially purchased by the state for a cement plant, but was deeded to the Department of Conservation in 1935. The southern unit was acquired in 1939 through tax reversion. In 1948, the

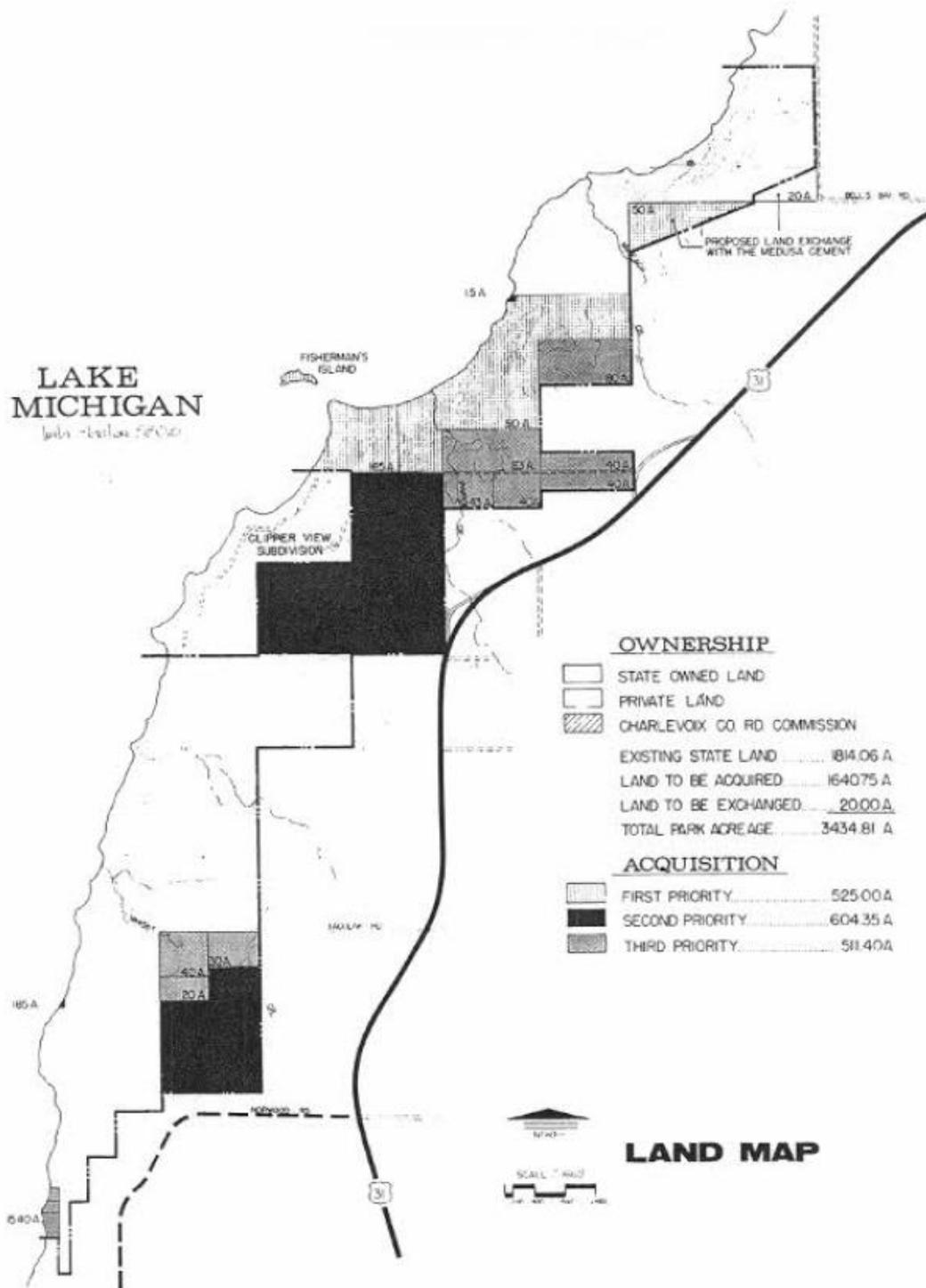
Department of Conservation entered into an agreement with the State Military Board to allow the use of 453.95 acres of state land for military training purposes. The Department was released from the covenant in 1951.

In the 1960's the first camp sites were developed in the north of the park, which is still sometimes referred to as Bells Bay Park. In the early 1970s, Charlevoix Township and community volunteers assisted with the expansion of the campground and the lake shore road to the south. A total of 42 campsites were recorded at the Bells Bay Unit in 1974 (DNR Biennial Report 1973-1974).

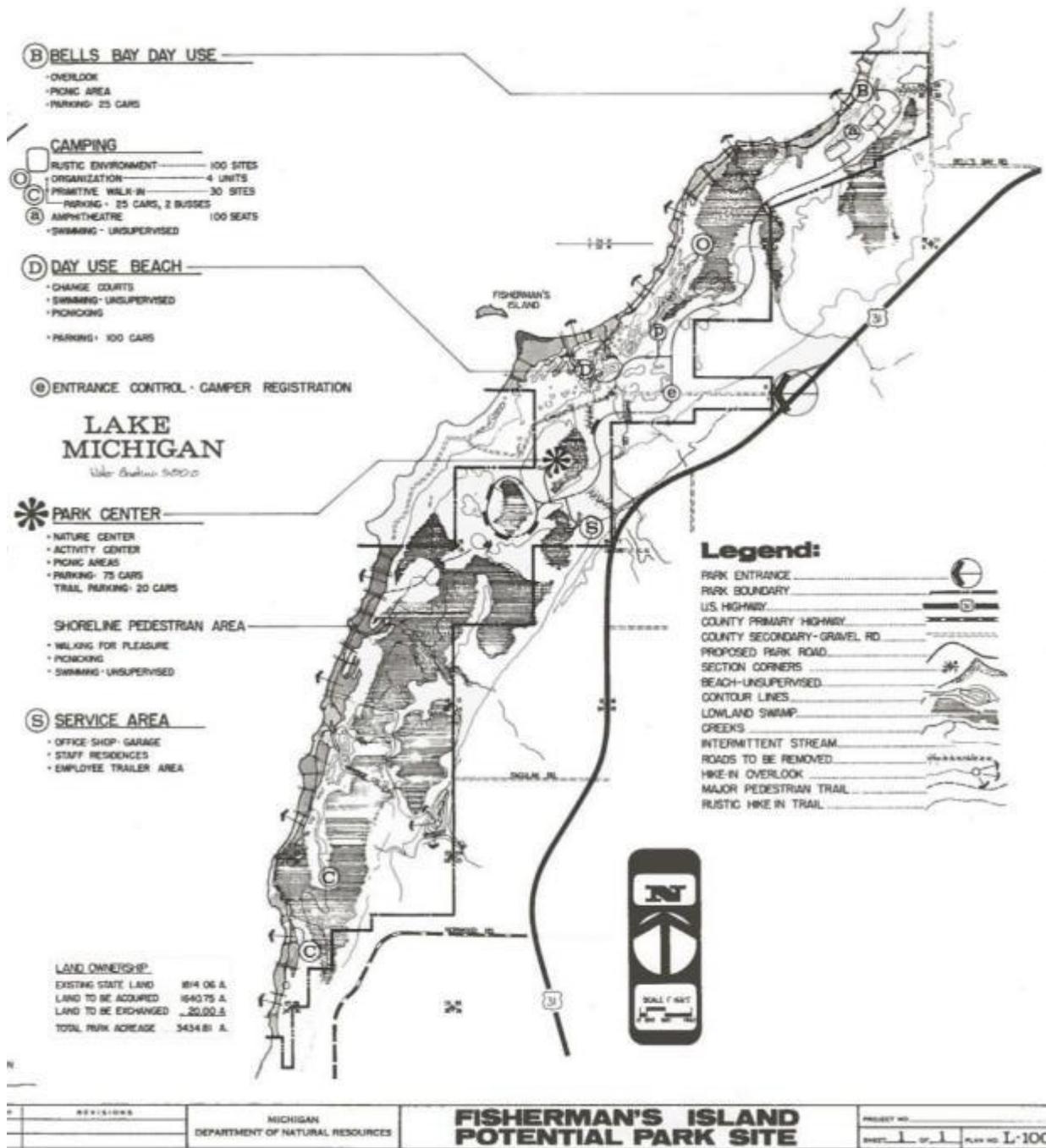
The Parks Division of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) completed A Potential Park Study for the Fisherman's Island Site in 1974, which determined that the land met the criteria for becoming a state park. Fisherman's Island State Park was dedicated in 1975, after the Bells Bay Unit (454 acres) and the Norwood Unit (1,360 acres) of the Jordon River State Forest were transferred to the State Parks Division through an administrative action. The master plan for the park identified an additional 1,590 acres of primarily private land within the proposed park boundary, including the central area of the park which would link the two units. A Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant in 1975 approved the purchase of an additional 1,500 acres critical to the development of the state park. By 1981, 907.7 acres (of the proposed 1,500 acres) had been purchased for recreation purposes.

The 1974 plan carefully studied access to the park. Two alternatives were considered. The first was to use the existing access points via Bell's Bay Road in the north and Norwood Road, through the village of Norwood, in the south, approximately 9 miles apart. The second was to use a single access point from U.S. 31, which would provide a central or mid-point entry to the park. This proposal would have relocated Clipperview Road to an old road alignment, creating direct and straight access from U.S. 31 to both the park and the subdivision development. While there were several factors in support of this second proposal, when the park was developed the existing access points were maintained.

The 1974 plan advocated preservation of the Lake Michigan shoreline and keeping vehicular traffic out of the shoreline area. The lakeshore road constructed by the WPA is reported to have failed in the early 1970s when the bridge over Inwood Creek was taken out by a spring flood and was never repaired. Lake Shore Drive running approximately 3.1 miles north of Norwood, was abandoned by the Charlevoix County Road Commission in 1978, at the request of the DNR in order to be able to control access to the new state park.



The map above shows the proposed park boundary from “A Potential Park Study for Fisherman’s Island Site”, 1974.



From "A Potential Park Study for Fisherman's Island Site", 1974.

A.4 LAND OWNERSHIP

The lands that comprise Fisherman’s Island State Park have been acquired by the State of Michigan through a variety of funding sources. Often, conditions attached to the original funding source or other details of the property transaction encumber the future use or disposition of the land.

The funding sources map on page 14 (larger version available in Section A.12) identifies the sources used to acquire the land of Fisherman’s Island State Park.

Funding Sources:

Tax Reversion

A large area (approximately 720 acres) in the south of the park was acquired by the state through tax reversion in 1939. *(Identified as the unshaded areas on the map that follows)*

Administrative Transfer

In 1935, approximately 450 acres of land, originally purchased by the state for a cement plant, was deeded to the Department of Conservation from the State Administrative Board under Authority of Act 70 of P.A. 1935.

Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal program administered in Michigan by the Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the National Park Service (NPS). Land purchased using LWCF funding must be used for public outdoor recreation purposes. This protection extends to the entire 6(f)3 boundary described in the grant documentation on file with the NPS and includes all of the land within Fisherman’s Island State Park boundary at the time of the acquisition. The required 50% match was provided by Special Legislation or Recreation Bond Fund. Over 900 acres of land was purchased between 1976 and 1980. (LWCF Project Number 26-00590)

Special Legislation

Acquisitions for park purposes through this source are tied to specific funding established by the legislature under Act 27, P.A. 1944, and Act 50, P.A. 1944. The majority of purchases using this fund occurred in 1975-1976, after the determination that a state park would be created. Special Legislation funds were used as the required 50% match for parcels acquired through the LWCF.

Recreation Bond Fund

Land acquired under the Old Recreation Bond Fund, Act 257, P.A. 1968 was purchased for public recreation. At Fisherman’s Island State Park, this fund was primarily used as match for the LWCF.

Michigan Land Trust Fund

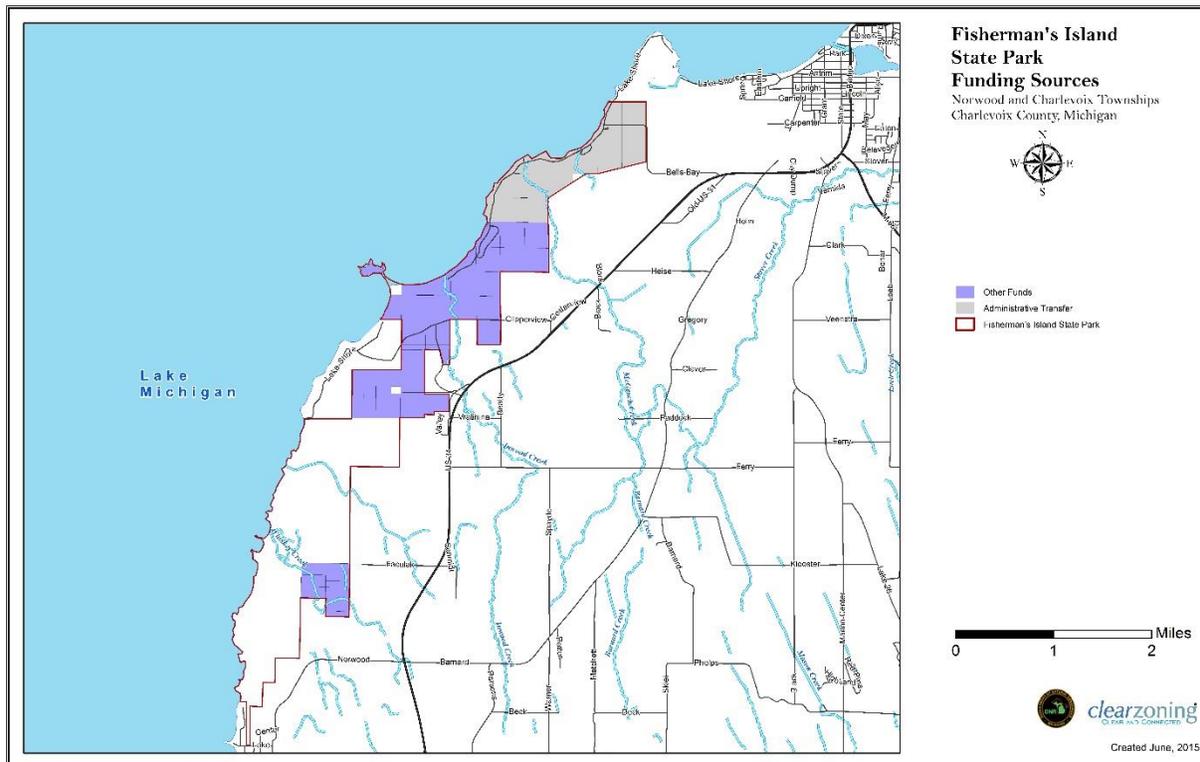
The “Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act of 1976” (Public Act 204, 1976) created the Michigan Land Trust Fund (MLTF) program to provide a source of funding for the public acquisition of lands for resource protection and public outdoor recreation. Funding was derived from royalties on the sale and lease of State-owned mineral rights. This fund has now been replaced by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. Lands purchased at Fisherman’s Island State Park using this source were acquired between 1984 and 1987.

Other small parcels of land were acquired by gift or exchange in the 1960s and 1970s.

Granted easements

The following is a list of easements impacting Fisherman’s Island State Park:

- 12 foot right-of-way for a private driveway
- Underground electric, 10-foot easement, off Bell’s Bay Road – Great Lakes Energy Cooperative
- 66’ highway right-of-way, Charlevoix County Road Commission for realignment of Bells Bay Road



For a larger map please refer to Section A.12 of this document.

A.5 LEGAL MANDATES

For all park General Management Plans, all legal mandates are identified that serve to further guide the development of the General Management Plan and subsequent Action Plans. For our planning purposes, the term “Legal Mandates” refers to not only state law, but also the administrative tools of “Policy” and “Directive” of the Natural Resource Commission, the Department, and the Parks & Recreation Division. Examples include Wildlife Conservation Orders, Orders of the Director, and all other laws, commission orders, and rules or directives that apply to the park. Specific to Fisherman’s Island State Park, several legal mandates have been identified, which are listed below.

Federal

Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA)

The Act is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the Commerce Department’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The ESA protects endangered and threatened species and their habitats by prohibiting the “take” of listed animals and interstate or international trade in listed plants and animals, including their parts and products, except under Federal permit. *Fisherman’s Island State Park is designated by the FWS as critical habitat for the piping plover.*

State

PA 35 of 2010, Part 741 (“Recreation Passport”)

This act amended the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code to provide for a State Park and State-operated public boating access site “Recreation Passport” that a Michigan resident may obtain by paying an additional fee when registering a motor vehicle. The Recreation Passport is required for entry into Fisherman’s Island State Park.

PA 46 of 2010 - Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act

Amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (PA 451 of 1994) with a finding that a statewide system of trails, trailways, and pack and saddle trailways is in the best interest of the state; requires the DNR to establish an “adopt-a-trail” program that allows volunteer groups to assist in maintaining and enhancing Michigan trailways, pack and saddle trailways, and rail-trails; and creates the Michigan Snowmobile and Trails Advisory Council within the department.

PA 368 of 1978, Article 12 - Environmental Health, Part 125 – Campgrounds

Established to protect and promote the public health by establishing health code requirements and regulations that all public (including DNR) and private campgrounds must meet. Campground wastewater system must meet the construction permit, design, and operation requirements under Michigan’s Public Health Code.

PA 451 of 1994, Natural Resources & Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), Article 1, Part 5

Section 324.504: This law describes the DNR’s authority to make rules that support its mission.

- (1) “The department shall promulgate rules to protect and preserve lands and property under its control from depredation, damage, or destruction or wrongful or improper use or occupancy.”

The rules relate to camping, motorized vehicle use, control of animals, trail use etc.

PA 451 of 1994, Part 22 – Campground Wastewater Systems (NREPA)

These rules apply to all campground wastewater systems and regulate discharges to groundwater; administered by the Water Resources Division, Groundwater Discharge Unit.

PA 451 of 1994, Part 31 – Water Resources Protection (NREPA)

The State of Michigan's Floodplain Regulatory Authority, found in Part 31, PA 451, requires that a permit be obtained prior to any alteration or occupation of the 100-year floodplain of a river, stream or drain which have a drainage area that is 2 square miles or greater. Bridges and culverts are considered an occupation of the floodplain, as are activities that involve storage of materials in the floodplain.

PA 451 of 1994, Part 301 – Inland Lakes and Streams (NREPA)

This law requires that persons planning to conduct certain activities apply for and receive a permit from the state (DEQ) before beginning the activity. A permit is required for the following:

- Dredge or fill bottomlands.
- Construct, enlarge, extend, remove, or place a structure on bottomland.
- Erect, maintain, or operate a marina.
- Create, enlarge, or diminish an inland lake or stream.
- Structurally interfere with the natural flow of an inland lake or stream.
- Construct, dredge, commence, extend, or enlarge an artificial canal, channel, ditch, lagoon, pond, lake, or similar waterway where the purpose is ultimate connection with an existing inland lake or stream, or where any part of the artificial waterway is located within 500 feet of the ordinary high water mark of an existing inland lake or stream.
- Connect any natural or artificially constructed waterway, canal, channel, ditch, lagoon, pond, lake, or wetland with an existing inland lake or stream for navigation or any other purpose.

PA 451 of 1994, Part 303 - Wetlands Protection, of NREPA, as amended.

The law requires that persons planning to conduct certain activities in regulated wetlands apply for and receive a permit from the state (DEQ) before beginning the activity. A permit is required for the following:

- Deposit or permit the placing of fill material in a wetland.
- Dredge, remove, or permit the removal of soil or minerals from a wetland.
- Construct, operate, or maintain any use or development in a wetland.
- Drain surface water from a wetland.

PA 451 of 1994, Part 325 – Great Lakes Submerged Lands (NREPA)

Any dredging, filling, modifying, constructing, enlarging, or extending of structures in Great Lakes waters or below the ordinary high water mark of the Great Lakes requires a permit. Permits are required by both the Water Resources Division within the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and the US Army Corps of Engineers. The purpose of this permit is to protect the waters of the Great Lakes and the Great Lakes bottomlands (the land lying below the ordinary high water mark).

PA 451 of 1994, Part 353 – Sand Dune Protection and Management (NREPA)

The law defines a "critical dune area" as a geographic area designated in the "atlas of critical dune areas" dated February 1989 that was prepared by the department of natural resources. Sec. 35304. (1) states that: A person shall not initiate a use within a critical dune area unless the person obtains a permit from the local unit of government in which the critical dune area is located or the department (DEQ).

PA 451 of 1994, Part 365 – Endangered Species Protection (NREPA)

Provides for the conservation, protection, restoration, and propagation of endangered species of fish, wildlife, and plants in cooperation with the federal government, pursuant to the endangered species act of 1973. *Fisherman's Island State Park is designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a critical habitat for the piping plover.*

PA 451 of 1994, Part 419 - Hunting Area Control (NREPA)

Section 324.41901 establishes the powers of the Department to establish safety zones for hunting.

PA 451 of 1994, Part 741 - State Park System (NREPA)

The department shall create, maintain, operate, promote, and make available for public use and enjoyment a system of state parks to preserve and protect Michigan's significant natural resources and areas of natural beauty or historic significance, to provide open space for public recreation, and to provide an opportunity to understand Michigan's natural resources and the need to protect and manage those resources.

PA 451 of 1994, Part 761 Section 324.76102 – Aboriginal Records and Antiquities

- (1) The state reserves to itself the exclusive right and privilege, except as provided in this part, of exploring, surveying, excavating, and regulating through its authorized officers, agents, and employees, all aboriginal records and other antiquities, including mounds, earthworks, forts, burial and village sites, mines or other relics, and abandoned property of historical or recreational value found upon or within any of the lands owned by or under the control of the state.
- (2) The state reserves to itself a possessory right or title superior to that of a finder to abandoned property of historical or recreational value found on the state owned bottomlands of the Great Lakes. This property shall belong to this state with administration and protection jointly vested in the department and the department of history, arts, and libraries.

Fisherman's Island State Park is closed to metal detecting under authority provided by this act.

Land Use Orders

Wildlife Conservation Orders

All wild animals found in Michigan, whether resident or migratory and whether native or introduced, are the property of the people of the state. The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act of 1994, PA 451, authorizes the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director and the Natural Resources Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state. Hunting and trapping regulations including methods of take, bag limits, license quotas, and season dates are described in the Wildlife Conservation Order. The following sections address regulations specific to Fisherman's Island State Park:

- 3.412 Early September Canada goose season; dates and closures, exceptions.
 - Sec. 3.412(3) State parks closed; exceptions listed, the day following Labor Day to September 15 open season. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and subsections (4), (5) and (6), all state parks shall be closed. All or portions of the following state parks, as described in chapter VII, shall be open from the day following Labor Day to September 15:
 - (b) Fisherman's Island State Park
- 7.16 Fisherman's Island State Park, hunting and trapping allowed.
 - Sec. 7.16 Hunting and trapping shall be allowed during the established seasons on all state-owned lands within the dedicated boundary of Fisherman's Island State Park in Sections 29, 31, and 32, T34N R08W, and Sections 6 and 7, T33N R08W, and Sections 1, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, and 26, T33N R09W.

Land Use Orders of the Director

There are two land use orders relating specifically to Fisherman’s Island State Park.

- 5.7 Certain environmentally sensitive and piping plover nesting areas, prohibited conduct, exceptions.
 - Order 5.7 (1) A person shall not do any of the following:
 - (b) Enter, use, or occupy any of the following described state-owned lands, as posted, from April 15 through August 31 except with proper written permission:
 - (ii) Fisherman’s Island SP - state-owned lands in Sections 29, and 31-32, T34N R8W; Section 6, T33N R8W; and Sections 1, 14, 22-23, and 27, T33N R9W, Charlevoix county.
 - (c) Possess a dog or allow a dog to enter into or upon state-owned lands, as posted, from April 15 through August 31 at Fisherman’s Island SP, being all or portions of Section 1, T33N R9W, Charlevoix county.

Fisheries Orders

There is one fisheries order related to Fisherman’s Island State Park.

FO-210.14 Designated Trout Streams for Michigan

By the authority conferred on the Natural Resource Commission and the Department of Natural Resources by Part 487 of 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.48701 to 324.48740, it is ordered that effective April 1, 2014, the following section(s) of the Fisheries Order shall read as follows:

The streams and portions of streams in the list which follows are hereby designated as trout streams:

- Unless otherwise described, the location description listed after the stream name indicates the downstream limit of the trout designation. All of the stream and its tributaries, unless exempted, from that point upstream are designated trout waters. Coastal Streams between Bear River and the Antrim-Grand Traverse County Line:
 - All streams tributary to Lake Michigan (Emmet, Charlevoix, Antrim Counties). *This includes McGeach, Inwood and Whiskey tributaries.* Exceptions are Pine River Channel (Lake Charlevoix outlet) and Medusa Creek.

State Land Rules

Parks and Recreation Areas – State Land Rules are issued by authority conferred on the Michigan DNR by Section 504 of 1994 PA 451 MCL 324.504. The rules cover entry, use and occupation of state lands and unlawful acts.

DNR Policy and Procedures

The DNR and PRD have department wide and division policies and procedures in place that relate to many aspects of land use and operations, including: trails, beaches, camping, overnight lodging, pet management and metal detecting.

A.6 RELATIONSHIP OF FISHERMAN’S ISLAND STATE PARK TO OTHER RECREATION RESOURCES

Inside Fisherman’s Island State Park there are hiking, fishing and camping opportunities. You can also cross-country ski, swim, hunt, and picnic or visit the beach.

Outside of Fisherman’s Island State Park there is a vast variety of places to recreate. Within a two hour drive there are a number of other recreational resources, including Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, state parks and forests, municipal parks, and private campgrounds. A Recreation Resource Map with many of the resources described below can be found in Section A.12 of this document.

Municipal Parks

- Norwood Township Park – A 26-acre park located at the south end of Fisherman’s Island State Park. The park features a beach access on Lake Michigan, picnic facilities, vault toilets and a small gravel parking area.
- Shanahan Field (Charlevoix Township Park) – A 16.9-acre park located on the site of the Township Hall. It is an active park with picnic shelter, ball and soccer fields, basketball and tennis courts, and restrooms.
- City of Charlevoix Parks System- The City offers several opportunities for recreation in their park system. Many of the neighborhood parks include day uses such as picnicking, pavilions, baseball/softball fields, beaches, basketball courts and tennis courts, and skate parks. Two of the larger parks include Mt. McSauba and the Michigan Beach Park.
 - Mt. McSauba – A year-round park with a focus on winter recreation. The park offers skiing, snowboarding, a terrain park, skating rink, sledding hill, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing trails and other amenities. The City also runs a day camp during the summer months and recently added an 18-hole disc golf course.
 - Michigan Beach Park – Located to the north of Fisherman’s Island State Park, the beach is staffed by lifeguards, and includes walking paths, playground equipment, picnic tables, restrooms and seasonal concessions.
- Thumb Lake Park (Charlevoix County Park) – Located on the east end of Thumb Lake in Hudson Township, just east of the village of Boyne Falls. The park provides close and ample parking for day visitors to access the swimming beach, boat launch and picnic tables.
- Whiting Park (Charlevoix County Park) – Located on Lake Charlevoix in Eveline Township between Boyne City and Ironton. Situated on approximately 235 acres, the park includes a campground with 58 campsites, 14 are universally accessible and 11 equipped with up to a 50 amp electrical service. A modern shower building and pump station are available to campers. The park also offers a large pole building (with 300 person capacity) with kitchen for rent, a 1940s log cabin (60 person capacity), and two open-air pavilions. On the beaches of Lake Charlevoix there is also a kayak launch, nature area, hiking trail, and a playground and swimming area.
- City of East Jordan Park System – On Lake Charlevoix is Tourist Park which allows for overnight camping, beach, volleyball court, pavilion, beach house, restrooms, ball fields, basketball court, and cabins are available for rental. There are also other parks available for use inside the city.



Norwood Township Park – Source: Charlevoix County

- Boyne City Parks System- 30 minutes away into Boyne City are a few parks available for day use including nature preserves, beaches, gazebo/pavilion rentals, and a Veteran’s Memorial Park.

Nature Preserves

- North Point Nature Preserve – A 27 acre public nature preserve deeded to Charlevoix Township by the Little Traverse Conservatory. The park has 2,800 feet of Lake Michigan shoreline and is used for hiking, cross-country skiing and nature study. The park is also home to three threatened plant species: Pitcher’s thistle, Lake Huron tansy, and Pumpell’s brome grass.
- Antrim Creek Natural Area (Antrim County Park) – In southern Antrim County is the Antrim Creek Natural Area which is open for hiking, swimming in Grand Traverse Bay, skiing and fishing.
- Porter Creek Nature Area (Charlevoix County Park) – Located in Wilson Township is best described as a natural park and offers a 1.2 mile trail loop.

Trail Systems

- Little Traverse Wheelway (LTW) – A non-motorized trail stretches 26 miles extending from Charlevoix to Harbor Springs. The trail offers a unique boardwalk that provides for viewing of the wetland areas with abundant wildlife, direct water access to Lake Michigan, and stops at MDOT roadside parks for picnicking or rest stops. The trail is widely used for biking, walking and in-line skating in the warmer months and cross-country skiing in the winter months. The Little Traverse Wheelway connects to the North Western State Trail system, which runs from Petoskey to Mackinaw City.



Source: Top of Michigan Trails Council

- North Western Michigan Trail System – A planning effort by the Northwest Michigan council of Governments with the Michigan Department of Transportation to develop a regional non-motorized transportation facility for 13 counties, including Charlevoix and its surrounding counties. The initiative identified priority non-motorized transportation facilities projects within the region to guide future investment. With local partners, goals and priorities were developed for the region. Charlevoix County Priority Routes were identified through the Northwestern Michigan Trail System planning as follows:
 1. Create a trail on the Boyne City Charlevoix Road from Boyne City to US 31/Charlevoix through Horton Bay to connect to the Petoskey to Charlevoix Trail
 2. Local groups are working on fundraising opportunities to have the funding in place to construct the trail when the road is fixed.
 3. Create a trail to connect Boyne Falls and Boyne Mountain to Boyne City
 4. Create a trail from Advance to North Peninsula Road
 5. Create a trail from the Norwood area to Charlevoix
 6. Create a trail from East Jordan to Charlevoix then East Jordan to Boyne City



Source: Michigan Trails Council

- North Country Trail – The North Country Trail, with 4,600 miles, is the longest national scenic trail. The route starts in New York and ends in North Dakota, passing through seven states. The trail connects with the Little Traverse Wheelway in Petoskey. The National Park Service administers the Trail, providing management oversight, funding for projects and planning and support.
- Beaver Island Recreation Trails – On Beaver Island there are many different trails, recreational facilities and public & conservancy lands.

State Parks

- Young State Park – A 560-acre park located approximately 15 miles east of Fisherman’s Island. The park offers day activities such as hiking, fishing, swimming, playground, and access to a boat launch. The park includes three trails that run for a little over five miles. Campers will find 240 modern campsites with electricity, restrooms and sanitation stations. There are also two mini-cabins available at the park.
- Leelanau State Park – Located at the tip of Leelanau Peninsula, just north of City of Northport. The park is comprised of 1,300 acres of Lake Michigan shoreline and wooded landscape. The park is home to the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum. Campers will find 55 rustic campsites and two mini cabins. There are 8.5 miles of hiking/skiing trails. The park offers picnic areas and visitors may enjoy hiking, swimming, sunsets, fishing, and nature observation.
- Keith J. Charters Traverse City State Park – Located two miles from downtown Traverse City, the park features a quarter mile of beach on Grand Traverse Bay. Campers will find 343 modern campsites and a cottage (sleeps 11) with a full kitchen and amenities. The campground is open year round with heated restrooms.
- Petoskey State Park – Located on the north end of Little Traverse Bay between Petoskey and Harbor Springs. The park offers scenic areas and a sandy beach on the bay. Campers will find two modern campgrounds: Tannery Creek with 100 and Dunes with 80 campsites.
- Wilderness State Park – Located eleven miles west of Mackinaw City, on the northern tip of the Lower Peninsula. The park offers year-round recreational opportunities. Campers will find 250 modern campsites, 6 rustic cabins, and 2 backcountry camp sites. There is a 23-mile network of trails, including 11 miles designated as part of the North Country Trail.

State Forests and Forest Campgrounds

- The Gaylord Management Unit manages over 326,000 acres of state forest land, including the Chandler Hills and Jordan Valley management areas in Charlevoix, Cheboygan and Antrim Counties.
 - The Jordan River Valley is an 18,000-acre block of state-owned forest land in northeast Antrim County. Good wildlife watching and beautiful scenery are common along the Jordan River, Michigan's first waterway to be officially designated as a Wild and Scenic River. The Jordan Valley Pathway is an 18 mile hiking trail that winds through this portion of the Mackinaw State Forest following North County Trail for nine miles.
 - The Chandler Hills management area is located in the high plains of southern Cheboygan County and eastern Charlevoix County and contains 67,110 acres of state forest. Recreation opportunities include hunting, fishing, camping (in Cheboygan County), hiking, snowmobile and ORV trails.
- Graves Crossing State Forest Campground (Antrim) – South into Antrim County is a small rustic campground with about 10 campsites, vault toilets, and a hand pump well. Activities include watchable wildlife, 18 miles of hiking trails, paddling/canoeing and fishing.
- Pinney Bridge State Forest Campground (Antrim) – 15 hike-in only tent campsites, 18 miles of hiking trail route, watchable wildlife and fishing.

Wildlife Areas

- Beaver Island State Wildlife Research Area – Accessible only by boats and planes, Beaver Island is located off the mainland into Lake Michigan, but with over 25,000 acres there are many opportunities to hunt and fish.

State Parks Forest and Game Areas	Location	Distance from Fisherman's Island State Park
Young State Park	Boyne City	28 Miles
Leelanau State Park	Northport	85 Miles
Keith J. Charters Traverse City State Park	Traverse City	53 Miles
Petoskey State Park	Petoskey	25 Miles
Wilderness State Park	Carp Lake	50 Miles
Chandler Hills	Cheboygan County	52 Miles
Jordan River Valley	Antrim County	35 Miles
Graves Crossing State Forest Campground	Mancelona	25 Miles
Pinney Bridge State Forest	Mancelona	29 Miles
Beaver Island State Wildlife Research Area	Beaver Island	Boat Access

Safe Water Harbors

- Charlevoix City Marina – Located in Charlevoix, north of Fisherman's Island State Park. The harbor has eight seasonal slips, 60 transient and two commercial slips. It offers several amenities, including refueling station, showers, restrooms, parking, courtesy vehicles and picnic facilities as well as several other hospitality services.
- East Jordan Municipal Harbor – The municipal harbor offers 39 seasonal and 18 transient slips. In addition several hospitality amenities are offered for harbor users.
- Other Water Harbors are located in Harbor Springs, Petoskey and Boyne City.

Water Recreation

- Lake Michigan Water Trail – A designated route along a waterway designed for small boats such as kayaks, canoes, single sailboats or rowboats. The Lake Michigan Water Trail spans 350 miles and provides access to the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, seven state parks, including Fisherman's Island State Park and several local amenities
 - The East Grand Traverse Bay Trail runs along the Lake Michigan shoreline within Fisherman's Island State Park. The Trail runs from the Charlevoix to Traverse City and along the east shore of Old Mission Peninsula. The trail connects the Little Traverse Bay Trail to the north and the West Grand Traverse Bay Trail to the southwest. (Source: <http://www.michiganwatertrails.org>)
- There are numerous private outfitters in the area that sell and rent supplies for boating and other water sport and recreational activities.

Private Recreation Facilities

- The area is served by several resort facilities that offer a wide range of recreation and entertainment activities. Within 30 miles are Boyne Mountain Resort, Bay Harbor Resort and Shanty Creek.
- The area is also well known for its golf courses, which range from small municipal courses to the historic Belvedere Club, frequent host of the Michigan Amateur Championship.

A.7 RECREATION RESOURCES

Trails

Fisherman’s Island State Park has 3.5 miles of designated hiking trails in the park. The trail is located in the northern part of the park near the campgrounds, and mainly used for hiking in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter. However, the trail is not groomed for skiing.



Trail Signage.

Hunting and Fishing

Hunting is allowed in the park during the regular hunting season, except for a 450 foot safety zone around occupied dwellings and the campgrounds. Fisherman’s Island State Park is the largest piece of state land on the west side of mainland Charlevoix County and supports habitat for deer, grouse, coyote, squirrel, rabbit and several other species. Whiskey, McGeach, and Inwood Creeks are designated trout streams that offer fishing opportunities.

Beach

Beach access is available to park visitors. The day use area is located just south of the South campground.



Day Use Area - Lake Access.

Picnic

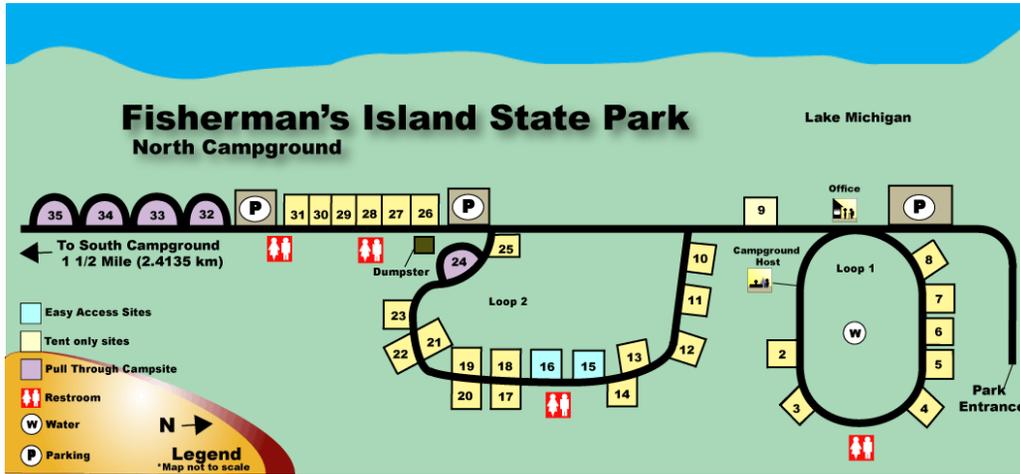
A day use area is located on the north banks of Inwood Creek, approximately three miles inside the park. The picnic area includes tables and grills and access to the beach and trails.

Camping

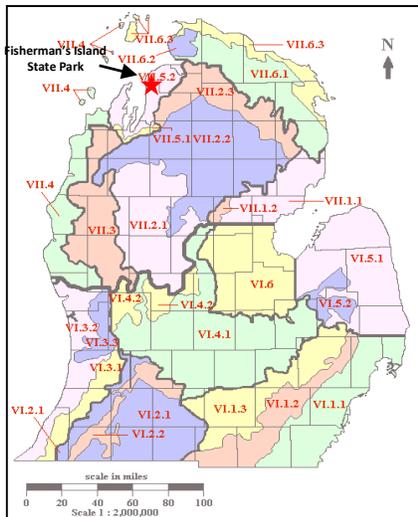
There are 80 rustic camp sites split into three different campgrounds, 15 of which are in the dunes along the shoreline. All of the campgrounds are located in the northern portion of the park and are served by vault toilets and hand pumps.



Shoreline Campsite.



A.8 NATURAL RESOURCES



Source: Albert, D., General Technical Report

Ecosystems and Regional Landscape

Fisherman's Island State Park is located in the ecoregion sub-section VII.5.2, Traverse City. The following information was obtained from the United States Department of Agriculture, General Technical Report NC-178, Regional Landscape Ecosystems of Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, prepared by Dennis Albert in 1994. The sub-section consists primarily of narrow drumlins. It is divided into several peninsulas by Grand Traverse Bay of Lake Michigan and several large lakes, including Torch, Charlevoix, and Walloon. Relatively low sand dunes border the Lake Michigan shoreline. Small complexes of parallel beach ridges and swales are typical of this region. The beach ridges are well drained and the swales vary in drainage condition from shallow ponds to shallow organic soils supporting swamp forest.

Geology and Mineral Resources

The surface of Fisherman's Island State Park (FISP) and surrounding area is covered with glacial drift of varying thickness (0-100 feet). Surface sediments consist of dune sand and lacustrine sand and gravel along the Lake Michigan shoreline, transitioning to a prominent drumlin field of coarse-textured till inland from the park. The coarser glacial deposits are frequently quarried across the state for sand and gravel, primarily for use in road construction and maintenance. There has been some sand and gravel production in this part of the county.

Underlying the glacial drift is bedrock limestone consisting of the Devonian Traverse Group. In areas of thin glacial till, bedrock is at or near the surface. The Traverse is quarried for crushed stone and cement at St. Marys Cement Group's Charlevoix quarry and plant facilities located immediately adjacent to the northeast boundary of FISP.

There has been little to no oil and gas exploration across the majority of Charlevoix County, the primary exception being along the borders of Antrim and Otsego counties to the south and southeast more than 12 miles from FISP. This area represents the current northern extent of Antrim gas development. There are no active state mineral leases within five miles of the park. The majority of the state-owned surface and mineral rights in the area are currently classified as leasable non-development, indicating that no surface development to facilitate extraction of subsurface minerals could occur.

Land Cover

The pre-settlement land cover consisted of mainly beech and sugar maple trees, along with pockets of cedar swamp and low conifer swamp. In 2011, the land cover was recorded as wooded wetlands and deciduous and coniferous forests.

Soils

The main soils within the park are light and sandy, which can become shifting dune formations, and are classified as Deer-Park-Dune Land Association. Other soil types throughout the park are Eastport sand, Detour cobbly loam, Summerville stony sandy loam, Epoufette sandy loam, and Linwood muck; all of which are adequately drained soils and are not classified as good agricultural soils. The minerals found within the park are sand, gravel, and limestone, with the northern part having deposits of limestone.

Water Resources

Being located right on the shores of Lake Michigan makes water easily accessible. There are three creeks in the park, alike in their narrow and meandering style as well as highly capable of sustaining fish. McGeach Creek is located in the northern part of the park and is approximately six miles long. Inwood Creek is in the middle and comes from a small inland lake called Harwood Lake. Whiskey Creek is in the southern part of the park.

Fauna and Flora

The following tables display the rare plants and animals that have been recorded in the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) in the park. This list presents the Endangered and Threatened plant and animal species of Michigan, which are protected under the Endangered Species Act of the State of Michigan (Part 365 of PA 451, 1994 Michigan Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act). Species of Special Concern are also included in the list.

Fauna: Rare Animals at Fisherman’s Island State Park			
Scientific Name	Common Name	State Status	Federal Status
<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping plover	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Trimerotropis huroniana</i>	Lake Huron locust	Threatened	
<i>Appalachina sayanus</i>	Spike-lip crater	Special Concern	

The only known rare animals to occur in the park are the federally and state listed as endangered piping plover and the state listed as threatened Lake Huron locust. Piping plovers were last documented as nesting within the park in 1996, although adults have been observed in the park every year since. The broad sandy beaches with cobble, found in Fisherman’s Island State Park, are conducive to supporting piping plover habitat. The Lake Huron locust is associated with high-quality, sparsely vegetated coastal sand dunes in Michigan. Other rare species not documented in the park, but with the potential to be

present, include prairie warblers, the red-shouldered hawk and merlin. The park provides an important stopover and breeding habitat for migratory birds along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

Flora: Rare Plants at Fisherman’s Island State Park			
Scientific Name	Common Name	State Status	Federal Status
<i>Tanacetum huronense</i>	Lake Huron tansy	Threatened	
<i>Cirsium pitcheri</i>	Pitcher’s thistle	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Bromus pumpellianus</i>	Pumpelly’s brome grass	Threatened	
<i>Solidago houghtonii</i>	Houghton’s goldenrod	Threatened	Threatened

There are two natural communities of note within the park, concentrated on shoreline elements. Open dune and interdunal wetland communities are both located with the park’s Critical Dune area. A large population of Houghton’s goldenrod is present within the interdunal wetland, representing the southernmost population along the Lake Michigan shoreline. There are also localized outcrops of limestone bedrock at the northern and southern edge of the park. These outcrops are small and of generally low quality.



Charadrius melodus: piping plover



Tanacetum huronense: Lake Huron tansy

(Source: http://www.wildflower.org/image_archive/320x240/PCD4241/PCD4241_IMG0024.JPG)

(Source: http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0b/Charadrius-melodus-004_edit.jpg)

Dunes

The northern lakeshore of Fisherman’s Island State Park is a designated Critical Dune Area, protected under Part 353 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (451 of 1994). Critical Dunes represent the highest and most spectacular dunes extending along the shorelines of the Great Lakes. The legislature has found that the Critical Dune areas of the state are a unique, irreplaceable and fragile resource that provides a great deal of benefits for the people of Michigan. Earthmoving, vegetation removal, and construction activities within a critical dune area



A portion of the shoreline is within the Critical Dune Area are regulated through a permit program administered by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. The Critical Dune within Fisherman’s Island State Park extends approximately 12,000 feet along the shoreline passing the peninsula. A map of the Critical Dunes is available in Section A.12, Resource Maps.

A.9 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Fisherman’s Island State Park was used by Native Americans since prehistoric time. Its location on the lake, with streams flowing through the park, identify it as a typical stopping ground, seasonally, for hunting and fishing and even temporary living. There are archeological prehistoric and historic sites located inside the park. There are no historic structures inside the park.

Fisherman’s Island State Park is an archaeologically sensitive area. The park extends along the Lake Michigan shoreline, which was an attractive environmental zone for both pre-contact Native American groups and later Euro American settlers. Several archaeological investigations have been conducted in the park, including surveys to locate and document sites, as well as more focused excavations to study specific sites. It is important to note that while we know quite a bit about archaeological sites in the park, the entire park has not been surveyed, and there may be as yet undiscovered sites in the park.

We currently have record of 17 archaeological sites in the park. Those sites are:

20CX18	O’Neil site	Late Archaic and Late Woodland	Listed
20CX20	Norwood Quarry site	Archaic and Woodland	Listed
20CX22	Whiskey Creek site	Archaic and Woodland	Listed
20CX34	Inwood Creek I site	Late Archaic	Listed
20CX35	Inwood Creek II site	Late Archaic	Listed
20CX39	Neff’s A H Map	Woodland	MIN
20CX41	McGeach Creek I site	Late Archaic	MIN
20CX42	Solomon Seal site	Late Archaic	MIN
20CX45	New Toilet site	Late Archaic	MIN
20CX53	McGeach Creek II site	Late Archaic	MIN
20CX54	Erratic site	Late Archaic	MIN
20CX55	Scarlett Pump site	Late Archaic	MIN
20CX145	Homestead	20 th century	MIN
20CX146	Kloaster Farm site	late 19 th – early 20 th	MIN
20CX147	Homestead	late 19 th – early 20 th	MIN
20CX148	Fishing Community	1940s	MIN
20CX205	Structural foundations	20 th century	NE

Twelve of the recorded sites in the park are pre-contact Native American sites. Five sites are historical period sites. Five sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Two of the listed sites (20CX20 – the Norwood Chert Quarry and 20CX22 – the Whiskey Creek site) are included in the Pi-wan-go-ning Archaeological District, which was listed on the NRHP in 1973. There are eleven sites for which more information is needed (MIN) in order to evaluate their eligibility for the NRHP (MIN). One site is considered not eligible (NE) for the NRHP.

Generally speaking, most of the sites in the park are near the lakeshore. Seven sites are in the more northerly portion of the park. Six sites are in the central portion of the park, including one on Fisherman’s Island. Three sites are in the southern portion of the park, including the Norwood Quarry site (20CX20).

No archaeological sites have been recorded in the more inland areas within the park. However, there are two sites just outside of the park boundaries in the southern park area that are away from the shoreline. This suggests that there may be inland sites within the park as well.

The presence of twelve Native American sites in the park, and the possibility that there may be more, demonstrates that this stretch of Lake Michigan shoreline was a favorable location for camp sites and perhaps village sites. The Native American sites in the park are important cultural resources that document Native American history in the northwestern Lower Peninsula.

Recently two archaeological surveys were conducted in a portion of the extreme north end of the park. Those surveys were performed by Commonwealth Cultural Resources Group (CCRG) under contract with St. Mary's Cement, Inc. The surveys were commissioned by St. Mary's Cement, Inc. to identify cultural resources on a parcel of park land that is being considered for exchange to the cement company. In very general terms, the parcel lies west of Bells Bay Road and east of the dune features near the lakeshore.

CCRG conducted the first survey on December 4 and 5, 2013. This was primarily a walkover survey that focused on areas along roads and trails. CCRG conducted a second survey of the same parcel during May 20-22, 2014. This survey employed shovel testing at targeted areas within the parcel that were judged to have greater archaeological potential. No Native American sites were identified during the surveys. One historical period site was found: a small complex of structural foundations apparently associated with an old limestone quarry. This site was assigned archaeological site number 20CX205. The structural foundations and the quarry activities at that location appear to date to the mid-twentieth century. CCRG attempted to find additional information about the site, but was unsuccessful. Due to the recent age of the site and a lack of supporting documentation, it appears that the site is not eligible for the NRHP.

Finally, it should be noted that site 20CX20 – the Norwood Chert Quarry site – is being damaged by individuals prying chert from the bedded rock layers of the outcrop. It would be helpful to install signage on the two-track road that goes to the quarry site location identifying it as a sensitive area and forbidding the removal of chert from the site.

A.10 EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Michigan State Park Explorer Program

The Explorer Program is a summer program offered at 41 Michigan State Parks to campers and day visitors. The program arms participants with field gear (animal skins, bug boxes and hands-on materials) and a guide for informal hikes and other programs. These activities cater to each park's unique physical and cultural resources, targeting both children and adults. Although there is no Explorer Guide assigned to Fisherman's Island, several programs are offered at the park by staff from nearby Young State Park, such as Petoskey stone hunting and nature hikes.

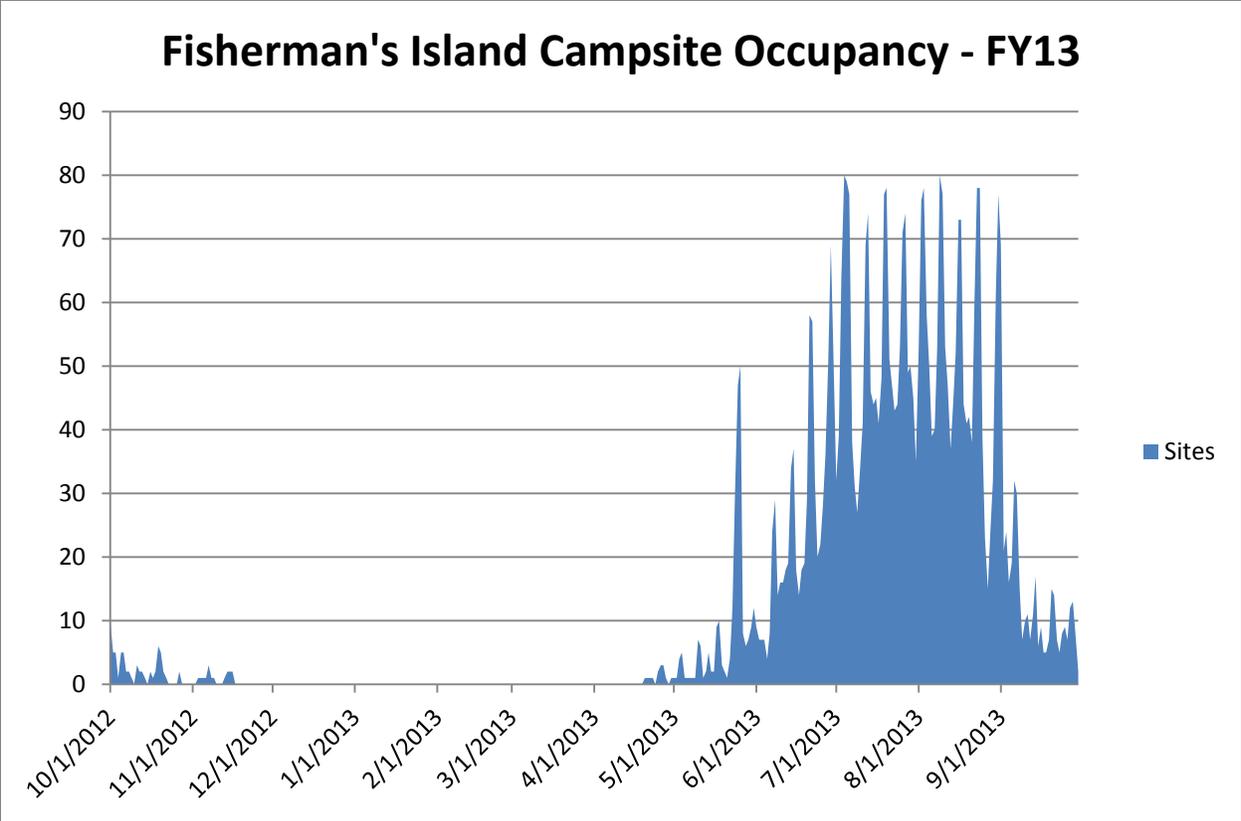
A.11 PARK USE STATISTICS

Park Use

Fisherman’s Island State Park offers 80 rustic campsites and a designated day use area with lake access, trails and a picnic area. In 2013, the park reported 2,000 total camps with approximately 13,625 campers. The park also drew approximately 16,700 day users. The total revenue for the park was \$92,000 in 2013. The majority of campers, in 2014, used tents as their choice of accommodation, staying an average of 2.223 nights. Campers using recreational vehicles stayed, on average, longer than those using tents and truck campers.

Fisherman's Island - recorded stays, 2014 by equipment type.			
All - walk-ups and advance reservations			
Equipment	Stays	Nights	Average Stay
Tents	1583	3528	2.23
Truck Camper	55	127	2.31
Up to 20'	183	581	3.17
Up to 25'	90	314	3.49
Up to 30'	58	210	3.62
Up to 35'	27	120	4.44
Up to 40'	5	11	2.20
Advanced Reservations			
Equipment	Stays	Nights	Average Stay
Tents	1123	2855	2.54
Truck Camper	37	105	2.84
Up to 20'	149	509	3.42
Up to 25'	79	284	3.59
Up to 30'	52	200	3.85
Up to 35'	23	111	4.83
Up to 40'	5	11	2.20

Fisherman’s Island State Park is typically open from mid-April through mid- to late-November. In 2013, the park saw its heaviest use during the warmest seasons, July through September. The campground was fully occupied, with all 80 sites in use, on July 4th and August 9th. Not surprisingly, there is a peak in the level of occupancy on the weekends and holidays.



The camping reservations to Fisherman’s Island State Park were made by residents from across Michigan’s Lower Peninsula, with a small number of out of state visitors. The majority of reservations were made by individuals from the Charlevoix area. The table below shows camper’s origins by the number of reservations and nights spent at the park.

City & State	Reservations	Number of Nights
Charlevoix, MI	179	347
Grand Rapids, MI	117	266
Ann Arbor, MI	69	168
Traverse City, MI	54	111
Rockford, MI	38	97
Lansing, MI	35	89
Kalamazoo, MI	31	73
Holland, MI	28	64
Boyne City, MI	24	45
Petoskey, MI	22	78
Ypsilanti, MI	22	51

A.12 RESOURCE MAPS

The following pages contain the resource maps for Fisherman’s Island State Park.

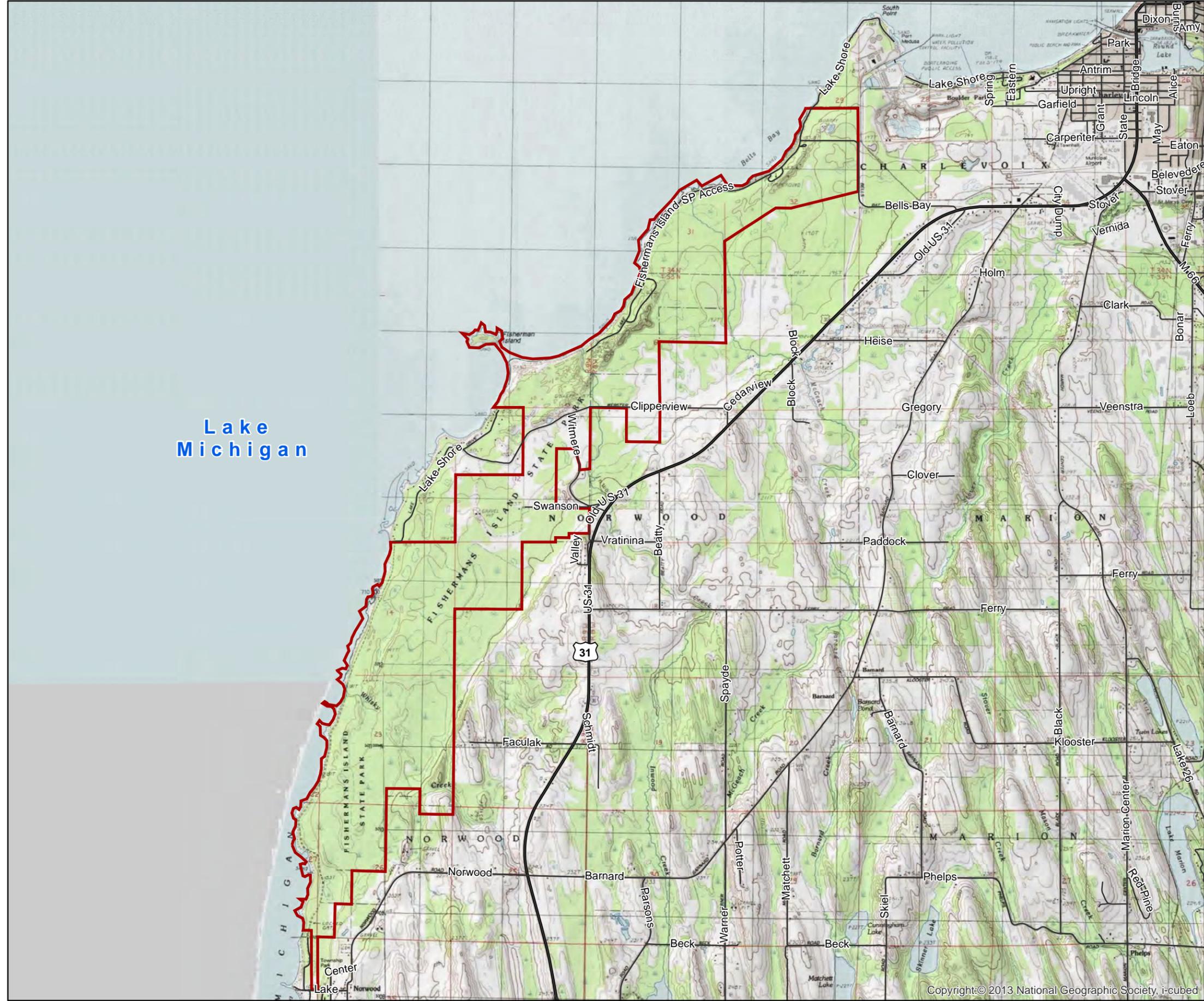
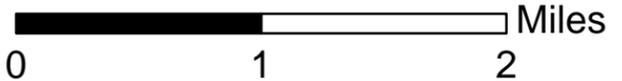
- Topography
- Elevation
- Critical Dunes and Piping Plover Critical Habitat
- Wetlands
- Woodlands
- Trails
- Other Recreational Resources
- Ownership Rights
- Funding Sources

Fisherman's Island State Park Topography

Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan



 Fisherman's Island State Park



Lake Michigan

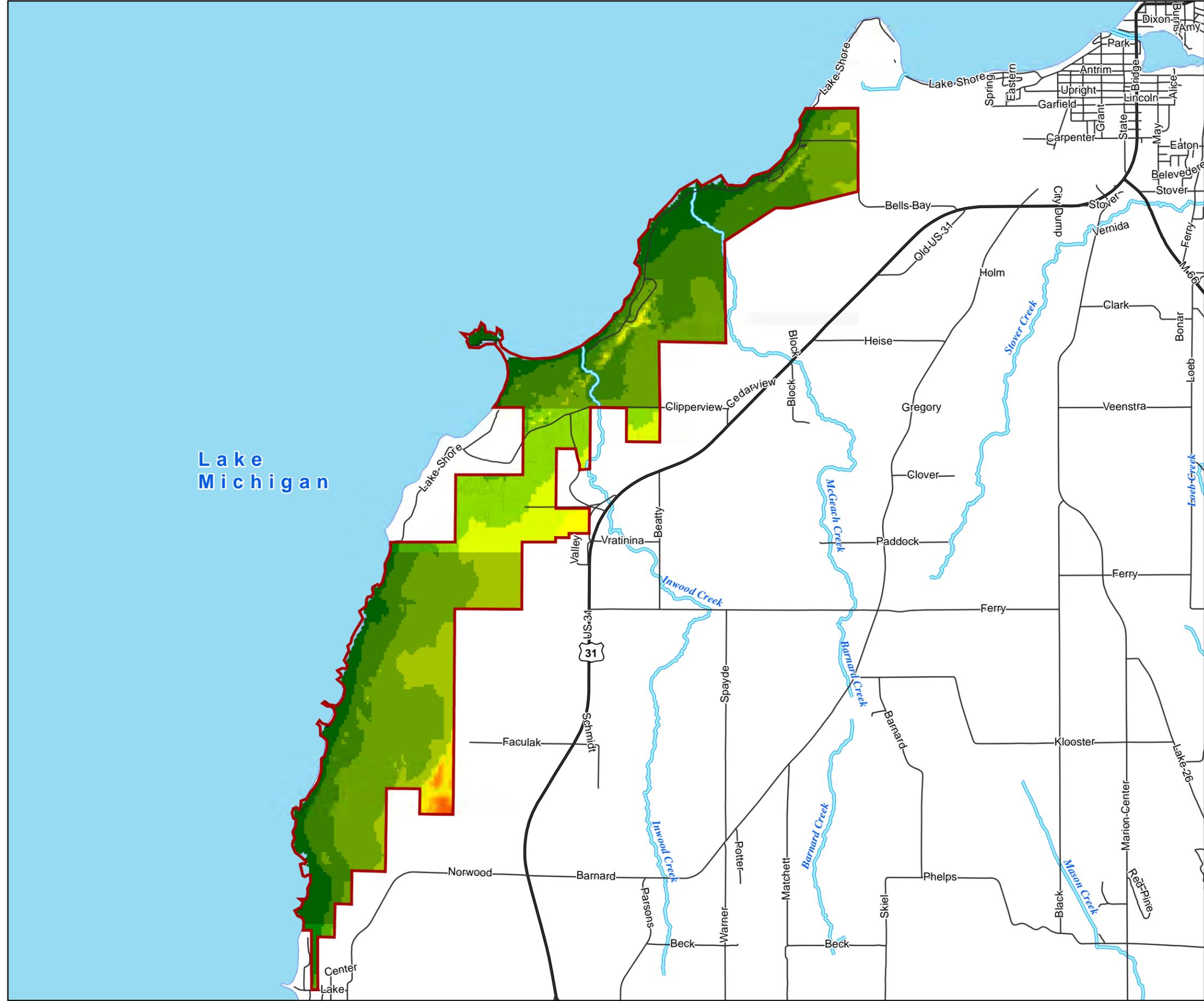
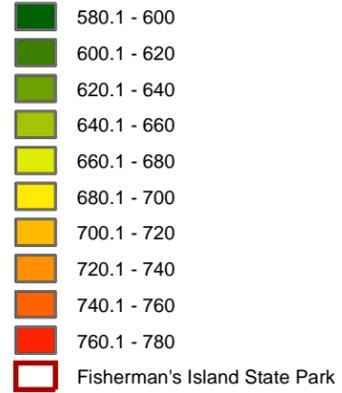


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Fisherman's Island State Park Elevation

Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan



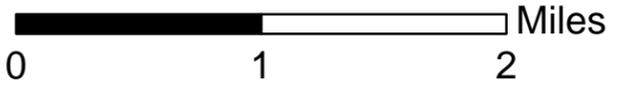
Lake Michigan

Fisherman's Island State Park Critical Dunes and Piping Plover Critical Habitat

Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan

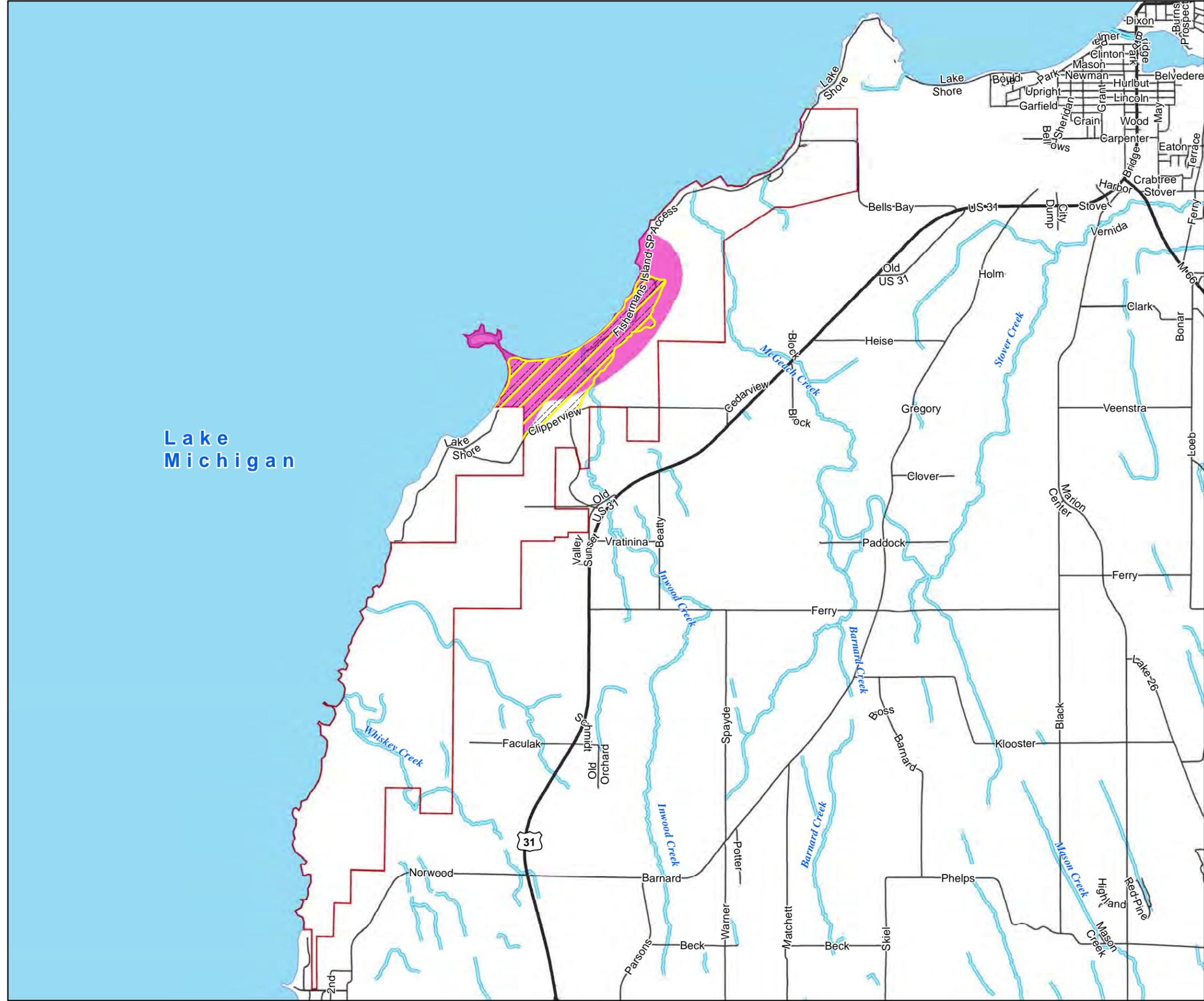


-  Critical Dunes
-  Piping Plover Critical Habitat
-  Fisherman's Island State Park



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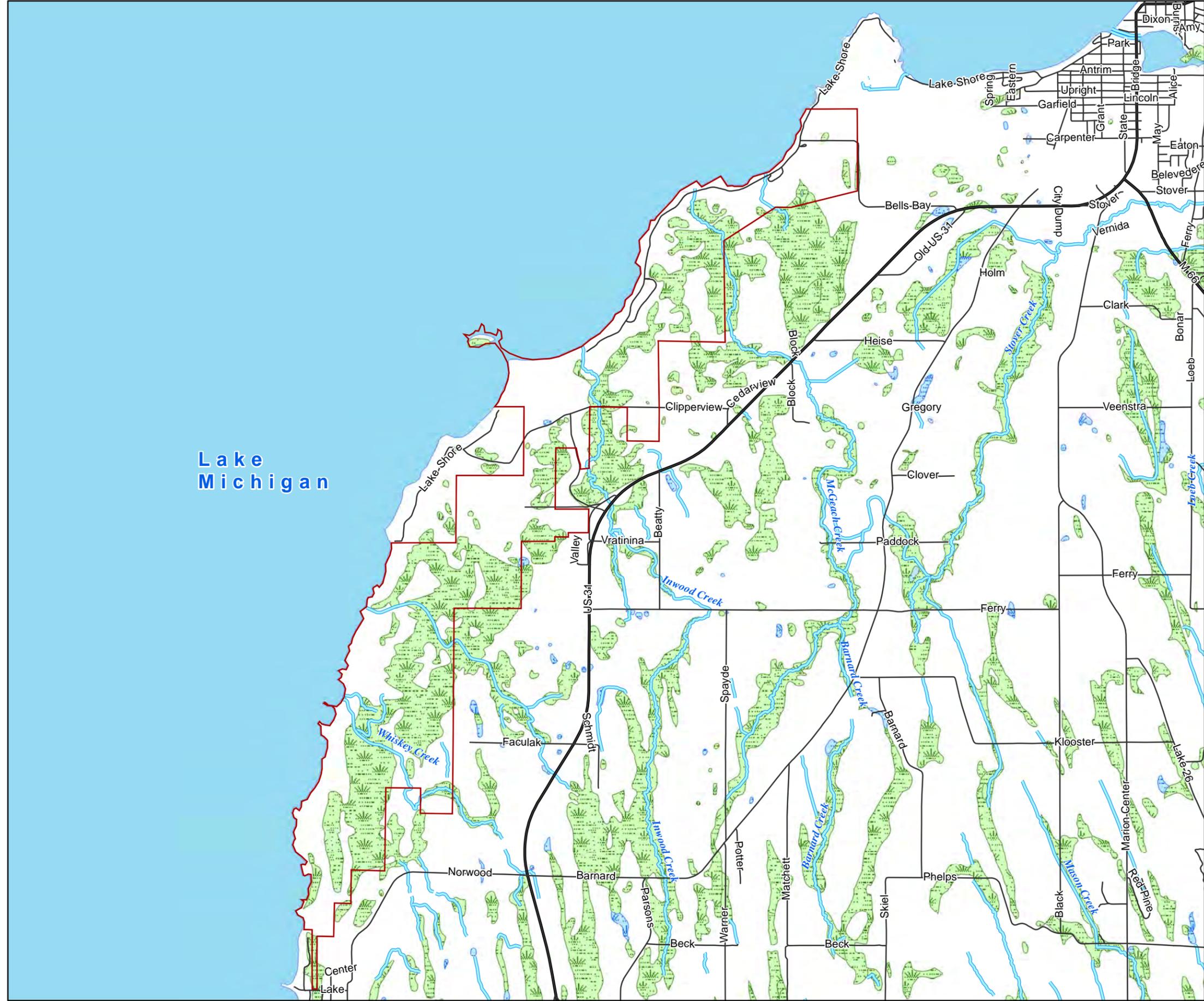


Fisherman's Island State Park Wetlands

Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan



-  Freshwater Emergent Wetland
-  Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland
-  Fisherman's Island State Park



Lake Michigan



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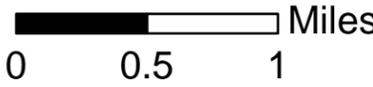
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Fisherman's Island State Park Trails

Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan

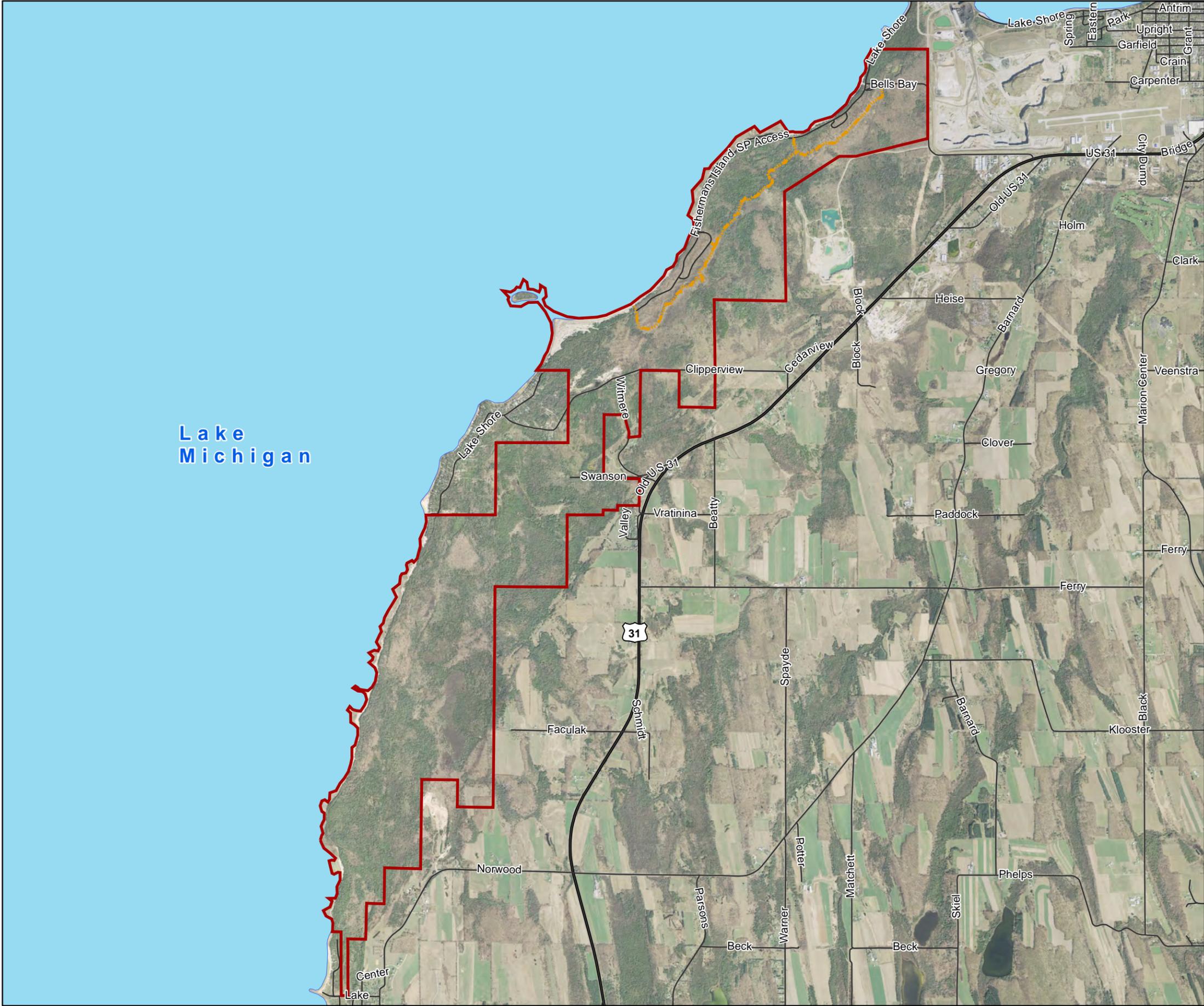


-  Foot Trail
-  Fisherman's Island State Park



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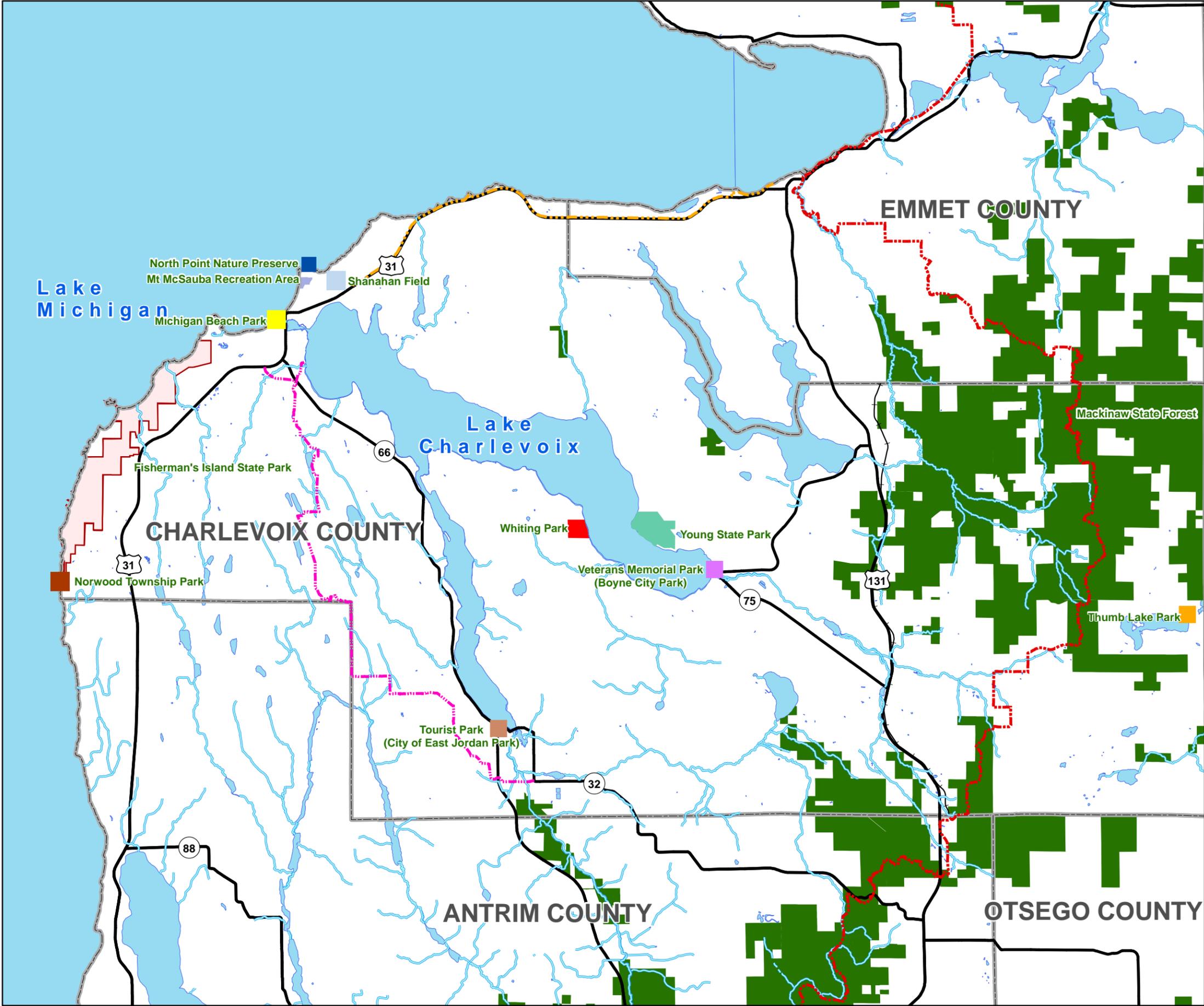
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Lake Michigan

Fisherman's Island State Park: Other Recreation Resources

Antrim, Charlevoix and Emmet Counties, Michigan



State Parks

- Fishermans Island State Park
- Mackinaw State Forest
- Young State Park

County Parks

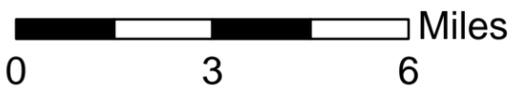
- Thumb Lake Park
- Whiting Park

Municipal Parks

- Norwood Township Park
- Shanahan Field
- Mt. McSauba Recreation Area
- Michigan Beach Park
- Tourist Park (City of East Jordan Park)
- Veteran Memorial Park (Boyne City Park)

Nature Preserves and Trail Systems

- North Point Nature Preserve
- East Jordan - Charlevoix Trail
- North Country Trail
- Little Traverse Wheelway Trail



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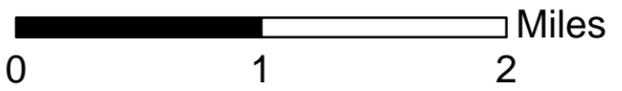
Fisherman's Island State Park

Ownership Rights

Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
Charlevoix County, Michigan

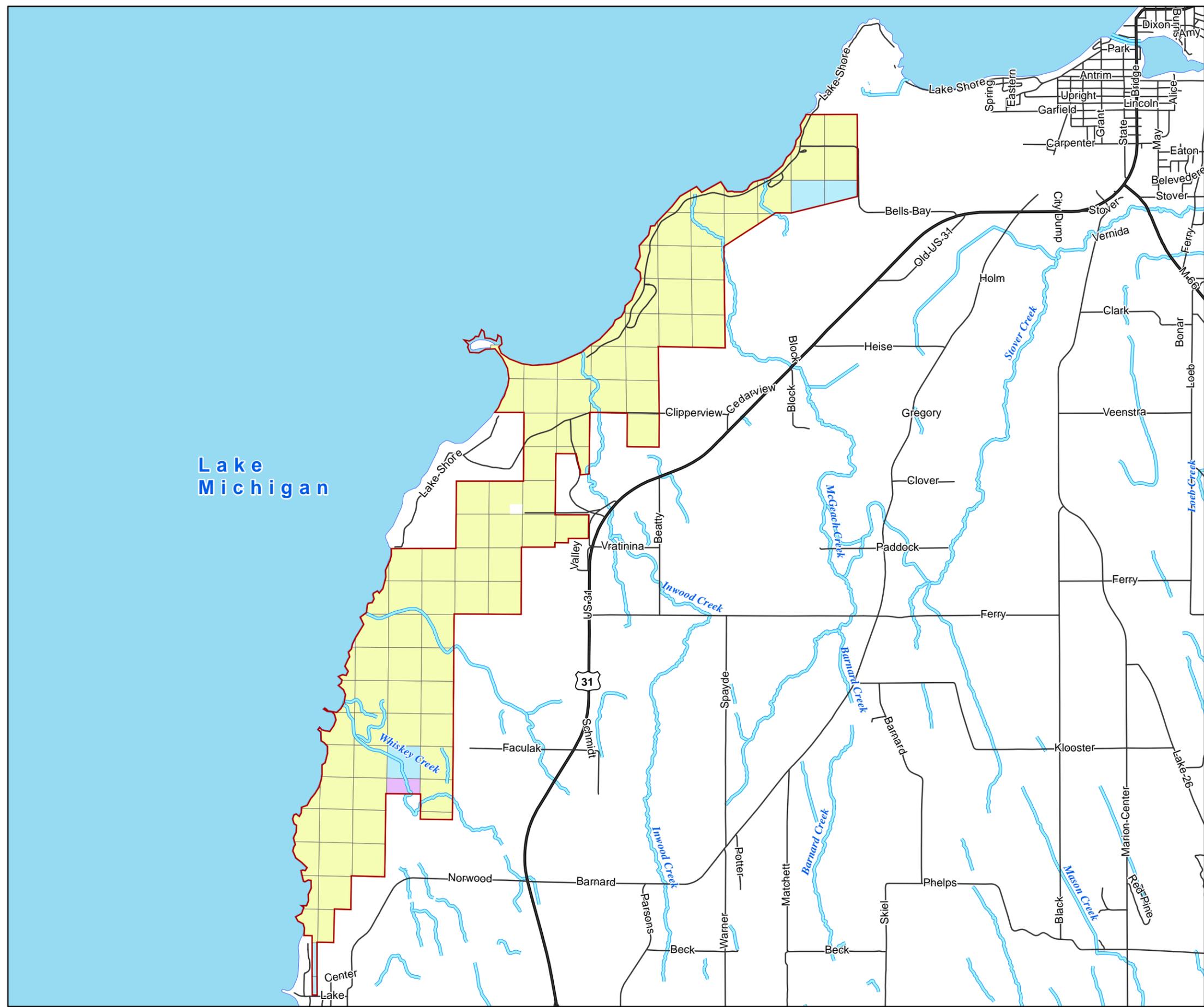


- Mineral and Surface
- Mixed Ownership
- Surface
- Fisherman's Island State Park



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Created June 1, 2015



A.13 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

The following pages contain supporting documents for Fisherman’s Island State Park.

- Lake Shore Drive Information (Resolution of the Board of the County Road Commission)

REGISTER'S OFFICE
CHARLEVOIX CO., MICH.

LIBER 248 PAGE 623 RESOLUTION

RECORDED May 15th. 1978

AT 9:15 O'CLOCK A. M.

Grover C. Bennett
REGISTER

Commissioner Graham offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Korthase.

WHEREAS, a petition was received by the Board of County Road Commissioners of Charlevoix County, Michigan asking for the absolute abandonment and discontinuance of a portion of the Charlevoix County Highway known as Lake Shore Drive, and of all the Charlevoix County Highway known as Branch Road, both situate and being in the townships of Norwood and Charlevoix, and being described as follows; to wit:

All that part of the Charlevoix County Road known as Lake Shore Drive, having a center line described as: Beginning at a point on the line common to Sections 27 and 34, T33N, R9W, Norwood Township, just to the west of the common corner of Sections 27, 34, 26 & 35, T33N, R9W; thence, northerly across Sections 27, 23 and 14, T33N, R9W, Norwood Township, to a point of ending on the line common to Sections 14 and 11, T33N, R9W, near the north-south 1/2 line of said Section 14, T33N, R9W, being in all some 3.1 miles in length.

In addition, all that part of Lake Shore Drive, Charlevoix County having a center line described as: Beginning at a point on the line common to Sections 1 and 12, T33N, R9W, Norwood Township, distant approximately 1,000 feet west of the north-south 1/2 line of said Section 12, thence, northerly and easterly across Section 1, T33N, R9W, and Section 6, T33N, R8W, Norwood Township, and across Sections 31 and 32, T34N, R8W, Charlevoix Township to a point ending at the Charlevoix County Road known as Bell's Bay Road, being in all some 3.6 miles in length.

In addition, all of that Charlevoix County Road known as Branch Road, having a center line described as: Beginning at the corner common to Sections 1 and 12, T33N, R9W, and Sections 6 and 7, T33N, R8W; thence, northwest to the intersection of said Lake Shore Drive, being some 0.5 miles in length.

*Section 27
Holiday*

WHEREAS, after full hearing thereon, and this Board being fully advised in the premises, this Board has determined that it is advisable to absolutely abandon and discontinue the said parts of said roads as herein described for the purposes set forth in said Petition and for the best interest of the public.

WHEREAS, Mr. Lester A. Wheeler, a signer of the aforesaid petition who owns property abutting and serviced by the aforesaid Lake Shore Drive has been assured access to his property by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, as evidenced by two letters dated September 25, 1975, and September 30, 1975, addressed to Mr. Wheeler and signed by Mr. O. J. Scherschligt, Chief, Parks Division, Michigan DNR, which letters are attached hereto and made a part hereof;

September 25, 1975

Mr. L. A. Wheeler
Bells Bay Road
Charlevoix, Michigan 49720

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

Our District Park Supervisor, James Andrus, informs me that he visited you recently relative to our proposal to seek abandonment of Bells Bay Road as a public road. He reports that you are generally supportive of this concept and believe as we do that a managed and controlled park is the answer to much of the

---- Continued ----

LIBER 248 PAGE 624

RESOLUTION, (continued)

Page -2-

misuse of the area's public and private lands.

Road closure petitions require by law the signatures of seven land owners in the county. Preferred are those such as you who reside on or near the road considered for abandonment.

Mr. Andrus reports that you are seeking assurance that you and your family and friends retain continued free access to your property, a very understandable position and one which I have no reservations in honoring. Although we have no immediate plans to charge for park entry, it's possible this may occur someday. Arrangements can be made at that time to accommodate your concerns for free and uninhibited access.

By copy of this letter, I am advising Mr. Andrus of this position asking that he again visit with you. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to notify this office if you have other concerns.

Sincerely,

O. J. Scherschligt, Chief
Parks Division

September 30, 1975

Mr. L. A. Wheeler
Bells Bay Road
Charlevoix, Michigan 49720

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

This will acknowledge your September 28, 1975, letter which seeks additional assurances relative to our petition to seek abandonment of Bells Bay Road as a public thoroughfare.

I agree to your request for appropriate, free, uninhibited and unimpeded access to the whole of your 400 foot lake frontage. I also agree that such access will not be limited to you, your wife and visitors personally, but will extend to the whole of the property and to and for the use and benefit of such assignees, grantees and successors as may acquire through you.

If all goes well, we expect to operate the campground next spring as a state park. Hopefully, some of the misuse can be reduced by having appropriate park staff on duty. Your cooperation in assisting us is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

O. J. Scherschligt, Chief
Parks Division

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of County Road Commissioners for the County of Charlevoix, Michigan, that the portions of the Charlevoix County Highways known as Lake Shore Drive and Branch Road, as herein described, be abandoned and discontinued as of May 8, 1978, as county roads, and cease to be part of the County road system, and that said Board determines it to be to the best interest of the public that said highways so abandoned and discontinued should be, and the same is hereby absolutely abandoned and discontinued.

---- Continued ----

LIBER 248 PAGE 625

RESOLUTION, (continued)

Page -3-

That a notice of this determination be given by the Clerk of the Commission to the proper highway authorities and the Charlevoix and Norwood Township officials and be published in the Charlevoix Courier, a newspaper published and circulated in said county, once each week for three consecutive weeks.

That pursuant to the provisions of Act 46 of Public Acts of 1963, as amended, being M.S.A. 9.118, the portions of county roads, as herein described, shall be absolutely abandoned and discontinued as county roads.

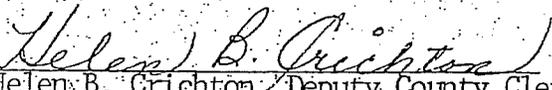
Resolution adopted by the following yea and nay vote:

YEAS: Commissioners Korthase and Graham

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Mousseau

I, the undersigned Deputy County Clerk and Clerk of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Charlevoix County do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the part of the proceedings of the Board of County Road Commissioners of Charlevoix County on the 8th day of May 1978. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 12th day of May A.D. 1978.


Helen B. Crichton, Deputy County Clerk

Appendix B – Public and Tribal Input Summary

Over the duration of the General Management Planning process, the Fisherman’s Island State Park Planning Team ensured a variety of opportunities for public and Tribal input and feedback. The process could be followed and comments posted at the Fisherman’s Island State Park Website:

Overview of Public Input Opportunities

General Management Plan Informational Meeting (November 3, 2014) – located at the Charlevoix Public Library, this meeting was held to inform the public of the general management planning process for Fisherman’s Island State Park. An overview of the project was presented, along with the anticipated project schedule, followed by a Q & A session with attendees.

General Management Plan Tribal Meeting (May 29, 2015) – located at the DNR Customer Service Center in Gaylord. This meeting invited Tribal representatives to discuss the General Management Plan for Fisherman’s Island with the DNR. Topics important to the Tribes pertaining to the park were also included.

Stakeholder Input Open House (June 22, 2015) – located at the Charlevoix Public Library. Stakeholders had the opportunity to learn about the General Management Planning process and provide input regarding the Statements of Significance and the Draft 10-Year Action Goals. Over 50 stakeholders were invited to the open house; 28 stakeholders attended.

Public Input Meeting (October 21, 2015) – located at the Charlevoix Public Library. Members of the public were invited to learn about the General Management Planning process and comment on the Statements of Significance and the Draft 10-Year Action Goals.

General Comments – comment cards, website comments and feedback provided by email were elicited during the General Management Planning process.

Fisherman’s Island State Park Comments – the public could post comments on the website, which also included additional resources about the General Management Planning process (<http://www.clearzoning.com/fishermans-island-state-park/>), as well as letters and e-mail to members of the Planning Team.

Public Input Survey – an online survey developed to gather general information about park visitors and their use of the park as well as recommendations for improving features and amenities offered at the park. The survey was made available for a 6-week period.



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Oct. 20, 2014

Contact: [Richard Hill](#), 989-732-3541; [Debbie Jensen](#), 517-284-6105;
or [Ed Golder](#), 517-284-5815

DNR holds informational meetings Nov. 3 on new General Management Plan for Fisherman's Island State Park

The Department of Natural Resources will hold two meetings Monday, Nov. 3, to inform the public about the start of a general management planning process for Fisherman's Island State Park in Charlevoix, Michigan. The meetings will be held 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Charlevoix Public Library, Conference Room B, 220 West Clinton St. Each meeting will provide an overview of the DNR's General Management Plan process, including a timeline and future opportunities for stakeholders and public involvement.

The DNR uses General Management Plans to define a long-range planning and management strategy for its state parks and recreation areas to guide future decisions. The plan will assist the DNR Parks and Recreation Division in meeting its responsibilities to protect and preserve the site's natural and cultural resources, and to provide access to land- and water-based public recreation and educational opportunities.

The 2,678-acre [Fisherman's Island State Park](#) includes over 6 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline in Charlevoix County, with 80 rustic campsites, a picnic area and foot trails.

"The DNR is excited to have funding in place to start the General Management Plan process for Fisherman's Island, which has been a priority for many years," said Gaylord District Supervisor Rich Hill. "These meetings will provide an opportunity for members of the public to be fully informed regarding the upcoming planning effort."

Additional information on the DNR's General Management Plan process is available at www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans.

Each meeting will begin with a short presentation describing the planning process, but members of the public are welcome to attend at any time during either of the two-hour meetings to review the planning material and talk to DNR staff.

For more information about the public meetings or the General Management Plan, contact Richard Hill at 989-732-3541 (TTY/TDD711 Michigan Relay Center for the hearing impaired) or via email at HillR5@michigan.gov. Persons with disabilities who need accommodations for the meetings should contact Hill at least five business days before the meetings.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr.

**Fisherman's Island State Park
Management Plan Information Meeting 11/3/14, 2-4pm**

SIGN IN SHEET:

Name	Organization/Interest	Address	Email
Joseph/Aida Schodde	Homeowner	213 Elm Street	j.schodde@charter.net
Anna Young	Michigan citizen	411 Prospect Charlevoix	agyong555@gmail.com
John Young	Charlevoix resident	411 Prospect Charlevoix	jfyoung@freeway.net
Mark Johnson	Gaylord Herald Times	Gaylord MI	mjohnson4@schurz.com
Marc Collier	Michigan	7806 Stolt Rd. Charlevoix	no email provided
JoAnne Beemon	Friends of FISP	204 Clinton	joanne.beemon@hotmail.com
Janine Gregory	Charlevoix	08321 Carson Avenue	ajgregory@chartermi.net
Gary Schmidtke	Charlevoix	5515 Ridgeland Rd.	no email provided
Michelle /Rick Biddell		no address provided	no email provided
Rob Straebel	City of Charlevoix	210 State St.	rstraebel@cityofcharlevoix.org
Beth Pearson	City of Charlevoix	210 State St.	bpearson@cityofcharlevoix.org
Susan Bowman	Michigan citizen	1024 Emmet Petoskey	spearl46@sbcglobal.net
Bob Vance	Longtime park user	1024 Emmet Petoskey	bvancehome@sbcglobal.net
Gina Lepman		Box 552 Charlevoix 49720	no email provided

**Fisherman's Island State Park
Management Plan Information Meeting 11/3/14, 2-4pm**

SIGN IN SHEET:

Name	Organization/Interest	Address	Email
Donna Smith	self	Charlevoix	no email provided
Harold Smith	self	Charlevoix	no email provided
Emily Meyerson	Top of Michigan Trails Council	445 E. Mitchell Petoskey	emeyereson@charter.net
Cathy Benson	self	Ellsworth	no email provided
Don Collier		Charlevoix	collierD47@gmail.com
Susan M. Wilcox		PO Box 31 Charlevoix	no email provided
Rick Beemon		204 Clinton Charlevoix	beemons@hotmail.com
Tom Conlan	Environment!	14441 Mascho Charlevoix	Tfconlan@gmail.com
Mike Spencer	City of Charlevoix	210 State St.	mspencer@cityofcharlevoix.org
Anne Zukowski		2189 Hidden Valley Lane Charlevoix	anniezuko@aol.com
Jeanne Phelps		09720 Brownie Brooklyn	jeannechx@gmail.com
Janet Koch	Antrim County	no address provided	kochj@antrimcounty.org
Tom Darnton	self	PO Box 101 Charlevoix	tdarnton@me.com

**Fisherman's Island State Park
Management Plan Information Meeting 11/3/14, 6-8pm**

SIGN IN SHEET:

Name	Organization/Interest	Address	Email
Iva Lagerman	self	06219 US 31 South	no email provided
Keith ??	self	Boyne City	no email provided
Luther Kurtz	self	Charlevoix	no email provided
Nancy Ferguson	self	11665 Shaw Rd., Charlevoix	no email provided
Chuck Center	Charlevoix Township	11465 Waller Road	charsupervisor@chartwp.com
Jeff Porter	Charlevoix City Council	109 Prospect Charlevoix 49720	no email provided
Jerry Puhl	self	06219 U.S. 31 South	no email provided
Nancy Staley		703 State St.	no email provided
Larry Levensgood	Charlevoix Cty. Planning Comm.	407 W. Upright St. Charlevoix	larrylevengood@yahoo.com
Julie Whitly		14360 Phelps Charlevoix	no email provided
Mary Lou Stevens	self	1001 State St.	no email provided
Larry Sullivan	Charlevoix Cty Brd of Commissioners	222 Sherman St. Charlevoix	larrysullivan00@hotmail.com
Janice A. Novotny		101 W. Garfield Charlevoix	janicenovotny@att.net



Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Plan Informational Meeting Notes November 3, 2014

Location: Charlevoix Public Library, Conference Room B, 220 West Clinton Street,
Charlevoix

Time: 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Rich Hill welcomed attendees and introduced the purpose of the meeting. It was noted that there has been no formal land swap application by St. Mary's Cement and this meeting is to discuss the DNR's General Management Plan process for Fisherman's Island State Park (FISP).

Debbie Jensen gave an overview of the General Management Plan Process, including the anticipated project schedule and opportunities for stakeholder and public input.

Questions and comments from both meetings are summarized below:

- How did FISP become a priority for park management planning? *Priorities are made at the district level. Wilderness SP was completed last year and FISP was next in line.*
- Is there any hunting and fishing data for the park?
- Large number of summer residents in the area
- Migratory path of the Golden Eagle
- Kayaking – blue water trail
- Dark skies
- What is the budget for FISP - *\$20,000 pa*
- National Park Service working on Traverse City to Charlevoix trail
- Whiskey Creek – ORV guardrails have been removed and there is some illegal 4-wheeler activity
- Native American history
- Unique opportunity for rustic camping on the lakeshore: no flush toilets or concrete camper pads.
- History of Charlevoix Twp. and access to the park
- Access to Whiskey Creek and south end of the park is very difficult
- Emergency access
- \$0 of income comes to Norwood Twp. from the park. Large percentage of tax-base comes from Clipperview subdivision.
- Impression of non-action by DNR for phragmites
- Park boundary and trespass issues

Fisherman's Island General Management Planning

Tribal Outreach

As part of the DNR's outreach efforts, a letter was sent to the Federally recognized Tribal Governments in the region, informing them of the management planning efforts and inviting them to meet with representatives of the DNR to discuss any issues or concerns they may have relating to Fisherman's Island State Park. The letter and notes from a meeting with the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa/Chippewa Indians follow.

The letter was sent to the following Tribes:

- Bay Mills Indian Community, Brimley, Michigan
- Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa/Chippewa Indians, Peshawbeston, Michigan
- Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan
- Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Harbor Springs, Michigan
- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Manistee, Michigan



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

October 21, 2014

Mr. Alvin Pedwaydon, Chairman
Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa/Chippewa Indians
2605 North West Bayshore Drive
Peshawbestwon, Michigan 49682

Dear Chairman Pedwaydon:

The Parks and Recreation Division (PRD) of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is beginning the General Management Plan process for Fisherman's Island State Park in Charlevoix County, Michigan. This 2,678 acre state park includes over six miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, 80 rustic campsites, a day-use picnic area, foot trails and hunting opportunities.

The DNR uses General Management Plans (GMP) to define a long-range planning and management strategy that will protect the natural, cultural and historic resources of the site, while considering education and recreation opportunities. A planning team, representing various specialties within the DNR, has been established and will begin meeting regularly, starting next month, to develop the GMP for this site. The planning process typically takes approximately 9 months to complete and includes several opportunities for public input. An on-line survey will be available in the spring of 2015 and stakeholder and public meetings will be scheduled in the summer/fall 2015 to learn more about the process, understand the findings of the team, and to provide input. In addition, the draft plan will be available for review and comment on the Department's website prior to adoption.

To introduce this management plan process for Fisherman's Island State Park to the public, the DNR has scheduled two informational meetings on Monday November 3. The meetings will be held 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at Charlevoix Public Library, Conference Room B, 220 West Clinton St. Each meeting will provide an overview of the DNR's General Management Plan process, including a timeline and future opportunities for stakeholders and public involvement.

We would like to give the Tribes the opportunity to meet with us independently of the larger group to discuss the Management Plan process and any concerns you may have.

For additional information on our management plan process, please visit our website at www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans

Please contact either Debbie Jensen, PRD Management Plan Administrator at 517-284-6105, or myself if you have any questions or would like to arrange a meeting.

Sincerely,

Dennis Knapp
Native American Affairs Coordinator

cc: Ms. Debbie Jensen, DNR
Mr. Rich Hill, DNR
Mr. Tom Copenhagen, DNR

**FISHERMAN'S ISLAND STATE PARK
GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN TRIBAL MEETING**

**DNR Customer Service Center, Gaylord
May 29, 2015**

Attendees:

Tom Callison, Grand Traverse Band Ottawa & Chippewa Indians (GTB)
Dennis Knapp, Native American Affairs Coordinator
Dean Anderson, State Archeologist
Rich Hill, Gaylord District Supervisor
Tom Copenhaver, Unit Supervisor, Young & Fisherman's Island State Park
Ray Fahlsing, Stewardship Unit Manager
Debbie Jensen, Park Management Plan Administrator

The meeting was initiated by a letter from Dennis Knapp, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Tribal Coordinator, extending an invitation to meet with the Tribal representatives to discuss the General Management Plan for Fisherman's Island State Park. Doug Craven and Eric Hemenway of Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians (LTBB) were not in attendance.

Debbie Jensen gave an overview of the General Management Plan process. The plan is a long-term (10 to 20-year) planning and management strategy that will guide the future of the park. It includes three main sections: Statements of Significance, which define the unique qualities of the park; Management Zone Plan, illustrating the level of activity and natural resource protection for each area of the park; and Action Goals that focus on specific items to be undertaken within the next ten years. The planning process includes opportunities for stakeholder and public input through meetings and an online survey.

LTBB is interested in protection of the trout streams, should there be any land exchanges. GTB is also concerned about land exchange discussions. Rich Hill explained that St. Mary Cement has not made a Land Transaction Application (LTA) and no recent discussions have taken place. There is a process in place for comprehensive review of any LTA.

GTB uses access for small boats at the day use beach area in the north of Fisherman's Island State Park. Maintaining access to the chert outcrop in the south is also important. Native American villages were known to exist along the south shoreline of the park. Dean Anderson noted that the State has better knowledge of archeological sites in the north of the property than the south. Tom commented on burials in the area.

Debbie explained the Project Boundary, which includes land east and north of the park that the DNR would be interested in acquiring should it become available. Tom indicated that 40 acres of land east of the park, within the Project Boundary, is in Federal Trust.

Some of the issues and interests in Fisherman's Island State Park were discussed, including a planned multi-use trail between Charlevoix and Traverse City, which could be routed through the park, the desire for mountain bike trails in the park (as evidenced by the online survey) and the poor condition of the park vehicular access roads.

Tom indicated that the tribes may be interested in assisting with improvements to the road/stream crossings in the park and assisting with outreach in relation to history of the site and the area. Linkages to islands and the DNR's Islands Management Plan (currently in progress) and water trails were discussed.

The timeline for the planning process was described. Draft plan elements will be presented at a stakeholder meeting in mid-June. Input from the online survey and the stakeholder meeting will be taken into consideration and the Draft Plan will be presented to the public in late August. There will be an opportunity to review the plan on line or to attend a public meeting. The DNR will invite representatives of the Tribes to both the stakeholder and public meeting but will also be available to meet again separately if requested.

Key Points

- The Stakeholder input meeting will be held June 22 from 2-4pm at the Charlevoix Public Library (invitations have been sent to Tribal representatives)
- Preliminary information on the plan, which will be built upon as progress is made, can be found on the project website at <http://www.clearzoning.com/clearzoning-clients/fishermans-island-state-park/>
- Additional information, including detailed zone descriptions, can be found at www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans
- Rich Hill will touch base with Brian Mastenbrook (Wildlife Division) regarding the Island Management Plan to ensure appropriate coordination.

DNR Stakeholder Open House

Fisherman's Island State Park



We Want Your Input!!

You are invited to complete a 5-10 minute online survey, which can be found at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Fishermans_Island_State_Park

Your input will inform the Planning Team as they develop appropriate zones and action goals for the park!

You are encouraged to visit the project website at:

<http://www.clearzoning.com/clearzoning-clients/fishermans-island-state-park/>

For more information, or to RSVP, please contact Mardy Stirling at mardy@clearzoning.com or 248.423.1776 x 15

DNR Stakeholder Open House Draft General Management Plan Fisherman's Island State Park

The Parks & Recreation Division of the DNR is in the **process of developing a Management Plan for Fisherman's Island State Park**. The Management Plan includes a 20-year management outlook for natural and cultural resources and educational opportunities at the park. In addition, the plan includes a set of 10-year action goals that will guide specific management decisions and enhance the visitor experience, while protecting the natural, cultural and historic resources for the enjoyment of future generations.

You and/or your group have been identified as a stakeholder, **with an active interest in Fisherman's Island State Park**. Using an open house format, the DNR will share its initial thoughts on the Draft General Management Plan and welcomes your input.

We will be having the meeting with a brief presentation, however, you may drop in at any time during the two hour period. However, we request that each stakeholder group limit itself to not more than 3 representatives, so that we may accommodate everyone based on meeting space and time constraints.

We look forward to meeting you and receiving your input on the Draft General Management Plan.

Monday, June 22, 2015

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Charlevoix Public Library
220 West Clinton Street
Charlevoix, MI 49720



Source: Mapquest

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
General Management Planning Process
Stakeholder Input Open House
Fisherman's Island State Park**

June 22, 2015
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM
Charlevoix Public Library

1. Planning Team Introductions at 2:00 p.m.
2. Brief Presentation of Management Planning Process and Status at 2:05 p.m.
 - a. Significance Statements
 - b. Development of Management Zone Maps
 - c. Action Goal Development – Draft 10-year strategies to address the desired future condition of each zone
 - d. Fisherman's Island State Park Planning Team Draft Action Goals organized by:
 - General Action Goals
 - Primitive Zone
 - Backcountry Zone
 - Natural Resource Recreation Zone
 - Developed Recreation Zone
 - Administrative Zone
 - Cultural Landscape Overlay
 - Scenic Overlay
 - e. Priority Exercise explained
 - f. Action Goals input sheets described
 - g. Questions and Answers
3. Open House at 2:30 p.m.
 - a. You are invited to visit each of the stations and talk to Planning Team members
 - b. Sticky notes can be used to comment on Management Zone Map
 - c. Color dots can be used to identify your priority actions (please limit yourself to 10 dots)
 - d. "Additional Input" sheets are available if you would like to suggest additional action goals
4. Adjournment at 4:00 p.m.

For More Information:

Project Website: <http://www.clearzoning.com/clearzoning-clients/brighton-recreation-area/>

Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Fishermans_Island_State_Park

DNR Management Planning Website: www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans

Contact Emails: JensenD1@michigan.gov, Mardy@Clearzoning.com or Dave@Clearzoning.com



clearzoning[®]

Stakeholder Input Open House Attendees

Name	Affiliation
Althea Arnold	Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
Rick Beemon	Save Fisherman's Island
Ed Boettcher	Antrim County
Chuck Cleland	Norwood resident
Shelly Ferguson	Charlevoix Chamber
William H. Gnodtke	Mackinac Bridge Authority
Dennis Halverson	Charlevoix Chamber
Bill Henne	Water and Air Team Charlevoix
Janet Koch	Antrim County
Iva Lagerman	Water and Air Team Charlevoix
Donald Miles	Norwood Historical Society
Ken Polakowski	Charlevoix Historical Society
Nancy Rajewski	Charlevoix Township
Jeff Winegand	Top of Michigan Trails Council

Name	Affiliation
JoAnne Beemon	Lake to Lake Trail Committee
Cathy Bensen	Norwood Area Historical Society/Top of Michigan Trails Council
Chuck Center	Charlevoix Township
Julie Clark	TART Trails
Shirley Gibson	City of Charlevoix
John Haggard	Coyote Club
Frank Hamilton	Norwood Township
Alison Hubbard	Charlevoix Chamber
Luther Kurtz	City of Charlevoix/Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
Larry Levensgood	Charlevoix County
Janice Novotny	Charlevoix resident
Jerry Puhl	Water and Air Team Charlevoix
Michael Sheean	Top of Michigan Trails Council
Anne Zukowski	Friends of Fisherman's Island)

Fisherman's Island General Management Planning

Stakeholder Input Meeting

Location: Charlevoix Public Library

Monday, June 22, 2015

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Stakeholder Attendees: Althea Arnold (Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council), JoAnne Beemon (Lake to Lake Charlevoix Trail Group), Rick Beemon (Save Fisherman's Island), Cathy Bensen (Norwood Area Historical Society/Top of Michigan Trails Council), Ed Boettcher (Antrim County), Chuck Center (Charlevoix Township), Chuck Cleland (Norwood resident), Julie Clark (TART Trails), Shelly Ferguson (Charlevoix Chamber), Shirley Gibson (City of Charlevoix), William H. Gnodtke (Mackinac Bridge Authority), John Haggard (Coyote Club), Dennis Halverson (Charlevoix Chamber), Frank Hamilton (Norwood Township), Bill Henne (Water and Air Team Charlevoix), Alison Hubbard (Charlevoix Chamber), Janet Koch (Antrim County), Luther Kurtz (City of Charlevoix/Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council), Iva Lagerman (Water and Air Team Charlevoix), Larry Levensgood (Charlevoix County), Donald Miles (Norwood Historical Society), Janice Novotny (Charlevoix resident), Ken Polakowski (Charlevoix Historical Society), Jerry Puhl (Water and Air Team Charlevoix), Nancy Rajewski (Charlevoix Township), Michael Sheean (Top of Michigan Trails Council), Jeff Winegand (Top of Michigan Trails Council), Anne Zukowski (Friends of Fisherman's Island)

Planning Team Attendees: Tom Copenhaver (Unit Supervisor), Annamarie Bauer (Regional Planner), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Dean Anderson (State Archeologist), Debbie Jensen (Management Plan Administrator), Ray Fahlsing (Unit Manager), Lisa Gamero (Cultural Resource Analyst), Andrea Erratt (Conservation Officer), Joel Simpson (DNR Intern), Dave Birchler and Mardy Stirling (Clearzoning)

The Stakeholder Meeting for Fisherman's Island State Park was held on June 22nd, 2015 at the Charlevoix Public Library. Stakeholders who were invited included government/quasi-government representatives, community partners, business organization, recreation partners, and natural resource partners.

The meeting began with a brief presentation on the General Management Plan process. Stakeholders were asked to review the Statements of Significance, the Draft Management Zones and prioritize the action goals identified by the Planning Team and brainstorm on additional action goals.

Below is the information gathered from stakeholders about Fisherman's Island State Park, organized by areas on the map or general comment.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Park Comments

- Sign[s] throughout the park; Re: Cultural and Indian Artifacts, similar to signage at Antrim Creek Natural Area. So natural artifacts are protected.
- Please build a non-motorized trail though the entire park.
- Do not put a bike trail in the park - Keep the Bike Trail on US 31.

- Create an overlay for non-motorized trail corridor running N/S through the park. Utilize existing park trails or disturbed areas to limit trail footprint.
- Signs to protect and interpret the cultural resources.
- Comprehensive study of cultural resources to identify what to protect.
- Connections to regional trails at least at both ends of park.
- Trail through park would create primary momentum for Charlevoix to Traverse City trail proposal.
- Use the trail as a way to protect the cultural and natural resources.
- One of the few parks where you can get lost in the woods—we should preserve that character.
- Would like to see non-motorized trail through the park, top to bottom.
- Keep the park rustic / keep it primitive / no plumbing or electricity.
- No motors in park.
- Non-invasive (?) bike trail through the park.
- In favor of connecting to regional trail systems, not particular about the specific route.
- Restrict motorized four wheelers.
- No bike trail through the park.
- Do not give or trade away any land within the park.
- Keep campground office as is.
- Protect and preserve critical and significant areas.

Northern Access Point

- Do not move the north entrance to the park.
- Keep the entrance at Bells Bay Road.
- Keep this as an entrance to the park.
- Keep Bells Bay Road access at north end of park. The woods here serve as a buffer to St. Mary's Cement Plant. Noise; dirt; pollution. Do not trade away north end of park.
- Trail from north end of the park to Inwood Creek.
- No developed trail in this area.

Primitive Zone

- Trail to Clipperview from Inwood Creek to US 31.
- Provide entrance at center point of park.
- The fact that this area exists is reason enough to keep it as is.

South End of Park

- A trail should not be developed at south end of Fisherman's Island, this would open whole area to abuse.
- South end of park needs a gate / put up a gate, no alternative route needed.
- Close road at south end of park to motorized traffic, much damage is done to the trail and shoreline when vehicles go off road around Whiskey Creek.
- Southern end entrance...move to off 2nd Street.

- Put a southern entrance in on State land/ secure the south end via an entrance on State land.
- Keep south end primitive, no motorized access (mechanized).
- Keep south end PRIMITIVE.
- Improve Lakeshore from entrance to Inwood Creek and out to Clipperview, and US 31.

Scenic Overlay

- Protect globally rare freshwater beach/dune/forest.
- Protect natural resources & make existing motorized road a non-motorized trail.
- There should be a natural resources zone located along the former road bed in this area.

General Action Goals

Many of the 10-Year Action Goals for **Fisherman's Island State Park** are general in nature and apply within all of the management zones. These often deal with park-wide issues, such as invasive species control, universal access, developing Stewardship, Wildlife and Emergency plans, or marketing the park's many recreational opportunities to a wider audience of potential users. Many of the overall maintenance and operational issues of running a state park also result in the need for actions across all zone boundaries, such as law enforcement.

Natural Resources

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Create Phase I Natural Resource Stewardship Plan.	3-5 years	5
Implement invasive species control, with a strong emphasis on early detection and rapid response. Monitor roads, trails, and any new development sites for possible invasive species introductions.	Ongoing	5
Protect piping plover nesting areas during the breeding season.	Ongoing	6
Continue to follow the administrative regulations for critical dunes protection.	Ongoing	13
Continue to protect the exemplary natural communities and legally protected species.	Ongoing	12
Complete the Michigan Forest Inventory cover type mapping for the park.	5-10 Years	1
Protect and preserve critical and significant areas		1

Historic / Cultural Resources

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Review all proposed ground disturbing activities for potential impact on historic/cultural resources.	Ongoing	9
Conduct a Phase I archeological survey of the park.	10 Years	6
Evaluate the condition and extent of known archeological sites.	5 Years	5
Develop an education and enforcement plan for protecting cultural resources and artifacts to prevent damage/collecting.	1-2 Years	5
Develop and conduct a monitoring program for cultural resources.	Ongoing	2

Recreation Opportunities

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/fishing/gathering/trapping/birding.	Ongoing	4
Evaluate potential for connectivity to community trails beyond the park boundary.	Ongoing	8
Work with partners to evaluate and identify appropriate Lake Michigan Water Trail access and amenities.	Ongoing	7
Evaluate existing trails for appropriate use.	1-3 Years	8
Study the options and analyze the impact of a non-motorized trail running north-south through the park as part of the regional trail proposal.	TBD	38

General Action Goals (continued)

Education / Interpretation Opportunities

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Develop an Interpretive Plan that utilizes a variety of traditional and new media, including audio and video technologies, podcasts, and other emerging technologies for interpretation opportunities.	To be determined by state-wide priority	
Implement the Interpretive Plan.	To be determined by state-wide priority	
Implement strategies to include PRD field staff in interpretive programs.	1-2 Years	1

Management

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Evaluate access at the southern end of the park. (1. A trail should not be developed at the south end of FISP, this would open <u>all</u> area to abuse. 2. South end of park needs a gate. 3. Close road in south end of park to motorized traffic; much damage is done to trail and shoreline when vehicles go off road at Whiskey Creek Area.)	1-2 years	9
Evaluate the need for alternative vehicular and pedestrian access points to the park. (1. Put up a gate, no alternative route needed.)	5 years	
Continue to explore land acquisition within the park's project boundary.	Ongoing	5
Define park boundaries with appropriate markers.	5 Years	
Evaluate demand and feasibility of a dump and fill station location.	3-5 Years	1

Development

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Make every reasonable effort to achieve universal access for development opportunities.	Ongoing	
Identify and implement appropriate improvements to the existing access at the southern end of the park.	3-5 years	1

Primitive Zone

The Primitive Zone emphasizes the natural resources of the area. It is managed to allow only dispersed, low frequency and low impact recreational use in the zone. Maintaining a high quality natural resource condition dictates the extent to which recreational improvements or users are allowed. For this reason, native species and natural processes take precedence over visitor accommodation. The following 10-Year Action Goals propose only very low levels of development, in order to protect the important habitat. Only foot traffic is allowed in this zone. The Cultural Landscape and Scenic Overlay Zones are overlaid in recognition of cultural resources and the scenic lakefront.

Recreation Opportunities

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/fishing/gathering/trapping/birding.	Ongoing	7

Education / Interpretation Opportunities

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Inform the public of the value of natural and cultural resources in the primitive areas.	Ongoing	7
Develop educational and interpretive signage for the cultural and natural features.	Ongoing	3

Management

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Evaluate trail crossings over Inwood and Whiskey Creeks.	1-2 Years	7
Continue to control illegal motor vehicle use.	Ongoing	11
Evaluate the need for land use order to control snowmobile use.	3 Years	6

Development

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Implement the management action goal for the trail/creek crossings.	2-5 Years	1

Backcountry Zone

This zone emphasizes resource quality, but allows for limited modification of the landscape to accommodate a moderate level of non-motorized recreational use. At Fisherman's Island State Park, the Backcountry Zone follows the interdunal land forms and extends east to the project boundary adjacent to US-31. The Backcountry Zone also includes a portion of Whiskey Creek and other tributaries to Lake Michigan. The Cultural Landscape Zone is overlaid in recognition of historic and cultural resources.

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Since much of this land is not currently in state ownership, no actions specific to this zone are proposed at this time. Refer to General Action Goals.		
Action Goals are developed by the Planning Team with input provided by stakeholders and the public. The following categories are used to help structure the development process: Natural Resources, Historic/Cultural Resources, Recreation Opportunities, Education/Interpretation Opportunities, Management, and Development.		

Natural Resource Recreation Zone

Active recreation at a medium to high density of use conducted in a natural setting is the hallmark of the Natural Resource Recreation Zone. There is still an emphasis on resource quality over recreation, but in this zone higher levels of use are allowed. Vegetation may be managed to facilitate recreational use and maintain an aesthetically appealing landscape, as well as address such issues as hazard trees and to manage pests and disease. The 10-year Action Goals are intended to promote and enhance diverse recreation opportunities. The Cultural and Scenic Overlay Zones are overlaid in recognition of historic and cultural resources and the scenic lakefront.

Education / Interpretation Opportunities

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Conduct an engineering study to identify techniques to repair drainage and driving surface deficiencies on park roads.	2-3 Years	11

Management

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Evaluate alternative lodging in the park – campsites, yurt or cabin.	5 Years	
Evaluate potential for ADA campsites.	1-2 Years	1

Development

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Improve campsites for ADA compliance based on evaluation.	3-5 Years	2

Developed Recreation Zone

Active recreation with high density of use, conducted in areas not designated for natural resource significance, is characteristic of the Developed Recreation Zone. In this zone, recreation dominates with natural resource attributes enhanced where possible. An area north and west of Bells Bay Road has been identified as an area where a higher density of use may occur. In addition, areas within the project boundary that have been or are currently being mined are included in this designation. Although few action goals have been identified for the upcoming 10-year planning period, the zoning allows for heavier development should it be deemed appropriate in the future. The Scenic Overlay Zone is runs along the shoreline of Lake Michigan.

Recreation Opportunities

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Evaluate and identify appropriate water trail access and amenities.	Ongoing	7

Management

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Evaluate the need for a designated beach area.	5 Years	1
Evaluate demand and feasibility of a dump and fill station.	3-5 Years	
Evaluate alternative lodging in the park – modern campsites, yurt or cabin.	5 years	1

Administrative Zone

This zone encompasses the developed areas required for program administration, operations, and the business of running the state park. The Administrative zone at Fisherman’s Island includes the park contact station/office and service yard.

Management

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Identify options for electronic/communication connectivity.	1-2 Years	

Development

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Provide septic and water for campground office. (Keep it as is.)	3 Years	1
Construct an equipment storage building.	3 Years	1

Cultural Landscape Overlay

The Cultural Landscape Overlay Zone addresses the overall setting in which is found not only historic structures, but all non-structural evidence of the traditions, beliefs, practices, life ways, arts, crafts and social institutions of any community. A Cultural Landscape Overlay has been applied over the majority of Fisherman’s Island State Park in recognition of the cultural resources known to be present in this area.

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Refer to General Action Goals.		

Scenic Overlay

The Scenic Overlay Zone is applied to the entire Lake Michigan shoreline in recognition its scenic value. The priority in this zone is to maintain the natural beauty of the lakeshore for quiet enjoyment.

Action Goals	Time Frame	Stakeholder Priority Sticker
Refer to General Action Goals.		



Statewide DNR News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Sept. 21, 2015

Contact: [Debbie Jensen](mailto:Debbie.Jensen@dnr.state.mi.us), 517-284-6105

DNR to hold public input session Oct. 12 about Fisherman's Island State Park

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will host an open house Monday, Oct. 12, to hear public input on a new draft General Management Plan for Fisherman's Island State Park in Charlevoix County. The open house will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Charlevoix Public Library, Conference Room B, 220 West Clinton St. in Charlevoix.

The 2,678-acre park includes more than 6 miles of scenic Lake Michigan shoreline with 80 rustic campsites, a picnic area, foot trails and undeveloped land for hunting and wildlife observation.

The General Management Plan for Fisherman's Island State Park defines a long-range (10- to 20-year) planning and management strategy that will assist the DNR Parks and Recreation Division in meeting its responsibilities to protect and preserve the site's natural and cultural resources, and to provide access to land- and water-based public recreation and educational opportunities. A link to the Fisherman's Island State Park draft plan can be found at <http://www.clearzoning.com/clearzoning-clients/fishermans-island-state-park/>.

The public input meeting will begin with a short presentation of the draft plan. The public is welcome to attend at any time during the open house to review the planning material, provide comments and speak with DNR staff. Comments can be made until Oct. 19 by emailing Debbie Jensen, DNR park management plan administrator, at jensend1@michigan.gov.

Additional information on the DNR's General Management Plan process is available at www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans.

For more information about the public meeting or General Management Plan, contact Debbie Jensen at 517-284-6105 (TTY/TDD711 Michigan Relay Center for the hearing impaired) or via [email](mailto:Debbie.Jensen@dnr.state.mi.us). Persons with disabilities who need accommodations for the open house should contact Jensen at least five business days before the meeting.

Inside Michigan's Great Outdoors subscribers are always the first to know about reservation opportunities, state park events and other outdoor happenings. Visit www.michigan.gov/dnr to subscribe now.

Learn more about how the Recreation Passport gains you access to Michigan state parks and more at www.michigan.gov/recreationpassport.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr.



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Fisherman's Island Public Input Open House Attendees

Name	Affiliation
Carol Apol	Norwood Phragmities/ZBA
Joanne Beemon	Save Fisherman's Island
Rick Beemon	Water and Air Team Charlevoix
Douglas Bergman	
Emmet Bergman	
Triston Cole	State Representative
Marc Collier	
Nancy Ferguson	Charlevoix County Commission, 5 th District
Jim Furlong	
Bonnie Furlong	
Shirley Gibson	
Bill Gnodtke	
Pam Gnodtke	
John E. Haggard	
Bill Henne	Water and Air Team Charlevoix
W. Hubbard	ER Planning Commission
D. Hubbard	ER Planning Commission
Marilyn Keating	
Richard Keating	
Janet Koche	Antrim County
Kim Kolb	resident
Larry Levensgood	Charlevoix County Planning Commission
Bill Lovett	
Janine Mullet-Gregory	
Chuck Metzger	
Janice Novotny	
Ed O'Neill	
Zach Panoff	City of Charlevoix
Jeff Porter	Charlevoix City Council
Randy Pryor	St. Marys Cement
Nancy Rajewski	Charlevoix Township Trustee
Larry Sullivan	
David Turner	resident
Brian Wagner	
Tray Ward	resident
O'Neil Woelke	resident
Susan Woelke	resident
Anna Young	resident
John Young	resident
Anne Zukowski	

Fisherman's Island General Management Planning

Public Input Open House
Location: Charlevoix Public Library
Monday, October 12, 2015
5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

The Public Input Open House for Fisherman's Island State Park was held on October 12th, 2015 at the Charlevoix Public Library. Public notices were sent out to government/quasi-government representatives, community partners, business organization, recreation partners, and natural resource partners, and to the general public through press releases and internet postings

The meeting began with a brief presentation on the General Management Plan. Attendees were asked to review the Statements of Significance, Draft Management Zones and 10 Year Action Goals. Participants were asked to prioritize the Action Goals and provide comment on the Draft Management Zone Map and Significant Statements.

Below are the comments received from attendees about Fisherman's Island State Park, organized by areas on the map or topic.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Park Comments

- Keep the park rustic – it is unique because it is allowed to be natural and wild (x4)
- No modern campsites, keep camping rustic – there are people interested in keeping it primitive (x4)
- Do not allow Fisherman's Island State Park land to be given to mining or logging, etc. (x4)
- Do not swap or trade any part of the park (x4)
- Land acquisition in compliance with current restriction on land. Federally encumbered land (x2)
- No modern bathrooms or showers; keep modern facilities at Young State Park
- Considering an additional park ranger
- Study and determine efficient road repairs for drainage and surface deficiencies
 - 1st step for any trail that most ignore
- Gain input of adjacent property owners/allow active participation not just through local government
- Need to respect the rights of private property owners surrounded by park and provide adequate enforcement of current laws/rules where property meets

Northern Access Point(s)

- Do not trade away north end of the park, the forest provides a buffer from St. Marys Cement dust, noise, and industrial operations
- Maintain the northern access point – higher population at the north end of park

- Relocate the park entrance to just north of Inwood Creek
- Residents are often asked by “tourists” driving on Lake Shore Drive about using the north end of Lake Shore Drive as a park entrance. Residents are highly opposed to any increase in traffic in our quiet neighborhood. No use of the road as a bike trail, no change of entrance of park to Clipperview which may result from “land swap”
- Add wayfinding signage at Bell’s Bay Road showing entrance to the park

Historic/Cultural Resources

- What about policing/protecting/preserving existing/known sites?
- Stop damage to chert mines at the south end of park
- Put up signage (education and regulation) on removal of chert from south end of park

Primitive Zone

- No bike trail in Primitive Zone
- Some parking at the north end of the Primitive Zone (at end of park road) (x2)

South End of Park

- Consider installing a gate to prohibit motor vehicles (x2)
- No motor vehicles (x2)
- Enforce NO SNOWMOBILES in winter
- No fat tire bikes or snowmobiles

Natural Communities

- Concerned about Golden Eagle and Bald Eagle feathers found on south side of park on bike trail

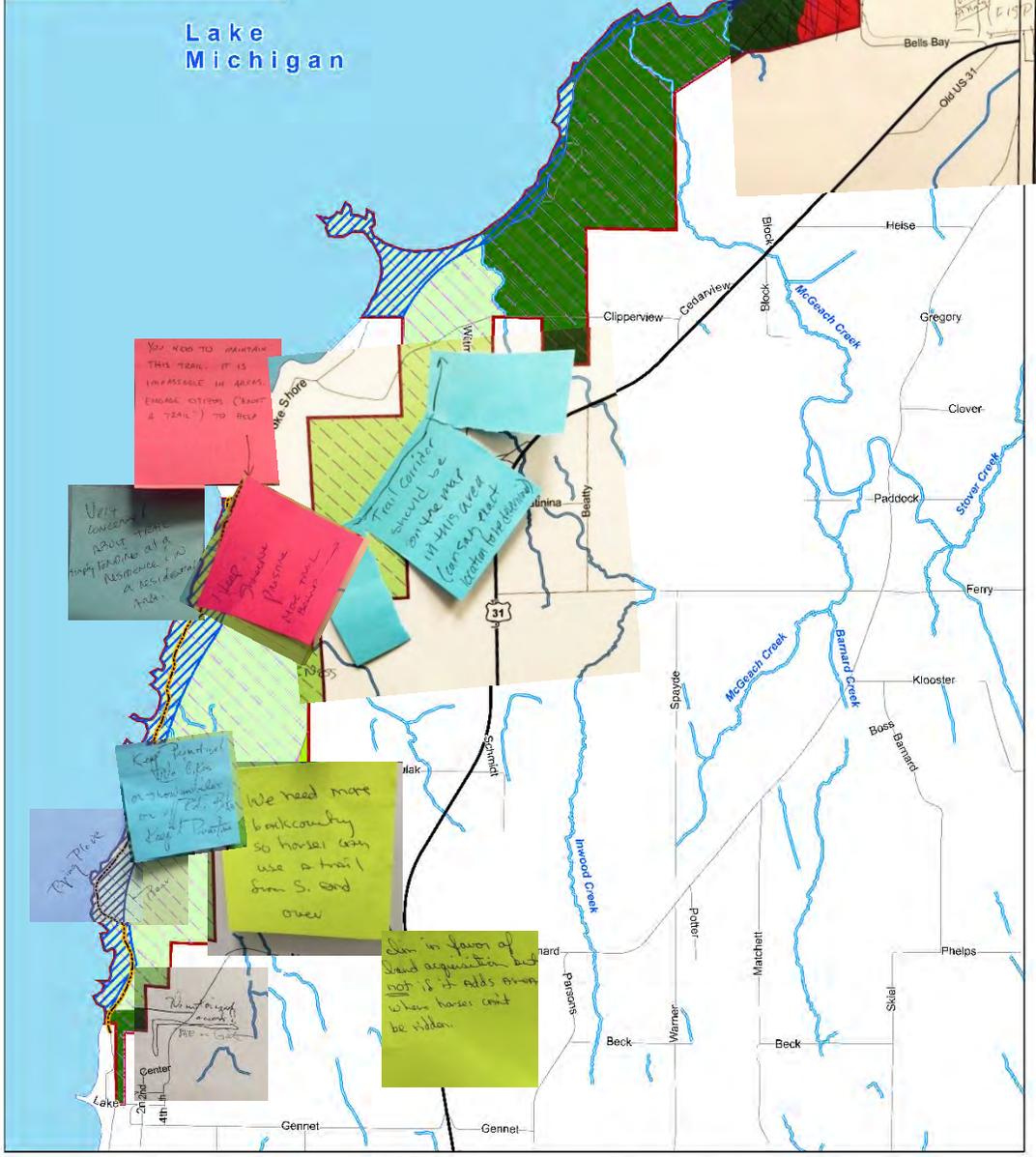
Possible Trail Development

- Consider a route around the neighborhood (x4)
 - Very concerned about the trail ending in the residential area
- Please do not develop a trail at the southern end of the park; this is a beautiful, rustic area that is rare to find these days. Adding a trail would be a disservice to present and future generations, as well as nature. Do not destroy the natural beauty that is so hard to find these days
- Consider possible trail partnership with Clipperview Association
- If there will eventually be a trail through Fisherman’s Island State Park, it should follow the former Lake Shore Drive
- Keep the shoreline pristine; move the trail behind/in the Backcountry Zone
- Keep bike trails at the north end of the park, not in the primitive southern portion (x2)
- Single track, historical trails should be accessible to all users, not just locals who are in the know
- Charlevoix to Traverse City Trail should follow an inland route, rather than a route though FISP near the lake (x2)

- Suggested trail route: Lake to Lake Trail from Bells Bay / 31 South along US-31 to Cedarview (south entrance) then down to Clipperview to Swanson Road connect to former Lakeshore Drive south of the Clipperview Subdivision
- Discourage horses on trails (x2)
- Develop single track hiking/mountain biking trail throughout the entire park, north to south (x2)
- Trail should be within the Backcountry zone (exact location TBD)
- Trails need to be maintained, as they are impassable in some areas. Engage citizens (“Adopt a Trail”) to help
- We need more Backcountry so horses can use a trail starting from the south end
- In favor of more land acquisition if it’s in an area where horses can be ridden

Management Zones

- Primitive
- Backcountry
- Natural Resource Recreation
- Developed Recreation
- Administrative
- Scenic Overlay
- Cultural Landscape Overlay



- Fisherman's Island State Park
- State Roads
- Road
- Route Under Study
- Rivers and Streams



Fisherman's Island State Park
Management Zones
 Norwood and Charlevoix Townships
 Charlevoix County, Michigan



Sources: Michigan DNR, Michigan Geographic Data Library
 Created October 8, 2015

Further study will determine if a non-motorized trail corridor through the park is appropriate as part of the regional trail proposal.

General Action Goals

Many of the 10-Year Action Goals for **Fisherman’s Island State Park** are general in nature and apply within all of the management zones. These often deal with park-wide issues, such as invasive species control, universal access, developing Stewardship, Wildlife and Emergency plans, or marketing the park’s many recreational opportunities to a wider audience of potential users. Many of the overall maintenance and operational issues of running a state park also result in the need for actions across all zone boundaries, such as law enforcement.

Natural Resources

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Create Phase I Natural Resource Stewardship Plan.	3-5 years	3
Implement invasive species control, with a strong emphasis on early detection and rapid response. Monitor roads, trails, and any new development sites for possible invasive species introductions.	Ongoing	11
Protect piping plover nesting areas during the breeding season.	Ongoing	8
Continue to follow the administrative regulations for the critical dunes protection.	Ongoing	8
Continue to protect the exemplary natural communities and legally protected species.	Ongoing	10
Complete the Michigan Forest Inventory cover type mapping for the park.	5-10 Years	2

Historic / Cultural Resources

Review all proposed ground disturbing activities for potential impact on historic/cultural resources.	Ongoing	6
Conduct a Phase I archeological survey of the park.	10 Years	3
Evaluate the condition and extent of known archeological sites.	5 Years	6
Develop and implement an education and enforcement plan for protecting cultural resources and artifacts to prevent damage/collecting.	1-2 Years	5
Develop a monitoring program for cultural resources.	1-2 years	2

Recreation Opportunities

Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/fishing/gathering/trapping/birding.	Ongoing	9
Work with regional partners to identify potential for connectivity to community trails beyond the park boundary.	Ongoing	9
Work with partners to evaluate and identify appropriate Lake Michigan Water Trail access and amenities.	Ongoing	5
Evaluate existing park trails for appropriate use.	1-3 Years	10
Study route options and analyze the impact of a non-motorized trail running through the park as part of the regional trail proposal.	1-2 Years	20

General Action Goals (continued)

Education / Interpretation Opportunities

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Develop an Interpretive Plan that considers a variety of traditional and new media, including audio and video technologies, podcasts, and other emerging technologies for interpretation opportunities.	TBD by state-wide priority	1
Implement the Interpretive Plan.	TBD by state-wide priority	
Implement strategies to include PRD field staff in interpretive programs.	1-2 Years	

Management

Resolve ownership and public access rights at south end of the park.	1-2 years	3
Evaluate and make recommendations for existing motor vehicle access and parking at south end of the park.	1-2 Years	8
Continue to explore strategic land acquisition within the park's project boundary.	Ongoing	9
Define park boundaries with appropriate markers.	5 Years	2

Development

Continue efforts to achieve greater visitor accessibility in all development opportunities.	Ongoing	
Identify and implement the recommendations to the existing access at the southern end of the park.	TBD by study	4

Primitive Zone

The Primitive Zone emphasizes the natural resources of the area. It is managed to allow only dispersed, low frequency and low impact recreational use in the zone. Maintaining a high quality natural resource condition dictates the extent to which recreational improvements are allowed. For this reason, native species and natural processes take precedence over visitor accommodation. The following 10-Year Action Goals propose only very low levels of development, in order to protect the important habitat. The Cultural Landscape and Scenic Overlays are used in recognition of cultural resources and the scenic lakefront.

Recreation Opportunities

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/fishing/gathering/trapping/birding.	Ongoing	6

Education / Interpretation Opportunities

Inform the public of the value of natural and cultural resources in the primitive areas.	Ongoing	7
Develop educational and interpretive signage for the cultural and natural features appropriate to the zone.	Ongoing	4

Management

Evaluate and make recommendations for trail crossings over Inwood and Whiskey Creeks.	1-2 Years	5
Continue to control illegal motor vehicle use.	Ongoing	25
Evaluate the need for land use order to control snowmobile use.	3 Years	11

Development

Implement the recommendations of the trail crossings evaluation for Inwood and Whiskey Creeks.	5-10 Years	4
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Backcountry Zone

This zone emphasizes resource quality, but allows for limited modification of the landscape to accommodate a moderate level of non-motorized recreational use. At Fisherman’s Island State Park, the Backcountry Zone follows the interdunal land forms and extends east to the park boundary. The Backcountry Zone also includes a portion of Whiskey Creek and other tributaries to Lake Michigan. The Cultural Landscape Overlay is overlaid in recognition of historic and cultural resources.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Since much of this land is not currently in state ownership, no actions specific to this zone are proposed at this time. Refer to General Action Goals.		

**Action Goals are developed by the Planning Team with input provided by stakeholders and the public. The following categories are used to help structure the development process:
Natural Resources, Historic/Cultural Resources, Recreation Opportunities, Education/Interpretation Opportunities, Management, and Development.**

Natural Resource Recreation Zone

Active recreation at a medium to high density of use conducted in a natural setting is the hallmark of the Natural Resource Recreation Zone. There is still an emphasis on resource quality over recreation, but in this zone higher levels of use are allowed. Vegetation may be managed to facilitate recreational use and maintain an aesthetically appealing landscape, as well as address such issues as hazard trees and to manage pests and disease. The 10-year Action Goals are intended to promote and enhance diverse recreation opportunities. The Cultural and Scenic Overlay are overlaid in recognition of historic and cultural resources and the scenic lakefront.

Education / Interpretation Opportunities

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Conduct an engineering study to identify techniques to repair drainage and driving surface deficiencies on park roads.	2-3 Years	8

Management

Evaluate alternative lodging in the park: additional campsites or hike-in campsites; yurts, camper cabins, and similar options.	5 Years	7
Evaluate potential for accessible campsites.	1-2 Years	1

Development

Improve campsites for accessibility compliance based on evaluation.	3-5 Years	
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Developed Recreation Zone

Active recreation with high density of use, conducted in areas not identified as having natural resource significance is characteristic of the Developed Recreation Zone. In this zone, recreation dominates with natural resource attributes enhanced where possible. An area north and west of Bells Bay Road has been identified as an area where a higher density of use may occur. Although few action goals have been identified for the upcoming 10-year planning period, the zoning allows for more intensive recreation development should it be deemed appropriate in the future. The Scenic Overlay runs along the shoreline of Lake Michigan.

Management

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Evaluate the need for a designated beach area.	5-10 years	2
Evaluate demand and feasibility of a dump and fill station.	5-10 years	4
Evaluate alternative lodging in the park – modern campsites, yurt and/or camper cabin.	5-10 years	1

Action Goals are developed by the Planning Team with input provided by stakeholders and the public. The following categories are used to help structure the development process:

Natural Resources, Historic/Cultural Resources, Recreation Opportunities, Education/Interpretation Opportunities, Management, and Development.

Administrative Zone

This zone encompasses the developed areas required for program administration, operations, and the business of running the state park. The Administrative zone at Fisherman’s Island includes the park contact station/office and service yard.

Management

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Continue to explore options for electronic/communication connectivity.	Ongoing	4

Development

Provide septic system and water for campground office.	3 Years	
Construct an equipment storage building.	3 Years	3
Provide modern bathroom/shower facilities for campers in the zone.	5-10 years	

Cultural Landscape Overlay

The Cultural Landscape Overlay addresses the overall setting in which is found not only historic structures, but all non-structural evidence of the traditions, beliefs, practices, life ways, arts, crafts and social institutions of any community. A Cultural Landscape Overlay has been applied over the majority of Fisherman’s Island State Park in recognition of the cultural resources known to be present in this area.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Refer to General Action Goals.		2

Scenic Overlay

The Scenic Overlay is applied to the entire Lake Michigan shoreline in recognition its scenic value. The priority in this overlay is to maintain the natural beauty of the lakeshore for quiet enjoyment.

Action Goals	Target Completion Date	Priority Stickers
Refer to General Action Goals.		4

Action Goals are developed by the Planning Team with input provided by stakeholders and the public. The following categories are used to help structure the development process:

Natural Resources, Historic/Cultural Resources, Recreation Opportunities, Education/Interpretation Opportunities, Management, and Development.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

E-mails and Letters Regarding the Fisherman's Island General Management Planning

As you can see from the photographs, the chert mine at the southern end of FISP is being destroyed. Additionally, DNR employees recently caught an individual involved in taking chert. The draft plan for the park that was presented at the Charlevoix Library on October 12, 2015 does nothing to protect this site. The proposed plan calls for the further use of the southern end of the park. Yet, there have been NO discussions with Norwood Township officials, members of the Clipperview Association and adjoining landowners.

The plan has NO recommendations to solve the increased dangers on Bell's Bay Road. This is an accident waiting to happen. St. Mary's is expanding their operation having recently obtained tax benefits for a proposed 150 million dollar expansion. This will bring increased truck traffic. Bikes, children, cars, walkers, campers and trucks do not mix well. There is NO attention paid to establishing a new entrance, mid park, that would separate these conflicting users.

I appreciate the two public meetings that have been held and also the hundreds of man hours that have been committed by DNR staff. I would hope that as the plan is developed that an effort would be made to meet with those who are most impacted by any plan that is developed, the citizens of Norwood Township.

Your conservation officer, Ms. Erratt, is put in an impossible position. With her county wide responsibilities she can't possibly monitor the activities at the south end. We "south enders" are impacted daily by those who use the park without park tags, use our township park at the expense of our township residents and have to deal with trespassers upon our property. We would welcome the opportunity to sit down with the management plan administrator, the district supervisor, the regional planner and other members of the planning team.

Thank you.

Bill Gnodtke



Regarding Fisherman's Island State Park Management Plan, Oct. 12, 2015

I am a regular (almost daily) user of the park for hiking, cross country skiing and mushroom hunting. The north entrance to the park has allowed my children and me to hike or ski after work. It provides an opportunity for exercise, and the serenity and beauty of being in a wild, natural area is a great antidote to the stress of daily life.

Please do not allow a land swap of Bells Bay Road and the northern portion of the park. This area is heavily wooded and provides an important buffer to the noise, dust and industrial activities of St. Mary's Cement. Portions of the cross-country ski trail and hiking trails would be lost, and losing this buffer of forest would damage the serenity and beauty of the remaining trails and shoreline. Important wildlife habitat would be lost.

As your report points out, people come to this park to enjoy the quiet and solitude of being in a rustic, undeveloped, wild natural area. The north end of the park provides easy access to students and working people in the city of Charlevoix for recreational activities of hiking, cross country skiing, running, mushroom hunting, etc. Losing Bells Bay access road to the park would make it harder for area residents to use the park.

If this forested area and road are allowed to be quarried, it will damage the beauty and serenity of the surrounding trails and lakeshore. No one wants to walk along a path or beach next to the noise, dust and destroyed landscape of heavy industrial activity. Please do not trade this area away for industrial development.

One last point – according to an email from Steve Debrabander, Finance and Operations Division of the MDNR, “The entire park became encumbered in 1975 when DNR’s Parks and Recreation Division received a LWCF grant (26-00590) to acquire 1,521 acres in another portion of the park. As stated in the LWCF manual, when funding is provided for acquisition in a park, the entire park becomes encumbered regardless of how it was acquired.”

Anne Zukowski

Dear Debbie,

There has been a lot of discussions about the proposed swap of fisherman's island park property to the existing cement plant. Although in the short run it may seem to be a good idea for the local economy, I think in the long term it is not a good idea.

The truth is, despite all the claims, that this is an aging cement plant with a serious raw materials problem. Swapping out more land for the mining pit could give it some extra life, but we are still talking about a relatively short time frame. If this was a small industrial town, the prospect of an aging plant shutting down could be catastrophic. But that is not the case in Charlevoix. This has always been a tourist town and its long term prospects will always be tourism. For us, the idea of trading away one of our largest tourism assets to keep the plant going does not make sense.

It also does not make sense for the DNR. As populations and demands grow everyone has to make plans for the future. This includes the DNR. Fifty or one hundred years from now there are going to be a lot more people who want to use the park system. With Young State Park at capacity, it seems the natural place for the DNR to expand in the future is the park you already own.

I hope you will consider the long term goals and the future of our community and the park system when considering the proposed swap.

Sincerely,

John Teesdale



St. Marys Cement, Inc. (U.S.)
Charlevoix Plant
P.O. Box 367
16000 Bells Bay Road
Charlevoix, MI 49720
Phone – 231-237-1322
Fax – 231-547-6202

October 15, 2015

Ms. Debbie Jensen
Park Management Plan Administrator
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Via Email

RE: Public Comment Period
Fisherman's Island State Park Management Plan

Ms. Jensen:

St. Marys Cement (St Marys) welcomes the opportunity to offer public comment on the Michigan DNR's Parks and Recreation Division's General Management Plan (GMP) for Fisherman's Island State Park (FISP).

St. Marys has owned and operated its Charlevoix Plant since 2005 when it purchased the previously established facility from CEMEX. Because of the proximity of this operation to FISP, St. Marys has an interest in the proposed GMP from DNR as part of its ongoing goal to balance local environmental matters with the plant's operations. St. Marys recognizes the importance of the Management Plan to ensure the long-term preservation of FISP and its natural resources, as well as the importance of FISP to the residents of northern Michigan. Bells Bay Road is the main corridor for entrance into the northern part of FISP, as well as our cement plant. St. Marys supports the bike trail and donated land to help bring the bike trail to the south side of Charlevoix. As you consider the long-term aspects of the bike trail, we ask that you consider the public safety issue with routing bikes down a road that serves as an industrial entrance into an operating cement plant. Large trucks travel this road daily and mixing recreational bicyclists, some who will be children, on this road causes us concern and merits thoughtful consideration by all parties involved. We believe the concept of a bicycle entrance to the south would serve the public and FISP better from a safety perspective without undermining the beauty and recreational benefits offered by FISP.

St. Marys remains committed to being a good neighbor for Charlevoix and FISP and looks forward to working with DNR in the future. If you have any further questions pertaining to our comment, please do not hesitate to contact me at (231) 237-1322.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Pryor
Operations Manager

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

Comments on the Fisherman's Island General Management Planning Website through October 23rd (6 Comments)

James Madole on September 21, 2015 at 4:10 pm

I recently enjoyed a week of tent camping at Fisherman's Island State Park. What a jewel of a place! My wife and I chose to go there because many of the so called rustic campgrounds in the Lower Peninsula are becoming something other than rustic. We enjoyed the lack of creature comforts at FISP! Please keep in mind that the unspoiled places are getting fewer and smaller. We need to preserve places like this. It's Michigan's heritage and one of the reasons I choose to live here. Very unclear from documentation released so far what you are planning. Please be transparent and keep us informed.

Emmaline Weidman on September 25, 2015 at 1:15 pm

I am against changing the entrance to Fisherman's Island State Park and the "land swap". I ski and hike the trails that are in place at along the road to the park entrance and believe any change proposed will desecrate what has been a safe haven for many animals and birds and a great recreation sight for area residents.

Anne Zukowski on October 12, 2015 at 3:03 pm

Please do not allow a land swap of Bells Bay Road and the northern portion of the park. This area is heavily wooded and provides an important buffer to the noise, dust and industrial activities of St. Mary's Cement. Portions of the cross-country ski trail and hiking trails would be lost. Losing this buffer of forest would damage the serenity and beauty of the remaining trails and shoreline. Important wildlife habitat would be lost. As your report points out, people come to this park to enjoy the quiet and solitude of being in a rustic, undeveloped, wild natural area. Please do not trade this area away for industrial development.

Pam Gnodtke on October 18, 2015 at 3:32 am

I live adjacent to the southern end of Fisherman's Island State Park (FISP) in Norwood Township. I have visited the park from the south end since 1970, now 45 years, and even before it was a park. I have

walked the old road bed as far north as Whiskey Creek and have also walked along the beach many times, a place of remote beauty, solitude, and history as referenced in your study.

I have driven down Bell's Bay Road to the northern entrance of the park a few times. I have not camped or hiked there, but went to see an owl released by Wings of Wonder and visited the cement plant. I am concerned about the increased volume of heavy truck traffic with the current expansion plans of St. Mary's Cement plant and the safety of those pulling campers and bike riders in the access road to an industrial area.

I was anxious to read the management plan to learn more about the total park. The document failed to show me a layout of the park and its trails, roads, campsites. I did not learn about needed facilities or expansion of use for campers. I did not learn about park conditions, challenges, or issues regarding visitors, safety, wildlife, accidents, trespassers, fires or other damage, personnel, budget. I did not learn about current park routes for bikes or other vehicles, although a lot of money was recently spent to bring a bike trail from Charlevoix to Bell's Bay Road. The Plan did not give the basic information or a Business Plan on which I might make informed suggestions or weigh alternatives. Instead there were opinions on why people like the park. Instead of a hearing, there was an open house where stickers and sticky notes were anonymously applied to posters.

I do know from my current location on the south end of the park that a number of people visit the park from this direction but do not necessarily pay admission or follow park rules. Over the last 45 years, the access road on the south end has gone from difficult but possible to drive in a passenger car to impassable for an automobile. I see and hear off-road vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, pickup trucks and jeeps continually "joy ride" down the former road, or the series of frog ponds that pass for a road. There are also people who enjoy the area by foot. In the winter snow-mobiles head through the park over my yard and in through the south entrance. End of the school year brings lots of high school students to the park area south end at night to have parties on the beach. Summer campfires along the lake and firework displays can be heard and seen. Camping also occurs on the south end. I have not seen it but what would stop horseback riding in the southern beach areas? None of these are supervised, registered or condoned activities but they go on.

In Norwood Township people also enter the park in the Clipperview subdivision by trespassing through private property to get in. I do not believe there are any park restroom facilities outside of the northern camping areas for use in the southern half of the park.

I am also aware that a regional bike trailway from Traverse City would eventually connect to the Charlevoix southern trail through the park. By allowing use and enjoyment of the park we must also insure that we protect and preserve the features and resources of the park. If it cannot be controlled and supervised like access at the north end, then it is important to limit access to only pedestrian traffic until such a time that park conservation officials have sufficient means and staffing to protect the park assets. This is particularly important in regard to protecting the cultural features which are not only vulnerable but some have been attacked and destroyed under the DNR's current stewardship.

All attempts to improve and utilize the existing road on the south end as a bike trail without sufficient personnel or plan to patrol would only escalate the use and abuse of this area. A bicycle trail along the lakeshore is in direct conflict with the previously summarized qualities that people enjoy about the park. If a trail is to be constructed through the park, I would encourage that it not be in the beach areas. If a bike rider wants to access beaches, there should be an entrance area for day use of the park that would not be in conflict with overnight campers in the park through an access point where bikes could be locked and left if riders wish to walk to beaches.

Clipperview Resident on October 20, 2015 at 3:49 am

I have camped in and used Fisherman's Island State Park many times since the late 1970s and own property adjacent to the park.

FISP only has staff on site part time during the peak season, little or no staff oversight of the South Section of FISP, and little or no oversight of FISP during the off season. Consequently, some visitors to FISP are aware of this situation and take advantage of it. Those of us that live adjacent FISP see the lack of controlled access to FISP and minimal park supervision regularly results in disregard for park rules by some visitors to FISP. There are a variety of old trails that provide entrance to the park for those who are familiar with the area and these trails.

The most egregious disregard for rules is in the South Section, where four wheel drive vehicles, ATVs, motorized dirt bikes and snow mobiles use the old road, the trails and beach areas for their activities. I have seen where the DNR has attempted to restrict access to beach areas by putting rocks and piling large mounds of dirt in areas they try to restrict, but it does little to stop this activity. They simply provide a more challenging environment as they drive around the rocks and over the dirt mounds.

I also have signs of unauthorized camping on the beach areas (remains of camp fires, litter and rubbish, tent equipment left behind and other discarded litter) especially in the South Section and in the southern area of the North Section of FISP.

Making improvements that encourage greater use of the South Section of FISP without better after hours and off peak season supervision, is a concern for those of us who live near the park. But, it also likely will have a negative impact on the general welfare of the South Section and its wildlife, if it becomes even more accessible or inviting to visitors who have little or no regard for park rules.

Bald eagles can be seen hunting along the beach of the south end and sometime along the southern beach area of the north end of FISP. The bald eagles are less visible when the park is busy from June through August and become visible once again after Labor Day. There are also coyotes, red fox and the occasional bobcat and black bear in the park.

Fallen Trees on the South Section of FISP north of Whiskey Creek

Another issue is the condition of the wooded area adjacent to the beach at the northern area of the South Section of FISP. An insect infestation killed off most of the mature balsam fir trees in a short period of time. There are hundreds of dead trees (many of them very large) many of which are regularly

knocked down by the high winds that come off the lake and cause collateral damage to other healthy pine and spruce trees. It concerns me and other residents near this area of FISP that these fallen and standing dead conifers have the potential to fuel a catastrophic forest fire, because there are so many of them and they are in an area that fire fighting equipment would not be able to reach.

Charlevoix to Traverse City Trail

Connecting the Charlevoix to Traverse City Trail through the North Section of FISP onward through the South Section, without controlled access and without increased park supervision, will invite more unlawful activity in the South Section. Although such a trail would seem to be attractive from a scenic and cyclist perspective, it raises concern, because it would make access easier and increase the opportunity for the types of unlawful behavior described in the first two paragraphs above. An improved trail with unrestricted access and limited or no supervision will make it easier for snowmobiles, ATVs and motorized dirt bikes, and “fat tire” pedal bikes to completely traverse FISP from one end to the other and make it easier for them to access restricted beach areas near and along the trail.

In addition, routing the Charlevoix to Traverse City Trail through the South Section of FISP, seems to be inconsistent with the proposed primitive designation of the South Section, and could have a negative impact on some of the more sensitive wildlife, such as the bald eagles that hunt along the South Section beach area.

If the trail were to traverse FISP, a less intrusive trail could be routed through the North Section of FISP along the existing park road south to the day use beach parking lot, exiting out through the existing foot trail at the beach parking lot that leads to Clipperview Road just east of Inwood Creek, and then route the trail along Clipperview Road back to U.S. 31.

Bob Ludwig on October 23, 2015 at 2:35 pm

I enjoy this park very much. I love the primitive nature of the park and believe a bike path in the park would detract from the primitive nature of the park. Hiking paths are more in keeping with the nature of this park. After reading the previous post it is apparent that the south end of the park needs more security to maintain and protect the primitive nature of the south end of the park.

I am totally against any land swap with St Mary’s Cement plant they are a blight on the area and pollute much of the City of Charlevoix air with dust and coal smoke and its mercury fall out. I am also concerned about their storage facility for coal ash and other pollutants and the potential for it to pollute ground water and the waters of lake Mi.

I am from out of state and I own a small second home on W Upright in Charlevoix and am surprised that St Marys is allowed to continue to pollute the air and ground with limestone dust, soot from burning coal and mercury that is released from the burning of coal. A switch to natural gas for their energy needs and capturing the limestone dust they create would be more than welcome. I understand that they are going to be updating their plant in the coming year in order to increase production unless the above

problems are addressed these pollutions problems will only increase. I am surprised that the local politicians both at the city, county and state level provide the cement plant with tax abatement in light of the pollution they cause. They are not a responsible corporate citizen based on their willingness to release pollution upon us all. If they fail to remediate their pollution problem then their tax abatements should be rescinded.

I see many signs regarding Not Fracking MI and closing the oil pipeline under lake MI yet this major polluter in plain sight is allowed to continue to pollute the air we breathe, the water we drink and ground we grow our food on for decades and everyone seems to be oblivious. It's past time to address this problem.



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 13, 2015

Contact: [Debbie Jensen](#), 517-284-6105 or [Ed Golder](#), 517-284-5815

DNR seeks public input on Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Plan

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources recently announced that it is seeking public input on a new General Management Plan to guide the future of [Fisherman's Island State Park](#), located in Charlevoix County. People are invited to share their opinions and ideas through an online survey, available through June 24 at www.surveymonkey.com/s/Fishermans_Island_State_Park.



The 2,678-acre park includes more than six miles of scenic Lake Michigan shoreline with 80 rustic campsites, a picnic area, foot trails and undeveloped land for hunting and wildlife observation.

The General Management Plan for Fisherman's Island State Park defines a long-range (10-20 years) planning and management strategy that will assist the DNR Parks and Recreation Division in meeting its responsibilities to 1) protect and preserve the site's natural and cultural resources, and 2) provide access to land- and water-based public recreation and educational opportunities.

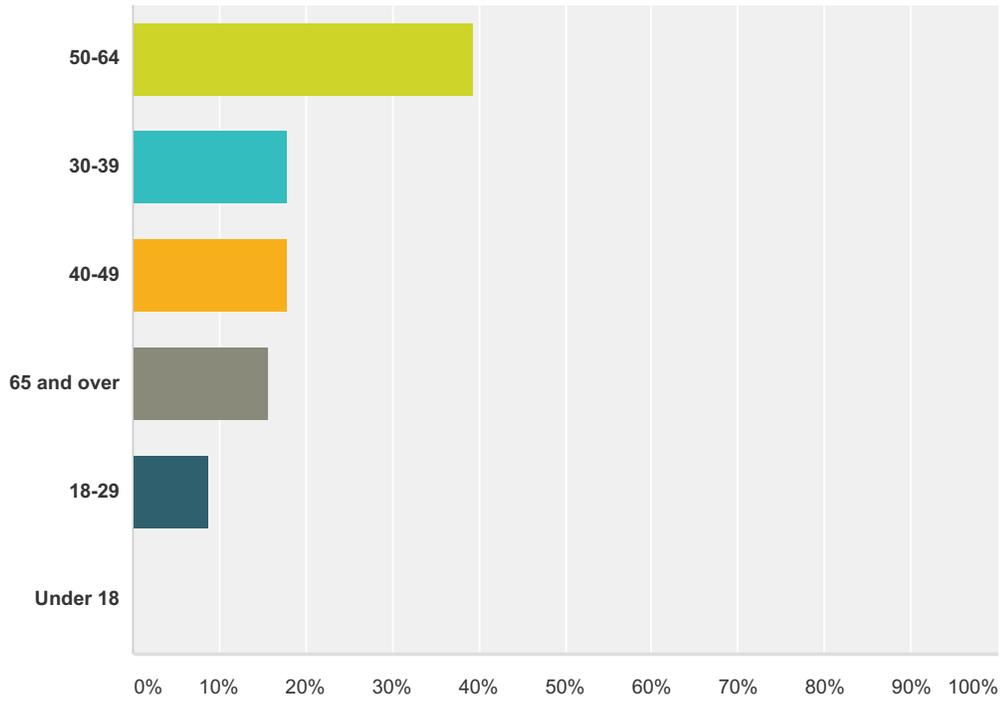
This survey is one of several opportunities for the public and stakeholders to be involved in the planning process. An informational meeting was held Nov. 3, 2014, introducing interested citizens to the planning process. The DNR also will host a public open house later this year, providing an opportunity for review and comment on the draft plan.

Additional information on the DNR's General Management Plan process is available at www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans.

For more information about the Fisherman's Island State Park survey or the proposed plan, contact DNR park management plan administrator Debbie Jensen at 517-284-6105 (TTY/TDD711 Michigan Relay Center for the hearing impaired) or via email at JensenD1@michigan.gov.

Q1 What is your age?

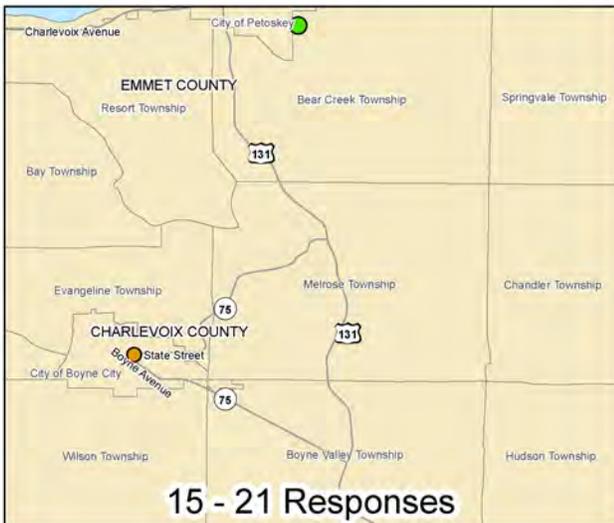
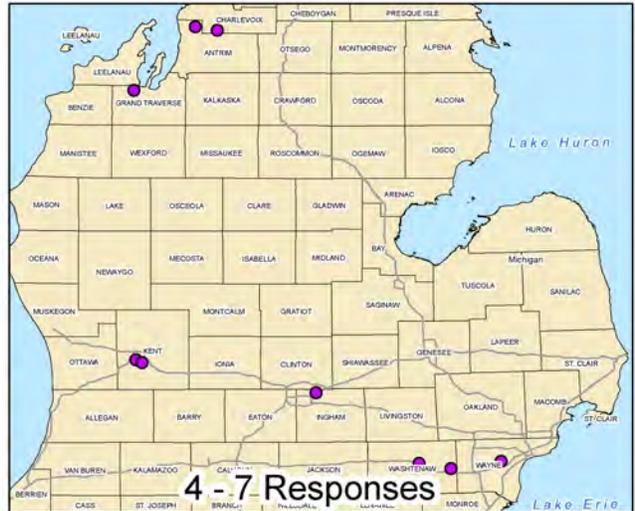
Answered: 400 Skipped: 7



Answer Choices	Responses
50-64	39.50% 158
30-39	18.00% 72
40-49	18.00% 72
65 and over	15.75% 63
18-29	8.75% 35
Under 18	0.00% 0
Total	400

Q2 What is the ZIP Code of your primary residence?

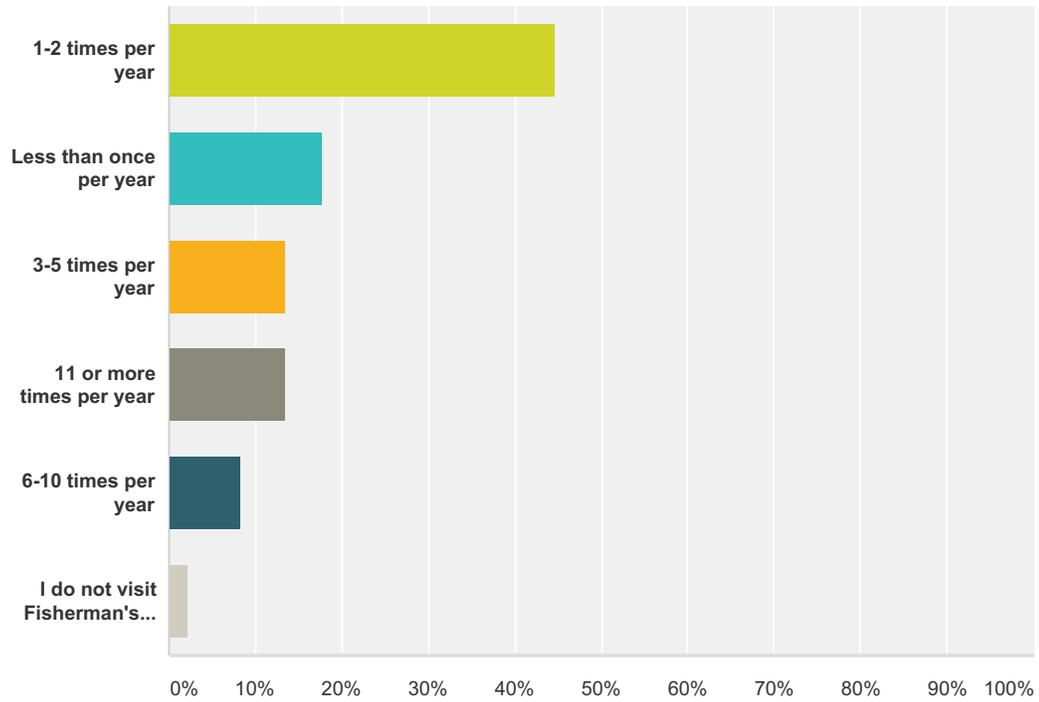
Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



- 1 - 3 Responses
- 4 - 7 Responses
- 15 Responses
- 21 Responses
- 80 Responses

Q3 How many times per year do you visit Fisherman's Island State Park?

Answered: 407 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
1-2 times per year	44.72%	182
Less than once per year	17.69%	72
3-5 times per year	13.51%	55
11 or more times per year	13.51%	55
6-10 times per year	8.35%	34
I do not visit Fisherman's Island	2.21%	9
Total		407

Fisherman's Island State Park

Q4 Why do you not visit Fisherman's Island State Park?

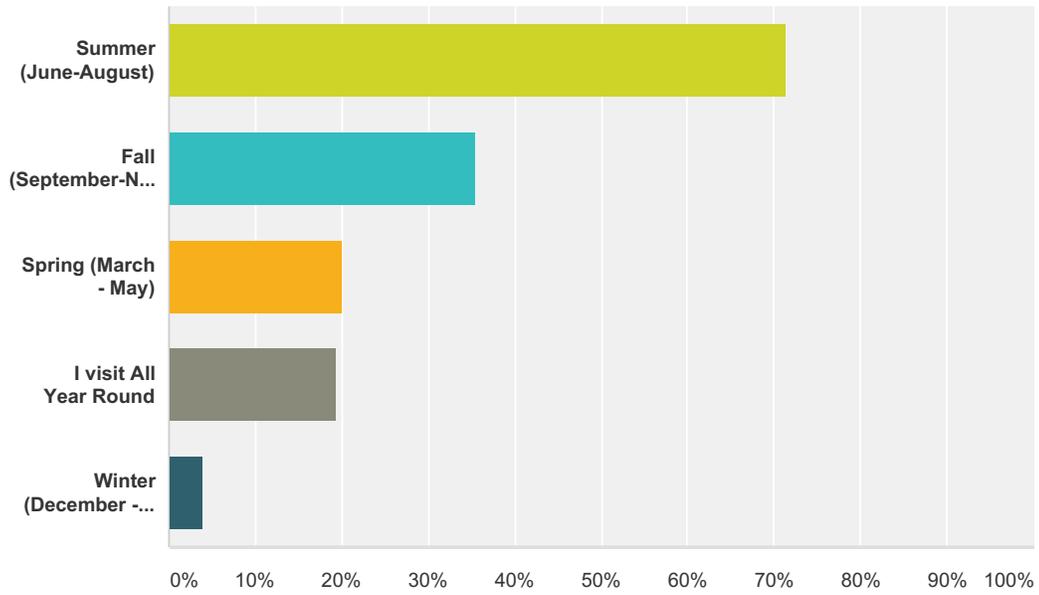
Answered: 8 Skipped: 399

#	Responses	Date
1	The last time I camped there, the pit toilets were full. The state was low on funds but no excuse for that. We camp at Newago State park and they are always cleaner. It was before Labor Day.	6/15/2015 10:17 AM
2	I don't find it to be a big draw. I moved here over ten years ago and never even realized there was a State Park there for at least a year. With little children there wasn't a draw to visit it with other more developed parks in the area. Also, the parking is confusing. It seems a person can enter this park without a state sticker. If we camp we need more amenities that FISP does not have.	6/9/2015 10:49 PM
3	I have been there once.	5/30/2015 5:49 AM
4	Haven't heard of it till now	5/28/2015 11:15 PM
5	did not know much about it until recently	5/21/2015 11:12 AM
6	No specific reason - I don't visit any of the parks that often	5/13/2015 2:15 PM
7	This is the first time I've heard of it and I would like to visit this summer.	5/13/2015 2:15 PM
8	Other State Parks are closer. Nothing unique enough about Fisherman's to make the commute	5/13/2015 1:21 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

Q5 During what season do you visit Fisherman's Island State Park?

Answered: 374 Skipped: 33

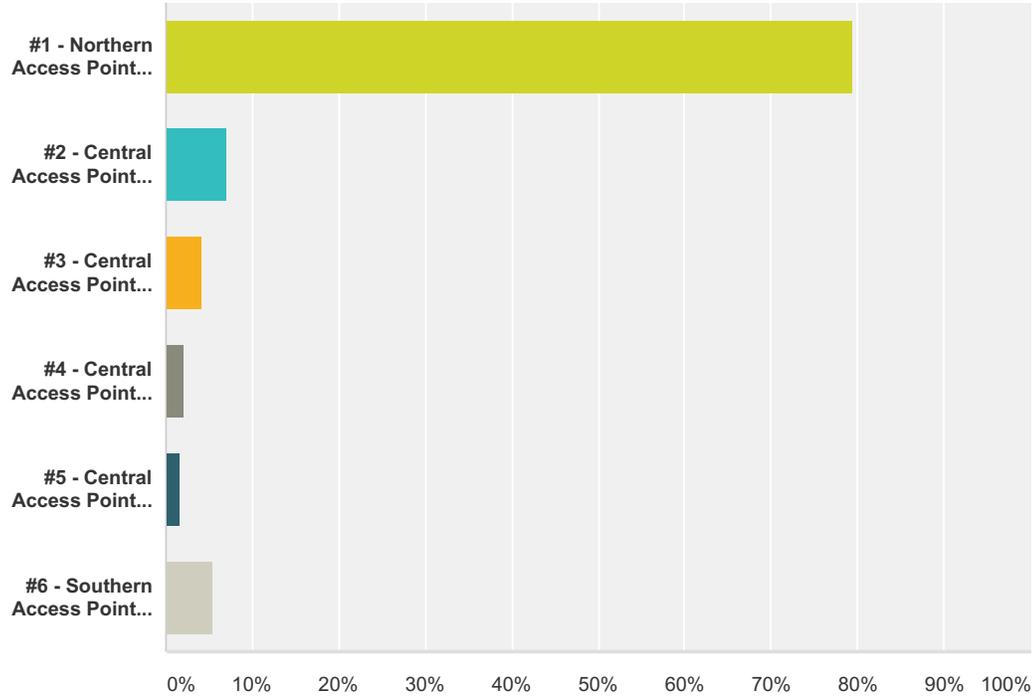


Answer Choices	Responses
Summer (June-August)	71.39% 267
Fall (September-November)	35.56% 133
Spring (March - May)	20.05% 75
I visit All Year Round	19.52% 73
Winter (December - February)	4.01% 15
Total Respondents: 374	

Fisherman's Island State Park

Q6 Referencing the map above, where do you typically access Fisherman's Island State Park?

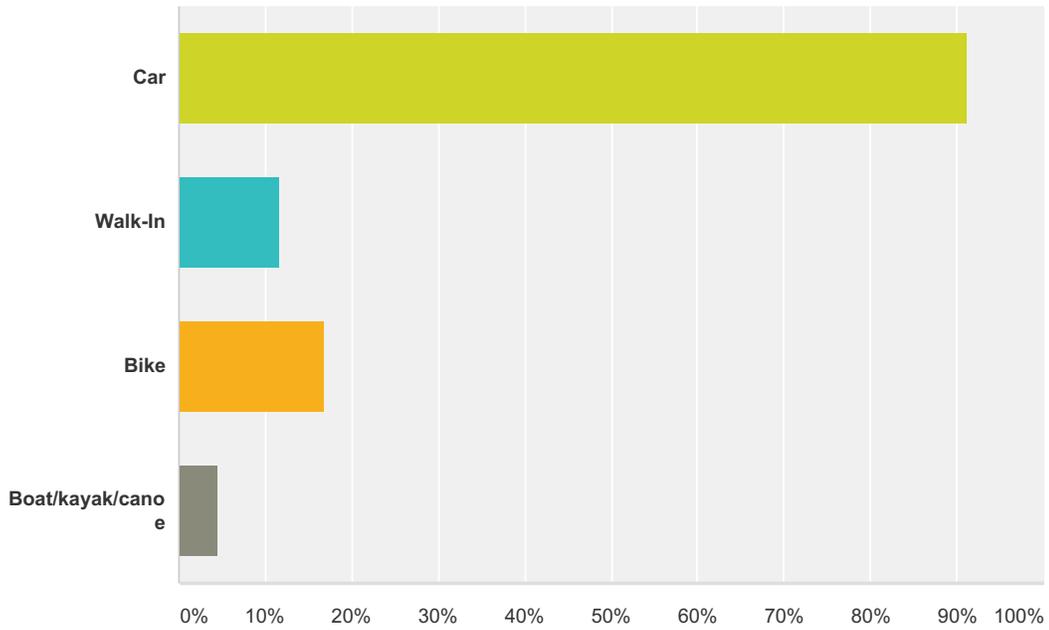
Answered: 375 Skipped: 32



Answer Choices	Responses
#1 - Northern Access Point: Bell's Bay Road	79.47% 298
#2 - Central Access Point: Clipperview Road	7.20% 27
#3 - Central Access Point: Lake Shore Drive (north portion)	4.27% 16
#4 - Central Access Point: Lake Shore Drive (middle portion)	2.13% 8
#5 - Central Access Point: Swanson Road	1.60% 6
#6 - Southern Access Point: Lake Shore Drive from Norwood Road (south portion)	5.33% 20
Total	375

Q7 How do you access Fisherman's Island State Park?

Answered: 374 Skipped: 33

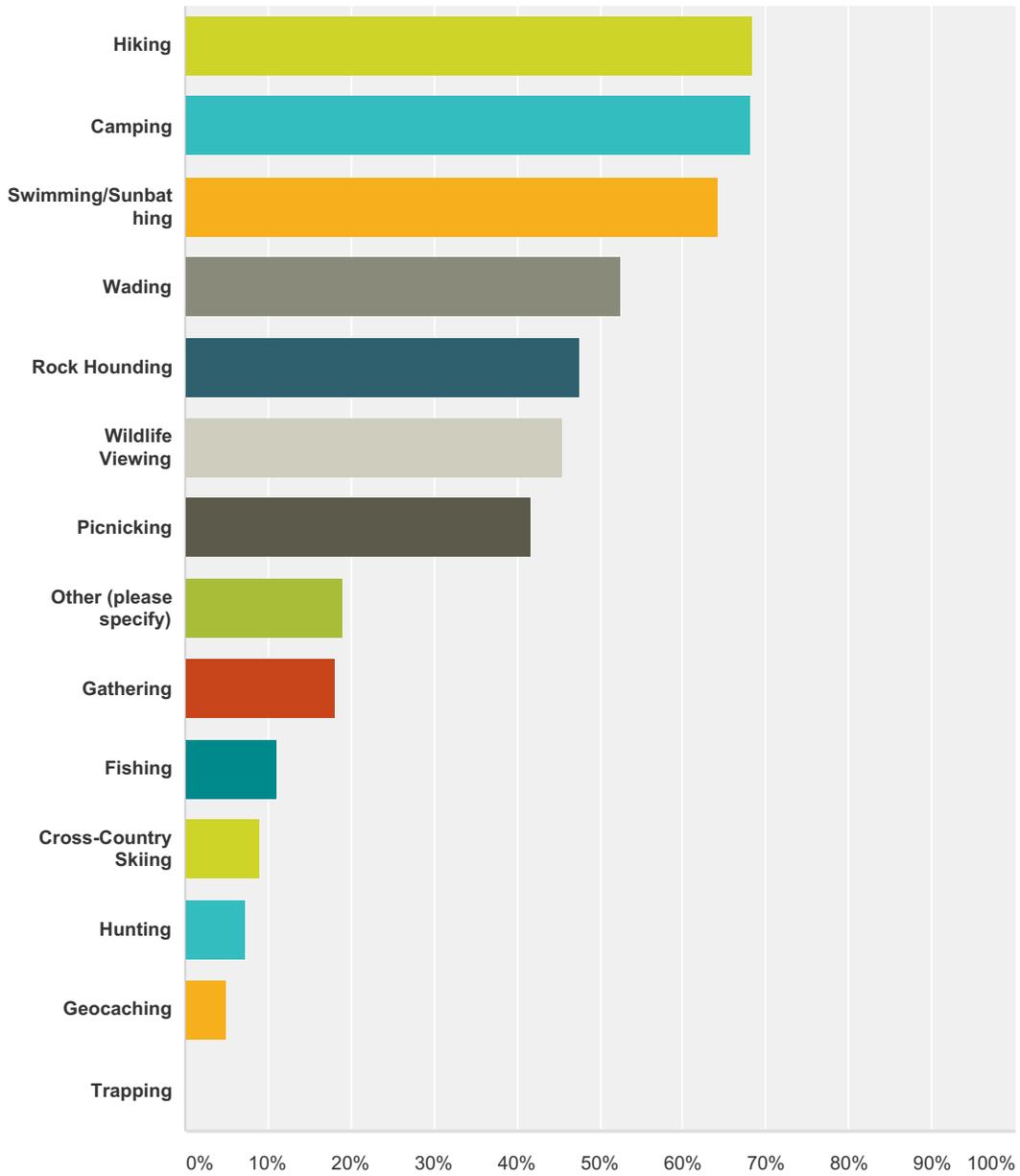


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Car	91.18%	341
Walk-In	11.76%	44
Bike	16.84%	63
Boat/kayak/canoe	4.55%	17
Total Respondents: 374		

Fisherman's Island State Park

Q8 What activities do you participate in at Fisherman's Island State Park?

Answered: 378 Skipped: 29



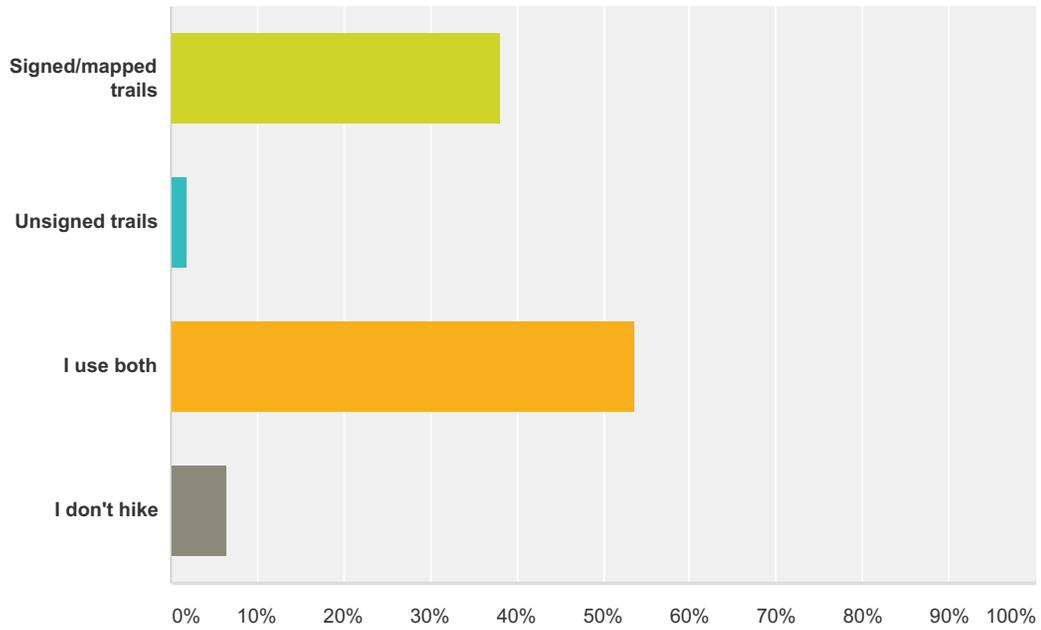
Answer Choices	Responses
Hiking	68.52% 259
Camping	68.25% 258
Swimming/Sunbathing	64.29% 243
Wading	52.65% 199
Rock Hounding	47.62% 180

Fisherman's Island State Park

Wildlife Viewing	45.50%	172
Picnicking	41.80%	158
Other (please specify)	19.05%	72
Gathering	18.25%	69
Fishing	11.11%	42
Cross-Country Skiing	8.99%	34
Hunting	7.41%	28
Geocaching	5.03%	19
Trapping	0.26%	1
Total Respondents: 378		

Q9 Which trails do you prefer to use in the Park?

Answered: 375 Skipped: 32

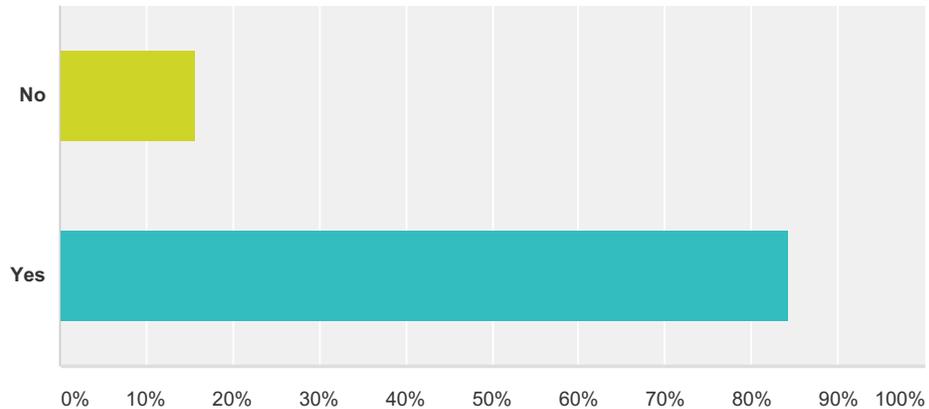


Answer Choices	Responses	
Signed/mapped trails	38.13%	143
Unsigned trails	1.87%	7
I use both	53.60%	201
I don't hike	6.40%	24
Total		375

Fisherman's Island State Park

Q10 There is a proposed regional trail initiative that would link Charlevoix to Traverse City and extend the Little Traverse Wheelway south. Would you support a portion of the nonmotorized pathway running through Fisherman's Island State Park?

Answered: 369 Skipped: 38



Answer Choices	Responses	
No	15.72%	58
Yes	84.28%	311
Total		369

#	Additional Comment:	Date
1	other people and myself have developed and maintained trails on the north part of the park with help from St. Marys and DNR for hiking and bikes. with the new trail coming from town it would be a great idea to secure a trail easement through St. Marys and down the length of the park. trail already exists to clipper view road and their used to be a road along the lake to Norwood so most of the work is done. you can keep the south of the park primitive and non motorized but you do need a parking lot or two and a decent trail to get into the park center, beautiful walk or ride along the lake.	6/22/2015 4:53 PM
2	And I would use it very often!	6/15/2015 7:57 AM
3	depends on how it is developed and the route	6/14/2015 3:27 PM
4	"Developing" the park beyond what it currently is will change the whole area in a negative way. The natural beauty of the park is its real attraction. Leave it as undeveloped as possible.. road upkeep... trails upkeep.. campsite maintenance...	6/14/2015 3:14 PM
5	We use the trail out of petosky state park and bay harbor area.	6/14/2015 8:35 AM
6	I believe the trail should be located on the east side of the park (east of the dunes and wetland areas or on St. Mary's Cement Company property) north of Witmere Road (perhaps parrellaling US-31 to Cedarview/Clipperview Road and then entering the southern portion of the park at the south end of Clipperview subdivision and then continue along the old Lakeshore Drive roadbed to the unincorporated Village of Norwood.	6/13/2015 8:19 PM
7	Good land use/scenic biking/ get more users into the park	6/11/2015 8:30 AM

Fisherman's Island State Park

8	I actually tried to "bike" from Norwood to Fisherman's Island Park along the shoreline area several years ago -- quite a challenge, including carrying my bike across Whiskey Creek! Still, a beautiful & rewarding day!	6/10/2015 10:25 PM
9	This sounds great!	6/7/2015 11:27 AM
10	Beautiful park, love the rustic nature of the area and camping sites. Nice to have a place to go that is not over developed.	6/3/2015 9:06 AM
11	Yes, but this is the first I've heard of this proposal, so would really like to know more before making this an unqualified "Yes."	6/2/2015 6:39 PM
12	The proposed trail should not run through the park, but should run along the Eastern edge of the property, providing access.	6/2/2015 5:31 PM
13	So long as it doesn't adversely affect hunting within the park	6/2/2015 2:32 PM
14	I would come camp there and utilize the day use area more often if there was a bike trail.	6/1/2015 5:08 PM
15	perfect much needed addition to allow better access and protect the scenic beauty	5/30/2015 8:34 AM
16	I would be more likely to access the park via a bike trail from Charlevoix	5/30/2015 6:46 AM
17	Absolutely. We look for places to vacation where we can rent bikes and do long rides to explore the region.	5/29/2015 7:05 PM
18	Even though the trail would run through the park it would be a wonderful addition to the Up North experience!	5/27/2015 8:10 AM
19	As long as it remains non-motorized. It is crucial to preserve this beautiful and peaceful place.	5/26/2015 2:41 PM
20	Sounds great.	5/26/2015 2:22 PM
21	I support a trail through the park but not if it goes up Bells Bay Road to get into the park!	5/26/2015 1:08 PM
22	I don't feel that the hard-core bikers want to go through a park where they are going to be running into campers and walkers.	5/25/2015 10:09 PM
23	Connecting the park to downtown with a dedicated path would increase visitation a lot.	5/25/2015 7:46 AM
24	I suggest the the trail might run along the eastern boundary of the park, with an access spur into the park at the current northern and southern access entry points.	5/23/2015 9:47 PM
25	This is a great idea	5/23/2015 7:45 PM
26	Any expansion of bike trails or connections is a positive for the cycling community.	5/22/2015 7:27 PM
27	Not sure as it depends on where the pathway would run. If it is through the campground, then no.	5/22/2015 4:23 PM
28	It would be amazing to connect Traverse City and Charlevoix. I am an avid cyclist both on road and off and a supporter of of our incredible Michigan trail system. Yes, Yes and Yes is my vote!!!!	5/21/2015 10:56 PM
29	But I would want to see details on how the park would be affected.	5/21/2015 7:06 PM
30	I feel limited access rather than a pass thru will preserve the natural quality and tranquility. I prefer it to be a lone destination rather than a nice pass thru.	5/21/2015 6:17 PM
31	It would be a fantastic addition to the park	5/19/2015 5:10 PM
32	Trails thru the park is a logical way to extend the use of the park for the enjoyment of the biking/hiking public.	5/19/2015 4:29 PM
33	Yes, this would be an exceptional addition to the park. I believe it would help more people use and enjoy the park.	5/19/2015 4:16 PM
34	Where would it go? It is a natural depending on the route it takes. How would it impact Norwood Township?	5/19/2015 10:35 AM
35	I would like the trails to be open to both mountain bike and fat tire bikes	5/19/2015 9:53 AM
36	Any non motorized connection would be greatly appreciated.	5/18/2015 6:17 PM
37	This would be a major improvement to the park, and provide a safer, more pleasant alternative to riding along US-31 which has high speeds and poor shoulders.	5/18/2015 5:32 PM
38	I believe this the trail would bring more people into and through the Park to promote what a lovely place this is. Conversely the Park would be an attraction for the Trail. This is just the type of shard use and collaboration that we need more of in our State with our Natural Resources.	5/18/2015 4:19 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

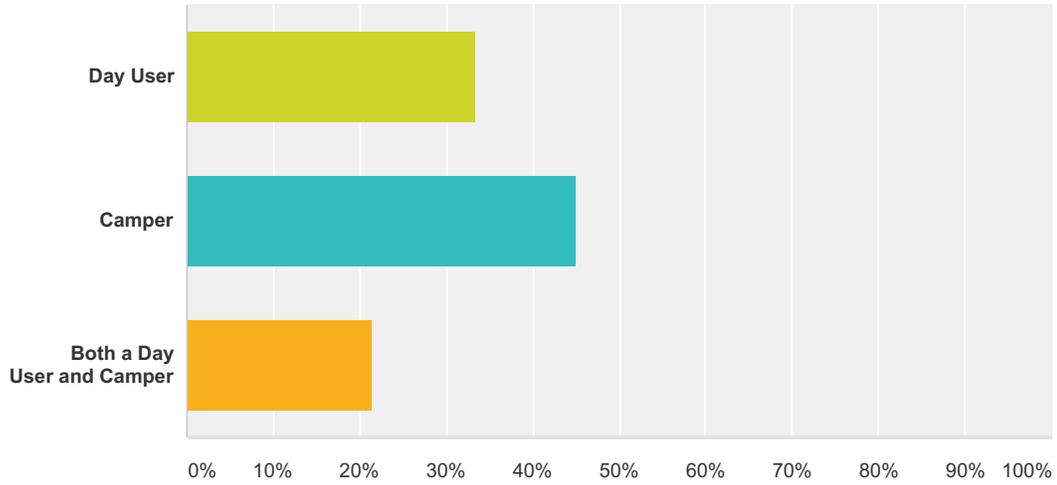
39	need to make sure you don't route bikes down Bells Bay Road due to use of that road for cement plant operations. Safety issues with bicycles using and crossing an industrial use roadway	5/18/2015 3:54 PM
40	If it could be done without major disruption to wildlife. This would be only concern.	5/18/2015 3:44 PM
41	I'd also support any single track mountain bike trails going through the park.	5/18/2015 3:12 PM
42	I think that would be wonderful	5/18/2015 3:12 PM
43	I like the nature and quiet in the park	5/18/2015 7:13 AM
44	It's perfect and quiet the way it is	5/17/2015 10:11 AM
45	Only if there is no damage to the existing park or encroachment on protected species areas.	5/16/2015 9:31 PM
46	Just as on the Wheelway North, bicyclists can access the park and water from current avenues. I do not think a bike path should run THROUGH campground areas and wild / natural areas. It is especially important to me for the south end of FISP to remain roadless and be protected as wild area.	5/16/2015 9:22 AM
47	We have always enjoyed the rustic nature if Fisherman's Island SP and would prefer to not have traffic through the park. It's bad enough with the public beach at the end of Bell's Road where people bring their dogs and let them run along the beach in the S.P. which is clearly against park regulations and which NOBODY EVER ENFORCES!	5/16/2015 7:35 AM
48	As long as non motorized and away from camp sites.	5/16/2015 7:26 AM
49	I will support this. I don't support the land swap with st. Mary's cement!!!! I love this park and would like to see it left alone. Don't let corporate greed blind you by the all mighty dollar please!	5/16/2015 6:23 AM
50	Unsure. Think the trailway is a wonderful idea, but would have to know the placement of trail through park and more about the ramifications it would have.	5/15/2015 10:00 PM
51	Not very familiar with the route, but it sounds like a good idea	5/15/2015 8:54 PM
52	Yes and no. I believe only natural surface single track trails for hiking and mt. Biking should be established in the park	5/15/2015 8:41 PM
53	I would come to the park a lot more often and consider camping there if there was a regional trail that linked me to Charlevoix and gave me other biking options for my family.	5/15/2015 4:09 PM
54	As long as it skirts the outside of the woods, or uses existing path/roadways. I wouldn't want to see any new route invasive to the park.	5/15/2015 1:03 PM
55	Absolutely!	5/15/2015 12:26 PM
56	dependent on where the trail would be in relation to the camp sites	5/14/2015 9:40 PM
57	I am a big user of the wheelway and generally support it's expansion. However, I have some reservations. Fisherman's Island SP has a very much a wilderness feel to it, and I would hate to see this compromised by the wheelway running through it. I think it would be much better for the wheelway to run near the inland edge of the park, far away from the beach and the camping areas.	5/14/2015 10:12 AM
58	These walkway trails lead to conflicts with hunters and disrupts wild game and other animals and birds in that area leave the park in in its natural state..	5/14/2015 9:22 AM
59	More bike connectivity would be awesome!	5/14/2015 9:16 AM
60	not along the shore line	5/14/2015 9:09 AM
61	More people would be exposed to this beautiful park. Right now it's a hidden gem.	5/13/2015 10:20 PM
62	Completely!!! We always ride that trail and lament how it is not connected for the safety of everyone!	5/13/2015 9:34 PM
63	It would be terrific to bike south to Eastport or Elk Rapids for the day.	5/13/2015 9:23 PM
64	I believe the increased amount of people traveling through the park with lessen the appeal of camping and relaxing there	5/13/2015 9:04 PM
65	Yes, if it does not run through the beachfront. And takes a path that disturbs the forest as little as possible.	5/13/2015 8:55 PM
66	Non motorized connection would give us a chance to bicycle Tito places outside the park from our camp site	5/13/2015 7:12 PM
67	Yes, definitely. Rode the Wheelway last year from Charlevoix to Petosky	5/13/2015 5:18 PM

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68	We enjoy the privacy and low traffic	5/13/2015 4:48 PM
69	Yes, please!	5/13/2015 4:01 PM
70	We would like that. As of now, there is no good biking trail in the park.	5/13/2015 3:17 PM
71	First visit was last year. We would appreciate having maps available at the access points. We really didn't know where to go to locate the beach areas or trails, or if we were still within the park.	5/13/2015 3:08 PM
72	As long as it doesn't disturb existing wetland or dune ecosystems.	5/13/2015 2:52 PM
73	Actually unsure....would like to keep this area less populated. We started camping there when this was Belle's Bay State Forest	5/13/2015 2:46 PM
74	I bicycle a lot and would find that a wonderful addition	5/13/2015 2:44 PM
75	I Feel trails should be accessible to all, be it hikers, equestrian or motorized orvs.	5/13/2015 2:43 PM
76	I love this site because of how quiet and rustic it is. More traffic, less appeal.	5/13/2015 2:41 PM
77	As long as it is not right along the beach	5/13/2015 2:31 PM
78	My response depends upon the location of the proposed pathway. I would not want to see the lakeside campsites eliminated, so I would be in favor of a pathway that runs inland from the shore. I am very supportive of nonmotorized pathways. My family enjoyed biking on the Little Traverse Wheelway north of Charlevoix last summer.	5/13/2015 2:29 PM
79	This is an amazing idea. We drive to Traverse City every time we go to Fishermans as it is.	5/13/2015 2:22 PM
80	Not sure what this survey is looking for. We, my family and I, use the campground for several reasons, several times a year. We used to come more whn I was a child but alas life gets in the way. My family has been making use of the park for several generations And hope to continue to do so for many more to come.	5/13/2015 2:20 PM
81	Actually that's a maybe. I'd like more information about how many people would hike this trail and how close is the trail to campsites.	5/13/2015 1:47 PM
82	But not close to the campsites	5/13/2015 1:36 PM
83	I prefer the rustic and remote nature of the park.	5/13/2015 1:32 PM
84	I have ridden that path a lot and dislike that I have to drive into Charlevoix to start out on it. It would be great to be able to get to it from the park on my bike.	5/13/2015 1:30 PM
85	One of the main reasons my family likes Fisherman's Island State Park is because it is off the beaten path (so to speak). We like that there are not many people there. I fear that by connecting it to Charlevoix and Traverse City many more people would stay there, making it more difficult to to have a relaxing vacation away.	5/13/2015 1:28 PM
86	yes yes yes!!!	5/13/2015 1:27 PM

Q12 Do you typically visit Fisherman's Island State Park as a day user or as a camper?

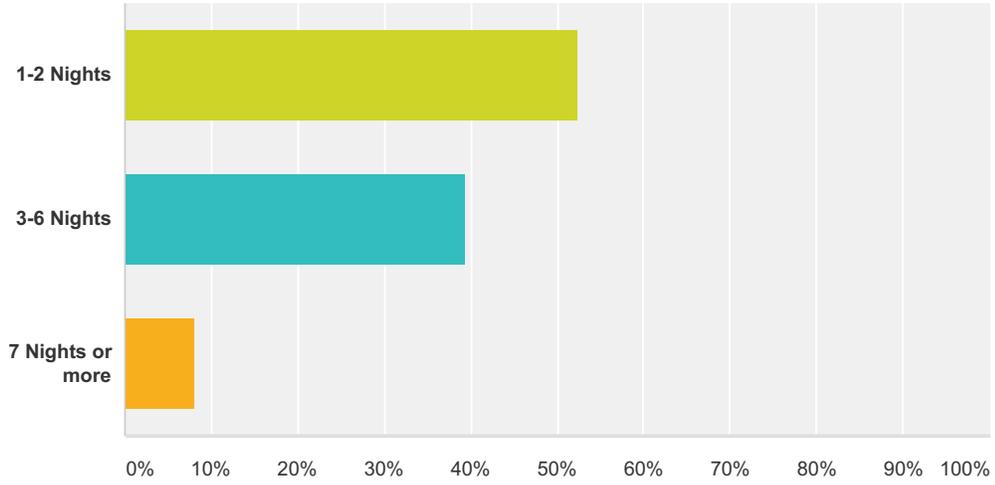
Answered: 372 Skipped: 35



Answer Choices	Responses
Day User	33.33% 124
Camper	45.16% 168
Both a Day User and Camper	21.51% 80
Total	372

Q13 As a Camper, what is your typical length of your stay?

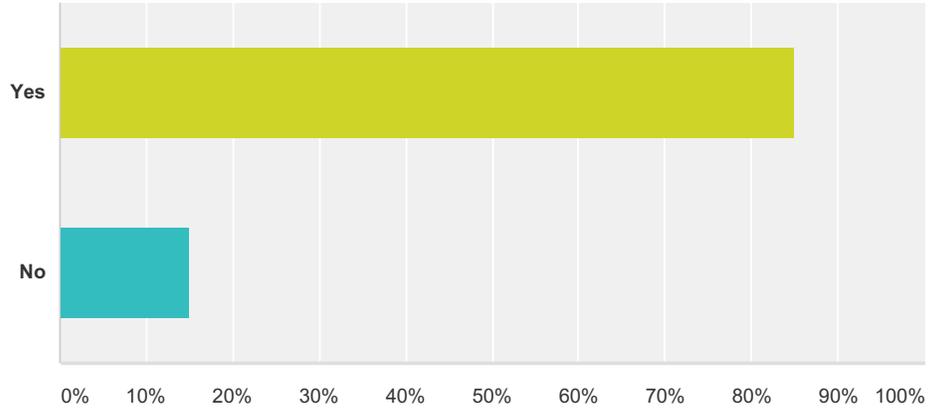
Answered: 286 Skipped: 121



Answer Choices	Responses
1-2 Nights	52.45% 150
3-6 Nights	39.51% 113
7 Nights or more	8.04% 23
Total	286

Q14 When you camp at Fisherman's Island State Park, do you visit other places outside the park?

Answered: 301 Skipped: 106



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	85.05% 256
No	14.95% 45
Total	301

Q15 While camping at Fisherman's Island State Park, what two area attractions/businesses do you visit most frequently?

Answered: 240 Skipped: 167

Destination 1

Attraction	# of Responses	% of Responses
Downtown Charlevoix (general)	98	41.4%
Charlevoix – specific store/restaurant	61	25.7%
Lakes/boating/marina	22	9.3%
Other towns (Traverse City, Petoskey, Mackinac etc.)	16	7%
Little Traverse Wheelway/ bike trails	6	2.5%
Other	34	14%

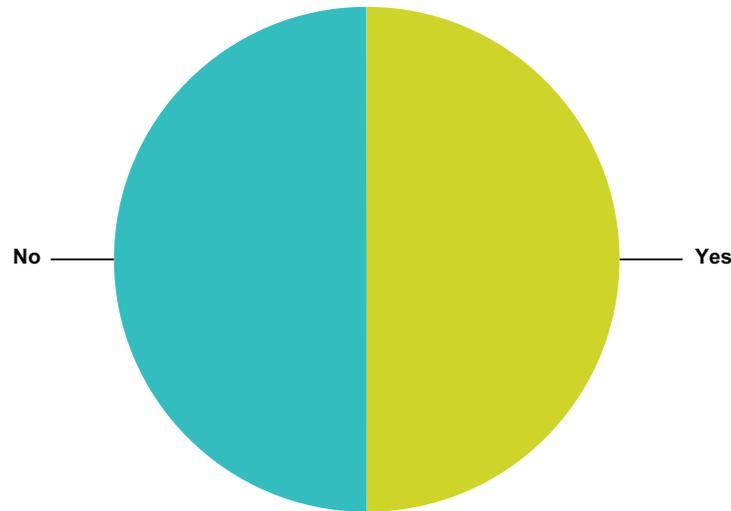
Destination 2

Attraction	# of Responses	% of Responses
Area shops	41	20%
Other towns (Petoskey, Boyne City, etc.)	35	17.7%
Area restaurants/breweries	27	13.6%
Lakes/ marina/pier	27	13.6%
Downtown Charlevoix (general)	15	7.6%
Other parks/ trails	14	7%
Other	39	19.7%

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Q16 Would you like to see any changes to Fisherman's Island State Park?

Answered: 356 Skipped: 51



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	50.00% 178
No	50.00% 178
Total	356

#	If Yes, list suggestions below.	Date
1	Easier access for the south entrance	6/23/2015 7:57 AM
2	improve the north part of the park camping facility's so their is at least showers. put the entrance to the park by clipper view in the center of the park. put a bike trail through the length of the park to Norwood. secure a bike path through St. Marys connected to the new trail from town. keep the south part of the park primitive as possible but you need a few parking lots and trails so people know where it is and can get around.	6/22/2015 5:10 PM
3	general upgrades	6/17/2015 12:20 PM
4	I would love to see an artist's residency program, or an artist program of some kind. Perhaps it could be managed in collaboration with Artists North or another arts organization in Charlevoix area.	6/15/2015 7:59 AM
5	protection of prehistoric resources which are now being pillaged by visitors	6/14/2015 3:36 PM
6	Nicer road all the way back	6/14/2015 8:37 AM
7	Better mapping of hiking trails or add more hiking trails. It's a beautiful place by the lake and very secluded. Love the park!	6/14/2015 1:08 AM
8	move entrance further south but do not attempt to convert to a RV Campground as has happened to other campgrounds such as US govt. campground at Peterson Bridge Campground aon Pine River.	6/13/2015 8:24 PM
9	Imrove gravel roads	6/13/2015 2:58 PM
10	Firewood inside park for sale.	6/12/2015 11:11 AM
11	I am a supporter of the land swap with St. Mary's Cement Company and the improvements it would bring to road, entrance, and ranger station	6/11/2015 8:32 AM
12	Bike trail access from the South -- all the way from my home near Elk Rapids, actually!	6/10/2015 10:28 PM

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13	slight road improvement	6/8/2015 8:03 AM
14	improve roads	6/7/2015 5:49 PM
15	Have the entrance at the middle of the park. Possable add elect to the sites.	6/7/2015 2:22 PM
16	dredging of some bay rocks so there is better swimming	6/5/2015 9:47 PM
17	Less campsites, expanded park size.	6/2/2015 5:35 PM
18	Southern entrance and some area that would be modern. Perhaps showers	6/2/2015 12:12 PM
19	Better access to the day use areas. Better access to the southern part of the park which has great beaches but no access.	6/1/2015 5:10 PM
20	Bike trails and connector pathway to TC	5/31/2015 8:26 AM
21	better non-motorized access and route in the park to be close to the water	5/30/2015 8:39 AM
22	non-motorized trail added	5/29/2015 10:32 PM
23	Trail connection	5/29/2015 8:33 PM
24	Even more bike accessible	5/29/2015 7:08 PM
25	The trail going the park	5/29/2015 12:00 PM
26	more waterfront campsites	5/26/2015 2:58 PM
27	More or marked hiking trails.	5/26/2015 2:53 PM
28	Trail to Traverse City	5/26/2015 2:25 PM
29	DIFFERENT ENTRANCE POINT, showers, wifi, PLAYGROUND FOR KIDS - this is Charlevoix let's make FISP a destination!!	5/26/2015 1:09 PM
30	New entrance to the south, get rid of the North entrance. Add showers and internet access.	5/26/2015 11:50 AM
31	I think that the welcome station at the north entrance could use some work. It looks very outdated and unprofessional. I think Fisherman's Island should be part of the Pure Michigan Campaign! The north entrance to the park is dangerous because of the heavy truck traffic. When driving to the park on Bells Bay Rd. once I almost saw a little kid riding his bike ride very close to the trucks and it was concerning to me. I think that the entrance to the park would be better suited away from the, in my opinion, dangerous truck traffic. The north end of the beach at the end of the entrance is beautiful, but not worth the safety of everyone entering the park especially on foot or via a bike with the traffic.	5/26/2015 11:44 AM
32	Improved habitat for upland birds	5/26/2015 9:25 AM
33	Better trail system.	5/25/2015 9:05 PM
34	the addition of a multi-use trail connecting to the downtown along the lake shore.	5/25/2015 7:51 AM
35	Increased trail and road maintenance	5/24/2015 9:44 AM
36	Keep St Mary's Cement away from making changes. They are a polluter (air and noise)!	5/24/2015 8:56 AM
37	groomed fat tire bike trails	5/24/2015 8:41 AM
38	Add electricity	5/23/2015 10:53 PM
39	I'd like to change the perception that things can be improved by changing them or making them more accessible to people who want to change them	5/23/2015 9:50 PM
40	bike path	5/23/2015 7:47 PM
41	Bike friendlier, in all seasons	5/23/2015 4:35 PM
42	Maybe a section of modern campsites Playgrounds/things for kids to play on	5/23/2015 4:26 PM
43	More mountain bike friendly signage and accessibility, and an expanded trail network!	5/22/2015 7:32 PM
44	A bike trail!	5/21/2015 10:58 PM
45	Showers	5/21/2015 10:15 PM
46	I would likely support having some sites furnished with power and water for trailers and construction of some shower facilites but large areas should be preserved wild and rustic.	5/21/2015 7:10 PM
47	get the dnr out and return to local management as in Bell's Bat days	5/21/2015 6:20 PM

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48	Biking is the largest growing industry and brings a lot of people and money to towns. Build sustainable mountain bike trails and you'll get people riding them.	5/21/2015 4:14 PM
49	Nothing specific, I just want to see it keep being a great natural place to visit by keeping it well maintained and not crowded out by big companies or developments.	5/21/2015 1:07 PM
50	Not really changes as much as I would like to see the DNR work with St. Marys Cement so we can continue to have BOTH	5/21/2015 12:20 PM
51	more trails for hiking that are removed from the campground area. A covered picnic pavilion would be nice. Structures for camping in the winter like at Wilderness State Park.	5/21/2015 12:03 PM
52	More access for mountain bikes	5/21/2015 9:22 AM
53	Mountain bike trails	5/20/2015 7:02 PM
54	Don't trade any of the land to the St. Mary's cement plant.	5/20/2015 10:00 AM
55	Bike trails	5/20/2015 9:10 AM
56	A bike trail.	5/20/2015 7:42 AM
57	Improved bathroom facilities	5/20/2015 6:41 AM
58	Dump station for trailers, paved road to the south end with bike lane, Rangers on duty longer hours	5/19/2015 9:02 PM
59	More access to cycling. Open trails to bikes.	5/19/2015 8:20 PM
60	Open up to mountain bike trails	5/19/2015 7:59 PM
61	more campsites, easier access to the other end of the park	5/19/2015 5:12 PM
62	Some updated facilities. And the non-motorized trail.	5/19/2015 4:18 PM
63	Increase mountain bike trails/access. Great area to ride bike.	5/19/2015 12:25 PM
64	Allowing mountain bikes on trails	5/19/2015 12:04 PM
65	I live very close to the Swanson Rd Access. There are 2 trails that are already in place that go all the way to Whiskey Creek. One starts near Swanson Rd. and the other starts off Lake Shore Dr. I've mountain biked these trails many times, and I've only crossed paths with other people using this trails a couple times. This is an awesome trail and beautiful area that nobody really knows about. There's a couple wet spots where small bridges could be placed, and a bridge over Whiskey Creek would really help open up this area of the park. This could become an excellent spot to hike and mountain bike near Charlevoix. It could also be linked up with the trails at the park that currently don't allow bikes. All trails in the park should be open to bikes. There are many trails in the area that are multi-purpose with very few issues (Glacial Hills, North Country Trail, etc.) The DNR could contact TOMMBA and see if they would have an interest in helping maintain or build new trails in the Fisherman's Island Park.	5/19/2015 11:20 AM
66	Develop it. Right now it is under developed, under utilized and not considered as an asset by the DNR. To have all that acreage and over five miles of water front with only 80 camp sites and 16 of them on the water is a joke. Look for partners to help develop the park. Involve Norwood Township officials. Most of the land in the park is in Norwood Township. If trails are developed, most of the trail will be in Norwood Township.	5/19/2015 10:50 AM
67	More biking trails, both paved and single track.	5/19/2015 10:39 AM
68	Remove the bike restrictions from the south trails. It's open to horses and you can plainly see the trail erosion they have caused.	5/19/2015 10:11 AM
69	use of bike on all trails	5/19/2015 9:54 AM
70	Access to existing trails for mountain biking and adding additional trails	5/19/2015 9:36 AM
71	More trails	5/18/2015 6:19 PM
72	Off road bike access safe for families with kids away from vehicle traffic.	5/18/2015 5:57 PM
73	1 - A continuous, signed, multi-use/bike path from top to bottom with a safe connection to downtown Charlevoix. 2 - A mountain bike trail	5/18/2015 5:36 PM
74	Yes, carefully bring the trail through, exhibiting some of the beauty of the park and keep the rest unchanged.	5/18/2015 4:23 PM
75	More tent camping areas and a kids play area built of natural materials.	5/18/2015 4:17 PM
76	They need a new entrance - preferably at the southern part.	5/18/2015 3:17 PM

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77	single track mountain bike trails connecting to the state land at the end of the road at access point 6 and further south. I would love to be able to camp and do some riding from the park and be able to return to the park.	5/18/2015 3:16 PM
78	I would like to see a Non-motorized trail connecting the Park to the Little Traverse Wheelway and Atwood	5/18/2015 3:15 PM
79	Please do not trade the north end of the park to St. Mary's Cement. The woods act as a buffer between cement plant operations and the trails and beach. If the woods are sacrificed to cement plant operations, the entire north end of the park will be degraded and destroyed. The north entrance is close to Charlevoix (an urban center) and allows working people and students easy access to the park. Please keep the park intact.	5/18/2015 2:38 PM
80	We enjoy hiking / backpacking, so more trails would be great.	5/18/2015 11:16 AM
81	nicer bathrooms	5/18/2015 7:16 AM
82	Assure limited development, protect lands from sell or stupid trades or use for mineral development. Protect historic Native American sites.	5/18/2015 6:43 AM
83	More hiking trails	5/17/2015 7:59 PM
84	I would like to see it protected from St Mary's Land Swap and future business influences	5/17/2015 4:45 PM
85	Playground	5/17/2015 10:08 AM
86	Updated camping facilities	5/17/2015 9:22 AM
87	Do everything possible to preserve this Northern Michigan Treasure, as is, for the public use	5/17/2015 2:00 AM
88	stay environmentally protected	5/16/2015 9:38 PM
89	Electric hook up/ showers/flush toilets	5/16/2015 8:01 PM
90	dumpsite, more lovely private sites on the water, the best place in michigan to spend time on lake michigan, if you can't afford to by a place.	5/16/2015 10:19 AM
91	I would like to see the South closed to motor vehicles. The road to the picnic area (Inwood Creek) could be improved, but NOT TOO MUCH! Speed bumps, gravel, so cars do not go fast.	5/16/2015 9:32 AM
92	Upgraded bathroom facilities would be much appreciated. This could be as simple as a modernized restroom with composting toilets, mirror, and hand sanitizer. Full bath house with showers would also be nice. We don't generally stay more than 2-3 days because we're all ready for showers at that point. However, we would MUCH RATHER keep the park the way it is than trade away land to St. Mary's just to add hot showers.	5/16/2015 9:01 AM
93	I would like to see signs posted along the beach near Bell's Road stating that the State Park prohibits animals on its beaches and I would like to see that regulation enforced.	5/16/2015 7:43 AM
94	DO NOT TRADE ANY PORTION OF THIS PARK TO THE CEMENT PLANT OR ANYONE ELSE!!!!!!!!!!	5/16/2015 12:50 AM
95	better preservation	5/15/2015 10:04 PM
96	Road paved all the way too the end.	5/15/2015 9:30 PM
97	Allow dogs on a larger (but still reasonable) section of the beach.	5/15/2015 8:57 PM
98	Upgrades to existing infrastructure and facilities without compromising the charm of the park as is now.	5/15/2015 8:46 PM
99	Outhouses were very stinky, like no one was taking care of it.	5/15/2015 6:01 PM
100	Electricity and bathrooms for camping	5/15/2015 5:16 PM
101	Improve the road or make a bike trail to access the day use area by bike.	5/15/2015 4:12 PM
102	Plumbing!	5/15/2015 2:52 PM
103	Please keep it clean & quiet. The day we arrived there were the most beautiful horses running along the beach. I guessing this would be a favorite place for equestrian campers & unique experience for day-use visitors also. Good luck in future.	5/15/2015 2:48 PM
104	Regional trail connection.	5/15/2015 12:27 PM
105	Electricity added to campsites, also Bathrooms with showers added..	5/15/2015 10:44 AM
106	Improve primary access roads	5/15/2015 9:12 AM
107	Pave road all the way	5/15/2015 7:15 AM
108	Bike way North and south	5/15/2015 7:05 AM

Fisherman's Island State Park

109	reduction in poison ivy. Tried to camp there with my dogs years ago and the poison ivy was really bad so I had to leave. I can avoid it, but the won't and then will get it on to me.	5/14/2015 9:44 PM
110	Clean up the beaches The cement plant humming is irritating put up more osprey nests the water sites are deteriorating	5/14/2015 7:37 PM
111	Hike in campsite(s) for backpackers.	5/14/2015 6:15 PM
112	Complete the land swap with st Marys cement. It looks like a win for the state, st Marys, and the citizens of Michigan.	5/14/2015 5:30 PM
113	Less assholes walking dogs during the hunting season.	5/14/2015 5:26 PM
114	Someone making rounds at night. We had to drive home to sleep when we tried to camp, due to some unruly people camping near us who were up late partying.	5/14/2015 3:59 PM
115	More water spigots	5/14/2015 12:59 PM
116	Electricity for camping	5/14/2015 11:34 AM
117	1 or 2 small streams run over the road that runs through the north end of the park. I would like to see a culvert installed or a small bridge put in at these points to protect both the road and the streams. There are also invasive species in the park. I know the invasive phragmites was sprayed last year, and it is important to continue that work. While hiking to the N campground, I noticed invasive honeysuckles, and I pulled a 2 square yard patch of garlic mustard along the trail.	5/14/2015 10:20 AM
118	Shower facilities	5/14/2015 9:29 AM
119	Mountainbike friendly multi use trails expanded.	5/14/2015 9:17 AM
120	Showers Dump station	5/14/2015 9:14 AM
121	Better way to access campsites that are shown reserved, but are. never occupied. Some are prime spots that don't get used for whatever reason.	5/14/2015 8:12 AM
122	Boat dock improvement	5/14/2015 7:50 AM
123	I like the park as-is, rustic and natural	5/14/2015 7:21 AM
124	It probably can't be helped, but the biting flies were extreme in our site last year!	5/14/2015 12:03 AM
125	Better bathroom facilities	5/13/2015 10:23 PM
126	Mosquitoes make it hard to camp. Perhaps some insect control.	5/13/2015 9:58 PM
127	I would like the beach areas to remain phragmites free so the sand beaches in the area of the peninsula return to their former beauty.	5/13/2015 9:53 PM
128	At least one flush toilet as I am Over 65. Clean up Shoreline so we can swim at beach area. More beach sites and larger sites at back loops. Treat road to back sites to reduce dust.	5/13/2015 9:52 PM
129	Possibly more lakeside camp sites but not if it would crowd the existing ones.	5/13/2015 9:48 PM
130	Wife wants a shower. Keep it rustic!!! Free passes to the Charlevoix pool for shower use.	5/13/2015 9:36 PM
131	more options for recycling so that we don't have to haul everything home	5/13/2015 9:25 PM
132	I can no longer handle camping w/out electricity and flush toilets w/showers.	5/13/2015 9:20 PM
133	Better bathrooms	5/13/2015 9:06 PM
134	DO NOT DO THE LAND SWAP WITH THE ST MARY'S CEMENT PLANT. DO NOT CHANGE THE ENTRANCE. I have been camping at Fisherman's for 28 years, love it...	5/13/2015 9:03 PM
135	A bathhouse--even a very very rustic one would be great. I drive to Youngs SP to get a shower a few times during our 2 week stay.	5/13/2015 9:02 PM
136	More toilets, fresh water access, better camp sites	5/13/2015 8:17 PM
137	Get rid of the cement factory.	5/13/2015 8:13 PM
138	Electric sites and dump station	5/13/2015 7:42 PM
139	1. more waterfront camp sites 2. bathhouses 3. keep it NON- electric hookup, keeps it quiet and less congested.	5/13/2015 7:36 PM
140	I would not like to see allot of changes but maybe bigger flatter sites on south loop. Please keep it rustic.	5/13/2015 7:15 PM
141	No, No, No!!!!!!!	5/13/2015 7:05 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

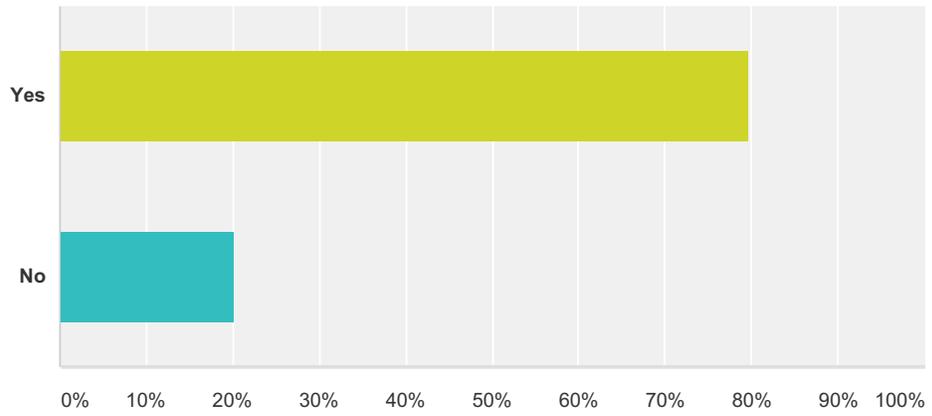
142	Get rid of ugly concrete plant	5/13/2015 5:40 PM
143	Improvements are good but nothing major	5/13/2015 5:21 PM
144	More vault toilet locations	5/13/2015 5:20 PM
145	Maybe add a few non-rustic sites for campers and RVs Keep a few "first-come first-served" sites like previous years	5/13/2015 4:50 PM
146	Some sites with electricity would be nice. A fill/dump station for campers would be nice.	5/13/2015 4:15 PM
147	Electricity to all sites, (or at least a few loops). A shower station. (s). Water & a Dump station.	5/13/2015 4:09 PM
148	not a lot of change, though the hiking trail might be nice	5/13/2015 4:02 PM
149	Definitely, NOT the land swap!!!	5/13/2015 3:47 PM
150	regular toilet/bath house	5/13/2015 3:27 PM
151	Bike trail as previously mentioned.	5/13/2015 3:22 PM
152	More beach camping spots	5/13/2015 3:19 PM
153	More information about the park itself, or clearly marked signs directing visitors where to go to obtain such information. Better signage would have helped with our confusion.	5/13/2015 3:14 PM
154	Electric at camp sites. Poison ivy removed from the campsites	5/13/2015 3:07 PM
155	More vegetation between campsites	5/13/2015 3:06 PM
156	Firewood to buy on site	5/13/2015 2:57 PM
157	more trails	5/13/2015 2:56 PM
158	A better system to reserve a camp site outside of the 'peak' season.	5/13/2015 2:52 PM
159	more lakeside camping sites	5/13/2015 2:52 PM
160	need better phone access or restore public phone in case of emergency	5/13/2015 2:48 PM
161	improve bicycle access	5/13/2015 2:47 PM
162	Maybe electric & flush toilets	5/13/2015 2:41 PM
163	Running water flush toilets	5/13/2015 2:40 PM
164	Hiking trails, showers for camping	5/13/2015 2:29 PM
165	Just a little more developed, like on the beach. A nicer beach, and maybe a docking area for small boats.	5/13/2015 2:25 PM
166	Showers and flushing toilets, ice machine	5/13/2015 2:24 PM
167	Don't allow the motor boats to anchor in the bay and swimming area. This is a huge scourge to that park and they are very noisy, smelly and it's populated by people who aren't even camping there. There are plenty of beaches along lake Michigan that boats can use. Fisherman's Island should be a respite from all of that.	5/13/2015 2:20 PM
168	Area(s) for target shooting added.	5/13/2015 2:17 PM
169	Wheelway south	5/13/2015 2:16 PM
170	Bathrooms with showers.	5/13/2015 2:12 PM
171	Easier access to southern portion of park/beach.	5/13/2015 2:11 PM
172	Better restroom facilities	5/13/2015 2:10 PM
173	Wheel way connection, some more camp sites	5/13/2015 2:09 PM
174	Better clean up of campsite Bathrooms	5/13/2015 2:08 PM
175	Some camp sites with electric and water hook-ups	5/13/2015 2:02 PM
176	just the proposed bikeway mentioned in an earlier question	5/13/2015 2:02 PM
177	depends on what those changes would be, some would be good some would be bad	5/13/2015 1:55 PM
178	More waterfront campsites PLEASE!!	5/13/2015 1:53 PM
179	Linking trail system	5/13/2015 1:53 PM
180	More beach spots, better marked trails for the half of the park that is not connected to the campground.	5/13/2015 1:51 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

181	I love Fisherman's Island just the way it is. I have been visiting yearly since I was 14-15 and am now 34. It is the only place that we really get to enjoy camping. We always bring our dog with us. We love that she is allowed on part of the beach area. I look forward to making memories with my family as I remember when I was young and hope that someday they will share their memories at Fisherman's Island with their families.	5/13/2015 1:50 PM
182	Add electric to all camp sites	5/13/2015 1:48 PM
183	More lake site camping spots if possible	5/13/2015 1:47 PM
184	We were really disappointed with the allowance of yachts to pull up, drop anchor, and party down in the bay on weekend days. Blaring music, beer pong and drunken grilling on the beach drove our two families off the northside of the bay by 1pm. Forget kayaking. Forget snorkeling. Forget swimming. Forget even having a view of the Lake. At one point, we counted 21 big boats lined up, spewing fumes and clogging up the bay. The Park must make new rules restricting this overgrown frat party. Fisherman's Island is truly serene and magical. The rangers do a terrific job of keeping maintenance top-notch. The Redneck Riviera should not be allowed to infringe on campers' desire to enjoy the natural beauty and quiet of one of Michigan's most beautiful spots.	5/13/2015 1:41 PM
185	Some electric lots. It doesn't have to be the beach lots. I can handle the pit toilets but it is hard to stay for long without electricity - especially if the weather gets chilly.	5/13/2015 1:41 PM
186	Electricity would be nice.	5/13/2015 1:39 PM
187	More pit toilets	5/13/2015 1:39 PM
188	The only change involves St. Mary Cement on the north end of the park. The lights remain on at night, spoiling an otherwise pristine campsite by Lake Michigan. If possible, I'd love to see nighttime ambient light restrictions imposed on the areas on the coast around Fisherman's Island State Park.	5/13/2015 1:37 PM
189	More lake view camping sites	5/13/2015 1:36 PM
190	Its perfect the way it is.	5/13/2015 1:34 PM
191	Showers.	5/13/2015 1:32 PM
192	In general, I would like there to be no third-party reservation site and I'd like taxes to be raised to that visiting parks is less prohibitive to those struggling to be included into the middle class.	5/13/2015 1:32 PM
193	clearing of some of the underbrush in the camping areas	5/13/2015 1:31 PM
194	Pavement instead of dirt roads.	5/13/2015 1:28 PM
195	It would be great if target shooting was allowed in part of the park. Target shooting is allowed in state forests and it would be nice to have this capability somewhere in the park.	5/13/2015 1:27 PM
196	Update one campground to modern.	5/13/2015 12:22 PM

Q17 Do you or have you camped/visited other State Parks in the area?

Answered: 371 Skipped: 36



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	79.78% 296
No	20.22% 75
Total	371

Fisherman's Island State Park

Q18 Please share any other thoughts you may have on Fisherman's Island State Park and/or the management planning process.

Answered: 225 Skipped: 182

#	Responses	Date
1	Need to preserve and protect the cultural assets	6/23/2015 7:58 AM
2	you can change the entrance to the park but do not do the land swap as the land to be swapped is worth much more than the land the state is getting. remember fisherman's island is about the only undeveloped piece of property on lake Michigan, there wont be any more so tread lightly.	6/22/2015 5:19 PM
3	The best part about Fisherman's Island is that it is rustic and undeveloped, it truly is a nature lover's paradise. There is nowhere else like it in the state of Michigan.	6/20/2015 10:41 PM
4	It's so beautiful and the park gives you the experience of being "away from it all." Please don't ruin this rustic and unique State park. It is truly a gem!	6/20/2015 4:04 PM
5	Please don't change anything about the park other than adding trails. Keep it exactly the same so my kids will remember it the way I do	6/17/2015 12:01 PM
6	We desperately need the wheelway. Its healthy and will connect us to TC. Great idea. Thank you!	6/16/2015 10:47 AM
7	I still like camping in rustic parks. and state forest campgrounds. A lot less people. and sites are not on top of each other.	6/15/2015 10:22 AM
8	I love fisherman's Island as it is. I am very excited about being able to ride my bike there from the Little Traverse Wheelway. Please don't change the peaceful, quiet, beautiful beach.	6/15/2015 8:02 AM
9	The state should buy the cement factory land and sell it to residential development	6/14/2015 7:03 PM
10	Serious thought should be given to the use and protection of the southern part of the park and how to limit access to the beach areas by motor vehicles	6/14/2015 3:41 PM
11	The only thing that should be "planned"... is to plan to keep it as natural as it can be.	6/14/2015 3:17 PM
12	I think that the park is amazing. Honestly I've been staying there for the past three years and haven't had any real issues. The hiking(I guess) could be a little bit better. There's no real good trail markers or places for good views of the lake. Other than that, the campsites are all sweet, facilities are well maintained. Everything has been dynamite for me and my girlfriend every time we go.	6/14/2015 1:23 AM
13	Please cdo not attempt to turn this park into acYoung State APark, the need exists for ruatic camping experiences.	6/13/2015 8:27 PM
14	The road North from Norwood should be fixed or closed	6/13/2015 2:59 PM
15	Please don't change it or let the cement plant take any of it	6/11/2015 3:34 PM
16	If its not broke don't fix it.	6/11/2015 1:31 PM
17	It would entice me to camp there if electricity and better toilet facilities along with shower building were built	6/11/2015 8:34 AM
18	I see online that the park is quite large but there is only one entrance. I would like to be able to access a different part of the park to explore that as well. Also, I know of people who park outside the Park but utilize the park as a dues paying member. That doesn't seem right.	6/9/2015 10:51 PM
19	Against a land swap with the medusa cement plant.	6/8/2015 9:26 PM
20	Please preserve the tranquility of the park.	6/8/2015 4:08 PM
21	our family has always enjoyed walking the beautiful beach and hiking the trails.	6/8/2015 9:34 AM
22	Keep it rustic	6/8/2015 8:05 AM

Fisherman's Island State Park

23	I think it will be ok to trade the property to St Marys Cement so as they can keep people employed in northern Michigan. If Bells Bay entrance is still wanted then maybe a tunnel under the road would be a option. Other wise relocate the entry to the park to the south on US Hwy 31.	6/7/2015 2:26 PM
24	I enjoyed my stay at this park. I love that it is right on Lake Michigan and is kept clean. It is also quiet and safe. I look forward to staying here again this summer. The campsites were also cleared out making it easy to find a nice spot to set up.	6/7/2015 11:38 AM
25	have not camped lately but have before for many years when it was called bells bay sf..hope to keep it rustic	6/5/2015 9:48 PM
26	Please leave as is, except for grading of the roadway once in a while.....	6/5/2015 4:36 PM
27	have always thought it was well managed, and abiding by their rules is simple	6/4/2015 4:54 PM
28	Just that it is nice as a local to see and have a place to go that feels like home. The rustic natural nature of the park is the appeal of the park. Please do not over develop or change this	6/3/2015 9:15 AM
29	My wife & I would like to see the park stay rustic, to us that fits the character of the place.	6/2/2015 6:47 PM
30	Keep it wild. Make it bigger.	6/2/2015 5:37 PM
31	Please ensure that hunting will continue on park property and increase amounts of early successional habitat vital to many forms of wildlife.	6/2/2015 2:37 PM
32	Do something now. Nothing has been done at fishermans island for 30 or more years	6/2/2015 12:13 PM
33	Leave it alone. It's wonderful the way it is	6/2/2015 11:57 AM
34	please do not allow land swap with st Mary's cement	6/2/2015 8:59 AM
35	Please leave it alone. Do not trade the land. It is worth much more as it is.	6/1/2015 8:36 PM
36	Additional bicycling access and kayak launch landing and camping sites would cause me to visit more often.	5/31/2015 8:28 AM
37	We do not want any changes to this State Park. Leave it as is. That is way we frequent it. We have been to other state parks in Michigan, Lower and Upper < and want them preserved as is. When we worked it is nice to go to this park as it is near our home. We need the beauty, quietness, refreshing rustic beauty it gives us. Please do not change it in any way. You cannot bring back what it has now. Leave it as God made it.	5/30/2015 9:37 PM
38	We appreciate the isolated and rustic nature of the park. We enjoy viewing wildlife and the quiet environment. We are against moving the road farther from town. We are against any land swap that changes the present atmosphere of the park.	5/30/2015 4:32 PM
39	I do not not want to lose the Bells Bay entrance, nor any of the park.	5/30/2015 11:00 AM
40	An improved non-motorized access and route in the park will help protect&preserve the natural beauty while allowing increased access for both recreational and educational purposes. Water trail destination may also combine very nicely as an eco-tourism destination.	5/30/2015 8:58 AM
41	If there was a bike trail there would be a through route to TC, build it, they will come.	5/30/2015 5:51 AM
42	Fisherman's Island State Park is great but equally important is the ability to bring bikes and explore the area on safe, non-motorized trails.	5/29/2015 7:12 PM
43	Please leave it as is and don't allow companies (cement plant for example) to dig or drill or drive through it or install any pipes in, under, through, or over it or use its shoreline or do things close by off-shore of the park. And DO NOT EXCHANGE ITS LAND FOR SOMEWHERE ELSE	5/27/2015 9:37 PM
44	I do not want the MDNR to accept the land swap with St Marys Cement that is likely to be proposed. It would be a violation of the agreement of the land conservation funds that created the park. It would make a travesty of this beautiful park for selfish reasons.	5/27/2015 9:15 PM
45	I do not object to changes in the park (in particular, those brought about by land swap with St. Mary's) AS LONG AS the number of campsites, the amount of wooded hiking trails, and access to shoreline is not compromised. I don't object to moving the main entrance drive as long as the beauty and integrity of the park is maintained.	5/26/2015 3:01 PM
46	Please keep it a rustic campground!	5/26/2015 2:55 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

47	My family does a lot of state park camping and presently I would not even consider camping at Fisherman's Island. There is nothing there. Not even a playground. People who camp at state parks want some sort of family amenities - flush toilets, showers, wifi. I don't see why half the park can't have amenities and the other half remain "rustic" for those who just love to have sand ground into their hot dogs. Also I hate that the park shares a road with the cement plant. This is dangerous and just plain stupid. The cement plant is not going away any time soon either. Why isn't the road moved to a more central location?	5/26/2015 1:10 PM
48	Important to keep Hunting available in this park. Too many wetlands and river crossings to put bike path through park.	5/26/2015 11:58 AM
49	I hope that my thoughts are considered even though I am not a member of the community in which the park is located. I travel and use the park often because it is a beautiful spot and I love Charlevoix. I recently saw this save fisherman's island Facebook group that was a local group fighting with the cement plant. The state park is used by everyone in Michigan and I want my thoughts to be heard too!	5/26/2015 11:45 AM
50	I am opposed to any land swap with the cement plant. This is a,very important community resource.	5/26/2015 9:26 AM
51	I understand the cement plant wants to take away the northern section to extend their hole...to lose this wonderful, easy-town-access would be devastating to all visitors. This park is one of the few truly pristine parks we like to visit.	5/25/2015 10:18 PM
52	The park could be a good draw to the Charlevoix area if developed right.	5/25/2015 9:08 PM
53	Keep it rustic.Do not trade any of it.Limit improvements to those involving safety and cosmetics.	5/25/2015 7:26 PM
54	Connecting the park to Charlevoix downtown through a lakeside multi-use trail would create a recreational corridor that would enhance both the park and the downtown economy.	5/25/2015 7:54 AM
55	Please maintain the Bells Bay entrance and protect wildlife and the natural landscape. If Bells Bay entrance is closed, my use of the park will plummet. Maybe St. Mary's could create a protected/restricted public access -- including a bike trail -- from Charlevoix through it's property to Fisherman's Island. Thank you.	5/24/2015 9:55 AM
56	Please keep the public informed and involved in the process. Thank you!	5/24/2015 8:57 AM
57	Would not support the idea of moving the main entrance.	5/24/2015 8:45 AM
58	Love the quieter pace but would love to see electricity added.	5/23/2015 10:54 PM
59	I rarely camp or visit other State Parks because they are over developed and too crowded. The recovering wildness, pre-historical sites and the remote completely undeveloped of the southern half of the park are stellar examples of how the stewardship of the land can be most successfully accomplished, while introducing how riparian lakeshore habitat in Michigan once existed. I am shocked and saddened that any trade with a mega industrial site would be considered. The short-sightedness of the plans being put forth compromise almost everything that makes the park unique and valuable and a great gift to the future.	5/23/2015 9:58 PM
60	Update, update, update It feels old. I have lived here my whole life and have visited/used the park in many ways. It's time for some updates. Maybe some playgrounds, and a section or 2 of modern sites.	5/23/2015 4:29 PM
61	appreciate the quite (no generators) and the privacy between camp sites. Enjoy the beach sites the most.	5/23/2015 8:23 AM
62	nothing comes to mind	5/23/2015 1:14 AM
63	I have been to this area only one time with a group of mountain bikers. I found it to be very unique and undiscovered, and very beautiful with a variety of terrain and scenery. The trails we were on were amazing, but as always it would be great to see more!	5/22/2015 7:34 PM
64	I have been camping exclusively at Fisherman's Island State Park (except once at Northport) since the 1970s. I would hate to see any changes. Keep it rustic, PLEASE! Best state park in lower peninsula hands down. We keep it a secret from people so they won't go there and destroy its unique ambience.	5/22/2015 4:29 PM
65	Don't sell out to St Mary' Cement!!!! We love this park!!!!	5/22/2015 9:30 AM
66	Its an amazing park, please preserve its natural beauty and add a bike path.	5/21/2015 11:00 PM
67	We love the ability to camp right on the lake thats what got our interest plus rustic so not a lot of kids n noise. Town is friendly alot to do if you know where to go. The rangers have been great giving us places to eat n visit..just love it	5/21/2015 10:27 PM
68	Be very careful not to trade prime property for a quarry w/o very beneficial gains to the park. Do not trade for \$ or benefits that will be used elsewhere. The park is a jewel.	5/21/2015 7:13 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

69	Minimize the DNR's impact. Return to State campground with minimal overhead and oversight.	5/21/2015 6:24 PM
70	The potential for biking and hiking trails are amazing. You're sitting on a gold mine. Build them and they will come!	5/21/2015 4:15 PM
71	would NOT like to see electrical hookups and pump out stations, keep the campground rustic.	5/21/2015 12:04 PM
72	seems like it a hidden treasure, should get the word out better and improve and update the infrastructure to support current and popular recreation types	5/21/2015 11:14 AM
73	Please don't trade away any parts of the park.	5/20/2015 7:43 AM
74	Unmatched views of the lake, sunsets are enhanced by seemingly isolated private setting which would be significantly changed by increased road traffic. Resist directing the entire bikeway along the shoreline.	5/20/2015 6:44 AM
75	No brained, go through the park	5/19/2015 11:23 PM
76	Please continue to improve the beach sites. Be able to reserve sites from April to end of October	5/19/2015 9:06 PM
77	Please do your most to preserve this beautiful park, keep it affordable and accessible to everyone	5/19/2015 5:14 PM
78	The land swap is okay as long as you can still have the non-motorized trail through the park - preferably from the North entrance all the way to the South.	5/19/2015 4:20 PM
79	my family has been camping at the park for 28 years, we are now sharing this with grandchildren and friends, We believe this is the best way to teach them to expect nature & the environment.	5/19/2015 3:34 PM
80	Will there be an opportunity to participate in a public hearing? This questionnaire is rather confining, is it possible to meeting with some of the people who are drawing this plan up within the DNR? My name is Bill Gnodtke and my home phone number is 231-547-3066.	5/19/2015 10:53 AM
81	More bike trails!	5/19/2015 10:40 AM
82	Allow bikes along the entire length of the trail system in the park.	5/19/2015 10:14 AM
83	I fear for the health of Fishermans Island as long as St.Mary's Cement's Waste pit is there. My prayer is that they will be held accountable for the remediation of that waste. Is this Bay Harbor all over again?	5/19/2015 10:04 AM
84	Keep it rustic.	5/18/2015 8:14 PM
85	A continuous nonmotorized path from Charlevoix to Traverse City would be a major improvement and a huge draw	5/18/2015 5:37 PM
86	Le't gets to it and get on with the Trail	5/18/2015 4:25 PM
87	Access along Bell Rd is kind of odd in that it goes right by the cement plant. I think the road should be moved south a bit to avoid the operations there.	5/18/2015 4:19 PM
88	With the increase of bike enthusiast (look at how many are on carriers for example), I think a good trail system would put the park as a destination to stay and base rides out of. good old fashioned well pumps along the way would be great.	5/18/2015 3:19 PM
89	Beautiful Place	5/18/2015 3:16 PM
90	The park contains unique features, wildlife, and easy access to nature for people living in the area. A bike trail through the park would be wonderful, however, if the north end of the park is traded away to St. Marys Cement to be quarried, then the bike trail will be pointless. Who wants to bike or hike next to a noisy, air-polluting quarry with all the trees clearcut? I use the park almost daily (hiking and jogging). My children used this park. I hope my grandchildren will have the same opportunity to experience the beauty of our natural world by being able to hike and swim here.	5/18/2015 2:46 PM
91	It is a beautiful, quiet little gem. We were there over 4th of July weekend, and even though the park was completely full, it was serene. We enjoyed the beach and close access to Lake Michigan. Please keep it rustic!	5/18/2015 11:18 AM
92	Love to camp along the water the most.	5/18/2015 7:16 AM
93	Pretty hard to comment on a concept that you've not dis ribbed, how the hell would one know what the process is based on taking this survey. If you are giving serious consideration to what people say - great. If you are simply paying lip service to the public and then doing what you've already decided to do...then you're wasting everyone's time.	5/18/2015 6:50 AM
94	It's perfect the way it is	5/17/2015 10:13 AM

Fisherman's Island State Park

95	Please don't swap land with the cement plant	5/17/2015 10:09 AM
96	No land swap for mining. Leave the park boundaries as is.	5/17/2015 9:24 AM
97	I do not want the cement company to take over anymore of our beautiful park, no swap of land and I don't like the idea that the cement company is a polluter and getting bigger, enough of them.	5/17/2015 7:46 AM
98	Preserve it for future generations; protect it from ALL developers, that would exploit it for greed, and short term gain, particularly St. Mary's Cement/or any other name....they have destroyed OUR lakeshore and environment.	5/17/2015 2:09 AM
99	Please protect this wonderful natural park from devastation and development.	5/16/2015 9:44 PM
100	Totally against selling/leasing any current land in park to cement plants or other commercial-for profit businesses	5/16/2015 8:04 PM
101	if you make it a lot more modern it will loose its wild beauty and incredible peacefulness, sometimes i wish for more ie flush toilets and showers, but all state parks with these things are not fisherman's island, something always gets lost, probably the best renovation is onaway, but now you've lost the wonderful meeting house with the wonderful wrap around porch to watch the sunsets.	5/16/2015 10:35 AM
102	Surveys are helpful, but the Piping Plover, and Fragile Dunes are often unseen and unrepresented. There are hundreds of parks you can go to in a giant Winabago with a movie screen and surround sound, but there is only one rustic, Fisherman's Island with forest, dunes, wetlands and 6 miles of shore line. I hope you have visited the Save Fisherman's Island Website. There is a wealth of history, maps, news articles and other materials.	5/16/2015 9:39 AM
103	We oppose the closing of Bell's Bay Road. We oppose any and all land swap proposals between St. Mary's Cement and the State Park. St. Mary's is a division of the Votorantim Group, one of the largest industrial conglomerates in Latin America. The cement division alone (Votorantim Cimentos) has billions of dollars of revenue reported annually. THEY DO NOT NEED OUR STATE PARK LAND. THEY DO NOT RESPECT THE EARTH AND SHARE OUR VALUES FOR PRESERVATION OF LAND AND NATURAL HABITAT. Please, please, PLEASE - just say no to deals and preserve our park in perpetuity. Thanks.	5/16/2015 9:11 AM
104	Please enforce the rule about no pets on the beach! The public beach users at the end of Bells Road are the primary offenders but campers are also guilty.	5/16/2015 8:07 AM
105	No land swap!!!!!! Please, I've been going there my whole life. The north end of the park is the best part of the park	5/16/2015 6:30 AM
106	We now celebrate FIVE generations in our family for whom summers/fall would be (have been) incomplete without visits to Fisherman's Island State Park.We welcome new non-motorized trails and land preservation efforts, but under NO circumstances do we want to see any portion of this beloved park "traded" to anyone, let alone a cement plant! THANK YOU for the opportunity to provide input!	5/16/2015 12:55 AM
107	We are vehemently opposed to a land swap. I believe the people of Charlevoix County should have a big say and influence on any proposed changes.It is a park that generations of people up here have cherished and we continue to do so.	5/15/2015 10:10 PM
108	Please keep it rustic!!!! So very special. Plenty of non-rustic campgrounds available in lower MI.	5/15/2015 9:18 PM
109	Improving single track hiking and mountain bike trails. There needs to be a narrow single track trail open for hiking and mt. Biking that runs from Norwood to Bells Bay Road. Possibly a backcountry camp site for hike or bike in.	5/15/2015 8:49 PM
110	Needs to remain transparent, and follow the public trust of parklands.	5/15/2015 8:47 PM
111	The campsites are great, particularly along the shoreline. Please don't change them, specifically by overcrowding them.	5/15/2015 8:46 PM
112	It is one of my favorites! All parks should be this perfect!	5/15/2015 7:49 PM
113	The entrance closest to Charlevoix, Bell Bay Road, is very convenient and an economic value to the city.	5/15/2015 6:38 PM
114	I'm hopping we keep fisherman's island state park just the way it is , we don't need to change anything !	5/15/2015 5:52 PM
115	Keep it primitive and remote. There are so few places left like this.	5/15/2015 5:18 PM
116	User's of the park should be part of the management planning process.	5/15/2015 4:13 PM
117	It was a nice surprise last summer. Thank you for protecting & maintaining this piece of Michigan coastline.	5/15/2015 2:50 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

118	Fisherman's Island is a beautiful, quiet park that is ideal for tent camping. The campsites are well-spaced and quiet--unlike the sites in many other state parks that seemed to be more aimed for RVs with tvs and radios. The shoreline is beautiful. I have seen what I think was an eagle flying at this park. This park is a treasure.	5/15/2015 12:43 PM
119	do not swap any land with St Mary cement.	5/15/2015 9:42 AM
120	Do not trade away any land for commercial development.	5/15/2015 9:13 AM
121	Young state is very popular and profitable but is at capacity. In the future as demand grows FISP is the natural place to expand. Yo already own the miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. Don't lose it because it will be impossible to replicate later.	5/15/2015 7:38 AM
122	This is one of our favorite parks. The only improvement I can think of would be paving the road all the way to the island access parking lot. I suppose a dump station would be convenient, but still a low priority In my opinion.	5/15/2015 7:24 AM
123	Don't trade land to the cement plant. Keep all of the park And don't urbanize it.	5/15/2015 7:08 AM
124	I like that it is rustic and not many huge RVs are there. My favorite camp sites are at the Northern end of the park. (8 or so of them). The ones that are further south are small and some of them do not have enough shade for me. I managed to reserve a water front site one year and that is where I found so much poison ivy that I had to leave and go elsewhere. I appreciate the lack of traffic and noise a great deal.	5/14/2015 9:52 PM
125	Keep it rustic Don't let St. Mary's Cement in	5/14/2015 4:02 PM
126	The trees and the beach are the primary items to preserve and maintain. Otherwise the park is fine. I usually camp in June or September, low camper density, so I don't see the summer conditions.	5/14/2015 1:03 PM
127	Don't change it to much. It's rustic atmosphere makes it peaceful. Its beach sites are the best	5/14/2015 12:28 PM
128	I would again like to emphasize that I value the solitude and feeling of wilderness that the park provides. The long stretches of undeveloped shoreline are priceless, but I also treasure hiking through the woods. I also enjoy the rustic camping available there and would oppose modernizing the campground. I have not explored the S. part of the park, but hope to in the future.	5/14/2015 10:30 AM
129	we love how rustic and peaceful it is there. Hope it doesn't change. We have been going there for the last 4 years in August and Sept. Now going in June and July.	5/14/2015 10:14 AM
130	We love the privacy of the sites. You're not stacked on top of each other like an RV Park. Very natural, quiet and beautiful year round. A wonderful asset for locals to enjoy.	5/14/2015 9:33 AM
131	The park feel really long and skinny as it is. Adding in a path will take away from the rustic feel of the campground areas. It's a beautiful park but it's really loud with the industry surrounding it.	5/14/2015 9:23 AM
132	Keep the park open and undeveloped as in primitive camping	5/14/2015 9:18 AM
133	perfect for rustic camping with access to essential services .I camp here(not Petoskey) to have the remote, rustic experience without difficult hiking.I	5/14/2015 8:11 AM
134	We have camped at Fisherman's island for 30 years, before us, my husband camped there with his parents, and our grown children will likely camp there with their children.	5/14/2015 7:22 AM
135	I hope that electric hook ups and flush toilets never come to Fisherman's-- the rustic camping experience is what has kept me coming back every year (sometimes more than once) for ten years.	5/13/2015 11:57 PM
136	Please keep it primitive and don't change a great thing. Fisherman's Island has been a treasure to us since the '80s when we traveled from downstate to camp there. We have not found a park that can compare with its charms.	5/13/2015 11:22 PM
137	Only camped there one time but will plan on camping there again. Liked the sites at the grounds.	5/13/2015 11:12 PM
138	Usually stay at Sleeping Bear Dunes area campgrounds. Everything was full. What an unexpected pleasant surprise when we discovered Fisherman's Island! We loved the location and the beautiful natural state of the campsites. It was our first time and we would like to make it a regular annual stop. We were impressed.	5/13/2015 10:31 PM
139	Being on Lake Michigan is the big attraction. But the need for better bathroom facilities keeps me from camping longer and more frequently. I have family in boyne city and would use the park for 3 seasons if bathroom facilities (a shower would be nice) were better.	5/13/2015 10:05 PM
140	I strongly support Fisherman's Island State Park being involved in the partnership with other groups to continue to provide funding to eradicate phragmites along the entire shoreline of the park on a yearly basis.	5/13/2015 9:57 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

141	Fisherman's Island is our family's favorite. We have 4 small kids and it is one of the few campgrounds in the State Park system that actually feels like camping.	5/13/2015 9:50 PM
142	A hidden gem!	5/13/2015 9:43 PM
143	it would be nice to see the plan	5/13/2015 9:42 PM
144	Keep it rustic. Love the lakeside sites. Can you expand lakeside sites?	5/13/2015 9:36 PM
145	We absolutely love this park. A great place to hike on the beach. There are minimal bugs with a site on the lake. Fabulous sunsets that get us every time. Please keep it natural. Thank you!	5/13/2015 9:28 PM
146	I love the natural rusticness of it	5/13/2015 9:25 PM
147	Do not do a deal with St Mary's Cement Plant...	5/13/2015 9:11 PM
148	We've come back to Fisherman's for over 20 years because it is so rustic and peaceful. Its rustic-ness keeps away the large RVs, electricity-dependent noisiness and overcrowding. Enhancing or maintaining the rusticity of this SP is what I hope management agrees is the proper focus here.	5/13/2015 9:09 PM
149	hi believe fisherman's Island State Park is a hidden gem in Michigan spark system. my wife and I enjoy hunting for rocks and enjoying the sunsets on Lake Michigan every summer when we visit	5/13/2015 9:07 PM
150	please keep the rustic character, don't modernize like so many others	5/13/2015 8:44 PM
151	Keep it rustic	5/13/2015 8:25 PM
152	If you can't get rid of the cement factory, at least restrict the noise on the weekend. It is like camping in a war zone.	5/13/2015 8:21 PM
153	Park is very rustic and should remain that way. However may electric for basic comfort and more water access,and toilets.	5/13/2015 8:19 PM
154	love to fish their.	5/13/2015 8:19 PM
155	Great park very peaceful and beautiful we live in Charlevoix and go year round	5/13/2015 8:18 PM
156	Keep it as rustic as possible but I do like electricity. My husband has to use a sleep apena machine and it is necessary to use our generator.	5/13/2015 7:46 PM
157	put firepits on the beach, by each site.	5/13/2015 7:42 PM
158	I love the rustic nature of the park, we have been camping there for 20 years and we hope there are no big changes	5/13/2015 7:21 PM
159	Its a great place on the big lake...sometimes a bit noisy due to the St. Mary's cement plant.	5/13/2015 7:16 PM
160	We have camped throughout the U.S. states, all Canadeian territories, and throughout the eastern and western European countries. Truly the serenity and beauty of Fisherman's Island remains our very favorite--it is a refuge that we cherish.	5/13/2015 7:09 PM
161	Don't give or trade any of it for anything	5/13/2015 7:05 PM
162	please don't change too much it is pretty great how it is	5/13/2015 7:03 PM
163	Going to Fisherman's Island at the end of August is an unbreakable tradition!	5/13/2015 6:39 PM
164	I love this park and do not want to see it destroyed by the cement company's proposal.	5/13/2015 6:18 PM
165	Fisherman's Island is such a unique campground with it's access to Lake Michigan plus being rustic. It keeps it from becoming like camping in the suburbs like so many State Parks. We recommend FI to other campers as often as possible so they can experience it's beauty. There is no place like it in the state for campers like us. Don't let the industry trade land for lakefront and close off the access from Bell's Bay Rd.	5/13/2015 5:35 PM
166	The park's primitive camping is unique and keeps the crowds down. Please do not develop or update it.	5/13/2015 5:01 PM
167	We love the privacy and spaciousness of the campsites. The park is clean and safe	5/13/2015 4:53 PM
168	My family and I come from Texas every year to stay at the park from June-August. We love it and would not like to stay at any other park. We like the privacy and beauty.	5/13/2015 4:51 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

169	I have not visited Fisherman's Island camping in 2 years. This has been a regular park for me and my family for many many years, usually visiting 2-3 times a year for a week and sometimes in addition to that 3 day weekends. This is a wonderful place	5/13/2015 4:30 PM
170	I appreciate the more natural feel of the place. I wouldn't want to sacrifice that for "progress"	5/13/2015 4:21 PM
171	It is a beautiful Park. I believe that it would be full most of the time with electricity & water available at the P ark. We are a family of Bikers (bicycles) and we would be very pleased with the Bike Pathway extending through the Park! Thank you for this Survey!	5/13/2015 4:16 PM
172	I think the nonmotorized trail is a good idea. There could be more walking trails The rustic atmosphere should be maintained, it is a nice place to get back to our roots.	5/13/2015 4:01 PM
173	It is getting harder and harder to find easily accessible rustic camping. Most campgrounds have a tent-city or motorhome- city feel to them and fisherman island state park is one of the few places you can camp in nature, that is still accessible by car. I hope this remains true in the future	5/13/2015 3:40 PM
174	I am extremely worried about the rumored plans that the State has made in concerns to allowing the cement plant access to parts of the park.	5/13/2015 3:33 PM
175	We love the park as it is and would hate to see it "improved" and overcrowded like so many parks in Michigan.	5/13/2015 3:24 PM
176	We love camping here because of the large, private campsites and the unspoiled beauty.	5/13/2015 3:21 PM
177	Thank you for asking for public comment.	5/13/2015 3:19 PM
178	We loved it, even tho we have an RV. It fit in the campsites. The scenery is beautiful.	5/13/2015 3:11 PM
179	We love the quietness and not being crowed. Love the campsites by the lake	5/13/2015 3:10 PM
180	Larger beach area would be nice. Enjoyed the hiking trails, they could be marked better regarding distance.	5/13/2015 3:10 PM
181	My favorite rustic state park in Michigan!	5/13/2015 2:57 PM
182	Keep it wild and undeveloped!	5/13/2015 2:55 PM
183	My family has been going there for over 40 years (I think it used to be Bells Bay State Park?) and I would like to see it continue to be rustic. My fear is that it will be developed and trees taken down and we'll be camping close to our neighbors. We love the remoteness and how most sites are relatively private and not on top of each other.	5/13/2015 2:55 PM
184	I love the sites without hookups	5/13/2015 2:51 PM
185	I LOVE Fishermans Island!!!	5/13/2015 2:51 PM
186	keep it rustic.	5/13/2015 2:50 PM
187	The less you do - the better. This is not Ceder Point.	5/13/2015 2:44 PM
188	Please keep the area as quiet and rustic as possible. There is so little wilderness here downstate and the privileged to rustic camp on the lakeshore is so valued in my family.	5/13/2015 2:44 PM
189	As a child in the 1970s, my family camped every year at Fisherman's Island State Park, staying for at least a week at a time. It was always our favorite place to camp. Last year I took my own children there to camp, and was delighted to find the lakeside campsites still existed, and the camping still the best anywhere. I would strongly oppose any plans by the local cement plant to alter the design and peacefulness of the existing park. We travelled from Pennsylvania to camp in the park, and added to the local economy during our stay. If proposed changes alter the park enjoyment, we would not return. If the park maintains the lovely low-impact camping experience which it is now, we will most definitely return!	5/13/2015 2:35 PM
190	Please do not agree to the land swap with the cement company	5/13/2015 2:32 PM
191	Great place to hike and jog. Thank you!	5/13/2015 2:27 PM
192	The island needs to become an island again to balance the ecology of the water to the north beaches, dredging would not be remiss. Medusa needs to have their polluting of the waters put into check as well.	5/13/2015 2:26 PM
193	Please keep this pretty place open... just make the beach nicer :)	5/13/2015 2:26 PM
194	Just want to see it kept around, it's a beautiful location except for the smoke stacks to the North.	5/13/2015 2:26 PM
195	Please do something about the boats. It's very destructive to that area.	5/13/2015 2:21 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

196	It is a quiet gem. Some improvements could be made in roads and toilets. Right now it is used by "true" campers who enjoy the location and the uncrowded beauty. Don't turn it into a Traverse City State Park.	5/13/2015 2:18 PM
197	Open it up to mountain biking trails. Keep the camp sites along the water. They are the main reason we stay at FISP	5/13/2015 2:18 PM
198	The beauty of the park is surprising given proximity to cement plant; any ability to expand the park's holdings (and shoreline) should be taken.	5/13/2015 2:15 PM
199	I stayed at this park for the first time last fall and totally fell in love with it. I dont think much change needs to be made, it has become one of my favorite places to camp -- especially site #9!	5/13/2015 2:11 PM
200	x	5/13/2015 2:09 PM
201	Don't overdevelop it; keep it as natural as possible	5/13/2015 2:04 PM
202	I've heard a little about the cement plant working on a "Land swap" with Fisherman's Island. To destroy years of Michigan heritage and uproot generations of family memories would be a travesty. Please work to keep Fisherman's Island as it is - serene, accessible, and a little piece of heaven in our face-paced industrialized modern world.	5/13/2015 2:00 PM
203	This is a wonderful place that is one of the best spots to see what the great state of MI has to offer. My only concern is with the trail signage. There isn't much "way finding" signs throughout the trails and no indication of the overall distance of the trails.	5/13/2015 2:00 PM
204	We love camping at fishermans island state park. Any possibility of additional waterfront campsites being developed? Also, the cement factory nighttime noise is unfortunate. Also, one hot summer we camped next to an rv that kept a generator for air conditioning running all night long. It was awful. Sort of spoiled our 'rustic' tent camping experience.	5/13/2015 1:58 PM
205	We love to go camping there. Even though it is about a 4 hour drive for us. It is so relaxing and pristine. The only trouble we have had is with locals that seem to come out and use it as a party area at night (had to call the police), which is a shame. Nothing you can really do about that, just inconsiderate and ignorant people. I would like to see some electric lots. It is hard to stay for long without electricity - especially if it gets chilly. I also think a dump station would come in handy but I know it is expensive to put all that in. But I would forego all of that if it meant raising the prices significantly. That is one of the great things about this park. It is so beautiful and inexpensive to camp (bonus!). Regardless, we would camp there anyway. We've been going since I was a little girl and it is now my son's favorite place to camp (so refreshing to have my 15 year old have fun without being attached to something electronic!). Whatever you decide to do...just don't close it!! Thank you for taking the time to get input from those of us who use the park.	5/13/2015 1:57 PM
206	Perhaps making some more secluded camping sites along the proposed trail or within the park itself. Like a back country experience within a National Park	5/13/2015 1:57 PM
207	preserve the indian artifacts	5/13/2015 1:56 PM
208	Keep it rustic, keep it low key, no mining, just as beautiful as it is now.	5/13/2015 1:52 PM
209	My family and I look forward to camping here every year. It is our favorite camping location.	5/13/2015 1:52 PM
210	I enjoy rustic campgrounds. Keeps the riff raff out. Stacked up like cordwood in plywood palaces is not my thing.	5/13/2015 1:52 PM
211	Add Electricity to more Camp sites	5/13/2015 1:49 PM
212	Love the reservation process. Love the rustic, large and widely spaced campsites.	5/13/2015 1:43 PM
213	The Camp Sites along the Lake side are some of the best in the state	5/13/2015 1:43 PM
214	We enjoyed our 1st time at Fisherman's Island, which resulted in many trips back.	5/13/2015 1:42 PM
215	Be nice to have electric hookup	5/13/2015 1:40 PM
216	I absolutely love camping in this rustic, very peaceful campground.	5/13/2015 1:40 PM
217	A lot of the appeal of Fisherman's Island State Park is its seclusion. It's hard to find a quiet State Park that offers campsites a stone's throw from Lake Michigan - I'd like to keep it that way.	5/13/2015 1:39 PM
218	Great place, but it was kind of hard to find without great directions - at least coming from the north. We loved the rock hunting. My only suggestion would be a shower house, but even that is minor.	5/13/2015 1:34 PM

Fisherman's Island State Park

219	I love coming up to Fisherman's Island for the peace and quiet and the remote feeling of being isolated, especially on the lakefront sites.	5/13/2015 1:32 PM
220	I hope that the park can be kept in its natural state and that target shooting will be allowed in one area. I also hope that they do NOT add a major access point on Clipperview.	5/13/2015 1:28 PM
221	N/A	5/13/2015 1:21 PM
222	I like that it is rustic. We really love camping on the lake side campsites. I have not found anything comparable anywhere. Although showers would be nice, I would not want to ruin this park with modern camping.	5/13/2015 12:18 PM
223	It is a great place to spend the day boating. Please keep it that way.	5/13/2015 11:45 AM
224	Leave it alone.	5/13/2015 11:45 AM
225	keep it rustic	5/13/2015 11:37 AM

Appendix C—Planning Team Summary

Over the duration of the General Management Planning process, the Planning Team held three on-site team meetings and three virtual meetings. These meetings were critical to the development of the General Management Plan and particularly the creation of the 20-Year Management Zones and the 10-Year Action Goals. Additionally, the meetings were an opportunity to review input received from stakeholders and the public.

Overview of Planning Team Meetings

Team Meeting #1 Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station (December 10, 2014) – The Planning Team’s kick-off meeting was an opportunity for Team members to introduce themselves and review the General Management Plan schedule. An overview and tour of Fisherman’s Island occurred, followed by discussion of the park and its significance features, and review the resource maps. Ideas were gathered for survey questions to ask the public, and review the Supporting Analysis.

Team Meeting #2 Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station (February 19, 2015) –The Planning Team met and began discussion with the support analysis. The team brainstormed potential stakeholders to include for the future open house. They continued to form questions for the public input survey. Additionally, the Planning Team began addressing 10-year action goals for the park.

Team Meeting #3 Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station (April 17, 2015) – The Planning Team reviewed the Statements of Significance, Management Zone Map, and Action Goals. They also drafted the public input survey. The Planning Team also discussed opportunities to partner with local organization and agencies during the General Management Plan process.

Team Meeting #4, Go-To-Meeting (May 15, 2015) – The Planning Team reviewed the revisions to Statements of Significance, Management Zone Map, refined the Action Goals from the previous meeting, as well and on-line survey questions. In addition, the stakeholder list was finalized for the Stakeholder Input Open House, and a venue was confirmed to host the event.

Team Meeting #5, Charlevoix Public Library (June 22, 2015) – The Planning Team reviewed input and comments received at the Stakeholder Input Open House. The Planning Team discussed the input and revised the draft action goals and survey results, and discussed the upcoming Public Open House Meeting. The team decided that a draft of the General Management Plan would be shared at the following meeting.

Team Meeting #5 (continuation), Go-To-Meeting (August 3, 2015) – The Planning Team recapped the Stakeholder Input Open house and the survey results. The team discussed the regional trail initiative and its potential impact on the park. The Management Zones and Action Goals were revised. The team made plans to review a Draft GMP as well as make arrangements for the upcoming Public Input Open House.

Team Meeting #6, Go-To-Meeting (November 19, 2015) – The Planning Team discussed the Public Open House and made additional edits to plan, supporting documentation, and maps. The team was also debriefed on the final approval process.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

Team Meeting #1

Location: Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station

December 10, 2014

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Planning Team Meeting Attendees: Tom Copenhagen (Unit Supervisor), Debbie Jensen (Management Plan Administrator), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Annamarie Bauer (Regional Planner), Ray Fahlsing (Stewardship Unit Manager), Lisa Gamero (Cultural Resource Analyst), Heather Hettinger (Fisheries Biologist), Andrea Erratt (Conservation Officer), Peter Rose (Geologist), Cynthia Watson (Property Specialist), Joyce Angel (FRD Gaylord Unit Manager), Jon Spieles (Interpretive Manager), Dean Anderson (State Archeologist), Dave Birchler and Mardy Stirling (Clearzoning)

1. Introductions and Review of Agenda
2. Review of Current Park and Community Issues was presented by R. Hill. He provided an overview of the public information meeting held to inform the community of the General Management Planning process. He explained that there was no formal proposal for any type of land transfer. St. Mary's Cement presented a concept in the spring of 2014. They created a citizen's group for the purpose of discussing whether they wanted to proceed with an application to the DNR. The DNR was not a part of the process or the citizen's group.

He explained that the DNR is not here to stop or facilitate a land transfer. He reiterated that the General Management Plan follows a standard process and the planning team is charged with ensuring that its development is good for the future of the park and the state of Michigan. He recommended that all calls regarding this topic be referred to him.

R. Hill also noted that there is a group called "Friends of Fisherman's Island State Park", which has no affiliation with the park or the DNR.

3. Fisherman's Island State Park Management Plan Schedule was presented by D. Birchler.
4. Overview of General Management Planning Process was presented by D. Jensen. She suggested that the stakeholder meeting and the public open house be scheduled closer together. She also suggested that the public input should occur during the summer months.
5. Fisherman's Island State Park Overview was presented by T. Copenhagen.
 - 5,000 camp nights in 2014 compared to 19,250 camp nights in Young State Park
 - Total revenue was \$92,000 versus \$638,000 at Young State Park
 - Park is used for hunting and fishing
 - There are 5 miles of hiking trails in the park
 - Several reports are available including the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (2002), Environmental Impact Assessment (1970s), Potential Park Site (1974) and a historical study – the team discussed the validity of some reports and the need for verification.
 - Archeological sites can be identified as features of the park, but site locations are protected information and are exempt from FOIA requests.
 - Island is currently a peninsula, but higher water levels are bringing the island back
 - 80 camp sites, many with beautiful lake views
 - Hunting is popular; Petoskey Stone hunting the most popular.

- Bear spotted three times in 2013
- Frequently people park on the County Road (have not determined whether it is due to convenience or wanting to avoid purchasing a Recreational Passport)
- Facilities consist of vault toilets and hand pumps
- Phragmites is a problem – control ongoing
- Road over five large culverts keeps washing out/caving in
- Pedestrian bridge at day use area is scheduled for removal (Work Item Proposal has been submitted)
- Staff would like well/septic at contact station and better mobile/radio coverage
- Ray F. noted that a drumlin field within the 2004 NRC Project Boundary would be a unique feature for this park if it was acquired

6. Park Tour, Significant Features and Issues

- A. Water over the road (bedrock is near the surface preventing a simple solution) – culverts need replacing but repairs are costly
- B. Road maintenance is an issue – condition limits year-round access and water over the road continues to erode the hard surface
- C. Some views from shoreline campsites are dominated by the concrete plant to the north
- D. Significant archeological resources deserve protection and interpretation
- E. Island was important to native people for fishing
- F. Very limited facilities for staff at the park office/welcome center – need for well and septic
- G. Toured camping Loops 1 and 2 and South Campground – all sites are rustic
- H. Access road to the South Campground is in poor condition
- I. Pull-through campsites on the lake are popular
- J. General Park Attendance – the park is popular for fishing but has low visitor counts when compared to other nearby State Parks due to access issues and limited amenities.
- K. Norwood Road – ¼ to ½ mile leads to Whiskey Creek – not passable by most vehicles.

7. Discussion Regarding Supporting Analysis – M. Stirling discussed the major topic areas contained in the draft supporting analysis and requested assistance from the team in their area of expertise. The following categories from the supporting analysis are typically informed by the following planning team members:

- A.8 Historic and Cultural Resources: Lisa Gamero/ Dean Anderson
- A.7 Natural Resources (Endangered Species): Ray Fahlsing
- A.7 Natural Resources (Geology): Peter Rose
- A.5 Recreational Resources: Tom Copenhaver
- A.9 Educational and Interpretation: Jon Spieles
- A.9 Park Use Statistics: Tom Copenhaver & Debbie Jensen
- A.4/A.5 Land Ownership and Legal Mandates: Debbie Jensen

The team reviewed the recreation resource map and requested the following additions:

- Wheelway and other regional trails
- Charlevoix to Traverse City trail (It was noted that T. Copenhaver sits on the committee and may be able to provide more detailed information)

- Glacial Hills trail
- Identify road and mountain biking areas (Popular activity in the region)
- Show Boyne Mountain Resort – has mountain bike trails, lacrosse and disk golf
- Identify what is in East Jordan – activities on the Charlevoix Trail
- Boyne-Charlevoix Trail is scheduled to be built in 2015 – need to add to the map
- Canoe liveries, fishing guides and fishing charters based on the Jordan River

The team reviewed the supporting analysis and noted the following:

- T. Copenhaver provided a map of all BAS in the region.
- Fact check the “Carnegie Center Forums” history (L. Gamero to review)
- Team will research the origins of the campground
- LWCF may encumber significant portions of the park
- US Fish and Wildlife Service has designated critical habitat for piping plover and we should include a map in the Natural Resource Section

8. Significance Statements Exercise. The team was asked to write down five features that they believe make Fisherman’s Island State Park unique and significant. These features were then categorized into topic areas.

A. Archeological Resources

- 1) National Register Sites and District
- 2) Native American sites
- 3) Important for the interpretation of early Native American tool making in the Great Lake Region
- 4) Cultural Resources/Features
- 5) Abundance of Historical Sites
- 6) Sites that document pre-contact Native American occupation of the area
- 7) Archeological Sites
- 8) Archeological History

B. Natural Resources

- 1) Petoskey stone hunting ground (3)
- 2) Rock picking - skipping
- 3) Norwood Chert Quarry
- 4) Chert outcropping
- 5) Lake Michigan shoreline
- 6) Dunes
- 7) Drumlins just outside of the park
- 8) Natural features

C. Natural Communities

- 1) Migratory bird stop-over habitat
- 2) Exemplary natural communities
- 3) Open Dune
- 4) Interdunal wetland
- 5) Limestone pavement shoreline
- 6) Rich conifer swamp
- 7) Piping plover habitat
- 8) Great Lake endemic rare plants (Pitcher’s thistle, Lake Huron tansy, Houghton’s goldenrod)
- 9) Threatened and endangered species (2)

D. Hunting Resources

- 1) Hunting
 - 2) Local public hunting land
 - 3) Whiskey Creek – Large limited access areas for hunting
 - 4) Proximity near hunting land
- E. Trails
- 1) Cross Country Skiing, Hiking, Running
 - 2) Foot Trails (not mapped by Inwood Creek/Clipperview)
 - 3) Major watershed drainage outlet to Lake Michigan
- F. Lake Michigan beach access
- 1) Best public beach in Charlevoix County
 - 2) Remote beach with space
 - 3) Miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and sandy beaches
 - 4) Lakeshore (access and scenic views)
 - 5) Fabulous sunsets to be viewed over Lake Michigan
 - 6) Long beachfront walking opportunities
 - 7) Shoreline
 - 8) Limited access which keeps area unique
 - 9) Over 4 miles of shoreline along Lake Michigan
 - 10) Miles of undeveloped shoreline
 - 11) Sunsets
 - 12) Proximity to a good Lake Michigan beach
 - 13) Undeveloped miles of Great Lakes shoreline in highly developed area
 - 14) Less crowded than other parks
- G. Recreational Opportunities
- 1) High quality scenic Lake Michigan shoreline
 - 2) Campsite right on Lake Michigan
 - 3) Undeveloped coastline
 - 4) Primitive setting
 - 5) Campgrounds (wooded and beach/shoreline)
 - 6) Rustic shoreline camping (2)
 - 7) Unique experience
 - 8) Rustic camping only – great crowd
 - 9) Rustic campgrounds with outhouses and water pumps
 - 10) Limited site development that keeps it unique
 - 11) Wilderness type experience found in a shoreline park
 - 12) Rustic Lake Michigan camping (lakeshore sites)
 - 13) Rustic natural recreation opportunities
- H. Relationship to Community Resources
- 1) Proximity to shopping and restaurants
 - 2) Close to other recreation/parks/lakes
 - 3) Proximity to Charlevoix – “A Michigan Destination Town”
 - 4) Closest State Park to City of Charlevoix
 - 5) Only public hunting on the west side of Charlevoix County
 - 6) Public green space that offers a lot of recreational areas and undeveloped lands
 - 7) Relationship to other northern Michigan recreational opportunities

9. M. Stirling will send out a doodle poll to schedule the next Planning Team Meeting. The team discussed the next meeting date occurring the last three weeks of January.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

Team Meeting #2

Location: Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station

February 19, 2015

9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Planning Team Meeting Attendees: Tom Copenhaver (Unit Supervisor), Debbie Jensen (Management Plan Administrator), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Annamarie Bauer (Regional Planner), Ray Fahlsing (Stewardship Unit Manager), Lisa Gamero (Cultural Resource Analyst), Andrea Erratt (Conservation Officer – LED), Peter Rose (Geologist), Cynthia Watson (Property Specialist), Joyce Angel (FRD Unit Manager), Jennifer Kleitch (Wildlife Biologist), Dean Anderson (State Archeologist), Stacy Tchorzynski (DNR/MSHDA Archeologist), David Birchler (Clearzoning)

1. Introductions and Review of Agenda
2. Discussion Regarding Supporting Analysis
 - a. Properties on the Funding Sources Map that are labelled “Gift” may actually be administrative transfers between divisions. D. Jensen will verify.
 - b. In the section on Legal Mandates, it was suggested that the information be presented in hierarchical order: Federal Law followed by State Law, followed by Land Use Orders of the Director, followed by Policy Directives. R. Fahlsing or D. Jensen will identify the correct section reference for Inland Lakes and Streams regulations and provide a brief description. The Team also discussed the Federal and State Endangered Species Act descriptions, which R. Fahlsing will rewrite, and J. Kleitch offered to rewrite the section on Wildlife Conservation Orders.
 - c. The Team suggested the substantive section on local planning and zoning have its own heading and that Nature Preserves and Trail Systems be divided into separate sections.
 - d. The supporting analysis should include a brief section on the proposed major trail proposals that would connect the Charlevoix area to Traverse City, Boyne City, others.
 - e. Maps in the Supporting Analysis need to be higher resolution and quality.
 - f. J. Angel will supplement the section on State Forests and Campgrounds.
 - g. State Game Areas should be titled Wildlife Areas.
 - h. Analysis should include section on Whiskey, McGeach and Inwood Creeks. A. Erratt will verify whether they are designated trout streams and send description to M. Stirling.
 - i. Expand Hunting to “Hunting and Fishing”.
 - j. Camping section should note that all 80 sites are rustic, served by vault toilets and hand pumps.
 - k. P. Rose has provided a new summary of the sections on Geology and Topography, Climate, others on page 26.
 - l. Although there is designated piping plover habitat within the park, it was pointed out that the entire shoreline of Fisherman's Island has the broad sandy beaches with cobble that can support their nesting habitat. Team decided to remove map.
 - m. Team will check the MNFI report for current list and designations of threatened and endangered species.
 - n. D. Anderson provided a written section for Archeology and felt it could be incorporated verbatim into the History and Cultural Resources section, with one minor addition that he will provide to M. Stirling via email.
 - o. Park use statistics will be supplemented with the graph prepared by Chris Kargel.
 - p. Resource maps would be most useful if they could completely fill a page, with less blank border.

3. Kick-off Meeting Summary - the Planning Team reviewed and reached a consensus regarding the December 10, 2014 kick-off meeting summary.
4. Statements of Significance – D. Birchler went through the draft significance statements that were developed from Planning Team comments at the initial meeting. The Planning Team reviewed and provided input for the draft statements of significance.
5. Resource Map Review – The Planning Team reviewed and provided input for the resource maps. Specific comments included:
 - a. Cities and villages should be shown in a solid color on the Location Map (yellow or gray, whichever works best graphically)
 - b. Small 5 acre inholding was recently added to the park
 - c. The existing park and NRC boundaries should be brought to the front and the roads layer sent to the back so boundaries show more clearly on aerial. Use hi-res aerial provided by Peter Rose
 - d. Add the corrected, actual source for each of the resource maps
 - e. Add creeks, with names, to all resource maps (except topography)
 - f. Illustrate municipal parks, county parks, state parks, and state forests in individual colors, if possible. Add Little Traverse Wheelway. Check sources.
6. Stakeholder Review – The Planning Team discussed the selection of stakeholders for a future open house. Team members provided D. Birchler with suggested names/organizations and contact information. Several additions were discussed and individual Team members agreed to forward contact information to D. Birchler and M. Stirling.
7. Management Zone Exercise – D. Birchler handed out an abbreviated description of 9 standard management zones, discussed the concept of management zones, and reviewed the level of resource protection and visitor activity within each zone. The Planning Team split into two groups and each group developed a conceptual management zone map. The team identified the Primitive Zone, Natural Resource, Backcountry, Developed Recreation, Administrative Zone, and Scenic and Cultural Overlay designations as possible management zones.
8. Online Survey Brainstorming Exercise – what do we hope to learn from the survey results?
 - What game do you hunt/trap or fish at Fisherman’s Island State Park?
 - Where in the park do you hunt/trap or fish?
 - What amenities would you like to see at Fisherman’s Island State Park:
 - Like what’s there? Y/N
 - Like to see others? _____
 - How do you use Fisherman’s Island State Park?
 - Add 3 spaces to enter answers
 - _____
 - _____
 - How often do you visit Fisherman’s Island State Park each year? (Number)
 - What is the typical length of your visit?
 - What are your 3 favorite activities? _____ (open-ended response)
 - What 3 improvements would you like to see? _____ (open-ended response)
 - What is your primary Zip code _____
 - Do you swim at Fisherman’s Island State Park?
 - Where? _____

- Where/how do you access Fisherman’s Island State Park?
 - Bells Bay (North)
 - Clipperview (Central)
 - Lakeshore / Norwood Road (South)
 - Other....describe _____ (open-ended response)
 - What characteristic(s) of Fisherman’s Island State Park is important to you? _____ (open-ended response)
 - Regarding the proposed Charlevoix – Traverse Trail
 - Do you support its development? Y/N
 - For what purpose(s) _____ (open-ended response)
 - Do you hike in Fisherman’s Island State Park?
 - Designated trails?
 - On your own?
 - How important is cell service in Fisherman’s Island State Park?
 - How important is WiFi service in Fisherman’s Island State Park?
 - Do you walk/wade/swim out to Fisherman’s Island? Y/N
 - When you camp at Fisherman’s Island State Park, do you visit destinations outside park? Y/N
 - Top Two _____, _____
 - If you camp, approximately how much money do you spend locally per day? \$ _____
 - For how many days? _____
 - Why do you choose to visit Fisherman’s Island State Park? _____
 - Do you/have you camped/visited other State Parks in area? Y/N
 - Which one(s)? _____ (open-ended response)
9. Action Goals Wish List Exercise – what are issues for the Planning Team that the general management plan should address?
- a. Roads and drainage issues/repairs
 - b. Improved and additional access points
 - c. Inventory / designate trails
 - d. Address forest health and hazard trees.
 - e. Invasive species control (phragmites, and others)
 - f. Dump station
 - g. Running water/septic for office/campground
 - h. Phone or internet access for office
 - i. Trail bridges over creeks (Whiskey/Inwood/McGeach)
 - j. Archeological survey of the whole park
 - k. Equipment storage and new staff office
 - l. Identify critical access parcels and pursue acquisition
 - m. Evaluate trail connection to downtown Charlevoix
 - n. Is Fisherman’s Island State Park part of a regional water trail?
 - o. Alternative lodging – cabin, yurt
 - p. Relationship to Charlevoix/Traverse City Trail
10. The team discussed the possibility of scheduling next meeting on March 25. Because key Team members would not be available, M. Stirling will poll the Team for dates in the first two weeks of April.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

Team Meeting #3

Location: Charlevoix Fisheries Research Station

April 17, 2015

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Planning Team Meeting Attendees: Tom Copenhagen (Unit Supervisor), Debbie Jensen (Management Plan Administrator), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Ray Fahlsing (Stewardship Unit Manager), Lisa Gamero (Cultural Resource Analyst), Andrea Erratt (Conservation Officer – LED), Peter Rose (Geologist), Cynthia Watson (Property Specialist), Jon Spieles (Field Supervisor), David Birchler and Mardy Stirling (Clearzoning)

1. Review of Meeting #2 Summary. The Team reviewed and revised the meeting summary.
2. Statements of Significance. The Team reviewed and revised the Statement of Significance.
3. Management Zone Exercise. The maps were presented by each group to the full Team for comparison.
 - a. R. Hill recommended that the approved project boundary be used for planning purposes. This is consistent with other state park GMP efforts. R. Fahlsing and C. Watson concurred, noting that Trust Fund grants look closely at whether expansion is within the project boundary.
 - b. The Team discussed and noted the following features within the boundaries:
 - Preserving drumlin features
 - Providing improved access
 - Protecting the natural character, which is difficult on such a narrow site
 - Expand hunting opportunity
 - c. The Team discussed the old roadbed located in the south portion of the park. R. Fahlsing believes improving the trail will alter the primitive character of the park. A. Erratt believes the Whiskey Creek Road should be left open for hunting and fishing. R. Fahlsing commented that he would like to see the area preserved in its natural state and not “domesticated.” It was suggested that improving the road to a non-motorized, crushed-stone trail could protect the resource from current damage and give people access.
 - d. R. Hill believes that there is strong local interest in the proposed Traverse City to Charlevoix trail will going through the park, so the Team needs to determine where it can best be located. It was discussed that the trail could follow the park road, but that could result in conflicts with the existing use.
 - e. Using the side by side management zone maps and associated resource maps, the Team came to a consensus on the draft management zone map.
4. Public Input Survey Review. The Team reviewed the survey questions and suggested modifications that focus on informing the Management Plan.
5. Stakeholder Review and Discuss Venue. The Team proposed a date and time for the Stakeholder Open House. The Team also discussed time frames for the Public Input Open House.
6. Draft Action Goal Development. The Team participated in an exercise designed to develop future action goals. The exercise included general action goals that apply to the entire park, as well as more specific goals related to individual zone designations. The Team reviewed each area for natural resources, historic/cultural, recreation opportunities, education/interpretation opportunities, management, and development.

7. Review Supporting Analysis. The Team reviewed the draft Supporting Analysis, addressed specific questions and identified Sections that needed more information from Team specialists.

Schedule Team Meeting #5. It was suggested by L. Gamero that the Team may want to meet immediately following the stakeholder open house to review comments and discuss the action goals. The Planning Teams at Straits and McLain State Parks used this method and it worked very well. The Team confirmed that the Team Meeting #5 would be held immediately following the Stakeholder Open House.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

Team Meetings #4

Location: Remote/Go-To-Meeting

Friday, May 15, 2015

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Planning Team Meeting Attendees: Tom Copenhaver (Unit Supervisor), Debbie Jensen (Management Plan Administrator), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Ray Fahlsing (Stewardship Unit Manager), Lisa Gamero (Cultural Resource Analyst), Andrea Erratt (Conservation Officer – LED), Peter Rose (Geologist), Cynthia Watson (Property Specialist), Jon Spieles (Interpretive Manager), Joyce Angel (FRD Unit Manager), David Birchler, Mardy Stirling, and Karen Zarowny (Clearzoning)

1. Review of Meeting #3 Summary. The Team reviewed and revised the meeting summary.
2. Statements of Significance. The Team reviewed and made additions and revisions to the Statements of Significance.
3. Supporting Analysis Review. The Team reviewed the Supporting Analysis and suggested modifications that would provide better clarification and consistency on the information presented.
4. Management Zone Map. The Team reviewed the draft Management Zone Map and discussed the boundaries. The Team recommended that we present the information on management zones on separate maps; project boundary, park boundary and combined. It was suggested that this format would better delineate the extent of land currently owned by the park. In addition, the graphic delineation of the maps was discussed.

The Team discussed the history and the current status of the “road” that provides access from the south boundary of the park. It was suggested that the Road Commission and/or the DNR real estate division may be able to provide some additional information. The Team concurred that the map should reflect the “road” as a “route under study” and determined that this is an area that requires additional research. It was suggested that the Team may want to incorporate a study into the Action Goals for the park. Access to Whiskey Creek was also discussed. It was noted that some of these access issues require policy level decisions. The Team discussed the need to balance the preservation of the park’s natural and cultural resources with access.

5. Refine Draft Action Goals. The Team reviewed the Action Goals and associated timelines and made revisions to the general action goals and the identified draft management zones.
6. Online Survey. The Team discussed the newly available survey for Fisherman’s Island. It was reported that, to date, the survey had received 186 responses and would close on June 24th. A preliminary tally will be completed prior to the Planning Team’s meeting #5.
7. Review Final Stakeholder List. The Team discussed the final Stakeholder list. It was recommended that contact be made to the supervisor/manager of each governmental entity.

8. Confirm Stakeholder Meeting Venue. The team discussed a possible date, time, and venue for the upcoming Stakeholder Open House.
9. Schedule Team Meeting #5. The Team confirmed that they would hold Team Meeting #5 immediately following the Stakeholder Open House.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

Team Meeting #5

Location: Charlevoix Public Library

June 22, 2015

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

(Immediately Following the Stakeholder Input Open House)

Planning Team Meeting Attendees: Tom Copenhaver (Unit Supervisor), Debbie Jensen (Management Plan Administrator), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Anna Marie Bauer (Regional Planner), Dean Anderson (State Archeologist), Lisa Gamero (Cultural Stewardship Specialist), Ray Fahlsing (Stewardship Unit Manager), Andrea Erratt (Conservation Officer – LED), Dave Birchler and Mardy Stirling (Clearzoning)

1. Review Team Meeting Summary #4. The Team reviewed and accepted Meeting #4 Summary.
2. Review of Management Zone Map Comments. D. Birchler reviewed the comments on the Management Zone Maps. The Planning Team discussed the proposed trail initiative and desired level of participation for Fisherman's Island State Park. It was noted that some of the comments were in support of having the trail routed along the lakeshore while others were in support of a trail that used a combination of park land and existing public right-of-way. The Planning Team discussed the following options:
 - Use the old road bed as a pathway
 - Expand the area of Natural Resource Recreation designation to make it possible to route the trail on the east side of the ride and keep the campgrounds on the west side
 - Expand the Natural Resource Recreation designation to the west side of the creek and along Witmer, in order to get trail into and out of the park.
3. Review of draft Action Goal Comments and Priority Activities from Stakeholders. The Planning Team did a cursory review of the priority stickers. R. Hill suggested adding an action goal to determine the feasibility of a trail(s) and whether a corridor is possible through the entire park. He suggested that the time frame be one year. It was noted that the southern access should be on State land. A was suggested that it may need to be moved or an easement obtained to access at the current location. The Team discussed the difficulties with property ownership at the southern access and how that will also need to be considered in discussions regarding the trail proposal.
4. Review of Additional Comments (from Stakeholder's Brainstorming Activity). D. Birchler reviewed the stakeholder comments from the brainstorming session. These comments will be included in the minutes from the stakeholder meeting.
5. Review of Survey Results (Survey closes on June 24, 2015). The Planning Team was provided with the survey results.
6. Public Open House Meeting. D. Jensen requested that after tabulating the information from the stakeholder meeting, the team should have an opportunity to review. She suggested that we should share a draft of the entire plan with the Planning Team so they will see the action goals in context.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

**Team Meeting #5 (continuation)
Go-To-Meeting
August 3, 2015
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Planning Team Meeting Attendees: Tom Copenhaver (Park Manager), Debbie Jensen (Management Plan Administrator), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Dean Anderson (State Archeologist), Lisa Gamero (Cultural Resource Analyst), Andrea Erratt (Conservation Officer – LED), Cynthia Watson (Property Specialist), Peter Rose (Geologist), and Dave Birchler, Mardy Stirling and Karen Zarowny (Clearzoning)

1. Review Meeting Agenda. Meeting agenda was accepted as presented.
2. Review Initial Team Meeting Summary #5 (meeting after stakeholder open house). The Team reviewed and accepted the Initial Team Meeting #5 Summary with edits.
3. Review of Stakeholder Meeting Summary and Survey Summary. The Team reviewed and revised the Stakeholder Meeting Summary #5. The Team suggested that further explanation be provided regarding the prioritization of action goals. The team noted that the activity allowed for participants to weigh in on specific items (using sticker dots), often resulting in a large number of stickers on one or two action goals. The lead-in paragraph will also explain that comments received from stakeholders are shown in red text.

The Team reviewed the Summary of the Public Input Survey. It was reported that there were over 400 responses to the online survey. In response to the comments, Clearzoning will include a zip code map showing the primary residence of respondents to the survey. It was suggested that an additional sentence be added under "Activities" indicating that the survey results showed a general support for connectivity with the proposed regional trail, however, there were several respondents that did not support the trail running through the park.

The Team requested that the entire survey, with all responders' comments, be provided for public review. It was recommended a link to the full survey be posted along with the summary. Clearzoning suggested that the question related to the respondents zip codes and the three words used to describe the park could be removed to shorten the overall length of the document. This information is currently shown as a word graphic in the summary and a zip code map will be added.

4. Review discussion on the regional trail initiative. D. Jensen described how a subgroup of the Planning Team had walked approximately eight miles of the park beginning at the north end behind the campground and continuing south. She noted that they were unable to identify a connection between Clipperview and the old roadbed. She commented that some good foot trails existed within the park; however, dunes, wetlands, and thick vegetation provided challenges in some areas.

R. Hill noted that there was strong interest from bike/trail groups to have a trail connection between Charlevoix and Traverse City. The trail group has expressed their desire to have access through Fisherman's Island State Park. It was noted that the DNR has conveyed to the trail group that they are evaluating option(s) for trail connectivity; however, the current zoning of the park south of Clipperview would not support the type of trail that they are proposing (10 foot wide, non-motorized trail). T. Copenhaver noted the trail group would like to use this part of the trail to jumpstart the project toward Traverse City.

Concerns were raised over providing access to areas that are known to have cultural resources or are environmentally sensitive. A. Erratt noted that several of the areas are heavily wooded making access and monitoring difficult.

The Team concurred that a feasibility study of the trail was needed. It was also suggested that the General Management Plan include an outline of the trail analysis conducted by the Team as part of the planning process. A. Erratt commented that she has some background documentation on the history of the road bed.

The Team discussed the option of a corridor that would be designated as Natural Resource Recreation which would allow for a non-motorized trail. The Team commented that they needed additional information in order to make an informed decision on a location(s) for a corridor that would support this type of activity. The goal is to have the least amount of resource impact. In order to address the recreational opportunities while maintaining the rustic and primitive character of the park. The Team discussed the need to identify and study more than one possible route within and/or through the park.

It was recommended that "routes under study" be shown on a map with the methodology for selection. It was noted that further study would likely be conducted by an independent consultant that would provide a detailed evaluation. The Team discussed the funding for construction and maintenance and it was noted that the use of Federal funds would require compliance with Section 106 which may present challenges.

5. Review Management Zone Map. The Team reviewed the Management Zone Map. The Team discussed changing the zone designation south of Clipperview and east of Inwood Creek from Primitive to Natural Resource Recreation. The creek corridor would remain

as Primitive. This is consistent with the area to the north and allow the DNR- PRD flexibility in future development of the area. D. Jensen will contact R. Fahlsing to discuss the natural resources in the area.

Based on the discussion surrounding the trails, the Team concurred to show the entire old roadbed as a “route under study.” T. Copenhaver commented that more than one area could be considered as a “route under study” which would allow for greater opportunity to design a trail that would be compatible with the park’s natural communities and cultural resources. The Team also discussed the south entrance and the issues surrounding ownership. The Team agreed to review this issue as part of an action goal item.

It was noted that some of the map’s graphics could be enhanced, e.g. road line weights, corridor delineation, overlays in the northern portion of the park, colors between zones.

6. Review draft Action Goals. The Team reviewed and revised the action goals. The Team concurred that the time frame to conduct a study on the route options for the trail should be one to two years.
7. Draft General Management Plan Review. The Team was encouraged to review the draft Management Plan to see if there were sections, specifically within their area of expertise that should be added, modified, etc. D. Jensen commented that a more detailed review would be completed after the document was in final form.
8. Discussion on the Public Open House Meeting (date, location and time). The Team established a meeting date of October 12, 2015 at the Charlevoix Public Library from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. Clearzoning will send a confirmation to the Team members.

Fisherman's Island State Park General Management Planning

Planning Team Meeting #6 Go-To-Meeting November 19, 2015 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Planning Team Meeting Attendees: Annamarie Bauer (Regional Planner), Tom Copenhaver (Park Manager), Rich Hill (District Supervisor), Debbie Jensen (Park Management Plan Administrator), Peter Rose (State Geologist), Dave Birchler, Mardy Stirling, and Karen Zarowny (Clearzoning)

1. Review of Planning Team Meeting # 5 Summary of June 22, 2015 (continuation). The Team reviewed and accepted Meeting # 5 Summary (continuation).
2. Review comments received at the October 12, 2015 Public Input Open House. The Planning Team reviewed the public input comments. The Team recommended clarification of the statement regarding equestrian use and reviewed the prioritization of the action goals. A. Bauer questioned the methodology of the priority stickers and whether certain action goals were more heavily weighted due to the specific interest groups in attendance. D. Birchler described the process and noted that individuals were encouraged to consider all of the action goals. Team members in attendance at the Public Input Open House believed that individuals did not disproportionately "vote" for one action goal.

The Team discussed the action goals ranked with the highest priority:

- Continue to control illegal motor vehicle use. (25 priority stickers - Primitive Zone)
- Study route options and analyze the impact of a non-motorized trail running through the park as part of the regional trail proposal. (20 priority stickers- General Action Goal)

The Team also noted those goals and comments regarding the character of the park, e.g. keeping the park rustic, no modern campsites.

3. Review of Management Zone Map (final version). The Planning Team discussed the Management Zone Map. The Team recommended the following:
 - Modify the scenic overlay to the southeast of Fisherman's Island to follow the lakeshore.
 - Research the reason for the Primitive Zone with Scenic Overlay located along Lake Michigan between McGeech Creek and Inwood Creek. Clearzoning will send the GIS shapefiles for review by the DNR.
 - Include the recent acquisition (five acre property off of Swanson Road) as a Natural Resource Recreation. R. Hill will send the property description.
 - Reduce the size of the Scenic Overlay at the south end of the park – less of an off-set on the east side of the area designated as "Route Under Study."
 - Provide an arrow north and northeast at the north end of the area reflected as a "Route Under Study" indicating that the study may include more than the area shown on the Management Zone Map.
 - Label Swanson Road and Faculak Creek.

- Include a scale.

The extent of the “Route Under Study” was discussed by the Planning Team. The Team noted that the study would address two areas: (1) Feasibility of a non-motorized trail running through the park as part of the regional trail proposal, and (2) Evaluate motor vehicle access at the south end of the park. R. Hill suggested that we better define the scope of the study, e.g., alternatives, existing road bed composition, existing conditions (archeological, natural communities, etc.). T. Copenhaver noted that the study should also consider methods for access to provide for park maintenance as well as monitoring and enforcement as required. The Team also discussed the approval process and funding for this type of project.

4. Review of 10-Year Action Goals for General Management Plan (final version)

Suggested modifying the language under the Primitive Zone, Management section to read

Action Goal	Time Frame	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
<p>Continue to control illegal motor vehicle use.</p> <p>Continue to focus on the control of illegal motor vehicle access and evaluate and implement measures to deter illegal use.</p>	Ongoing	Park Manager Law Enforcement	Law Enforcement

Add under Natural Resource Recreation:

Action Goal	Time Frame	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
Evaluate the feasibility of recreational use and access to the park	1-3 years	District Supervisor Regional Planner Park Manager	Park Manager

5. Review of Draft General Management Plan

The Team reviewed the Draft General Management Plan. As part of the discussion during the Management Zones, the following modifications were suggested:

- Provide more details on the “route under study” under Chapter 4, Management Zones.
- Consider including additional language regarding the regional trail initiative.
- Better define the scope of the “Route Under Study.”
- Acknowledge the protection of piping plover habitat and Critical Dunes under Section 4.1 and 4.3. Reference the resource maps.
- Additionally there were some general suggestions on formatting and text. D. Jensen will forward to Clearzoning.

6. Next Steps. D. Jensen described the process for approval and suggested that we were looking at possibly April for a final approval.