



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



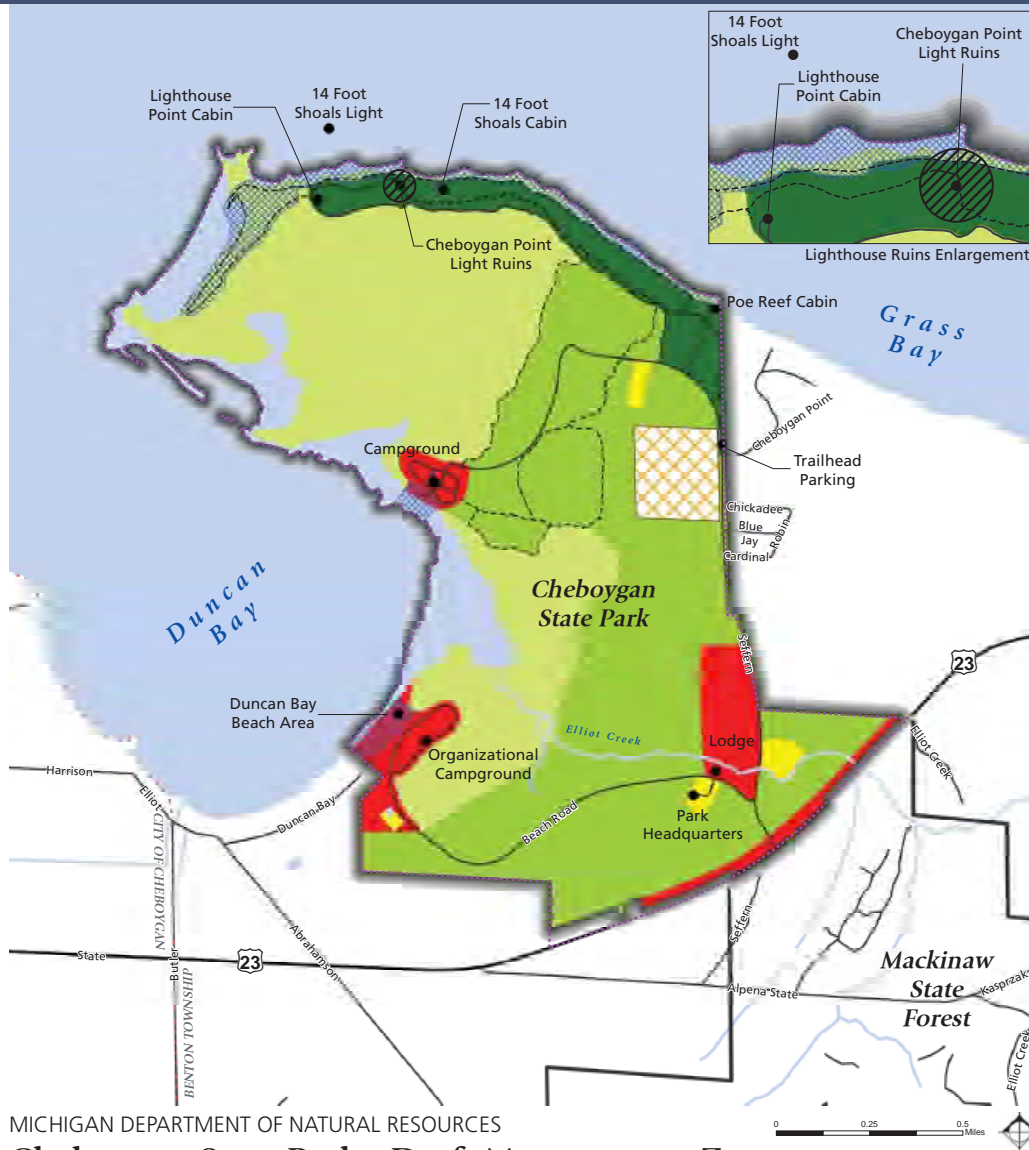
Cheboygan State Park

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Approved February 14, 2018

Prepared with the assistance of

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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Draft Management Zones

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

- State Park Boundary
- State Forest Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- 2004 NRC Approved Project Boundary
- State Roads
- Other Roads

- Trails
- Private Property

Management Zones

- Primitive
- Backcountry
- Natural Resource Recreation

- Developed Recreation
- Administrative Services
- Scenic Overlay
- Cultural Landscape Zone (Overlay)

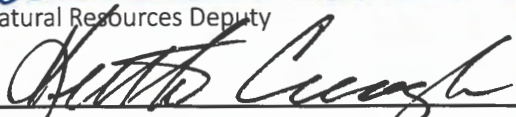
Beckett & Raeder

This project was directed by Deborah Jensen, Management Plan Administrator, Department of Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation Division with assistance from Beckett & Raeder, Inc.

PLAN APPROVALS


Chief, Parks & Recreation Division


Natural Resources Deputy


Director, Department of Natural Resources

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2/13/18
Date

2/14/18
Date

2/14/18
Date

PLAN APPROVALS

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>10/23/2017</u> Date
DNR- Resource Management Bureau	<u>11/08/2017</u> Date
MSPAC- Stewardship Subcommittee	<u>11/29/2017</u> Date
NRC- Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee	<u>01/11/2018</u> Date

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2018-01**MICHIGAN STATE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MSPAC)****RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE
“CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN”****ADOPTED: January 11, 2018**

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

Submitted by: MSPAC Stewardship Subcommittee

Motioned by: MSPAC Chair, Louise Klarr

Seconded by: Committee Member, Mike McDonald

Yeas: 12
Nays: 0
Abstained: 0
Absent: 3

This Resolution was adopted by the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee at their regular meeting on January 11, 2018 as Resolution No. 01-2018-01

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Views of Lake Huron

General Management Plan Executive Summary

Cheboygan State Park (CSP) is located east of the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, just four miles from the City of Cheboygan in an area renowned for its water recreation opportunities. The 1,345-acre park includes close to four miles of shoreline on Lake Huron and Duncan Bay and features two lighthouses located off the coast. Year-round recreation opportunities are offered, including a swimming beach, carry-in boat launch, seven miles of recreational trails (ski, hiking, and biking), a 74-site campground, two tepee sites, three rustic cabins on Lake Huron, and a modern lodge. In addition, most of the state park is open to hunting. Elliot Creek, which flows through the park, is known for its trout fishery. This park is visited frequently by locals, as well as visitors from around the state, who come to enjoy the shoreline camping, rustic cabins, day use beach, and other recreational amenities.

The purpose of this General Management Plan (GMP) is to guide the future long-term management of Cheboygan State Park. Overall, this plan seeks to uphold the Parks & Recreation Division's (PRD) Mission: "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 management plan brings together DNR staff, stakeholders and the public into a process that defines the following for the state park:

- Purpose and significance that captures the unique identity of Cheboygan State Park
- 20-Year Management Zone Plan reflecting the resource protection goals and level of development appropriate for different areas of the park
- Ten-year action goals that address the desired future condition within the park as a whole and within each of the designated management zones

While the GMP addresses some specific natural resource goals for the park, a separate Stewardship Plan will be developed to identify targets for conservation and related natural resource goals and management strategies. This plan will be developed by the PRD Stewardship Unit in consultation with Wildlife and other resource divisions as appropriate.

The Supporting Analysis, included as Appendix A of this plan, provides important background information on Cheboygan State Park that informs this planning initiative. It includes a comprehensive review of the park setting; area demographics; history; land ownership; legal mandates; and cultural, natural, and recreation resources. Furthermore, several existing planning documents, including the Michigan State Parks Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel Report and the Michigan Comprehensive Trails Plan, were used as guiding references (See Chapter 1).

Significance of Cheboygan State Park

Each General Management Plan (GMP) developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) is derived from the park's significant features that make it distinct from other parks in the state's system. Cheboygan State Park was determined significant due to the following:

Great Lakes Shoreline

Cheboygan State Park provides approximately four miles of access to the Lake Huron shoreline, in an area renowned for its water recreation opportunities. Boaters often launch nearby and then travel to the park by water, accessing the relatively sheltered, shallow waters of Duncan Bay. The park affords access for paddlers and expansive views of the lake, lighthouses, the Mackinac Bridge, and freighters traveling through the Straits of Mackinac.

Natural Resources & Communities

The natural communities found around Duncan Bay, such as the Great Lakes marsh, coastal fen, and the Great Lakes barrens, are regionally significant for their high biodiversity and support threatened and endangered species. These communities are found only along the Great Lakes shoreline.

Maritime Heritage

The park is an excellent location to explore the rich maritime history of the Great Lakes. Due to the active shipping history of the straits, numerous shipwrecks can be found by snorkelers off Cheboygan Point and chartered diving trips are available from nearby Cheboygan. The ruins of a lighthouse complex built in the park in 1859 are accessible to park users. The Poe Reef and 14 Foot Shoals lighthouses built since that time are operating offshore.

Cheboygan State Park provides approximately four miles of access to the Lake Huron shoreline, in an area renowned for its water recreation opportunities.



Cheboygan State Park Campground

Heritage Route 23 & Regional Trails

Heritage Route 23 runs 200 miles along the scenic Lake Huron shoreline and connects an array of cultural and recreational resources, including Cheboygan State Park. The park is also in close proximity to several multi-use state trails that link the City of Cheboygan to Mackinaw City, Gaylord, Alpena, and beyond. Cheboygan State Park provides access points on the Cheboygan Area Blueway (part of the Huron Shores Coastal Water Trail) and has a close association with the Inland Waterway, a 38-mile navigable route through lakes and rivers beginning in Cheboygan. The park is also identified as a "hotspot" on the Sunrise Coast Birding Trail.

Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife Viewing

The diverse natural resources found at Cheboygan State Park supply excellent opportunities for fishing, hunting, birding, and hiking along well-maintained trails. The adjacent state forest provides additional public land for hunting and other dispersed recreation opportunities.

Year-Round Overnight Experience

Three rustic cabins along the shoreline, each with its own secluded beach, make for a unique overnight experience that can be enjoyed year-round. In addition, Cheboygan Lodge provides accommodations with modern amenities directly adjacent to Elliott Creek.

Management Zones

A key goal in the development of this General Management Plan is to continue providing the opportunities and features that attract many 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, five zones and two overlays were applied to Cheboygan 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

This zone reflects a desired condition that emphasizes the natural resources. It is managed to allow only dispersed and low frequency use for low impact recreational purposes. The primitive zone covers approximately 46% of the park and is used to protect the existing sensitive natural communities that exist along much of the shoreline and some of the central portions of the park. A small segment of the Primitive Zone is found on the shoreline of Lake Huron between the water's edge and the treeline.

Backcountry Zone

The character of this zone is natural, with minimal evidence of human impact. This zone allows for increased use, including non-motorized trails, backcountry (dispersed) camping, and low-impact modifications of the landscape to accommodate that use. The backcountry zone comprises approximately 40% of the park and encompasses a large portion of the park's interior, characterized by forested area and low-impact recreation facilities.

Natural Resource Recreation Zone

With an emphasis on resource quality over recreation in this zone, higher levels of use are allowed including active recreation with medium to high density of use conducted in natural settings. The natural resource recreation zone makes up approximately 6% of the park and is found near the northern shoreline of the park between the roads leading to the cabins and the tree line near the water's edge. It encompasses the rustic cabins and the Cheboygan Point Light ruins.

Developed Recreation Zone

The developed recreation zone allows active recreation with high density of use conducted in areas not designated for natural resource significance. In this zone, recreation dominates with natural resource attributes enhanced as possible. This zone is approximately 7% of the park land and includes the area around the campgrounds and the day use area. It also includes the lodge and previously disturbed area to the north, which has potential for possible development. A linear developed recreation zone along US-23 right-of-way to the utility lines provides for possible future trail development.

Administrative Services Zone

This zone encompasses the developed areas required for program administration and operations. Typically, offices, contact stations, maintenance facilities, and all related land base required to conduct the business of running a state park are included in this zone. This zone is only approximately 1% of the park and includes the park headquarters and other existing park infrastructure, such as wastewater facilities.

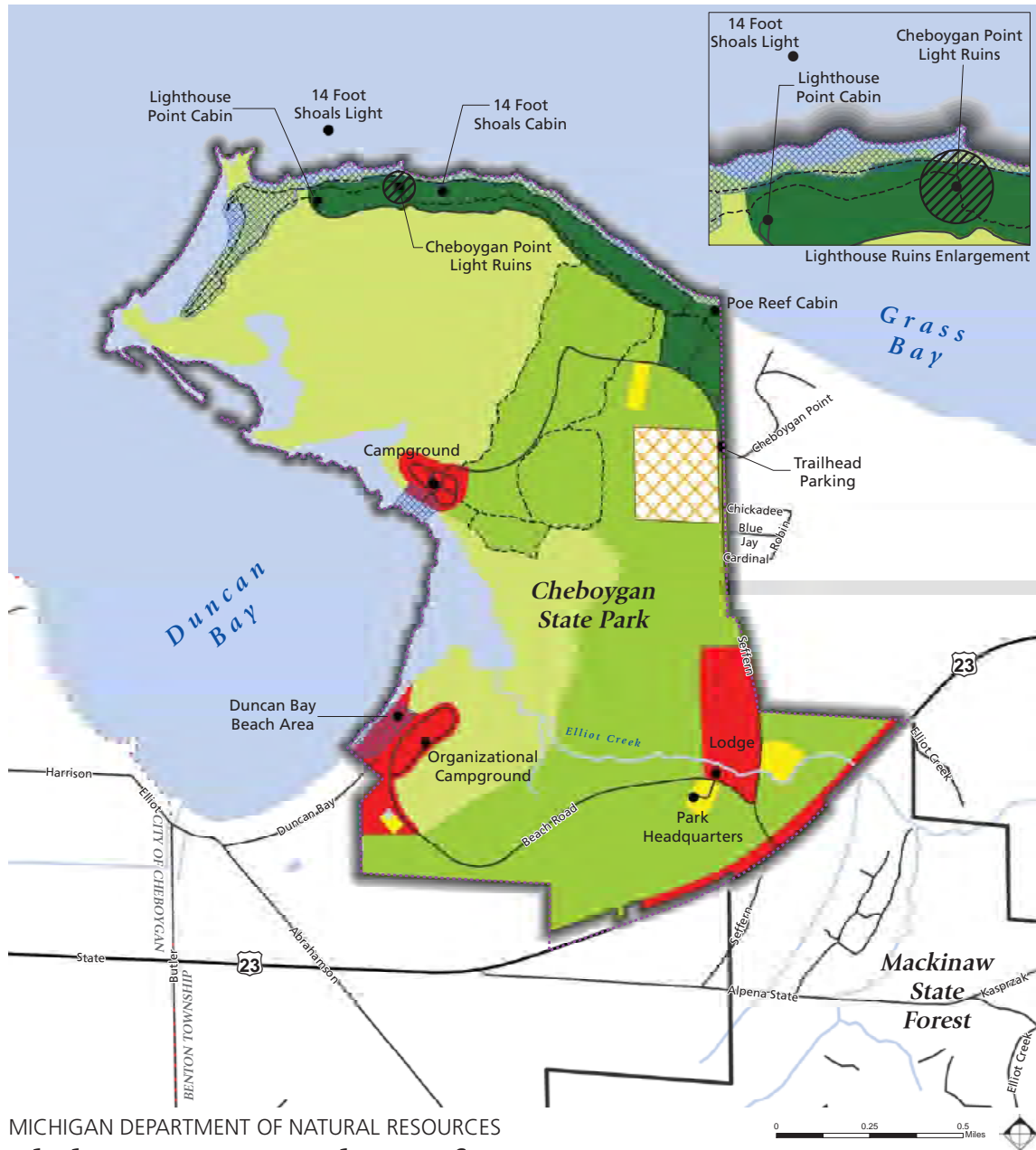


Scenic Overlay

The Scenic Overlay recognizes that there are aesthetic qualities to be preserved and protected in Cheboygan State Park. This overlay comprises approximately 4% of the park and includes the shoreline area on the north side of the park, the viewsheds at the campground, and the day use beach.

Cultural Landscape Overlay

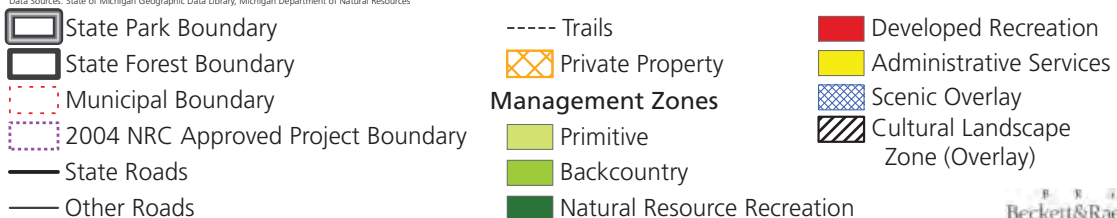
This zone addresses the overall setting in which is found not only historic structures, but also non-structural evidence of the traditions, beliefs, practices, arts, crafts, and social institutions of any community. This overlay is a tiny fraction of the park, only approximately 0.2% of park land, and is located at the Cheboygan Point Light Ruins.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Draft Management Zones

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources



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10-Year Action Goals

Once the planning team has established management zones to guide the park for the next 20 years, a series of action goals are identified. The planning team has determined these goals as the items that can be accomplished in the next 10 years. The goals are broken down into categories pertaining either to a single management zone or to the park as a whole. Below is a summary of the action goals for each zone. The full list of 10-year action goals can be found in Chapter 5.

General Action Goals (apply park-wide)

The general action goals for Cheboygan State Park (CSP) focus on continuing the protection of sensitive environmental areas and controlling invasive species, protecting potential cultural resources, supporting local non-motorized trail efforts, and evaluating the park road conditions.

Primitive Zone

The focus of the primitive zone action goal is to support the research of natural features within the park.

Backcountry Zone

Within the backcountry zone, the action goal priorities focus on improving circulation within the park.

Natural Resource Recreation Zone

The natural resources recreation zone goals focus on the study and improvement and /or expansion of overnight lodging at CSP.

Developed Recreation Zone

Within this zone, action goals focus on improving existing park amenities and facilities that significantly contribute to the park's user experience.

Administrative Services Zone

The goals within this zone would improve the utility infrastructure of the park.

Scenic Overlay

The scenic overlay goals seek to recognize and protect the captivating views within the park.

The general action goals for CSP focus on continuing the protection of sensitive environmental areas and controlling invasive species, protecting potential cultural resources, supporting local non-motorized trail efforts, and evaluating the park road conditions.



Walkway to the Cheboygan State Park Beach



Pitcher Plants

Chapter One:

Core Values & Guiding Resources

1.1 Mission Statements

Throughout the planning process, the core values of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) were the foundation of the planning team's decisions. These include the mission statement of the DNR, the five goals of the DNR, and the DNR Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) mission statement. These values set the protection of natural and cultural resources and the provision of recreational and educational opportunities at the forefront of the plan.

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.

Five Goals of the DNR

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

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.

1.2 Guiding References

The general management planning process is guided and shaped by several resources developed to provide recommendations for managing Michigan's parks 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)

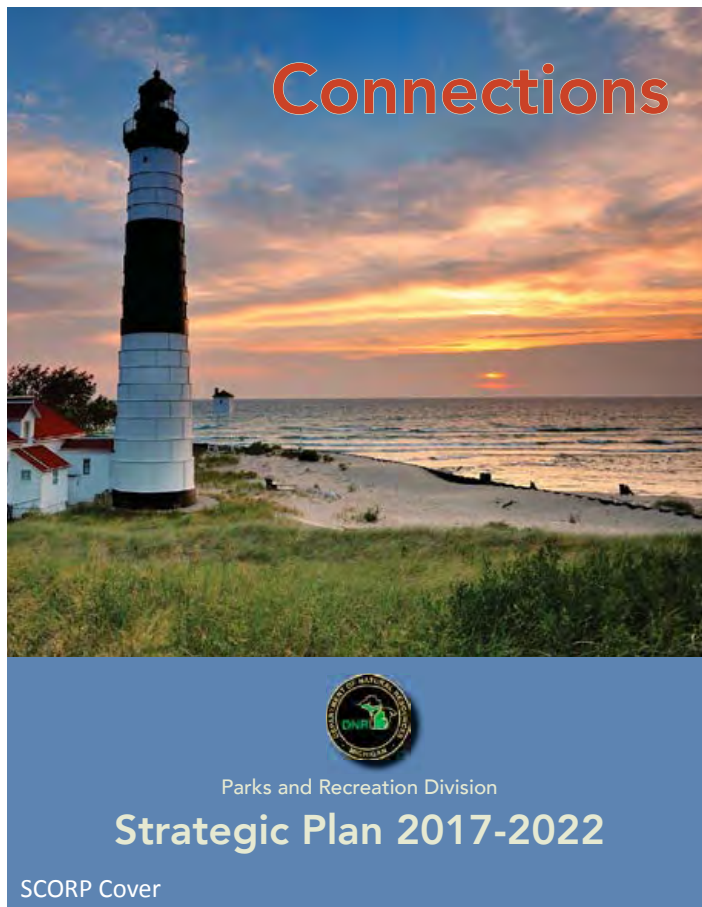
SCORP is a five-year strategic plan that shapes investment by the state and local communities in priority outdoor recreation infrastructure and programming. The Plan's overarching goal is to utilize Michigan's diverse and abundant natural assets to meet the fun, relaxation, and health needs of Michigan's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

- Identify and protect important natural, cultural, historic, and prehistoric resources
- Diversify funding
- Prioritize development of statewide and regional systems of connected trail networks
- Connections between communities and their recreational assets to strengthen regional identities
- 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:

- Trails are maintained to ensure a sustainable and quality trail system
- Expand trails, trail experiences, opportunities to ensure accessibility to trail systems, outdoor recreation opportunities, and natural and cultural resources
- The Michigan Snowmobile and 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 complements other plans and planning efforts

PRD Strategic Plan (2017-2022): Connections

The PRD Strategic Plan is the overarching document that guide the Parks and Recreation Division in carrying out its mission. This plan establishes long-range goals, objectives, and strategies for Michigan's state parks and recreation system for the 5-year period beginning in 2017. The plan identifies the most important issues facing the PRD and helps to define where resources should be focused for maximum benefit to carry the state park and recreation system beyond its centennial milestone in 2019. The goals identified in the plan are:

- Be exemplary stewards of Michigan's natural and cultural resources.
- Provide users with quality outdoor recreation experiences in balance with resource protection.
- Continue to advance Michigan as the "Trail State."
- Provide a relevant gateway to connect people to nature and Michigan's cultural heritage, and foster understanding and support for PRD's mission among future generations.
- Improve and maintain strong public, stakeholder and department communication, relationships and partnerships.

- Engage in strategies to increase community and state economic prosperity.
- Sustainably support PRD programs, operations and facilities.
- Foster and adopt effective and safe business practices.

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

For all park General Management Plans, legal mandates are identified that serve to further guide the development of the general management plan, park management, and park operations.

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, park management, and park operations. For the DNR's 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. There are several general and site specific legal mandates applicable to Cheboygan State Park (CSP) listed in Appendix A: Supporting Analysis.

The legal mandates that most directly impact planning and management at CSP focus on the following areas:

- Protection of threatened and endangered species, including piping plover and Lake Huron locust
- Great Lakes bottomlands, shore lands, wetlands, and

inland streams protection

- Hunting area control
- Requirement for a Recreation Passport for entry into the park
- Public health code requirements for campgrounds, swimming areas, and swimmers' itch
- Coastal Zone management and Coastal Environmental Area protection
- Protection of Piping plover nesting areas
- Establishing Elliot Creek as a designated trout stream



Ski Trails at Cheboygan State Park

Chapter Two:

Plan Process Overview

2.1 Planning Objectives

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has developed master plans in the past for many of Michigan's state parks; however, 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.

A 1964 master plan for Cheboygan State Park laid out three separate camping areas, a marine basin, interpretive center, picnic areas, and a beach. Only some of these proposed park facilities were implemented, but there has been no formal park-wide planning for Cheboygan State Park since that time.

General management planning 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 the mission of the DNR and the Parks & Recreation Division, applicable legal directives, the purpose of the park, and the park's significant natural and cultural resources.

The objective of the General Management Plan (GMP) is to bring together Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) staff, staff from other resource divisions, stakeholders, and the public into a planning process that defines and clarifies the unique "Purpose and Significance" of Cheboygan State Park. Collectively, those attributes will be reinforced in the planning and management decisions that impact the park through the implementation of the management zone plan and action goals.

The GMP is the first in a series of planning steps, with each step building upon the previous. There are three stages of planning, implemented in the following order:

1. General Management Plan 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. Five-Year Implementation Plan which breaks down action goals to be accomplished in the first five years of the GMP into specific projects with estimated costs and potential funding sources.
3. Annual Work Plan that addresses what will be done during a given year, and what progress was made throughout the previous year.

2.2 Planning Process

The Cheboygan State Park planning team met periodically over a 12 month period to develop the General Management Plan, beginning in September of 2016 and ending in September 2017. Throughout the process, the team sought the input of the public and stakeholders to guide the decisions made in the plan. A stakeholder workshop was held in February of 2017 to gather insights from organizations tied to the park. In addition, an online public input survey was available for park visitors to comment on the current park amenities and their priorities for the future. Following the input sessions and survey, the team developed a list of action plan priorities and developed the draft plan.

After the development of the draft plan, the DNR hosted a public input session in July of 2017 to encourage the public to share their thoughts and opinions pertaining to the Draft General Management Plan contents. In addition to soliciting comments on the Draft General Management Plan contents, prioritization of the action goals was also sought.

2.3 Planning Team

This plan was developed with the direct assistance, input, and expertise provided by all members of the planning team. Please refer to Appendix C for summaries of all planning team meetings.

PLANNING TEAM		
Division	Title	Name
PRD	Management Plan Administrator	Debbie Jensen
PRD	Unit Supervisor	Paul Koszegi
PRD	Park Ranger	Ward Rauch
PRD	District Supervisor	Rich Hill
PRD	Regional Planner	Keith Cheli
PRD	Ecologist	Glenn Palmgren
PRD	Cultural Resources Analyst	Lisa Gamero
PRD	N. Lower Trails Coordinator	Emily Meyerson
FD (Fisheries)	N. Lake Huron Unit Manager	Dave Borgeson
FRD (Forestry)	Atlanta Unit Manager	Cody Stevens
LED (Law)	District 3 Supervisor	Lt. James Gorno
LED (Law)	Conservation Officer	Matt Theunick
OMM (Minerals)	Geologist	Peter Rose
WLD (Wildlife)	Wildlife Biologist	Shelby Hiestand
PLANNING CONSULTANTS		
Beckett & Raeder, Inc.	Principal	Christy Summers, PLA, LEED AP
Beckett & Raeder, Inc.	Project Professional	Caitlin Jackson, PLA
Beckett & Raeder, Inc.	Project Professional / GIS Specialist	Marisa Laderach



Planning team touring Cheboygan State Park

2.4 Summary of Input Opportunities

Public input is a critical part of the planning for Cheboygan State Park (CSP). Below is a summary of the public and stakeholder input methods that were used to inform the development of the General Management Plan (GMP). Several different methods were used to ensure everyone had an opportunity for input. Full reports for each of the outreach methods are included in Appendix B of this plan.

Project Website

A public-facing website was maintained throughout the duration of the General Management Plan process at <http://mdnrmanagementplans.org/cheboygan-state-park/>. This website was updated with general information about the park and park maps, results of the public input survey, and the draft of the GMP. The website contained a contact form so that the public could contact the planning team at any time with questions, concerns, and input.

Stakeholder Input Workshop

In order to gather targeted input from governmental, non-profit, and business/tourism entities, the planning team invited a group of stakeholders to an input workshop in February of 2017. Attendees were given a brief overview of the General Management Plan process, the draft General Management Zone map, and a list of action items intended to be accomplished over the next 10 years. The stakeholders were divided into three groups and completed two exercises, first prioritizing and adding to the list of action items, and then, brainstorming partnership opportunities.

Online Public Input Survey

One of the methods the planning team used to gather input from park users was an online survey. This survey was advertised through a DNR press release that was sent directly to over 47,000 recipients who have registered to receive statewide or Cheboygan area news and those who registered at one of Cheboygan State Park's overnight accommodations in 2016. The press release was also shared by local newspaper and media outlets. This online approach provides a convenient way for those who have access to the internet to provide feedback and accurately transfers all responses for analysis. However, it is not designed to be statistically representative of CSP users or uses, as respondents self-select. They are not sampled on a random or systematic basis that would ensure statistically accurate representation of users or uses. Nevertheless, the on-line survey does provide valuable information about what certain individuals or groups (those who are motivated to comment about the park, those likely to receive DNR communication about the survey, and those who have easy access to the internet) hope to see in the park's future management.



Three hundred and forty-eight individuals responded to the survey, though 58 of those were screened from taking the entire survey because they had not visited the park in the last five years. The survey included questions on what activities the visitors participate in during their visit, their thoughts on the day use and overnight park amenities, fishing and hunting at the park, their overall satisfaction with their experience, and their demographic information.

Public Input Workshop

The public was invited to share their thoughts about Cheboygan State Park Draft General Management Plan at a public meeting that was hosted by the DNR in July of 2017. The meeting included a short overview of the General Management Plan process, Cheboygan State Park, and its Draft General Management Plan contents. Attendees were asked to review the presentation boards displaying excerpts of the draft plan, including the Statements of Significance, Draft Management Zone Plan, and 10-Year Action Goals. Participants were encouraged to comment on the plan material and to prioritize the Action Goals. The Draft General Management Plan was also made available for review on the project website and the public was invited to submit comments via email. The comments received were reviewed and incorporated into the final plan as appropriate.

Tribal Communication

The planning team reached out to the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, and the Bay Mills Indian Community with a letter notifying them of the General Management Plan process and time line inviting them to meet with the DNR to discuss the park or the planning process.



Cheboygan State Park Beach Shelter

Chapter Three: Purpose and Significance

3.1 State Park Purpose

Park purpose statements are based on park legislation, legislative history, special designations and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) policies. These statements reaffirm the reasons for which Cheboygan State Park (CSP) was included as part of the state park system.

- To be used as a public park, for the purposes of public recreation or the preservation of natural beauty or historic association in accordance with Act 218, Public Acts of 1919, which created the Michigan State Park Commission.
- To preserve and protect Cheboygan State Park's unique natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.
- To provide access to land and water based public recreational opportunities.
- To provide educational and interpretive opportunities for the public that reflect the DNR mission and the unique qualities of Cheboygan State Park.

3.2 Statements of Significance

Each General Management Plan (GMP) developed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) is derived from the park's significant features that make it distinct from other parks in the state's system. Cheboygan State Park was determined to be significant due to the following:

Great Lakes Shoreline

Cheboygan State Park provides approximately four miles of access to the Lake Huron shoreline, in an area renowned for its water recreation opportunities. Boaters often launch nearby and then travel to the park by water, accessing the relatively sheltered, shallow waters of Duncan Bay. The park affords access for paddlers and expansive views of the lake, lighthouses, the Mackinac Bridge, and freighters traveling through the Straits of Mackinac.



Cheboygan State Park

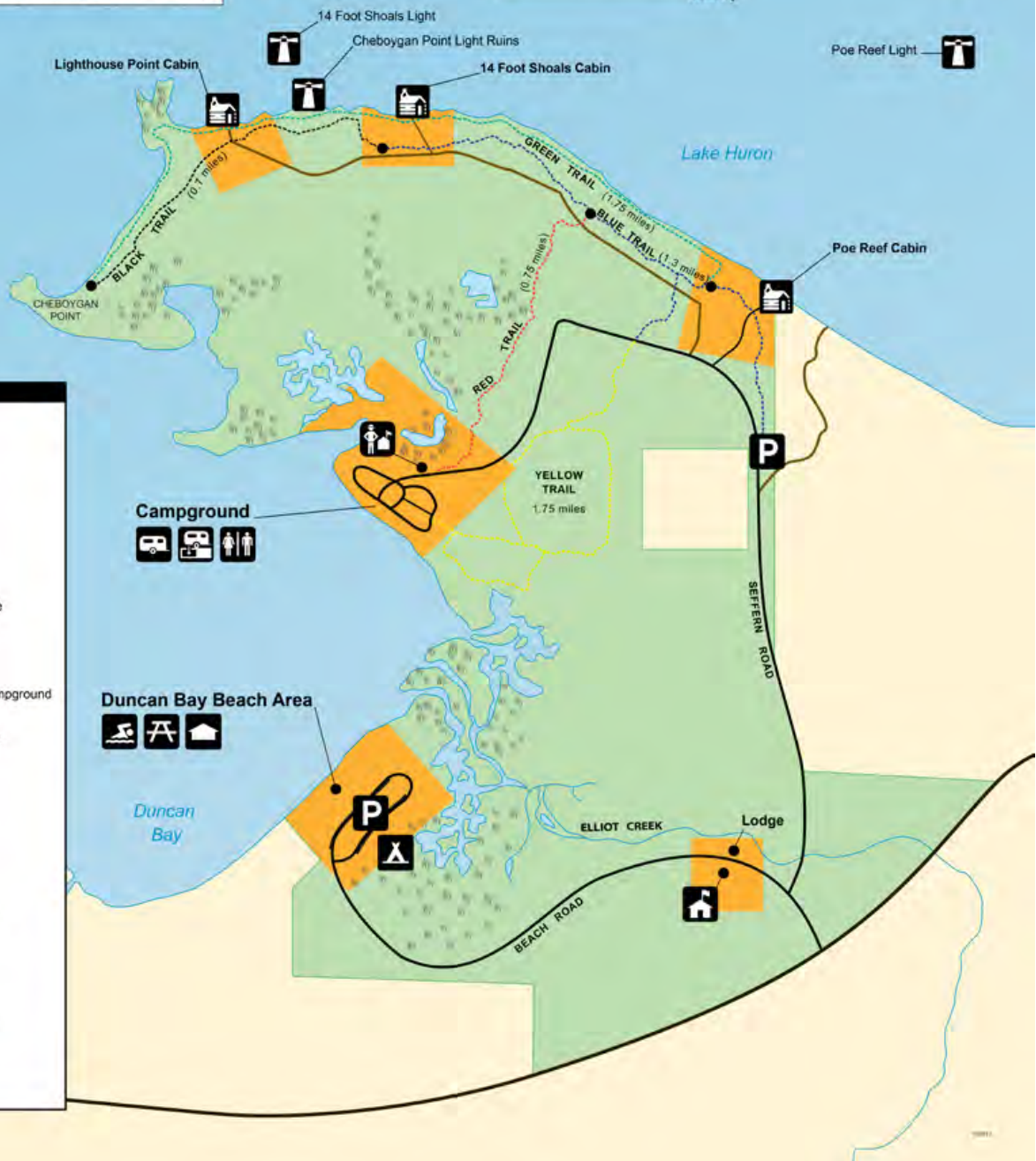
Welcome to CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK. Established in 1960, Cheboygan State Park features over three miles of uninterrupted Lake Huron shoreline. Duncan Bay, named after the once-thriving sawmill town of Duncan, offers a beautiful swimming beach and day use area. Three rustic cabins are available for rent year-round, each providing a beautiful view of the Lake Huron sunrise.

Hunting is allowed within the state park except in designated no-hunting zones. Stay safe while exploring the park by wearing an item of hunters orange clothing October – January.



14 Foot Shoals Cabin

Duncan Bay



LEGEND

- Beach
- Beach house
- Cabin
- Campground
- Campground office
- Lighthouse
- Organizational campground
- Park headquarters
- Parking
- Picnic area
- Restroom
- Sanitation station
- Park land
- Private land
- No hunting zone
- Hiking trail
- Wetland



Fire Ring and Seating at a Rustic Cabin

Natural Resources & Communities

The natural communities found around Duncan Bay, such as the Great Lakes marsh, coastal fen, and the Great Lakes barrens, are regionally significant for their high biodiversity and support threatened and endangered species. These communities are found only along the Great Lakes shoreline.

Maritime Heritage

The park is an excellent location to explore the rich maritime history of the Great Lakes. Due to the active shipping history of the straits, numerous shipwrecks can be found by snorkelers off Cheboygan Point and chartered diving trips are available from nearby Cheboygan. The ruins of a lighthouse complex built in the park in 1859 are accessible to park users. The Poe Reef and 14 Foot Shoals lighthouses built since that time are operating offshore.

Heritage Route 23 & Regional Trails

Heritage Route 23 runs 200 miles along the scenic Lake Huron shoreline and connects an array of cultural and recreational resources, including Cheboygan State Park. The park is also in close proximity to several multi-use state trails that link the City of Cheboygan to Mackinaw City, Gaylord, Alpena, and beyond. Cheboygan State Park provides access points on the Cheboygan Area Blueway (part of the Huron Shores Coastal Water Trail) and has a close association with the Inland Waterway, a 38-mile navigable route through lakes and rivers beginning in Cheboygan. The park is also identified as a “hotspot” on the Sunrise Coast Birding Trail.

Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife Viewing

The diverse natural resources found at Cheboygan State Park supply excellent opportunities for fishing, hunting, birding, and hiking along well-maintained trails. The adjacent state forest provides additional public land for hunting and other dispersed recreation opportunities.

Year-Round Overnight Experience

Three rustic cabins along the shoreline, each with its own secluded beach, make for a unique overnight experience that can be enjoyed year-round. In addition, Cheboygan Lodge provides accommodations with modern amenities directly adjacent to Elliott Creek.

3.3 Public Affirmation of Significance

Stakeholder and public input assisted the planning team with affirming the significant features and opportunities at Cheboygan State Park. The feedback from the online survey confirmed that the natural features, Great Lakes shoreline, year-round overnight lodging options, and wildlife are key aspects of the park. Comments from survey respondents relating to those significant features are provided below.

“Visited in October to photograph Fringed Gentians and Ladies-tresses orchids.”

“We love this park, the trails, the views. Every season.”

“We stayed in a rustic cabin and rented kayaks. The setting is gorgeous. Love the amenities available in the park!”

“Love the cabins on the water. Bridge, island, lighthouses in view. Sunsets, sunrises, and swimming makes it even better. Love the quiet remote setting. So private and tucked away.”

“We have visited Cheboygan State Park as an annual winter retreat for almost 15 years now.”

“My last visit to CSP was to hunt waterfowl in November. We did not harvest any waterfowl that hunt, but it was an awesome afternoon.”

“Beach is kept clean and safe. Swimming and fishing is great.”

3.4 Relationship with the Local Community

Not only is Cheboygan State Park a valuable recreation resource for locals, but it is an important component of the local economy. Cheboygan State Park provides a base for exploring other nearby attractions such as downtown Cheboygan, Bois Blanc Island, Mackinac Island, and Mackinaw City. The public input survey confirmed this: 68% of respondents visit other area attractions when visiting the park. The most frequent destinations were downtown Cheboygan and its shops and restaurants, Mackinaw City, and Mackinac Island, along with a plethora of other attractions. Many of the survey respondents commented that they would like to see a trail connecting the park to Downtown Cheboygan, which would further facilitate the physical and economic relationship between the two.

"It would be nice to have trails that extended down US-23 and into town for biking and hiking."

"I would like to see the Park connected to the bike trails that go through Cheboygan."

"A connected non motorized trail linking the park to the City of Cheboygan and the North Central State Trail and the North Eastern State Trail [would make me visit more often]."



Downtown Cheboygan

Resilience has become an umbrella term for the planning and design strategies needed to help communities meet the economic, social, environmental and climate challenges of the future.

-Planning for Community Resilience in Michigan: A Comprehensive Handbook

3.5 Community Resilience

Planning for Community Resilience in Michigan: A Comprehensive Handbook (2017) outlines the threat that climate change poses to the Great Lakes shoreline:

"Great Lakes water levels have oscillated by as much as six feet over the last 100 years. Climate models predict that these oscillations will continue in the future, and may even increase in intensity. Two natural variables control Great Lakes water levels: precipitation, and the rate of evaporation. Warmer average temperatures are causing less ice cover to form on the Great Lakes in the winter, which greatly increases evaporation. Less ice cover also causes a net increase in water temperatures. Researchers have also found that Great Lakes shorelines may be subject to more erosion and flooding risk as a result of climate variability."

The Cheboygan State Park planning team used sound environmental planning principals to designate 20-year management zones for the park. Whenever possible, more restrictive zones were applied to areas sensitive to erosion and water level fluctuation. Development at the park is confined to limited areas along the shoreline and kept from further encroaching into sensitive coastal environmental areas.

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	Active Management	Significant Use	Extensive Development
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES			

Chapter Four: Management Zones

The 20-Year Management Zone Plan was developed in keeping with the park's purpose and significance. The primary goal in the development of the management zones is to protect and enhance the park's natural and cultural resources while also supporting its outdoor recreation opportunities. From a palette of nine management zones, the planning team studied the park and applied zones that best fit each area. Management zones describe a variety of activities that may be appropriate within the zone and address the desired future condition for the following categories:

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

The resource condition, visitor experience, and development level varies in each zone, as indicated in the figure above.

Cheboygan State Park was divided into the following five zones and two overlay zones:

- Primitive Zone
- Backcountry Zone

- Natural Resource Recreation Zone
- Developed Recreation Zone
- Administrative Services Zone
- Scenic Overlay
- Cultural Landscape Overlay

The state park's 2004 Project Boundary approved by the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) includes land owned primarily by private residential owners. 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. During the general management planning process, the planning team evaluated land within the 2004 Project Boundary to determine whether it still possessed both natural resource and recreational value and would complement existing land within Cheboygan State Park. As a result of this assessment, the planning team did not propose any changes to the 2004 Project Boundary. The current park ownership boundary and the 2004 NRC Approved Project Boundary can be seen on the Cheboygan State Park – Park Boundary map on the following page.

The land within the project boundary includes private land in two main locations: a 40-acre in-holding and private parcels between the current park property and US-23. The DNR seeks to acquire this land to consolidate the park ownership. Priority for acquisition of the land would be given to the in-holding and undeveloped land along US-23.



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Park Boundary

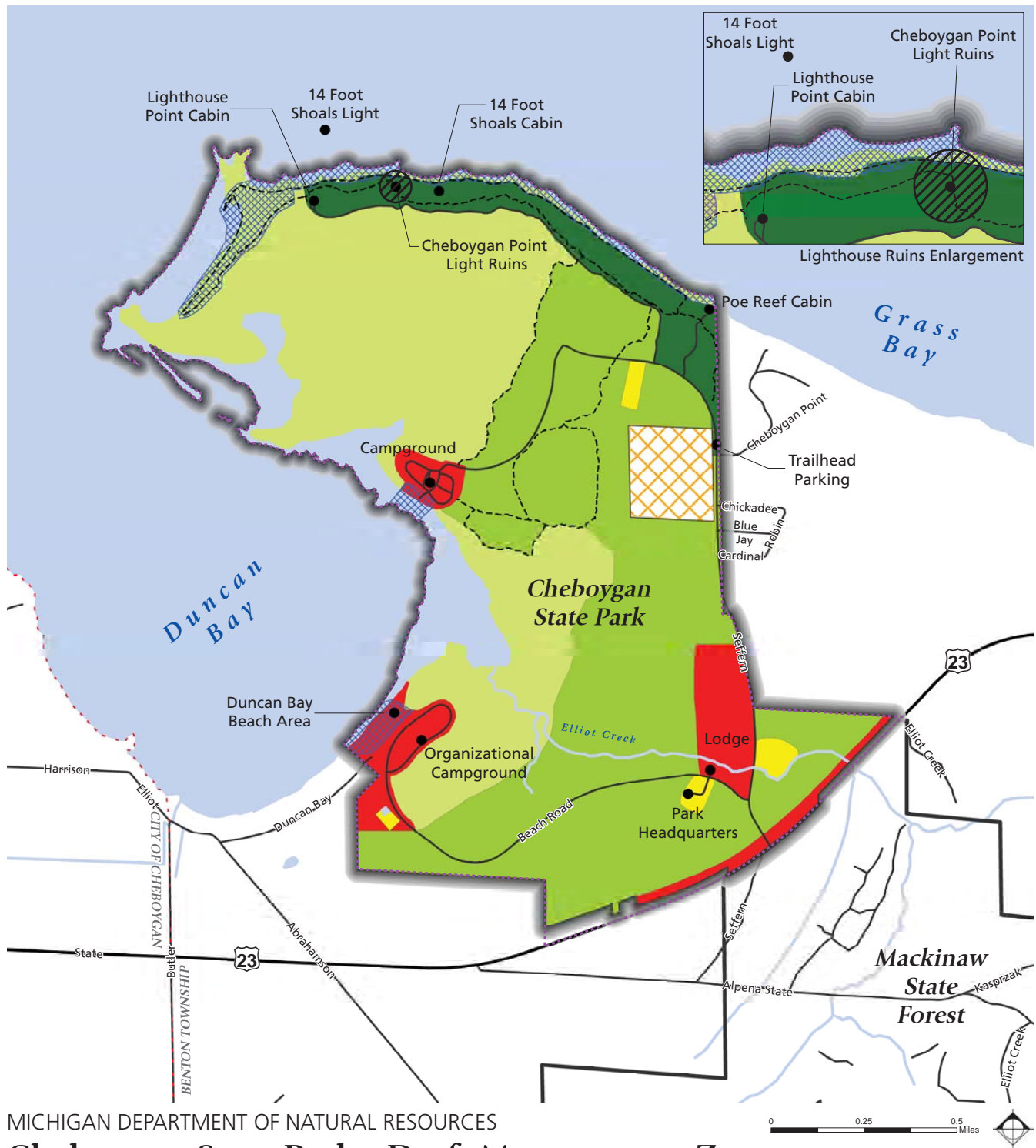
Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, ESRI Basemap

- State Park Boundary
- 2004 NRC Approved Project Boundary*
- State Forest Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- State Roads
- Other Roads

- Private property within the Project Boundary
- Lakes/Ponds
- Rivers/Streams

*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/willing seller basis.

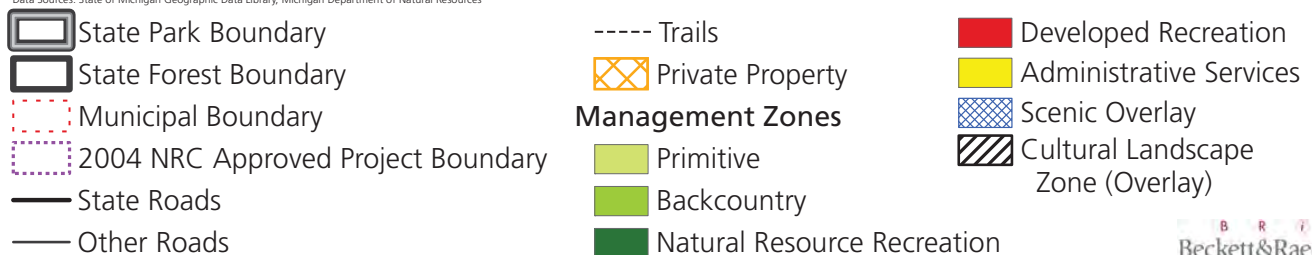
Beckett & Raeder



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Draft Management Zones

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources



B R F
Beckett & Raeder

4.1 Primitive Zone

The Primitive Zone comprises 615 acres (approximately 46% of the park). This zone reflects a desired condition that emphasizes natural resources, and is managed to only allow dispersed and low frequency use in the zone for low impact recreational purposes. Attaining and maintaining a high quality natural resource condition dictates the extent to which recreational improvements or uses are allowed. At Cheboygan State Park, the Primitive Zone is used to protect the existing sensitive natural communities that exist along much of the shoreline and some of the central portions of the park. A small segment of the Primitive Zone is found on the shoreline of Lake Huron between the water's edge and the treeline.

Natural Resources

Native species and natural processes take precedence over visitor accommodation in this zone. Native Michigan natural communities / ecosystem components and processes are maintained, restored, and protected; and human-caused habitat fragmentation is eliminated. The Stewardship Plan will determine the appropriate habitat management for the park.

Historic / Cultural Resources

Although none have been documented, the location of the park on the shore of Lake Huron and the presence of Elliot Creek suggest a high probability of prehistoric sites. In the primitive zone, cultural resources may be preserved, removed, or allowed to waste away.

Recreation Opportunities

This zone allows dispersed, low density off-trail or trailed, self-reliant (no bicycle or equestrian use) outdoor activities (e.g. hiking, backpacking, cross-country skiing, hunting/trapping, fishing, nature observation).

Education Opportunities

Education opportunities in this zone are primarily off-site. Interpretive signage is allowed at trail heads and with low frequency on trails and at overlooks.

Visitor Experience

The visitor can expect a low frequency of encounters with other visitors. Visitors are engaged in high solitude, off-trail or trailed, self-reliant outdoor activities. This zone requires a higher time commitment, and high levels of challenge and adventure. It is considered a "discovery" area with minimal on-site interpretation. The noise tolerance in this zone is low, and visitors can expect low interaction with DNR staff.

Management Focus

The focus is to maintain the low-impact character of this zone, with an emphasis on natural resource quality.

Development

This zone maintains a very low level of development except for visitor accommodation (e.g. foot trails). Site hardening is only allowed to protect sensitive resources (e.g. boardwalk). There should be little evidence of human activity in this zone. There is currently no development in the Primitive Zone at Cheboygan State Park.



Views to the Straits of Mackinac

4.2 Backcountry Zone

The Backcountry Zone comprises 543 acres (approximately 40% of the park). The character of this zone is natural, with minimal evidence of human impact. While the Primitive Zone is highly restrictive for recreational use and human impact, this zone allows for increased use, including bicycle and equestrian, where designated, and modifications of the landscape (e.g. trail development) to accommodate that use. This zone encompasses a large portion of the park's interior and is characterized by forested area and low-impact recreation facilities.



Cross-country Ski Trails

Natural Resources

Natural resources may be modified slightly to support visitor use, but tolerance for natural resource impacts is low. Native Michigan natural communities /ecosystem components and processes are maintained, restored, and protected, and human-caused habitat fragmentation is eliminated. The Stewardship Plan will determine the appropriate habitat management for the park.

Historic / Cultural Resources

Although there are no documented historic and cultural resources within this zone, the presence of Elliot Creek suggests a high probability of prehistoric sites. In this zone, cultural resources may be preserved, rehabilitated, removed, or allowed to waste away.

Recreation Opportunities

Moderate levels of recreation that are compatible with the natural character of the zone are allowed. At Cheboygan State Park, this zone includes the majority of the park's trails, which are used for hiking, biking, wildlife viewing, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. This zone can also be used for hunting outside of the designated safety zones.

Education Opportunities

Education opportunities such as interpretive signage at trail heads, on the trail, and at overlooks are allowed.

Visitor Experience

Moderate visitor encounters are accommodated in this zone. Visitors will be engaged in self-reliant, non-motorized outdoor activities. Moderate challenge and adventure should be expected, with low noise tolerance and interaction with DNR staff.

Management Focus

The management focus is to maintain the low-impact character of this zone, with an emphasis on natural resource quality.

Development

This zone may contain a low level of development to support visitor access to outdoor activities, such as trails, trailhead parking, marked routes, designated backcountry campsites, pit toilets, water pumps, and educational opportunities. Development would be unobtrusive and would blend with natural environment. Site hardening such as boardwalks, fencing, and pedestrian paths may be necessary to protect sensitive resources.

4.3 Natural Resource Recreation Zone

The Natural Resource Recreation Zone comprises 79 acres (approximately 6% of the park) and supports active recreation with medium to high density of use conducted in natural settings. There is still an emphasis on resource quality over recreation, but in this zone, higher levels of use are allowed. This zone is found near the northern shoreline of the park between the roads leading to the cabins and the tree line near the water's edge. It encompasses the rustic cabins and the Cheboygan Point Light ruins.

Natural Resources

In this zone, the natural resources may be managed or modified to support visitor activities with only moderate impacts, while being protected to the degree possible and maintaining a natural appearance. This zone will reflect natural processes, with vegetative management to restore and maintain natural ecological structure and processes (such as removal 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

The Cheboygan Point Light ruins, reflected in a Cultural Landscape Overlay, are located in this zone. All development that may impact cultural resources should be cleared by PRD Stewardship Unit and the State Archaeologist before proceeding. Outside of this overlay, cultural resources may be preserved, rehabilitated, removed, or allowed to waste away.

Recreation Opportunities

Moderate to high levels of recreation compatible with natural character of the zone are permitted. Visitors may be engaged

in outdoor activities in diverse land and water natural settings (e.g. hiking, backpacking, back-country and rustic camping, canoeing, kayaking, biking, nature observation, cross-country skiing, and snowshoeing). Hunting is permitted outside of the designated safety zones, with snowmobiling allowed unless the area is closed due to trail use.

Education Opportunities

Interpretive signage may be provided at trail heads, on the trails, and at overlooks.

Visitor Experience

Visitors can expect high encounters with other visitors and moderate interaction with DNR staff. Visitors may be engaged in outdoor activities in diverse land and water natural settings for recreation and education. This zone requires a variable time commitment as well as variable challenge and adventure. There is a moderate noise tolerance in this zone.

Management Focus

The management focus is to maintain use of the zone appropriate to the PRD Mission, to protect public safety, protect natural resources, and provide accessibility.

Development

A moderate level of development of facilities for support of visitor activities is acceptable, including restrooms, concrete/asphalt/gravel walkways and parking, trails, benches, picnic tables, rustic campsites, cabins, and shelters for recreation and educational opportunities. Site hardening including boardwalks, fencing, and surfaced pedestrian paths is allowed as necessary to protect sensitive resources. A moderate level of accessibility should be expected in this zone.



14 Foot Shoals Rustic Cabin



Campers at the Cheboygan State Park Campground

4.4 Developed Recreation Zone

The Developed Recreation Zone comprises 100 acres (approximately 7% of the park) and supports active recreation with high density of use conducted in areas not designated for natural resource significance. In this zone, recreation dominates with natural resource attributes enhanced as possible. This zone includes the area around the campgrounds and the day use area. It also includes the lodge and previously disturbed area to the north, which has potential for possible development or administrative/storage functions. A linear developed recreation zone along US-23 right-of-way to the utility lines provides for possible future trail development.

Natural Resources

Natural resources may be actively managed and modified to support visitor activities. 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 cultural or historic resources in this zone.

Recreation Opportunities

High levels of recreation in a highly structured environment are permitted in this zone. Visitors may be engaged in recreation in diverse and modified land and water settings. Modern and semi-modern camping, bicycling, boating, canoeing, kayaking, day-use beaches, picnicking, and other day-use activities are found in this zone.

Education Opportunities

Interpretive signage is permitted at campgrounds, day-use facilities, boating facilities, registration buildings, trail heads, on the trail, and at overlooks. Active programming is encouraged at campgrounds and other areas where people congregate.

Visitor Experience

Visitors should expect a high frequency of encounters with other visitors and DNR staff. Visitors may be engaged in outdoor activities in diverse land and water natural settings for recreation and education. Activities in this zone would require a variable time commitment, variable levels of challenge and adventure, and low to moderate exertion. This zone has a high noise tolerance.

Management Focus

The management focus is to maintain use of the zone appropriate to the PRD Mission, protect the park's resources, maintain public safety, effectively manage visitors, and provide universal access.

Development

A high level of development of facilities to support visitor activities is permitted in this zone, such as restrooms, walkways, parking, trails, benches, picnic tables, picnic shelters, modern and semi-modern campgrounds, cabins, and shelters for recreation and educational opportunities. Site hardening is allowed as necessary to facilitate activities, protect natural resources, and provide accessibility. This zone also accommodates administrative functions.

4.5 Administrative Services Zone

The Administrative Services Zone comprises 15 acres (approximately 1% of the park). This zone includes the park headquarters and other existing park infrastructure, such as wastewater facilities.

Natural Resources

Natural resources may be actively managed and modified to support administrative and support activities. Vegetative management, primarily consisting of tree removal for safety, is allowed.

Historic / Cultural Resources

There are no known historic or cultural resources in this zone, although hunting may be allowed outside of the established safety zones.

Recreation Opportunities

There are no developed recreational activities provided in this zone.

Education Opportunities

Person to person contact occurs at park headquarters for general information, both verbally and written (brochures, maps, etc.) Informational kiosks and other informational signage may be found in this zone.

Visitor Experience

The visitor experience in this zone is related to park business and information only. A high level of noise is tolerated in this zone.

Management Focus

The management focus in this zone is the business of running a park. This includes safety for employees, universal public access to the office, and providing appropriate facilities for staff, equipment, and materials.

Development

This zone supports a high level of development of facilities for support of administrative activities such as office space, meeting rooms, an employee locker room, employee eating area, shop space, storage space, and other related facilities. A high level of accessibility is expected.



Cheboygan State Park Entry Sign

4.6 Cultural Landscape Overlay

The Cultural Landscape Overlay comprises 4 acres (approximately 0.2% of the park), and is located at the Cheboygan Point Light ruins. The overlay ensures that any development, guided by the underlying zone designation, is sensitive to the cultural resources present. The public interpretation of these cultural resources should also be considered.

Natural Resources

Vegetation management will be in accordance with the underlying zone (Natural Resource Recreation). Vegetation may also be managed to enhance education/interpretation uses which can include non-native species specific to the era and/or location, and maintaining an aesthetically appealing landscape that is sensitive to the historic resource and interpretation of the zone.

Historic / Cultural Resources

Cultural resources are the focus of this zone.

Recreation Opportunities

Visitors may be engaged in sightseeing, recreational, and educational activities in a cultural setting compatible with and sensitive to the setting.

Education Opportunities

The Cheboygan Point Light ruins will continue to be interpreted.



Cheboygan Point Light

Visitor Experience

The visitor experience will be consistent with the underlying zone.

Management Focus

Management focuses on maintaining and preserving the cultural resources in the area consistent with the underlying zone.

Development

Development will be consistent with the underlying zone and will not negatively impact the cultural resources.



Cheboygan Point Light Ruins



Duncan Bay

4.7 Scenic Overlay

The Scenic Overlay comprises 56 acres (approximately 4% of the park) and recognizes that there are aesthetic qualities to be preserved and protected in our state park and recreation areas. At Cheboygan State Park, the shoreline area on the north side of the park and the viewsheds at the campground and the day use beach are designated as a.

Natural Resources

Natural resources will be managed in accordance with the underlying zone. Vegetation may also be managed to enhance the viewscales.

Historic / Cultural Resources

Although none have been documented, the location of the park on the shore of Lake Huron and the presence of Elliot Creek suggest a high probability of prehistoric sites.

Recreation Opportunities

Levels of recreation compatible with the purpose of viewing are permitted and should be consistent with the underlying zone.

Education Opportunities

Interpretive signage at key viewing points, trail heads, and overlooks that is consistent with the underlying zone is permitted, along with off-site interpretation.

Visitor Experience

The level of visitor encounters, time commitment, interaction with DNR staff, and noise tolerance will be consistent with the underlying zone. Visitors may be engaged in transit or sightseeing activities by hiking, bicycle, or other conveyance.

Management Focus

The management focus of this zone is to maintain public safety and the quality of the viewscales on which the zone is based. All activities or developments in this zone must be compatible with the overriding purpose of view quality.

Development

The level of development should be consistent with the underlying zone and may support visitor access for the purpose of enjoying the scenic views while not detracting from the scenic qualities of the area.



Duncan Bay Beach

Chapter Five: Ten-Year Action Goals

The planning team developed 10-year action goals that are necessary to guide management and development within the park in order to achieve the desired user experience. Action goals are recommended that address the following categories: natural resources, cultural resources, recreation opportunities, education / interpretation opportunities, and development. These goals apply either to the whole park (general action goals) or to specific locations within the park, as appropriate and according to the management zone. Refer to the zone descriptions in Chapter 4 for appropriate activities in each zone.

In determining action goals for the park, the planning team focused on several main priorities: protecting existing natural resources, enhancing /expanding overnight lodging facilities, improving park connectivity and road conditions, and improving day use facilities.

Cheboygan State Park has significant natural communities and sensitive environmental areas. Several of the general action goals revolve around protecting and enhancing these areas, including the creation of a Stewardship Plan, removing invasive species, and following administrative rules for designated coastal environmental areas.

The results of the online public survey confirmed that the public desires the upgrade or expansion of overnight lodging facilities at Cheboygan State Park. The planning team determined several goals related to the campground and cabins, including upgrading the campground electrical

services, reviewing the campground layout, examining the costs and benefits of adding another rustic cabin, and constructing an accessible toilet / shower facility at the campground.

Circulation at the park was also a target area for the planning team. The roads within the park will be evaluated for potential paving, and the feasibility of a trail from the campground to the day use area will be determined.

The connectivity of the park to the surrounding area was also considered. The park's connection to the nearby water trail could be enhanced with interpretation opportunities, paddle-in sites, and enhancing water trail users' awareness of the park. In addition, park staff will continue to strengthen community partnerships with the immediate focus of trails groups and municipalities responsible for the development of a trail linking to downtown Cheboygan.

Management Plans do not guarantee future Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) funding to achieve the actions identified, but are based on funding realities and sound investment policies. PRD will seek internal funding, alternative funding sources, partnerships, and other potential mechanisms for implementing the desired future conditions defined in this plan. On an annual basis, PRD districts determine priorities for project planning and project capital outlay. Each district's top projects are then evaluated at a state wide level for available funds.

GENERAL ACTION GOALS

Many of the 10-year action goals for Cheboygan 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 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			
Continue to follow the administrative rules for designated coastal environmental areas	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship DEQ	Park Manager
Continue to implement invasive species control with an emphasis on early detection and rapid response.	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship Conservation Partners	Park Manager
Develop a Stewardship Plan to identify targets for conservation and related natural resource management strategies.	5 years	Park Manager Stewardship	Stewardship Ecologist
Complete MiFi forest mapping in the park	Completed	Stewardship	Stewardship Ecologist
CULTURAL RESOURCES			
Review all proposed earthwork activities for potential impact on cultural resources	Ongoing	Stewardship State Archaeologist Regional Planner	Cultural Resource Analyst
RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES			
Support the Cheboygan Area Blueway water trail considering interpretation opportunities, paddle in sites, signage, and canoe / kayak storage to make CSP a water trail destination	Ongoing	Park Manager Regional Planner Trails Coordinator Community Partners	Park Manager Trails Coordinator
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/trapping, fishing, gathering and wildlife viewing.	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship Wildlife Fisheries	Park Manager
Participate in and coordinate with local trail initiatives to connect CSP to downtown Cheboygan and the regional trail network	As determined by others	Park Manager Regional Planner Trails Coordinator Community Partners	Trails Coordinator
EDUCATION/INTERPRETATION OPPORTUNITIES			
Explore opportunities for interpretive programming through internal or external partners	Ongoing	Park Manager Marketing & Outreach Stewardship Community Partners	Park Manager
Management Focus			
Encourage the formation of a friends group to support the park	1-3 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Continue to advocate for an appropriate balance of staff and operations resources	Ongoing	Park Manager District Supervisor	Park Manager
Continue to strengthen community partnerships with the immediate focus of trails groups and municipalities responsible for trail development	Ongoing	Park Manager	Park Manager
Continue to explore land acquisition of properties within the Project Boundary with emphasis on inholdings.	Ongoing	Park Manager Regional Planner PRD Land Liaison	Park Manager

GENERAL ACTION GOALS, CONTINUED

MANAGEMENT FOCUS, CONTINUED

Continue to support and collaborate with the Township and Drain Commission to address drainage run-off from beyond the park boundary into the Bay to ensure beach water quality is maintained	Ongoing	Park Manager	Park Manager
Continue to update and implement Emergency Plan including the Safety Plan and the Wildfire Plan.	Annually	Park Manager Stewardship	Park Manager
Continue to review and update capital outlay list as needed	Annually	District Supervisor Regional Planner Park Manager	Park Manager Regional Planner

DEVELOPMENT

Evaluate park and campground roads and make recommendations for improvement and / or major maintenance	1- 3 years	Regional Planner Park Manager	Regional Planner
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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 focus on protecting the important habitat.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM INPUT FROM	RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM POSITION
Support ongoing research on natural features	Ongoing	Park Manager Stewardship	Stewardship
Designate existing trail west of Lighthouse Point Cabin as hiking only and update park maps and signage.	1 Year	Park Manager District Supervisor	Park Manager

BACKCOUNTRY ZONE

The character of the Backcountry Zone is intended to be natural, with minimal evidence of human impact. The zone allows for various low-intensity, non-motorized recreational opportunities such as hiking, cross-country skiing, and mountain biking. The natural features of this zone also provide opportunities for hunting and nature observation. The Backcountry Zone allows for slight modifications of the landscape (such as trails) to accommodate a use where it is consistent with the protection of the resource.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM INPUT FROM	RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM POSITION
Complete feasibility study to construct a trail from the campground to the day use beach	1- 2 years	Park Manager Regional Planner Stewardship	Park Manager Regional Planner
Construct trail/boardwalk from campground to beach	To be determined by study	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager Regional Planner

NATURAL RESOURCE RECREATION ZONE

Active recreation, at medium to high density of use, conducted in natural settings is the hallmark of the Natural Resource Recreation Zone. There is an emphasis on resource quality over recreation, but moderate levels of uses are allowed. Vegetation may be managed to facilitate recreational use and maintain aesthetically appealing landscape, as well as to address hazard trees, and to manage pests and disease. The 10-year action goals are intended to promote moderate to high levels of recreation compatible with the natural character of the zone. Action goals are designed to ensure that visitors will be engaged in outdoor activities in diverse natural land settings.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM INPUT FROM	RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM POSITION
Review possible locations and complete cost/ benefit analysis for additional overnight accommodation options such as rustic cabin(s), yurt(s) and rustic campsites	1- 2 years	Park Manager Regional Planner Stewardship	Park Manager Regional Planner
Construct additional cabin(s) and or yurt(s) as recommended by the analysis	To be determined	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager Regional Planner
Implement rustic campsites	2- 3 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager Regional Planner

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. Cheboygan State Park's day-use and camping areas are located in this zone, along with a strip of land adjacent to US-23 and an area encompassing the lodge and area to the north that has previously been disturbed by development.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM INPUT FROM	RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM POSITION
Review campground layout for upgrade	1-2 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner
Evaluate and make recommendations for water access and paddling provisions in both the campground and day use areas	1-2 years	Park Manager Regional Planner Trails Coordinator	Regional Planner
Evaluate the feasibility of providing a pet-friendly beach area	1-2 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Park Manager
Upgrade campsite electrical to State Electrical Code	2-3 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner
Implement beach accessibility improvements	2-5 years	Park Manager Community Partners Regional Planner	Park Manager
Implement the recommended improvements to water access and paddling provisions	2-5 years	Park Manager Regional Planner Trail Coordinator	Regional Planner
Work with community partners to finance and install an accessible playground in the day use area	5-10 years	Park Manager Community Partners Regional Planner	Park Manager
Construct new accessible toilet / shower building at campground	5-10 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner
Implement campground entrance road and campground road improvements as recommended by the park road evaluation	5-10 Years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ZONE

This zone encompasses the developed areas required for program administration and operations. It includes the headquarters offices and maintenance facilities with the associated land required to conduct the business of running Cheboygan State Park.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM INPUT FROM	RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM POSITION
Replace water line from headquarters to the lodge to prevent freezing	1- 3 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner
Evaluate options for upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach and campground	1-3 years	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner
Implement upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach	To be determined	Park Manager Regional Planner	Regional Planner

SCENIC OVERLAY

The Scenic Overlay is applied to the area of shoreline trails and day use and camping areas that overlook Lake Huron in recognition of the scenic views of the Straits of Mackinac.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	PROGRAM INPUT FROM	RESPONSIBLE PROGRAM POSITION
Continue to recognize and promote the compelling natural and scenic viewshed along the Lake Huron shoreline	Ongoing	Park Manager Regional Planner Community Partners	Park Manager



Supporting Analysis

PARK PROFILE	
AREA	1,345 acres
COUNTY	Cheboygan County
TOWNSHIP	Benton Township
LATITUDE	45.6500° N
LONGITUDE	84.4083° W
ADDRESS	4490 Beach Rd Cheboygan, MI 49721
PHONE	(231) 627-2811



Appendix A: Supporting Analysis

A.1 Park Setting

Cheboygan State Park is located on the shores of Lake Huron and Duncan Bay, just east of the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. It is accessed off US-23, four miles east of the City of Cheboygan, in Cheboygan County, and about twenty miles east of the Mackinac Bridge. This state park offers a variety of year-round recreation activities available to visitors. The park includes just less than four miles of shoreline, with lake access provided by a swimming beach and a carry-in boat launch. Two lighthouses are located off the coast. The park also features 7 miles of hiking, biking, and ski trails, a 74-site campground, 2 tepee sites, 3 rustic cabins on Lake Huron, and a three-bedroom modern lodge. In addition, most of the state park is open to hunting, and Elliot Creek, which flows through the park, is known for its trout fishery.

Location & Community

The Cheboygan area is often referred to as the "Gateway to the Waterways". Cheboygan's deep water harbor opens to the Straits of Mackinac, and the city is at the headwaters of the Inland Waterway, a navigable route that links approximately 40 miles of lakes and rivers across northern Michigan. Cheboygan State Park provides a base for exploring other nearby attractions such as Bois Blanc Island, Mackinac Island and Mackinaw City. The park is on the Huron Shores Heritage Route, a section of Highway US-23, which runs from Mackinaw City in the north to Standish on the Saginaw Bay. The Heritage Route provides 200 miles of scenic views of Lake Huron and an array of recreational and cultural opportunities.

The Cheboygan area provides a variety of opportunities for year-round outdoor recreation activities, including trail riding, fishing, boating, hunting, and wildlife viewing. In addition, there are many cultural attractions in the area, such as lighthouses, the Coast Guard Icebreaker Cutter "Mackinaw" and the historic Opera House in downtown Cheboygan.

A.2 Demographics

The U.S. Census Bureau reports the 2010 population of Cheboygan County at 26,152. The mean age in Cheboygan County is 47.1, and the average household size is 2.31. The census shows that the percentage of people in Cheboygan County over the age of 65 is 23.9 percent, which is higher than Michigan's 15 percent. There is also a smaller percentage of young people under the age of 18 in Cheboygan County, making up 18.4 percent of the population compared to 22.7 percent in Michigan.

Cheboygan County is predominantly rural, averaging 36.6 persons per square mile, while the state average is 174.8. Seasonal homes make up 30.4 percent of all houses in Cheboygan County, which has a large impact on the community.

The median household income in the county is reported at \$38,166, about \$10,000 lower than the State of Michigan average. The top five industries in the City of Cheboygan include the following: retail trade (21%), construction (20%), manufacturing (12%), accommodations and food services (10%), and wholesale trade (6%).

Of the city population, European ancestries make up the majority of this northern Michigan community. German descent is the highest at 15.2%, followed by French at 10.5%. French-Canadian descent is reported to be 5.2%. The percentage of American Indian and Alaska Native alone is 3.1%, which is significantly higher than the state average of 0.70%.

A few key demographic indicators have changed in Cheboygan County since 2000. The overall population has decreased slightly, down from 26,448. Also, the population between age 60 and 64 has risen by 30.9%, while the population between 25 and 34 has decreased by 22.6%. Homeowner vacancy is up 125%, and owner-occupied housing units have decreased 4.5%. (Source: Cheboygan County Master Plan 2014)

Source: "Cheboygan County Master Plan" January 14, 2014; U.S. Census Bureau; 2013 [City-data.com](http://city-data.com)



Cheboygan Point Light

A.3 History of Cheboygan State Park

The name Cheboygan is believed to be of Native American derivation meaning the place of entrance or harbor, probably referring to the mouth of the Cheboygan River. Native Americans were known to use the route now known as the Inland Waterway as a means of traveling through the region. The mouth of the Cheboygan River was an important area for trade among the local Ottawa and Chippewa tribes, and later, Europeans. Contact between fur traders and the native population at the mouth of the river is documented as far back as the 1770s.

It was lumber, specifically white pine, which led to the growth of the Cheboygan area. Lumber cut here could be shipped to Chicago, and from there to points westward. Settlers and lumber barons set up along the river and near McLeod's Bay. The bay was named after an early settler, and is today known as Duncan Bay. Duncan City was the first county seat in 1855, located at what is now the intersection of US-23 and Abraham Road. There are no remaining signs of Duncan City today.

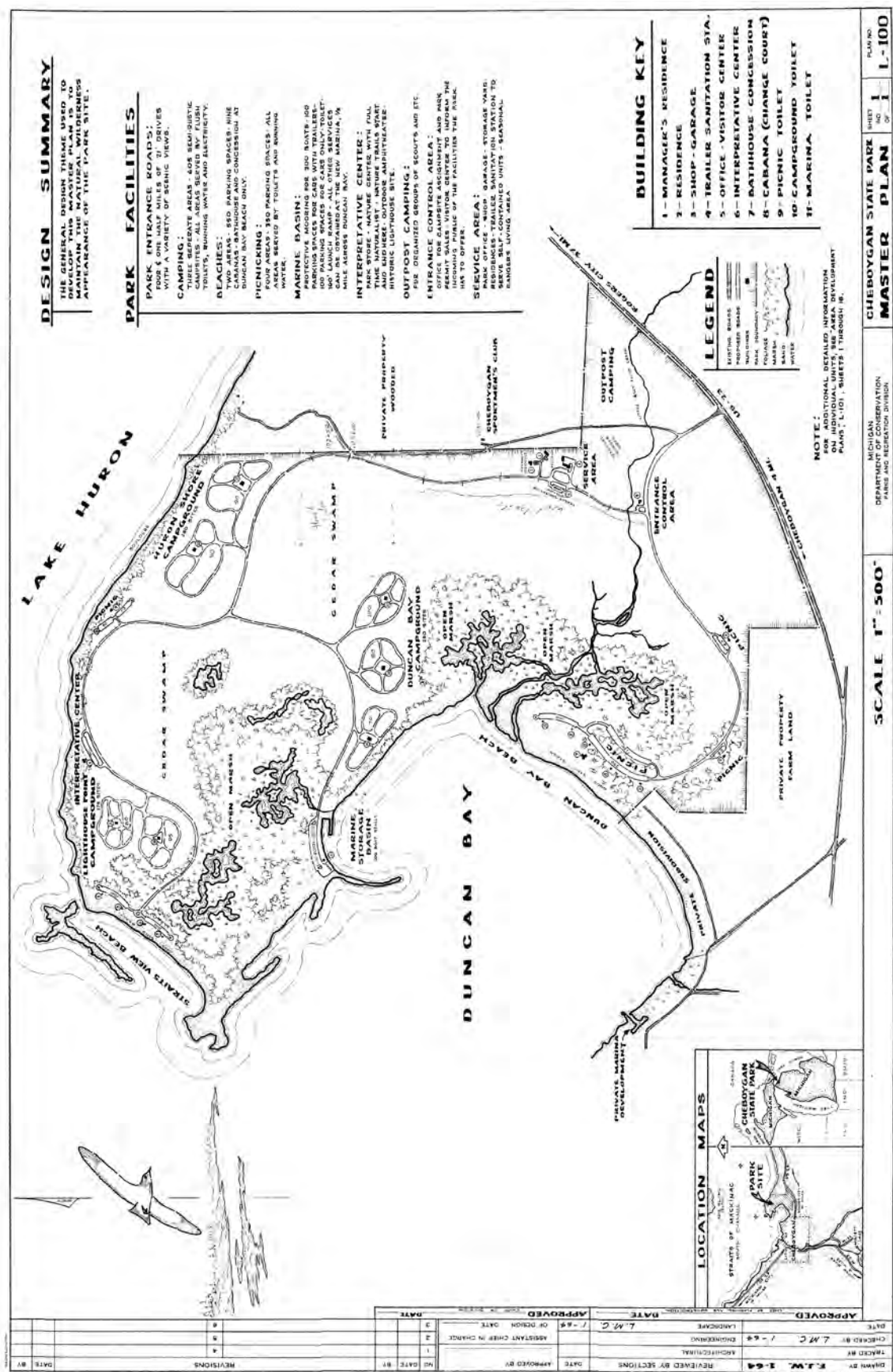
The first lighthouse in the area, Cheboygan Point Light, was built in 1851 on the north shore of the present park site. After eight years, the foundation was eroding away and the light tower was removed for safety. The ruins of the keepers quarters are still visible there today.

Supported by the lumber boom, Cheboygan grew on the west side of the bay, was incorporated as a village in 1877, and ultimately became a city in 1889. Cheboygan's population peaked in the mid-1890s, and soon after began dwindling as the lumber supply ran out and the mills closed. Other industries came to town, such as paper making and limited manufacturing. Tourism became more important in an era when people were becoming more mobile, especially via the automobile. In 1907, the Cheboygan Chamber of Commerce began promoting the area as a recreational destination.

Source: <http://www.cheboygan.com/cheboygan/local-history/>

The history of the state park began in 1921, when 8 acres known as O'Briens Grove, located just outside the Cheboygan city limits, was accepted by the Michigan State Parks Commission. This land was not located at the present site of Cheboygan State Park.

In 1930, 59 acres east of the City of Cheboygan with 1,400 feet of frontage on Lake Huron was obtained from the federal government. The deed from this transaction calls the land the "Poe Reef Site" and is the location of today's state park. (Source: Poe Reef Site Deed, copied in a letter from C.F. Boehler to R.O. Dodge, July 25, 1949) This site was recommended as a state park because of its natural features as well as its location on Lake Huron, including Duncan Bay.



1964 Cheboygan State Park Master Plan

Cheboygan State Park, as it is known today, became official in 1960 when a portion of the Black Lake State Forest was transferred from the Forestry Division to the Parks Division. The land featured a state forest campground at the time of transfer.

A 1964 master plan for the park laid out three separate camping areas, a marine basin, interpretive center, picnic areas, and a beach (although not all of these developments were realized). The 1970's saw many developments at Cheboygan State Park funded by capital improvement funds. These included new roads, parking and utilities, as well as construction of a bathhouse, garage, office, and workshop.

The Lighthouse Point Rustic Cabin, Fourteen Foot Shoals Cabin, and Poe Reef Cabin were all built in the 1980's. The Cheboygan State Park Lodge was remodeled from the old park manager's house and was made available for rent in 2014.

A.4 Land Ownership

Funding Sources

The lands that comprise Cheboygan State Park have been acquired by the State through a variety of funding sources. Conditions attached to the original funding source, or other details of the property transaction, often encumber the future use or disposition of the land.

The funding source map at the end of Appendix A identifies the sources used in acquiring land within Cheboygan State Park. The following outlines in more detail each funding source associated with the park.

Gift

In 1930, the U.S. Lighthouse Service gifted over 59 acres of land to the State. In accordance with the deed, the property "shall be used by the State of Michigan solely for public park purposes subject to the right of the United States to have access to such lands at all times for the purpose of maintaining telephone cable across such lands."

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)

The MNRTF began as the Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act of 1976. A state constitutional amendment in 1984 required that oil, gas, and other mineral lease and royalty payments be placed into a Trust Fund, with proceeds used to both acquire and develop public recreation lands. To implement the constitutional amendment, the Legislature passed the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Act of 1985 (P.A. 101 of 1985, Act 101).

Approximately 60 acres of land in Cheboygan State Park were purchased using this fund. In 2001, two parcels totaling 14 acres were acquired using the MNRTF in the south section of the park. In 2010, a 12-acre parcel west of Seffern Rd and in 2015, a 37-acre in-holding in the north of the park were acquired with assistance from the Little Traverse Conservancy using MNRTF.

Special Legislation

Acquisitions for park purposes through this source are tied to specific funding established by the legislature under authority provided in Act 27, P.A. 1944, and Act 50, P.A. 1944. One hundred and thirty-five acres of land were purchased using this fund source in the 1960s.

Game and Fish Fund

Twenty-five acres were acquired in 1964 using a mix of 1/12 Game and Fish Fund 11/12 General Fund. Under Part 435, Act 451, P.A. 1994, land purchased with this funding source is intended to be used for wildlife and fisheries management.

Tax Reversion

The state acquired the balance of the land in the 1930s through tax reversion due to non-payment of taxes.

Granted Easements

U.S. Coast Guard (1964): 50 foot wide right-of-way on, over, under, and across the bottomlands of Lake Huron, extending from the terminus of Consumers Power Co right-of-way to Fourteen Foot Shoal Light.

Cheboygan County Road Commission: 100 foot wide right-of-way to construct US-23 was granted in 1974. Under the terms of the agreement, no more than three intersections are permitted the entire length of the right-of-way.

Consumers Energy (1964): Easement to erect and maintain an electric distribution line to service Fourteen Foot Shoal Lighthouse.

Presque Isle Electric and Gas Co: 15 foot wide right-of-way to erect electric poles and wires across state land (1949 and 1951). 10 foot-wide right-of-way to provide electrical service to state park garage, office and shop (1973).

Michigan Bell Telephone Company (1981): 10 foot wide easement, north of and parallel to US-23, to bury and maintain a telephone line.

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 Cheboygan State Park, several legal mandates have been identified, which are listed below.

FEDERAL STATUTE	
ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, 1973	
This Act authorizes the determination and listing of species as endangered and threatened, and prohibits unauthorized taking, possession, sale and transport of endangered species.	
BALD AND GOLDEN EAGLE PROTECTION ACT, 1940 AND AMENDMENTS	
This Act prohibits anyone, without a permit issued by the Secretary of the Interior, from “taking” bald eagles, including their parts, nests, or eggs. The Act defines “take” as “pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb.” “Disturb” includes actions that may result in injury to the eagle, a decrease in its productivity or nest abandonment.	
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT, 1966 AS AMENDED	
This is the primary federal law governing the preservation of cultural and historic resources in the United States. The law establishes a national preservation program and a system of procedural protections which encourage the identification and protection of cultural and historic resources of national, state, tribal and local significance.	
STATE STATUTE	
NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (NREPA) AND AMENDMENTS	
PA 451 of 1994, Part 5	Gives the DNR authority to make rules to support its mission. This includes State Land Rules, Land Use Orders, Wildlife Conservation Orders, Fisheries Orders and Watercraft Control.
PA 451 of 1994, Part 31 Water Resources Protection	Provides authority to DEQ to require a permit for any occupation, construction, filling, or grade change within the 100-year floodplain of a river, stream, drain, or inland lake.
PA 451 of 1994, Part 301 Inland Lakes and Streams	Requires a permit from the state (DEQ) to undertake certain activities relating to inland lakes and streams, such as dredging, fill, marinas, structures, alteration of flow, etc.
PA 451 of 1994, Part 303 Wetlands Protection	Requires a permit from the state (DEQ) to undertake certain activities in regulated wetlands, such as, dredging, fill, construction or drainage.
PA 451 of 1994, Part 323 Shorelands Protection and Management	This act enables the DEQ to designate and control use through permitting of “Environmental Areas” (an area of the shore land determined to be necessary for the preservation and maintenance of fish and wildlife) and “High Risk Erosion Areas” (an area of the shore land that is determined to be subject to erosion).
PA 451 of 1994, Part 325 Great Lakes Submerged Bottomlands	A permit is required for all filling, dredging, and placement of permanent structures (i.e., docks, piers, pilings, etc.) below the “ordinary high water mark” and on all upland channels extending landward of the “ordinary high water mark” of the Great Lakes.
PA 451 of 1994, Part 419 Hunting Area Control	Section 324.41901 establishes the powers of the Department to establish safety zones for hunting.
PA 451 of 1994, Part 741 State Park System	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 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.
PA 451 of 1994, Part 761 Aboriginal Records and Antiquities	The state reserves the exclusive right and privilege to all aboriginal records and other antiquities including those found on the bottomlands of the Great Lakes.
PUBLIC HEALTH CODE	
PA 368 of 1978, Part 125, Campgrounds, Swimming Areas and Swimmers’ Itch	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. Includes permitting, licensing, inspections and rules regarding sanitation, safety standards and public health. Also covers testing and evaluating quality of water at bathing beaches, safety and rescue equipment.

The majority of Cheboygan State Park is located within a Coastal Zone Management Area (CZMA). The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (amended in 1976) allowed for the development of a CZM program in Michigan to assist with the protection, restoration and responsible development of the state's coastal communities and resources.

A Coastal Environmental Area was designated by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in a portion of Cheboygan State Park. A permit is required to dredge, fill, grade, alter soil, or alter vegetation utilized by fish or wildlife within an Environmental Area. A more detailed description of Environmental Areas, along with the relevant law and administrative rules can be found on DEQ's website: www.mi.gov/shorelands.

Orders

Wildlife Conservation Orders

Wildlife is owned by all the people of the state of Michigan, and protection is administered and managed by the Michigan DNR. The DNR's authority is derived from the State Legislature and the Natural Resources Commission (NRC). In Michigan, the list of game species is established by the State Legislature. Hunting and trapping regulations including methods of take, bag limits, license quotas, and season dates are established by the NRC and are described in the Wildlife Conservation Orders.

7.15 Cheboygan State Park, hunting and trapping allowed, exceptions.

Sec. 7.15 Hunting and trapping shall be allowed during the established seasons on all state-owned lands within the dedicated boundary of Cheboygan State Park in sections 22,

23, 26, 27, 34 and 35, T38N R1W, except for state owned lands in the W 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of section 26, and state-owned lands in the E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of section 27, T38N R01W; also except the entire park shall be closed to the taking of waterfowl from September 1 to Labor day.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 2, 2016, Eff. April 15, 2016.

Land Use Orders of the Director

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:

(a) 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:

(i) Cheboygan SP- state-owned lands in sections 22-23, and 27, T38N R1W, Cheboygan County.

Fisheries Orders

Fishing in Michigan is regulated by Fisheries Orders by authority conferred on the Natural Resources Commission and the Department of Natural Resources by Part 487 of 1994 PA 451 (Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act).

Fisheries Order 210.16 designates Elliot Creek, which flows through the park, as a designated trout stream.



Hunting at Dusk Near Duncan Bay

A.6 Regional Recreation Resources

Cheboygan County and the surrounding area is recognized as a northern Michigan outdoor recreation destination. Below is a description of the primary recreation resources in the vicinity of Cheboygan State Park.

State Recreation Resources

State Parks

- Aloha State Park is located 10 miles south of Cheboygan on the shores of the 17,360 acre Mullett Lake, at the center of the Inland Waterway. The park provides a boat launch, 285 modern camp sites, a swimming beach, and fishing opportunities. The North Eastern State Trail, a 70-mile rail trail connecting Alpena and Cheboygan, runs through the park.
- Burt Lake State Park is also located along the route of the Inland Waterway, on Burt Lake's southern shore. The park features 2,000 feet of sandy beach, a pet-friendly beach area, a 306-site modern campground, a boat launch, picnic facilities, and a one mile foot trail.
- Onaway State Park is located in neighboring Presque Isle County, featuring 158 acres with frontage on Black Lake. Facilities include an 82-site modern campground, camper cabin, swimming beach, canoe and kayak access and rental, and a three mile nature trail.
- Wilderness State Park encompasses over 10,000 acres located west of Mackinaw City on the shores of Lake Michigan. This park includes large tracts of natural, undeveloped land, with modern and rustic camping, historic rustic cabins, trails, and hunting and fishing opportunities.

Mackinac State Historic Parks

Mackinac State Historic Parks is a family of living history museums and nature parks in northern Michigan's Straits of Mackinac.

- Mackinac Island State Park was established in 1895. Over 80 percent of Mackinac Island is state park property, featuring historic landmarks, spectacular rock formations and scenic views.
- Fort Mackinac is located on a bluff overlooking the City of Mackinac Island. Fourteen buildings of the historic fort, founded in 1780, are restored and open to the public. Exhibits explain everything from military training and battles to family life within the fort.
- Colonial Michilimackinac is a reconstruction of an 18th century fort and fur trading village based on historic maps and archaeological records. The fort is located on the shore of the Straits of Mackinac and features period themed exhibits, live programs and tours May through October.
- Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park is the site of the Straits of Mackinac's first industrial complex, situated 3.5 miles



Mackinac Island Docks and Fort Mackinac

east of Mackinaw City. The 600-acre site features a reconstructed 18th century water-powered sawmill and other buildings, as well as nature trails, a tree-top adventure tour, zip line, and climbing wall.

- Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse in Mackinaw City helped passing ships navigate the Straits of Mackinac for 65 years. Today, visitors can tour the lighthouse grounds, restored keeper's quarters, and climb the tower.

State Forest

The state forest land which abuts Cheboygan State Park south of US-23 is part of the Atlanta State Forest management unit. The forest in this area is dominated by aspen and pine cover types with a mixture of lowland species as well. Recreation opportunities in the state forest include snowmobile and ATV trails within a few miles from Cheboygan State Park. The Black Mountain Recreation Area is within a close driving distance and provides multiple trails for snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, hiking, biking and equestrian use.

State Forest Recreation Sites

- Black Mountain Recreation Area: Located in Presque Isle County, between Cheboygan and Rogers City, Black Mountain Recreation Area provides access to hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, horseback riding, and snowmobiling in a state forest setting. The recreation area includes various types of trails and multiple forest campgrounds including:
 - o 30 miles of hiking, mountain biking and cross-country skiing trails, also open to equestrian access April through November. A local volunteer group grooms the trails for both skate and classic skiing while weather permits.
 - o 80 miles of groomed snowmobile trails
 - o 60 miles of ORV trails and 15 miles of ORV routes.
 - o 65 acre Black Mountain ORV scramble area open for 50" or smaller ATVs or motorcycles.
- Bois Blanc Island is located in the Straits of Mackinac and provides opportunities for hiking, wildlife viewing, cross-country skiing, photography, hunting, non-motorized fishing, bird watching, and wildflower viewing.
- Ocqueoc Falls, located west of Rogers City, is the largest waterfall in the Lower Peninsula. The falls are accessible on the Ocqueoc Falls Bicentennial Pathway, which includes loop lengths from six miles to three miles; the trail is suitable for hiking, cross-country skiing, and mountain biking. The Ocqueoc Falls State Forest Campground provides overnight lodging near the falls.
- State Forest Campgrounds: Within Cheboygan County, the following State Forest Campgrounds are administered by the Parks & Recreation Division.

STATE FOREST CAMPGROUNDS		
SITE NAME	NO. OF SITES	DESCRIPTION
Black Lake	52	On the N. shores of Black Lake. 17 designated for ORV use
Black Lake Trail Camp	5	Dedicated for equestrian use
Maple Bay	35	W. side of Burt Lake with boat access site and sand beach
Haakwood	18	On the Sturgeon River 2 miles N. of Wolverine
Stoney Creek Trail Camp	10	Dedicated for equestrian use
Twin Lakes	11	On Twin Lake close to Black Mountain Recreation Area
Weber Lake	18	On Weber Lake with access to Lost Tamarack Pathway

DNR Managed Water Access

- Boating Access Sites: There are opportunities within five miles of the park to access Lake Huron and the Inland Waterway. The Cheboygan County Marina and Cheboygan Municipal Marina are not administered by the DNR.

DNR BOATING ACCESS SITES		
SITE NAME	WATER BODY	DESCRIPTION
Cheboygan Lock & Dam (PRD)	Cheboygan River	Includes one skid pier ramp, restrooms, a fishing pier, and parking.
Garfield Road (Cheboygan Field Office)	Cheboygan River	Includes a gravel surface ramp, suitable only for medium-sized and smaller boats. 10 parking spaces are available. This site is a good launch for canoes and kayaks.
Cheboygan State Park Walk-In Site	Lake Huron	A walk-in site is available for small non-motorized watercraft.

- Cheboygan Lock and Dam: The Cheboygan Dam is located on the Cheboygan River, approximately 1.4 miles upstream from Lake Huron. The dam spillway offers good fishing for salmon in the fall or steelhead in the spring. The Cheboygan Lock offers boat access around the dam and is in regular operation from May 1st to October 20th.

State Wildlife Management Areas

Co-managed by the DNR Wildlife and Forestry Divisions, the following State Wildlife Management Areas are located in Cheboygan County.

- Dingman Marsh Flooding State Wildlife Management Area – over 4,000 acres located in western Cheboygan County. The area is primarily managed for mallard and wood duck.
- Dog Lake Flooding State Wildlife Management Area, located within the Pigeon River Country State Forest, features a mix of open water and marshland managed for mallard, wood duck and osprey.
- Stoney Creek Flooding State Wildlife Management Area also features a mix of open water and marshland managed for Mallard and Wood Duck.

State Trails

- North Central State Trail – This 62-mile long rail trail runs from Gaylord to Mackinaw City, through the City of Cheboygan. It is part of the bicycle route of the Iron Belle Trail, a 791-mile route from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the western Upper Peninsula. It is open to hiking, biking, equestrian use, and snowmobiles from December 1 through March 31.

- North Eastern State Trail – The NEST is a Michigan DNR multi-use rail trail that runs 70 miles from Alpena to Cheboygan, where it joins the North Central State Trail. The trail has a 10' wide packed crushed limestone surface and is open to all non-motorized users year-round and snowmobiles from December 1 through March 31.
- Snowmobile Trails – Snowmobile trail number 99 runs east from the City of Cheboygan to Rogers City. Trail routes 720 and 9 follow the North Central and North Eastern State Trails.
- Wildwood Hills Pathway – 10+ miles of non-motorized pathway open year round. The trail provides opportunities for hiking, biking, and equestrians in the summer and is groomed for classic style cross-country skiing in the winter.
- Cheboygan Area Blueway- This 13-mile stretch of the Lake Huron shoreline offers views of Bois Blanc and Mackinaw Islands, the Mackinaw Bridge, Duncan Bay, and the Cheboygan River. It stretches from Jon Keldsen Roadside Park west to Cheboygan State Park. The only access points to this segment are within Cheboygan State Park at the beach, the walk-in access site, and Lighthouse Point.

Inland Waterway

The Inland Waterway is a unique northern Michigan attraction, consisting of a 38-mile navigable route through three rivers and three lakes. Starting in Cheboygan, the route travels up the Cheboygan River to the 12 mile long Mullet Lake, then through the Indian River into Burt Lake and Crooked River to Crooked Lake. The route passes through many communities providing docks, accommodation and dining opportunities for travelers.

Municipal Recreation Opportunities

Cheboygan County Parks

- Cheboygan County Marina- located in the City of Cheboygan with access to 40 miles of inland waterways. This full service marina is open from mid-May through October.
- Boy Scout Camp – 40-acre special use park in Mullett Township
- County Fairgrounds and Soccer Fields – 23 acre facility located in Cheboygan

Emmet County Parks

- Headlands International Dark Sky Park- 600-acres of old-growth forest on more than two miles of undeveloped Lake Michigan shoreline at the northwest tip of Michigan's lower peninsula. The site is preserved for dark sky viewing and offers monthly Dark Sky Park programs and special events.

City of Cheboygan Parks

The City of Cheboygan owns and manages a number of neighborhood and community parks within the City, in addition to an ice rink pavilion and a recreation center.

Municipal Water Access

The following boating access sites are administrated by the local municipalities.

MUNICIPAL BOATING ACCESS SITES		
SITE NAME	WATER BODY	DESCRIPTION
Cheboygan County Marina	Lake Huron	Includes a launch, 34 seasonal slips, and 45 transient slips as well as restrooms, showers, and gas among others
Cheboygan Municipal Marina	Lake Huron	Includes a launch, 200' broadside for seasonal slips, 600' broadside for transient slips, restrooms, showers, and electricity.

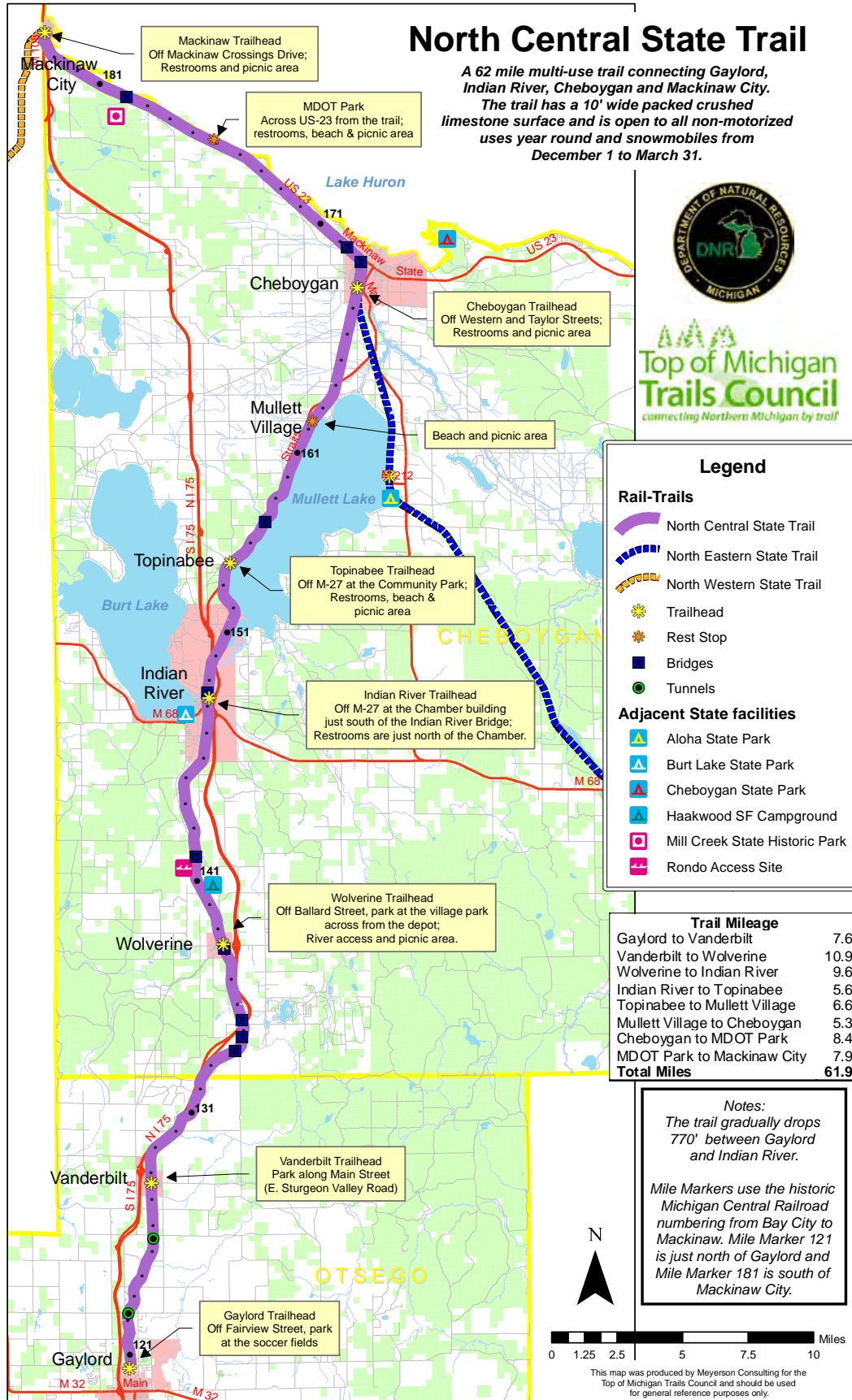
Nature Preserves

Grass Bay Preserve, owned and managed by The Nature Conservancy, stretches along two miles of the Lake Huron shoreline east of Cheboygan State Park. The preserve boasts over 300 plant species throughout the open dunes, interdunal wetlands, coniferous swamps and forests. Access is limited to Conservancy field trips and research opportunities to protect the site from ecological damage.

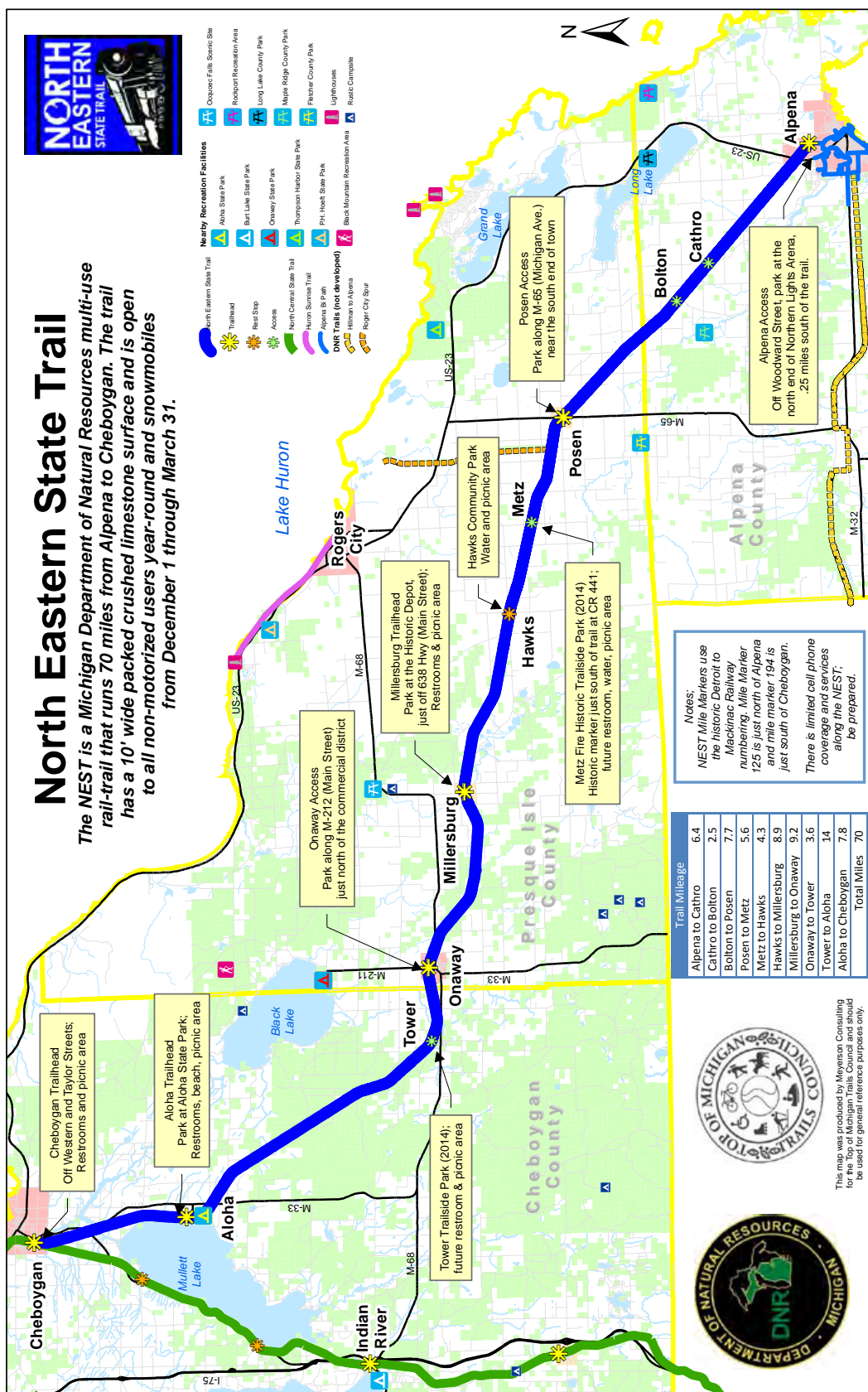
The Little Traverse Conservancy manages many properties within Cheboygan County, including the 42-acre Charles and Alice LaHaie Nature Preserve off Duncan Bay Road, immediately adjacent to the state park. Visit www.landtrust.org for more information.

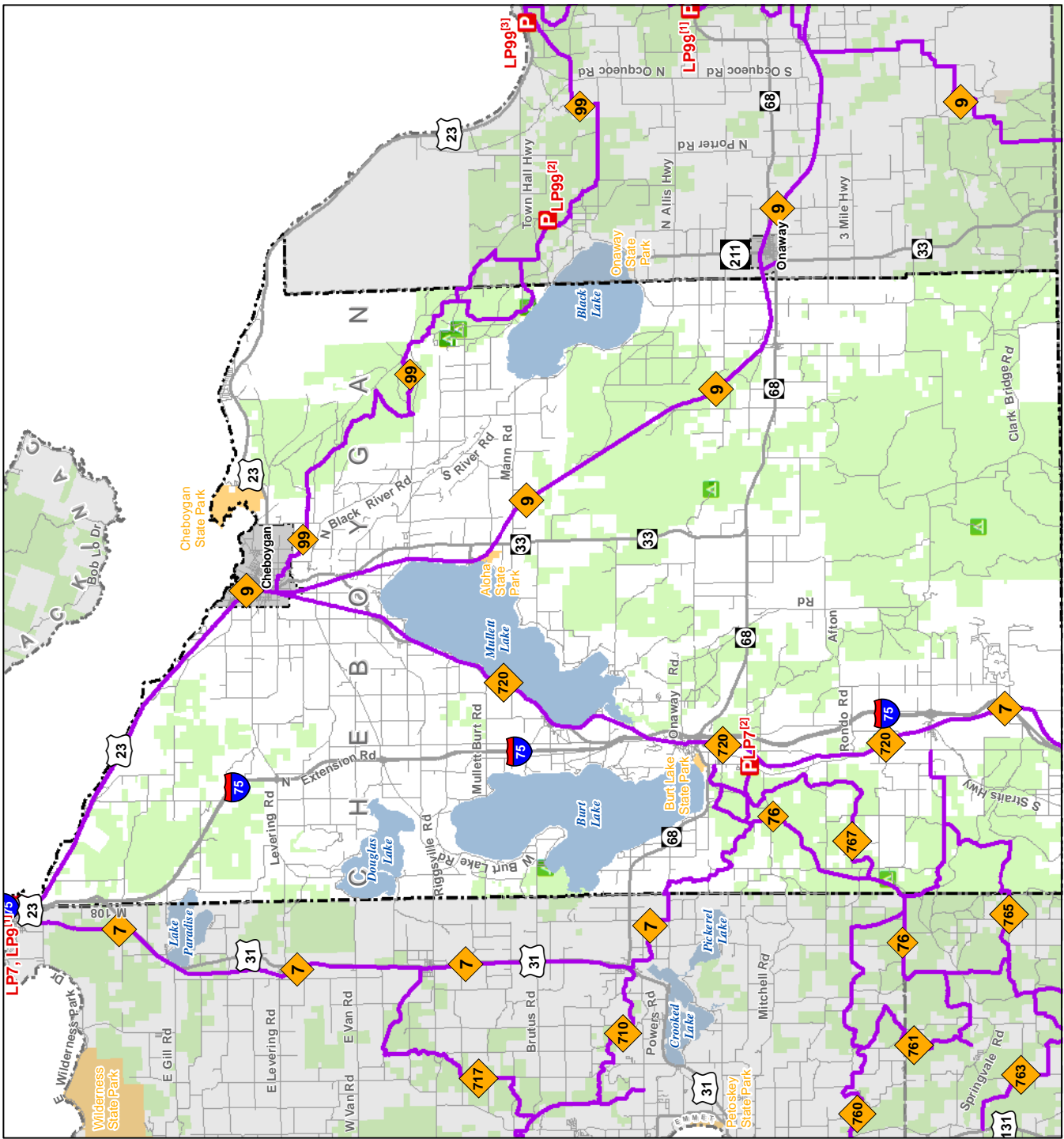


Paddlers Near Duncan Bay



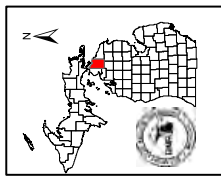
The NEST is a Michigan Department of Natural Resources multi-use rail-trail that runs 70 miles from Alpena to Cheboygan. The trail has a 10' wide packed crushed limestone surface and is open to all non-motorized users year-round and snowmobiles from December 1 through March 31.





Michigan
Department of
Natural Resources
Designated
Snowmobile Trails
Cheboygan County, MI

December 2, 2016



- Designated Snowmobile Trails
- Parking Lot
- State Forest
- Campground
- Roads
- Cities
- State Park Boundary
- State Land
- Lakes and Rivers
- County Boundary

0 2.5 5 Miles

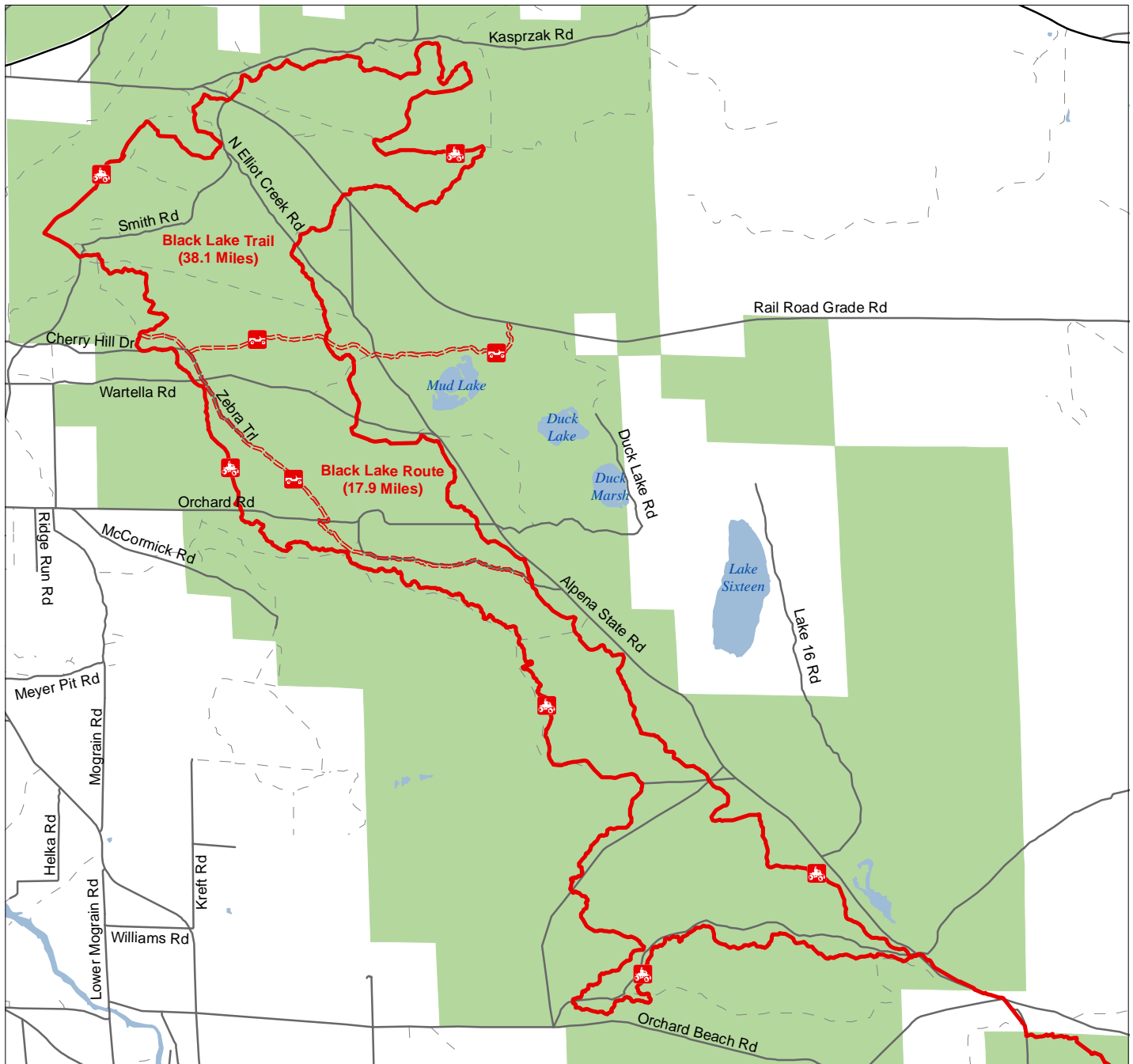
LP7, LP9^[1] Eastside Nicolet St East of Int with Mackinaw Crossings Drive

LP7^[2] East of Int of South State Highway and White Rd

More Maps:
<http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/trails>

Black Lake Trail & Route North

Cheboygan County, Michigan



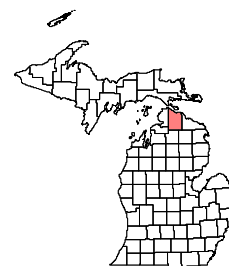
- ORV Route – ORV's of all sizes including off-road motorcycles. (DNR license (ORV sticker) required unless licensed by the Secretary of State)
- ATV Trail – ORV's less than 50" in width including off-road motorcycles. (DNR license (ORV sticker) required)

Advisory: Trails and Routes have two-way traffic.

Disclaimer: Trails shown on this map are an approximate representation of the trail system at the time of publication and may not reflect current ground conditions. **STAY ON SIGNED TRAILS ONLY!**

- Highway
- Paved or Gravel Road
- Poor Dirt Road
- Lakes and Rivers
- State Land
- County Boundaries

0 0.5 1 Miles



Updated 6/03/2008

A.7 Cheboygan State Park Recreational Resources

Trails

There are five trails that run throughout the park, totaling seven miles. Cross-country skiing, hiking, and mountain biking are allowed on each trail. The trails are located in the central and northern portion of the park including along the Lake Huron shoreline.

Hunting and Trapping

The park is open to hunting and trapping; however, there are a few areas in the park where there is no hunting allowed. Those areas are located around the three rustic cabins, the campground, the day use area, and the park headquarters. The map below shows the areas where hunting is prohibited.

Watchable Wildlife

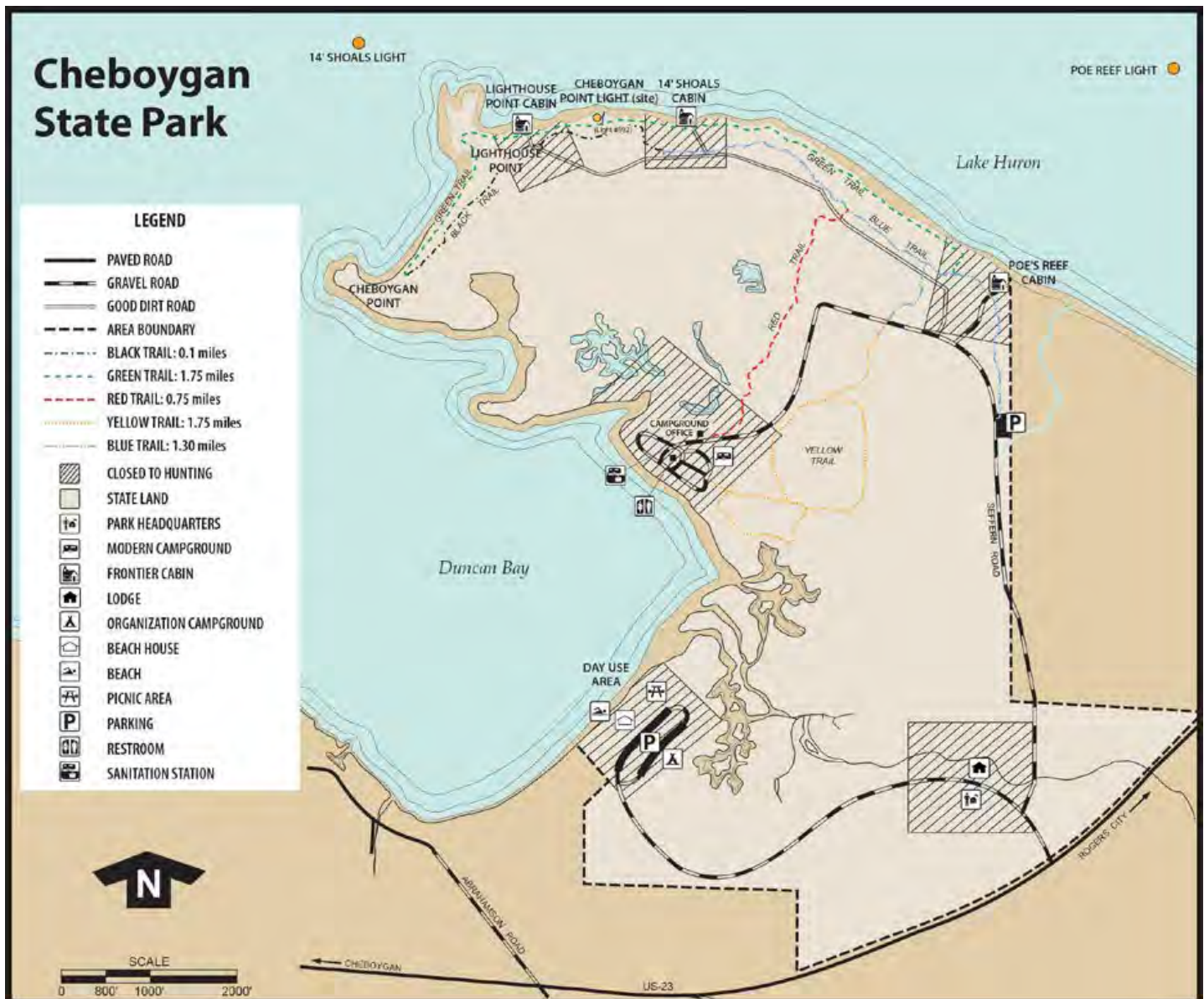
Along the shores of Lake Huron and Duncan Bay there is plenty of wildlife and rare wildflowers to look out for.

Fishing

Fishing opportunities are found in Duncan Bay as well as Elliot Creek. In the bay you can find northern pike, small and large mouth bass, and pan fish. Elliot Creek is known for its speckled brown trout.

Metal Detecting

Metal Detecting is allowed in two areas of the park: at the day use area and the campground. All other areas are closed to metal detecting.



Beach

There is a designated beach in the day use area of the park located on Duncan Bay. Facilities include a beach house, parking, a picnic area, and an organization campground.

Boat Launch

There is a carry-in boat launch located in the campground, with direct access to Duncan Bay.

Picnic/Play Area

The day use area on Duncan Bay in the southern part of the park has facilities such as a beach, beach house, picnic shelter, picnic tables, fire pits/grills, and limited play equipment.

Camping and Lodging

There are a range of camping opportunities in Cheboygan State Park. A 76-site campground, which includes two tepees and one site that is seasonally used as a campground host site, is located in the middle of the park on Duncan Bay. The campground has modern bathrooms centrally located and shaded and sunny campsites with electricity. The tepees are constructed with a wooden floor and each offers two sets of bunk beds and 20 amp electrical services. On the southern side of the park, there is a group campsite area. The campground is available from April 1st until the third week in November. The park also has three rustic cabins available to rent. Each cabin accommodates eight people, contains four sets of bunk beds, and is equipped with table and chairs and a wood-burning stove. For those who enjoy camping with all the comforts of home, the park has an ADA accessible modern lodge that is open year-round. The lodge is fully furnished and has three bedrooms and one bathroom that can comfortably sleep eight guests.



A.8 Landscape Context and Natural Resources

Landscape Context

A regional landscape ecosystem classification has been developed for Michigan, which distinguishes major landscapes based on macroclimate, physiography, soil and vegetation. Cheboygan State Park is located in the northern lacustrine-influenced lower Michigan section, sub-subsection VII.6.3, Cheboygan. This area is mostly flat calcareous glacial lake plain made up of primarily wetland. This subsection ranges in elevation from 580 to 750 feet.

Climate

The climate of Cheboygan County is affected by its proximity to the Great Lakes, which causes the county to be warmer in the winter months and cooler in the summer months than further inland. Temperatures are an average of 65° F in the summer, while winter temperatures average 21° F. There is an average of 30.84 inches of rain per year with an average of 92.6 inches of snow per year (NOAA, 1981-2010 Normals). The frost-free season dates are between May 20 and October 1, approximately 140 days.

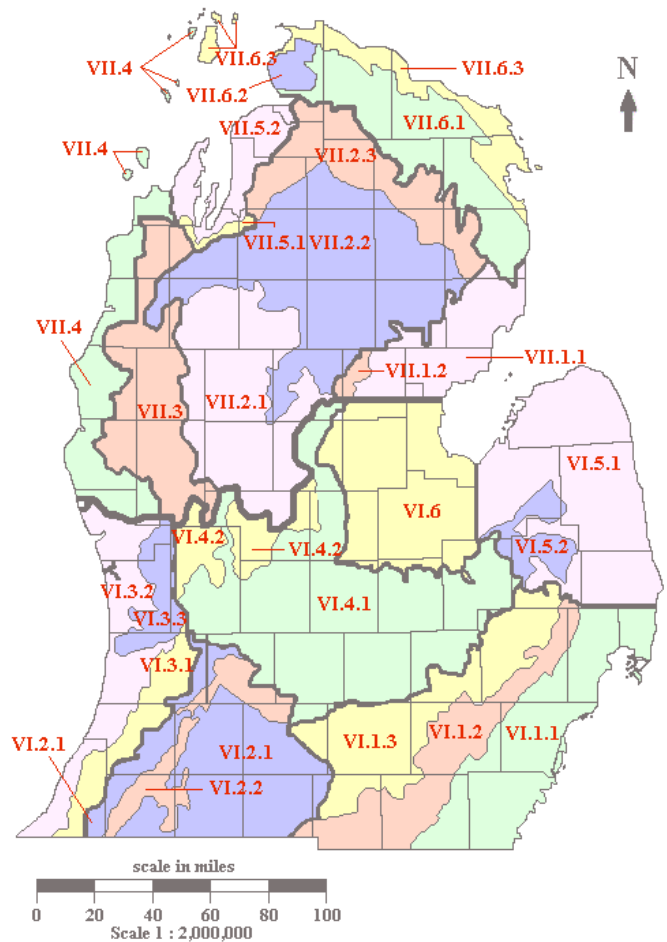
Water Resources

Cheboygan State Park is located on the shores of Duncan Bay, a shallow bay with a hard, sandy bottom, which offers protection from Lake Huron. The park offers just under 4 miles of Lake Huron shoreline, and approximately 1.25 miles of Elliot Creek runs through the park.

Over the years, the visitor experience of the shoreline has varied with the varying lake levels. Lake Huron has been measured at a minimum elevation of 576.64 in 1946, to a maximum of 581.96 in 1986. September 2016 saw the lake level at 580.11, up from 579.72. The effect of the varying lake levels is particularly felt at the day use area beach, which at the current high lake level, is narrow, with less than 50' of sandy area at the water's edge. In fact, a volleyball court located on the beach was not re-installed in 2017 due to the rising lake level. In the past the beach area would extend much farther out into Duncan Bay, offering a different beach experience.

Geology and Mineral Resources

The surface of Cheboygan State Park and surrounding area is covered by glacial drift, dune sand, and lake sediments that vary in thickness from 200 to 400 feet. The coarser lake sediments are frequently quarried across the state for sand and gravel, primarily for use in road construction and maintenance. Dune sands are also occasionally mined in the



Source: Albert, Dennis A. 1994. Regional landscape ecosystems of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin: a working map and classification.

state. Active and abandoned sand and gravel pits are located in the vicinity of the park. Bedrock underlying the Quaternary sediments in the park consists of the Devonian Bois Blanc Formation. The Bois Blanc Formation is not considered to have economic value.

There has been no oil and gas exploration or production in this region and no known potential currently exists. In addition, there is no history of mineral leasing in and around the park. The state owns the mineral rights to the majority of the land within the park, and there does not appear to be significant potential for mineral development within the park.

Soils

There are a few different types of soils throughout the park. The most common is the Au Gres-Roscommon complex, which is a sandy soil found in outwash plains, valley trains, and lake plains. The second most common soil is Roscommon muck, a very poorly drained soil found near the center of the park. Pondered histosols and aquents, Tawas Peat, Croswell Sand, and

Eastport Sand are other types of soils found in this park. Most of the soils in Cheboygan State Park are sandy soils, with a small portion of muck soils, a loamy sand, and a peat soil.

Circa 1800's Land Cover

At the time of the original land survey by the Government Land Office (circa 1800's) the majority of the area of the park was described as wetland, predominantly northern white-cedar and tamarack, with open coastal marsh on Duncan Bay. Black ash, balsam fir, and aspen were also noted in some areas. Red pine, white pine, and hemlock were common on low sand ridges near the shoreline in the general area.

Current Land Cover

The land cover today is similar to what was described from the 1800's above. Past logging activity probably reduced the pine and hemlock component in the uplands, but any white-cedar that was cut appears to have regenerated. The park supports a mosaic of lowland and upland forest of good ecological quality and diversity, along with very high quality coastal wetlands and small areas of good quality open dune.

Rare Flora and Fauna

The following notable and rare plants and animals have been documented by Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) as occurring in Cheboygan State Park.

FLORA			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS
<i>Calypso bulbosa</i>	Calypso orchid	Threatened	
<i>Cirsium pitcheri</i>	Pitcher's thistle	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Iris lacustris</i>	Dwarf lake iris	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Solidago houghtonii</i>	Houghton's goldenrod	Threatened	Threatened
<i>Tanacetum huronense</i>	Lake Huron tansy	Threatened	

The calypso orchid is a historical record not observed since the 1930s, but it could still occur in areas of lowland conifer. The other species are all currently present and thriving in portions of the park, and the three federally-listed ones are all Great Lakes endemic species (they occur in the Great Lakes area and nowhere else in the world). Pitcher's thistle and Lake Huron tansy occur in open sandy dune areas, Houghton's goldenrod occurs in the interdunal wetlands and coastal marsh, and dwarf lake iris occurs in mostly in openings amongst lowland conifer near the shoreline at this park.

FAUNA			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS
<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	American bittern	Special Concern	
<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping plover	Endangered	Endangered
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle	Special Concern	
<i>Sterna caspia</i>	Caspian tern	Threatened	
<i>Trimerotropis huroniana</i>	Lake Huron locust	Threatened	

Bald eagle and American bittern have both not been observed nesting in the park for about 20–30 years, but habitat is still suitable and they could nest here again any time. Bald eagles are frequently observed at the park, often perched along the shoreline or foraging offshore. Piping plover last nested at Cheboygan State Park in 2000, but also could reappear again anytime because the habitat is still good on portions of the shoreline. Caspian tern and Lake Huron locust (a grasshopper) are still likely active at the park in shoreline areas.

Exemplary Natural Communities

A natural community, as defined by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI), is an assemblage of interacting plants, animals, and other organisms that repeatedly occurs across the landscape under similar environmental conditions. The following natural communities are known to occur at Cheboygan State Park:

- Boreal forest
- Coastal fen
- Dry-mesic northern forest
- Emergent marsh
- Great Lakes barrens
- Great Lakes marsh
- Hardwood-conifer swamp
- Interdunal wetland
- Mesic northern forest
- Northern fen
- Northern hardwood swamp
- Northern shrub thicket
- Open dunes
- Rich conifer swamp
- Sand and gravel beach
- Wooded dune and swale complex

Descriptions of these natural communities can be found at the Michigan Natural Features Inventory at <http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/communities/index.cfm>.

Of the above natural communities at Cheboygan State Park, the highest quality and most important from a regional and statewide perspective are the Great Lakes marsh (Duncan Bay) and associated coastal fen, the northern fen openings inland from the shoreline, the interdunal wetlands along the shore, and the small area of Great Lakes barrens near the Lighthouse Point cabin. These are all exemplary communities that are tracked by MNFI and are among the best of their kind in the state.

Great Lakes Marsh

“Great Lakes marsh is an herbaceous wetland community occurring statewide along the shoreline of the Great Lakes and their major connecting rivers. Vegetational patterns are strongly influenced by water level fluctuations and type of coastal feature, but generally include the following: a deep marsh with submerged plants; an emergent marsh of mostly narrow-leaved species; and a sedge-dominated wet meadow that is inundated by storms. Great Lakes marsh provides important habitat for migrating and breeding waterfowl, shore-birds, spawning fish, and medium-sized mammals” (MNFI). The Great Lakes marsh on Duncan Bay (between the day use area and campground) is among the best in the state. Associated with and adjacent to this marsh is another community known as coastal fen. “Coastal fen is a sedge- and rush-dominated wetland that occurs on calcareous substrates along Lake Huron and Lake Michigan north of the climatic tension zone. The community occurs where marl and organic soils accumulate in protected coves and abandoned coastal embayments...” (MNFI).

Northern Fen

“Northern fen is a sedge- and rush-dominated wetland occurring on neutral to moderately alkaline saturated peat and/or marl influenced by groundwater rich in calcium and magnesium carbonates” (MNFI). Northern fen is found in small openings within the lowland conifers inland from the shoreline at Cheboygan State Park.

Interdunal Wetlands

Cheboygan State Park also contains some very good quality examples of the interdunal wetland natural community along the Lake Huron shoreline in the northern part of the park. This community is also sometimes referred to as “wetpanne”. “Interdunal wetland is a rush-, sedge-, and shrub-dominated wetland situated in depressions within open dunes or between beach ridges along the Great Lakes, experiencing a fluctuating water table seasonally and yearly in synchrony with lake level changes” (MNFI).

Great Lakes Barrens

“Great Lakes barrens is a coniferous savanna community of scattered and clumped trees, and an often dense, low or creeping shrub layer. The community occurs along the shores of the Great Lakes where it is often associated with interdunal wetland and open dune.” (MNFI) Cheboygan State Park has one fairly small area of high quality Great Lakes barrens, located just west and southwest of the Lighthouse Point cabin along the black trail. This area has scattered clumps of white pine and other trees with pockets of creeping juniper and bearberry, interspersed with areas of open and grassy sand dune.



Flora Near Duncan Bay

A.9 Historic and Cultural Resources

Cheboygan State Park does not contain any resources that are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Although none have been documented, the location of the park on the shore of Lake Huron and the presence of Elliot Creek suggest a high probability of prehistoric sites.

The site of the former Cheboygan Point Lighthouse complex, built in 1959, is located within the park, with scattered foundations and some walkways still evident. The Cheboygan Point Light replaced the first lighthouse built in 1851, on what is now known as Lighthouse Point, that had to be demolished after only eight years due to high water washing away at the tower foundation. The Cheboygan Point Light Station was abandoned and deeded to the State of Michigan in 1930, after the construction of the 14 foot Shoals offshore lighthouse in 1930. The buildings were dismantled in the 1940's.

The Fourteen Foot Shoal Light is located less than a mile off the shore of the state park. The Poe Reef Lighthouse located between Bois Blanc Island and the mainland may also be seen from shore. These lighthouses owned by the U.S. Coast Guard mark the shallow water presenting a hazard to vessels traveling through the Straits of Mackinac.



Poe Reef Light



14 Foot Shoals Light



Cheboygan Point Light Ruins

A.10 Programming and Events

- Cheboygan State Park hosts a Winter Lantern hike, where the trails are lit with lanterns and visitors can hike, ski, or snowshoe at night and enjoy snacks, and warm beverages, and a campfire.
- Local schools come to Cheboygan State Park to catch and identify insects in Elliot Creek.
- Campground hosts lead craft activities and flower identification walks in the summer.
- Many participants of Mackinac Labor Day Bridge Walk stay overnight at the park, which typically fills the campground.
- The Kiwanis Club has hosted a trick-or-treat event and a haunted trail event in recent years.

A.11 Park Use Statistics

Park use figures taken from 2016 show that Cheboygan State Park has about 15,900 campers and 25,975 day users through the year. The camping numbers are recorded on the reservation system. Day use numbers are estimated based on car counts which are multiplied by the mean number of people in each vehicle. In 2012-2013, the most popular season for camping was summer, followed by fall. The majority of campers and day users visit during the summer months between June and August, with the fall being the second busiest season.

APPROXIMATE DAY USE VISITORS

YEAR	VISITORS
2014	24,269
2015	25,231
2016	25,975

Camping and day use numbers from fiscal years 2014-2016 (October 1st – September 31st), gathered from the Cheboygan State Park administrative office, are shown in the tables above and below. Day use has increased between 2014-2016. In 2016, 25,975 day users were approximated using a formula that involves counting the cars in the day use parking lot and using a multiplier of average visitors per car, taking into account weather conditions and time of year.

CAMPGROUND RENTAL NIGHTS

YEAR	CAMP NIGHTS	TEPEE NIGHTS	TOTAL NIGHTS
2014	3,571	124	3,695
2015	4,157	161	4,318
2016	4,644	151	4,795

Camping nights at the Cheboygan State Park campground have also increased since 2014. Fiscal year 2016 saw 4,795 camping nights, including the typical campsites and the two tepees. This is a 1,100 night increase from fiscal year 2014.



Campers at the Cheboygan State Park Campground

Park administration staff collects revenue from kayak rentals as well as the sale of wood and ice. Sales figures for ice and wood have correlated upward with increased camping, whereas kayak rentals increased from 2014 to 2015, and then slightly decreased from 2015 to 2016.

REVENUE FROM KAYAK, WOOD, AND ICE SALES			
YEAR	KAYAK SALES	WOOD SALES	ICE SALES
2014	123 Rentals \$2100	Qty 1676 \$6320.23	Qty 1255 \$2510
2015	199 rentals \$3585	Qty 2314 \$8733.24	Qty 1655 \$3310
2016	185 rentals \$3335	Qty 2444 \$9215.20	Qty 2076 \$4150

GROUP CAMPGROUND USERS	
YEAR	USERS
2014	290
2015	382
2016	395

The group campground usage has also increased between 2014 and 2016, with a total of 395 users in 2016 versus 290 in 2014.

Two of the camping options at Cheboygan State Park are available year-round. There are three rustic cabins located on the shoreline, and the three-bedroom modern lodge. Both the lodge and the rustic cabins have seen increased usage since 2014, with 489 cabin nights and 74 lodge nights rented in 2016.



LODGE AND CABIN RENTALS		
YEAR	CABIN NIGHTS	LODGE NIGHTS
2014	424	52
2015	494	56
2016	489	74

The top 10 cities for those staying at the park in 2013 are shown below. The table illustrates that the park draws from many different areas of the state, as well as from the local area.

CAMPER CITIES OF ORIGIN		
CITY & STATE	RESERVATIONS	NUMBER OF NIGHTS
Cheboygan, MI	40	102
Grand Rapids, MI	31	97
Ann Arbor, MI	27	59
Lansing, MI	26	66
Kalamazoo, MI	19	58
Midland, MI	19	55
Ada, MI	14	73
Traverse City, MI	14	34
Warren, MI	14	40
Sterling Heights, MI	12	33



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Park Boundary

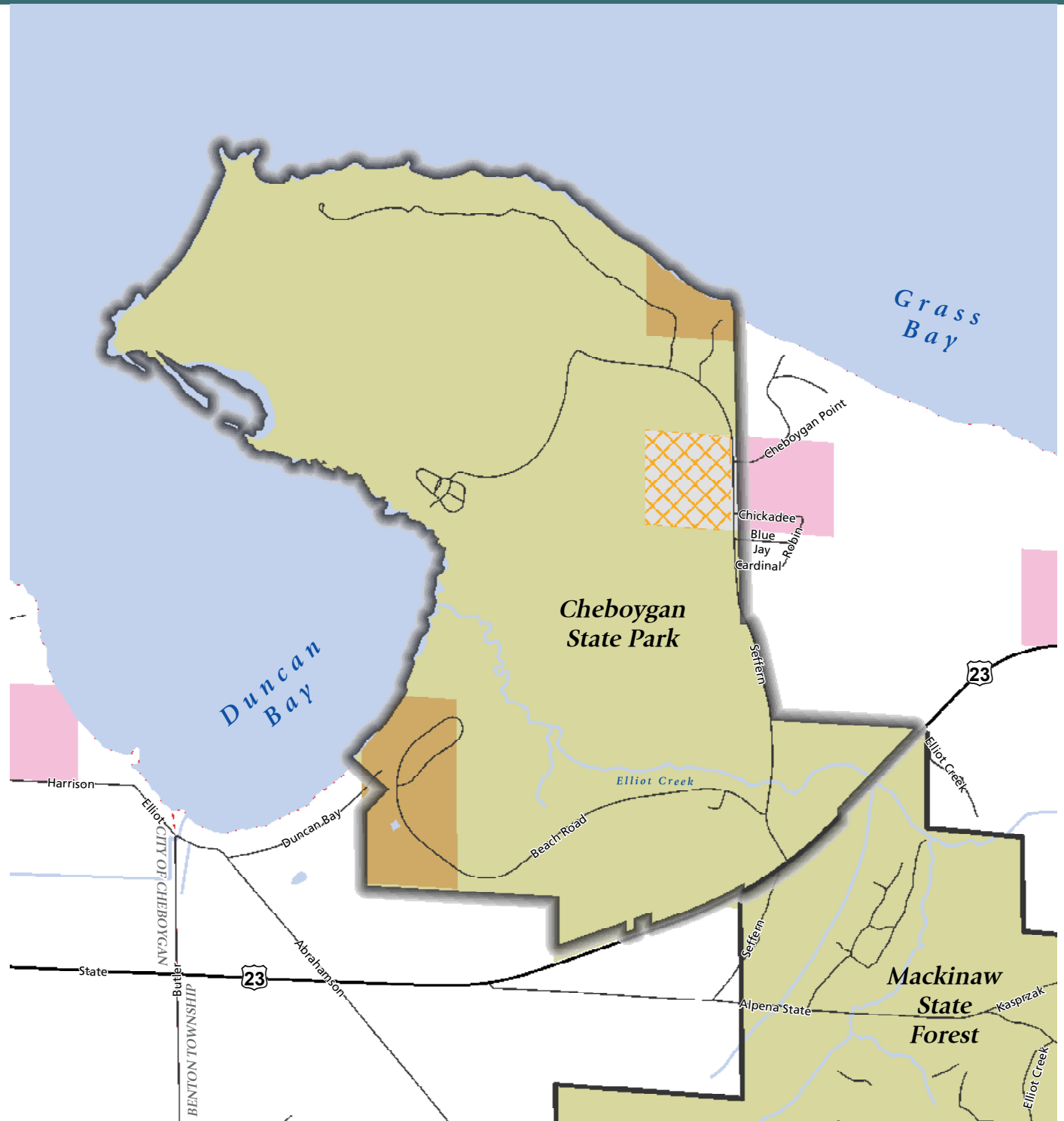
Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, ESRI Basemap

- State Park Boundary
- 2004 NRC Approved Project Boundary*
- State Forest Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- State Roads
- Other Roads

- Private property within the Project Boundary
- Lakes/Ponds
- Rivers/Streams

*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/willing seller basis.





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Ownership Rights

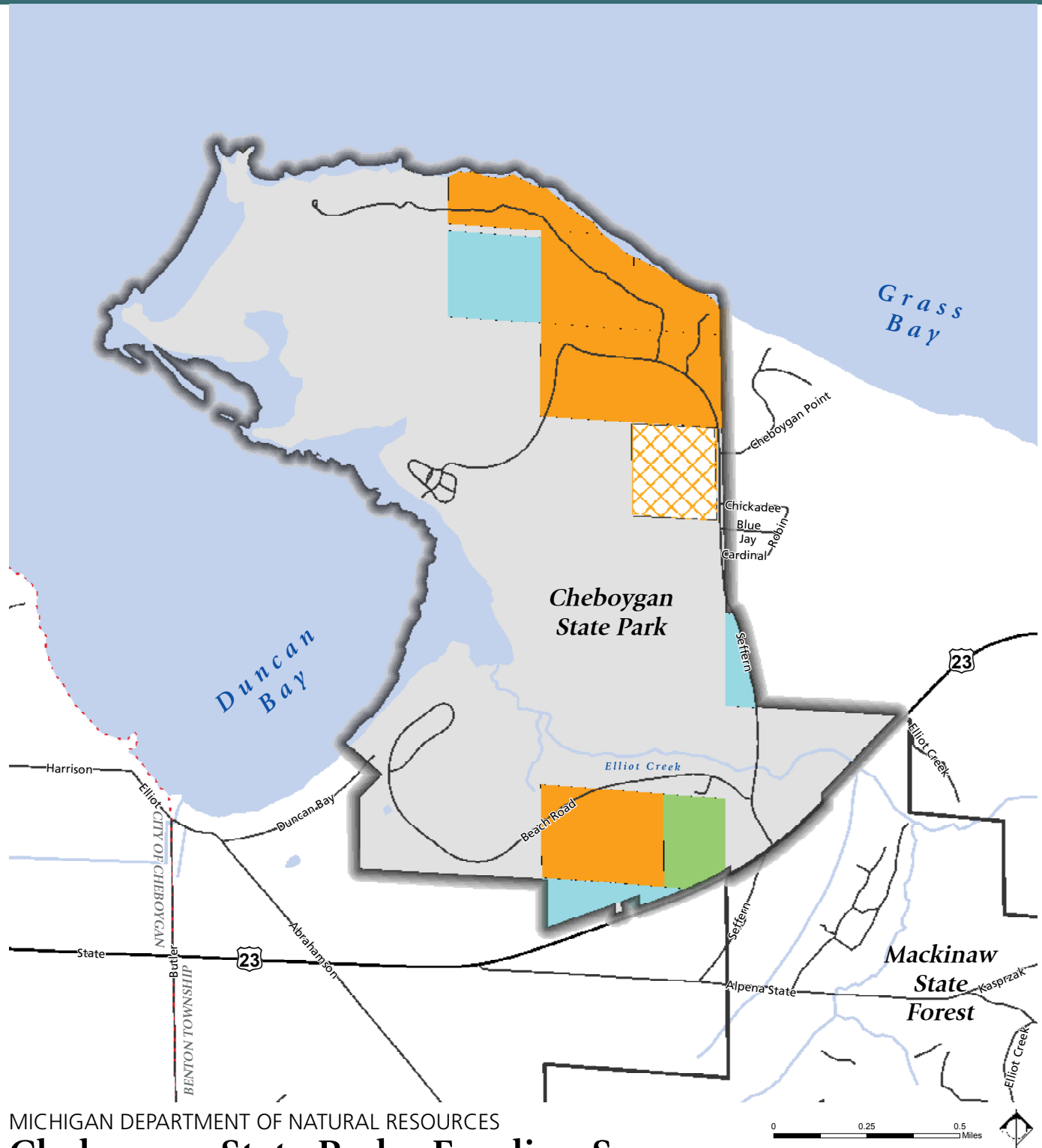
Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| State Park Boundary | Private Property |
| State Forest Boundary | Lakes/Ponds |
| Municipal Boundary | Rivers/Streams |
| State Roads | |
| Other Roads | |

Ownership Rights:

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| | Mineral and Surface Rights |
| | Mixed Ownership |
| | Minerals |
| | Other Rights |





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

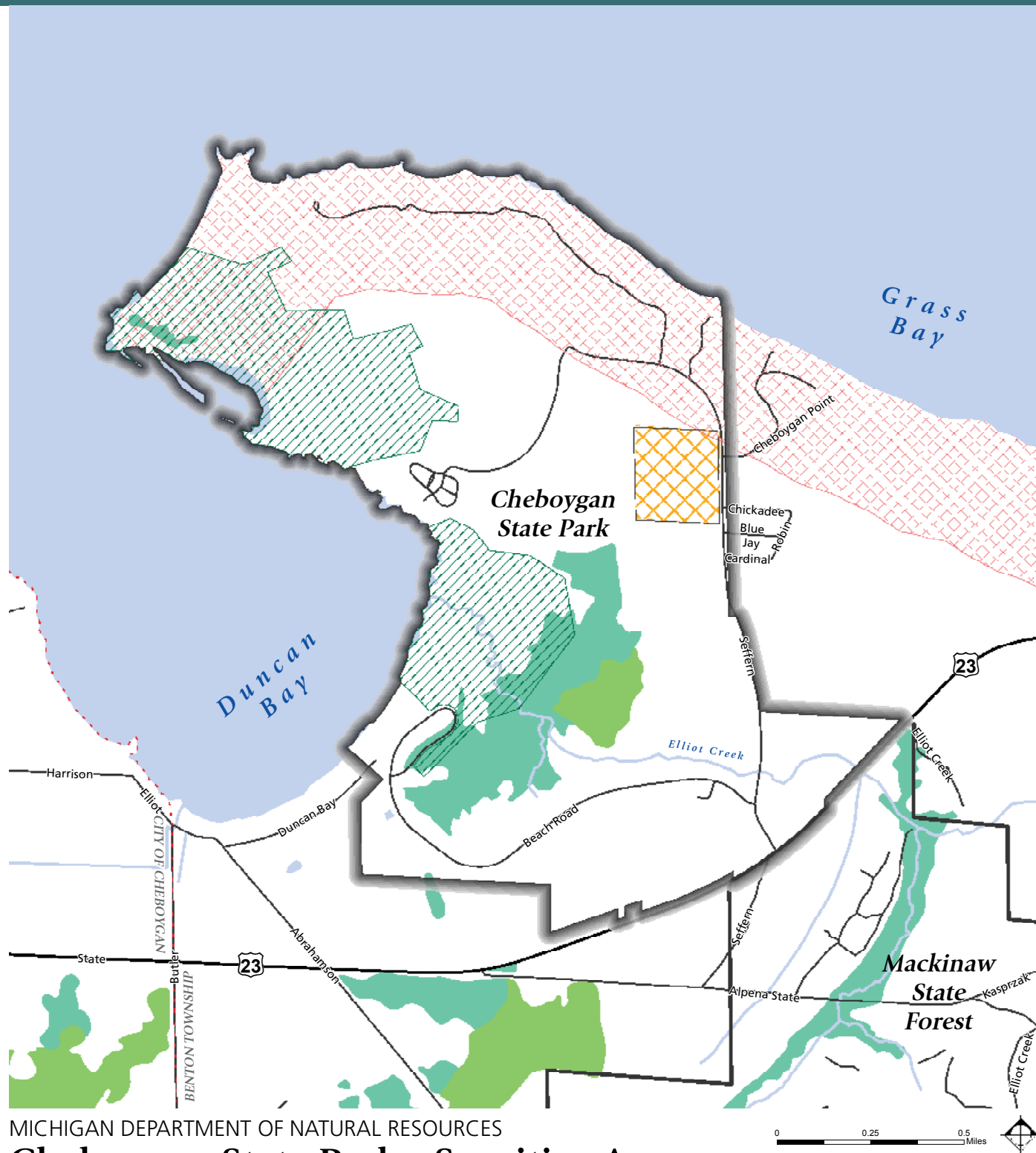
Cheboygan State Park - Funding Sources

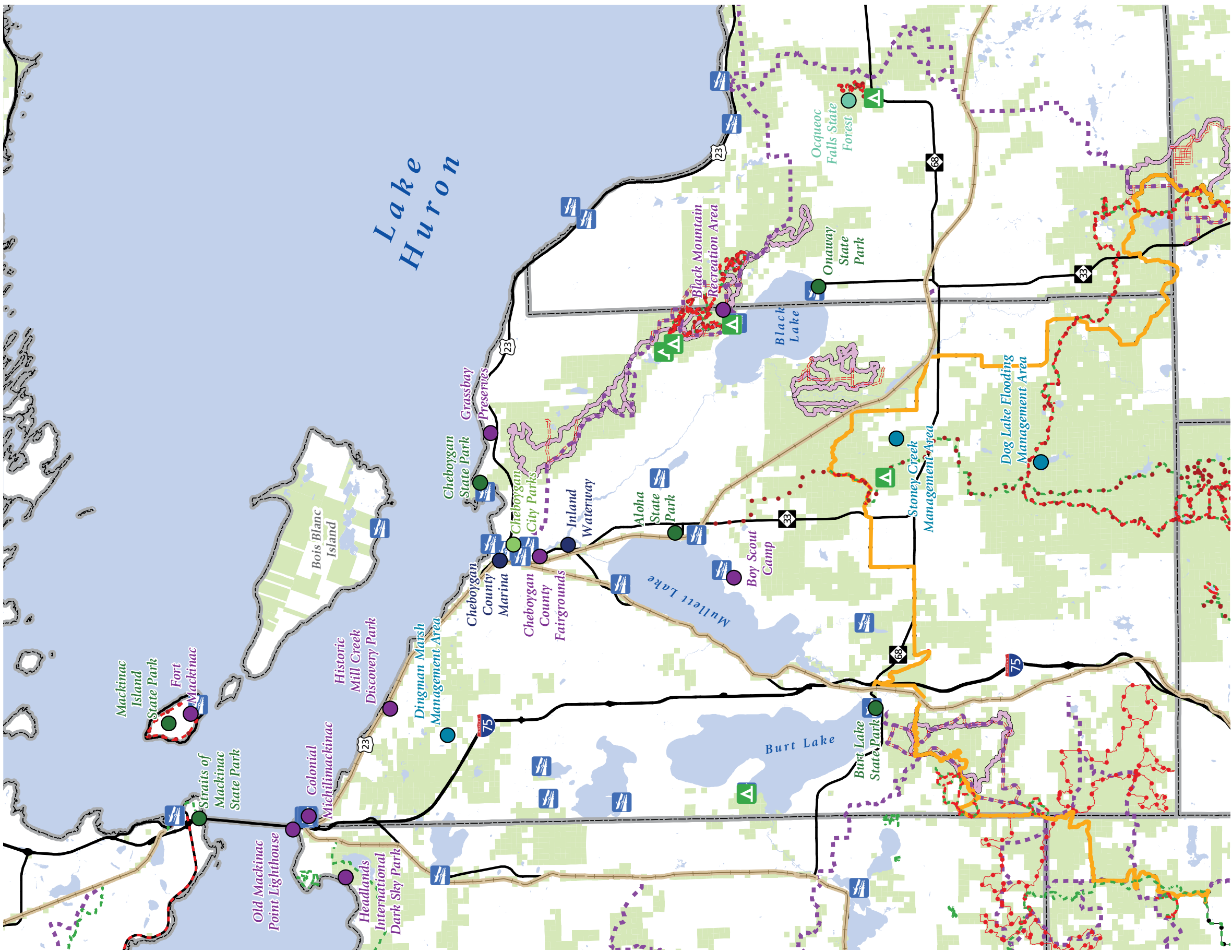
Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

- State Park Boundary
- State Forest Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- State Roads
- Other Roads
- Private Property
- Lakes/Ponds
- Rivers/Streams

Funding Sources for Lands:

- Gifts & Tax Reverted Lands
- 11/12 General Fund / 1/12 Game & Fish Fund
- Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund
- Special Legislation





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Regional Recreation Resources

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

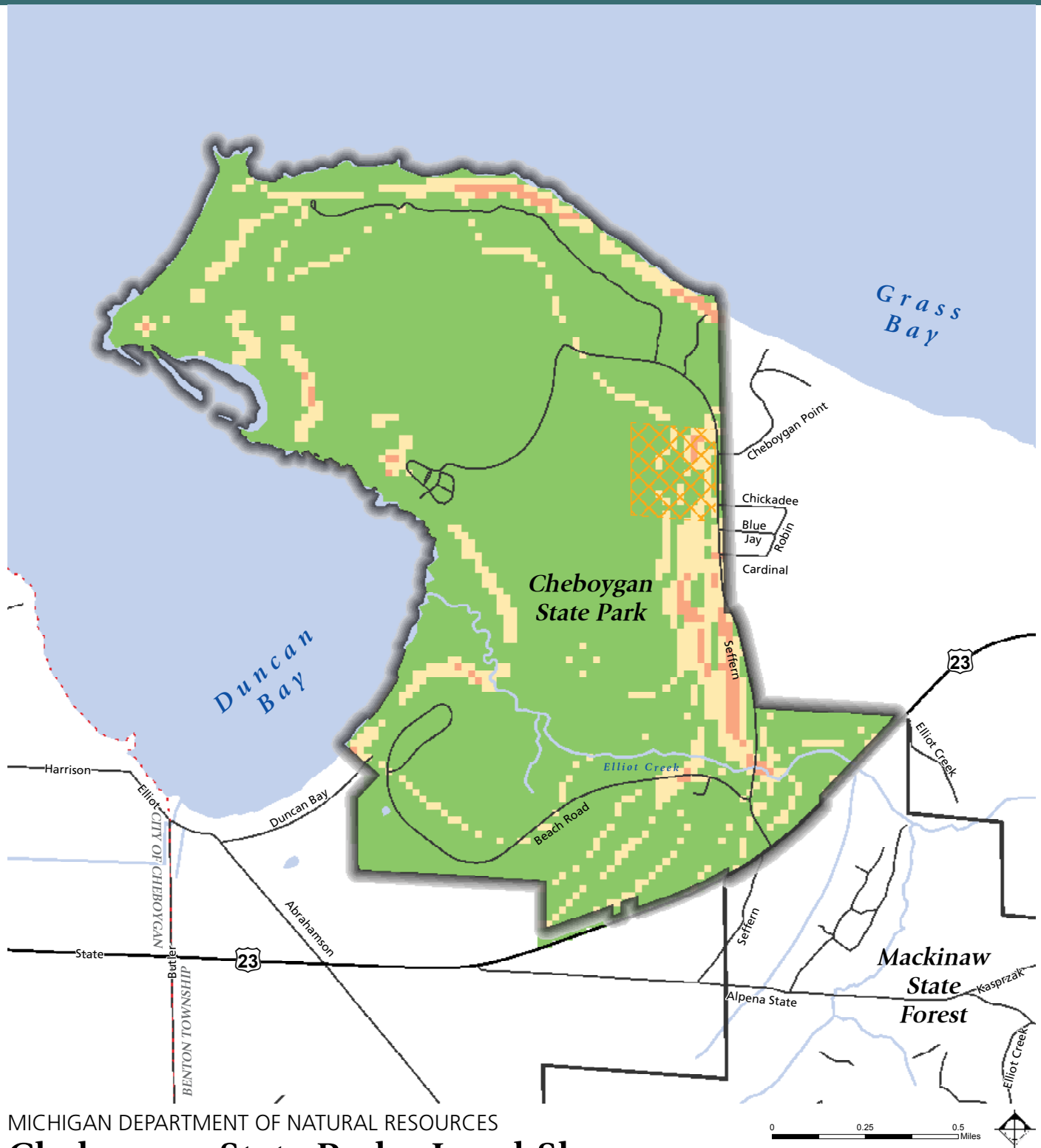
- County Boundary
- State Camp Grounds
- Boating Access Sites
- City Parks
- State Parks / Recreation Areas
- State Forest Areas
- State Game / Management Areas
- Regional Waterway Access
- Recreational Points of Interest
- Regional Trails
 - Michigan Cross Country Trail
 - Designated Biking Trail
 - Designated Hiking Trail
 - Designated Rail Trail (multi-use)
- Designated Equestrian Trail
- Designated Snowmobile Trail
- Designated ORV Route
- Designated ATV Trail



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Cheboygan State Park - Park Amenities

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| State Park Boundary | Private Property |
| Municipal Boundary | DNR Lands |
| State Roads | Nearby Preserves |
| Other Roads | Park Trails |
| Lakes/Ponds | Park Features |
| Rivers/Streams | |



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

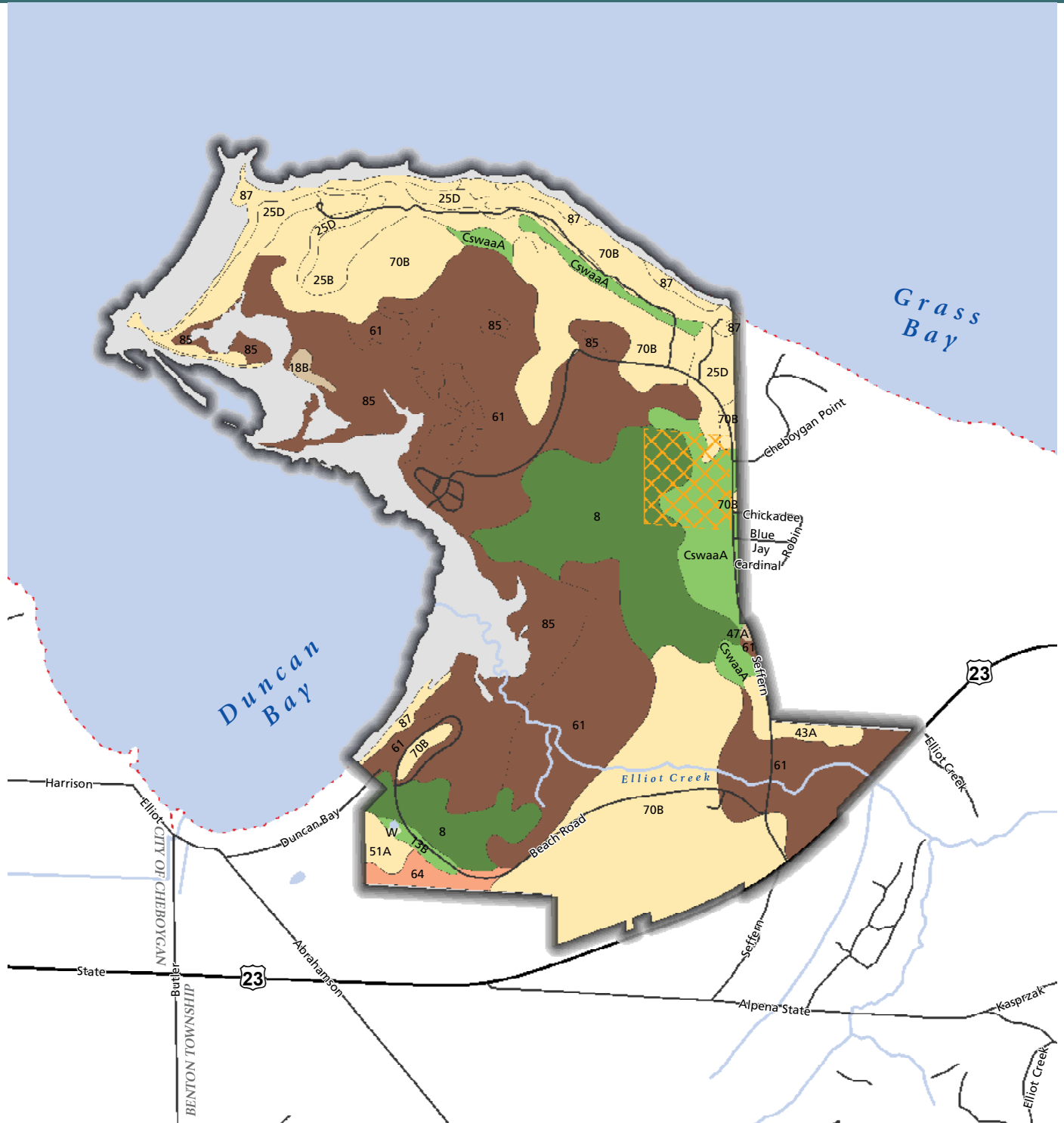
Cheboygan State Park - Local Slopes

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources

- State Park Boundary
- State Forest Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- State Roads
- Other Roads
- Lakes/Ponds
- Rivers/Streams
- Private Property

Percentage Slope

- 0% - 3%
- 3% - 6%
- 6% - 10%



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES Cheboygan State Park - Soil Survey

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Natural Resources Conservation Service

State Park Boundary

Private Property

Sand

25B: Eastport Sand, 0-6% slopes

25D: Eastport Sand, 12-25% slopes

43A: Battlefield Sand, 0-3% slopes

51A: Otisco Sand, 0-3% slopes

70B: Au Gres-Roscommon, 1-4% slopes

87: Beaches

Loamy Sand

18B: Blue Lake Loamy Sand, 0-6% slopes

47A: Ingalls Loamy Sand, 0-3% slopes

Sand / Decomposed Plant Material

13B: Rubicon Sand, 0-6% slopes

CswaaA: Croswell Sand, 0-3% slopes

Mucky Sand

64: Burleigh Mucky Sand

Muck

61: Roscommon Muck

85: Histosols & Aquents, Pondered

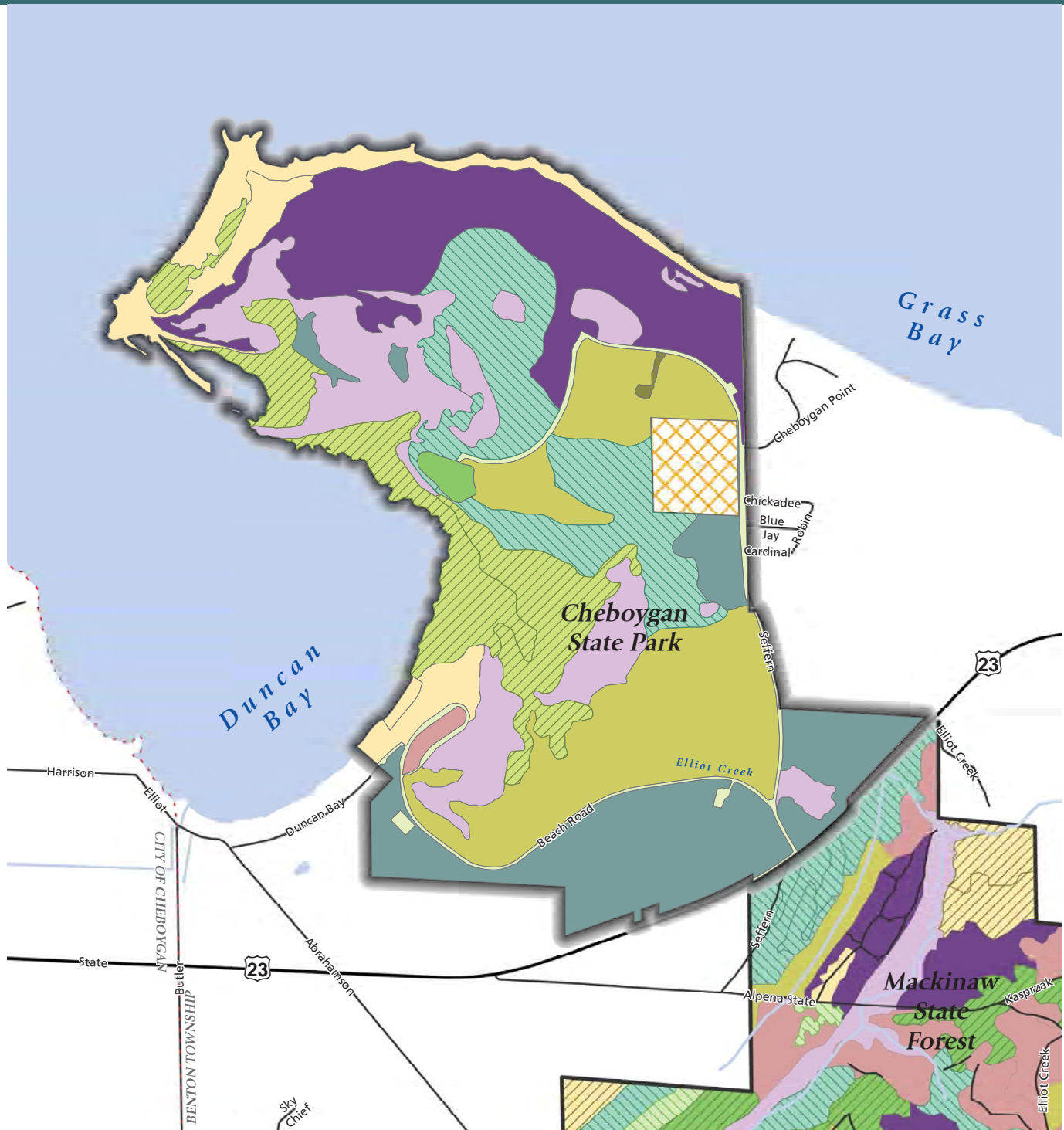
Peat

8: Tawas Peat

Water (W)

No Data

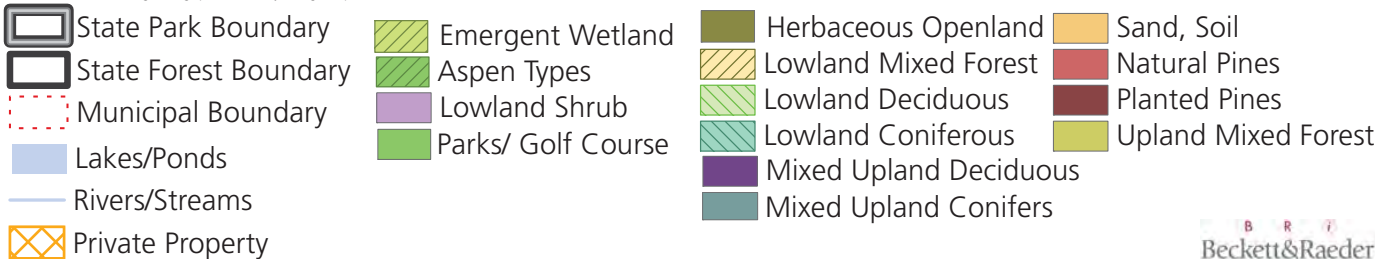
B R
Beckett & Raeder

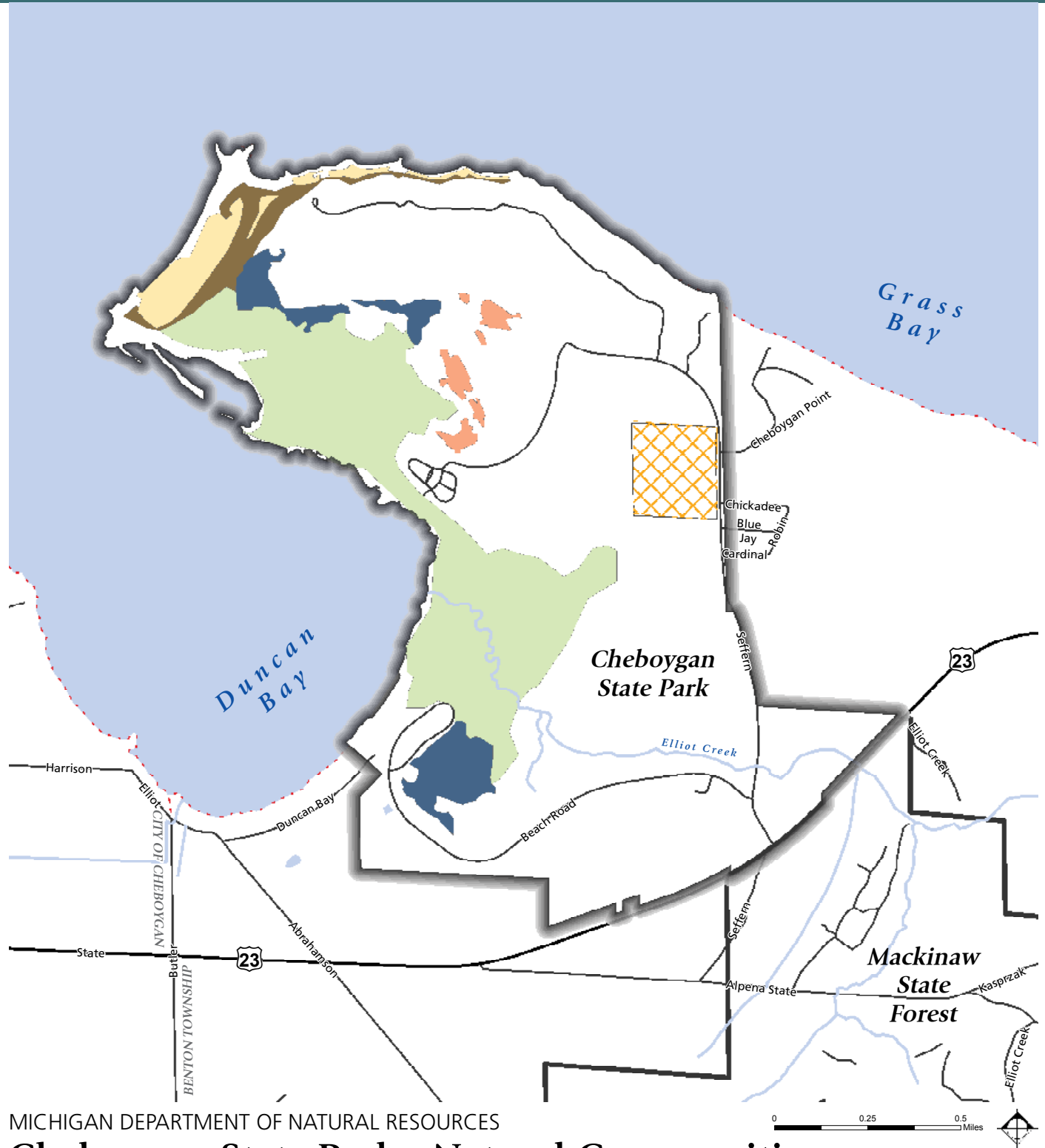


MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Types of Forest

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, National Land Cover Database





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheboygan State Park - Natural Communities

Data Sources: State of Michigan Geographic Data Library, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, MDNR Open Data

- State Park Boundary
- State Forest Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- State Roads
- Other Roads
- Lakes/Ponds
- Rivers/Streams
- Private Property

Community Type:

- Coastal Fen
- Northern Fen
- Great Lakes Marsh
- Interdunal Wetland
- Great Lakes Barrens

Three hundred and forty-eight individuals responded to the survey...the majority of respondents were from the Cheboygan area and surrounding region, but many were also distributed around the state. This indicates that Cheboygan State Park is both locally loved as well as a destination park within the state park system.



Appendix

B: Public and Stakeholder Input

B.1 Project Website

On the adjacent page is a snapshot of the project website at www.mdnrmanagementplans/cheboygan-state-park. The website was available for public viewing throughout the duration of the planning process and was updated with maps, survey results, and the draft plan. Members of the public could contact the planning team through the website contact form.

B.2 Online Public Survey

Summary of Survey Results

The DNR recognizes that public input is a critical component of park planning, thus input is sought through multiple venues in hopes of gathering the opinions of a variety of users. One of the methods the planning team used to gather input from park users was an online survey. This survey was advertised

through a DNR press release that was sent directly to over 47,000 recipients who have registered to receive statewide or Cheboygan area news and those who registered at one of Cheboygan State Park's overnight accommodations in 2016. The press release was also shared by local newspaper and media outlets.

Three hundred and forty-eight individuals responded to the survey, though 58 of those were screened from taking the entire survey because they had not visited the park in the last five years. The largest age group represented was users over 60 years old (38%), with results steadily decreasing with the younger age groups. The majority of respondents were from the Cheboygan area and surrounding region, but many were also distributed around the state. This indicates that Cheboygan State Park is both locally loved as well as a destination park within the state park system.



CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

MORE ABOUT THE PARK

- ☐ Cheboygan State Park (MDNR)

MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT

- ☐ Presentations and Meetings
- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Documents

MORE ABOUT MDNR MANAGEMENT PLANS

- ☐ Park Management Plans (MDNR)
- ☐ Planning Process (MDNR)
- ☐ Management Zones (MDNR)

CONTACT US

Comments and questions are always welcome!

* indicates required field

Name:*

Email:*

Subject:*

Park:

Message:*



About the Park

Cheboygan State Park is located on the shores of Lake Huron and Duncan Bay, just east of the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. This state park offers a variety of year-round recreation activities available to visitors. The park includes just less than four miles of shoreline, with lake access provided by a swimming beach and a carry-in boat launch. Two lighthouses are located off the coast. The park also features 7 miles of hiking, biking, and ski trails, a 74-site campground, 2 tipi sites, 3 rustic cabins on Lake Huron, and a three-bedroom modern lodge. In addition, most of the state park is open to hunting, and Little Billy Elliot Creek, which flows through the park, is known for its trout fishery.

The Cheboygan area is often referred to as the "Gateway to the Waterways." Cheboygan's deep water harbor opens to the Straits of Mackinac, and the city is at the headwaters of the Inland Waterway, a navigable route that links approximately 40 miles of lakes and rivers across northern Michigan. Cheboygan State Park provides a base for exploring other nearby attractions such as Bois Blanc Island, Mackinac Island and Mackinaw City. The park is on the Huron Shores Heritage Route, a section of Highway US-23, which runs from Mackinaw City in the north to Standish on the Saginaw Bay. The Heritage Route provides 200 miles of scenic views of Lake Huron and an array of recreational and cultural opportunities.



Statewide DNR News

Jan. 17, 2017

Contact: [Debbie Jensen](#), 517-284-6105

DNR seeks public input on Cheboygan State Park general management plan via online survey through Feb. 15

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking public input on the development of a general management to guide the future of [Cheboygan State Park](#). The public is invited to share their opinions and ideas for the draft plan through an online survey available through Feb. 15 at www.michigan.gov/cheboygan.



The 1,345-acre state park, situated on the shores of Lake Huron and Duncan Bay 4 miles east of the city of Cheboygan, is located at the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The park – which annually welcomes visitors from all over the state – features a swimming beach, carry-in boat launch and 7 miles of hiking, biking and ski trails. It also is home to a range of lodging, including modern camping, tepees, rustic cabins on the lakeshore and a modern lodge. The majority of the park is open to hunting and fishing opportunities available in Duncan Bay and Elliot Creek, which is a designated trout stream that flows through the park. The park affords scenic views of the Lake Huron shoreline, and the ruins of the 1859 Cheboygan Point Light still can be seen by park visitors today.

The park's general management plan will define 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 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 and development of the draft general management plan. 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 Cheboygan State Park online 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.

/Editors' note: An accompanying photo is available below for download. Suggested caption information follows.

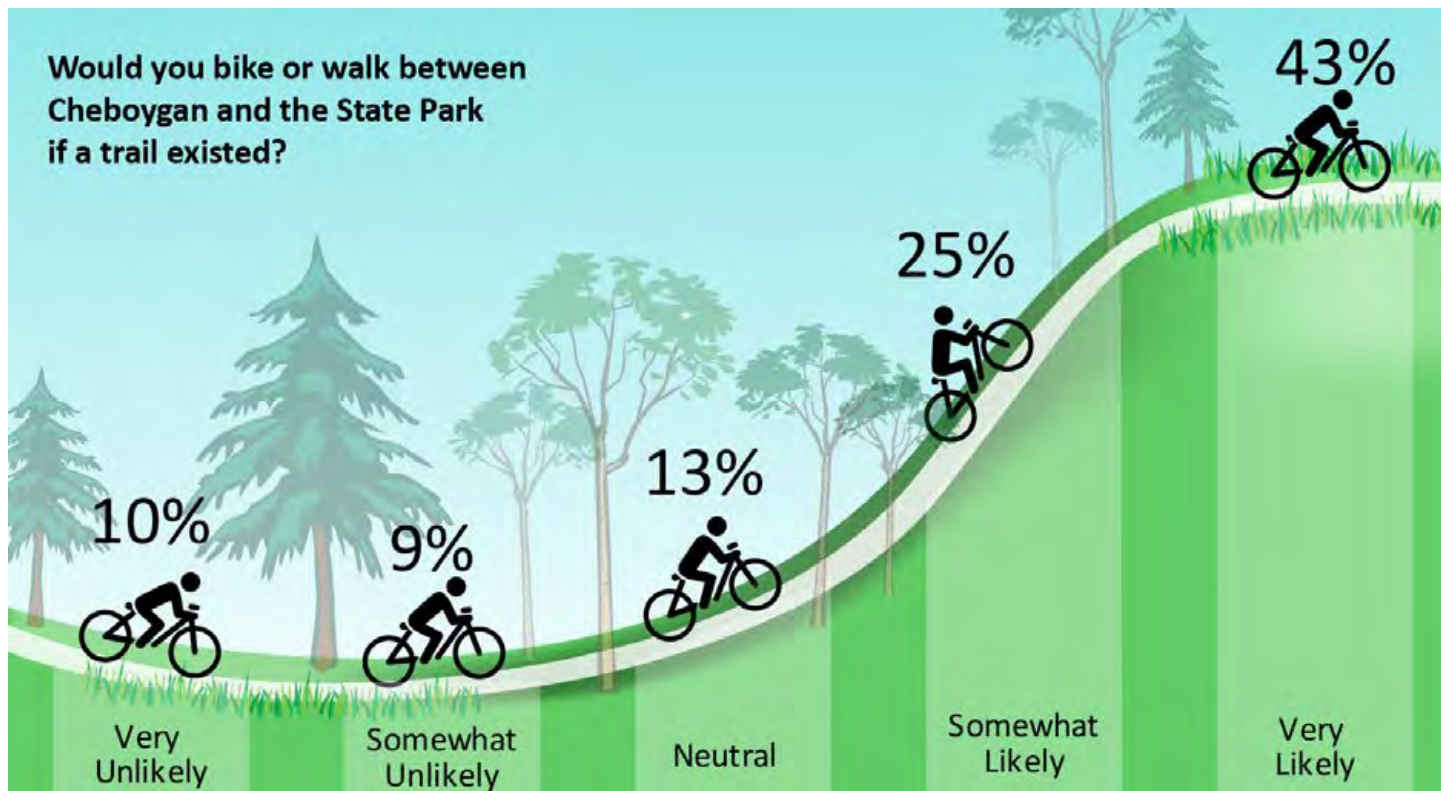
Cheboygan State Park is located at the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula on the shores of Lake Huron and Duncan Bay, and features a variety of camping, fishing, hunting and other outdoor recreation opportunities. The Michigan DNR invites the public to share (via online survey through Feb. 15) their ideas about the park's future management.

- [Cheboygan.jpg](#)

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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The survey was broken down into several categories to gather targeted input:

CATEGORY	INPUT RECEIVED
Your Visit	General information about how frequently users visit, how they travel to the park, other attractions visited in the area, and activities participated in during the visit
Day Use	Whether the day use facilities meet the needs of users and any other comments about the day use facilities
Overnight Accommodations	Whether the overnight accommodations meet the needs of users, how long they stay, and what improvements could be made
Fishing	Preferred fishing location and method, targeted fish species, and any other comments about fishing at CSP
Hunting	Targeted species for trapping and hunting, and any other comments about hunting at CSP
Overall Satisfaction	A rating of overall satisfaction with a recent visit and an explanation, how users describe the park, what changes could be made, and any other comments about CSP or the plan process
Tell Us About Yourself	Demographic data

Your Visit

The survey responses indicate that visitors to CSP tend to most frequently visit the park once (25%) or one to two times per year (45%), commonly in the summer months (63%), though many of the respondents (22%) visit the park year round. Visitors travel to the park mainly by car, but a few arrive by other means such as a bicycling, a motorized boat, walking, and a very small number by non-motorized boat. Visitors are open to the idea of traveling to the park using a non-motorized trail, with 43% saying they were very likely to travel to CSP using such a trail and 25% saying they were somewhat likely.



Most frequently visited area attractions. More frequently mentioned attractions appear larger.

The survey also asked what would encourage users to visit the park more often. The majority of reasons given were related to improvements or changes to the park, such as improving cabin availability, improving the access to the beach and water, connecting the park trails to other nearby trails, building an updated playground, building more and modern restrooms, and upgrades to the campground. Other respondents said simply that they would visit more frequently if they had more time or if the park were closer to home.

The Cheboygan State Park staff knows that many visitors use the park as a “home base” from which to explore other area attractions. The survey investigated this idea, showing that 68% of visitors frequent other area attractions when visiting the park. The most common responses were downtown Cheboygan and its shops and restaurants, Mackinaw City, and Mackinac Island, along with a plethora of other attractions. A word cloud of the responses is above, with the most frequently mentioned destinations appearing larger.

The planning team was interested in knowing what visitors like to do while at Cheboygan State Park. The survey revealed that visitors participate in a large variety of activities during their stay, with the most popular activities reported to be hiking, going to the beach or swimming in Lake Huron and Duncan Bay, viewing sunsets, visiting the lighthouse ruins, and camping. When asked what one activity makes them choose

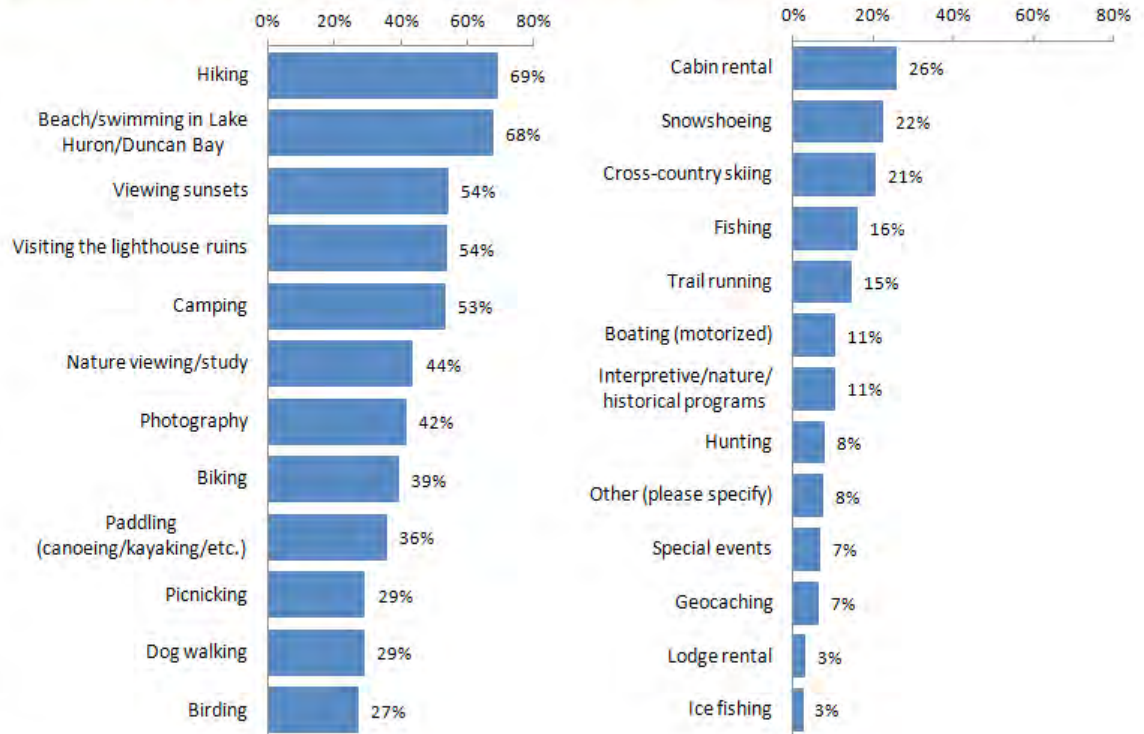
to visit CSP, the top responses were camping (25%), going to the beach and swimming (13%), cabin rental (13%) and hiking (11%). The graphics on the next page illustrate these results.

Day Use

A majority of survey respondents reported that the day use facilities meet their needs (60%), and only 9% of respondents said that the facilities were in some way inadequate (the remaining respondents do not use those facilities). When asked to explain why the facilities did not meet their needs, respondents most frequently mentioned the desire for an improved play area or lamented that the beach is too far away from the campground. Several comments mentioned the beach area specifically; that it was too small, had broken glass, or was too wet.

When asked about the park's trails, 76% of respondents said that the trails met their needs, and 15% felt that they did not. Most of the unsatisfied respondents wished that there were more trails or that the trails were better connected to other trails in the area. Others desired the trails to be better groomed for particular activities such as bicycling or skiing or found sections of the trails to be too sandy or too wet.

What are all the activities in which you participated in at Cheboygan State Park?



What ONE activity makes you choose to visit Cheboygan State Park?

25%
Camping



13%
Beach /
Swimming



13%
Cabin
Rental



11%
Hiking





Word most frequently used to describe the park. More frequently mentioned words appear larger.

Overnight Accommodations

A majority of survey respondents said that they use the overnight accommodations at CSP (61%). Most of these visitors stay at the park for two to three nights (58%), but another 27% stay four to six nights. When asked what one thing could be done to improve the overnight experience, respondents had wide ranging suggestions, but the most commonly desired changes were to upgrade the electric service in the campground to better provide for RVs, and to modernize the bathrooms and/or to have more of them.

Fishing

Although most of the survey respondents do not fish at CSP (81%), the respondents who do fish provided some insight. The most popular fishing location at the park is Duncan Bay (47%) followed by Elliot Creek (33%). Respondents reported commonly fishing from the shoreline or motorized boats and slightly less frequently fishing from creek-side or non-motorized boat. Although most respondents reported targeting no specific species, pan fish, smallmouth bass, walleye, and brook trout were popular targets. A slight majority of respondents also fish at other locations near the park (57%), such as the Cheboygan River, Lake Huron, Mullet Lake, Black Lake, and the Black River. Most comments about fishing at the park mentioned a positive experience due to the quiet and rustic atmosphere of the park.

Hunting

The input of hunters was not significantly gathered by the survey; only 21 respondents (8%) reported hunting at the park. Those that did hunt mainly target small game (71%), waterfowl (58%), and white tailed deer (43%). There were even fewer respondents who trap at CSP. Two respondents said that they water trap, and one land traps. Out of twelve comments, about half were positive, and half mentioned some criticisms or suggestions. Those include that the forest needs to be rejuvenated, the deer and small game populations are low, that garbage needs to be picked up by park users when leaving, and that recent changes have not improved the hunting or fishing experience.

Overall Satisfaction

When visitors think about Cheboygan State Park, they would describe it as beautiful, quiet, peaceful, clean, rustic, and a host of other positive adjectives that can be seen in the word cloud below.

Most survey respondents are satisfied with their experience at Cheboygan State Park. On a scale of zero to ten, where zero is least satisfied and ten is most satisfied, the average response was an eight. In fact, only six respondents rated their experience lower than a five.



There were plentiful comments about how beautiful and enjoyable the park was, but some wish that the park were improved. The vast majority of suggestions were campground and cabin improvements, such as upgrading the electrical service at the campground, making the campsites larger, or having more of them. Many also suggested playground, trail, and beach improvements as noted in the day use questions, as well as paving the park roads.

To end the survey, respondents were given the chance to provide other comments as well as upload a photo of their experience at Cheboygan State Park. The photos that were uploaded show the many ways that visitors enjoy the park, and some are featured above. There were 84 comments submitted, which were wide-ranging and generally reflected the other results in the survey, and 32 photos uploaded that showed many park users enjoying all facets of the park. Below are two comments that well encapsulate the visitors' sentiments about this serene park.

“We love the rustic cabins. I think they are one of the highlights of the park for visitors from out of town like us...They are key to us returning to Cheboygan State Park every year.”

“This park is a gem, particularly because of the wilderness feel, in spite of close proximity to the town. It would be important to those that enjoy nature study to maintain this feeling of being able to get away from the rat race.”



Cheboygan State Park - General Management Plan

Your Visit

* 1. Have you visited Cheboygan State Park in the last five years?

☐ Yes

☐ No

If you answered "No", what would make you visit the park more often?

Your Visit

* 2. How many times per year do you visit Cheboygan State Park?

☐ Less than once per year

☐ 1-2 times per year

☐ 3-5 times per year

☐ 6-10 times per year

☐ 11 or more times per year

What would make you visit more frequently?

*** 3. In which seasons do you visit the park? Check all that apply.**

- ☐ Winter (December, January, February)
- ☐ Spring (March, April, May)
- ☐ Summer (June, July, August)
- ☐ Fall (September, October, November)
- ☐ I visit year round.

*** 4. How do you travel to the park? Check all that apply.**

- ☐ Car
- ☐ Bicycle
- ☐ Motorized Boat
- ☐ Non-motorized Boat
- ☐ Walk
- ☐ Other (please specify)

*** 5. Would you bike or walk between Cheboygan and the State Park if a trail existed?**

- ☐ Very Likely
- ☐ Somewhat Likely
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Somewhat unlikely
- ☐ Very Unlikely

*** 6. When you visit Cheboygan State Park, do you also visit other attractions in the area?**

- ☐ No
- ☐ Yes (Please specify which attractions you visit)

Your Visit, Continued

*** 7. Please check ALL the activities in which you participated at Cheboygan State Park.**

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beach/swimming in Lake Huron/Duncan Bay | <input type="checkbox"/> Lodge rental | <input type="checkbox"/> Viewing sunsets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating (motorized) | <input type="checkbox"/> Biking | <input type="checkbox"/> Birding |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paddling (canoeing/kayaking/etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting | <input type="checkbox"/> Trail running | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Dog walking | <input type="checkbox"/> Geocaching |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ice fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Interpretive/nature/historical programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowshoeing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting the lighthouse ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Cross-country skiing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cabin rental | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature viewing/study | <input type="checkbox"/> Special events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | | |

*** 8. What one activity makes you chose to visit Cheboygan State Park?**

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Beach/swimming in Lake Huron/Duncan Bay | <input type="radio"/> Lodge rental | <input type="radio"/> Viewing sunsets |
| <input type="radio"/> Boating (motorized) | <input type="radio"/> Biking | <input type="radio"/> Birding |
| <input type="radio"/> Paddling (canoeing/kayaking/etc.) | <input type="radio"/> Hiking | <input type="radio"/> Picnicking |
| <input type="radio"/> Hunting | <input type="radio"/> Trail running | <input type="radio"/> Photography |
| <input type="radio"/> Fishing | <input type="radio"/> Dog walking | <input type="radio"/> Geocaching |
| <input type="radio"/> Ice fishing | <input type="radio"/> Interpretive/nature/historical programs | <input type="radio"/> Snowshoeing |
| <input type="radio"/> Camping | <input type="radio"/> Visiting the lighthouse ruins | <input type="radio"/> Cross-country skiing |
| <input type="radio"/> Cabin rental | <input type="radio"/> Nature viewing/study | <input type="radio"/> Special events |
| <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) | | |

Day Use

*** 9. Do the day use facilities (picnic pavilion, grills, beach, playground equipment, parking, etc) at Cheboygan State Park meet your needs?**

☐ I do not use these facilities.

☐ Yes

☐ No (Please Explain)

*** 10. Do the trails at Cheboygan State Park meet your needs?**

☐ I do not use these facilities.

☐ Yes

☐ No (Please explain)

Overnight Accommodations

*** 11. Do you use the overnight accommodations at Cheboygan State Park?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

*** 12. How many nights do you typically stay?**

☐ 1 night

☐ 2 - 3 nights

☐ 4 - 6 nights

☐ 7 nights

☐ more than 7 nights

13. What is the one thing we could do to improve your overnight experience?

Fishing

*** 14. Do you fish at Cheboygan State Park?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

*** 15. What is your preferred fishing location at Cheboygan State Park? Select only one.**

☐ Lake Huron (Outside of Duncan Bay)

☐ Duncan Bay

☐ Elliot Creek

☐ Other (please specify)

*** 16. How do you typically access the water for fishing? Check all that apply.**

☐ Shoreline

☐ Motorized boat

☐ Non-motorized boat

☐ Creek-side

☐ Other (please specify)

*** 17. What do you fish for at Cheboygan State Park? (Check all that apply)**

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walleye | <input type="checkbox"/> Pan fish (bluegill, sunfish, crappie or perch) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Muskellunge | <input type="checkbox"/> Chinook salmon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Largemouth bass | <input type="checkbox"/> Steelhead |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Smallmouth bass | <input type="checkbox"/> Brown trout |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brook trout | <input type="checkbox"/> No specific species |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern pike | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) | |

*** 18. Do you fish at other locations near the park?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, where do you fish?

19. Please provide any comments you may have regarding your fishing experience at Cheboygan State Park.

Hunting

*** 20. Do you hunt or trap at Cheboygan State Park?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

*** 21. What do you hunt? Check all that apply.**

☐ I do not hunt.

☐ Waterfowl

☐ White-tailed deer

☐ Small Game

☐ Other (please specify)

*** 22. What do you trap? Check all that apply.**

☐ I do not trap.

☐ Water trapping

☐ Land trapping

☐ Other (please specify)

23. Please provide any comments you may have regarding your hunting or trapping experience at Cheboygan State Park.

Overall Satisfaction

* 24. Using the scale below, please share how satisfied you were with your most recent visit to Cheboygan State Park (0 is least satisfied, 10 is most satisfied):

0 10



* 25. Please explain why you gave this rating.

26. What three words would you use to describe Cheboygan State Park to someone who has never visited the park?

1

2

3

27. What, if any, changes would you make to Cheboygan State Park?

28. Please share any other thoughts you may have on Cheboygan State Park and/or the management planning process.

29. Optional: Upload a photo of your experience at Cheboygan State Park!

You may upload a .png or .jpeg file type. By uploading a photo, you grant permission to the DNR to use the photo.

Choose File

No file
chosen

Tell Us About Yourself

This section will help the planning team understand who uses the park.

*** 30. What is the ZIP code of your primary residence?**

*** 31. What is your age?**

- ☐ 17 or younger
- ☐ 18-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60 or older
- ☐ I prefer not to answer.

*** 32. What is your gender?**

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ I prefer not to answer.

*** 33. How much total combined money did all members of your HOUSEHOLD earn last year?**

- ☐ \$0 to \$9,999
- ☐ \$10,000 to \$24,999
- ☐ \$25,000 to \$49,999
- ☐ \$50,000 to \$74,999
- ☐ \$75,000 to \$99,999
- ☐ \$100,000 to \$124,999
- ☐ \$125,000 to \$149,999
- ☐ \$150,000 to \$174,999
- ☐ \$175,000 to \$199,999
- ☐ \$200,000 and up
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

34. If you would like to be kept informed about the General Management Plan process and upcoming meetings, please leave your contact information below:

Name

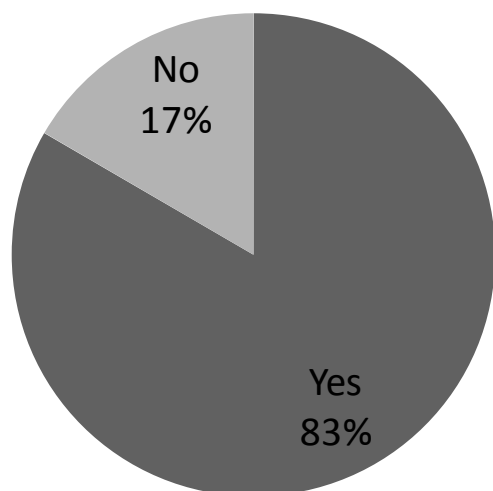
Email Address

Thank you!

Thank you for participating in the Cheboygan State Park General Management Plan survey! Your input is appreciated. Visit <http://www.mdnrmanagementplans.org/cheboygan-state-park/> for more information!

B.3 Public Input Survey Results

Q1: HAVE YOU VISITED CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS?		
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
YES	83.4%	292
NO	16.6%	58
IF YOU ANSWERED "NO", WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU VISIT THE PARK MORE OFTEN?		47
ANSWERED QUESTION		350
SKIPPED QUESTION		0



If you answered "NO", what would make you visit the park more often?

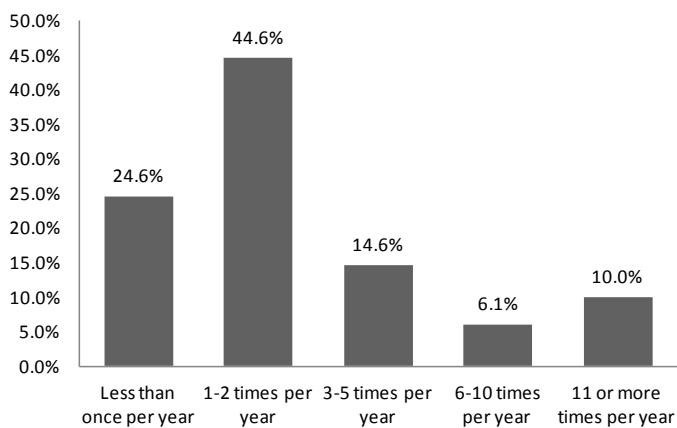
1. Never been but it's on our 2017 park list. It's a bit of a drive from Grand Rapids
2. More family activities
3. Nothing. It's on my "go to" list. Just haven't made it to this park yet!
4. Proximity. I just live a ways away.
5. Knowledge of unique and interesting features of the park
6. Bike packing trip on NCST and NEST
7. if there was more distance between sites.
8. not sure. I like to visit many state parks.
9. Nothing
10. Bike Trails
11. More non-motorized trails
12. Kids Activities, Night Hikes, Playground
13. Woodcock hunting
14. Great park however, our group finds it vet difficult to

hunt the park with such thick vegetation some select cutting and dead collage removal would be a great idea.

15. Events, a Disc Golf course
16. Knowledge of the amenities
17. Hunting Opportunities
18. offer disc golf
19. A move back home to Michigan.
20. Natural beauty
21. Modern camping facilities. on site sewer hook ups.
22. probably been about that long ago- I guess any historical aspects which can be attributed to it. I haven't stopped at the rest stop on 23 between Cheb and M.City either. Is there signage which identifies it as the first rest stop in Michigan? I heard it was- is it?
23. It was not on my list to visit
24. Trail systems, especially bike trails give us reason to make a destination trip.
25. More bike trails
26. horse trails
27. Love the idea of Teepee camping. Ability to rent kayaks or canoes.
28. Site availability
29. Availability
30. More interpretive programs
31. I did not know it was there. I will go now.
32. More vacation time--- too many things to see in short vacations
33. Drive by it but didn't know anything about it, other than it's on the lake
34. I was out of state, but I plan on visiting this year!
35. More updated campsites and fishing docks/piers.
36. not sure
37. A disc golf course on site.
38. I would like to see the old lighthouse rebuilt as an attraction/visitation spot.
39. Just haven't been to that one yet!
40. We now have a cottage in the area, but plan on visiting the park next summer to do some geocaching.
41. Allowing dogs on part of the beach
42. update facilities
43. Effort
44. Bike trails
45. I will be able to visit more often due to a job change.
46. More time off work
47. More promotion of available programs, amenities

Q2: HOW MANY TIMES PER YEAR DO YOU VISIT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
LESS THAN ONCE PER YEAR	24.6%	69
1-2 TIMES PER YEAR	44.6%	125
3-5 TIMES PER YEAR	14.6%	41
6-10 TIMES PER YEAR	6.1%	17
11 OR MORE TIMES PER YEAR	10.0%	28
WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU VISIT MORE FREQUENTLY?		118
ANSWERED QUESTION		280
SKIPPED QUESTION		70



What would make you visit more frequently?

- Hard to say. We live on the Cheboygan River so we spend most our time on the water.
- If it was closer to where I live in Cheboygan. I have only a bicycle for transportation.
- Free check chocolate? Just know kidding nothing I can think of
- Better Biking Trails
- A well maintained perimeter walkway along the lake shore.
- More free time.
- If more rustic cabins were available
- More free time...
- more snow
- Love the rustic cabins. Consider allowing dogs in the cabins.
- If I lived closer, I would visit more often. It is between 25-30 miles from home.
- I just moved here and plan to visit more.
- Closer to my home.
- Personal scheduling.
- Availability of more camper cabins.
- More free time and remembering it as a place to enjoy outdoor recreation.
- Mini cabins
- Improvements. Not enough bathrooms and showers, no playground for kids, no beach, very little access to the water.
- Yes
- Local...better access
- Need to update the electrical system from 20 amp to at least a 30 amp system. 50 amp would be better.
- Pet friendly beach area.
- "Love the park, the bay is outstanding for kayaking, the cabins are almost as good as Wilderness!
- I visit weekly so I am there quite often. More trails would encourage me to visit more.
- Trail from town to park
- Our schedule and cabin availability.
- more modern cabins
- Our schedule and cabin availability
- Bike trails from the city to the park
- Not living so far away (Indiana)
- More vacation time
- The bike connector trail to the NC & NE State tails.
- nothing really. It's a nice Park and near town....that is good.
- We visited for the first time in 2016, but having done so, we would love to return again. We really enjoyed the hiking.
- We will visit more often, now that we have been there. One of our favorites!
- Closer to home
- Select cutting and dead brush removal
- Pave the road to the park.
- Less mosquitoes,
- I live nearby and it is a lovely, interesting place
- Easier access to beach
- nothing.
- My children have grown up, so I need to get used to going by myself. I am planning on snowshoeing this winter out there.
- Paved bike trail
- If I lived closer.
- Kayaking launch. And water trail.
- A near by trailerable boat launch good for boat up to 21'. Now launch in the Cheboygan River.
- More parking? But I don't want big parking lots... easier access of some kind...
- ability to more easily access ATV/Motorcycle trails from the park
- I'm a local, so more activities and promoted more (I hear about things after they are done). I have 2 young children now so I don't go as often, but would if there were more things for them to do. I go mostly in non-summer season.
- Playground structures
- My upcoming retirement

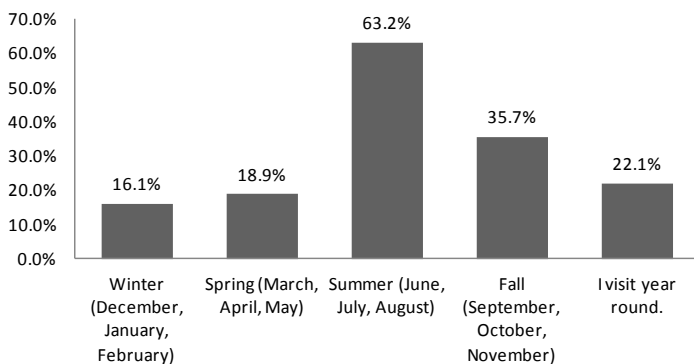
APPENDIX B

53. A bike trail connecting the city of Cheboygan
54. "Activities, publicity, biking, rentals for water activities, better bathroom facilities.
55. "We rent a rustic cabin for about a week in the summer. You have to reserve a year in advance. If there were more rustic private cabins on the lakeshore, we would visit more often.
56. if flies and mosquitoes disappeared. Note: my husband and I walk trails EVERYDAY!
57. access by way of a trail for walking or biking as that is a good source of exercise.
58. Better cross-country skiing trails and snow shoe trails.
59. More geocaches
60. More trails & connectivity
61. Bike friendly
62. Retirement!
63. More grass, more inviting
64. Easier to reserve a cabin.
65. We like to camp in different state parks, loved the Teepee camping
66. Better beach. Allow use of ATVs on the park roads.
67. Events: wildflower walks, etc.
68. Easier bike connect from Duncan Bay Boat Club
69. Usually go when grandchildren visit. They would need to visit more.
70. Hey! We go there pretty much annually. Have been for about a decade. Not sure any incentive would make us go more often.
71. Mountain bike trails, Snow shoeing trails, Kayak launch
72. A connected non motorized trail linking the park to the City of Cheboygan and the North Central State Trail and the North Eastern State Trail.
73. If we lived closer
74. Updates to the campground
75. Need a raised board walk from the Campground to the Day Use Beach
76. Only if we lived a bit closer. The park is perfect.
77. If I lived closer
78. More time off work to travel.
79. Paved campground roads and sites
80. Its already perfect!
81. Easier access to Lake
82. Backcountry or more primitive sites for camping.
83. Cheboygan State Park is in need of boat launch facilities. There is a lack of Cheboygan area launch facilities that are on Lake Huron. It is too time consuming to have to utilize the Cheboygan lock system to gain access to the big water. Just a thought. Thank you.
84. nothing.
85. Easier access to beach.
86. More time for recreation in my life.
87. Paved roads, dry beach.
88. Bigger campsites and higher amp power
89. nothing, we like to go to different parks every year
90. More time off from work
91. Nothing really. There is too much to do in this state so we spend time all over it instead of one spot. Each year we typically rent a cabin for a long weekend in the winter either here or at Wilderness.
92. Larger campsite
93. We used enjoy staying at the cabins in the Winter. However, the old wood stoves were replaced. Since that time we have found the newer stoves no longer can heat the cabins sufficiently and without frequent refilling with wood. Please replace these inadequate wood stoves. I would like to add the winter trips to our calender.
94. make asphalt drive thru out park. Bigger lots and have swimming area closer or move park to the beach area and a playground for the kids
95. More time available in our schedule.
96. Just being in that area of the Top of the Mitt.
97. Cleaner beach area.
98. more secluded camping such as wilderness has.
99. It is just too far for me to visit more often.
100. Better beach access
101. Nothing specific We are new to the state and trying out different State Parks
102. More personal time
103. Only if I had more time!
104. 30/50 amp campsites
105. Kayak launch, updated campground...
106. Cheaper cabin rental, living closer
107. more time off from work
108. Public interpretive programs
109. Local attractions/restaurants/biking opportunities
110. less mosquitos
111. More trails.
112. Distance from home- reside in Kalamazoo. Work full time- limited vacation days
113. Distance is the only thing that keeps me away from visiting more often. This is my favorite state park in Michigan.
114. If I lived closer to it. It's one of my favorite state parks!! I would also visit more in winter if there were xc ski equipment available for rental.
115. More to do in the area.
116. If it was closer
117. Upgraded electric service to 30amp
118. Being able to bring our small dog on a leash and being able to have beer in cans on the beach.

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Q3: IN WHICH SEASONS DO YOU VISIT THE PARK? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
WINTER (DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY)	16.1%	45
SPRING (MARCH, APRIL, MAY)	18.9%	53
SUMMER (JUNE, JULY, AUGUST)	63.2%	177
FALL (SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER)	35.7%	100
I VISIT YEAR ROUND.	22.1%	62
ANSWERED QUESTION		280
SKIPPED QUESTION		70



Q4: HOW DO YOU TRAVEL TO THE PARK? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
CAR	94.6%	265
BICYCLE	7.9%	22
MOTORIZED BOAT	5.7%	16
NON-MOTORIZED BOAT	1.4%	4
WALK	5.7%	16
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	6.4%	18
ANSWERED QUESTION		280
SKIPPED QUESTION		70

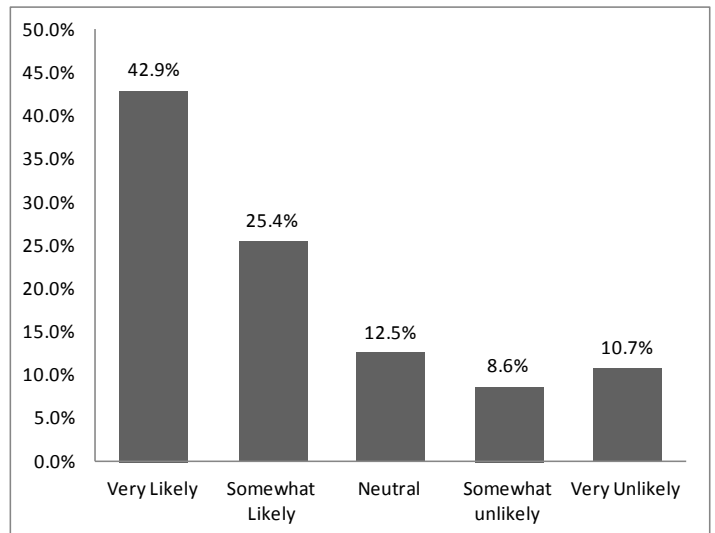
Other:

1. Motorcycle
2. I might bicycle in the future
3. trucks/rv
4. Pickup truck
5. Motorcycle
6. We would bike to the Park, if there were an off-road trail.
7. motor home
8. truck
9. RV

10. Truck with Fifth wheel
11. truck and camper
12. RV
13. RV
14. kayak
15. Motorcycle
16. Camper
17. Truck pulling a camper.
18. Camper

Q5: WOULD YOU BIKE OR WALK BETWEEN CHEBOYGAN AND THE STATE PARK IF A TRAIL EXISTED?

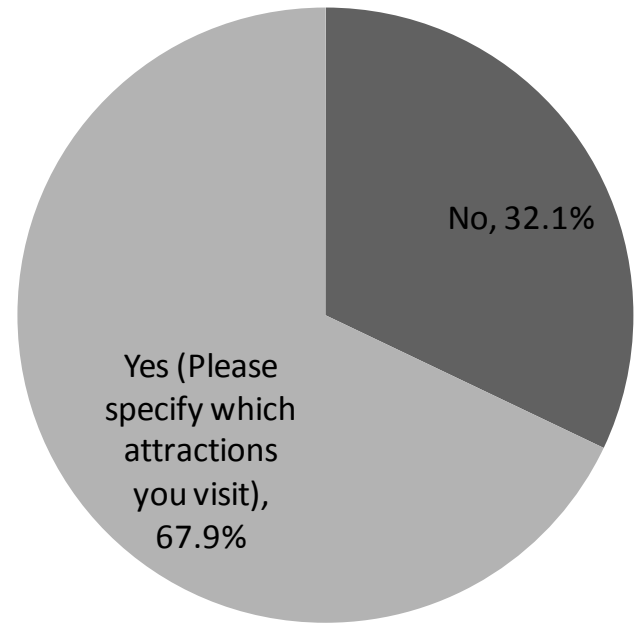
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
VERY LIKELY	42.9%	120
SOMEWHAT LIKELY	25.4%	71
NEUTRAL	12.5%	35
SOMEWHAT UNLIKELY	8.6%	24
VERY UNLIKELY	10.7%	30
ANSWERED QUESTION		280
SKIPPED QUESTION		70



Q6: WHEN YOU VISIT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK, DO YOU ALSO VISIT OTHER ATTRACTIONS IN THE AREA?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
NO	32.1%	90
YES (PLEASE SPECIFY WHICH ATTRACTIONS YOU VISIT)	67.9%	190
ANSWERED QUESTION		280
SKIPPED QUESTION		70

See most frequently mentioned destinations in the word cloud on page 75.



Q7: PLEASE CHECK ALL THE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOU PARTICIPATED AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
BEACH/SWIMMING IN LAKE HURON/DUNCAN BAY	67.9%	188
BOATING (MOTORIZED)	10.5%	29
PADDLING (CANOEING/ KAYAKING/ETC.)	35.7%	99
HUNTING	7.9%	22
FISHING	16.2%	45
ICE FISHING	2.5%	7
CAMPING	53.4%	148
CABIN RENTAL	26.0%	72
LODGE RENTAL	3.2%	9
BIKING	39.4%	109
HIKING	69.0%	191
TRAIL RUNNING	14.8%	41
DOG WALKING	28.9%	80
INTERPRETIVE/NATURE/ HISTORICAL PROGRAMS	10.5%	29
VISITING THE LIGHTHOUSE RUINS	53.8%	149
NATURE VIEWING/STUDY	43.7%	121
VIEWING SUNSETS	54.2%	150
BIRDING	27.1%	75
PICNICKING	29.2%	81
PHOTOGRAPHY	41.5%	115
GEOCACHING	6.5%	18
SNOWSHOEING	22.4%	62
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	20.6%	57
SPECIAL EVENTS	6.9%	19
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	7.6%	21
ANSWERED QUESTION		277
SKIPPED QUESTION		73

Other (Please Specify):

1. Frog finding-- they breed here. Butterflies. Wildflowers
2. Astronomy
3. Walking on shoreline
4. searching for rocks and shells
5. We rented the pavilion for our family reunion last summer!
6. Viewing sunrises, northern lights, northern lights w/ comet, fires on the beach
7. Relaxing, watching water and boats of all kinds.
8. Relaxing, watching the water and the freighters.
9. School Field Trips
10. mushroom hunting
11. Halloween trick or treating
12. Teepee
13. Tipi
14. Biking the path in Cheboygan
15. walking
16. Metal detecting.
17. We enjoy just being there, sitting on the beach, watching the water, the freighters, reading, relaxing.
18. Teepee Rental
19. Teepee rental
20. Kids loved exploring the marsh area/docks by the camp grounds
21. enjoying the beach and the solitude

Q8: WHAT ONE ACTIVITY MAKES YOU CHOSE TO VISIT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
BEACH/SWIMMING IN LAKE HURON/DUNCAN BAY	13.4%	37
BOATING (MOTORIZED)	0.7%	2
PADDLING (CANOEING/ KAYAKING/ETC.)	1.1%	3
HUNTING	2.9%	8
FISHING	1.8%	5
ICE FISHING	0.0%	0
CAMPING	25.3%	70
CABIN RENTAL	12.6%	35
LODGE RENTAL	0.4%	1
BIKING	4.0%	11
HIKING	10.5%	29
TRAIL RUNNING	0.4%	1
DOG WALKING	1.4%	4
INTERPRETIVE/NATURE/ HISTORICAL PROGRAMS	1.1%	3
VISITING THE LIGHTHOUSE RUINS	0.4%	1
NATURE VIEWING/STUDY	4.0%	11
VIEWING SUNSETS	1.1%	3
BIRDING	2.5%	7
PICNICKING	0.4%	1
PHOTOGRAPHY	1.1%	3
GEOCACHING	0.4%	1
SNOWSHOEING	2.5%	7
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	2.9%	8
SPECIAL EVENTS	0.4%	1
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	9.0%	25
ANSWERED QUESTION		277
SKIPPED QUESTION		73

Other (Please Specify):

1. None- I go there because it's close to home.
2. Proximity to annual bridge walks
3. The one activity we would enjoy IF we didn't have to drive elsewhere to do it...is the beach and swimming. But that isn't possible without leaving the campground. Very disappointing and we would not likely ever come back because of that. In addition, there is no playground or fun area for our grandchildren to enjoy...so we would not choose to bring them to Cheboygan.
4. All of these! I live in the subdivision & LOVE all of it.
5. Bridge Walk
6. Lighthouse Point is the best cabin in the system, even better than Waugoshance for hanging out in, but the Waug has it beat for environment.
7. Location!!!! And it's quiet!
8. We have family in Cheboygan.
9. only 3 miles from where we live.
10. Harvest festival
11. Teepee rental
12. Tipi
13. Camping and beach walking.
14. all of the above
15. pick up point for sailing boats back from Huron to mac race
16. walking
17. woods and acreage
18. Visiting Mackinaw City and Mackinac Island
19. Metal Detecting.
20. the botanical diversity is amazing
21. Location in Regard to Mackinaw
22. wont be back till it gets gravel roads to asphalt and put a kids playground a must
23. Location
24. teepee rental
25. Labor Day Bridge Walk

Q9: DO THE DAY USE FACILITIES (PICNIC PAVILION, GRILLS, BEACH, PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, PARKING, ETC) AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK MEET YOUR NEEDS?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
I DO NOT USE THESE FACILITIES.	31.3%	86
YES	59.6%	164
NO (PLEASE EXPLAIN)	9.1%	25
ANSWERED QUESTION		275
SKIPPED QUESTION		75

No (Please Explain):

1. The playground equipment is outdated and could use an upgrade.
2. There is no playground...unless you're talking about the one little piece of playground equipment that sits in the weeds near the beach...that we had to drive to. It can hardly be called a playground. We didn't use the other facilities.
3. The playground equipment is very outdated, it should be replaced, perhaps closer to the beach.
4. Have launched out of there a number of times
5. For day use definitely, but it's too far from the campground to be very useful to campers.
6. wishing the beach area was not made into a natural beach front . we used to go there all the time and sit in front of pavilion now it's all natural grass. now with the water so high there is basically no beach.
7. Roads to cabins could be improved
8. not open when i am there
9. "I have not been acquainted with them.
10. T
11. Very old and out of date
12. Small bath house, but it worked
13. The facilities are nice but the beach is shallow.
14. In the past when I was younger and our children were home we used these facilities.
15. Need pavilion in the campgrounds for use
16. Beach too far from campground
17. Potable water can be scarce in the fall when staying in the cabins.
18. I wonder if it is all possible to improve the beach so it isn't wet all the time. Other than that it's a nice recreation area.
19. A bigger beach area would be nice, maybe closer to the actual campground instead of having to drive to it. Because it's in the bay it gets quite wet and limits the areas for sitting on the beach.
20. Beach to far away and no playground equipment

21. The facilities were more than adequate, but the actual beach was lacking.
22. I am not there to use those facilities.
23. Beach is constantly littered with broken glass.
24. An area for dogs would be great. Ours moves the water
25. Very clean!

Q10: DO THE TRAILS AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK MEET YOUR NEEDS?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
I DO NOT USE THESE FACILITIES.	9.8%	27
YES	75.6%	208
NO (PLEASE EXPLAIN)	14.5%	40
ANSWERED QUESTION		2
SKIPPED QUESTION		75

No (Please Explain):

1. No, the bike trail appears to be a loop out to the point but then you have to walk the bike through a half mile of sand once you get there.
2. Needs better directional signs.
3. Wish there were more areas with trails.
4. Should be longer, wider, and better maintained
5. An enhanced trail system would be wonderful!
6. It would be nice if there were ORV/UTV trails that tied in to the trails around Black Mountain.
7. links with other trails to make for a longer hiking experience
8. Not enough trails.
9. Could be better maintained for mountain biking. Very buggy.
10. The hiking trails are great for hiking but not great for skiing, especially the blue trail near the parking area. It would be nice if they could be groomed more often.
11. Yes and no. Let me be clear, I love the trails that are there. I'd like more trails but the space is limited. Is there any possibility of branching out across the highway?
12. But I would like more trail options. Part of the trail is not as desirable because it is incredibly swamp.
13. Better to connect to other trails.
14. cant get to the park on a bike
15. More bike trails (ie, the connector.)
16. Mostly, would like improved bicycling trail to connect to the park and maintain biking opportunities on park trails.
17. Need more
18. A paved trail from cheboygan would allow in line skating and road biking

19. A trail from the campground along lake Huron would be very special and well utilized.
20. They need to improve the cross-country ski grooming.
21. The time I used them, they were poorly groomed.
22. More trails would be welcome
23. Need bike friendly
24. Overgrown
25. would like it to connect to Cheboygan
26. However, improvements for cycling would be very nice!
27. Long and more of them
28. They do not connect to other trails in the area
29. Haven't used the trails yet
30. Need to be more developed
31. Too narrow
32. There could be more trails through the interior of the park so we don't have to go off trail to see parts of the park.
33. To many bugs...
34. Didn't see any trails
35. better markings
36. Fun!
37. It would be nice to have trails that extended down US-23 and into town for biking and hiking.
38. Mostly yes. Wish there was a trail from campground to the beach instead of going around on the road.
39. Would like more. Snow bike trails would be terrific.
40. I love the cabins in the winter. The limited number of trails limits the time and return visits (I have returned but once every 5 years). If there was more trail variety I might go more often.

Q11: DO YOU USE THE OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
YES	61.1%	168
NO	38.9%	107
ANSWERED QUESTION		275
SKIPPED QUESTION		75

Q12: HOW MANY NIGHTS DO YOU TYPICALLY STAY?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
1 NIGHT	6.0%	10
2 - 3 NIGHTS	57.7%	97
4 - 6 NIGHTS	26.8%	45
7 NIGHTS	6.5%	11
MORE THAN 7 NIGHTS	3.0%	5
ANSWERED QUESTION		168
SKIPPED QUESTION		182

Q13: WHAT IS THE ONE THING WE COULD DO TO IMPROVE YOUR OVERNIGHT EXPERIENCE?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	109
SKIPPED QUESTION	241

1. Full hook up RV sites
2. Maintain the wood burning stoves, although I will say they have been much improved in the last few years compared to five or ten years ago.
3. wi-fi-- being able to check the status of a few places before I turn in for the night puts my mind at ease.
4. Put a screen porch on all cabins not just Lighthouse Point
5. Nothing. It is perfect the way it is.
6. Nothing, everything is the way we like it.
7. continue locking the gates so others cannot drive in to cabins, for more privacy
8. Nothing. Keep it just the way it is
9. We love it just the way it is and have for 25 years.
10. We love the rustic cabins but would like to bring our pets.
11. Nothing, we have had wonderful experiences camping there!
12. A small store to pick up treats, milk. Ice cream would be good
13. Group camping area feels a little too open. Perhaps plant a few trees or shrubs!
14. How do you improve on perfection?
15. Electricity in the camper cabins.
16. Add more fun stuff for younger kids.
17. Keep the sites maintained
18. Nothing, use rustic cabins and tipi.
19. allow dogs to stay at cabins
20. Upgrade the electrical system at the sites!
21. Suggest adding one or two more cabins toward either

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

- Cheboygan Point or between Poe and 14'. Would be nice to name one after Jim Carlson.
22. Increase the number of people who use the park
23. I don't know if there's anything you could do to improve the campsites since it's so compact, but the air was too smokey the last time we camped there. Maybe restrict smoking?
24. Since we stay in our trailer, updating the electrical would be the best thing to improve!!!
25. Very hard to say. Staff is great, cabins are always clean and stocked with wood where appropriate, camping area was excellent
26. bigger lots
27. The cabins could use a really thorough cleaning, roof to floor.
28. The cabins could use a really good cleaning, from the roof down. Dust, dirt, soot settles on the logs, etc., .plus all the use they get.
29. Pave the roads from U.S. 23 and throughout the campground.
30. The wood stoves in the cabins are too small. Takes too long to generate heat.
31. We were there on a weekend that was not super busy, so we enjoyed it just as it was.
32. The park is perfect for us. Everyone is fantastic.
33. Just keep up the good work....I love your staff...Keep them on...
34. Modern bathrooms
35. having a beach area access point from camp ground or camping at day use. it is so far to drive to swim
36. Electricity and heat in cabins.
37. Nothing! Please leave the park as it is.
38. Keep the cabins rustic it's a tremendous experience. Cabins could use a few more lantern hangers. Wood allowance burning could be increased.
39. Prob not need to do anything, possibly one more bathroom
40. Nothing
41. Flush toilets
42. keep showers open til nov 1
43. Continue to maintain the campsites
44. NA
45. Better wood stoves for heating
46. full hook up campsites, Clean some of the weeds off the beaches. bigger lots for camping
47. the campground is very nice, needs an upgrade on the bathhouses one like the newest one Holland State Park has is very nice.
48. Nothing. The camp sites offer a degree of privacy and the staff is very helpful.
49. Trail walkers not walking through the cabin area-signage directing them to alternative route to preserve lodging privacy.
50. Maintain, it's a beautiful park.
51. Pump outbuildings more frequently
52. Make electricity easily available and add 30 amp service.
53. More Tepee options. Option for larger families in Tepee.
54. More showers
55. build a late night ice cream stand
56. More Showers
57. Playground equipment would be nice
58. Keep it quiet
59. access to the swimming beach from the campground (Boardwalk)
60. I love it the way it is.
61. More level camp sites
62. Pavement
63. Don't change the wood stoves. Replace the awful raised fire pits, which shed no heat.
64. Not sure its pretty nice.
65. 30 amp service on campground. Everything else was perfect!!!
66. Better wood stoves and stop locking up the wood.
67. We had a difficult time finding firewood in the fall and winter when staying in the cabin.
68. Move the garbage area further away from the sites. I've had the campsites that back up to the garbage bins. Not always a pleasant smell.
69. Unlock the fire wood. Choose much better quality firewood in larger size logs! People would not use so much. It has been tiny and poor burning quality.
70. Paved roads.
71. nothing at all, it was perfect
72. Update electric service
73. I can't think of anything right now.
74. Lower the cost of the cabin rental. Otherwise it is a great park.
75. Replace the unacceptable wood stoves! The winter trips were great!
76. Better campgrounds need to do a lot of up dates they are way behind every state park in Michigan
77. Improve and increase bathroom facilities. Closing the entire building during cleaning caused problems.
78. We think it's about perfect! This will be our 29th annual stay this June.
79. Full,service RV hook up. 30 amp electrical, and water.
80. Modernize restrooms
81. Enforce quiet hours.
82. The electric pedestals are shared between two sites. This puts one camper at a disadvantage if they don't have a long cord. The electric system could use upgraded.
83. More rustic/secluded sites to stay on, privacy

84. Enforce the quiet rules at night a bit better. Otherwise-- it was heavenly there! I love Cheboygan State Park.
85. I loved our cabin stay start to finish. I was disappointed though that I couldn't get a live human on the phone by calling the number listed for the park. The cabin itself was great, although the key for the firewood during our winter stay wouldn't open the shed and we didn't have a way to cut our own wood. We ended up having to purchase wood outside of the park which didn't seem appropriate given the ash borer. We even tried to call and talk to someone at the park office but no one came out...even though three or four cars were parked at the back.
86. better electric at campsites
87. More shower facilities.
88. Tee pees seemed cool. I'd like to stay in one, but seems the closure is not very secure and lots of bugs get in.
89. Increase the amount of camp sites
90. 30/50 amp campsites so that air conditioning could be used. Larger sites for bigger RVs would be nice
91. Updated bathroom/shower building. Paved camping sites. Updated electric at sites(min. 30 amp) Larger dump station facility.
92. Cheaper for how little you basic amenities at the cabin are. Better access to firewood, allow pets.
93. Add a few more cabins.
94. Love the camp area
95. Campground was clean and quiet. Excellent.
96. Replace the wood stove in the Poe Reef cabin. It is old, small, hard to use, hard to cook with, and yet vital to comfort during winter camping.
97. The outhouse at Lt House Pte is in dire need of repair. The porcupines have really been chewing it up, and it isn't that old.
98. 30 amp outlets at campsites. Very important !
99. Nothing- no issues with overnight experience.
100. Maybe some night time activities. Like some Night hikes for families.
101. It would be amazing if there were some modern cabins with shower and toilet.
102. Continue good check-in experience and maintenance of the shower building
103. I have no suggestions. I've always been very happy with my overnights. I especially love that one of the bathrooms has sinks sized just for little kids!
104. Cabin rental is awesome.
105. better fishing dock or pier
106. More secluded camp sights.
107. Upgraded electrical service to 30amp
108. Allow pets in cabins. Add screen porches to other cabins so there are more options as Lighthouse Point Cabin fills up.
109. have more options

Q14: DO YOU FISH AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
YES	18.5%	51
NO	81.5%	224
ANSWERED QUESTION		275
SKIPPED QUESTION		75

Q15: WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED FISHING LOCATION AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK? SELECT ONLY ONE.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
LAKE HURON (OUTSIDE OF DUNCAN BAY)	16.3%	8
DUNCAN BAY	46.9%	23
ELLIOT CREEK	32.7%	16
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	4.1%	2
ANSWERED QUESTION		49
SKIPPED QUESTION		301

Other (Please specify):

1. Cheboygan river
2. trout streams

Q16: HOW DO YOU TYPICALLY ACCESS THE WATER FOR FISHING? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
SHORELINE	46.9%	23
MOTORIZED BOAT	36.7%	18
NON-MOTORIZED BOAT	18.4%	9
CREEK-SIDE	26.5%	13
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	4.1%	2
ANSWERED QUESTION		49
SKIPPED QUESTION		301

Other (Please Specify):

1. Kayak
2. Wade out into the bay

Q17: WHAT DO YOU FISH FOR AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
WALLEYE	24.5%	12
MUSKELLUNGE	6.1%	3
LARGEMOUTH BASS	18.4%	9
SMALLMOUTH BASS	26.5%	13
BROOK TROUT	24.5%	12
NORTHERN PIKE	14.3%	7
PAN FISH (BLUEGILL, SUNFISH, CRAPPIE OR PERCH)	28.6%	14
CHINOOK SALMON	10.2%	5
STEELHEAD	10.2%	5
BROWN TROUT	14.3%	7
NO SPECIFIC SPECIES	36.7%	18
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	4.1%	2
ANSWERED QUESTION		49
SKIPPED QUESTION		301

Other (Please Specify):

1. Lake trout
2. Carp

Q18: DO YOU FISH AT OTHER LOCATIONS NEAR THE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
YES	57.1%	28
NO	42.9%	21
IF YES, WHERE DO YOU FISH?	25	25
ANSWERED QUESTION		49
SKIPPED QUESTION		301

If yes, where do you fish?

1. Mouth of Cheboygan River
2. Cheboygan river
3. Everywhere I can
4. salmon fish big lake
5. lake Huron
6. Fishermen don't give up their secret spots.
7. Cheboygan River and mouth of the river.
8. Cheboygan River, Mullett and Black Lake
9. Lake Huron
10. Cheboygan River Mouth, and Black River
11. Mullet Lake, Black Lake, Pier in Rogers City

12. cheb. river
13. at the dam
14. Follow Elliot Creek route
15. Cheboygan River
16. Cheboygan River
17. Downtown Marina
18. The Dam, the public boat launch in town, at the DNR office by drawbridge
19. trout streams
20. Lake Huron and Cheboygan River
21. Black River, Mullett and Burt Lakes
22. mackinaw city or hammond bay
23. straights
24. 10 miles down 23
25. behind DNR station near bridge downtown

Q19: PLEASE PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING YOUR FISHING EXPERIENCE AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK.

Answer Options	Response Count
ANSWERED QUESTION	12
SKIPPED QUESTION	338

1. Fish have not been as plentiful in recent years
2. Grand daughter learned to fish there
3. Good, most times...
4. Great staff really friendly. Park is hard to hunt needs to be cleaned up higher brow line.
5. poor
6. nice quiet creek with good forestry cover to keep the waters cool for good trout habitat. Take away canopy for building campgrounds etc. and you will kill the creek for sure.
7. The number of fish have declined in recent years.
8. I've been going to Duncan bay since 1948. Always good unless strong west and north west winds.
9. Don't tell anyone
10. Great rustic fishing... please leave it alone and, basically, don't change anything
11. They need a dock to go out to pan fish with the kids
12. I fish for smallmouth bass and carp late spring/early summer, using a fly rod. Thoroughly enjoy the solitude and ample opportunities to pursue both species.

Q20: DO YOU HUNT OR TRAP AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
YES	7.7%	21
NO	92.3%	252
ANSWERED QUESTION		273
SKIPPED QUESTION		77

Q21: WHAT DO YOU HUNT? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
I DO NOT HUNT.	4.8%	1
WATERFOWL	57.1%	12
WHITE-TAILED DEER	42.9%	9
SMALL GAME	71.4%	15
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	4.8%	1
ANSWERED QUESTION		21
SKIPPED QUESTION		329

Other (Please specify):

1. snipe and woodcock and grouse

Q22: WHAT DO YOU TRAP? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
I DO NOT TRAP.	90.5%	19
WATER TRAPPING	9.5%	2
LAND TRAPPING	4.8%	1
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	0.0%	0
ANSWERED QUESTION		21
SKIPPED QUESTION		329

Q23: PLEASE PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING YOUR HUNTING OR TRAPPING EXPERIENCE AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	12
SKIPPED QUESTION	338

1. we hunt every year in this area. it is beautiful in this area and our family can all be in one area.
2. Could be a great place to hunt but very hard to hunt. The forest needs to be rejuvenated. It's too thick!

3. Love it. Although some good waterfowl parts harder to access. For snipe, and hunting in general, the safety zone is a little too restrictive. No one around at that time of year, and the marsh is definitely not habited by people. What ever comes of the Plan, please take into consideration all types of hunting, not just white-tail. Consult ruffed grouse society, etc.
4. Despite being in a park location have not had issues with trap theft like in other areas.
5. a group of 8, now 6, have hunted waterfowl annually in October for about 25 years staying in Lake Huron cabins
6. Population of deer is very low.
7. just set up a tree stand but didn't shoot anything
8. Small game species have diminished over the years, i.e. snowshoe hare and ruffed grouse.
9. I've hunted, and fished, the Lighthouse Point vicinity for 50 years, and many of the changes have not been very conducive to improved hunting or fishing. I would recommend no further changes be made to the lands that are now the Cheboygan State Park.
10. Game is scarce but I go small game hunting for the exercise and a nice walk in the woods.
11. Beautiful spot to hunt later in the season when the flight birds come down (if they come down during our season)
12. It is a wonderful spot to hunt waterfowl. There have been a few times when prior hunters (or other park visitors) have left garbage behind. I would suggest that there be strong reminders to all park visitors that the experience for everyone is improved if everyone takes care of their garbage, etc.

Q24 &25: USING THE SCALE BELOW, PLEASE SHARE HOW SATISFIED YOU WERE WITH YOUR MOST RECENT VISIT TO CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK (0 IS LEAST SATISFIED, 10 IS MOST SATISFIED). PLEASE EXPLAIN WHY YOU GAVE THIS RATING.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	254
SKIPPED QUESTION	96

RATING	RESPONSE
10	great time!
10	It was a great day for our hike, and the scenery was outstanding
10	Had a nice hike with dog. Saw interesting birds. Not too many people
10	Pleasant staff, good experiences (and no unpleasant surprises) several years running.
10	No place like it. Staff is courteous. Ease of entry via gated entrance to cabins and "roads" are usually free of blowdowns

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

10	We camp as a family at cheboygan state park every summer. We love it the way it is. We have many memories there. We love that it is secluded and we have time to be together as a family without the noise of our every day lives that we live in Detroit.
10	We have been staying at the same cabin at Cheboygan State Park for over 20 years and it is our favorite place in the world, wouldn't change a thing about it.
10	It is a beautiful park. We love the beach, Duncan Bay- great for swimming. The trails are nice for hiking. All in all it is a great park.
10	great birds and flowers and few people and no dogs
10	It is perfect for rustic campers
10	This is the home of our annual family vacation.
10	We have always had a great experience camping and the rangers have always been friendly and helpful. There are lots of equipment available to rent at the ranger station. We rented a kayak on our last visit and that worked out great. Hiking the trails is my favorite. The beach is also great for my young daughter.
10	I was satisfied.
10	Park was extremely clean and staff was helpful.
10	Excellent, we'll maintained facility.
10	The trails were beautifully groomed for skiing and the snowshoers have finally learned to walk next to the trail instead of on it.
10	It's smaller size make it perfect for campers that want to avoid the quick pace of other larger parks.
10	Cheboygan SP is the best maintained park I have ever used. Campsites have more separation than others I have used so there is a little more privacy.
10	snow was perfect for snowball fighting
10	clean and not crowded
10	I love the nature, the wildness, the non-commercialism.
10	I was very satisfied with my visit. Cabin was clean, staff was helpful
10	I love it
10	The pavilion was so clean and the facilities were excellent for our family reunion. Thank you!
10	Great hike, trails clear
10	The yellow trail and trail on the snow banks along the road had recently been groomed.
10	Camped in October. Camping was open and clean. Friends stayed at a cabin. Commuted between campground and cabin. Outstanding!
10	The park is fairly remote. Our dog is a hunting dog who needs to be able to run without encountering too many others, so the last time I was there it was fairly quiet.
10	always a joy to go there
10	The biking trails brought joy to us.
10	Had a great time staff was friendly park was clean

10	It was beautiful, we hiked the trails without running into other people, had a beautiful view out the back side of our campsite, and enjoyed the solitude of the park. Many other parks offer too many amenities, and it takes away from just enjoying nature.
10	Love it
10	Park is beautiful, Staff is awesome.
10	The park is well maintained, and the staff is friendly
10	I enjoy the rustic cabins, especially Poe Reef, in all seasons.
10	It was very nice and quite. I like the feel of the woodsy setting and that the roads are not paved, so everyone goes slower
10	Trails were in good shape
10	It is a beautiful park. I primarily use it for outdoor education programs with school groups for work.
10	We love Cheboygan State Park. Beach is great (we do miss it being bigger) and trails are fantastic.
10	Not over run with people.
10	Park is maintained well
10	Wonderful trails
10	It was fun night at the lantern snow shoe walk. Very good job doing the event.
10	We always enjoy our stay. It has become a family tradition. Everything is clean, well organized, and the views are breath-taking.
10	WE LOVE THIS PARK, THE TRAILS, THE VIEWS. EVERY SEASON.
10	Nothing negative comes to mind
10	I got a great parking spot and had a nice time hiking.
10	The tepee provided a unique camping experience. It helped turn my wife into a bigger camper. This was my kids favorite camping trip we have taken. It was quiet relaxing and better than our normal tent camping. The location was great for us as well. I do wish the beach was closer, but it was nice to see wildlife on the way. An amazing job to the Michigan DNR!
10	Love the park. Quiet, secluded, beautiful
10	The weather worked out perfectly. It was warm, but we missed a lot of the bugs. The trails were not wet either so we were able to hike from the camping grounds all the way up to the lighthouse ruins with out any water issues.
10	a very nice place
10	Cheboygan St. Park is a quiet gem that is usually uncrowded. I would hate to see it 'developed' so it is less natural and more "recreation" oriented.
10	I had a great time! No complaints!
10	Like the peace and quiet, the rustic cabin facilities and the opportunity to not see many people.
10	Its quiet, accessible, nice trails in the forest and beautiful beach.
10	Nice, clean and peaceful view.

APPENDIX B

10	The opportunity to walk the beach and enjoy winter views of Lake Huron.
10	Nice and quiet. Clean beach. Friendly staff. Clean facilities
10	I love this park...We go every year...
10	The campground was well run, and the spring flowers were amazing to look at, as well as very good birding along the shoreline
10	Everything was just right. It was quiet, not crowded at all, the trails were so nice and the campground was clean.
10	We enjoy the park because it is quiet and usually not crowded.
10	This park has great beaches, trails, and fantastic cabins!
10	Clean park and facilities, friendly staff and great bike trails
10	I love the beach, we take the doggies to the end away from the swimming and they just love to go swimming. PLEASE leave a beach area for doggies!!!! Don't be dog unfriendly like so MANY of the state parks in Michigan. Michigan is very dog unfriendly!!!
10	The park provides easy access to the waters of Duncan Bay
10	Clean showers, nice campsite
10	This is a small quiet state park. This is exactly what we are looking for. This is why we usually camp in the fall to avoid the crowd.
10	We loved the beautiful nature trails, staying in the tepee was great (and I believe it's the only place not in the UP where you can stay in the tepee). Beach was wonderful, love love love Cheboygan State Park.
10	Good clean park
10	Great campsite, clean bathrooms, friendly staff.
10	beautiful park that I can make reservations with a week or two notice
10	The park has plenty of room, without feeling like sardines crowded into the park. We stayed at Straits State park and it felt crowded and difficult to relax, where as Cheboygan is the exact opposite. You can relax, plenty of room between you and your neighbor.
10	I love staying at the cabins. A group of us goes twice a year and we always have so much fun. I love the beach being right there and trails close by.
10	We stayed in a rustic cabin and rented kayaks. The setting is gorgeous. Love the amenities available in the park!
10	This is an amazing park which allows for a lot of privacy and exposure to nature when you rent the cabins. I would not change anything except the long waiting list.
10	well maintained

9	We have visited Cheboygan State Park as an annual winter retreat for almost 15 years now. The rustic cabins have been well maintained over the years and meet our needs. The park is a great winter getaway, peaceful and quiet, with good hiking. I have not had the chance to visit the park in the summer, when I'm sure it is much busier. As I said, it is an excellent getaway in the winter if one wants to hike and explore and get away from civilization for a few days, save for a few locals hiking the trails who are always very friendly.
9	Great place to walk and enjoy the woods.
9	The park is not too busy and it seems like you are out in a wilderness area yet not far from a town.
9	Nice quiet area around the cabin and love the rustic cabin- wood burning stove.
9	Made a winter snowshoe hike with friends, which was completely enjoyable-- snow, interesting woods, nice scenery.
9	enjoy most of the Michigan Parks
9	Peaceful setting
9	Overall just a really good experience. We liked the camper cabin and its location.
9	Not all trails were groomed
9	Always enjoy the cabins- clean, beautiful location, and easy access to trails and shorelines.
9	Great for our community and they do a great job of all activities and care of the park
9	Great camping, swimming and sunsets
9	Beautiful, restful, relaxing. This June will mark the 30th year we have come. 1 year each at Lighthouse and 10' Shoals, the rest at Poetry Reef Cabin, our slice of paradise.
9	not fond of well water in my 3br cabin
9	It's a beautiful quiet park, conveniently located near Cheboygan and on the lakeshore.
9	It was very nice, quiet, beautiful scenery, nice folks.
9	Love the cabins on the water. Bridge, island, lighthouses in view. Sunsets, sunrises, and swimming makes it even better. Love the quiet remote setting. So private and tucked away.
9	it is beautiful and well kept. only downfall is sandy beach or lack thereof.
9	We love it there hunting needs to improve.
9	Formed a lot of memories over the years at the park. I camped there before it was a park.
9	Easily accessible, picturesque, close to home, has trails.
9	The area was clean. Lots to do around the area. Never had any issues.
9	Flush toilets at the trailhead would be wonderful, but perhaps impractical.
9	It's not 10 because it's not heaven.
9	The park provides all that I expect
9	One of the lake side trails was only partially groomed.

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

9	great clean sites, the rangers were very friendly and knowledgeable- fantastic hiking- many different landscapes...
9	Love the beach! Found some broken glass last summer on one visit.
9	For decades my old friends from around the state meet there a few times a year, great times, great memories.
9	I most often go swimming there. The beach and lake bottom are sandy and the water is usually warm.
9	the camping experience was very nice, but as I mentioned the bathrooms are a bit outdated.
9	Enjoy the park especially hiking out to the point with grand kids and our dogs.
9	It's clean
9	Great location and hosts.
9	It's a great asset to our community
9	Visited in October to photograph Fringed Gentians and Ladies-tresses orchids. Found both but numbers were down.
9	clean sites, good restroom, great location
9	Showers
9	Good amount of space between campsites Good showers and restroom facilities
9	No complaints.
9	Great swimming beach for children- but it does need some cleaning up and grounds keeping
9	Had great time, staff great
9	very nice staff, very clean bathrooms, am planning to come back
9	Had a very nice time, however spent 1/2 day coordinating getting the key to the woodshed. Considered getting a cord of wood sent out from town.
9	clear park and bathrooms, very nice rangers
9	We love Lighthouse Point cabin because of the sun room where we bring our art/crafts to work on all day every day. I'd like to see the park ban hunting.
9	Paved roads
9	Well maintained, quiet, peaceful, easy to get to.
9	It's always a pleasant visit.
9	I would give it a 10 but the cost of the cabin rental is too high.
9	I would like the trail system to be more complete and connect with the other non motorized in that area.
9	Very satisfied.
9	the park is away keep in a national state
9	It's a nice park with large campsites that is generally well cared for.
9	I realize there's not much that can be done about them, but the bugs were pretty bad during the day we were at the park.

9	I would have given a 10 rating if that last time we were there we were able to actually get ahold of a ranger or anyone at the park. We weren't sure who we could have called if we had an emergency while we were there. We stayed 3 nights and every day no one answered the office phone or seemed to be in the office itself. Also, we expected there to be firewood because it was cold out but we were forced to purchase from someone outside of the park. There was a shed full of firewood and were given a key to open it but the lock wouldn't open. We didn't want to break the lock or the shed so we had to purchase outside.
9	A nice quiet park with natural resources we enjoy, i.e. Kayaking, Hiking, Biking.
9	Excellent camping experience. Clean beach. Friendly staff.
9	I enjoyed a fall afternoon of kayaking in Duncan Bay.
9	Condition of outhouse. We had been at Lt House a few weeks earlier, and nothing had been done to deal with porcupine problem. Even after mentioning it to ranger
9	My last visit to CSP was to hunt waterfowl in Nov. We did not harvest any waterfowl that hunt, but it was an awesome afternoon.
9	We love to come in the fall when the campground is less crowded. This past fall was very enjoyable. Weather was still warm and we spend a lot of time at the beach. We enjoyed the quiet atmosphere and the beautiful views of the water. Our only complaint was our site had a lot of poison ivy right near the center of the site. We felt like we had to watch where we were stepping.
9	Nice park, OK privacy in the campground, great staff
9	We liked the park
9	I would like to be able to bring my small dog to the beach area and be able to have alcoholic beverages there also. In cans of course.
9	It was an excellent visit
8	I think it is a great park
8	Everything was good. Store and more bathroom space would be great
8	Love the beach! The group camping area could be fixed up a bit.
8	NA
8	Pretty area, but could be updated with better trails and trail connections.
8	Some lots are too small, electrical service is not sufficient for newer R.V.s , but the personnel are great!
8	We often come here, it's our closest state park. Wish there was a pet friendly beach area so we could all go to the beach together.
8	Beautiful area
8	I love hiking and snowshoeing. Would love to have trail connect to other trails. I would also bike it.
8	beautiful skiing trails

APPENDIX B

8	Fun stay. Beautiful site, wonderful days and nights
8	I enjoyed it. Would like a trail connecting to Cheboygan.
8	Nice, low key quiet
8	The time of year i visit there isn't much to go wrong. No people to work around.
8	Others had thrown out trash. nothing the park did. my family picked it up.
8	Cabins are awesome, well was silty
8	We usually use the trails. The new signs are great, but sometimes can't find if we are still on the trail. I few more markers would be great!
8	Nice Venue. Need water trails and bike trails.
8	Beautiful day and lovely walk. Would have used snow shoes if we didn't have to carry them
8	There is always room for improvement
8	Overall good time
8	The trails are very scenic, but some specific accommodations for bikers and/or skiers would make the trails that much better!
8	Trails had scattered trash (which we collected)... otherwise, a great visit
8	Bugs can be tough- but trails and beeches superb
8	Beach is kept clean and safe. Swimming and fishing is great
8	Stayed at cabin, getting moldy and dirty inside (beyond "rustic"). Chimney pipe in need of repair.
8	Like the rustic feeling
8	Beautiful surroundings.
8	The surroundings are very beautiful.
8	overall good experience
8	We enjoyed the time we spent at the beach area metal detecting.
8	If a power boat ramp was available, it would garner a 10.
8	I have yet to use the over night facilities but plan to in the future So I don't have input in that area. Other than the beach being wet all the time it's a nice area.
8	Nice park. Great location. Sharing electric boxes in campground can limit positions of camper.
8	Love the park, very small and quiet, would like better beach area and more playground for kids. Trail to basketball court is so buggy you have to run through it.
8	We had a fun time with many friends who joined us camping
8	On the water with great hiking trails.
8	I didn't notice anything bad or great but I have never thought I would not come back here
8	I believe it is a good park as with anything there is room for improvement from a personal perspective, generally it has always been a pleasant experience
8	It has everything I am looking for in a day visit. I tend to choose more rustic for overnight visits

8	Black flies were constantly biting us around our campsite and made for an itchy visit. The campsites were very nice and with wooded areas, were perfect for hammocks. Staff was very friendly and helpful!
8	Campsite was good, paddling was good.
8	I enjoyed snow shoeing on the trails, but there was limited space due to groomed ski tracks
8	Not enough firewood was provided and it was locked up and not accessible
8	Good camping and trails. Quiet and not very populated
8	Just feel it needs an update
8	Winter camping at the Poe Reef Cabin offers a way to get away from it all in a rustic setting with beautiful views. Replace the wood stove for a higher score
8	It's a beautiful location. Would be a 10 with more trails.
8	Enjoyed the park but experience would be better with 30 amp outlet at campsites. 20 amps not sufficient for today's campers.
8	Winter cabins are great; everything you need for a little escape. More trails would make me come more often.
8	Had a couple of power outages.
8	I didn't like that the beach was so far from the campground. Otherwise, though, I like the park a lot.
7	If I wasn't with someone who knew the area I wouldn't have known how to access the area we were visiting.
7	The trails do not allow frequent rest spots for people who are older or differently-abled. Perhaps more benches, closer together to allow for this. Nothing on the beaches at all to rest on.
7	Because it's close to home
7	Its a great park but I prefer Black Lake area and Aloha State Park. Maybe just out of habit.
7	I don't like an empty park
7	No easy local access
7	Overall, the park was very nice. Our only disappointment was the out dated electrical hookup. Most travel trailers today require at least a 30 amp system.
7	We wanted to hike but the weather and condition of the trail was poor (muddy)
7	Nice place
7	Good state park for camping. Wish the camp site was closer to public swimming
7	Beautiful campground with private sites
7	Nice beach; not too many people
7	showers not open when I was there
7	nice place but needs bigger camp lots, and the beach in not the best.
7	Good weather, successful fishing, no excessive pressure on fishing-- number of boats out

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

7	My children would enjoy MORE playground equipment, though this is not a necessity.
7	The park is great. I would like to see more sponsored events.
7	It seems with such a pristine location it could be spruced up a bit.
7	I'm honest...Always room for improvement
7	Paved bike paths would make it perfect
7	Not much beach.
7	I share rustic cabin with duck hunting buddies. Saw so little deer sign I didn't hunt in 2016. Only thing that saved the trip was my buddies bring there.
7	Needs more shower facilities
7	Prefer a better beach, but otherwise scenic park.
7	Need updating
7	love the park, needs a way to get to beach from campground with out car or biking on the roads
7	I prefer camping in a more modern campground like Aloha, Burt Lake, or Saint Ignace
7	nice place to walk, swim, hike
7	Lakeshore not easily accessed. Build a graded bike path along shore
7	x
7	Campground bathrooms old, distance to beach from campground, small beach.
7	poor electrical service
7	Nice park. The hike to the beach is not easy for all.
7	would be higher if campground had bigger sites that had 30 or 50 amp service. Camp Hosts were very nice.
7	Good campsite, loved the trails, and the views were beautiful.
6	The campground needs a lot of work for Rvs-it is too rustic for a lot of campers-the camp sites are too small.
6	Not very familiar with area. Distance from parking to water seemed long.
6	ski trails were not groomed
6	Too many people and crowded.
6	Rained rained rained. Not the park's fault.
6	The road is always rough driving in and out of the park and the beach wasn't as enjoyable as I remember it from years ago. The campgrounds reminds me more of a state forest campground
6	I DO NOT like the showers. I had a man walk in the women's shower area, and I couple showering together. I felt VERY uncomfortable
6	Very quiet and peaceful campsites.
6	The lodge is beautiful, however so many mosquitos made it impossible to sit on the deck, grill, or campfire
5	Awesome State Park, poor bike trails
5	There is nothing about the park that is particularly good, bad, or unusual.
5	Even in September the mosquitos were terrible

5	The snowshoeing trail is just ok I didn't notice any bathrooms
5	Its a very nice park, well maintained and friendly but biking is limited since the park is isolated from area trails.
5	I've had better experiences hunting, fishing, and camping here, in particular in the 1970's, before all the changes were made to this area.
5	Campsites not big enough, roads need to be wider
5	Average
4	It's just ok, campsites are much too small!
3	At times the lines were long at the restrooms and showers and there is nowhere in the park that you can walk to and enjoy a lake view or the beach... unless you were lucky enough to get one of the few lakeside campsites.
3	The campground seemed very run down. We camped with our 9 yr old twin boys and they were bored very quickly- no playground equipment...
2	The campsites are very small and the electric service is minimal and shared.
0	Not the park's fault. It rained solid for 3 days- and in a vintage pop up with canvas sides, this is not fun. We left early but hope to be back soon
0	It was the worst experience camping with the grand kids you could barley ride bikes around gravel roads no dock to go fishing went to town to go swimming cause it was a way better place to swim. the lots you could barley fit my pop up camper and truck way to small on top of one another.

Q26: WHAT THREE WORDS WOULD YOU USE TO DESCRIBE CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK TO SOMEONE WHO HAS NEVER VISITED THE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	234
SKIPPED QUESTION	116

See word cloud on the next page for most common responses.

Q27: WHAT, IF ANY, CHANGES WOULD YOU MAKE TO CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	183
SKIPPED QUESTION	167

13. I can't think of any really
14. Incorporate some sort of bike trail loop
15. Have a trail linking it to the city of Cheboygan.
16. More trails, more rest benches and more evening events because people miss the beauty of night time in the forest.



Q26: Word most frequently used to describe the park. More frequently mentioned words appear larger.

17. None
18. A walking / biking trail from town to the park
19. Continue to maintain the rustic cabins. As I mentioned in another answer, I believe the park has done a good job maintaining and improving the cabins year-to-year.
20. limit number of days one family can rent cabins to 6 or 7 days so a weekend is always available
21. Perhaps a pond could be added for ice skating in winter and fishing for youth in the summer. With seating for older folks and picnics.
22. Nothing
23. None!
24. No changes that I can think of...
25. reduce number of foot trails and lighting at buildings
26. More trails for hiking and biking that don't have too much sand (biking).
27. None, I would not the park to be changed/developed
28. We love it the way it is, not too developed like other state parks.
29. I wish there was a trail from the campground to the beach.
30. No changes. It's good the way it is.
31. I would have liked to attend the coffee with staff event. The flyer did not disclose the location.
32. Store and more bathroom space
33. N/a
34. ORV/UTV trails.
35. Clear out some of the trees in the Campground to make viewing Duncan Bay a little more accessible. It's such a beautiful Bay it's a shame to keep it out of view.
36. Provide dog bags
37. Not allow the same people to dominate peak season rentals on camper cabins.
38. Better access to the water
39. Not sure
40. See below.
41. Add a 'nice' playground/playscape that large group of children can enjoy climbing and playing on a variety of things. (Adding just a slide and a few swings is NOT our idea of a nice playground). Provide a beach area.... somewhere that ALL campers can walk to and enjoy the water. Add more bathroom facilities or upgrade the old ones.
42. allow dogs to not be leashed
43. More trails and connections to area trails.
44. I can't think of any.
45. Improve the electrical service at the sites!!!
46. Suggest adding one or two cabins. Paved entrance roads. Raised deck near the day use marsh with interpretive info. Interpretive info on Duncan Bay. Kayak Rentals. Night Sky programs.

47. None
48. More private campgrounds.
49. Advertise more
50. Restrict smoking at the beach
51. Give locals access like they had before it became a state park. We need a back door close to town. I used to be able to walk there
52. Update electrical system.
53. More pet friendly.
54. see comments re skiing. I enjoyed the triathlon the years it was held and am sorry it didn't draw more participants.
55. Better Duncan Bay trail
56. More trails and other places to park to access trails
57. year around open bathroom facility and drinking water
58. Connecting trails, picnic area.
59. Less is more!
60. Nothing really feasible.
61. ability to rent canoe and fishing gear. city water to all areas (not well water). build more multi room cabins for rent"
62. trail from cheboygan to the park
63. A multiuse connector trail to area trails (Black Mtn and the Rail Trails) and amenities would be an awesome improvement.
64. Modernize the restrooms, pave the roads, make some sites larger to accommodate longer 5th wheels and RVs.
65. Maybe easier access to beach but don't know how
66. Maintaining mountain bike access.
67. Can't think of any
68. A couple more rustic cabins.....
69. Too many mosquito, but that's the outdoors and many bold raccoons.
70. a camping area at day use so you can be near the swing beach and playground if you have kids this would make the park much more appealing
71. The cabins used to have windows in the wood stoves and it was wonderful to sit and watch the fire at night. Most likely, some people, who were not careful of the stoves, broke the windows but I would like to see them put back.
72. Clear it clean it up
73. larger campsites
74. Ok
75. Pave the road leading to the park.
76. More winter access
77. Rid some of the wet lands
78. Bike Trail to Town!
79. More modern camping facilities; easier access to beach
80. Decrease safety zone, or make it hunting type dependent (more restrictive for rifle hunting, etc). Also, coyotes need to be trapped, killed, removed, etc
81. stop further development
82. A non-motorized trail connecting to existing trails would be great.
83. none
84. Paved roadways, newer bath/shower facilities, updated electrical service
85. Linking it to the states trail system would improve/ broaden access.
86. Raise the water level even more
87. I would like to see the Park connected to the bike trails that go through Cheboygan.
88. Paved trail
89. clean the beach area up. Make bigger lots, and add full hook ups.
90. Interpretive signage of natural features.
91. Add bike trails and water trails.
92. Perhaps a trailer motor boat launch on the sw part of the bay-- not currently in the park. Improve the signage and entrance from US 23-- too easy to drive right by; could use right and left turn lanes.
93. Connect it to town!
94. fore mentioned bathrooms updated, a bit nicer beach are and the bath house there could also use updating.
95. none
96. Again, more programs. We would love to kayak and if there were rentals we would do so!
97. Better grooming cross-country trails.
98. Add a bile/hiking trail to Cheboygan.
99. Publicity, bathrooms, courts for tennis, Pickleball, rental of kayaks, boards.
100. Would love to have a trail to walk or ride bike to the park.
101. none
102. None
103. I've long thought we need one more trail. On the blue trail between the first cabin and Lighthouse ruins---a trail breaking through woods to the lakeside. (where a bench is located, where red trail meets the blue trail would be good).
104. updating the area to the walkable, bikable area to ensure more daily use by this generation of people
105. None
106. More updates wider trails
107. I wish the beach was a little closer, but liked the quiet beach and wildlife area
108. more trails
109. Ease off on the aggressive mowing of the road shoulders to protect special orchids that grow there. Delaying till August would be helpful.
110. More bike trails

111. Bike path into Cheboygan
112. More grass
113. Add a shorter route from campground to day use beach?
114. more consistent trail conditions, and a few more options, more accessible beach
115. Add 30 amp
116. Allow ATVs in the park.
117. More shower facilities
118. Connect bike trails to the major trail hub out of Cheboygan : North Central State Trail & North East State Trail
119. Pretty sure I don't want it much changed.
120. Good to see more bike trail connections.
121. more tepees
122. Mountain hike trails and trail to cheboygan
123. Create off road bike path into town and to hook up with current rail to trail path
124. Link its trails to the NEST and NCST in the City of Cheboygan
125. Add playground equipment, mirror in women's shower, pave campsite drive for easier bike/stroller use for children
126. Install more play equipment in the campground area- swings, basketball hoops, more things for kids to do
127. More Sites, Showers
128. Just keep it clean and quiet, private camping spots :-)
129. more cabins
130. More level camp sites
131. Modernization.
132. Replace the raised cement fire pits with one's similar to the former fire rings. If necessary to comply with ADA, designate specific cabins and the best campsites for that, similar to parking at stores. The raised fire pits are unsightly and produce little heat to those in chairs.
133. Spray for bugs
134. none
135. Pave the roads in and out of the campground and to the beach.
136. not sure
137. Bike path near shore and thru woods
138. horseback rental
139. 30 amp service. had to go and quickly find adapter.
140. Reroute trails away from cabins if possible.
141. install a powerboat launch area
142. none
143. More owl/raptor/animal studies in the park. More printed material identifying plant and wildlife in the park. More about the history/info of the freighter industry. Where they're going, what they carry, shipwrecks, life saving stations of the past, life in the area over the last 150 yrs. Allow dogs in the cabins.
144. paved roads, more campsites
145. The beach area if it's possible without wreaking havoc on the eco system.
146. everything was satisfactory for our one time camping trip
147. Upgrade electrical service to modern standards, combine the smaller lots and or list them as tent only, find better bug control for the bath houses, build new bathhouses with more modern and separate showers, Do not list it as a firework free state park, the fireworks are quite loud even though it is a distance from town, my dog was still terrified.
148. None!
149. Better information on what areas are open and closed to hunting and trapping. Walking my dog it is not always clear. More signs in field for open/closed.
150. none
151. A couple more showers.
152. Improve electric service
153. Better beach area, playground equipment for kids
154. The shower and bathroom area. Bigger camping spots, Shorter trail to day-use area. Better marked trails, very confusing
155. Lower the cost of the cabin rental.
156. Everything needs updates it should be a rustic campground not state park
157. Larger campsites, not letting people rent campsites to party on
158. raise some of the campground sites. Many flood during bad rainstorms
159. On site store.
160. More non motorized trails connectivity.
161. Rent kayaks/canoes.
162. more paved roads
163. More potable water access points in campground. Realignment of electrical access points in campsites.
164. I would like to see the hunting boundaries on Duncan Bay more clearly delineated (for waterfowl hunting in the marshes)
165. Update electrical system
166. Make a dedicated area for dogs to play on the beach
167. More rustic/secluded campgrounds
168. Plow to the cabins and make the cross-country ski trail between Poe Reef Cabin and the parking lot easier to use. Advanced X-C ski skills are required in this section that are not required elsewhere on this shore.
169. None- it is lovely.
170. full hook ups and better electric
171. Have more people working the park during the day, if that isn't possible give people a way to contact help if

needed other than calling 911. Also, the directions on how to get to our cabin didn't seem to match perfectly to what we encountered when we got there. It didn't cause problems but I could see how people who got confused easily would have driven down someone private driveway.

172. More showers. A way to go between the beach and campsites (maybe there is one, but we didn't know about it)
173. Improve the bath house
174. Additional trails in forested area and a bike trail to access from Cheboygan
175. The size is great, just updating campground without adding more site, maybe eliminating a few. A kayak launch or two would be great...
176. Pave more of the dusty roads.
177. Allow pets at cabins
178. more bike paths
179. Hiking trail to/from the beach area
180. A biking/walking trail between campground and beach.
181. 30 amp power at campsites
182. Build another cabin, if you could keep it far enough away from the others ones to still maintain seclusion
183. Continue to improve on and take care of the wonderful resources that the park offers
184. I wish you did not have to drive to the beach. It is a bit of an inconvenience to pack up the car and drive to the beach when you have children, but I understand that that is just the natural design of the park. It's really not that far of a drive, but that is the only thing I could think of when it came to making a change.
185. More mosquito control at lodge if possible
186. Easier to get to by trail.
187. Better kayak launch near the campground-- not sure it's possible to make this happen but a kayak launch that works when water levels are low or high. Walking through all the much carrying a kayak is a pain. It would also be. I've to be able to rent a kayak or two for the weekend and have the rental delivered to the rustic cabin where you are staying! I'd also prefer less hunting. We avoid the state park during hunting season because of the potential to be accidentally shot.
188. Night hikes, maybe a little updating on the showers.
189. None really except for more screen porches on the other cabins or more cabins, perhaps on Duncan Bay so that the privacy of the 3 on Lake Huron is preserved. More Kayak rental and the opportunity to allow cabin renters to keep a kayak overnight. More park programs on ecology and the natural features of the park and the area.
190. My suggestion would be to add a modern cabin somewhere with toilets and shower.
191. Backcountry camps sights. Clearly defined water trail. Birding overlooks/boardwalks on Duncan Bay.
192. Perhaps some more privacy between campsites.

193. Upgrade electrical service to 30amp.
194. More dog friendly. On leashes of course.
195. Additional showers in the campground restrooms. And maybe a better (larger, deeper, less reedy) beach area? But I understand that nature has more say in that than you all do.

Q28: PLEASE SHARE ANY OTHER THOUGHTS YOU MAY HAVE ON CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK AND/OR THE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	84
SKIPPED QUESTION	266

1. Nice Cabins
2. -
3. We love the rustic cabins. I think they are one of the highlights of the park for visitors from out of town like us. I'm not sure how many of the other state parks have such cabins; they are key to us returning to Cheboygan State Park every year. The hiking trails are well-maintained and excellent for those who enjoy light hiking (year round) or cross-country skiing in the winter.
4. We've spend time every summer since before we were married (30 yrs) and honeymooned there. Have been extremely weather lucky!
5. Please continue the no ATV usage in the park.
6. Everything is smoothly run while still allowing people to enjoy their experience outdoors without too much man-made development interference.
7. We're not big into camping and the like so expanding the camping would not really impact or excite us. Please keep Duncan Bay as it is! The hiking trails are nice too!
8. Protect northern white cedars and other threatened trees as much as possible.
9. The management team has always been great
10. I hope they are not looking to develop, pave and generally make it more developed than it already is.
11. The management has always been helpful with reservation questions- leave keys to cabin outside of office. Always leave the cabin well stocked with wood and outhouse clean.
12. Adoption of the park in a fashion that increased nature study and interpretation would be a positive.
13. It is a great place that allows a park user to experience nature.
14. N/a
15. Love the park, trails system, cabins, annual Lantern Ski, etc. The picture is of my husband and I skiing and a snow formation on a post that looks like the state of MI

16. Cheboygan State Park is one of our favorite State Parks. We prefer this over other parks like Aloha and Hoelt because of it's quaint size. It's really the "hidden gem" of Michigan State Parks.
17. I just don't think of going there as often as the other local places. I'm going to put it on my calendar for picnics once the weather warms us.
18. Some campsites near the water would be great. Also tent area only similar to Wilderness SP would be great (with electric).
19. Would be neat to attach Jim Carlson's name with one of the facilities in some manner- I believe he was there close to 30 years or so. Thank you for this opportunity for input!
20. As I live in the condos across the bay from the park, I consider it MY park
21. Fix up the ruins so it doesn't look like a trash area and rather looks like something worth respecting
22. What % of time is there full camp? Don't over promote!
23. In all our visits, the staff has done they're best to be helpful, courteous and friendly while keeping things up as much as possible with the time and funding limits they have.
24. I enjoy mountain biking there.
25. I really enjoy the location away from traffic
26. It's a beautiful park, it's got just about what anybody who loves the outdoors could want.....Wonderful...
27. I hope it won't be changed much, I love the woodsy quality.
28. I have rented the cabins for about 30 years and they are unique in Michigan. Please do not ruin their rustic appeal.
29. The same with wilderness state park it needs better accessibility to hunting.
30. Clean up the area by the water in the campground.
31. Do some nature walks
32. I was expecting more to work from. I guess this is the open ended part of the process
33. great location but could use some beach clean up. And make the lots a little bigger, like removing some trees that block some of the campsites
34. Market it a little more. I am a local resident and I don't know enough about the Park. Probably my fault that I don't use a unique venue like the Cheboygan State Park enough.
35. It is a gem of a facility; it should be well maintained and improved periodically.
36. I love the beauty of the wildflowers here. It is a unique area and I hope it is maintained and treated as such into the future.
37. None- more marketing!
38. Have enjoyed the park for years. We have had a recent family reunion camping event with family coming from as far away as New York City.
39. Keep up the good work.
40. Please keep the park natural
41. The park is under promoted
42. OMG I've photographed bald eagles; watched many sunrises; walked all the trails--in all the seasons; exercised our dogs; this park is a treasure!! FYI my husband and I "adopted" the beach as part of adopt-a-beach clean-up.
43. continue to look at ways to improve this much needed source of recreation in the Cheboygan area.
44. This park is a gem , primarily because of the wilderness feel , in spite of close proximity to the town. It would be important to those that enjoy nature study to maintain this feeling of being able to get away from the rat race.
45. Please continue to seek public and user input to help shape future plans
46. Don't make too many improvements. It has that rustic, untouched beauty. Please, NO Yurts. DNR ruined Tawas with one.
47. signage for wildflowers (spring)
48. Make the park trail connect as an asset to The Iron Belle Trail and market it as a stop over
49. This is easily the state park we visit most frequently. Apparently we like it as it is.
50. I am not sure that it is advertised enough for people to know the value.
51. New/quieter door handle in cabin would be nice and a top to bottom cleaning at least once a year.
52. Kayak rentals are good
53. love the ski trails
54. none
55. Please don't replace the interior wood stoves like you did at Wilderness State Park.
56. Replace the dis functional wood stoves! I would love to be able to reintroduce our winter trips to Cheboygan State Park!
57. Better winter use could be made of the beach area. We enjoy watching the eagles fish and other wintering birds.
58. We understand that Ranger Paul will be retiring in the near future. We hope he is replaced with another dedicated manager. Prior to him the park was less well managed.
59. none
60. We've wished the other cabins all had sun rooms/were lighter where we can work on projects as a group more easily. Also wish the wood stoves were more efficient. They are beat with use but we need to cook on them. Maybe used older stoves installed that are in better shape. They don't bank down at night to save wood and heat. Ladders to the upper bunks built on to the ends of the bunks. Getting up and down is dangerous. Don't modernize too much though. The experience is in the older rustic feel.

61. I wish the sportsman club was in a less populated area. I wish their target range had better over site to make sure it is safe. As people living near by have known stray bullets to leave the range area.
62. Very nice, thank you
63. There is a lot of land that is not being used inside this park, it would be easy to add a new small loop of sites allowing you to combine some of the smaller sites or make them green areas and still have the number of sites you do now. The electrical service is a "must" fix problem (shared 20 amp, really?) and the bathhouse bug control, while being well attended to, needs a better solution then simple cleaning it up. A new bath house with interior hall shower entry and screened doors would really help accomplish that. My parents site was so small that they literally could not open their awning without it hanging over the firepit and they had a tent family living 1 foot off their awning space. The sunsets are stunning :) don't get rid of those!
64. Are there going to be any public meetings in the process?
65. It's great that you seek input from those that use the park and park system in general. It's a great park and we always find our time there very relaxing and enjoyable.
66. Camping is for families get it ready for the kids
67. update bathrooms
68. a lot of people don't know of this nice park,
69. Connecting the Park with a trail system would be a nice new amenity.
70. The staff there have consistently been friendly and helpful!
71. I would try to keep the trails and that beautiful beach along Lake Huron. The swimming beach was also a very beautiful location. Tepee rental was really fun-- I hope you can keep that in the future. Thank you Michigan DNR!
72. Liked the park very much enjoyed the staff. Hope it can be expanded
73. Please see above regarding staffing
74. Promote the kayaking in Duncan Bay.
75. Easy check in/check out process
76. Keep it as natural as possible, improve trails, make sure park staff is friendly.
77. Our family & friends have been coming to the cabins for nearly 30 years. Hopefully the new management plan will keep the solitude & privacy of the cabins.
78. I love the location next to the bay- it's so peaceful and beautiful. I love the kayak/canoe rental option, as well as the number of campsites and options. More hiking trails would be wonderful. Is there a hiking trail that connects the campground to the beach? If so, I am sad I haven't discovered it yet, but if there is not that would be an idea for a new trail. Thank you!
79. Lodge is very well kept up. Great facility except for bugs
80. I really love this state park and am hopeful the

improvements won't close down sections of the park for long time periods! Probably won't happen but would love less hunting on the state park property.

81. The staff has always been wonderful, we did have an issue with a camp host last year during the Labor Day weekend, but beyond that we can think of a better place to camp than Cheboygan.
82. This park is a jewel. It has been well maintained and cared for. We have been camping in the rustic cabins for over 20 years and consider it a special retreat to nature. The fact that there is no electricity and we can unplug is a big bonus.
83. Keep up the greatness! Love this place so much!
84. I really enjoy using the cabins

Q29: OPTIONAL: UPLOAD A PHOTO OF YOUR EXPERIENCE AT CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK!

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	32
SKIPPED QUESTION	318

Q30: WHAT IS THE ZIP CODE OF YOUR PRIMARY RESIDENCE?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	307
SKIPPED QUESTION	43

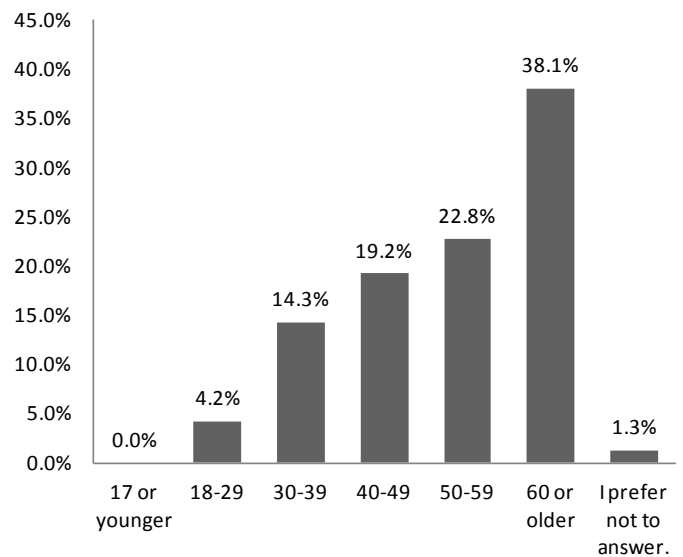
Most responses (79) were from the Cheboygan zip code, with others from across the state. See map of response locations below.

Q31: WHAT IS YOUR AGE?

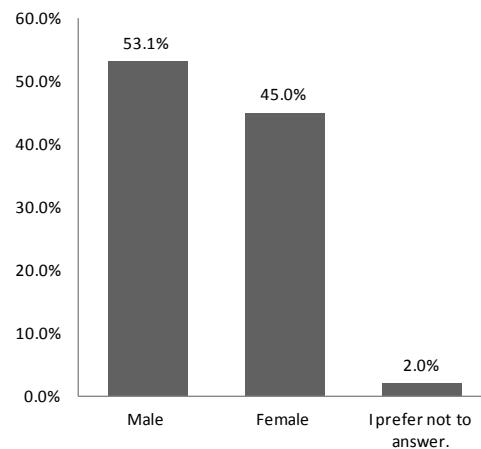


APPENDIX B

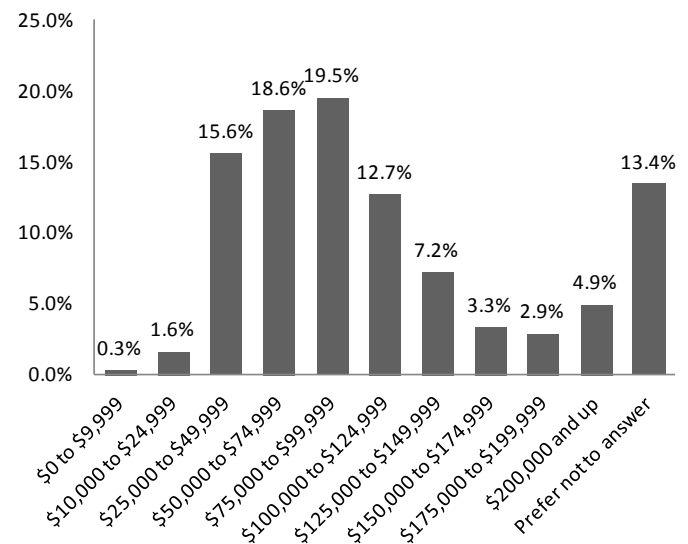
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
17 OR YOUNGER	0.0%	0
18-29	4.2%	13
30-39	14.3%	44
40-49	19.2%	59
50-59	22.8%	70
60 OR OLDER	38.1%	117
I PREFER NOT TO ANSWER.	1.3%	4
ANSWERED QUESTION		307
SKIPPED QUESTION		43



Q32: WHAT IS YOUR GENDER?		
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
MALE	53.1%	163
FEMALE	45.0%	138
I PREFER NOT TO ANSWER.	2.0%	6
ANSWERED QUESTION		307
SKIPPED QUESTION		43



Q33: HOW MUCH TOTAL COMBINED MONEY DID ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD EARN LAST YEAR?		
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
\$0 TO \$9,999	0.3%	1
\$10,000 TO \$24,999	1.6%	5
\$25,000 TO \$49,999	15.6%	48
\$50,000 TO \$74,999	18.6%	57
\$75,000 TO \$99,999	19.5%	60
\$100,000 TO \$124,999	12.7%	39
\$125,000 TO \$149,999	7.2%	22
\$150,000 TO \$174,999	3.3%	10
\$175,000 TO \$199,999	2.9%	9
\$200,000 AND UP	4.9%	15
PREFER NOT TO ANSWER	13.4%	41
ANSWERED QUESTION		307
SKIPPED QUESTION		43





Michigan
Department of
Natural Resources



You're invited!

What

Cheboygan State Park
General Management Plan
Stakeholder Input Meeting

When

Wednesday, February 22nd
2:00 - 4:00 pm

Please RSVP to:

Plan Administrator Debbie Jensen
JensenD1@michigan.gov
517-284-6105

Where

Cheboygan Area Public Library
100 S. Bailey Street, Cheboygan, MI 49721

About the plan

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) is in the process of developing a General Management Plan for Cheboygan State Park. The DNR uses General Management Plans to define a long-range planning and management strategy that protects the resources of the site while addressing recreation needs and opportunities. Public and stakeholder input is a critical component of the planning process.

About the meeting

The Cheboygan State Park General Management Plan team cordially invites you to attend a stakeholder input meeting! The team hopes to gather valuable insights from your organization and other key players. This session will include a brief presentation from the DNR on the planning process and progress, followed by individual and group exercises to gather input to inform the plan. We request that your organization send a maximum of three representatives so we may accommodate everyone. We hope to see you there!

Input survey

In addition, we are collecting input from park users via an online survey. You may share this link with any who may be interested.
<https://goo.gl/jPjp2z>

Project website

www.mdnrmanagementplans.org/cheboygan-state-park/

For more information and to RSVP, please contact:

Plan Administrator Debbie Jensen
JensenD1@michigan.gov
517-284-6105



DNR seeks public input on Cheboygan State Park draft management plan

Michigan Department of Natural Resources sent this bulletin at 06/27/2017 11:23 AM EDT

Great opportunity for park fans to share input, ideas on future planning at the park.



Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)



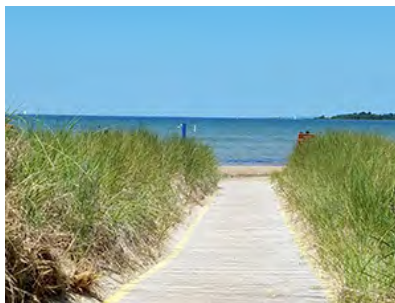
Statewide DNR News

June 27, 2017

Contact: [Debbie Jensen](#), 517-284-6105

DNR seeks public input on draft Cheboygan State Park general management plan

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking public input on a new draft general management plan for [Cheboygan State Park](#). The DNR will host a public meeting Thursday, July 13, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Cheboygan Area Public Library, 100 S. Bailey St. in Cheboygan.



The draft general management plan 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 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.

A link to the Cheboygan State Park draft general management plan and additional information on the DNR's general management plan process can be found on the DNR's General Management Plan website at michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans.

Cheboygan State Park is located on the shores of Lake Huron and Duncan Bay, approximately four miles east of the city of Cheboygan, at the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. This 1,345-acre state park features a swimming beach, carry-in boat launch and seven miles of hiking, biking and ski trails that provide access to scenic Lake Huron vistas and glimpses of rare wildflowers. Visitors have a choice of lodging, including modern camping, tepees, rustic cabins and a modern lodge. In addition, the majority of the park is open to hunting, and plenty of fishing opportunities are available in Duncan Bay and Elliot Creek – a designated trout stream that flows through the park.

The July 13 meeting will begin with a short overview presentation of the draft plan. The public is welcome to attend at any time during the two-hour period to review the planning materials, provide comments and talk to DNR staff. Comments also may be sent via email through July 21 to DNR park management plan administrator Debbie Jensen at jensend1@michigan.gov.

For more information about the public input meeting or the proposed plan, contact Jensen at 517-284-6105 (TTY/TDD711 Michigan Relay Center for the hearing impaired) or jensend1@michigan.gov. Anyone with disabilities who needs accommodations for the meeting should contact Jensen at least five business days before the meeting.

/Editor's note: An accompanying photo is available below for download. Suggested caption information follows.

Cheboygan State Park is located on the shores of Lake Huron and Duncan Bay at the northern tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. The park's nearly 1,500 acres of beach, trails and campgrounds provide opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities./

- [cheboygan.jpg](#)

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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B.4 Stakeholder Input Meeting

Summary of Stakeholder Workshop

In order to gather targeted input from governmental, non-profit, and business/tourism entities, the planning team invited a group of stakeholders to an input workshop. The stakeholders were given a brief overview of the General Management Plan process and the products that have been developed thus far: the draft General Management Zone map and a list of action items intended to be accomplished over the next ten years. The stakeholders were divided into three groups and completed two exercises, first prioritizing and adding to the list of action items, and then, brainstorming partnership opportunities.

STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT	
NAME	REPRESENTING
Charlie Veneros	Aloha Township
Charles Beckwith	Benton Township
Tom Eustice	Cheboygan City Manager
Tony Matelski	Cheboygan County
Cal Gouine	Cheboygan County
Cameron Cavitt	Cheboygan County Drain Commission
Mark Bronson	City of Cheboygan- Mayor
Michael Newman	District 3 - Cheboygan County Commission
John Bailey	Huron Pines
Jennifer Muladore	Huron Pines
Tyler Dula	Huron Pines / Americorps
Caitlin Donnelly	Little Traverse Conservancy
Tom Bailey	State Park Advisory Committee
Dale Giddings	Straits Area Audubon Society
Jeff Winegard	Top of Michigan Trails Council
Carolyn Moberly	US Coast Guard
Lynn Hall	Private Citizen
Patti Barrette	Private Citizen

Icebreaker Exercise

As the stakeholders introduced themselves, they answered the question “What matters most to me about Cheboygan State Park is...” They were also able to provide written answers to be collected at the end of the meeting. The following answers were collected:

- Keep it open. Recreation activities. Extended trail system to City.
- 1. Do not close the park! 2. Improve camp site area.
- Non-motorized vehicle access (bicycle access to downtown Cheboygan)
- Protection and use, proper management

- Preservation and proper management for community users.
- Taking advantage of partnerships with other local organizations to promote and expand opportunities for public access to the outdoors.
- Protecting the special coastal ecosystem (dune/swale)
- Compatibility of recreation and wildlife habitat
- Connecting people with the natural world
- Threat posed by line 5 pipeline; Sunrise Coast Birding Trail; owl banding
- Protecting those recreating on or near the water, building partnerships safely and effectively as possible
- Protection & conservation & low-level impact construction
- Natural setting and camping; line 5 concerns – no oil in the Straits – contingency plan: oil clean-up, wildlife/ plants

Action Items Review

During the first exercise, each group examined the list of action items that the planning team had previously identified for Cheboygan State Park. The groups reviewed the list and made note of items they felt were the highest priority, as well as if they believed action items should not be on the list, or if any important items were missing.

Planning and Administration

The three groups were generally supportive of the planning and administration action items. The groups felt that participating in and coordinating with regional trail partnerships was a high priority item, and one group thought that trail route alternatives to the US-23 right-of-way should be considered. The stakeholders were also supportive of strengthening community partnerships, and one group suggested specific partnerships with Huron Pines and the Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council. This group also felt that there should be coordination with regional partners for assessments of roads and trails. Additionally, the groups were supportive of creating a stewardship plan, and one group suggested the Michigan Natural Features Inventory should be incorporated into that plan.

Programming

The three groups had mixed reactions to the planning team’s programming action item: increase interpretive programming through internal or external partners. One group felt that there was no need for programming at the park, one group was indifferent, and a third group suggested encouraging research partnerships and advertising them to attract groups such as the University of Michigan Biological Station, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, local schools, and the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative.

Construction

The three groups had the most to say about construction action items. The stakeholders did not specifically disagree with any of the DNR's proposed action items, except one group questioned the need for Wi-Fi at the park. The groups agreed that upgrading the electrical service at the campground, constructing a boardwalk from the beach to the campsites, constructing an accessible fishing pier and canoe / kayak launch, and constructing additional cabins were high priorities. There was also a suggestion that a partnership be formed with the Duncan Bay Boat Club to use their kayak launch facilities instead of constructing one within the park. One group suggested that the state park find a way to share resources with other local entities on road infrastructure and trail partnerships. This group also thought that constructing the cabin and boardwalks would be a good educational opportunity for vocational classes.

While one group simply stated that the impact of construction should be minimized, additional suggestions for action items came primarily from a second group. These items included:

- Construct additional campsites in a new area
- Maintain habitats (birds, flowers)
- Signage on trails (too confusing currently)
- Park to town trails
- Research programs (owl banding)
- Recycling
- Enlarge facilities

Partnership Opportunities

In a second exercise, the stakeholders were tasked with creating a list of potential partnership opportunities CSP could develop among groups represented at the meeting or other outside entities. The suggestions of the three groups are compiled below by category with brief notes of how the groups felt the partnerships would take shape, if any thoughts were provided.

Governmental and Educational Entities

- Benton Township recycling program (at fire hall)
- City Track Town Committee
- County Road Commission
 - o Road maintenance
 - o Materials and infrastructure
- County Trail Committee
- Drain commissioners- roads
- Headlands International Dark Sky Park
 - o Collaboration on activities
- Land and Water Conservation Fund
- Local Schools (K-12 + NCMC) and Great Lakes Stewards
- LSSU (Fisheries) and Loyola (Cattails research)
- Natural Resources Trust Fund (Trails)
- Research Possibilities with Colleges and Universities
- Township and City Governments
- Tribal Outreach
- University of Michigan Biological Station
 - o Research Initiative: Monitoring, Place-based, education



Attendees Participating in Exercises at the Stakeholder Input Meeting

- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Vocational Classes
 - Assist with cabin or boardwalk construction

Non-profit Groups

- Audubon
- Boy Scouts- Eagle
- Bring It Cheboygan!
 - Local Businesses and promotion
- Huron Pines
 - Road / stream crossing information & money for roads
 - Invasive species
 - Outreach
- Lighthouse Association
- Little Traverse Conservancy
 - Neighboring Preserves
 - Coordinate management and trails
- Mackinac Straits Raptor Watch - owl banding
- Service Groups
- Sportsman Group

- Straits Area Audubon Society
- Sunrise Coast Birding Trail
- Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council
 - Watershed Plan
 - Monitoring
 - Outreach Events
- Top of Michigan Trails Council
- Business and Tourism
- Local Businesses
 - Sponsorships
 - Materials
 - Volunteers
- Duncan Bay Yacht Club (Kayak/Canoe Launch)
- Local Artists

When the groups were finished with the exercise, a representative of each table presented their group's results to the stakeholders and the planning team. The team will take the results of the stakeholder workshop into account when determining the final 10-year action goals.



Presentations During the Stakeholder Input Meeting

B.5 Public Input Meeting

Summary of Public Input Workshop

The public was invited to share their thoughts about Cheboygan State Park Draft General Management Plan at a public meeting that was hosted by the DNR on July 13th, 2017, at the Cheboygan Area Public Library. The general public was notified about the meeting through press release, internet postings, and email notifications. A total of 13 attendees were recorded.

The meeting began with a brief introduction of planning team members and attendees from the public. Introductions were followed by a short overview of the General Management Plan process, Cheboygan State Park, and its Draft General Management Plan contents. After the presentation, attendees were asked to review the presentation boards that included excerpts of the Draft General Management Plan including the Statements of Significance, Draft Management Zone Plan, and 10-Year Action Goals.

Participants were presented with a number of optional methods to express their comments, thoughts, and opinions. These methods included “sticky notes” for affixing comments directly onto the presentation boards, as well as a comment sheet, which included the Draft Management Zone Plan and six questions pertaining to the Draft General Management Plan contents, that could be filled in and left behind. Two copies of the complete Draft General Management Plan were available to attendees during the meeting for review and they were also advised of the project website where they could access the Draft Plan at their leisure and submit comments via e-mail. Most attendees used the sticky note method of commenting; only one individual used the comment sheet to suggest the formation of a friends group. Several people who were unable to attend the Public Input Open House submitted e-mail comments included below.

In addition to soliciting comments on the Draft General Management Plan contents, prioritization of the action goals was also sought. Participants were given six dots to vote for their preferred action goals from the 10-year Action Goals list. Some of the top-voted action goals included items related to trail connections, the use of the Blueway Water Trail, continuing to strengthen community partnerships, supporting ongoing research of natural features, and implementing invasive species control. Below is a list of all action goals, their number of votes, and all sticky note comments that attendees wrote. These items, along with other input from the public, will be considered as the planning team finalizes the General Management Plan.

ATTENDEES PRESENT	
NAME	REPRESENTING
Dale Giddings	Straits Area Audubon Society
Anne Marie Farrell	
John Paul	
Diane Morand	
Jim Soubey	Bring It! Cheboygan Trails Town
Susan Page	Bring It! Cheboygan Twin Lakes Association, Seedums Garden Club, Perennial Garden Club, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council, Straits Area Concerned Citizens For Peace, Justice & the Environment
Lois Ballard	Aloha Historical Society
Heidi Coash	Cheboygan County Commissioner
Jeremy Spell	
Michael Newman	
Tracy Hardin	
John Gravlin	
Paul Koszegi	
PLANNING TEAM	
NAME	REPRESENTING
Debbie Jensen	DNR
Rich Hill	DNR
Keith Cheli	DNR
Ward Rausch	DNR
Christy Summers	Beckett & Raeder, Inc.
Morgan Haffey	Beckett & Raeder, Inc.

Cheboygan State Park General Management Plan



SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS

Great Lakes Shoreline

Cheboygan State Park provides approximately four miles of access to the Lake Huron shoreline, in an area renowned for its water recreation opportunities. Boaters often launch nearby and then travel to the park by water, accessing the relatively sheltered, shallow waters of Duncan Bay. The park affords access for paddlers and expansive views of the lake, lighthouses, the Mackinac Bridge, and freighters traveling through the Straits of Mackinac.

Natural Resources & Communities

The natural communities found around Duncan Bay, such as the Great Lakes marsh, coastal fen, and the Great Lakes barrens, are regionally significant for their high biodiversity and support threatened and endangered species. These communities are found only along the Great Lakes shoreline.

Maritime Heritage

The park is an excellent location to explore the rich maritime history of the Great Lakes. Due to the active shipping history of the straits, numerous shipwrecks can be found by snorkelers off Cheboygan Point and chartered diving trips are available from nearby Cheboygan. The ruins of a lighthouse complex built in the park in 1859 are accessible to park users. The Poe Reef and 14 Foot Shoals lighthouses built since that time are operating offshore.

Heritage Route 23 & Regional Trails

Heritage Route 23 runs 200 miles along the scenic Lake Huron shoreline and connects an array of cultural and recreational resources, including Cheboygan State Park. The park is also in close proximity to several multi-use state trails that link the City of Cheboygan to Mackinaw City, Gaylord, Alpena, and beyond. Cheboygan State Park provides access points on the Cheboygan Area Blueway (part of the Huron Shores Coastal Water Trail) and has a close association with the Inland Waterway, a 38-mile navigable route through lakes and rivers beginning in Cheboygan. The park is also identified as a "hotspot" on the Sunrise Coast Birding Trail.

Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife Viewing

The diverse natural resources found at Cheboygan State Park supply excellent opportunities for fishing, hunting, birding, and hiking along well-maintained trails. The adjacent state forest provides additional public land for hunting and other dispersed recreation opportunities.

Year-Round Overnight Experience

Three rustic cabins along the shoreline, each with its own secluded beach, make for a unique overnight experience that can be enjoyed year-round. In addition, Cheboygan Lodge provides accommodations with modern amenities directly adjacent to Elliott Creek.

Cheboygan State Park General Management Plan



SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS COMMENTS	
Significance Statement	Comment
Great Lakes Shoreline	This is good for Audubon field trips
Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife Viewing	Make sure hunters and hikers/bikers don't share space!! Warning signage? How do you do this?

Cheboygan State Park General Management Plan



Cheboygan State Park General Management Plan



DRAFT MANAGEMENT ZONE MAP COMMENTS

Zone	Comment
Developed Recreation - Campground	Provide parking for 3-4 vehicles at the campground “launch” for day-use canoe/kayak users
Developed Recreation – Organizational Campground	Consider a dedicated canoe/kayak launch at the day-use area. Consider this a “trail head” for the Coastal Water Trail

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TEN-YEAR ACTION GOALS

GENERAL ACTION GOALS

Many of the 10-year action goals for Cheboygan 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 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	VOTES
NATURAL RESOURCES		
Develop a Stewardship Plan to identify targets for conservation and related natural resource management strategies.	5 years	
Complete MiFi forest mapping in the park	1 year	
Continue to follow the administrative rules for designated coastal environmental areas	Ongoing	●
Continue to implement invasive species control with an emphasis on early detection and rapid response.	Ongoing	● ● ●
CULTURAL RESOURCES		
Review all proposed earthwork activities for potential impact on cultural resources	Ongoing	●
RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES		
Participate in and coordinate with local trail initiatives to connect CSP to the regional trail network and downtown Cheboygan.	As determined by others	● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●
Support the Cheboygan Area Blueway water trail considering interpretation opportunities, paddle in sites, signage, and canoe / kayak storage to make CSP a water trail destination	Ongoing	● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/trapping, fishing, gathering and wildlife viewing	Ongoing	●

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TEN-YEAR ACTION GOALS		
GENERAL ACTION GOALS, CONTINUED		
Many of the 10-year action goals for Cheboygan 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 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	VOTES
EDUCATION/INTERPRETATION OPPORTUNITIES		
Explore opportunities for interpretive programming through internal or external partners	Ongoing	● ● ●
MANAGEMENT FOCUS		
Continue to advocate for an appropriate balance of staff and operations resources	Ongoing	●
Continue to strengthen community partnerships with the immediate focus of trails groups and municipalities responsible for trail development	Ongoing	● ● ● ●
Continue to review and update capital outlay list as needed	Annually	
Continue to update and implement Emergency Plan including the Safety Plan and the Wildfire Plan.	Annually	
Continue to explore land acquisition of properties within the Project Boundary with emphasis on inholdings.	Ongoing	● ● ● ● ●
DEVELOPMENT		
Evaluate park roads and make recommendations for improvement and / or major maintenance	1-3 years	● ●

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TEN-YEAR ACTION GOALS

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 focus on protecting the important habitat.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Support ongoing research on natural features	Ongoing	● ● ●
Designate existing trail west of Lighthouse Point Cabin as hiking only and update park maps and signage.	1 Year	●

BACKCOUNTRY ZONE

The character of the Backcountry Zone is intended to be natural, with minimal evidence of human impact. The zone allows for various low-intensity, non-motorized recreational opportunities such as hiking, cross-country skiing, and mountain biking. The natural features of this zone also provide opportunities for hunting and nature observation. The Backcountry Zone allows for slight modifications of the landscape (such as trails) to accommodate a use where it is consistent with the protection of the resource.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Complete feasibility study to construct a trail from the campground to the day use beach	1- 2 years	● ●
Construct trail/boardwalk from campground to beach	To be determined by study	● ● ●

NATURAL RESOURCE RECREATION ZONE

Active recreation, at medium to high density of use, conducted in natural settings is the hallmark of the Natural Resource Recreation Zone. There is an emphasis on resource quality over recreation, but moderate levels of uses are allowed. Vegetation may be managed to facilitate recreational use and maintain aesthetically appealing landscape, as well as to address hazard trees, and to manage pests and disease. The 10-year action goals are intended to promote moderate to high levels of recreation compatible with the natural character of the zone. Action goals are designed to ensure that visitors will be engaged in outdoor activities in diverse natural land settings.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Review possible locations and complete cost / benefit analysis for additional cabin(s) and rustic campsites	1- 2 years	●
Construct additional cabin(s) depending on the results of the analysis	To be determined	●
Implement rustic campsites	2- 3 years	● ●

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TEN-YEAR ACTION GOALS

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. Cheboygan State Park's day-use and camping areas are located in this zone, along with an strip of land adjacent to US-23 and an area encompassing the lodge and area to the north that has previously been disturbed by development.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Review campground layout for upgrade	1-2 years	●
Upgrade campsite electrical to State Electrical Code	2-3 years	● ●
Construct new accessible toilet / shower building at campground	5-10 years	
Update the PRD gift giving guide to include accessible playgrounds and beach access routes	1-3 years	●
Pave campground entrance road and campground roads	5-10 Years	
Evaluate options for upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach	1-3 years	●

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ZONE

This zone encompasses the developed areas required for program administration and operations. It includes the headquarters offices and maintenance facilities with the associated land required to conduct the business of running Cheboygan State Park.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Implement upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach	TBD	
Replace water line from headquarters to the lodge to prevent freezing	1-3 years	●

SCENIC OVERLAY

The Scenic Overlay is applied to the area of shoreline trails and day use and camping areas that overlook Lake Huron in recognition of the scenic views of the Straits of Mackinac.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Continue to recognize and promote the compelling natural and scenic viewshed along the Lake Huron shoreline	Ongoing	● ● ●

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Public Input Meeting Comment Sheet

Name (optional): _____

E-mail Address (optional): _____

1. Do you agree with the park Significance Statements? Would you add or change anything to the statements?
2. Do you agree with the Draft Management Zones? If not, what would you change?
3. Are there any additional Action Goals you would like to propose?
4. Are there any proposed Action Goals you don't think should be included? If so, please explain.
5. Other Comments:
6. Provide any comments you may have on the Management Zone Map below.

COMMENT SHEET REMARKS	
Question Number	Comment
3	Develop a friends group

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EMAIL COMMENTS

Email Comment on June 28, 2017

Hello Debbie Jensen,

My husband and I have been walking this State Park with our dogs EVERY DAY SINCE about October 2015. RAIN, FREEZING TEMPS, HEAT, BLIZZARDS---NOTHING STOPS US! (Actually we take turns each day walking the dogs--but the dogs walk EVERYDAY).

FYI, my husband and I have been (for 2016 & 2017) the Adopt-beach clean-up team for the lakeside which runs parallel to the Green trail; Lighthouse Point, and Cheboygan Point. Our son has been doing Duncan Bay shore clean-up at the same time.

We know the park very well. I do have several suggestions:

1. You are likely familiar with the "red" trail that starts near the campground, and meets up with the "blue" trail. Why not extend the red trail to the beach?
2. There is an area not too far east of the Shoal Cabin (the one in the middle) on the "Blue" trail that is not navigable in the spring for weeks due to flooding. Good place for another "bridge".
3. While I'm an old gal, there are plenty of young love birds around. Perhaps one or two "off trail" areas could be cleared enough for another bench, and a place for sweethearts to smooch. Best where growth is thick, a narrow path would take a person to a small cleared area and bench.
4. A REAL bike trail from the state park to city of Cheboygan would be really nice! More ambitious would be one heading east to Hammond's Bay.

I was looking forward to the next public meeting, but am signed up to attend a gig in Harbor springs at 6PM. Please share these suggestions with the pertinent persons. LOVE OUR CHEBOYGAN STATE PARK!!!

Sincerely yours.

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Email Comment on July 18, 2017

Hi Debbie,

I was unable to attend the public meeting on July 13th when everyone met for the management plan but I wanted to give you my input.

For whatever it might be worth I am a Cheboygan native with a spinal cord injury. I would be willing to give input on the parks accessibility if that would be of interest to you? I have about 17 year experience using a wheelchair. I have sat in on several of the MDNR Accessibility Advisory Council meetings and like the direction that Michigan State Parks are going particularly for making parks universally/more accessible.

I took a look at the map from an overhead perspective of the park. In my opinion the park has very little access features. It would be a big deal if the hometown I grew up in would become a leader for making this park accessible for all. I can help!

I look forward to hearing back from you. Thanks.

Email Comment on July 20, 2017

Hi Debbie,

Thanks for sending the direct link to the CSP General Management Plan info. My husband and I reviewed most of it. We also reviewed the public input and the parts we would like to comment on are:

- Some folks would like to see dogs allowed on the beach and unleashed. -- We believe that dogs are not allowed on the beach, we agree that the all dogs should be leashed and not be allowed on the beach. However, some folks suggested a separate part of the beach for people with dogs. That might be a possibility with a dog walk going to that part of the beach.
- We also agree with a lot of people that the playground equipment might better serve if it were put together somewhere and updated.
- We also agree with folks who feel there should be a path from the camp ground to the beach so as not to have to drive to the beach.

Well, we live here in Cheboygan and we drive to the beach mostly, we walked once from our house, and we visit frequently all the time until that part of the park is closed with the gate and we can't get through. We just visit a few times in the spring to see the pile of snow melting with the gate closed and then, when the gate is opened, we begin visiting the beach again. We love the covered picnic area facing the water with BBQ grill and a drinking fountain and nice flush toilet bathrooms and the board walk to the beach with water faucets to wash our feet, etc. The beach is wonderful (could possibly use a little grooming every once in a while) and the sandy bottom and clear water of the lake is fantastic. We love our CSP beach!

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My sister and niece visited and we went on the *trail that goes through the woods, past the lighthouse ruins and onto the beach and back through the woods again*. They really liked it. A part of it in the woods was under water in the spring, maybe a little foot bridge can be put at that part. The water was over our ankles, but someone had put some logs across. We slipped into the water and got our feet wet, but we had a great time anyway.

Regarding a *non-motorized walking, running, biking trail from Cheboygan State Park to Downtown Cheboygan*, my husband and I and a lot of folks have talked about this often. We decided to write a letter to some of our city officials and the DNR asking if this might be possible sometime in the near future, and we are sending it to you also now via e-mail.

Thank you.

Email Comment on July 20, 2017

Dear Debbie Jensen,

We spoke this morning by phone. Thank you for allowing me to submit these comments. They are cut-and-pasted below as well as attached.

Comments on Cheboygan State Park Draft Management Plan

As all participants learn who attend my field trips for Straits Area Audubon Society, EarthWeekPlus, and the Mackinac Straits Raptor Watch, Cheboygan State Park is an absolute gem in our area. It is a privilege to have such spectacular public property and critical wildlife habitat protected along this key shoreline migration corridor for birds. Hats off to Paul Koszegi and his entire crew for the excellent job over the years, and to the people assembling the new management plan.

My comments come from a professional background in ecology and ongoing interest in biological research as well as advocacy for quality nature experiences and educational opportunities. Along with being in all the cabins and hiking all the existing trails, I have walked the shoreline of Lake Huron from Grass Bay Nature Preserve (owned by the Nature Conservancy) to Harrison Street and along Little Billy Elliot Creek from Seffern Rd. to Lake Huron.

As the human population increases and ages, we demand more space to recreate, live and build houses. Lakefront property and activities naturally attract people, placing increased demand on limited shoreline resources. From Rogers City through Cheboygan to Mackinaw City, the last 30 years have left far fewer wild places. Cheboygan State Park is an enclave of wild habitat between swaths of houses, roads, and

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development that alter the natural habitat to suburbia, encouraging invasive and nuisance species. Even within the park, the extensive trails and number of overnight options already pressure the resource.

While shoreline is a luxury and respite for humans, it forms vital nesting and migration habitat for songbirds and for hawks and owls. Thus, each year Cheboygan State Park sees a great deal of research activity by biologists and use for natural history field trips. It is one of very few places near Cheboygan where such research and nature-oriented activities can take place. In contrast, there are plenty of playgrounds and hiking/biking trails for people whose focus is fun and exercise in the outdoors.

From a biological perspective, it is important to maintain as much natural habitat as possible. I support the Land Acquisition goal pertaining to inholdings and recommend in addition that other adjacent or nearby property be reviewed for acquisition. If lower quality, these areas then can be used for any desired human development expansion.

Because bird nesting starts in late spring before the birds realize the level of human activity about to take place, many do nest near the parking lots, campground, and cabins. In an earlier year, a Merlin nested at the Duncan Bay beach area and were perturbed by our approach. This June, I observed Phoebe nesting at a Cabin react with high alarm when a family with active children returned from a trip to town. Allowing pets in the cabins would worsen the situation. Cats in particular should be out of the question. If dogs are allowed, they could be limited to the period after most fledglings have left the nest, perhaps after July 15.

Additional roads, overnight cabins or paddle-in campsites, and trails would encroach on the existing limited habitat, each incursion reducing its natural value to plants and animals. Cowbirds, which parasitize other birds' nests by laying their eggs in them, have increased in numbers in the eastern U.S. where most songbirds lack coping strategies and can end up raising cowbirds rather than their own young. Controlling cowbirds proved a major factor in restoring Kirtland's Warbler numbers. Research has shown that cowbirds penetrate into woods via hiking trails and paths, so an effective management tool is to keep large areas of forest intact. Other species also benefit from large undisturbed forests, an increasingly rare habitat due to human development.

For that reason, I urge that the desire to link Cheboygan State Park via a trail system be done via a simple link from the end of Duncan Bay Rd. to Beach Rd., to be only for bicyclists and walkers. I also urge planners to skip building a trail from the campground to day use beach, through a fragile, frequently-changing habitat. People can continue to drive around as they do now. It is even more important in this day and age to allow people to explore an utterly isolated place, and this can only be

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done for the public via quality lands like Cheboygan State Park. I agree with designating the trail west of Lighthouse Cabin as Hiking only.

Most of the region between the Campground and the Day Use area is wetland, so the current roads are still the best options for travel. Even the area around the Yellow trail is quite wet a lot of the year and would be unsuitable for road development. I would regret seeing the campground entrance road paved, because many people driving it already greatly exceed the speed limit. If paved, more speed enforcement would be needed to protect the wildlife that cross the road.

I favor the goal of Wastewater treatment facilities review and improvement. Thank you for including that and other infrastructure updates within current developed areas.

In general, more development tends to destroy what people came to a State Park to enjoy in the first place. I recommend leaving near-perfection alone. The increased demand for use can be handled through higher prices and better enforcement of park entrance fees, thus increasing park revenue.

Respectfully.



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

January 18, 2017

Mr. Doug Craven, Natural Resources Director
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians
7500 Odawa Circle
Harbor Springs, Michigan 49740

Dear Mr. Craven:

The Parks and Recreation Division (PRD) of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is in the process of developing a general management plan (GMP) for Cheboygan State Park in Cheboygan County, Michigan. This 1,345 acre state park features almost four miles of Lake Huron shoreline, including frontage on Duncan Bay, and Elliot Creek, a designated trout stream. The park offers a range of year-round recreation opportunities, including camping, cabins and modern lodging, swimming, hiking, cross-country skiing, fishing, and hunting. The natural communities found in Cheboygan State Park are regionally significant for their high quality and support a number of threatened and endangered species, including three federally listed Great Lakes endemic species.

The DNR uses GMPs 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 is meeting regularly to develop the GMP for this site.

The planning process includes several opportunities for input. An on-line survey is currently available by following a link on the Cheboygan State Park webpage at www.michigan.gov/cheboygan; the results will be used to inform the planning team. A stakeholder focus group has been scheduled for Wednesday February 22, 2017 at the Cheboygan Library located at 100 South Bailey Street, Cheboygan, Michigan 49721, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. A public meeting to review and provide comments on the draft GMP will be scheduled in summer 2017. In addition, the draft GMP will be available for review and comment on the DNR's website prior to adoption.

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

We would like to give the Tribes the opportunity to meet with us independently of the larger group to discuss the GMP process and any thoughts you may have in relation to Cheboygan State Park. In addition, you are welcome to send representatives to the stakeholder focus group in February or the public meeting which will be advertised later this year.

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Page 2
January 18, 2017

Please contact either Ms. 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dennis Knapp", written over a faint circular stamp.

Dennis Knapp
Tribal Coordinator
517-284-6237

cc: Ms. Debbie Jensen, DNR
Mr. Rich Hill, DNR
Mr. Paul Koszegi, DNR



Picnic Area and Fire Ring at the 14 Foot Shoals Rustic Cabin

Appendix C:

Planning Team Meeting Summary

Throughout the duration of the General Management Planning process, the planning team held three on-site meetings and two 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.

- Planning Meeting 1 (September 22, 2016) at Cheboygan State Park
 - Planning team members met each other and were given an overview of the management plan process and the park. A park tour was followed by the development of an initial list of significant park features. The team then reviewed the first draft of the supporting analysis document and maps.
- Planning Meeting 2 (November 9, 2016) at Cheboygan State Park
 - The planning team reviewed the draft significance statements and the revised supporting analysis document and maps. Then the team drafted the management zone map in a group exercise. Finally, the team created a draft public input survey and developed an initial list of stakeholders.
- Planning Meeting 3 (January 10, 2017) at Cheboygan State Park
 - The planning team continued to revise the significance statements, and then reviewed the draft management zone map created at the previous meeting. The project boundary was also discussed.

The team then developed a first draft of action goals, finalized the online survey questions, finalized the stakeholder list, and then reviewed the supporting analysis and resource maps.

- Planning Meeting 4 (March 23, 2017) via web conference
 - At this meeting, the team reviewed the draft management zone map and discussed the results of both the public input survey and the stakeholder workshop. With this input in mind, they reviewed and revised the action goals. Finally, the team finalized the significance statements.
- Planning Meeting 5 (May 25, 2017) via web conference
 - The team met to review the first draft of the Cheboygan State Park Management Plan.
- Planning Meeting 6: (August 28, 2017) via web conference
 - The team met to review the Management Plan comments received at the public meeting and discuss any changes to the draft plan.

Meeting minutes are included on the following pages.



Cheboygan State Park General Management Plan

Planning Meeting #1 Minutes
Thursday, September 22, 2016
9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator
Paul Koszegi, Unit Supervisor
Ward Rauch, Park Ranger
Rich Hill, District Supervisor
Keith Cheli, Regional Planner
Lisa Gamero, Cultural Resources Analyst
Emily Meyerson, N. Lower Trails Coordinator
Dave Borgeson, N. Lake Huron Unit Manager
Cody Stevens, Atlanta Unit Manager
Lt. James Gorno, Conservation Officer
Peter Rose, Geologist
Shelby Hiestand, Wildlife Biologist
Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant
Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. The meeting began around 9:10 am with introductions of the planning team members and the planning consultant, Beckett & Raeder.
2. Review General Management Plan Schedule
 - a. C. Summers presented the draft schedule for the general management plan. It was discussed that the best time for public outreach is soon after school is adjourned for the summer.
 - b. Beckett & Raeder will facilitate direct outreach to local officials to inform them of the planning process and request any relevant documents.
3. Overview Management Planning Process
 - a. D. Jensen gave an overview presentation of the management plan process.
4. Park Overview
 - a. P. Koszegi gave a verbal overview of the park, including the park amenities, events, typical park users, natural and cultural resources, and areas for improvement.
5. Park Tour

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- a. P. Koszegi and W. Rauch led the planning team on a tour of the park lodge, rustic cabins, lighthouse ruins, campground, and day-use area.
6. Lunch and Tour Debrief
7. Significant Features Exercise
 - a. C. Summers led the planning team through an exercise to brainstorm what makes the park unique. Topics discussed include the significant length of the Lake Huron shoreline, access to Duncan Bay, the sensitive ecological communities present, cultural resources such as the lighthouse ruins, recreational activities, overnight accommodations, as well as the park's proximity to regional trail connections and nearby attractions.
8. Supporting Analysis Review Exercise
 - a. The planning team reviewed the draft supporting analysis. Some sections were delegated to planning team members for further input.
9. Base Map Review
 - a. The planning team reviewed the draft park maps. Suggested edits were communicated to Beckett & Raeder. Some GIS data, including DNR land ownership parcel data, will need to be refined by DNR staff.
10. Confirm Team Meeting #2
 - a. Beckett & Raeder will send out a doodle poll to determine the date for the next planning meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.

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Planning Meeting #2 Minutes

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator
Paul Koszegi, Unit Supervisor
Rich Hill, District Supervisor
Keith Cheli, Regional Planner
Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist
Lisa Gamero, Cultural Resources Analyst
Emily Meyerson, N. Lower Trails Coordinator
Dave Borgeson, N. Lake Huron Unit Manager
Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant
Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

- 1) Review Meeting #1 Summary
 - a) The meeting began at 11:06 am with a review of the Meeting #1 summary. Suggested edits will be made and a final draft will be sent out to the team.
- 2) Review Purpose and Significance Statements
 - a) Beckett & Raeder presented the significance statements that were created from the content drafted by the planning team in the last meeting. The first draft was broken down into three categories with a paragraph statement for each. Direction was given to divide the statements into shorter and more specific headings. Additional items were added to the list of significant features, such as maritime resources, diverse hunting experiences, blueway access points, and the regional significance of the Duncan Bay natural communities.
- 3) Review Supporting Analysis and Resource Maps
 - a) The second draft of the resource maps and supporting analysis were reviewed by the planning team. Debbie gave BRI a marked-up copy of the supporting analysis and planning team members gave additional input and revisions. The Regional Recreation Resources section was refined further. Edits to the maps were discussed, especially the Regional Recreation Resources map, which was a new map at this meeting.
- 4) Lunch
 - a) Lunch was provided at the State Park.

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- 5) Draft Management Zone Exercise & Project Boundary Review
 - a) The planning team worked in two groups to complete the draft management zone exercise. Both groups were given a large map of the park and information about the management zones. Each group drafted a management zone map, and then the two groups came together to rectify the differences in their two maps to come up with one draft management zone map. The two maps were very similar, with an emphasis on protecting the natural resources of the park while allowing recreational access to its amenities. Beckett & Raeder will digitize the draft management zone map for the next meeting.
- 6) Brainstorm Online Survey Questions
 - a) The planning team reviewed the draft set of survey questions for the public input online survey. Most of the edits were minor in nature and customized the survey to Cheboygan State Park. The survey will be refined and sent out to the planning team for review.
- 7) Develop Draft Stakeholder List
 - a) The planning team added stakeholders and key contacts to a draft stakeholder list. This list will continue to be refined in advance of the stakeholder meeting.
- 8) Adjourn
 - a) The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

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Planning Meeting #3 Minutes

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator
 Paul Koszegi, Unit Supervisor
 Ward Rauch, Park Ranger
 Rich Hill, District Supervisor
 Keith Cheli, Regional Planner
 Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist
 Lisa Gamero, Cultural Resources Analyst
 Matt Theunick, Conservation Officer
 Peter Rose, Geologist
 Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant
 Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

1. Review Meeting #2 Summary
 - a. The team reviewed the meeting summary and suggested minor edits. The final minutes will be sent out to the team.
2. Review Purpose and Significance Statements
 - a. The team reviewed the draft significance statements and suggested edits to improve clarity and include relevant details.
 - b. Debbie and Lisa will work to verify the Prehistoric Activity statement and will ask Dean Anderson for input.
3. Review draft Management Zone Map
 - a. The draft management zones were reviewed and discussed.
 - b. The cultural zone overlay is under review. Debbie and Lisa will look into the issue.
 - c. BRI will add trails and park features to the map.
 - d. The ecologically sensitive zone along the lakeshore will be revised to a primitive zone.
 - e. Scenic overlays will be added at the day use area, the campground, and the northern edge of the park.
 - f. The boundaries of the northern natural resource recreation zone will be refined.
4. Review Project Boundary Map
 - a. The proposed project boundary was discussed to include the private property in-holding within the park as well as private property between the park and US-23. BRI will create a draft proposed boundary map.

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5. Develop First Draft of Action Goals
 - a. The group created a list of draft action goals that will be categorized by Debbie and BRI and then refined by the team.
6. Lunch
 - a. Lunch was provided at Cheboygan State Park.
7. Finalize Online Survey Questions
 - a. The team proposed edits to the online survey. BRI will make the edits as soon as possible so that the survey can be advertized this week.
 - b. BRI will add maps and the survey link to the project website and send the website link to the team for review.
8. Finalize Stakeholder list and details of Stakeholder Workshop
 - a. The team reviewed the list of stakeholders and suggested additions and edits. The team should review the stakeholder list for any contact info gaps that they could fill in.
 - b. BRI will work with Emily for water trail contacts.
 - c. The team reviewed a draft agenda for the stakeholder meeting, which will include a presentation by Debbie and group brainstorming exercises.
 - d. Caitlin will work with Debbie to create an invite to the stakeholder meeting.
 - e. Debbie will send a letter to the tribes.
9. Review Supporting Analysis and Resource Maps
 - a. The team proposed grammatical and clarifying edits to the supporting analysis that will be incorporated by Caitlin.
 - b. There is uncertainty of what the state forest land adjacent to the park is called. It is labeled Mackinaw State Forest on the resource maps.
 - c. Debbie will give BRI a sentence or two on the DNR boating access sites paragraph.
 - d. Lisa will look for historic photos and send them to Caitlin.
 - e. Paul and Ward will look for any other useful photos of the park and send them to Caitlin.
 - f. Debbie will check with DNR Real Estate about the ownership of a northern parcel of land under question. Paul and Keith will also collaborate on this task.
10. Adjourn

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Planning Meeting #4 Minutes

Thursday, March 23, 2017

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Web Conference

Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator
 Paul Koszegi, Unit Supervisor
 Rich Hill, District Supervisor
 Keith Cheli, Regional Planner
 Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist
 Dave Borgeson, N. Lake Huron Unit Manager
 Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant
 Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

1. Review Meeting #3 Summary
 - a. The team reviewed the minutes from the third planning meeting and discussed follow-up items.
 - i. Debbie talked to Dean Anderson and he didn't feel that the significance statement regarding the probability of prehistoric activity was necessary.
 - ii. It was determined that Mackinaw State Forest was the appropriate name for the land adjacent to Cheboygan State Park.
 - iii. It was determined that the DNR does own the northern parcel of the park land under question.
2. Review Draft Management Zone Map
 - a. The team reviewed the draft management zone map and made suggested edits.
 - b. BRI will edit the map and send the management zone shape file to Glenn to review the boundary of the backcountry zone / primitive zone between the campground and the day use area.
3. Review Public Input Survey Results
 - a. The team reviewed the public input survey results document and concurred that it should be posted on the project website.
 - b. Debbie will send formatting changes to BRI before the document is posted.
4. Review Stakeholder Workshop Results
 - a. The team reviewed the stakeholder workshop results. Minor edits were suggested.
 - b. The names of the stakeholders will not be tied to their comments in the final version.

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5. Review Action Goals
 - a. The team reviewed the action goals list and added information regarding the target completion date, program input parties, and responsible program positions columns. The list will be included in the draft plan and will be reviewed by the team at the next meeting.
 - b. Debbie will look at the park's capital outlay list for additional action goal items.
6. Review Purpose Statement and Finalize Significance Statements
 - a. Debbie will research the purpose statements.
 - b. The team reviewed and finalized the Significance Statements. Minor edits were suggested.
7. Next Steps
 - a. The next planning team meeting will be on May 23rd and will be a conference call. The draft plan will be reviewed at this meeting.
 - b. The public meeting will be scheduled for the week of July 10th.
8. Adjourn

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Planning Meeting #5 Minutes

Thursday, May 25, 2017

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Web Conference

Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator

Paul Koszegi, Unit Supervisor

Rich Hill, District Supervisor

Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist

Peter Rose, Geologist

Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant

Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

1. Review Meeting #4 Summary
 - a. The team reviewed meeting minutes and did not have any edits.
2. Review Draft Management Plan
 - a. The following action items were discussed:
 - i. Beckett & Raeder edited the draft plan during the meeting to incorporate changes to action goals and management zone descriptions. Beckett & Raeder will make all suggested edits to the draft plan, including adding information on community resilience, adding the public survey result data, adding a copy of the public input survey, and formatting the draft plan in InDesign.
 - ii. Debbie will send the letter reaching out to the tribes.
 - iii. Debbie will check the capital outlay list for any additional action items.
 - iv. Paul will send the park amenities map in PDF form.
 - v. Debbie will forward suggested edits to the general action goals, a goal about continuing to support quiet recreation activities, an additional goal for the primitive zone, and an acquisition goal.
 - vi. Paul will confirm or correct the park use statistics in the supporting analysis.
 - vii. Debbie will send an electronic copy of the public meeting press release.
 - viii. Glenn will send the data structure for the management zone GIS shape file.
3. Discuss Public Meeting
 - a. The public meeting will be held on July 13th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm at the Cheboygan Area Public Library.
 - b. The meeting format will be similar to previous general management plans. Beckett & Raeder will develop an agenda.
4. Next Steps
 - a. Beckett & Raeder will incorporate edits to the plan and send it to Debbie within two weeks.

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5. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting was adjourned around 3:30 pm.

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Planning Meeting #6 Minutes

Monday, August 28, 2017

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Web Conference

Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator
 Rich Hill, District Supervisor
 Peter Rose, Geologist
 Keith Cheli, Regional Planner
 Ward Rauch, Park Ranger
 David Merk, Park Supervisor
 Emily Meyerson, N. Lower Trails Coordinator
 Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant
 Morgan Haffey, Management Plan Consultant

1. Review Meeting #5 Summary
 - a. The team reviewed meeting minutes and did not have any edits.
2. Review of Public Input Comments
 - a. Public Meeting Summary
 - i. BRI will add additional information to the summary to better summarize the events of the public meeting.
 - ii. Comments from the meeting were reviewed and discussed. Consideration of a dedicated canoe/kayak launch in the day-use area lead to the development of a new action goal.
 - iii. Action goal priorities indicated by the meeting attendees included connecting the park to the regional trail system and downtown Cheboygan, supporting the Cheboygan Area Blueway water trail and land acquisition.
 - iv. One individual commented that it would be beneficial to develop a friends group, which resulted in the addition of an action goal under "Management Focus".
 - b. Email Comments:
 - i. The team reviewed and discussed all of the comments submitted via email.
 - ii. One comment in particular sparked a conversation about the possibility of extending the "red" trail to the beach. The team suggested that it should be extended to the "green" trail, but that minor trail revisions and repairs did not need to be specifically called out in the action goals.
 - iii. BRI will remove all names from the email comments section of the summary.

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3. Plan Revisions

- a. Significance Statements
 - i. The team had very few comments about the significance statements and no changes were made.
- b. Management Zones
 - i. Debbie will review the campground developed recreation zone to ensure it covers an adequate area for future needs.
 - ii. Keith asked about the interchangeability of the developed recreation zone and administrative services zone. He suggested adding a note identifying that the developed recreation zone could accommodate administrative functions next to the lodge.
 - iii. Rich reminded the team about keeping options open on the trail route from the campground to the day use beach in the backcountry zone.
- c. Action Items/Goals:
 - i. The team decided all action items in each section should be organized by target completion date, starting with "Ongoing" and then continued in order of completion.
 - ii. The completion date of the general action goal under "Natural Resources" stating, "Complete MiFi forest mapping in the park", was revised to say "Completed".
 - iii. A new action goal, "Evaluate and make recommendations for water access and paddling provisions in both the campground and day use areas", was added to the Developed Recreation Zone. Debbie will provide a target completion date.
 - iv. Debbie will reword and split apart the action goal under "Developed Recreation Zone" that states, "Update the PRD gift giving guide to include accessible playgrounds and beach access routes".
 - v. The team reworded the action goal under "Developed Recreation Zone" stating, "Pave campground entrance road and campground roads", to say, "Implement campground entrance road and campground road improvements as recommended by the assessment". The team will also edit the general action goal relating to this to say "Evaluate park and campground roads and make recommendations for improvement and/or major maintenance".
 - vi. The team reworded the action goal under "Developed Recreation Zone" stating, "Evaluate options for upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach", to say, "Evaluate options for upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach and campground". Both wastewater treatment facilities goals will be moved to the Administration Zone, which will be amended on the zoning map to include the day-use wastewater treatment area.
 - vii. Debbie will add an action goal under "Developed Recreation Zone" to evaluate opportunities for dogs at the beach area.
 - viii. The team reworded the action goal under "Administrative Services Zone" stating, "Implement upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach", to say, "Implement upgrade or replacement of wastewater treatment facilities at the day use beach and campground".
 - ix. BRI will add an action goal under "Management Focus" that states, "Encourage the formation of a friends group to support the park", with a 1-3 year target completion date.

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4. Other Draft Plan Comments and Corrections
 - a. The team had minimal comments and corrections.
 - i. BRI will add the new vegetation map to the draft plan.
5. Plan Review and Approval Process
 - a. Debbie discussed the plan review and approval process that should result in final plan adoption by the end of 2017.
6. Adjourn
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.