





# Supporting Analysis

PARK PROFILE		
AREA	8,007 acres	
COUNTY	Oakland County	
TOWNSHIPS	Groveland Township & Holly Township	
LATITUDE	42.814418° N	
LONGITUDE	-83.541970° W	
ADDRESS 8100 Grange Hall Road Holly, MI 48442		
PHONE	(248) 634-8811	



# Appendix A:

# **Supporting Analysis**

### A.1 Park Overview

Holly State Recreation Area's (HSRA) 8,007 acres of rolling woodlands and open fields provides opportunities for a variety of outdoor activities. The recreation area offers camping, swimming, and picnicking as well as fishing, boating, and 34 miles of hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country ski trails. The majority of the recreation area is open to hunting, with approximately one-third of the acreage dedicated to game management.

### **Location & Community**

Oakland County is located in the southeast corner of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan, between Flint and metro Detroit, and contains a good deal of urban development intermixed with some rural areas. The county contains 908 square miles.

There is documentation that Native Americans created trails that are now located in present day Oakland County that were transformed into some of the area's major roads, such as Woodward Avenue (formerly the Saginaw Trail). <sup>1</sup>

Named for its plentiful oak trees, Oakland County was first established by Governor Lewis Cass in 1819, with Pontiac as its first town. By the mid-1860's, the county was comprised of primarily agricultural lands with several spread out villages. In 1907, the Oakland Motor Car Company was created and

the City of Pontiac became enveloped by the auto industry. This company later became part of the General Motors Corporation. Oakland County experienced a surge of jobs and people moving north from Detroit in the mid-1900's, becoming one of the top ranked counties for per capita income.<sup>2</sup>

Located within the northern portion of Oakland County between Pontiac and Flint, Holly State Recreation Area (HSRA) is less than an hour drive from the Detroit metropolitan area. HSRA is approximately 50 miles north of the city of Detroit and 20 miles south of Flint. The main route to the park is I-75, making HSRA very accessible for visitors from both cities.

Holly State Recreation Area is located in Groveland Township and Holly Township. The nearly 8,000 acres of woodlands and open fields provide opportunities for a range of activities and is situated for a quick getaway to nature for the nearby cities. This is one of several recreation areas in the southeast portion of Michigan providing opportunities for outdoor recreation for the metropolitan areas that surround the region. Some of the more local communities include Holly, Fenton, Springfield, and Grand Blanc Township. All three are smaller, more rural communities which attract many families to the area.

1 Source: http://oaklandweb.com/govt/county/county\_history.htm

2 Source: <a href="http://oakland.genwebsite.net/">http://oakland.genwebsite.net/</a>

GEOGRAPHY QUICKFACTS		
	OAKLAND COUNTY	MICHIGAN
Population per square mile, 2010	1385.7	174.8
Land area in square miles, 2010	867.66	56,538.9
POPULATION QUICKFACTS		
	OAKLAND COUNTY	MICHIGAN
Population estimates, 2015	1,242,304	9,922,576
Population estimates base, April 1, 2010	1,202,362	9,884,129
Population, percent change - April 1, 2010 to July 1, 2015	3.3%	0.4 %
Population, Census, 2010	1,202,362	9,883,640
Persons under 5 years, percent, 2015	5.5%	6.2%
Persons under 18 years, percent, 2015	21.8%	22.9%
Persons 65 years and over, percent, 2015	15.5%	14.9%
Female persons, percent, 2015	51.3%	50.8%
White alone, percent, 2015	76.2%	77.1%
Black or African American alone, percent, 2015	14.4%	13.3%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone, percent, 2015	0.3%	1.2%
Asian alone, percent, 2015	6.8%	5.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone, percent, 2015	Z	0.2%
Two or More Races, percent, 2015	2.2%	2.6%
Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2015	3.9%	17.6%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino, percent, 2015	72.9%	61.6%
Veterans, 2010-2014	65,466	648,273
Foreign born persons, percent, 2010-2014	11.5%	6.2%
Housing units, 2015,	535,285	4,550,296
Owner-occupied housing unit rate, 2010-2014	70.9%	71.5%
Median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2010-2014	170,600	120,200
Households, 2010-2014	489,797	3,827,880
Persons per household, 2010-2014	2.47%	2.52%
Living in same house 1 year ago, percent age 1+, 2010-2014	85.90%	85.3%
Language other than English spoken at home, pct age 5+, 2010-2014	14.00%	9.1%
High school graduate or higher, percent age 25+, 2010-2014	93.00%	89.30%
Bachelor's degree or higher, percent age 25 years+, 2010-2014	43.70%	26.40%
Mean travel time to work (minutes), workers age 16+, 2010-2014	26.30	24.1
Median household income, 2010-2014	\$66,436	\$49,087
Per capita income in past 12 months, 2010-2014	\$37,089	\$26,143
Persons in poverty, percent	10.00%	16.2%

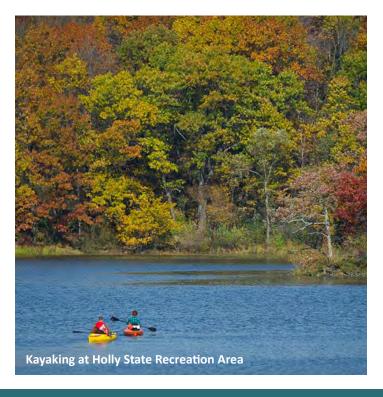
### A.2 Demographics

### 2010 U.S. Census Data for Oakland County

The U.S. Census Bureau reports that the 2010 population of Oakland County was 1,202,362. The 2000 census was reported at 1,194,156. Therefore, the population has seen a 0.7% growth over a 10-year period. Due to its proximity to the metro Detroit area as well as Flint, much of Oakland County contains urban areas (Pontiac, Troy, Rochester Hills, etc.) with some rural residences as well.

Comparing Oakland County to Michigan's average, Oakland County has a higher median household income as well as per capita income and has a lower poverty rate. It can be noted that 43.7% of Oakland County residents possess a Bachelor's degree or higher compared to only 26.4% for Michigan overall. The age and racial makeup of the County is comparable to that of the State of Michigan.

Although Holly State Recreation Area is not located in Genesee County, it is likely influenced by the population there. As of the 2010 US Census, Genesee County had a total population of 425,790, a 0.2% decrease from the 2000 population, with an age and racial makeup comparable to the State of Michigan, but with a slightly higher percentage of people reporting Black or African American race and a slightly lower percentage of the population reporting an Asian race than the State percentages. Genesee County residents have a lower educational attainment than the State of Michigan overall, with 5.6% of the population possessing a Bachelor's degree or higher.



### **A.3 Regional Recreation Resources**

### **State Parks and Recreation Areas**

- Seven Lakes State Park is located six miles west of HSRA. Its 1,434 acres of land was a combination of farmland, rolling hills and forests. About 230 acres of water with several miles of shoreline and a popular campground await the park user.
- Ortonville Recreation Area is located 12 miles northeast of HSRA in north Oakland and southern Lapeer counties. This approximately 5,400 acre recreation area contains high wooded hills and a wide range of recreational activities.
- Highland Recreation Area is located 13 miles south of HSRA and offers 5,900 acres with trails to accommodate equestrian riders, bikers, hikers, and skiers. A recreational flying field and Field Trial Area are also available at this park. There are four lakes located within the park that provide fishing, recreational boating and swimming. In addition to the various recreational activities, this Recreation Area also is the site of the historic Edsel Ford Estate.
- Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located 16 miles south of HSRA. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area has 3,745 acres of a mixture of marshes, ponds, heavy forests, old farm fields, river bottom and lakes that support a variety of animals and excellent hunting. Designated trails throughout the recreation area are available for horseback riding, hiking, and mountain biking. There is also a popular model airplane flying field. There are two designated campgrounds, a modern site, and an equestrian site.
- Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area is located 20 miles northeast of HSRA in Lapeer County. The park consists of 723 acres with the 80-acre Lake Minnewanna in the center. The park provides opportunities for campers, hikers, boaters, anglers, hunters, cross-country skiers, and others to enjoy a wide variety recreational opportunities throughout the year.
- Bald Mountain Recreation Area is located 27 miles southeast of HSRA. Bald Mountain Recreation Area has some of the steepest hills and most rugged terrain in southeastern Michigan. Camping is limited to rustic cabins, but the extensive trails, inland lakes, trout streams and wild game provide recreation opportunities all year long.

### State Wildlife/Game Area

- Davisburg State Game Area This 110-acre site is located south of HSRA. Featured species in this area are eastern massasauga rattlesnake, eastern wild turkey, and white tailed deer.
- Horseshoe Lake State Game Area This site is located east
  of HSRA and is 399 acres. Featured species in this area are
  eastern massasauga rattlesnake, eastern wild turkey, and
  white tailed deer.

### **Oakland County Parks**

Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission provides over 6,700 acres of natural landscapes, outdoor recreation parks and facilities for Oakland County residents. The 13 Oakland County Parks offer a wide variety of year-round recreation opportunities. The primary facilities in the vicinity of HSRA are described below. In addition, the County provides 5 golf courses open to the public, including a foot golf course.

- Groveland Oaks is located in the northwestern corner of the county, directly adjacent to Holly State Recreation Area. It is a 360-acre park providing water-based recreation, camping, and mini golf.
- Independence Oaks is the largest park in the Oakland County Parks system, containing 1,286 acres. It is located just northeast of Clarkston. The park offers Crooked Lake for water recreation, the Wint Nature Center, and an extensive trail system. This park also provides protection to the sensitive lowlands of the headwaters of the Clinton River system.
- Orion Oaks is a 927-acre park that preserves sensitive wetland resources. The park contains a 24-acre dog park as well as Lake Sixteen, which is used for fishing and nonmotorized boating. There are hiking and mountain biking trails available as well.
- Rose Oaks is a 640-acre, mostly undeveloped park that focus on the preservation of its various ecosystems: wetlands, meadows and forests. There are several lakes available in the park for fishing and attracts equestrian riders along it trails as well.
- Waterford Oaks serves as the administrative headquarters for the parks system. This 185-acre park provides some unique features such as a BMX track, water park, universally-accessible Paradise Peninsula Playscape and the Lookout Lodge activity center.
- ORV Adventure Park is a proposed 230 acre park with ORV trail, obstacle and scramble areas on Dixie Highway near Grange Hall Road in Groveland and Holly Townships. This park is being acquired and developed jointly by the DNR and Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission. Since Oakland County has more licensed off road vehicles than any other county in Michigan, this new facility will provide drivers with a legal public riding destination close to home.

### **Huron-Clinton Metro Parks**

Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority was created in 1940, developing a system of parks in Southeast Michigan. There are currently 13 parks covering about 25,000 acres. The parks are located along the Huron and Clinton rivers spanning Wayne, Washtenaw, Macomb, Oakland and Livingston counties. Described below is the primary facility in the vicinity of HSRA.

 Indian Springs Metropark is 2,215 acres of rolling woodlands, meadows, and wetland areas. It contains many native ecosystems, and some of the trails run alongside the Huron River. The park provides habitat for many species along with recreational activities for the local community such as biking, hiking, geocaching, birding, and more.

### **State and Regional Trails**

The Oak Routes County Trail Network vision is an emerging network of trails, pathways, and blueways traversing Oakland County that will connect neighborhoods to parks, schools, commercial districts, cultural destinations, and town centers. Major linear trails include the Polly Ann Trail, Paint Creek Trail, Clinton River Trail, Huron-Valley Trail, West Bloomfield Trail, Michigan Air Line Trail, M-5/I-275 Metro Trail, and Milford Trail. There are local initiatives to add on-road bike facilities and nonmotorized access to HSRA, but all are in the early stages. The Village of Holly recently added bike lanes in the downtown on Saginaw Street and is working on connecting to Seven Lakes State Park and HSRA.

The bicycle route of the Iron Belle Trail, a 791-mile linear trail from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the Upper Peninsula, will use a combination of existing trails and new routes through Oakland County. The Iron Belle Trail is proposed to run northeast of HSRA and southwest of Ortonville Recreation area. It will connect the Polly Ann Trail in Oxford to the Village of Ortonville and continue north along the M-15 Recreational Heritage Route to Goodrich. Brandon, Groveland, and Ortonville are in the process of finalizing the route and bicycle facility types (i.e. sidepath, wide shoulder, and/or bike lane).

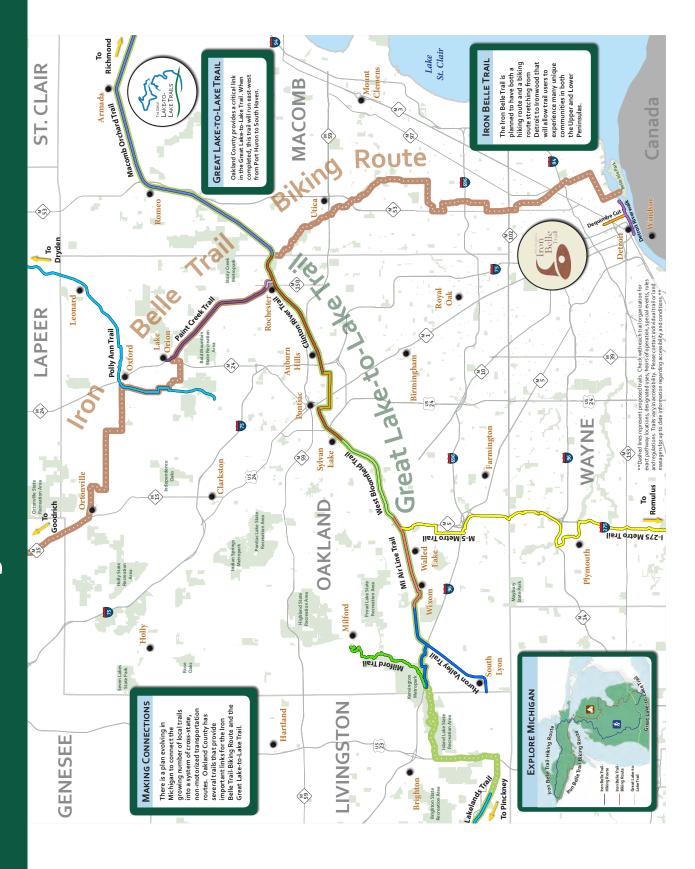
### **Other Recreational Opportunities**

There are several small private and local recreation facilities located throughout the county. Local municipalities provide neighborhood parks and school recreational facilities also abound. Private facilities include various golf courses, campgrounds, the Mount Holly Ski and Snowboard Resort (formerly part of HSRA), country clubs, and swim clubs.

Tamarack Camps, located just over a mile northeast of Holly State Recreation Area on Phipps and Tamarack Lakes, is a Jewish summer camp and outdoor education center. Its facilities include seasonal and year-round cabins, amphitheaters, sports facilities, a nature complex, and an environmental education facility, among others. Summer campers and groups utilize many of the facilities throughout the year.

The Michigan Renaissance Festival is held annually in Holly, Michigan, just north of Holly State Recreation Area. The festival stretches over seven weekends, plus Labor Day Monday and Festival Friday. This 16th century festival boasts continuous entertainment and attracts over 250,000 guests from Michigan, the surrounding states, and Canada. The festival grounds also host events during October for Halloween. Patrons of the festival frequently camp at Holly State Recreation Area due to its close proximity.

# Southeast Michigan Non-Motorized Trail Connections



### A.4 History Of Holly State Recreation Area

In the early 1940's the Michigan Department of Conservation determined that Southeast Michigan contained lands that might be desirable for recreational areas and developed a plan to provide 100,000 acres of recreational land. Holly was one of 11 state recreation areas established through appropriations by the State Legislature under Public Act 50. In 1944, the preliminary boundaries of Holly State Recreation Area were established and the park was officially opened in 1948. In the first year the attendance for the park was recorded at 10,074 with only six camping permits sold. In 1963, the Conservation Commission dedicated 2,800 acres of the recreation area to game land management (see Section A.6, Legal Mandates). This entailed managing habitat for particular species to encourage hunting in Southeast Michigan.

The first wave of the development in the park occurred in the 1950's. Picnic areas and campgrounds were established and extended which entailed work on the roads, water, electric, topsoiling, and seeding. Other improvements included adding a toilet building to the day-use area and enhancing the entrance and parking areas. Along with this construction, Mt. Holly Ski Area was constructed in 1956 and was operated under a lease for almost 10 years before a land exchange occurred between the state and a private company.

Initially, 3,466 acres were designated as a recreation area. Over the years the state purchased surrounding land to expand the park, including large purchases in the 1970's and 1980's.

Originally, about two thirds of the park area was divided by Dixie Highway, a major roadway. Then, when Interstate Highway 75 was being developed, it cut right through the park, parallel to and west of Dixie Highway. Recognizing these major crossings as an issue, in 1970 the Natural Resources Commission sold the land located between the two highways, creating two sides of the recreation area, an east and a west. This sale provided funding and allowed for the acquisition of other park lands.

A master plan for future development of the Wildwood-Valley Lakes area was created in 1967 and refined in 1973. The majority of the proposed improvements were implemented. A master plan report was written for Holly Recreation Area west unit (west of I-75) in October 1978 proposing a boating access site on Crotched Lake and trail development, both of which have been implemented. The trail system was initially developed for equestrian use, however, due to a lack of use and maintenance, the trails were rededicated for mountain bike use. Development of a swimming and picnic area on Crystal Lake and impounding Swartz Creek to facilitate additional recreation developments was proposed but never implemented.

Major developments continued into the 1970's and 1980's for Holly State Recreation Area including the creation of the beach area. This project was split into phases and along with it came remodeling of the buildings in the park. During this period, 140 campsites were created in the McGinnis Lake campground area.

### A.5 Land Ownership

The lands that make up Holly State Recreation Area are owned in Fee simple and have been acquired by the State of Michigan through a variety of means over a period of more than seventy years. Various conditions associated with the land acquisition or other restrictions imposed on the land may encumber future use. The state owns the mineral rights associated with the land, with the exception of two parcels totaling 66.2 acres in the west of the property, where the state owns 50% of the mineral rights. (see Ownership Rights Map).

### **Funding Sources:**

The funding source map at the end of Appendix A identifies the sources used in acquiring land within Holly State Recreation Area. All acreages are approximate.

### **Special Legislation**

Acquisitions for park purposes through this source are tied to specific funding established by the legislature under Act 27, P.A. 1944, and Act 50, P.A. 1944. These funds were also used to match other funding sources such as Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (50/50 match) and Recreation Bond Fund.

### Other

A large proportion of Holly State Recreation Area was purchased using 1/12 Game and Fish Fund and 11/12 General Fund. The Game and Fish Fund was derived from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses in accordance with Part 435 of PA 451 of 1994. Funds from this source may be used to purchase lands for the purpose of propagating and rearing wildlife or fish, and for establishing and maintaining game refuges, wildlife sanctuaries, and public shooting and fishing grounds.

• Close to 3,700 acres are reported to have been acquired using this mixed funding source.

### Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a federal program administered in Michigan by the Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the National Park Service (NPS). Land purchased using LWCF funding must be used for public outdoor recreation purposes. All land within the park at the time of the LWCF purchase is protected in accordance with the fund requirements. The required 50% match was provided by Recreation Bond Fund or Special Legislation.

### Recreation Bond Fund

Old Recreation Bond Fund: Act 257, P.A. 1968. These funds for general recreation purposes were used primarily to match Land and Water Conservation Fund acquisitions at Holly State Recreation Area.

### State Game Fund

Act 17, P.A. 1921 established a funding source for land purchased with revenue from a \$1.50 tax on hunting licenses. The primary purpose of this land is for hunting and fishing purposes and the development of other recreation facilities is restricted.

 Over 2,000 acres were acquired using State Game Fund in HSRA

### Gift

These properties were provided to the state without the transfer of funds. They are used for general program purposes unless a specific deed restriction would otherwise dictate.

• 7 parcels of the park were acquired by gift from individuals and Oakland County totaling 130.83 acres.

### Michigan Land Trust Fund

The "Kammer Recreational Land Trust Fund Act of 1976" (Public Act 204, 1976) created the Michigan Land Trust Fund (MLTF) program to provide a source of funding for the public acquisition of lands for resource protection and public outdoor recreation. Funding was derived from royalties on the sale and lease of State-owned mineral rights. This fund has now been replaced by the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund.

• 7 parcels totaling 68.5 acres were acquired using this fund.

### Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund

The Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) was created by a state constitutional amendment in 1984, which required that oil, gas, and other mineral lease and royalty payments be placed into the 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). Lands purchased using MNRTF must be used for public recreation.

- 8 parcels totaling 157 acres, making up several grants between 1989 and 2007.
- 290 acres in 2017 (Tamarack Camp Tract)

### Land Exchange Facilitation Fund

Public Act 86 of 1989 created a Land Exchange Facilitation Fund Act (later incorporated into the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act). The 1989 legislation allows the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to designate state land as surplus (under certain limited circumstances). Once designated, the DNR may sell such land at fair market value, with proceeds to be deposited into the Land Exchange Facilitation Fund to be used to purchase land for natural resources management, administration, and public recreation that has been approved by the legislature for purchase under the Natural Resources Trust Fund provisions of the NREPA.

• 4 parcels adding up to 76.85 acres help to make up HSRA.

### **Easements**

The following easements grant access or construction rights on HSRA property. This documentation was found through the Michigan Land Ownership Tracking System and the list may not be complete.

- Michigan State Highway Department Easement to improve US-10 within the park.
- Consumers Power Several easements granted to construct and maintain gas pipelines, overhead electric lines, and underground electric cables.
- Buckeye Pipeline Company- Easement to construct and maintain gas and/or oil pipes on the property.
- Detroit Edison Company Easement to construct and maintain electric distribution lines.
- GTE Telephone Company Easement to construct and maintain telephone lines.
- Michigan Bell Telephone Company Easements to construct and maintain a buried telephone line, a telephone equipment facility (15' x 15'), and overhead poles and wires.
- United States Border Patrol Easement to construct and maintain radio repeater station, which has since been removed (T5N R8E section 23).

### Lease

The DNR entered into a lease with the Holly Cloud Hoppers in April of 2008 to allow operation of a model aircraft flying field for events, activities, and meetings. The lease is in effect for 1.8 acres located east of Mackey Road. As of the date of this plan, the lease agreement is set to expire March 31, 2018.

The DNR entered into a lease agreement in July 2016 with Jump Island, LLC for the utilization of a designated buoyed location directly outside of the buoyed swim area at Heron Lake as an "Aqua Park." As of the date of this plan, the lease is in effect for a two season initial term of possession ending on

November 30, 2017.

### A.6 Legal Mandates

For all park General Management Plans, all legal mandates are identified that serve to further guide the management and planning for the State Park or Recreation Areas. For our planning purposes, the term "Legal Mandates" refers not only to federal and state law, but also the administrative tools of "Policy" and "Directive" of the Natural Resource Commission, the Department, and the Parks and Recreation Division. Examples include Orders of the Director, Park and Recreation Areas State Land Rules, and all other laws, commission orders, and rules or directives that apply to the park. Specific to Holly State Recreation Area, the following legal mandates have been identified.

### 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 transfer of endangered species.

### 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 related 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 315 Dam Safety	A permit is required for dams with a "height" of six feet or more and a surface area of five acres or more at the design flood elevation. A permit is required for new dam construction, enlargement of an existing dam or impoundment, dam repair, dam alteration, dam removal, dam abandonment, or reconstruction of a failed dam.		
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.		

### **ORDERS**

The following Orders apply to Holly State Recreation Area:

### LAND USE ORDERS OF THE DIRECTOR

5.2 POSSESSION OR CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN CERTAIN STATE PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, PROHIBITED CONDUCT.

Order 5.2 A person shall not do any of the following:

- (1) Possess or consume an alcoholic beverage within the following described locations from April 1 through labor day, without written authorization of the park manager:
- (b) HSRA- day-use areas south of McGinnis Road.

### 5.4 WATERCRAFT USE IN CERTAIN STATE PARKS, PROHIBITED CONDUCT.

Order 5.4 A person shall not do the following:

- (1) Operate a vessel in excess of a slow, no-wake speed on any of the following described waters:
- (g) HSRA- Wildwood Lake and Valley Lake.

### 5.12 CERTAIN STATE PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS, REQUIREMENTS FOR USE, CERTAIN CONDUCT PROHIBITED.

Order 5.12. The following conduct shall apply to use of Michigan state parks and recreation areas: Holly State Recreation Area, prohibited conduct.

(19) A person shall not operate a snowmobile or other motorized snow contrivance outside an area bordered by McGinnis Road to the north, Wildwood Road to the east and Dixie Highway to the south, without written permission from an authorized representative of the Department.

# 5.16A ENTRY, USE, AND OCCUPANCY OF CERTAIN STATE PARKS, RECREATION AREAS AND SCENIC SITES, PROHIBITED CONDUCT.

Order 5.16a (1) A person shall not do any of the following:

- (a) Enter any of the following state-owned lands with a motor vehicle unless a valid Michigan Recreation Passport has been purchased and affixed to the vehicle:
- (34) HSRA, all recreation area land in sections 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32, and 33 TSN, R8E north and east of highway M-54 (Dixie Highway), west of Wildwood Road and south of Grange Hall Road. Recreation area land in sections 13, 14, 23, 24, 25 (remote control aircraft flying field only) and 26 (north of Grange Hall Road only), T5N, R7E west of I-75, Oakland County.

### LOCAL WATERCRAFT CONTROL

### SPECIAL LOCAL WATERCRAFT CONTROLS - OAKLAND COUNTY

HERON LAKE - WC-63-86-008 - OPERATION OF A VESSEL POWERED BY MOTOR.

On the waters of Heron lake, sections 28 and 29, T5N, R8E, Groveland Township, Oakland County, it is unlawful to operate a vessel powered by a motor except an electric motor. History: Effective June 20, 1986.

### 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. Hunting and trapping regulations including methods of take, bag limits, license quotas, and season dates are established by the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) and are described in the Wildlife Conservation Orders.

### 7.64 HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA, UNLAWFUL ACTS, EXCEPTIONS; POSTING REQUIRED.

Sec. 7.64 (1) A person shall not take any waterfowl from September 1 to Labor Day on all those state owned lands bounded on the north and west by Grange hall road, on the east by Wildwood road, and on the south and west by Dixie highway.

(2) Signs containing the hunting closure shall be posted in such a manner and at such locations as will provide reasonable notice of the closure to the public. History: Amendment 2, 2016, Effective April 15, 2016.

### 14.3 DOG TRAINING, SEASONS, EXCEPTIONS.

Sec. 14.3. (1) Dogs may only be trained on game which can be lawfully hunted with dogs as defined in section 6.2 during the period of July 8 of one year to April 15 of the following year, except as provided in subsections (2) and (3), sections 14.4 and 15.2, or as otherwise permitted by law.

- (3) Game which can be lawfully hunted with dogs may be chased throughout the year on state-owned lands within the following portions of the designated field dog trial areas:
- (b) All those portions of the Highland Recreation Area, Holly State Recreation Area, Lapeer State Game Area, and Sharonville State Game Area designated as field dog trial areas in section 15.2.

### 15.2 FIELD DOG TRIAL. DEFINED: DESIGNATED FIELD DOG TRIAL AREAS ESTABLISHED.

Sec. 15.2 (1) For the purposes of this chapter, "field dog trial" means a trial or meet, advertised as such and open to entry by persons whose dogs qualify, in which not less than 4 participants, with dogs, under control, are permitted to dog train in competition or contest. This definition does not apply to an individual cast within a field dog trial. There may be fewer than 4 participants with dogs in an individual cast. Dogs in a field dog trial are awarded points, trophies, or other actual honors for their performance and demonstration of hunting skills. A person or a group of persons dog training their dogs in competition but not under permit by the department are not participating in a field dog trial.

- (2) Designated field dog trial areas are established on state-owned lands within the following described areas:
- (b) Section 23 east of Jossman Road, T5N R8E, Oakland County, within the Holly State Recreation Area.

### STATE LAND RULES

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

### GAME MANAGEMENT AREA DEDICATION

The following motion by the Conservation Commission dedicated a game management area in a portion of Holly State Recreation Area. This was in response to competition between recreationalist and hunters and potentially incompatible uses at the Recreation Area.

### **NOVEMBER 8, 1963**

The Department has studied this problem and the Game Division and the Parks and Recreation Division now bring before the Commission a proposal which has the unanimous support of the Department agencies involved. This proposal would be as follows:

1. Within the Holly State Recreation Area dedicate to game management those state-owned lands and those to be acquired within the following-described area:

S½ Sec. 5 except NW¼ SW¼; all that part of Sec. 7 lying E'ly of old US-10; entire Sec. 8; W½ NW¼ and S½ Sec. 9; S½ Sec. 10; S½ Sec. 11; SW¼ Sec. 12;' NW¼, W½ SW¼, and E½ SW¼ N'ly of Grange Hall Road, Sec. 13; entire Sec. 14, 15, 16, and 17; Sec. 18 E of old US-10; entire Sec. 22 and 23; N 100 acres of W½ NW¼ Sec. 24: all in T 5 N, R 8 E

In this area game would have first-priority and developments and uses of the area would be determined by the Game Division, with the exceptions spelled out below. No intensive recreational developments or uses would be constructed or encouraged in this area. Such overlapping things as foot trails and bridle paths will be put in game areas at the discretion of the Game Division.

2. Similarly, all state lands and those to be acquired be dedicated to park and recreation use within the following-described area:

That part of Sec. 12 S'ly of Lahring Road: entire Sec. 13; entire Sec. 14 S of Lahrlng Road; Sec. 22 E of Fagan Road; entire Sec. 23 and 24; entire Sec. 25 except that part S'ly of Rood Road; that part Sec. 26 N'ly of Rood Road, also E½ SE¼ S'ly of Rood Road, except 15 acres in SW corner; that part of Sec. 36 N'ly of Rood Road; all in T 5 N, R 7 E.

- 3. Dedicate the balance of the area to recreational uses with game management as a secondary use.
- 4. Reaffirm that these dedications are dedications of interest and areas of influence within the Holly State Recreation Area, still to be administered by the Parks and Recreation Division.

H. D. RUHL Game Division ARTHUR C. ELMER Parks and Recreation Division

# A.7 Landscape Context And Natural Resources

### **Regional Landscape**

The following information was obtained from the Regional Landscape Ecosystems of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin prepared by Dennis Albert in 1995. Holly State Recreation Area is located in the northern portion of ecoregion subsubsection VI.1.3, Jackson Interlobate. The sub-section is the northern portion of an interlobate area between three glacial lobes, which formed approximately 13,000 to 16,000 years ago. The interlobate is more than 150 miles long. This subsubsection consists of most of the northeastern two-thirds of the interlobate, which is characterized by relatively steep end-moraine ridges surrounded by pitted outwash deposits; kettle lakes and wetlands are common within the outwash. The landscape within the park ranges from 915 feet to over 1,000 feet in elevation.

### **Geology and Minerals**

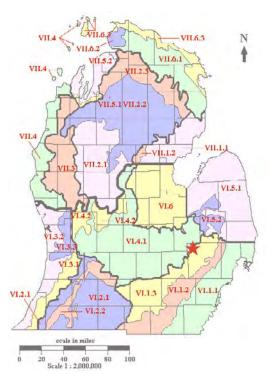
HSRA and the surrounding area is covered by 100 to 300 feet (on average) of glacial drift consisting of moraines of medium-to coarse-textured till as well as outwash channels. The park contains numerous steep ridges, kettle lakes, and wetlands.

The coarser sediments are frequently quarried in the region for sand and gravel, primarily for use in road construction. Numerous sand and gravel pits are located in the vicinity including three active operations that border the park. There appears to be good potential for additional sand and gravel resources within the park. Bedrock underlying the glacial drift in the park consists of the Mississippian age Coldwater Shale and Marshall Sandstone. The Marshall Sandstone has been commercially quarried in other parts of the state but is too deeply buried here to have any significant economic value.

There has been little oil and gas exploration in this area and no production within six miles of the park. There has been recent mineral leasing activity in and around the park, but no wells have been drilled and all of the leases in the area expired in 2013. The majority of the land within HSRA is currently classified as "leasable non-development," indicating that construction of drill sites on the surface will not be allowed. The state owns the mineral rights to the majority of the land within the park and the DNR has leasing authority over that acreage.

### **Land Cover**

The General Land Office mapping of the 1800s indicates that the land cover within the recreation area consisted mainly of oak forests and oak barrens on the uplands, with wet prairie and swamps in the lowlands. While many areas of wetland



Source: Albert, Dennis A. 1995. Regional landscape ecosystems of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin: a working map and classification.

remain intact today, agriculture resulted in the loss of much of the mature forest. Consequently the oak-hickory forests within the recreation area are relatively young second growth. Currently, land cover within the park consists of large areas of deciduous forest, with some open prairies and wetlands in the low-lying areas. The area surrounding the park is a mixture of woodlands, wetlands, pasture, and developed area.<sup>1</sup>

### Soils

The soils of the moraines are typically well and excessively well drained. Drainage conditions on the outwash are more variable, ranging from excessively well drained to very poorly drained. Thick outwash deposits are usually characterized by excessively well drained conditions. Shallow outwash deposits are underlain in some places by bedrock or fine-textured till and lacustrine deposits, causing poor or very poor drainage conditions. On ice-contact topography, soils are typically excessively drained on the upland kames and eskers and poorly or very poorly drained in the kettles and outwash channels. Where the topography is steep, organic soils can be 10 to 15 feet deep in narrow outwash channels.

Soils within HSRA range from fine sand and gravelly sandy loam to muck and silty clay loam in the low lying areas.

1 Source: Michigan Natural Features Inventory 2001 report for Holly State Recreation Area

### **Water Resources**

Many kettle lakes and ponds on the pitted outwash, end moraines, and ice-contact topography can be found in the area. The recreation area contains many lakes, including McGinnis, Heron, Valley, and Wildwood Lakes in the southeast and Crystal, Minnie, and Crotched Lakes in the west. Extensive wetlands surround many of the lakes and occupy entire ice-block depressions. Several small creeks are also found in the recreation area.

Seven dams currently exist within Holly State Recreation Area. Seven are active dams that are regulated under Part 315, Dam Safety of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA).

Dams are rated by Hazard Potential, which classifies the impacts if the dam were to fail, such as the potential for loss of life, property damage, and environmental damage in the area downstream if the dam or operating equipment were to fail. The classifications used in Holly State Recreation Area include:

- Low hazard potential dam: a dam located in an area
  where failure may cause damage limited to agriculture,
  uninhabited buildings, structures, or township or county
  roads, where environmental degradation would be
  minimal, and where danger to individuals is slight or
  nonexistent.
- High hazard potential dam: a dam located in an area
  where a failure may cause serious damage to inhabited
  homes, agricultural buildings, campgrounds, recreational
  facilities, industrial or commercial buildings, public utilities,
  main highways, or class I carrier railroads, or where
  environmental degradation would be significant, or where
  danger to individuals exists with the potential for loss of
  life.

### Flora and Fauna

Two of the eight rare animals listed in the adjacent table are federally-protected under the US Endangered Species Act, and three are protected by the state endangered species statute. Eastern massasauga rattlesnake is managed under the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA), an agreement signed by Michigan DNR and the US Fish & Wildlife Service in 2016. This agreement dedicates specific "managed habitat" areas at Holly State Recreation Area with associated management requirements that DNR must follow. In exchange for following these requirements in managed habitat, incidental (accidental) take of eastern massasauga is allowed in many circumstances without being in violation of the US Endangered Species Act. Poweshiek skipperling, the other federal listed species at Holly, is a rare butterfly that occurs in two of the prairie fens at the recreation area. Federal "critical habitat" has been designated for this species at both of these sites.

Both of the rare plants in the adjacent table occur in the prairie fen wetlands at Holly State Recreation Area.

DAMS IN HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA			
DAM NAME	HAZARD TYPE	AUTHORITY	OWNER
Wildwood Lake Dam	High	Part 315 / MOU	DNR PRD
Heron Dam	High	Part 315 / MOU	DNR PRD
McGinnis Lake Dam	Low	Part 315 / MOU	DNR PRD
Waterfowler's Impoundment Dam	Low	Part 315 / MOU	DNR WLD
Thread Creek Impoundment Dam	Low	Part 315 / MOU	DNR WLD
Hartman & Tyner Mitigation Pond 1	Low	Part 315 / MOU	DNR WLD
Hartman & Tyner Mitigation Pond 2	Low	Part 315 / MOU	DNR WLD

The following tables indicate rare, threatened and endangered species that may be present at HSRA as identified by the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI)

FAUNA			
Rare animals present at Holly State Recreation Area			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS
Oarisma poweshiek	Poweshiek skipperling	Threatened	Endangered
Sistrurus catenatus catenatus	Eastern massasauga	Special Concern	Threatened
Flexamia huroni	Huron River leafhopper	Threatened	
Clemmys guttata	Spotted turtle	Threatened	
Prosapia ignipectus	Red-legged spittlebug	Special Concern	
Calephelis mutica	Swamp metalmark	Special Concern	
Emydoidea blandingii	Blanding's turtle	Special Concern	
Wilsonia citrina	Hooded warbler	Special Concern	

FLORA			
Rare Plants present at Holly State Recreation Area			
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STATE STATUS	FEDERAL STATUS
Cypripedium candidum	Small white lady's-slipper	Threatened	
Muhlenbergia richardsonis	Mat muhly	Threatened	

### **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 Holly State Recreation Area:

- Dry-mesic southern forest (oak-hickory)
- Rich tamarack swamp
- Emergent marsh
- Southern hardwood swamp
- Inundated shrub swamp
- Southern shrub-carr
- Oak barrens
- Southern wet meadow
- Prairie fen
- Submergent marsh
- Mesic southern forest (beech-maple)

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

Of the above natural communities, the highest quality and most important from a regional and statewide perspective are the prairie fens, dry-mesic southern forest, and southern hardwood swamp. Holly State Recreation Area contains five exemplary prairie fens, one exemplary dry-mesic southern forest, and one exemplary southern hardwood swamp. These exemplary communities are tracked by MNFI and are among the best of their kind in the state.

"Prairie fen is a wetland community dominated by sedges, grasses, and other graminoids that occurs on moderately alkaline organic soil and marl south of the climatic tension zone in southern Lower Michigan. Prairie fens occur where cold, calcareous, groundwater-fed springs reach the surface." (MNFI) Three of the five prairie fens at Holly support the only two rare plants described in the previous section. Two of those fens also support the state threatened insects. All of the fens likely support eastern massasauga rattlesnake.

"Dry-mesic southern forest is a fire-dependent, oak or oakhickory forest type on generally dry-mesic sites found south of the climatic tension zone in southern Lower Michigan." (MNFI) The exemplary quality dry-mesic southern forest at Holly is in the Holdridge Lakes area. This forest type also supports the hooded warbler populations at Holly and other forestdependent plants and animals.

"Southern hardwood swamp is a minerotrophic forested wetland occurring in southern Lower Michigan on mineral or occasionally organic soils dominated by a mixture of lowland hardwoods... The canopy is typically dominated by silver maple, red maple, green ash, and black ash." (MNFI) The exemplary quality hardwood swamp at Holly is in the Holdridge Lakes area.

### A.8 Recreational Resources

### **Boating**

The park maintains boat launches on Heron, Valley, and Crotched lakes. Heron Lake has an electric motors only restriction (see A.6 for document). Gas motors are allowed at Wildwood and Valley Lakes, but a NO WAKE restriction applies throughout both lakes, which are connected by a navigable channel. Kayaks, canoes, and stand-up paddle boards are available for rental seasonally at Heron Lake between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

### **Disc Golf**

Holly Woods Disc Golf Course offers 9, 18, and 24 hole routes and has a variety of challenges for all skill levels, from beginner to enthusiast. The Flint Town Flyerz and Black Ace disc golf clubs sponsor league play nights and a number of tournaments including Professional Disc Golf Association sanctioned tournaments.

### Hunting

Most areas of the park are open to hunting. Species include deer, turkey, waterfowl, rabbit, pheasant, quail, fox, raccoon, coyote, ruffed grouse, and squirrel. Several thousand acres within the recreation area are maintained by the DNR Wildlife Division for wildlife habitat development and restoration.



### **Fishing**

Fishing piers are available on Valley and Heron Lakes. Shore fishing is available on Heron, Valley, and Wildwood Lakes. HSRA also has a "Hook, Line and Sinker" fishing program, teaching fishing basics like knot-tying, setting up your pole, casting, selecting and using bait, and removing fish from the hook. Common fish caught include largemouth bass and panfish.

### **Swimming**

Heron Lake provides 800 feet of sandy beach for park visitors to swim and enjoy. There is a beach house providing facilities for users of the beach area. An Aqua Park, an inflatable water park, is anchored in Heron Lake during the summer months and provides a fun water play experience for an entry fee. The Aqua Park is currently operated under a lease agreement, beginning in 2016 and up for renewal at the end of 2017.

### **Picnicking**

There are three shelters available for rent or use on a first-come-first-serve basis: the Overlook, Oak Flats, and Sunset Ridge. The Overlook picnic area provides multiple picnic tables and grills, a volleyball net, campfire ring, views of the Wildwood Lake area, and access to the Lakeshore and Wilderness Trails. The Oak Flats shelter, located in a private woodland setting, offers picnic tables, grills, a volleyball net, basketball hoop, and access to the Lakeshore Trail. Sunset Ridge provides a group grill, swings, a volleyball net, horseshoe pits, and picnic tables, and is in close proximity to the Holly Woods Disc Golf course.

### **Trails**

Holly State Recreation Area contains approximately 34 miles of trails throughout the park. The primary use of these trails is hiking, although skiing is welcome in the winter months. Approximately 6.5 miles of ungroomed trails are located in the central portion of the recreation area for cross-country skiing. There is also an extensive Mountain Bike trail system.

- Holdridge Lakes Mountain Bike Trails: 23.40 (miles)
  - o Mountain Biking, Hiking,
- Lakeshore Trail: 2.40 (miles)
  - o Hiking
- McGinnis Lake Nature Trail: 0.25 (miles)
  - o Hiking
- Whispering Pines Nature Trail: 1.00 (miles)
  - o Hiking
- Holly-Wilderness Trail: 6.40 (miles)
  - O Hiking, Mountain Biking, Cross Country Ski

### **Mountain Biking**

There are more than 23 miles of mountain bike trails creating five loops located in the Holdridge Lakes area. Trail and terrain difficulty ranges from easy to advanced. This trail system was designed, built, and is maintained by the Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association (CRAMBA), a chapter of the International Mountain Bicycling Association. An additional six miles of mountain biking trails are now available on the Wilderness Trail, surrounding the McGinnis Lake Campground. Mountain biking is prohibited on the Lakeshore Trail.

### **Snowmobiling**

Snowmobiling is only allowed in the area bordered by McGinnis Road to the north, Wildwood Road to the east, and Dixie Highway to the south.

### **Metal Detecting**

Metal detecting is recognized as a legitimate recreation activity when it is conducted in ways that do not damage the natural and cultural resources in Michigan State Parks nor violate applicable state statutes. The map on the following page shows where this activity may take place. Any items found must be reviewed by park staff and may be retained for further investigation.

### **Radio Controlled Flying Field**

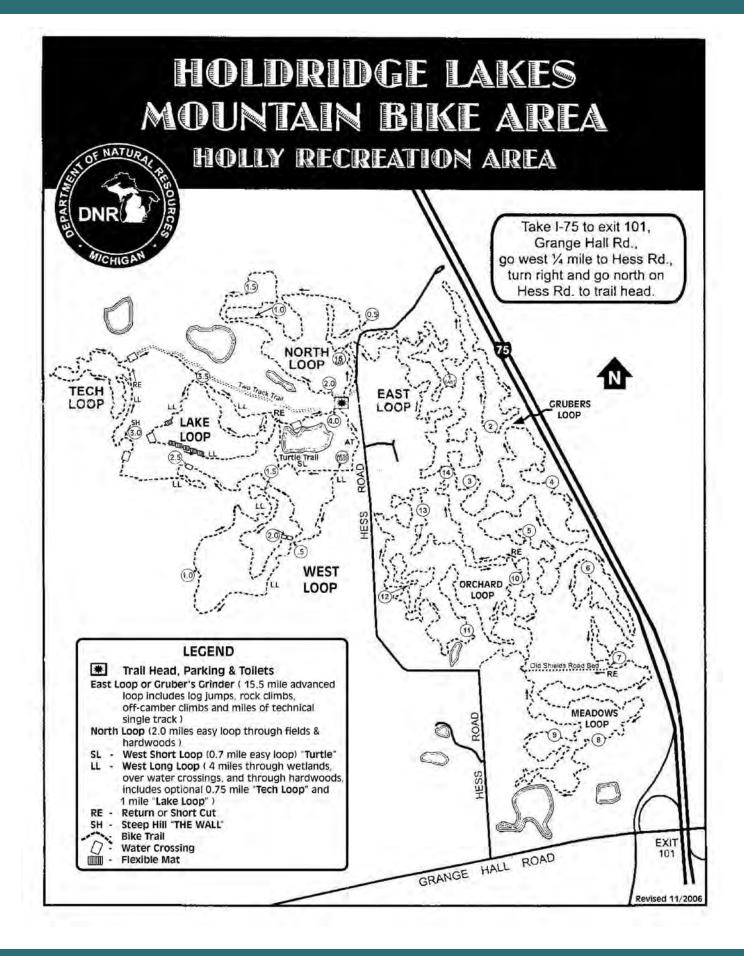
The Radio Controlled (RC) Flying Field is located on Mackey Road, 1/4 mile south of Grange Hall Road. This field is leased for use by the local RC flying club, Holly Cloud Hoppers.

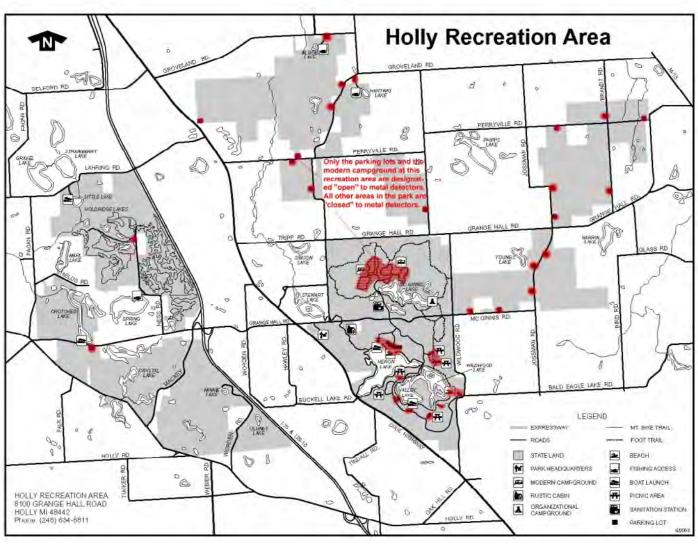
### **Camping**

McGinnis Lake Campground is made up of five loops: Maple, Oak, Trillium, Hickory, and Aspen. McGinnis Lake Modern has 144 modern sites, five with 50 amp and 139 with 20/30 amp electrical service. The Aspen Semi-Modern Campground offers 15 sites without electricity. Elm and Cedar mini-cabins are available for rent in the McGinnis Lake Campground. The cabins sleep four and offer electricity, a picnic table, fire ring, grill, mini fridge, and microwave oven. The park also features a group campground available to school, church, or youth groups.

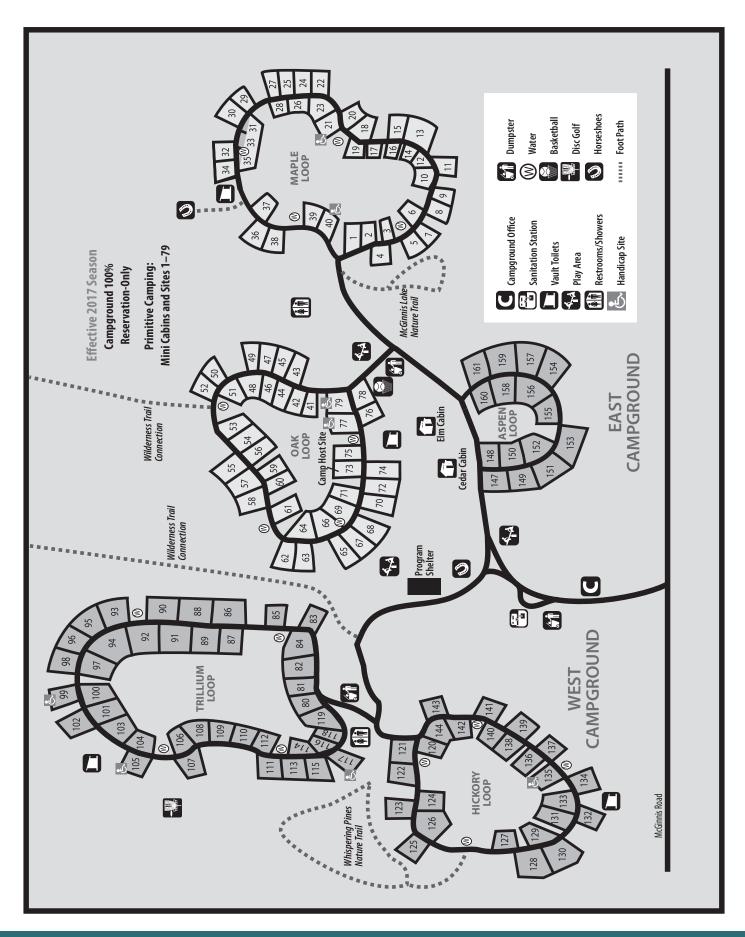
Two family-friendly cabins with modern amenities and access to Wildwood Lake offer two bedrooms, a basic kitchen and living area, and an indoor restroom with shower. These roomier cabins can accommodate five adults in 448-square feet of living space and offer a 32-foot long front porch to maximize views and water access.

The Rolston Cabin is an authentic, rustic cabin constructed in 1938-1939 by William and Francis Rolston and John and Ruth Gaskin. Located in the woods next to a secluded pond, the cabin is semi-rustic; it has electricity, lights, a kitchen with a stove and refrigerator, and table and chairs. The cabin is not currently available for rent due to its condition.





Map of Areas Open to Metal Detecting



### **A.9 Historic And Cultural Resources**

### **Historic Resources**

The Rolston Cabin (pictured below) is an authentic log cabin that was constructed in 1938-39 by William and Francis Rolston and John and Ruth Gaskin. It is one of the few remaining authentic cabins within the state parks of Michigan. Acquired in 1984, The Rolston Cabin is the only building that is an historical resource in the recreation area, and it is considered eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The actual structure contains some of the original materials such as the cedar shingle roof (which is now protected by an asphalt roof) and much of the interior is intact, such as the oak flooring, the fireplace, rafters, and wooden frame windows. Located in the woods next to a secluded pond, the cabin is semi-rustic and is not currently available for visitor use due to its condition.

### **Cultural Resources**

There is evidence of prehistoric sites and Native American activities in and around Holly State Recreation Area. Some of this state land was acquired through several purchases of small parcels of farmland. It is possible that many of these parcels once contained farmhouses, outbuildings and stone walls, the remnants of which may still be evident today.



### **A.10 Programming And Events**

### Michigan State Park Explorer Program

Each summer, State Park Explorer Programs are offered to campers and day visitors at 42 of Michigan's 103 state parks.

Armed with field guides, animal skins, bug boxes, and other hands-on materials, state park explorer guides lead informal programs and hikes that feature each location's unique natural, cultural, and historic resources. Program topics at HSRA include exploring the night sky; fishing tutorials; the Hook, Line, and Sinker program; learning tree species; crafting a bird feeder; raptor watchin; and much more. The programs change with the season, introducing new and interesting topics, and are available Memorial Day through Labor Day.

### **Special Events**

Holly State Recreation Area hosts a variety of different events throughout the year:

- Triathlon / Duathlon
- Disc Golf Tournaments
- MMBA Trail Days, Tuesday Night Rides
- Patriot's Day
- Organized Hiking Events
- Mushroom Hunts
- Model Airplane Open House
- Hollyween Harvest Festival
- Free Fishing Weekends

### A.11 Park Use Statistics

### **Camping and Day Use**

Holly State Recreation Area offers several different types of campsites ranging from rustic sites to modern sites to various cabin styles, with a total of 159 campsites, 5 cabins, and 4 group use campsites. In fiscal year 2016, 14,082 nights of camping were recorded with a total of 71,010 campers staying at the recreation area. Along with the campsite reservations, the cabins also saw significant use with 191 nights for the mini cabins and 357 nights for the deluxe camper cabins. The rustic Rolston cabin was not rented in 2015. The total day use visitors at the RA was estimated to be 502,914.

The park is open year-round to day use visitors, but the campsites are only available from mid-March to late-November; however, the cabins are available for rent throughout the year.

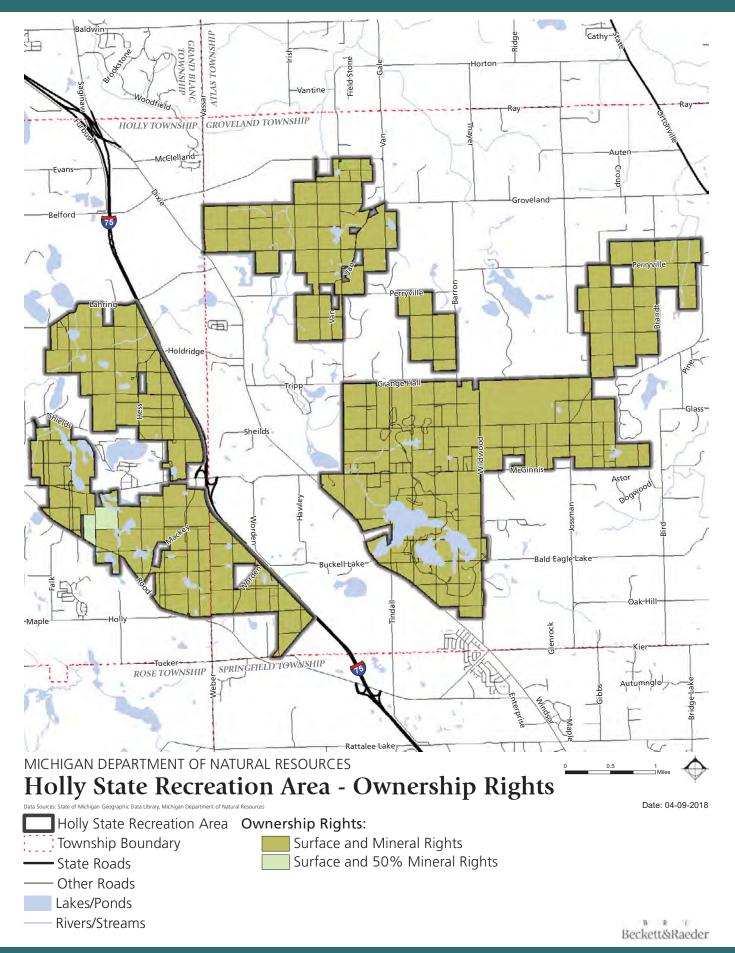


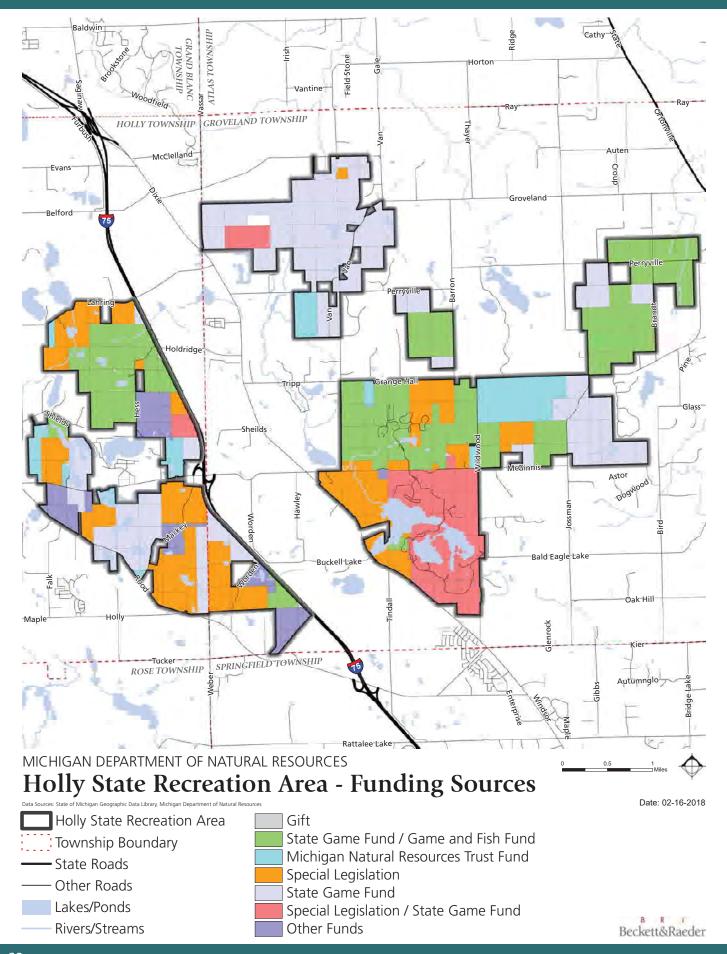


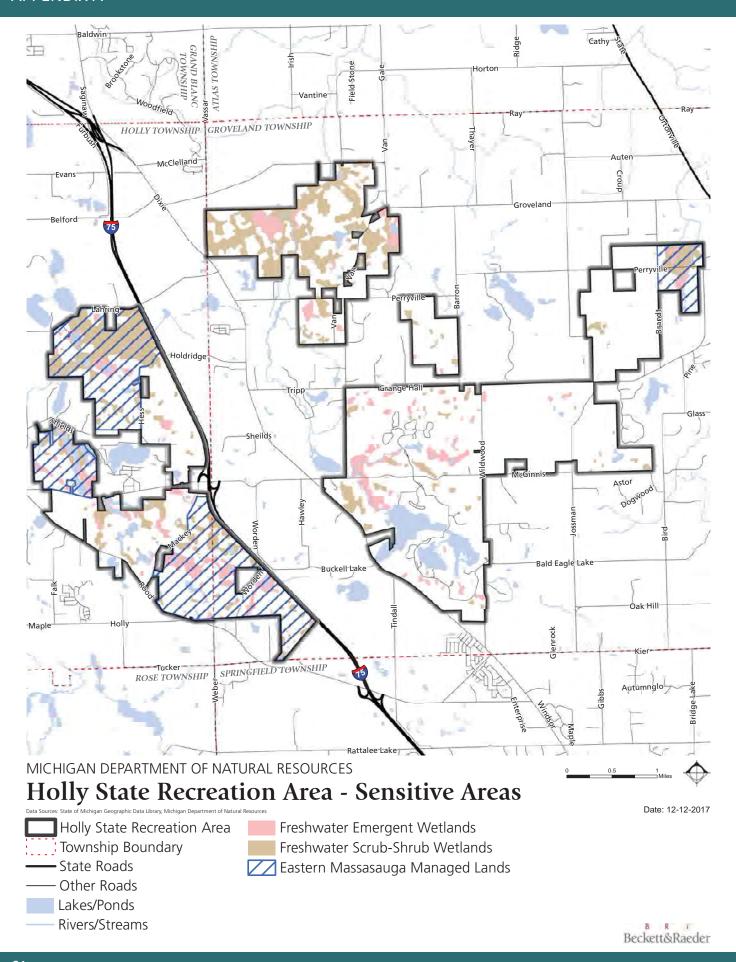
### Top ten cities for camping reservations

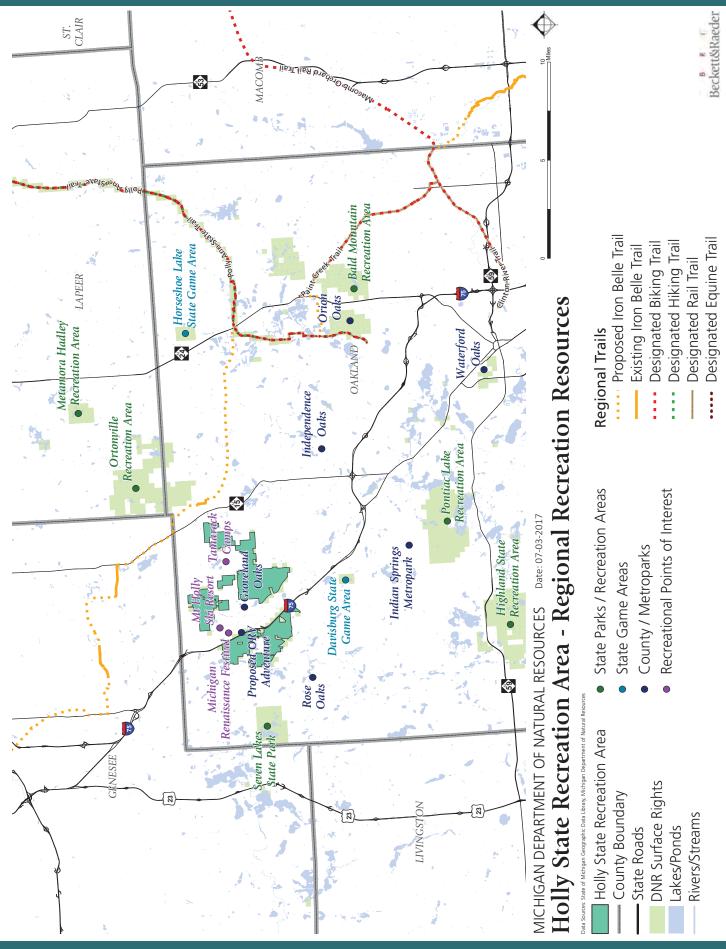
The camping reservations were mostly made by residents of southeast Michigan with Waterford, MI being of the highest reservation rate. The table below shows the city and state of residency for the campers along with the number of reservation and total number of nights from each location.

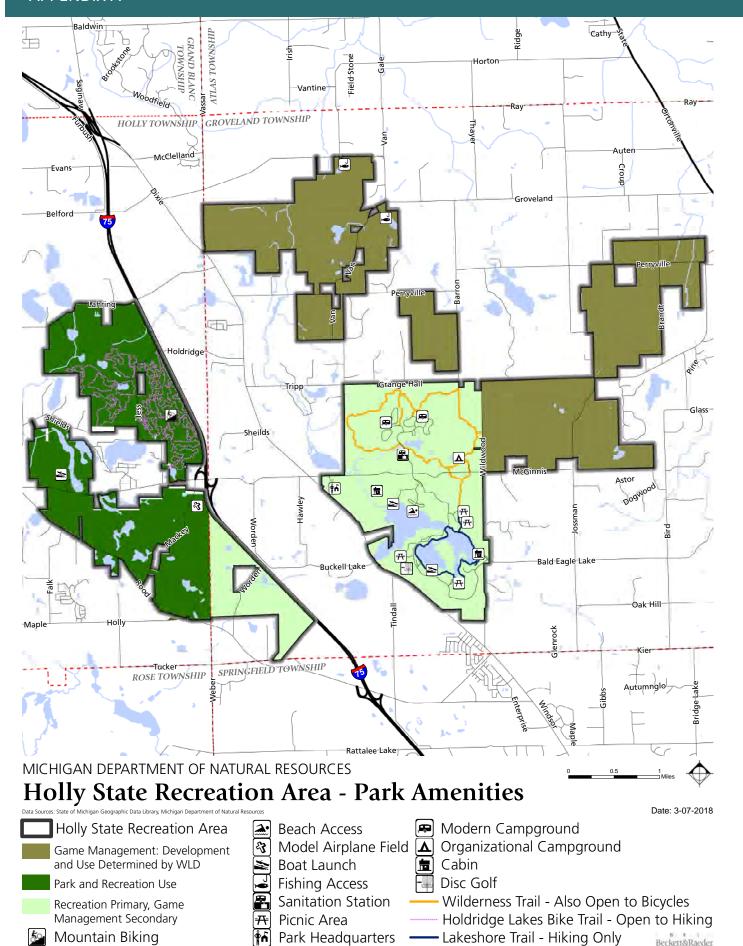
TOP TEN CITIES FOR CAMPING RESERVATIONS			
CITY & STATE	RESERVATIONS	NUMBER OF NIGHTS	
WATERFORD, MI	164	491	
HOLLY, MI	146	387	
FLINT, MI	145	412	
CLARKSTON, MI	137	370	
GRAND BLANC, MI	131	358	
WARREN, MI	131	367	
STERLING HEIGHTS, MI	112	259	
FENTON, MI	107	276	
MACOMB, MI	88	226	
TROY, MI	88	226	



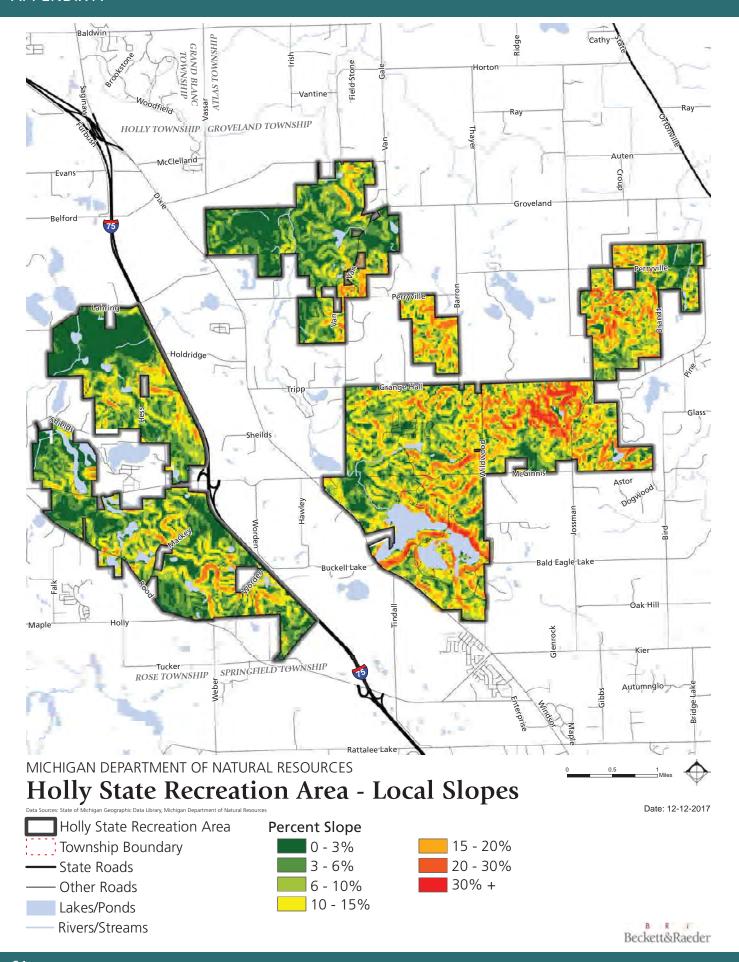


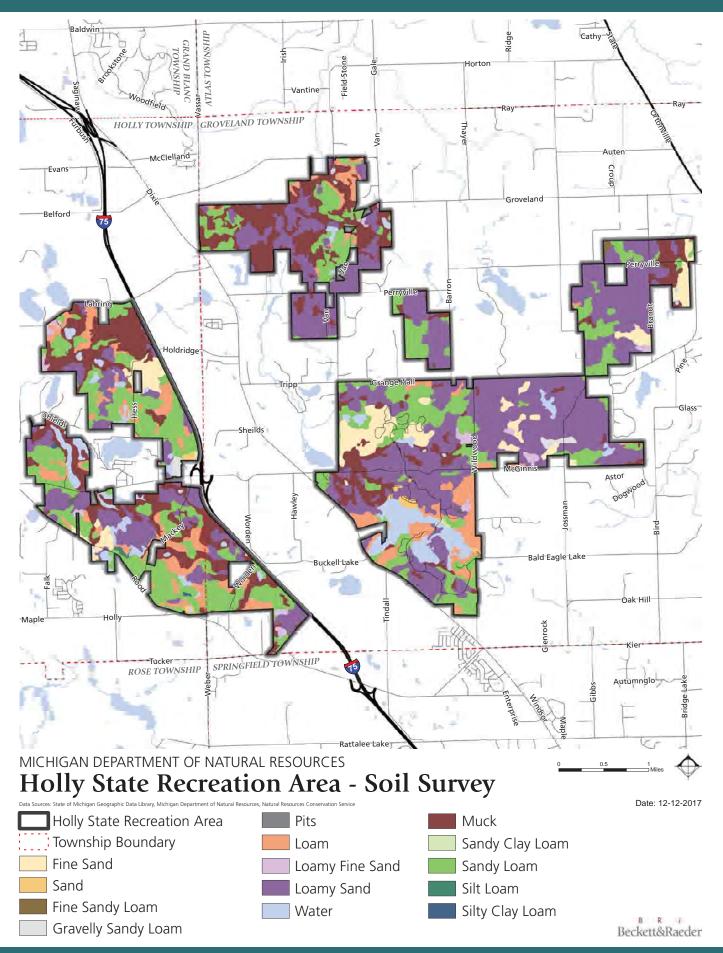


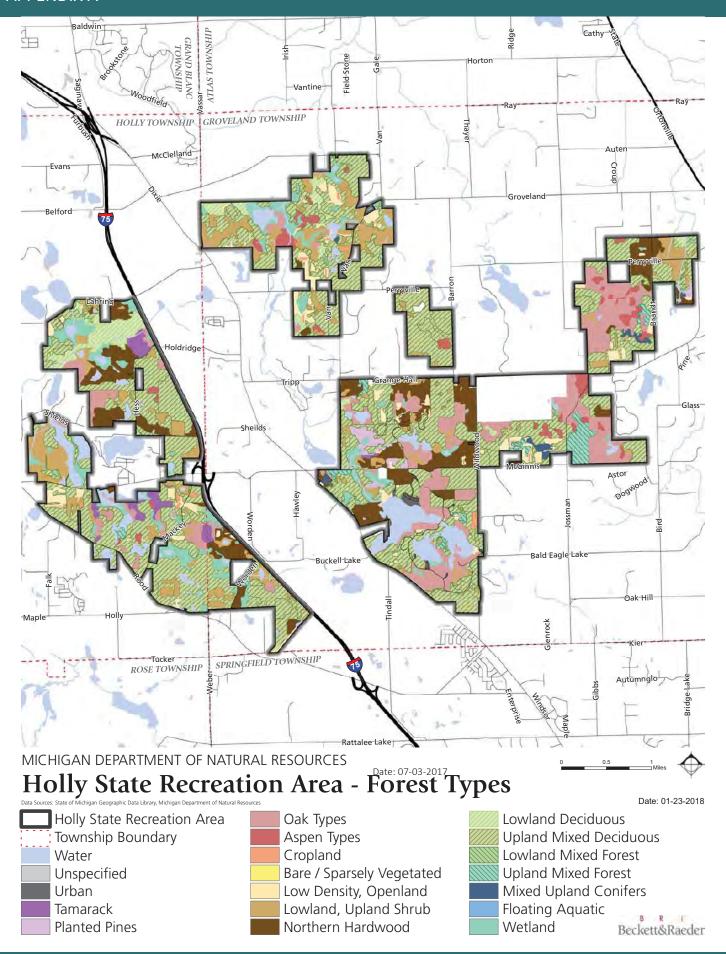


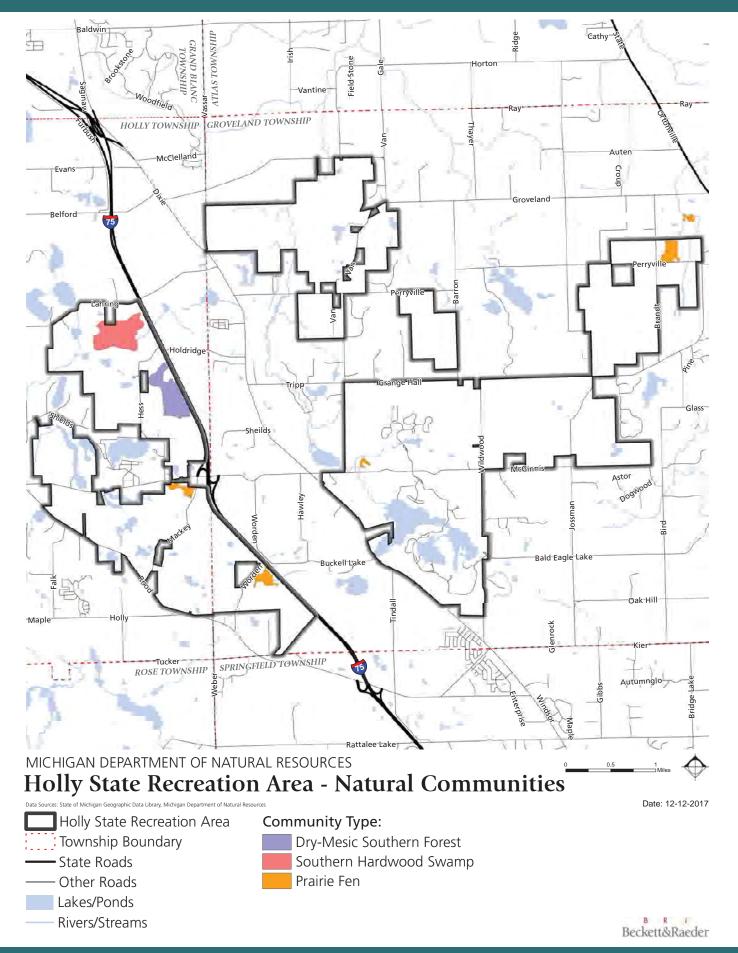


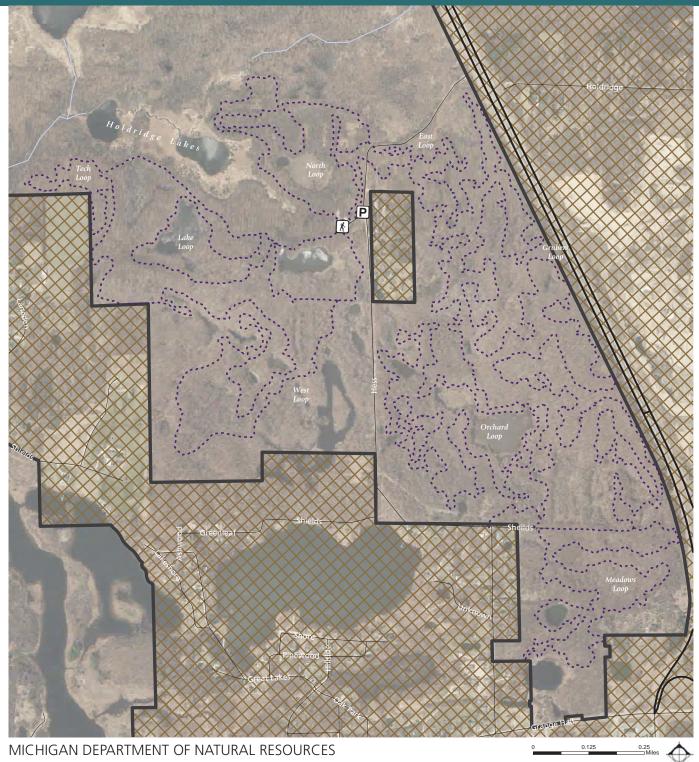
Beckett&Raeder











# Holly State Recreation Area - Holdridge Lakes Mountain Bike Trail Area Date: 10-12-201 Date: 10-12-201

Holly State Recreation Area 🔀 Private Property : Township Boundary Trailhead

State Roads

— Other Roads

Rivers/Streams

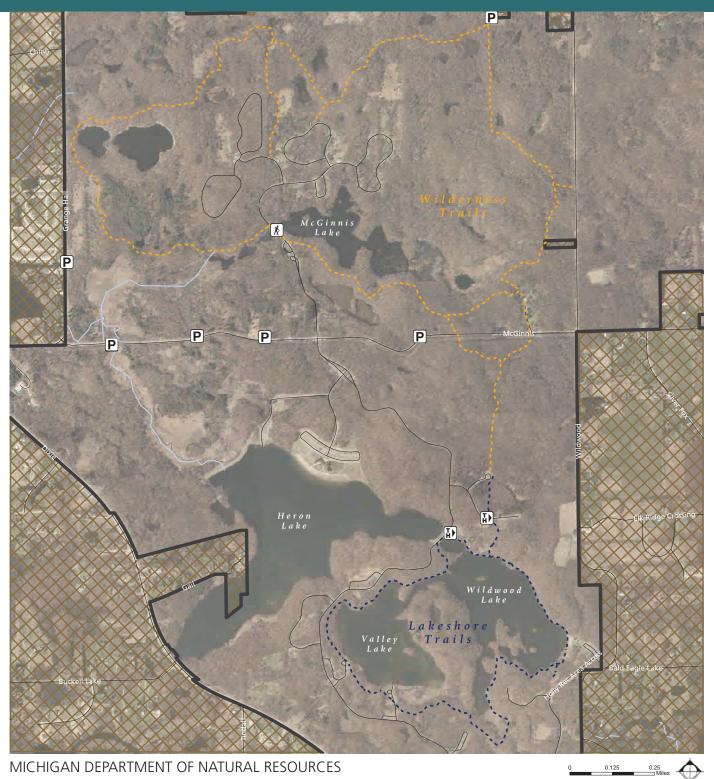
Parking Lots

Trail Type:

----- Holdridge Lakes: Mountain Biking & Hiking



### SUPPORTING ANALYSIS

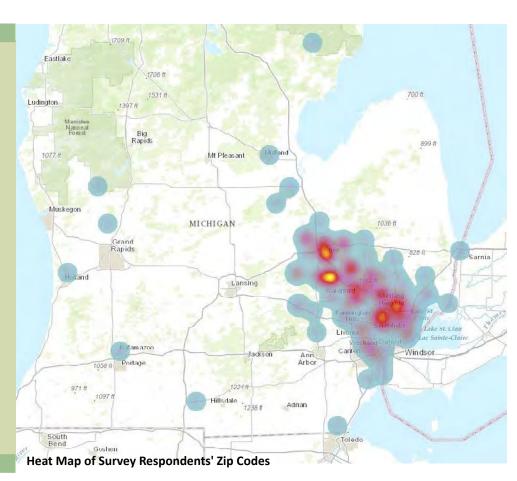


## Holly State Recreation Area - Wilderness and Lakeshore Trails

Date: 10-12-2017 Holly State Recreation Area Private Property Trail Type: Parking Lots Township Boundary ---- Wilderness: Hiking, Skiing, Mountain Biking ----- Lakeshore: Hiking ★ Trailhead - State Roads Trailhead & Parking Lot - Other Roads

Rivers/Streams

An online survey
gathered input from
the public. Two
hundred and fortyeight individuals
responded to
the survey. Most
respondents were
from southeast
Michigan, as can be
seen on the adjacent
map.



# Appendix B:

# Public and Stakeholder Input

### **Project Website**

On the adjacent page is a snapshot of the project website at <a href="https://www.mdnrmanagementplans/holly-recreation-area">www.mdnrmanagementplans/holly-recreation-area</a>. 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.

### **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 press release and an email to previous users of the Holly State Recreation Area (HSRA) overnight accommodations (3,960 recipients) and those signed up to recieve DNR email communications. Due to the survey advertisement to the camping reservation system email list, campers may be disproportionately represented in the responses as compared to day users.

Two hundred and forty-eight individuals responded to the survey, though eight of those were screened from taking the entire survey because they had not visited the park in the last five years. The majority of users were between 40 and 59 years old (53%), and most respondents were from southeast Michigan, as can be seen on the map above.

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

CATEGORY	INPUT RECEIVED
Your Visit	General information about how frequently users visit 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, and what was liked most and least
Fishing	Preferred fishing location and method, targeted fish species, and any other comments about fishing at HSRA
Hunting	Targeted species for trapping and hunting, and any other comments about hunting at HSRA
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 HSRA or the plan process
Tell Us About Yourself	Demographic data

### **Your Visit**

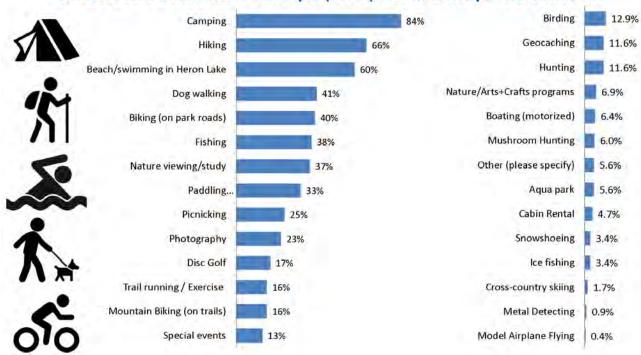
The survey responses indicate that visitors to HSRA tend to most frequently visit the park one to two times per year (43%) or three to five times per year (40%), and another 22% of

visitors come more frequently. This shows that HSRA is a place that people visit several times a year as opposed to being a once-a-year destination. Respondents visit most commonly in the summer months (71%), though the spring and fall months were still popular (49% and 61% respectively). Sixteen percent of respondents reported visiting the park year round.

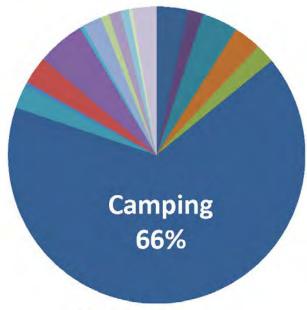
The survey also asked what would encourage users to visit the park more often. The majority of reasons given were related to improvements or changes to the park, such as full RV hookup campsites, improvements to the campsites and campground, hunting and fishing improvements, renovations to the Rolston cabin, or additional trails and trail improvements. Other respondents said simply that they would visit more frequently if they had more time, if more campsites were available, or if the park were closer to home.

The Planning Team was interested in knowing what visitors like to do while at Holly State Recreation Area. The most frequently reported activities were camping, hiking, going to the beach and swimming in Heron Lake, dog walking, and biking on park roads. Although the results of the survey may have been skewed due to a high percentage of responses from the camping reservation system list, the one activity that respondents most commonly said makes them choose to visit HSRA was camping. Sixty-six percent of respondents said this, which was the overwhelming favorite. It's easy to see why this would be a popular response with the variety of lodging options at HSRA.

### What are all the activities in which you participated in at Holly Recreation Area?



# Please check the ONE activity that makes you choose to visit Holly Recreation Area.



5% Hiking

4% Hunting

3% Beach / swimming in Heron Lake

### **Day Use**

A majority of survey respondents reported that the day use facilities meet their needs (61%), and 10% 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 mentioned desired improvements to the restrooms in the park, a desire for an updated playground, more shade and seating needed at the beach, and general maintenance concerns.

When asked about the park's trails, 76% of respondents said that the trails met their needs, and 10% felt that they did not. The reasons given included the maintenance of some trails that were overgrown or too muddy, that wayfinding was difficult, and that there are no equestrian trails. Several respondents wished there were more trails or a wider variety of trails.

### **Overnight Accommodations**

A majority of survey respondents said that they use the overnight accommodations at HSRA (80%). Most of these visitors stay at the park for two to three nights (68%), but another 21% stay four to six nights. When asked what they liked the most about the overnight accommodations at HSRA, respondents frequently mentioned the campground atmosphere and layout. They said it was quiet, secluded, and peaceful, and they loved the large private campsites as well as the woods and rolling hills. Campers love the "up-north" feeling of the campground that can be found so close to



### PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

home. When asked what was liked the least, the responses fell into several categories, listed here in order of comment frequency: restrooms issues, nuisances, campsite issues, campsite availability, lack of modern campsites, and crowding issues. Some of the complaints about the restrooms were that they needed to be improved or maintained, that there were not enough restrooms, that the restrooms were too far away from the campground, and that some were dissatisfied with the newly built restrooms. Some of the nuisances respondents mentioned were noisy campers or dogs, pests such as snakes and mosquitoes, muddy trails, and fast or frequent vehicle traffic. Many of the crowding issues mentioned related to the line at the dump and fill station being long on Sundays when many campers are leaving.

### **Fishing**

Almost half of survey respondents fish at Holly State Recreation Area (45%). Most prefer to fish at Heron Lake, and the most common ways to access the water for fishing were from the shoreline, non-motorized boats, and fishing docks. Most respondents are not fishing for any specific species, although the next most commonly sought after fish group is pan fish. Respondents were asked to provide any comments they have regarding their fishing experience at HSRA. Out of 35 comments, 12 were positive, 5 were neutral, 8 were negative, and 10 suggested improvements. Those that left positive comments mentioned that it was an enjoyable place to fish that was fun for children. Negative comments mentioned that the fish were lacking, that it was hard to fish from the shoreline, or complaints about the agua park. The



most common improvement suggested was to add more fishing docks and accessible fishing spots.

### Hunting

Only 25 respondents (11%) reported hunting at the HSRA. Those that did hunt mainly target small game, deer, and turkey. When asked to provide comments about their hunting experience, the most common comment expressed the desire for additional hunting lands at HSRA.





Words most frequently used to describe the recreation area. More frequently mentioned words appear larger.

#### **Overall Satisfaction**

When visitors think about Holly State Recreation Area, they would describe it as clean, beautiful, wooded, 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 HSRA. On a scale of zero to ten, where zero is least satisfied and ten is most satisfied, the average response was a nine. Only 17% of respondents rated their satisfaction below an eight. The most common explanation given for low ratings mentioned issues with restrooms, such as the restrooms being too far away from the campsites, not enough restrooms, maintenance issues, or a desire for them to be open for longer in the season.

The survey asked what, if any, changes would the respondent make to Holly State Recreation Area. The responses fell into several categories, and the most common suggestions included improvements to the restrooms and showers, improvements to the campgrounds and campsites, more children's areas and activities, improvements to the beach, trail improvements, and hunting and fishing improvements.

To end the survey, respondents were given the chance to leave any other comments about HSRA or the management planning process. Below are two comments that well encapsulate the visitors' sentiments about this park.

#### What, if any, changes would you make to Holly Recreation Area?

- Restrooms / showers
- Campground / campsites
- Administration
- Children's areas and activities
- Beaches
- Trails
- Hunting and fishing



"We really wish more campgrounds / parks would provide the ADA cabins. Tent camping is really no longer an option. But that's why we continue to come back to Holly."

"Keep the mature woods feeling of the park...it is one of the best around. I've been to dozens of parks here in Michigan and for being so close to several large cities, it is well kept and maintained. I say, keep up the good work of making it a destination park. It really is unique. The combination of the lakes where I don't have to dodge people on motor boats or water skis makes it a haven for a paddling experience."





#### **HOLLY RECREATION AREA GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**

## MORE ABOUT THE PARK Holly Recreation Area (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:\* Message:\*



#### About the Park

Holly State Recreation Area's nearly 8,000 acres of rolling woodlands and open fields provides opportunities for a variety of outdoor activities. The recreation area offers camping, swimming, and picnicking as well as fishing, boating, and 34 miles of hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country ski trails. The majority of the recreation area is open to hunting, with approximately one third of the acreage dedicated to game management.

Holly Recreation Area is situated in Groveland and Holly Townships. The nearly 8,000 acres of woodlands and open fields provide opportunities for a range of activities and is situated for a quick getaway to nature for the nearby cities. This is one of several recreation areas in the southeast portion of Michigan providing opportunities for outdoor recreation for the metropolitan areas that surround the region.

#### About the Plan

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) began the process of developing a General Management Plan for Holly Recreation Area in October 2016. 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. The development of a General Management Plan begins with the assembly of a Planning Team representing various specialties within the DNR and incorporates Public Input as a critical component of the planning process.



#### Statewide DNR News

Jan. 12, 2017

Contact: Debbie Jensen, 517-284-6105

## DNR seeks public input on development of Holly Recreation Area general management plan via survey through Feb. 10

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking public input on the development of a general management plan for <u>Holly Recreation Area</u>. The public is invited to share their opinions and ideas for the draft plan – which will help guide the future of the park – through an online survey available through Feb. 10 at <u>www.michigan.gov/holly</u>.

Holly Recreation Area is located in northern Oakland County between Pontiac and Flint. The recreation area's nearly 8,000 acres of rolling woodlands, open fields and wetlands provide opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. Facilities include a modern campground, camper cabins, a swimming beach, the Holly Woods Disc Golf Course and 34 miles of hiking, mountain-biking and cross-country ski trails. Fishing and boating also are available on the many lakes located within the site. Jump Island, Michigan's first inflatable aqua park, provides a unique family experience at Heron Lake beach during the summer months. The majority of the recreation area is open



to hunting, with approximately one-third of the acreage dedicated to game management. It is one of 11 state recreation areas established in southeast Michigan in the 1940s to provide public land close to the population.

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 <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans">www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans</a>.

For more information about the Holly Recreation Area 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 <a href="mailto:jensenD1@michigan.gov">jensenD1@michigan.gov</a>.

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

Holly Recreation Area is located in northern Oakland County between Pontiac and Flint. The recreation area's nearly 8,000 acres of rolling woodlands, open fields and wetlands provide opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities./

HollyRecreationArea.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 <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/dnr">www.michigan.gov/dnr</a>.



MANAGE SUBSCRIPTIONS | UNSUBSCRIBE ALL | CONTACT US | FEEDBACK | HELP



Holly Recreation Area - General Management Plan	
Your Visit	
* 1. Have you visited Holly Recreation Area in the last five years?  Yes  No  If you answered "No", what would make you visit the park more often?	
* 2. How many times per year do you visit Holly Recreation Area?  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.	

Beach/swimming in Heron Lake	Camping	Nature viewing/study
Aqua park	Cabin Rental	Picnicking
Boating (motorized)	Metal Detecting	Photography
Paddling (canoeing/kayaking/etc.)	Geocaching	Dog walking
Hunting	Disc Golf	Trail running / Exercise
Fishing	Model Airplane Flying	Snowshoeing
Ice fishing	Hiking	Cross-country skiing
Biking (on park roads)	Birding	Nature/Arts+Crafts programs
Mountain Biking (on trails)	Mushroom Hunting	Special events
Other (please specify)		
	ctivity that makes you cho	ose to visit Holly Recreation Area.
	ctivity that makes you choo	ose to visit Holly Recreation Area.  Nature viewing/study
Please check the ONE ac		
Please check the ONE ac	Camping	Nature viewing/study
Please check the ONE ac Beach/swimming in Heron Lake Aqua park	Camping Cabin Rental	Nature viewing/study Picnicking
Please check the ONE ac  Beach/swimming in Heron Lake  Aqua park  Boating (motorized)	Camping Cabin Rental Metal Detecting	Nature viewing/study Picnicking Photography
Please check the ONE ac  Beach/swimming in Heron Lake  Aqua park  Boating (motorized)  Paddling (canoeing/kayaking/etc.)	Camping Cabin Rental Metal Detecting Geocaching	Nature viewing/study Picnicking Photography Dog walking
Please check the ONE ac  Beach/swimming in Heron Lake  Aqua park  Boating (motorized)  Paddling (canoeing/kayaking/etc.)  Hunting	Camping Cabin Rental Metal Detecting Geocaching Disc Golf	Nature viewing/study Picnicking Photography Dog walking Trail running / Exercise
Please check the ONE ac  Beach/swimming in Heron Lake  Aqua park  Boating (motorized)  Paddling (canoeing/kayaking/etc.)  Hunting  Fishing	Camping Cabin Rental Metal Detecting Geocaching Disc Golf Model Airplane Flying	Nature viewing/study Picnicking Photography Dog walking Trail running / Exercise Snowshoeing
Please check the ONE ac  Beach/swimming in Heron Lake  Aqua park  Boating (motorized)  Paddling (canoeing/kayaking/etc.)  Hunting  Fishing  Ice fishing	Camping Cabin Rental Metal Detecting Geocaching Disc Golf Model Airplane Flying Hiking	Nature viewing/study Picnicking Photography Dog walking Trail running / Exercise Snowshoeing Cross-country skiing

	Do the day use facilities (picnic pavilion, disc golf, grills, beach, playground
eq	uipment, parking, etc) at Holly Recreation Area meet your needs?
	I do not use these facilities.
	Yes
	No (Please Explain)
+ 7	De the twile of Helly Degraphics Area mant very made 0
^ /.	Do the trails at Holly Recreation Area meet your needs?
	I do not use these facilities.
0	Yes
	No (Please explain)
Ov	vernight Accommodations
* 8.	Do you use the overnight accommodations at Holly Recreation Area?
	Yes
	No No
* 9	How many nights do you typically stay?
	) 1 night
	2 - 3 nights
	4 - 6 nights
	7 nights
	more than 7 nights
10	D. What do you like MOST about camping and overnight lodging at Holly Recreation
Aı	rea?

ish	ning		
2.	Do you fish at Holly Recreation Area?		
) '	Yes		
1 (	No		
2 1	What is your preferred fishing location a	t Holly Pocreation Area?	
		it Holly Recleation Alea?	
	Heron Lake		
) '	Valley Lake		
) 1	Wildwood Lake		
) (	Crochet Lake		
).(	Other (please specify)		
4. 1	How do you typically access the water for	or fishing? Check all that apply	
	Shoreline		
	Motorized boat		
_ _ r	Non-motorized boat		
_	Fishing Docks		
] (	Other (please specify)		

Northern Pike	Pan fish (bluegill, sunfish, crappie or perch)
Largemouth bass	No specific species
Other (please specify)	
6. Please provide any comm	ents you may have regarding your fishing experience
t Holly Recreation Area.	
ınting	
Do you have an trop at Hally	A Description Arrows
. Do you hunt or trap at Holly	/ Recreation Area?
Yes	
No	
. What do you hunt or trap?	Check all that apply.
Deer	Beaver
Turkey	Coyote
Small game	Raccoon
Waterfowl	Fox
Muskrat	Grouse
Other (please specify)	
Other (picase specify)	
Other (pieuse speeliy)	
Cancir (piedase specify)	
	nts you may have regarding your hunting experience
	nts you may have regarding your hunting experience

Overall Satisfaction			
	w, please share how sati Area (0 is least satisfied		
0			10
21. Please explain why y	ou gave this rating.		
22. What three words we nas never visited the pa	ould you use to describe	Holly Recreation Area	to someone who
	s would you make to Hol	ly Recreation Area?	
24. Please share any oth	er thoughts you may ha	ve on Holly Recreation	Area and/or the
management planning p		ve on Hony Recreation	. Area and/or the

Tell Us About Yourself	
This section will help the planning team understand who uses	the park.
* 25. What is the ZIP code of your primary residual.	dence?
* 26. What is your age?	
17 or younger	
18-29	
30-39	
40-49	
50-59	
60 or older	
I prefer not to answer.	
* 27. What is your gender?	
Male	
Female	
I prefer not to answer.	

* 28. How much total combined money did all members year?	ers of your HOUSEHOLD earn last
\$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	
29. Optional: If you would like to be kept informed all process and upcoming meetings, please leave your	
Name	
Email Address	
Thank you!	

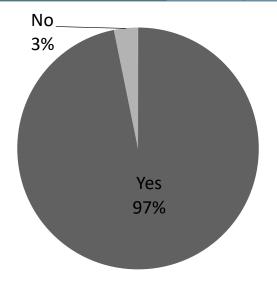
Thank you for participating in the Holly Recreation Area General Management Plan survey! Your input is appreciated. Visit

http://www.mdnrmanagementplans.org/holly-recreation-area/ for more information!

#### **Public Input Survey Results**

#### Q1: HAVE YOU VISITED HOLLY STATE RECRE-ATION AREA IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
YES	96.8%	240
NO	3.2%	8
IF YOU ANSWERED "NO", WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU VISIT THE PARK MORE OFTEN?		9
ANSWERED QUESTION		248
SKIPPED QUESTION		0

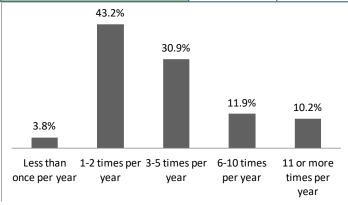


## If you answered "NO", what would make you visit the park more often?

- 1. Horse back riding trails
- 2. Tribal themed programming
- 3. Equestrian friendly
- 4. If horseback riding was reinstated in the rec. area
- 5. We go at least once a year
- 6. Full hookups
- 7. programs such as organized thematic hikes with ecologists or other experts
- 8. ORV use
- 9. Horseback riding trails and camping

## Q2: HOW MANY TIMES PER YEAR DO YOU VISIT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
LESS THAN ONCE PER YEAR	3.8%	9
1-2 TIMES PER YEAR	43.2%	102
3-5 TIMES PER YEAR	30.9%	73
6-10 TIMES PER YEAR	11.9%	28
11 OR MORE TIMES PER YEAR	10.2%	24
WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU VISIT MORE FREQUENTLY?		72
ANSWERED QUESTION		236
SKIPPED QUESTION		12



#### What would make you visit more frequently?

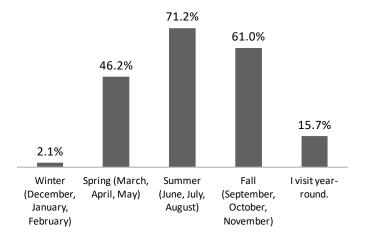
- 1. More events planned
- 2. More overnight lodging options. Fixing the Rolston cabin.
- 3. Re-opening Rolston Cabin
- 4. More time in my year.
- 5. Not as many people visit. Also, better maintenance
- 6. more bath houses
- 7. Money and time off
- 8. A longer summer
- 9. Some backpack-in-sites
- 10. More quality deer.
- 11. Better trail systems and maps of those trails.
- 12. If I lived closer!
- 13. The weather (dont visit as much in winter, though still do). If the camping portion of the park stayed open all year.
- 14. deer food plots
- 15. more challenging bike trails
- 16. More time off work!
- 17. Time.
- 18. If I had more time.

- 19. Proximity but I love it there
- 20. More bathrooms...not out houses
- 21. Non-reservable sites being available
- 22. We wish the park had water and sewer hookups for RV camping.
- 23. Not sure. We have found it to be a great park to stay at while we travel thru and when site seeing in the area.
- 24. just found out about it last yr, hope to visit yearly!
- 25. If the hunting lands were better posted. More detailed map available.
- 26. More available for reservation campsites
- 27. More available sites. Holly fills up quick on weekends
- 28. A little more (long) paths to wild areas, walk-in fishing sites where there might be some less fished lakes.
- 29. Full hookup sites
- 30. Last year was the first time I camped at Holly. I loved it! I plan to camp there at least 5-6 times this year.
- 31. Being able to get a camping reservation easier- they book up too fast
- 32. Holly could use a little more patrolling by rangers particularly during holiday weekends. Sometimes it gets a little rowdy and not family friendly after quiet hours. We have had to go around and ask people to be quiet ourselves.
- 33. Don't visit East side of mi often
- 34. More free time for camping!
- 35. Full hook-up RV sites
- 36. Work schedule being more open!
- 37. Improve sites
- 38. More squirrels (small game hunting)
- 39. Park store, campground events for kids more regularly
- 40. More and easier boat rentals
- 41. More campsites
- 42. If it were closer I'd be there more. I am at Island Lake or Proud Lake about once a week most months. Highland and Bald Mountain less frequently.
- 43. camping site cost
- 44. This past year was our first year visiting Holly State Recreation Area as we just bought a travel trailer. We plan to stay there more this year because we like the area and how wooded the campgrounds are. It gives it a great up north atmosphere without having to travel up north.
- 45. Not sure. We always try to visit new parks. This was a find last year at the end of the year. I think we will go more this year though because it's so close.
- 46. winter facilities
- 47. Open for camping longer, available sites, better management
- 48. Better adaptability to tent camping. The sites need to

- consider this when being updated, campers are NOT the only type of camp media! We struggle to find good locations for sites every time we come here. What the National site do by building level platforms that make it easy to put up a tent needs consideration.
- 49. Nicer bathroom facilities. Nicer beach.
- 50. More beach areas, cabins open during the winter, no jump island
- 51. site availability
- 52. More available sites
- 53. more tails for hiking, better marked mountain bike trails, dog park area for dogs to be off leash, and better dog swim areas
- 54. Beach Development!! We live just a couple miles from Holly. My wife loves the beach. However, we never go to Holly because of the lack of trees. We always opt to go further to Seven Lakes as they have trees which shelters us from the sun. Holly used to have trees, but the emerald ash bore took a toll. There are other trees, such as maples. Please plant more trees on the beach area. Seems very simple. I can help volunteer to plant!!!
- 55. More trails by campgrounds
- 56. More invasive species management along trails, specifically Lakeshore Trail.
- 57. Camping near the lake
- 58. Better weather
- 59. More disc golf
- 60. Large new land acquisitions to provide new trails in unexplored areas
- 61. If it was closer to where I live
- 62. More fishing access from land or knowledge of such locations at the campground
- 63. Horseback riding trails and camping
- 64. this is our favorite place to camp. and its local so it makes it even better- we like the campsites the way they are.
- 65. Improved wildlife habitat and additional acreage for small game hunting. The area seems to be intensely used where I tend to visit.
- 66. visited once in 2014. We have a 40' motorhome that requires 50 amp service. At that time you only had a couple sites that worked. As people upgrade to larger motorhomes and 5th wheels more large sites with 50 amp service will be necessary
- 67. time
- 68. Tree trimming on roadways and campsites to accommodate tall rigs and slideouts.
- 69. better camping facilities
- 70. seasonal site availability. currently do not have a vehicle to pull rv.
- 71. Fixing the Rustic Rolston Cabin. Been going there for years, but it has been closed for about two years. WE LOVED THAT CABIN!
- 72. More Parking Areas for Hunters

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

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
WINTER (DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY)	2.1%	5
SPRING (MARCH, APRIL, MAY)	46.2%	109
SUMMER (JUNE, JULY, AUGUST)	71.2%	168
FALL (SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER)	61.0%	144
I VISIT YEAR-ROUND.	15.7%	37
ANSWERED QUESTION		236
SKIPPED QUESTION		12



# Q4: PLEASE CHECK ALL THE ACTIVITIES IN WHICH YOU PARTICIPATED AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
BEACH/SWIMMING IN HERON LAKE	60.1%	140
AQUA PARK	5.6%	13
BOATING (MOTORIZED)	6.4%	15
PADDLING (CANOEING/ KAYAKING/ETC.)	32.6%	76
HUNTING	11.6%	27
FISHING	38.2%	89
ICE FISHING	3.4%	8
BIKING (ON PARK ROADS)	39.9%	93
MOUNTAIN BIKING (ON TRAILS)	15.5%	36
CAMPING	83.7%	195
CABIN RENTAL	4.7%	11
METAL DETECTING	0.9%	2
GEOCACHING	11.6%	27
DISC GOLF	17.2%	40
MODEL AIRPLANE FLYING	0.4%	1
HIKING	66.1%	154
BIRDING	12.9%	30
MUSHROOM HUNTING	6.0%	14
NATURE VIEWING/STUDY	37.3%	87
PICNICKING	24.5%	57
PHOTOGRAPHY	22.7%	53
DOG WALKING	40.8%	95
TRAIL RUNNING / EXERCISE	15.5%	36
SNOWSHOEING	3.4%	8
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	1.7%	4
NATURE/ARTS+CRAFTS PROGRAMS	6.9%	16
SPECIAL EVENTS	13.3%	31
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	5.6%	13
ANSWERED QUESTION		233
SKIPPED QUESTION		15

#### Other (please specify):

- 1. Halloween camping event
- 2. Holleyween
- 3. Hollyween weekend
- 4. HALLOWEEN CAMPING
- 5. Hollyweekend activities
- 6. running park roads
- 7. Family Reunion

- Halloween weekends
- 9. Foraging for berries.
- 10. Boy Scout events
- 11. Awesome park, just need trees on beach!!!!!
- 12. Play horseshoes
- 13. Stress Relief and fresh air

## Q5: PLEASE CHECK THE ONE ACTIVITY THAT MAKES YOU CHOOSE TO VISIT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA.

ANGWER ORTIONS	DECDONCE	DECDONCE
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
BEACH/SWIMMING IN HERON LAKE	3.4%	8
AQUA PARK	0.0%	0
BOATING (MOTORIZED)	0.0%	0
PADDLING (CANOEING/ KAYAKING/ETC.)	1.7%	4
HUNTING	3.9%	9
FISHING	3.0%	7
ICE FISHING	0.0%	0
BIKING (ON PARK ROADS)	0.0%	0
MOUNTAIN BIKING (ON TRAILS)	2.1%	5
CAMPING	66.1%	154
CABIN RENTAL	2.6%	6
METAL DETECTING	0.0%	0
GEOCACHING	0.4%	1
DISC GOLF	3.0%	7
MODEL AIRPLANE FLYING	0.0%	0
HIKING	5.2%	12
BIRDING	0.4%	1
MUSHROOM HUNTING	0.0%	0
NATURE VIEWING/STUDY	2.1%	5
PICNICKING	0.0%	0
PHOTOGRAPHY	0.9%	2
DOG WALKING	1.3%	3
TRAIL RUNNING / EXERCISE	0.9%	2
SNOWSHOEING	0.0%	0
CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING	0.0%	0
NATURE/ARTS+CRAFTS PROGRAMS	0.0%	0
SPECIAL EVENTS	0.4%	1
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	2.6%	6
ANSWERED QUESTION		233
SKIPPED QUESTION		15

#### Other (please specify):

- 1. group annual camping trip- Trillium loop
- 2. The up north woods feel in a suburban campground

- 3. How heavily wooded some of the campsites are
- 4. Near family
- 5. close to home and in general great park
- 6. Holly Halloween

Q6: DO THE DAY USE FACILITIES (PICNIC PAVILION, DISC GOLF, GRILLS, BEACH, PLAY-GROUND EQUIPMENT, PARKING, ETC) AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA MEET YOUR NEEDS?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
I DO NOT USE THESE FACILITIES.	28.9%	67
YES	61.2%	142
NO (PLEASE EXPLAIN)	9.9%	23
ANSWERED QUESTION		232
SKIPPED QUESTION		16

#### No (please explain):

- 1. Need a bigger pavilion to plan better activities
- 2. More seating and picnic tables needed at the beach area. A longer dock for fishing.
- Very disappointed in the showers, restrooms. Shower heads shoot down Clos to the wall. Get out of shower and stand in water. Need drain through mats. Pants get wet
- Restrooms at the beach area are subpar, to quote my wife "gross"
- 5. Although facilities are adequate, and we do use, would like improvement in children's playground at the camp park.
- 6. The beach is developing more and more polution and trash every year. I would like to see what could be done about keeping the water, cleaner.
- 7. More shade is needed
- 8. The campground bathhouses are New, but lighting in the 2016 camping season had issues. Several lights were either dim or not working
- 9. There should be porta potties at the beginning of the golf course
- 10. Undecided
- 11. More updated playgrounds would be really nice
- 12. I'd like to see a bigger playground. More up to date one
- 13. Disc golf disrupts the safety of the day use area because of the FAST traffic. Very dangerous if walking or bike riding.
- 14. Not well maintained, need to be cleaned, closed to often
- 15. not close enough to my house
  - 6. would like better swim area for dogs
- 17. Need more trees on Beach!!

- 18. I wish they could do more about the poison ivy issue in spaces, at the edge of the playground, etc.
- 19. The vault toilets need to be improved. I highly suggest the composting toilets or other environmental friendly option
- 20. Need bigger playground for kids over 6 and better cleaning of beach
- 21. Very nice
- 22. Not enough shade at the beach
- 23. they're fair, old tired

#### Q7: DO THE TRAILS AT HOLLY STATE RECRE-ATION AREA MEET YOUR NEEDS?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
I DO NOT USE THESE FACILITIES.	13.8%	32
YES	76.3%	177
NO (PLEASE EXPLAIN)	9.9%	23
ANSWERED QUESTION		232
SKIPPED QUESTION		16

#### No (please explain):

- 1. Need equine trails!!
- 2. Some popular trails are overgrown or trees cross the trail.
- The trails maps are confusing and need to be addressed.
   The trail markers are also confusing and many are missing along trails.
- 4. Hard time finding off road trails for biking within the park
- 5. They could be more challenging
- 6. Wish the maps and signs were a little better. Telling you how far each trail was. Seems like the last time we were hiking we got turned around.
- 7. I love the trails. I have only one complaint. On the circular trail around Valley & Wildwood lakes, there is one section that is so muddy, and sometimes water even flows through it, that it needs a wooden walkway. There are other sections of the trail that have them, so it's frustrating trying to get around that section.
- 8. I didn't understand very well where the trails went to, or which ones had open wild areas.
- 9. I have not used the trails yet, but i plan on utilizing them this yuear
- 10. Some of the trails need maintenance ie large trees blocking path making passing difficult for many
- 11. Better accessibility would be nice
- 12. Not yet. However, I'm looking forward to it.
- 13. No enough trails for hiking, as often as we visit would like more variety to choose from
- 14. Need more trails.
- 15. The poison ivy is getting pretty out of control making some of the narrower trails impassable.
- 16. They are not well marked

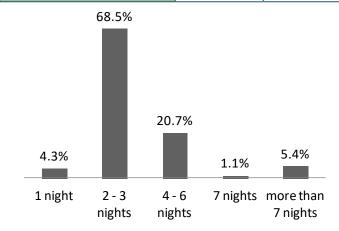
- 17. I need to get the scouts out to help groom them. The trails are very good, but it would be wonderful to have one handicapable trail.
- Need MORE new areas for trails & hunting. Lots of land is still available in the Holly vicinity. PLEASE PURCHASE NEW LAND BEFORE IT'S DEVELOPED AND LOST FOREVER!
- 19. For general hiking they are adequate, but would like to ride my horses.
- 20. It has been several years since my family utilized the hiking trails for a Boy Scout activity, but at that time they were very overgrown and not conducive to introductory hiking.
- 21. I wish there were more. The ones that are available are nice.
- 22. We with there were more.
- 23. The amount of areas set up around the outside of the land for parking is not good enough.

#### Q8: DO YOU USE THE OVERNIGHT ACCOM-MODATIONS AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
YES	80.2%	186
NO	19.8%	46
ANSWERED QUESTION		232
SKIPPED QUESTION		16

## Q9: HOW MANY NIGHTS DO YOU TYPICALLY

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
1 NIGHT	4.3%	8
2 - 3 NIGHTS	68.5%	126
4 - 6 NIGHTS	20.7%	38
7 NIGHTS	1.1%	2
MORE THAN 7 NIGHTS	5.4%	10
ANSWERED QUESTION		184
SKIPPED QUESTION		64



## Q10: WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT CAMPING AND OVERNIGHT LODGING AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	167
SKIPPED QUESTION	81

- 1. The many trees and lot sizes. However the ranger came by EARLY and told my teenage kids and their friends to keep quiet and they were NOT loud as I was in a tent next to them. For this reason they do not want to go back there. It really put a damper on their fun evening! We camp there and enjoy the MANY quality activities across the street from Holly Rec Area at Groveland Oaks County Park. My teenage kids go there many times during the Summer.
- 2. The wooded lots. The sites are not one on top of the other.
- 3. The Rolston cabin is by far the best cabin I've stayed at within the michigan parks system. The new set modern cabins are beautiful, but aren't as unique as Rolston. The sense of history you feel at Rolston can't be matched.
- 4. Comfortable, clean, campgrounds are relaxed, the large-group sites are amazing, the modern cabins are amazing-- just wish Rolston was back!
- 5. The biking trails, fishing, and Mrs. Jan that works at the contact station.
- 6. nice natural setting, woods and hills
- 7. Large secluded sites
- 8. well kept, somewhat dispersed sites. alot of acerage.
- 9. quiet and scenic
- 10. Its very wooded and has an "up north" feel. Campsites are spacious and mor private for that reason... very nicely unique!
- 11. I LIKE THE TREES, IT'S SHADY, SOME PRIVACY. I LIKE THE NATURE TRAILS AND BIKE PATHS.
- 12. Large private sites
- 13. The seclusion of most of the campsites
- 14. Private camp sites and the deluxe camping cabins have great amenities.
- 15. Convenient, clean, and close to home.
- 16. The park is clean and close to home. Has an up north feel without the long drive.
- 17. Very quiet-far from busy roads
- 18. it is always very peacefull there
- 19. Secluded sights
- 20. Rustic/private sites
- 21. close to home
- 22. The spacious sites, the heavy woods, the trails and the new paved spaces!!
- 23. Most sites are spacious and private. It provides a

- (semi) rustic experience with good hiking, aquatic and mountain biking opportunities.
- 24. The park is well maintained & a lot or the sites have private settings
- 25. The prices, clean nice park and the availability of the rustic camping.
- 26. Clean, close to home, trails
- 27. no opinion
- 28. The wooded camping spots.
- 29. Alot more rustic then other campgrounds. The modern bathroom facilities are very convenient.
- 30. Privacy
- 31. it is close to home and the sites are nicely wooded.
- 32. Sites are individually located. Surrounded by nature not other campers.
- 33. We like how it is close to home but with all the trees it feels more like up north.
- 34. Great location.
- 35. The organization camp
- 36. Woods. Privacy
- 37. It's quiet. Close to where I live.
- 38. We loved the rustic sites, they are so roomy and secluded!
- 39. the privacy between most campsites
- 40. secluded camp sites
- 41. We love the sites! The sites are very private with lots of space between each site. The trees are huge and really do make it feel like we are up north.
- 42. Up north feel close to home
- 43. We don't live too far away but it feels like we are up north. Like the feel of the woods- also sites are not too close to each other and have bushes/trees separating them. Never very loud at night either, which is very pleasant.
- 44. Large shaded sites
- 45. Up north ambience, close to home.
- 46. Everything just being there
- 47. I love the campground sections that are very wooded. It almost feels like we're way up north. We also love that there are so many trails, with various terrain.
- 48. The privacy you get from all of the trees
- 49. It is close to home. The sites are more private then at many of the state parks in the system
- 50. Layout of campground. Space between the campsites and lots of trees
- 51. The more private sites
- 52. We camp on the trillium loop. We like the many trees and the feeling of just being in the woods and getting away.
- 53. The entire area is nice for camping, kayaking, and walking.

- 54. location to home and the amenities the park provides
- 55. The privacy of the campsites. They are some of the largest and most wooded-I feel like I'm actually camping and not just in a parking lot for the night like some other state parks.
- 56. The feel of an established, mature woods. It feels like a private experience in a public setting.
- 57. The campsites are amazing because they are spread out throughout the trees and feels private and part of nature.
- 58. Very peaceful, and it's a beautiful park!
- 59. nice camp sites that are mostly wooded with some privacy from the other sites,
- 60. The camp sites are spacious, private, quiet and clean. The staff is very polite.
- 61. It feels like we are up north without the drive I just wish there were more camping spots- especially for bigger rigs- we have a 37 foot fifth wheel
- 62. The talk of Holly is that it is the closest State Park to the city that feels like up north. Big beautiful trees and plenty of trails to hike. We also enjoy mountain biking across 75.
- 63. Private, spaceous campsites
- 64. The relaxed environment .....The sites are also large and private
- 65. How wooded some of the campsites are as well as the space bt. Them
- 66. We love the two cabins at the lake. We go with friends and feel like we have the entire area to ourselves.

  And the cabins are perfect for our disabled son (ADA bathroom)
- 67. tranquility with no micro managing
- 68. the trees
- 69. nice clean campground. Lots of trees.
- 70. It feels like I'm way up north due to the great tree coverage. The sites are a great size and pretty private. The facilities are always very clean and the staff is fabulous.
- 71. Open areas. Quiet and beautiful area.
- 72. I feel like I am up north and not near the city.
- 73. Wooded campsites
- 74. Peaceful
- 75. Peaceful and laid back setting for our youth group.
- 76. Love the wooded sites
- 77. Location
- 78. Close to home without the urban "feeling'
- 79. Halloween Weekends, spacious campsites, beautiful park, and close to home.
- 80. Large sites. And a choice between wooded sites or open sites.
- 81. Big, private lots and not too busy.
- 82. The new cabins are awesome. This might be my last

- year renting. I have gotten a beagle dog in the last year and want to bring him with me on vacations. Dogs not allowed at cabin
- 83. Wooded secluded sites, bathrooms
- 84. The space and privacy at campsites. Plenty of trees and proximity to trails. Easy to camp with friends at adjacent sites.
- 85. The large private campground sites in a woods settingjust beautiful. Makes you feel that you are up north verses driving only 1 to 1.5 hours to the park.
- 86. Love the up north deep in the woods feeling the campsites have LOVE IT
- 87. Clean, quiet, well maintained, well planned.
- 88. The trees. More privacy. Kids activities with nature guide
- 89. Cleanliness, feels like you're up north, Quiet, grassy campsites, Paved camping pads, newer clean restroom facilities, location
- 90. Wooded campsites
- 91. The campsites in the tree canopy Trillium loop.
- 92. Location
- 93. It is close to home. The sites are private.
- 94. The Terrain makes tent camping fun
- 95. woodsy feel
- 96. We enjoy the wooded campsites and the quiet atmosphere. We enjoy outdoor activities such as hiking and kayaking which is great to do at Holly recreation.
- 97. The secluded sites
- 98. closeness to metro Detroit and hiking trails
- 99. nice sites, active hosts, privacy of some sites
- 100. Large sites some secluded, Shade, QUiet park.
- 101. the woods surrounding the campsites
- 102. Best camping in the state.
- 103. How heavily wooded and secluded the sites are.
- 104. Camp sites are nicely wooded and positioned
- 105. Hiking out the back door
- 106. New clean bathrooms/showers
- 107. Campsites are well maintained.
- 108. close to home to get away for the weekend; feel like you are up north
- 109. Sites are wooded
- 110. The separated sites surrounded by trees
- 111. We love camping here because it close to our home. We've been coming here since the 90's with our children and love all the memories that are here. The campground seems like your "up north" but without the drive.
- 112. There are many wooded camp sites that have a private feeling
- 113. it's a nice campground, near the water, and has amenities to make our camping great.

- 114. Quiet location
- 115. The wooded sites that are spread apart.
- 116. Campsite privacy between sites
- 117. The sites are mainly level and are not all right on top of each other. There is typically some woods between you and the guy behind you.
- 118. Woodsy campsites.
- 119. Large private sites
- 120. nice quite park at night, most campers are very friendly
- 121. Secluded sites. One of the best in Michigan. We already have two reservations for 2017.
- 122. Good private campsites
- 123. Nice sites, close to home.
- 124. Close to home. New/Clean bathrooms and showers. State park amenities. Can visit beach during the day.
- 125. wooded camp sites
- 126. The campground loops are very nice and generally secluded.
- 127. Nice sites and feeling like your up north and yet it's close enough to home to camp while we're working.
- 128. The privacy of the campsites.
- 129. Close to home
- 130. The larger spaces.
- 131. The campground is beautifully wooded and the sites are large and private. The trails are great and even our teenagers like the playgrounds with the gaga pit and tether ball.
- 132. the sites are large and there is privacy between most sites
- 133. Trillium Loop is beautiful and Quiet.
- 134. Clean bathrooms and the rustic feel of the Trillium Loop
- 135. Everything. The campsites, the bird song. love it.
- 136. location, setting
- 137. The proximity to our home
- 138. The campgrounds are beautifully maintained and well wooded. The staff are always first rate and take great care of the facilities. It is like camping in Northern Michigan.
- 139. Love the campsites. Not too close together, very nice park.
- 140. Good facilities.
- 141. Proximity to home, wooded sites, quiet campground, nice beach/trails
- 142. Privacy
- 143. close to ren fest
- 144. Trillium loop. Clean and modern washrooms. Sites are spread out
- 145. Basketball courts, playing with the racoons, the nature sounds, the updated bathrooms.
- 146. Nice campsites-large and private.

- 147. Secluded sites
- 148. Very Up-North-like
- 149. Up north feeling close to home
- 150. hollyween weekends
- 151. The trees, the privacy the cleanliness of park
- 152. The heavily wooded campsites and their proximity to the trails. I enjoy the quiet.
- 153. Rustic feel, open spaces, mature trees, spaced out campsites
- 154. The daytime activities and friendly front office.
- 155. It is close, but feels like being far away. It has all the day activities that I like.
- 156. Convenient
- 157. The in-the-woods atmosphere, and the distance between campsites in the Hickory loop campsites.
- 158. The feeling of being "Up North"
- 159. Clean, and Amanda for camper, and close
- 160. It is close to home but feels like we are a long ways away.
- 161. Convenient location
- 162. Very clean, very friendly staff and we thoroughly enjoy the Holly Halloween events.
- 163. Harvest festival
- 164. the beautiful area
- 165. The sites are big, a few are very private, grass is nice. And the fact that it is located in the woods, there are more trees than ASH, which have been cut down in other parks due to the boar, making the parks not as woodsv.
- 166. Up North feeling while being close to home.
- 167. I like the cabin.

## Q11: WHAT DO YOU LIKE LEAST ABOUT CAMPING AND OVERNIGHT LODGING AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA?

	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	153
SKIPPED QUESTION	95

- 1. The ranger coming before quiet time and telling my kids to keep it quiet. No one else was complaining.
- 2. The news showers are not high enough for people over 5'8. It is incredibly hard to use them at 5'10. Most of the campsites are not ideal for tent camping.
- 3. Raccoons in the Hickory Loop. Also gets loud at night sometimes.
- 4. It would be nice if they posted a schedule for restroom cleaning, although this isn't a big deal
- 5. Older bath houses in some areas
- 6. nothing

- 7. lack of bath houses
- 8. Nice park. Like the new roads. About time they were paved.
- 9. THE MOSQUITOS, DUE TO ALL THE TREES AND SHRUBS THE BUGS ARE REALLY BAD.
- 10. Loud campers and loud dogs
- 11. The weekends can be loud and overcrowded. My wife and I prefer to camp during the week when we can.
- 12. Campers ignoring the ten mile an hour speed limit.
- 13. Wish the Wildwood Cabins were open all year.
- 14. Not enough showers, fire rings too tall
- 15. the fact that I have to leave and go to work
- 16. The restrooms are first loop, first left coming in, are aging quickly
- 17. NA
- 18. Out dated play areas. Muddy and low flooded areas.
- 19. Mmm-tricky as like it all. Probably the campground possibilities for children.
- 20. I can't think of anything. It's my favorite camp ground
- 21. n/a
- 22. no opinion
- 23. There are repairs that need to be done to the restroom facilities that have been taken care of for the past 5 times that I have complained about them. I.E-hand dryers, clogged drains, lack of soap, dirty floors.
- 24. Small sites, unlevel sites
- 25. Bathroom is to far away.
- 26. Too few bathrooms and outhouses
- 27. No water and sewer hookups and the bathrooms are pretty far away.
- 28. When taking on water for my trailer there was not a place for me to pull of the road, out of the way, of other traffic wanting to get through.
- 29. Need more organization camp sites
- 30. I have a 36 ft camper now. The sites we have camped on previously with a smaller camper were totally inadequate for our new camper. Also, the lack of 50 amp service and sewer hookups at the sites puts your campground at an disadvantage when compared to other campgrounds. You have many wonder features there, but some modernization is badly needed.
- 31. the distance to the beach
- 32. I don't like going home! I love it at Holly!
- 33. Last time I was there the showers weren't warm enough.
- 34. Rattle Snakes, Some camp sites really flood
- 35. The bathrooms are not my favorite. I understand they redid them, but wish they had been done like the other state parks such as Lakeport.
- 36. Hard to get into
- 37. Not enough reservable campsites. Park fills up fast for

- weekends and holidays.
- 38. Hard to open gate at cabins. LONG walk to unload vehicles at cabins.
- 39. We usually make our camping trips here later in the summer, to avoid the heavy mosquito population in the earlier part of the year.
- 40. It fills up quickly
- 41. Acquiring sites can be difficult at times. The bathhouse is even thou they are new, seem to have a lighting issues
- 42. The new restrooms. The new design is not user friendly and cheaply built
- 43. I didn't really know where the trails would go (the ones near the camping)
- 44. None
- 45. No comment.
- 46. No full hook up sites. I would spend more time if it had modern facilities.
- 47. The restrooms and playgrounds are pretty far from the campsites. I'm not sure there is a way to fix this, but if I can't get a site near the end of the loop, it's pretty far to walk in the middle of the night to go to the bathroom.
- 48. Honestly, it is my favorite public campground. I've never had a problem out there.
- 49. nothing yet
- 50. nothing comes to mind
- 51. Not a thing!
- 52. You need an experienced electrician to check each box-a lot of the electrical boxes have reverse polarity
- 53. Can be noisy. We try to avoid during peak seasons.
- 54. Large rv's. They should be in a different loop from small campers and tents
- 55. No complaints
- 56. The showers. Small and some aren't level causing water to pool in the changing area
- 57. have no dislikes
- 58. need 50amp services
- 59. Noise
- 60. Nothing comes to mind.
- 61. ?
- 62. The electric sites need the electric brought up to date. They often can't handle the equipment that comes with owning an RV.
- 63. The dump fill station. Line is long on sunday mornings, main exit backs up. Need more than two dump lanes. Cant fill fresh water on passenger side of camper.. Need at least 4 lanes or install another dump/fill site..
- 64. No direct water or sewer hook up
- 65. The ground on the camp site is NOT level with the pavement. I can't belive you have not been sued due to a broken ankle. When steping from a camper to the ground it is very easy to sprain or break your ankle due

- to the elevation difference between pavement and ground.
- 66. One modern restroom/shower area
- 67. The line at the sanitation station when leaving the park.
- 68. Bathrooms are too far away and no water or sewer on the sites.
- 69. Dump station on Sunday morning.
- 70. Can't bring my dog to the cabins. Maybe make 1 dog friendly
- 71. Bathrooms can be cold, not always clean
- 72. No campsites 1-2 weeks before date.
- 73. Kids need better playground Some replacement of picnic tables and fire pits
- 74. Need more toilet facilities.
- 75. Cost of firewood
- 76. Uneven campsites near paved pads, quite dangerous when stepping out of RV. As much as a 1 foot drop from the pad. Have had injuries as a result.
- 77. Loud neighbors
- 78. Distance for the beach
- 79. Everything
- 80. There are not enough bathrooms. And they are now open long enough in the camping season.
- 81. Some of the older outhouses are kinda scary. The new ones are fine.
- 82. site sizes, costs
- 83. The sinks in the restrooms, you get wet every time you use them. The hand dryers are use less.
- 84. So far I have had no negative experiences camping at Holly recreation so there's nothing I like least.
- 85. The walk to the bathrooms
- 86. losing some of the rest rooms at the Day use area
- 87. Can't think of anything.
- 88. that more camping sites aren't offered year round
- 89. Too many loud drunks on weekends. But I suppose you have to put up with that almost anywhere.
- 90. The campsite fire pits are often not cleaned out from previous camper. The cement also has large holes which is dangerous for kids riding their bikes
- 91. Many sites are horribly off level, no staff at night to deal with issues, park manger is NEVER on site
- 92. Late night noise
- 93. No full hookup sites, would consider longer stays.
- 94. Nothing.
- 95. Dirt roads on some loops
- 96. Barking dogs
- 97. The ability to set up a tent on the sites
- 98. It fills up fast.
- 99. I would not like if there were no secluded wooded lots available. The more secluded the better.

- 100. no sites with water hook ups, but that's typical of most state park campsites.
- 101. Nothing . It is awesome
- 102. The bathrooms aren't kept very nice.
- 103. Mosquitoes
- 104. Problems with the bathrooms- ie. the lights in the showers flicker on and off. One of the outhouses has a solar light which is terrific however, it would be awesome if more of them had them.
- 105. Many campsites are not level.
- 106. Wait at dumpstation
- 107. cost to purchase wood is to high for size of bundle you get and wood is often dam. On busy weekends electric grid can become overloaded. New bathroom since modifications are very nice.
- 108. The unimproved roads. However, this was resolved in 2016. Thanks to the Passport which I strongly endorse.
- 109. Constant vehicle traffic to shower house
- 110. Need to improve your horseshoe pits, they have been neglected. Especially on the Maple loop behind the outhouse.
- 111. N/A
- 112. nothing
- 113. Invasive species such as garlic mustard and black swallow wort.
- 114. Need more campsites.
- 115. No lights in park very dark
- 116. The new bathroom buildings suck. I liked the old ones better where there was a covered area outside the bathrooms for shelter from sun or rain.
- 117. That there isn't a group camping area for non-tent campers.
- 118. Showers could be improved a bit and cleaned more often but still are nicer than most state parks.
- 119. Nothing
- 120. Noisy RV's and occasional rude people
- 121. limited bathrooms and they are located far from some of the sites
- 122. Lack of site availability during peak season.
- 123. Line up at dump station when leaving
- 124. The proximity of the campsites to beach. It is a very long walk from campsite to beach.
- 125. Many sites are very unlevel, which makes it difficult with a travel trailer or RV. Also, the distance from the camping pad to the electrical hook-up requires an extension cord- beyond the cord that is attached to the camper/RV. This was not mentioned anywhere before our first visit.
- 126. Dirt
- 127. nothing
- 128. The odd loud campsite
- 129. The construction going on at 8 in the morning 10 foot

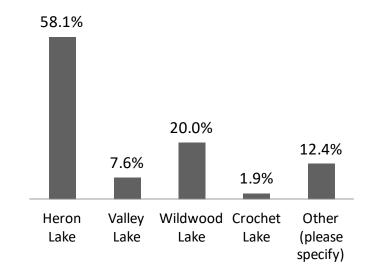
- from our tent that we were not warned about when checking in.
- 130. Lack of full RV hook up. Cold showers.
- 131. Lack of level tent sites.
- 132. Not enough land to explore
- 133. Bathrooms are junk for being new...please refurbish.
- 134. nothing
- 135. the quite time should be at least 11pm on weekends- it starts to early now.
- 136. N/A
- 137. Too many paved sites
- 138. How closly condensded full campsites can be.
- 139. As stated above you need larger 50 amp sites. All DNR facilities including this one should refine the reservation system so that larger sites are used for larger rigs. I've seen many times large and pull thru sites with a tent set up or a small camper which prevents the larger rigs from coming in. Larger sites with 50 amp and pull thrus should command a higher nightly fee
- 140. Distance of walk to bathroom.
- 141. Lack of shade at the cabins
- 142. Nothing. Everything meets my standards.
- 143. Lack of space
- 144. Sometimes hard to reserve site due to being booked
- 145. Campsite size
- 146. When it is full!
- 147. Campground is too popular making reservations difficult at times
- 148. Overhanging tree limbs on roadways and campsites for larger RVs
- 149. online availability
- 150. Some sites are difficult to get into with a 30 ft trailer
- 151. n/a
- 152. The water is across the street, it would be awesome if there were campsites on the water side of the park.
- 153. Campsites need to be maintained better. They could be roomier if they were weed whacked or the brush pushed back. Somewhat unkept.

## Q12: DO YOU FISH AT HOLLY STATE RECRE-ATION AREA? RESPONSE RESPONSE RESPONSE COUNT

ANSWER OPTIONS		RESPONSE COUNT
YES	45.2%	104
NO	54.8%	126
ANSWERED QUESTION		230
SKIPPED QUESTION		18

# Q13: WHAT IS YOUR PREFERRED FISHING LOCATION AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA? NSWER OPTIONS RESPONSE RESPONSE

71112711		
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
HERON LAKE	58.1%	61
VALLEY LAKE	7.6%	8
WILDWOOD LAKE	20.0%	21
CROCHET LAKE	1.9%	2
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	12.4%	13
ANSWERED QUESTION		105
SKIPPED QUESTION		143

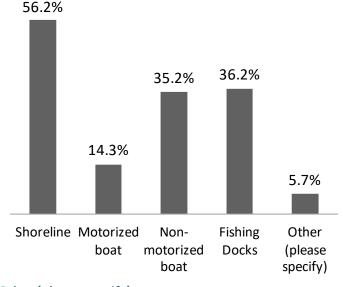


#### Other (please specify):

- Crotchet lake has better fishing but Heron Lake has a better launch. it is a tie.
- 2. Can't remember the name but it goes into another lake.
- 3. Any
- 4. I don't remember the name-the one near the road
- 5. Use must fishing lakes
- 6. walk in to small lakes
- 7. I can't remember the lake, the fishing was to teach a youngster 'how-to" so the little guys she caught all went back in the lake anyway!
- 8. We more than one spot
- 9. All
- 10. not sure, off the pier and a couple miles down
- 11. dont know lake names but main lake by beach and smaller one with boat launch
- 12. Not sure
- 13. I don't remember

## Q14: HOW DO YOU TYPICALLY ACCESS THE WATER FOR FISHING? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
SHORELINE	56.2%	59
MOTORIZED BOAT	14.3%	15
NON-MOTORIZED BOAT	35.2%	37
FISHING DOCKS	36.2%	38
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	5.7%	6
ANSWERED QUESTION		105
SKIPPED QUESTION		143

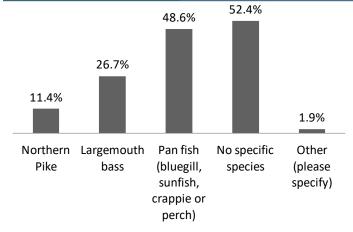


#### Other (please specify):

- 1. Waders
- 2. walk in
- 3. Ice fishing
- 4. Float Tube
- 5. Ice fish.
- 6. Kayaks

## Q15: WHAT DO YOU FISH FOR AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
NORTHERN PIKE	11.4%	12
LARGEMOUTH BASS	26.7%	28
PAN FISH (BLUEGILL, SUNFISH, CRAPPIE OR PERCH)	48.6%	51
NO SPECIFIC SPECIES	52.4%	55
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	1.9%	2
ANSWERED QUESTION		105
SKIPPED QUESTION		143



#### Other (please specify):

- 1. Fun
- 2. Whatever I can catch.

## Q16: PLEASE PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING YOUR FISHING EXPERIENCE AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA.

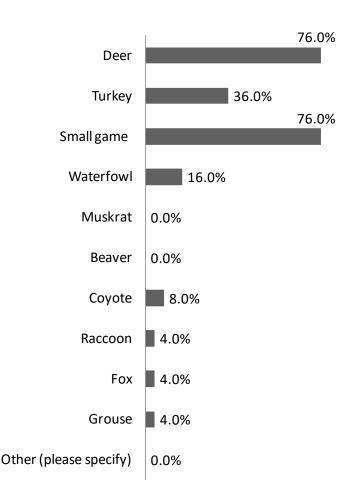
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	35
SKIPPED QUESTION	213

- 1. Nice fishing
- 2. Need a long dock for fishing.
- 3. The launch at Crotchet Lake could be improve with better parking facilities.
- 4. Would like more accessible shoreline fishing spots.
- 5. Bass have been slow the last year or 2
- 6. Just beginning to do this so appreciate the variety of opportunities to fish.
- 7. It would be nice to have a fishing dock at McGuiness Lake to take kids
- 8. We just go for the fun. We never catch any decent size fish but we love to fish from our kayaks.
- 9. a bigger (longer) fishing pier would be nice for those who

- do not have boats
- 10. It's usually peaceful. No gas motors on Heron Lake needs to be more strictly enforced
- 11. Comes and goes
- 12. It has been a fun adventure...we do catch and release. Lots of small fish to sport with.
- 13. What a fantastic local easily accessible fishing area always clean and all the local Sportsman's seem to respect the water DNR also does a wonderful job maintaining the docks and bathroom
- 14. See # 13-great spot to teach youngsters!
- 15. A boat rental would be nice
- 16. Grandson loved learning to fish
- 17. It is close to home and the park makes me feel miles and miles away Family loves the park
- 18. Lacking fish, appears a little fished out.
- 19. Aqua island park needs a better management. Very poor customer service!
- 20. just as we arrived for night fishing it was closing
- 21. Ok not great, fun for kids
- 22. Shallows develop growth of water plants that keeps shoreline fishing poor
- 23. There is a lack of docks in the park to fish from.
- 24. Would be nice to have a larger dock for kids to fish
- 25. I fish for relaxation and fun. mostly catch and release.
- 26. The learn to fish program for kids is fantastic.
- 27. It would be nice if there was worms avaible to buy in the park without having to go to the beach. They refused to sells to us because we came in one minute after they closed even thou they were still open.
- 28. Over fished
- 29. It seemed hard to fish without a boat
- 30. Catch and release with my grandchildren only.
- 31. I will stop fishing @ Holly with the continuation of Jump Island :)
- 32. Fishing actually seems good in my opinion. I don't catch a large quantity, but I am almost always successful at catching a fish or two per visit (catch and release).
- 33. My boys love to fish and it is always exciting when they are able to catch fish
- 34. I wish there were more fishing docks
- 35. Bigger bass would be nice (obviously..)

Q17: DO YOU HUNT OR TRAP AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA?			
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT	
YES	10.9%	25	
NO	89.1%	204	
ANSWERED QUESTION	229	229	
SKIPPED QUESTION	19	19	

Q18: WHAT DO YOU HUNT OR TRAP? CHECK			
ALL THAT APPLY.			
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT	
DEER	76.0%	19	
TURKEY	36.0%	9	
SMALL GAME	76.0%	19	
WATERFOWL	16.0%	4	
MUSKRAT	0.0%	0	
BEAVER	0.0%	0	
COYOTE	8.0%	2	
RACCOON	4.0%	1	
FOX	4.0%	1	
GROUSE	4.0%	1	
OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	0.0%	0	
ANSWERED QUESTION		25	
SKIPPED QUESTION		223	



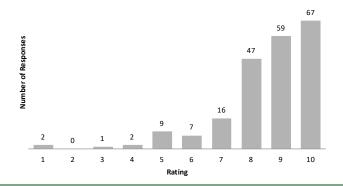
# Q19: PLEASE PROVIDE ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING YOUR HUNTING EXPERIENCE AT HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	10
SKIPPED QUESTION	238

- 1. there are some tree stands existing
- 2. I have not venture out to see the entire Holly State Recreation Area but the specific areas I'm familiar with, I use it a lot. The areas that I have hunted, seems like there is more and more hunters hunting and less and less deer. I think in general, there are just more people utilizing the park more every year. I really do appreciate the trail maintenance that the park employee/volunteers maintain. In my experience, the fallen trees are quickly cleared up from the main trails.
- 3. no food = no deer
- 4. Need to provide more area. The state should be purchasing more land around these areas to let more hunters use the areas
- 5. Please post hunting land better.
- 6. Parking areas can be hard to access in a car.(mud)
- 7. Hard to navigate. however, that is a good thing.
- 8. Too many safety zones... NOT ENOUGH HUNTABLE LAND
- 9. Congested. I think the experience would be improved with additional acreage, perhaps more intensive management (tree harvests, farming, etc.).
- 10. not enough parking

Q20 & 21: USING THE SCALE BELOW, PLEASE SHARE HOW SATISFIED YOU WERE WITH YOUR MOST RECENT VISIT TO HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA (0 IS LEAST SATISFIED, 10 IS MOST SATISFIED):

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	210
SKIPPED QUESTION	38



RATING	EXPLANATION
10	Restrooms were very dirty
10	Lack of information on trails, markers to those trails, and down trees along trails.
10	I think the site is nice but invasive species are pervasive and degrade the park ecosystem and visitor experience
10	This park would be amazing, however the lack of invasive species management has led to a serious decline in biodiversity and has exponentially increased in invasive species spreading to other areas. I hesitate to go there because I also visit 7 Lakes State Park which does not have as bad of an outbreak and I do not want to bring invasives from HSRA to that park or any other park. I am a minority in thinking this way and I know the general public that visits HSRA and other parks will only help in continuing to spread these invasive plants due to not being aware of the problem.
10	No lights
10	More bathrooms and showers closer to the campsites
10	Campground is nice because of how wooded it is but is in need of a facelift.
10	Bathrooms need to be refurbished, who ever contracted with the Texas company should be fired.
10	lack of bath houses
10	For the size of this campground, you need more then 1 bathroom.
10	Because it warranted a 7.
10	Can't complain but anything can always be improved
10	Missing playground equipment was disappointing and the poison ivy everywhere is frustrating.
10	Cleanliness of bath houses was lacking, site pads and road of loop we were in was in really bad shape.
10	NOT ENOUGH LAND
10	The park in beautiful and pretty well cared for
10	deer population is down
10	overall the site is run efficiently
10	I would have given a 10, but over the past 3 years there has been a decline to the preservation of nature, cleanliness of facilities and camp site up-keep.
10	It is convenient and close by but still remote, great for hiking.
10	We love Holly State Park. However, last time we where there, without sounding insensitive, there was a homeless family camping there. I talked to them multiple times and they told me this. They said that they were there for the summer, and had to switch sites every 2 weeks or less. We ended up giving them some money. I'm not sure how to regulate this, but there has to be a better accommodation somewhere for them.

10	I really enjoy the park and the peacefulness, woodsie up north feeling, spacious campsites	
10	Plenty of opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. As a hunter, always wish for more game.	
10	Loud neighbors in campground, lack of rangers patrolling the park.	
10	"It's a great place to visit. When I was last their it was busy and noisy.	
10	Overall it is a great park	
10	Better than many parks	
10	General estimate.	
10	Overall, we had a good time. But the the campsites are so far away (by foot) from many of the park amenities.	
10	good experience, not great	
10	Solid all around, but mowing could have been better on the disc golf course earlier in the season.	
10	We like the large sites, nice area and towns near by. Disk golf and biking is fun.	
10	It would have been a 10, but we had to leave with the park being full from the fall activities.	
10	We had a nice camping trip. The people across the road were yelling and fighting a lot though.	
10	I like the area. It was quiet and peaceful.	
10	Great Hollyween activities. Really hard to get reservations, all the non-reservables were full or I would have spent more time.	
10	beach location	
10	Enjoy the park	
10	There for the Hollyween weekend. Everything was great- except the restrooms	
10	Our site was beautiful- really wooded and private. Our daughter loved the playground. We went on a few hikes right from the campground; I appreciated that we didn't have to leave the campground area to get to the hiking trails. We didn't use the beach because it was fall, but plan on coming back next summer and going swimming as well.	
10	I went with a 9 instead of a 10 because our last trip of the year in 2016 the park decided it would be a great idea to do construction and tear the roads up during the busiest weekend of the year I found that to be strange and pretty inconvenient	
10	Love this park. Wish there was a place for dogs to swim with their owners. The dog area is not owner friendly to swim.	
10	Great time at camp and beach.	
10	Once again the uneven campsite near the paved pad.	
10	Enjoy the location. Like 'Up North' but close to home.	
10	We love Holly Rec	
	,	

10	Disc golf course is well maintained, pavilion provided for tournaments.
10	I love visiting, I recently started hiking more of your trails with my dog and have to admit there are a few spots that aren't clearly marked and get a little confusing.
10	Excellent camping facilities, great hiking trails, very nice park facilities, sanitary sewer dump station, nearby farms and orchards
10	great park
10	Last visit was for Halloween weekend, great activities and location.
10	It's a fun, nearby, park. Lot's of things to do. Staff at the park are very friendly and accommodating. Nice new bathroom facilities.
10	Holly is one of our favorite places to camp and ride our bikes. Our dog loves the walks in the woods too!
10	Our last visit was in November, we paddled at the end of the day, just a couple of hours, but it was perfect. The overall experience was one that makes not paddling for a few months bearable.
10	This campground is great! It's close to home, but is not over crowded. It's peaceful and beautiful.
10	have had good experience
10	Got the camp site we annually reserve. Our house was maintained.
10	Love the woods, trees and trails along with the trailer campsites
10	Halloween weekends were fun.
10	Had a great site, it was quiet.
10	we had a great time.
10	Hiking at Holdridge was very refreshing after a new snowfall!
10	its just a great park overall
10	Love it there. Beautiful in all seasons.
10	I enjoyed all aspects of my stay and the nature of the park emensly
10	The one time we came in the spring we were able to get a 50 amp site and enjoyed our stay but have never tried in the summer as it would be next to impossible to reserve a good site
9	Unless you can bring a bicycle, which we couldn't our last two trips and probably not the next one either, the restroom/shower facility is just too far away. If there were more modern facilities we would camp there more often. With limited Camping weeks/weekends available I have to accommodate the needs of everyone in my family or group.
9	sinks in restrooms.
9	Need the cabin to be repaired.
9	Read the answer to question "what I least like"
9	It was a short visit for a winter picnic, other than no bathrooms being open is was good for our purpose

9	I gave this rating mostly because of the bathroom issues and some because of a lack of site availability. I used to come in early to get a site and without any non-reserveable sites left, I can't even do that. I am willing to pay to stay longer in order to get a site where they allow people to only come in on the weekend so it is very difficult to obtain a spot. I would think it would increase revenue for the park as well. (my number 1 pet peave about the park system)
9	They came through and improved the roads/ electricity and left some of the camping sites very rocky and with no privacy from the site next to it. The site did not resemble the picture on the website.
9	good
9	The park is maintained and seems like a lot of people are putting it to use.
9	we camp with friends annually- we love the area
9	It's close to home and the disc golf course is nice needs a bit better up keep.
9	I have not spent enough time there to experience the entire park. When I have visited, it's always a positive experience.
9	always enjoy camping there
9	The camping was nice
9	Great staff and park. Halloween weekend was great. However, had to wait in line on a thursday to fill fresh water. Line on sunday to dump was horrible. Had to make the trip back a few days later to dump.
9	Lack of full RV hook up
9	Good experience.
9	Need to replace the old outhouses, some of them are just awful.
9	overall great camping for summer and fall but not for spring or winter
9	boat launch facilities and user traffic was minimal
9	Some of the fire pits and picnic tables could be replace.
9	Nice time.
9	The park is well used but in good shape. I would love to see more youth out in the park and that is my goal.
9	Cold & Wet- conditions beyond DNR control
9	Weather caused our stay to be shortened
9	Overhanging trees
9	Generally- very good. A little crowded at times
9	This is out favorite camp in Michigan
9	Park was open when others closed. Great to get out and hike and bike. Would have been good to have water at dump station
9	Its a very nice facility close to home
9	Love the camping.
9	lve been to many michigan state parks and believe Holly ranks as one of the better run parks

9	I really enjoy the camping here, especially in the loop with the tall oak trees. The sites and loop are newly paved, the bathrooms recently rebuilt, and the entire area has an 'up north' look and feel.
9	We liked new and clean bathrooms and individual campsites
9	We had no issues, and were able to enjoy our stay without hassle.
9	We enjoy camping there
9	The park is a jewel in the rough. It has much potential.
9	Came for jump island. It wasn't organized as good as it should have been. Did a good job, just ran out of life jackets at the end and older kids had to give them up. Visited end of August 2016.
9	Have enjoyed the park and day use areas.
9	We love this campground the best of any around. Nature at your back door.
9	Mrs. Jan at the contact station is the most friendliest person ever. Also, since new shower houses were put in it make my stay more comfortable. I also like the biking trails and fishing.
9	MY LAST VISIT THERE WAS THE HALLOWEEN CAMPING AND IT'S ALWAYS A GREAT TIME.
9	The park is great :)
9	We had a great time
9	We always use the same two camp sites and bring the whole family. It's always a wonderful time. Great beach and Love the new bathrooms.
9	Close to home. Campsites nice
9	Always clean. Not very crowded
9	Staff are welcoming, helpful and polite, park is well kept, lots of birds singing, peaceful!
9	It's a nice park
9	Had a bath house
9	The beach and bathrooms were clean and it is close to my house.
9	always have had a great time people very nice
9	Holdridge is a great mountain biking trail.
9	Park staff are great. I camp all over Michigan and Ontario. Staff here are the best of all the parks I visit. They keep things clean. they are helpful polite and do an excellent job of keeping things as they should be for a good family experience
9	We have always had a great time camping there
9	We enjoy our time there. The campsites are great and the ability to be able to kayak and do outdoor activities is very easy there because everything is in close proximity.
9	This is, in my opinion, the nicest state park in S.E. Michigan. It's well maintained and the variety of camp sites meet every taste.
9	We love this park- we compare Michigan State Parks to this one.

9	I really like the park! I love the variety of activities and balance of lake and woods.	8	I always enjoy my visits, I just would prefer less noise.
8	I came to the park in mid November 2016, picked out a sight and self registered as I have for several years in November. The self registration envelopes were there and I put one in the tube with my check, there was no notice or anything different at the self registration area from other years.	8	As mentioned earlier, the campground is 50 minutes away from home but feels like we are up north. Rangers and employees are always very friendly and helpful if needed. The sites are secluded in some areas but not too close together, which is nice. It is quiet at night which we also like.
	Upon returning to my sight in the evening there was someone waiting for my sight and informed	8	We were able to get two large camp sites next to each other, so we had a nice family camp
	me they had reserved it online. I had to pack up and go home, the park was full. How is someone supposed to know when sights are reserved if the ranger station is closed? The yellow phone I was told about later was not being answered and many people had the same problem.	8	The park is a good park. New roads, newer bathhouses, but there seems to be a power issue for campsites. Main park Breakers trip when the park is busy, especially when the campground is for holiday weekends. I have noticed it more on the trillium and hickory loops.
8	We rented the wildwood cabin because Rolston was closed. (Our reservation had been cancelled the summer of 2014 because of the safety issues). I hoped that Rolston would be	8	it was our first time camping at this state park this year but we feel in love with it right away and are planning multiple trips back this summer.
	back open, but then I heard that it may never open again. We stayed at wildwood, and while	8	It's a great park with the exception of a few faults. See below.
	beautiful it wasn't the same outdoor away-from- it-all experience.	8	A large campsite and an assortment of things to do for young teenage kids.
8	No water or sewer no 50 amp service	8	Hiking trails and campground are nice
8	Park opens too late and closes too early	8	Na
8	It would be much higher if the sites accommodated tents better similar to the State Forests with wood surrounded platforms, raised, and graveled tent sites	8	We love everything except that the beach is becoming busier and less family friendly. Too many drunk people and swearing for us to feel comfortable as a family. We have only
8	Some trailsneed work		experienced this on the weekends. The weekdays and evenings are usually nice.
8	The beach is a long distance from the campgrounds	8	Great campground
8	Need better Grouse and Woodcock environment management	8	Our visit was nice, not complaints about our site or the facilities. Knocked 1 point off for the
8	campsite was on a curve that was a mud pit, much traffic, loud neighbors, no privacy		electrical hook-up being so far away- it caused us to have to be backed into a tree, even using an extension cord.
8	Just like to visit the park	8	Had a wonderful time- enjoyed naturalist
8	The cabins were clean and location excellent. No shade.	8	presentation, beautiful beach, and hikes.  Overall it was very good- duck hunting on a small
8	All reasons listed above	8	flooding and creek. Birds were present and the
8	The end of season, bathhouse were closed. I did not mind this, but the valt toilet in the last open loop was a total mess and was never cleaned for the three days I was there.		experience was enjoyable. Lots of other hunters, not too close by, but close enough. We tried not to interfere with each others hunting, and were successful (I think).
8	The only really issue we had was the sink was in somewhat disrepair. Previous occupants did not take nice care of it; the u-bend needed cleaning	8	We were on the large-group sites and the space was beautiful and serene!
	badly.	8	Loved the last experience and have done so for 12 years
8	Good sites, quiet, easy access	8	I have been camping at Holly for 20 years. It is
8	- for disc golf		close to home, a very nice park, nice staff, nicely
8	Went camping early in the season with family	0	wooded.
0	and it was enjoyable. Park is well maintained.	8	I love it there
8	good hiking, camping. hunting in fall: Sept- December.	8	Love the organization camp and trails  It's a place to relax and enjoy the beauty of God's
8	Not your fault but there was a drunk irate man screaming on and off for 30 mins that scared us		creation!
	and our children!	8	We enjoyed our stay and had no problems.

8	It's always a pleasant experience. Like I said I wish there were more camping spots- they fill up too quick. Also the sites that are handicapped accessible- I've seen people camp those spots with no permit and obviously not handicapped. And I like those two spots- so can non handicapped people camp there or not?
8	We like the improvements made to the roads around the camping area and the semi private sites.
8	We love it.
8	large camp sites and quiet at night dog friendly
8	Love the trails
8	nice park, that has been fixed up recently.
8	The park is clean and kept up nicely and the staff is friendly
7	Because it is so close to major cities, it is always crowded
7	It's a nice place to visit. I wish they would do more to reduce invasive species and preserve native plant's.
7	Need some minor improvements stated previously.
7	I think with a few little tweaks to the park this would be a great destination.
7	Really enjoy the campground
7	We went in the fall. Almost at the campgrounds to our selves. Very restful and peacefully. Good size campsites too
7	is our home away from home
7	It's clean and close to home. I know what to expect from a State Park.
7	Went in fall 2016, had the perfect site, number 65 private, grassy and in woods. Wish water was not on other side of road but of course thats nature
7	Holly State Recreation Area is always clean and pleasant.
7	We use the shelters alot for family reunions and it is great
7	I like that park it is close to home and is fun to visit.
7	Holly State Recreation Area is and always has been a beautiful spot for hiking and swimming for me and those close to me.
7	I just love this park!! Last trip was for Hollyweekend and we had a blast.
7	Park is great. DNR staff that has been there is wonderful. Love Courtney, Sue and Jan.
7	It's a big beautiful park that the politicians haven't sold off chunks of land to grease their pockets.
6	Nice facilities, clean park, nice campsites and hiking
6	We were camping and the bathrooms were let very clean. And the sites were kept up nicely

6	Been camping here for the last 15 years. It's a beautiful campground
6	Always enjoy camping at Holly
6	Everything went well when I retrieved my greedy and so I have no complaints.
6	Because everything went smoothly, and met my expectations. The staff were kind and helpful.
6	It is one of my favorite places to go close to home.
5	I went out there today 1/12/17 to ride around and I couldn't go all the way to the back of the park. It has been gated off the whole winter.
5	It's a beautiful park with great trails. Close to home. State parks are my favorite park system but they need more things for kids to do.
5	Overall the beach is nice and has plenty of activities for the family.
5	Campground needs more and better bathroom/showers
5	Good campground, close to home
5	Good Camping, though we had an electrical issue. Park ranger was out quickly to fix it.
5	Love camping at Holly! Plus the friends of Holly do a great job on holiday weekends.
5	Hollyween is always fun.
5	the sites were large and felt secluded. It was quiet and beautiful.
4	I enjoyed the trip, but MI state parks need to compete more with the private parks in the area.
4	not enough parking areas and the edges need better definition/signage
3	I love almost everything about this park. if it weren't for having to trudge through that one muddy section of the trail, I would give it a ten.
1	Excellent camp sites. They were well divided so it didn't feel like we were on top of each other. Just hard to take on water.
1	everything was very pleasant

# Q22: WHAT THREE WORDS WOULD YOU USE TO DESCRIBE HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA TO SOMEONE WHO HAS NEVER VISITED THE PARK?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	184
SKIPPED QUESTION	64

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



Words most frequently used to describe the recreation area. More frequently mentioned words appear larger.

Q23: WHAT, IF ANY, CHANGES WOULD YOU		
MAKE TO HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA?		
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT	
ANSWERED QUESTION	156	
SKIPPED QUESTION	92	

- 1. More activities/events for families,
- 2. Please fix the Rolston cabin. Please expand the tent camping areas and provide them with electric.
- 3. Re-opening but maintaining the rustic nature of Rolston Cabin. I have heard from Parks employees how expensive it would be, but it is a favorite place and a tradition for so many! It is dearly missed!!
- 4. Ventilation in the restrooms/showers. Get some of the paving rocks out of the camping sites. They are hard to walk on.
- 5. Get rid of some raccoons. Also offer more activities for ALL ages.
- 6. fewer roads and [eople
- 7. Restore the "Scenic Overlook"; it truly was exceptional, especially during fall color season. Consult old photos to see for yourself. Very few trees (40 or less years old) would need to be sacrificed. You won't miss them, the resulting view would be far more unique and special.
- Continue to allow hunting. Camping and hiking-status quo. I think mountain biking should not be allowed on Wilderness trail,

- 9. add bath houses
- 10. Make it clearer how to contact park personnel after hours. Last July we witnessed a guy sitting by bathrooms with what appeared to be a gun. After being unable to reach park/dnr officials we called 911 and State Police came. Situation was resolved and police made guy leave the campground but it was frightening, and chaotic.
- 11. The showers different
- 12. The bathrooms
- 13. ADD MORE TRAILS, MAYBE A ZIP LINE, OUTDOOR MOVIE SCREEN
- 14. Keep the hiking trails around the campgrounds for hiking only. NO BIKES like all the signs on the trail say. Don't like having to step off trail as a speeding bike rolls down a steep hill with a loose dog running behind.
- 15. I would like to see more parking spaces along the main roads to allow more parking for hunters.
- 16. Not a easy accomplishment, but additional restroom facilities, additional campsites, campsites wth water and sewer hookups.
- 17. Enforce the speed limit. Preserve native flowers, and other beneficial plant's and increase invasive species reduction.
- 18. The bathroom / shower houses that were put in a aren't that great. They seem cheap. Happy the lack of hot water seems to have been taken care of. Finally.
- 19. no answer
- 20. make the campsites more level our last camping trip

- we had a very hard time leveling our camper
- 21. I thought it was nice when there were 2 beaches
- 22. Play areas!
- 23. Keep camping area open all year. That way could camp and still hike, and maybe bike if snow not too heavy.
- 24. More rustic camp sites.
- 25. more parking at the disc golf lot
- 26. feed the deer/food plots
- 27. Primitive camping area could be added
- I would focus more on ecological restoration of the site to tap into the potential for additional high quality wildlife habitat
- 29. None
- 30. Maintain the lawn (removal of debris & trash) on campsites. Maintain repairs to modern bathroom facilities. Cleaning of the beach & lake. I have witnessed sanitary items and diapers floating in the lake while swimming.
- 31. Level the sites...make them a little. Bigger
- 32. More bathroons.
- 33. Get rid of the reservation system and give campsites first come, first serve.
- 34. Add Water and Sewer hookup sites. Add an additional bath house.
- 35. A little more signage to mark the campground at night.
- 36. Backpacking
- 37. none
- 38. a few more restroom/shower facilities
- 39. Install water and sewer lines to camp sites and up grade the power system to 50 amp service. I pay more at other campgrounds to get those services.
- 40. n/a
- 41. Location of beach for campers
- 42. Finish paving remainder of roads. It looks a little hodgepodge
- 43. Accessible earlier in morning and later in evening
- 44. dog beach
- 45. Nice if it had a trap shooting range.
- 46. Seven lakes and Holly Rec are rattle snake persevere and I don't belive they belong in public places
- 47. Little bigger bathroom btw Oak Loop and Maple Loop.
- 48. none at this time
- 49. I would like it if the swimming area were dredged out a little further at the beach to give more room for swimming.
- 50. More reservable campsites
- 51. Gates and long walk to cabins
- 52. The park needs more sites and upgraded power to the campgrounds existing sites. The host site could use a water hookup for the convenience of host to use as well as a shelter that I have seen at many other parks.

- Nighttime patrols late into the night, like 3 to 4 am, would be beneficial on weekends and holidays.
- 53. Change the restrooms! The women's restroom doors all are already sprung.
- 54. Better maintenance of wilderness hiking trail especially during late summer where it is overgrown by vegetation in spots.
- 55. I wasn't sure how to get to any walk- to fishing sites that are not fished by boats, and are still open enough/big enough to have fish
- 56. None
- 57. None
- 58. Update the camping to modern facilities
- 59. I would love to see a couple playgrounds at the back of camping loops, so that kids don't have to completely leave the loop to go play (with having a younger kid, I didn't feel comfortable letting her go alone because of this).
- 60. Get the bathrooms by the launch areas fixed up...there was no power the last time we were there...I had to use the facilities by flashlight.
- 61. None
- 62. a better playground for the kids. the current one is a little
- 63. Stop the people that park on Tindall Road and walk in for free. Some times there is 10 to 15 car on tindall road form these people. Tindall needs no parking signs on it to help stop this form happening.
- 64. don't like the fire pits in any of the michigan state parks.
- 65. none
- 66. More camping spots for bigger rigs
- 67. Just noise control at night.
- 68. Like I said before I would really like to see a bathroom in the disc golf area it's highly frequented and a lot of spillover from the golf course and the people using the fishing bathrooms Honestly though Holly State Recreation Area is probably my favorite Park in the state
- 69. Camp bathrooms/showers
- 70. It would be nice for summer camping if the cabins' beach area was nicer below the water line. But keeping a large swimming area clean for just two cabins isn't a great use of resources.
- 71. none
- 72. 50 amp services
- 73. Open more sights in November and December
- 74. better dog/owner swim area. Dog beaches are major draws to campers with dogs. I select my locations based on that as a main consideration.
- 75. None
- 76. More dump/fill stations. More patrols from OCSO,MSP, CO, uniformed park rangers. Seems that other state parks have more of a ""presence"" to keep riff-raff in line. Full hookup sites. Archery range. Remove disc golf. Add more staff. Adjust dam so marsh area to the right after check-in to

- campground has deeper water all year. Would allow for fishing/canoeing closer to campground.
- 77. Electric boxes in the campground
- 78. When the new pads were put in they should've been leveled to the campsites. There is a significant drop from the pad(s) into the campsites.
- 79. Full hook up RV sites
- 80. More dog beach area.
- 81. I'm a camper so that's my primary focus... We've only been to the beach 3x and finally investigated some of the fishing options just last summer! In the campground, it's mostly about restroom/shower facilities. There are a few wanky campsites, but I will happily work around a drainage dip if I don't have to deal with people whining about ""outhouse or bathroom"". Since I'm the ""host"", such is my lot. On walks, and near campsites, we noticed what I would consider invasive plants. There are some nasty vines doing their best to kill the trees. I'd love to be able to attend one of the educational programs where we can not only learn more about invasive plants but also help try to clear them... That's a personal scheduling issue, since I know these are available nearby. I actually LOVE the poison ivy since it keeps most people from using the trees area behind the camp as a restroom. I can always tell who tried. So while we don't need it creeping right up to campsites, we also don't want it gone :-). We only just started looking at fishing opportunities, but the spot we checked looked great for panfish and had a healthy ""minnow"" population (lots of what looked to be perch). I've never heard about fishing classes for kids here but that might be because I wasn't looking for it? I only recently found out that there is a lot more to Holly than I knew existed, so beyond camping it's hard to comment. I can say this.... It's a beautiful place and if training people to use an outhouse keeps it that way, I'm good with that.
- 82. Do more to repair campsites. Place rack in the stupid fire pits so you can see fire from sitting position, or get rid of the pits altogether.
- 83. More bath houses, a third sanitation station for busy weekends, level out un-level campsites.
- 84. More convenient bath/shower facilities. Optional full hookup campsites. A camp store would be great but not a mandatory request.
- 85. I wish the hunters were a bit more tolerant towards mountain bikers. We all enjoy the trail, there's no need to be nasty by blocking trails.
- 86. "More boat rentals please.
- 87. Not much. Let me bring my dog to a cabin like some of the other state parks have done. Improve the water heaters at the showers.
- 88. More DNR hosted crafts/programs, more lake activities, local camp store, family nights
- 89. One additional loop and better hot water in showers
- 90. I know I keep repeating but better play grounds for kids Especially camping side
- 91. More campsites.
- 92. Add more toilet/bath houses In camp areas.

- 93. More trees and bathrooms
- 94. I don't know how it would be done but the beach is a car ride or very long walk from the campsite. Note though I would not like campsites like groveland oaks though.
- 95. replace the old out houses
- 96. Fewer boom boxes and loud car stereos.
- 97. More land
- 98. More bathrooms open longer in the season.
- 99. corner sites
- 100. sinks in rest rooms
- 101. A few full hookup sites would be nice. More dump stations would be good. Last time we waited nearly 2 hours to get out.
- 102. add winter camping
- 103. Don't Change a thing!
- 104. year round camping
- 105. remove disc golf
- 106. Move jump island, it currently sits in the center of the beach which means that it blocks the whole beach. Get a manager who cares about the park. There was a number of issues in the park last year including a bad dog bite, the staff rangers were good but every incident the manger was not available for days to actually deal with the issue. During the dog bite incident the manger was not available for days to ask the people to leave so the people with the dog were allowed to stay for days and the dog ended up biting another camper.
- 107. Full hook-up camping, or a honey-wagon service.
- 108. Make sure all the trails are maintained for hiking and mountain biking.
- 109. Keep improving the sites
- 110. accommodate tents better than today
- 111. Fix fire pits and some of the picnic tables.
- 112. none
- 113. I would like to see solar lights added to all outhouses, adult swings for people to sit on while kids are at the playgrounds or basketball courts, expand the junior ranger program, Fix the lights in the main bathrooms and eliminate the reservation system and go back to first come, first serve. I would also like to see garbage pick up so there is not the big mess on Sundays and often times during the week days until it is picked up. Another thing I would like the park to consider is making another loop. Finally, I would like to see more ranger presence during the evenings and weekends.
- 114. No jump island, keep the bath house stocked with toilet paper
- 115. expanded trails for hiking, more overnight sites further apart. dog friend section to go off leash. At more foot patrols by park officers to be a friendly face and also enforce rules
- 116. Plant trees on Beach!
- 117. none

- 118. As mentioned, a better awareness from staff and the public on invasive species management practices.
- 119. Improve horseshoe pits.
- 120. none
- 121. Have water hookup at sites.
- 122. More lighting
- 123. Need flatter campsites. Would love to see other adventurous activities. The hilly landscape would be perfect for a series of ziplines!
- 124. Better fishing dock for kids, Would be great to have campgrounds near the beach area-walking distance
- 125. Group camp area for non-tenters
- 126. Larger variety of kids activities or seasonal activities
- 127. Redo the toilets, work hard on eradicating invasive species such as autumn olive, milfoil, both aquatic and terrestrial plants / animals. Get the pHSRAgmites undercontrol on the Lake Shore trail before it becomes the Lake shore trail.
- 128. Add more sites preferably some full hookup sites. Add a interpretive education center. Add a beach in the campground.
- 129. More dump stations
- 130. more modern restrooms
- 131. a camp store. ice cream. more programming for kids.
- 132. I'd like to see the DNR purchase additional adjacent & nearby properties for hunting, hiking & fishing. Not enough land mass for quality hunting experiences. Still a LOT of land available but it needs to be purchased before development takes it away
- 133. Need funding updates, make it like it once was.
- 134. Bathrooms
- 135. Full hook up RV sites.
- 136. Another 18 hole disc golf course
- 137. Horseback riding staging area and designated trails
- 138. I'm all for adding a few more trails!
- 139. I would like to see addition land acquisitions to add more variety and increase the various types of hunting activity. For example, purchase of farm land that is then farmed with increased opportunity for pheasants, rabbits, etc.
- 140. quite time needs to be later on weekends
- 141. see above
- 142. Add mountain bike trail by campground.
- 143. None
- 144. better angled access to campsites
- 145. More fishing docks
- 146. more restrooms- especially in the camping loops and more information on programs
- 147. More hiking trails would be nice.
- 148. I'm not a big fan of the inflatable jump island. It makes the lake a lot less enjoyable with all the noise, and disrupts the natural scenery.

- 149. Nothing
- 150. install campsites on water side. add dog friendly beach
- 151. seasonal rv sites
- 152. How the individual campsites are maintained.
- 153. Fix the cabin. Maybe clean out the pond there a bit. Has a bad odor.
- 154. Clean up the back course.
- 155. Staff is never around to monitor/clean
- 156. more parking areas better signage

# Q24: PLEASE SHARE ANY OTHER THOUGHTS YOU MAY HAVE ON HOLLY STATE RECREATION AREA AND/OR THE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS.

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT
ANSWERED QUESTION	69
SKIPPED QUESTION	179

- 1. Equine trails a must!
- 2. Please keep the wooded lots. There are so many campground in the area but none are as nice as Holly's. It is close to home but still have the outdoor feel we enjoy for camping. We enjoy the outddor activites and hiking and geo-caching thea rea has to offer. Do not modernize it. We do not like the sites stacked one on top of hte other.
- 3. Please put the repair of the Rolston cabin into the plan.
- 4. Please consider any possible ways to obtain funds to bring the Rolston Cabin back! Thanks!
- 5. Please keep it user friendly. Love the wooded camping area and the beach is nice.
- 6. Seems to have a vine type plant that grows rapidly. Perhaps not domestic. Invasive?
- 7. Love this campground and day use park! Have spent lots of weekends there with friens and family! Already reserved for July 4th.!!
- 8. Waiting for Work weekends
- 9. THIS IS OUR FAVORITE PLACE TO CAMP, PLEASE DON'T CHANGE IT TOO MUCH!
- 10. Love the summer staff and the DNR people are friendly and helpfull.
- 11. I am interested to hear what some of the management planning that being proposed and how that will affect my hunting use of Holly State Recreation Area.
- 12. The explorer guide program is pretty neat, I have enjoyed attending those in the past.
- 13. no answei
- 14. In the future, I would like to use more of the amenities at the park.
- 15. reopen the rear beach on wildwood lake.
- 16. Love camping at holly! Had fun at the new water obstacle course! Maybe provide gluten and allergy free

- options at concession!
- 17. Deer & Small game habitat should be worked on.
- 18. We like the extra nature programs, like the Bat thing at night.
- 19. Keep building but hire people to maintain the property and all of its facilities, while preserving the natural life that is there. Maybe build more campsites that are rustic and more secluded.
- 20. Add MORE campsites. Jump Island is ruining the natural effect of the beach area and poorly managed.
- 21. Could use a bit more lighting on the campground entrance drives.
- 22. Designated backpacking trails
- 23. Holly has much potential, but appears to be the DNR's step child pushed aside and forgotten. It currently is best suited for tents and small campers. It feels like there is a deliberate attempt to keep people with larger campers out of the park.
- 24. secluded sites are a big draw. Love them
- 25. keep current camp site layout
- 26. Please leave the woods and wildlife areas as is. We like the sites not so close together and alot have bushes/trees in between them. The beach store could be larger with more items for camping also.
- 27. Maybe a full hookup loop, another rustic loop.
- 28. The park overall is a great park.
- 29. None
- 30. Keep the mature woods feeling of the park...it is one of the best around. I've been to dozens of parks here in Michigan, and for being so close to several large cities, it is well kept and maintained. I say, keep up the good work of making it a destination park. It really is unique. The combination of the lakes where I don't have to dodge people on motor boats, or water ski's, makes it a haven for a paddling experience. Keep up the good work!
- 31. Please keep the areas open and inviting for those who like the natural setting.
- 32. Just stop the people coming in on Rindall Road for free.
- 33. Don't change a good thing!
- 34. Full hook ups would be nice. Also keeping the non reservables for us to have a chance to get in would be nice as well. I hate that this has gone away.
- 35. Maybe a camp store. The one at the beach house is pretty weak.
- 36. We really wish more camp groups/parks would provide the ADA cabins. Tent camping is really no longer an option. But that's why we continue to come back to Holly.
- 37. keep up the good work
- 38. Clear or trim some of the trees around the camping pads.
- 39. Send people on your camping list notices of opportunities to volunteer for "help with manual labor" jobs. Notices from the State site don't always get seen right away, because they aren't personalized to Holly.

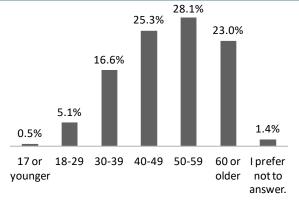
- 40. I don't care for the aqua center inflatable in the lake. I don't like the looks of it or the shouting that goes on near it. I think nature is nice enough and that we don't need to turn Heron Lake into a water park.
- 41. We like that it was very nice and clean we would like the opportunity for a boat rental we like the individualized campsites the new bathrooms were a big plus. Thanks:)
- 42. Expand but keep up north feel to the park.
- 43. Please don't change this park The camp ground is awesome We love it. Trails are great It's truly one of the best parks we go to in the state
- 44. Very nice campground with great facilities keep up with the great maintenance and we will keep coming. MOre campsites would me nice.
- 45. Hunting APRs
- 46. I can't think of any right now. However, I don't know anything about the aqua park. Didn't know about it.
- 47. enjoy it greatly, our top pick each season
- 48. Beautiful place
- 49. There used to be a Civil war reenactment every spring in mid May. This took place in the Campground. It was a great interactive experience for all. We were really disapointed when it was moved to the day use area and then the attendence dropped. Schools came, campers loved it. Would be really nice to have this again. We made it a point to come every year for many years.
- 50. The staff is very friendly!
- 51. Enlarge ranger check in building and have more items for purchase
- 52. none
- 53. This park is great. The rangers are all friendly for the most part. The park is clean and well maintained. The people in your friends group are super and really seem to love the park and people. I have enjoyed their events and your hosts are great. Some of their crafts are spectacular. My family particularly loved doing the rockets out of foam with the host in September. We also look forward to the Hollyween event each year. Again, great park but lack of ability to get in causes me to have to go elsewhere.
- 54. A nature center and camp store would be very nice.
- 55. The management staff is first class and the park is beautiful with one exceptions. I am sure you guessed, that we need more trees planted on the beach area. Seven Lakes is a good comparison. But even more trees could be planted there.
- 56. I also like that rustic camping is available for those that chose to camp this way.
- 57. More lights
- 58. I wish there was some way to get info on upcoming events--nothing quite seems to cover all of the events and we end up missing out on a lot of events.
- 59. I would like to attend planning meetings.
- 60. Friends group is awesome!
- 61. Keep up the good work. The improvements made last

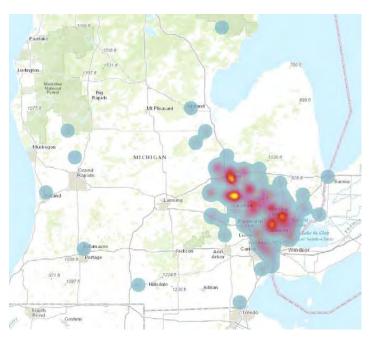
- summer to three of the loops was much appreciated.
- 62. keep up the good work
- 63. I see many private lots bordering the Holly Rec Area being developed (Such as the gas station & offices near Grange Hall Road)
- 64. Keep it the same, do not change anything except the Texas made bathrooms
- 65. Oakland County has one of the highest horse-perperson ratios in the country. You are ignoring a significant source of revenue and portion of the local population by not making your facility horse friendly.
- 66. Thank you!
- 67. None at t his time that haven't already been mentioned.
- 68. We also enjoy the disc golfing. I would drive for day use if you had groomed cross country trails in the winter.
- 69. Dog Friendly beaches dictate where we go. We have two dogs and having a beach where we can have them with us makes the trip so much more relaxing and enjoyable!!

Q25: WHAT IS THE ZIP CODE OF YOUR PRI- MARY RESIDENCE?		
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE COUNT	
ANSWERED QUESTION	217	
SKIPPED QUESTION	31	

See adjacent map of zip codes.

Q26: WHAT IS YOUR AGE?		
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
17 OR YOUNGER	0.5%	1
18-29	5.1%	11
30-39	16.6%	36
40-49	25.3%	55
50-59	28.1%	61
60 OR OLDER	23.0%	50
I PREFER NOT TO ANSWER.	1.4%	3
ANSWERED QUESTION		217
SKIPPED QUESTION		31





Zip codes of survey respondents

Q27: WHAT IS YOUR GENDER?			
ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT	
MALE	55.3%	120	
FEMALE	41.9%	91	
I PREFER NOT TO ANSWER.	2.8%	6	
ANSWERED QUESTION		217	
SKIPPED QUESTION		31	

#### Q28: HOW MUCH TOTAL COMBINED MONEY DID ALL MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD EARN LAST YEAR?

ANSWER OPTIONS	RESPONSE PERCENT	RESPONSE COUNT
\$0 TO \$9,999	0.5%	1
\$10,000 TO \$24,999	0.0%	0
\$25,000 TO \$49,999	5.5%	12
\$50,000 TO \$74,999	12.0%	26
\$75,000 TO \$99,999	13.8%	30
\$100,000 TO \$124,999	16.6%	36
\$125,000 TO \$149,999	8.8%	19
\$150,000 TO \$174,999	8.3%	18
\$175,000 TO \$199,999	0.9%	2
\$200,000 AND UP	3.7%	8
PREFER NOT TO ANSWER	30.0%	65
ANSWERED QUESTION		217
SKIPPED QUESTION		31



Michigan

Stakeholder input meeting invitation

# You're invited!

#### What

Holly Recreation Area General Management Plan Stakeholder Input Meeting

## When

Tuesday, March 7th 2:00 - 4:00 pm

#### Please RSVP to:

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

## Where

North Oakland County Fire Authority 5051 Grange Hall Rd, Holly, MI 48442

#### About the plan

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Parks & Recreation Division (PRD) is in the process of developing a General Management Plan for Holly Recreation Area. 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 Holly Recreation Area 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!

#### Project website

www.mdnrmanagementplans.org/holly-recreation-area/

For more information and to RSVP, please contact: Plan Administrator Debbie Jensen JensenD1@michigan.gov

517-284-6105

#### **Stakeholder Input Meeting**

#### **Summary of Stakeholder Meeting**

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 two groups and completed two exercises, first prioritizing and adding to the list of action items, and then, brainstorming partnership opportunities.

STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT		
NAME REPRESENTING		
Ryan Dividock	Oakland County Economic Development & Community Affairs	
Boyd Brokenshaw	Oakland County Parks and Recreation	
Dan Stencil	Oakland County Parks and Recreation	
Jim Keglovitz	Oakland County Planning	
Nicole Harris	Jump Island	
John Harris	Jump Island	
Jason Bradley	Tamarack Camps	
Scott Bahr	Tamarack Camps	
Fletcher Raferty	Tamarack Camps	
Cori Chesnutt	CRAMBA / Holdridge Trail	
Ron Arnott	CRAMBA / Holdridge Trail	
Tim McAuley	Holly Cloud Hoppers	



#### **Icebreaker Exercise**

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

- Open space.
- Bring fun and guests to the park.
- Bring fun to the parks.
- New ORV park? Volunteer opportunities?
- Integration into the community.
- Being able to build a relationship with our neighbors.
- Sustainable bike / hike trails, educating users. Expanding user opportunities with new activity trends- winter fat bike trails
- The diversity from trails to activities. Maintaining safe and sustainable trails for hiking and biking.
- Their continued support of our club and their commitment to improving the Holly State Recreation Area in general.
- Connected open space that serves as a hub in the overall green infrastructure network.

#### **Action Items Review**

During the first exercise, each group examined the list of action items that the Planning Team had previously identified for Holly State Recreation Area. The groups reviewed the list and made note of items they felt were the highest priority, as well as whether identified action items should not be on the list, or any important items that were missing.

#### **Planning and Administration**

The two groups were generally supportive of the planning and administration action items and did not offer many specific comments. One group mentioned the Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area when thinking about the park developing a stewardship plan. One group thought that coordination with the Dixie Highway Corridor planning should be a planning and administration action item.

#### Construction

The two groups offered more input on the construction action items. The groups thought that constructing a multi-use trail from the campground to the beach was a high priority. They also agreed with constructing ADA improvements and erosion control at Heron Beach, including accessible trails. Other items noted as high priority were constructing a playground at Heron Beach and constructing a rustic campground loop. One group noted that campsites should be expanded at the non-electric campground loop.

"What matters most to me about Holly State Recreation Area is [a] connected open space that serves as a hub in the overall green infrastructure network." -Stakeholder meeting attendee

The groups were not as supportive of the idea of providing Wi-Fi at Heron Beach and the Wildwood Lake Cabins. One group was completely against the idea, while the other group thought that Wi-Fi hotspots would be appropriate at the Heron Beach shelter. One group suggested improving the cell service in the area of the park so that Wi-Fi was not as necessary. One group also suggested that instead of demolishing the Oak Flats shelter, it could be repurposed as a campsite.

The groups identified five additional construction action items, listed below:

- Updated signage for trails. Example: Wilderness Trail says no bikes allowed, but they are.
- Utilize road frontage for signage opportunities. Example: Guard rail on Dixie at Heron Beach
- Signage off I-75 at Grange Hall Road is confusing guiding to "State Park" and "State Rec Area"
- Winter groomed fat-tire biking route around Wilderness Trail
- More staff- said everyone

#### **Partnership Opportunities**

In a second exercise, the stakeholders were tasked with creating a list of potential partnership opportunities HSRA could develop among groups represented at the meeting or other outside entities. The suggestions of the two 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

- National Honor Society
- High school cycling teams
- Cross country running
- Holly High (They made their own hike / bike trail)

- Vocational programs
- Eagle scout projects
- Correctional institutions
- Flint developmental agency

#### Non-profit Groups

- North Oakland Headwaters Land Conservancy
- OC Mom's group
- Farmers Market community

#### **Business and Tourism**

- Redfox Outfitters
- Cyclefit
- Kinetic Systems
- REI
- Moosejaw
- KLM Bike & Fitness
- Assenmachers
- Bass Pro
- · Home Depot
- OC Sportsman Club
- Kohls
- Verizon / Cell provider- Increase Cell and wifi service (they pay you!)
- Goldfish Swim School
- Renaissance Festival workers, visitors, vendors
- Crowd sourcing Go fund me, Kickstarter

When the groups completed the exercise, a representative of each table presented his/her 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.

#### **Tribal Communication**

The planning team reached out to the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, and the Gun Lake Band of Pottawatomi Indians with a letter notifying them of the General Management Plan process and timeline and asking for any input.

#### **Public Input Meeting**

#### **Summary of Public Input Meeting**

The Public Input Open House for Holly State Recreation Area was held on August 31, 2017, at the North Oakland County Fire Authority. The general public was notified about the meeting through press release, internet postings, and email notifications. A total of 10 attendees were recorded.

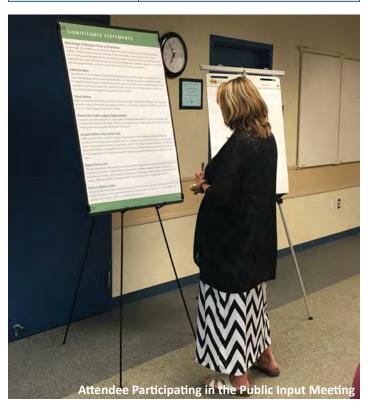
The meeting began with a brief introduction of planning team members and attendees from the public. Introductions were followed by a short overview of the General Management Plan process, Holly State Recreation Area, and its Draft General Management Plan contents. After the presentation, attendees were 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. 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 for the planning team. Two copies of the complete Draft General Management Plan were available to attendees during the meeting for review. Attendees were also informed of the project website, <a href="http://mdnrmanagementplans.org/holly-recreation-area/">http://mdnrmanagementplans.org/holly-recreation-area/</a>, where they could access the Draft Plan at their leisure and submit comments via e-mail. No e-mail comments were submitted.

Attendees Participating in the Public Input Meeting

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 implementation of invasive species control, coordination of the ORV Adventure Park planning, updating park trail signage, continuing to maintain and operate Holdridge Lakes Mountain Bike Area, and constructing a rustic campground loop. Following is a copy of the materials that were presented at the meeting, along with a list of action goals, their number of votes, and all sticky note comments that attendees wrote. This public input was considered as the planning team finalized the General Management Plan.

PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE ATTENDEES		
NAME	REPRESENTING	
Bill Burke	MTB	
Mike Donnellon	OCPRC Staff Member/Resident	
Ron Arnott	IMBA	
Bob Hoffmeyer		
Robert Depalma	Groveland Township Supervisor	
Noreen Depalma		
Cori Chesnutt		
Carriann Birchimeus	IMBA, Friends of Holly Recreation Area	
Morty Johnson		





# Statewide DNR News

Aug. 15, 2017

Contact: Debbie Jensen, 517-284-6105

## DNR seeks public input on Holly State Recreation Area's general management plan

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is seeking public input on a new draft general management plan for Holly State Recreation Area in Oakland County. The DNR will host a public meeting Thursday, Aug. 31, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., at North Oakland County Fire Authority, 5051 Grange Hall Road in Holly.

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



A link to the Holly State Recreation Area draft general management plan and additional information on the DNR's management plan process can be found at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans">www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans</a>.

Holly State Recreation Area is located between Pontiac and Flint in northern Oakland County. The park's more than 8,000 acres of rolling woodlands, open fields and wetlands provide opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. Facilities include a modern campground, camper cabins, a swimming beach, the Holly Woods Disc Golf Course and 34 miles of hiking, mountain-biking and cross-country ski trails. Fishing and boating also are available on the park's many lakes. Jump Island, an inflatable water park, provides a unique family experience at Heron Lake beach during the summer months. The majority of the park is open to hunting, with approximately one-third of the acreage dedicated to game management.

The Aug. 31 meeting will begin with a short overview of the draft plan. The public is welcome to attend at any time during the 90-minute period to review the planning materials, provide comments and talk to DNR staff. Comments also may be sent via email through Sept. 8 to DNR park management plan administrator Debbie Jensen at jensend1@michigan.gov.

For more information about the public meeting or the proposed plan, contact Debbie Jensen at 517-284-6105 (TTY/TDD711 Michigan Relay Center for the hearing impaired) or via email at <a href="mailto:jensenD1@michigan.gov">jensenD1@michigan.gov</a>. Anyone with disabilities who needs accommodations for the meeting should contact Jensen at least five business days before the meeting.

/Note to editors: An accompanying photo of a summer beach scene at Holly State Recreation Area is available below for download./

HollyRecreationArea.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.













## SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS

#### **Wide Range of Activities Close to Population**

A wide range of recreation experiences accessible from nearby urban centers can be experienced at HSRA. The quiet and natural surroundings of Heron Lake offer a day use beach, electric-only motor boating, paddling opportunities, as well as calm-water and shoreline fishing. HSRA has a well developed trail system through serene natural areas, challenging mountain biking trails, and hunting and fishing opportunities, all within a short drive from Flint, Pontiac, and Detroit.

#### **Administration**

Two divisions of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources co-manage this recreation area: the Parks and Recreation Division and the Wildlife Division. Areas of the park are specifically managed for wildlife and hunting by the Wildlife Division in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Division. In addition, hunters can obtain the Successful Hunter patch at the deer check station, which is an important biological data gathering opportunity for the DNR.

#### **Trend Setting**

Holly State Recreation Area is innovative and trend-setting in its recreation offerings. The aqua park on Heron Lake is a distinctive and popular attraction, and the Holly Woods Disc Golf Course was the first of its kind among the state parks system.

#### **Diverse Overnight Lodging Opportunities**

A popular, spacious campground, with a buffer of vegetation between most sites, and several cabin options area available at this park. HSRA has repurposed a former beach area as a modern cabin site, bringing new life to an underutilized part of the park.

#### Located Within a Recreation Hub

HSRA is located within a hub of recreation opportunities for the urban population centers that surround it. Nearby recreation amenities include six state parks and recreation areas, two state game areas, as well as several Oakland County parks, Mount Holly Ski and Snowboard Resort, the Michigan Renaissance Festival, a future ORV Adventure Park, and the Rotten Manor Haunted House. HSRA and surrounding parks and recreation areas host various special events drawing many visitors from the region.

#### **Natural Resources**

The park's expansive area supports a variety of wildlife habitats and natural communities. It contains oak barrens, dry-mesic southern forests, and southern hardwood swamps. HSRA contains five exemplary prairie fens, which support prairie grasses, wildflowers, wetland plants, and endangered species. HSRA also contains managed habitat areas for the eastern massasauga rattlesnake.

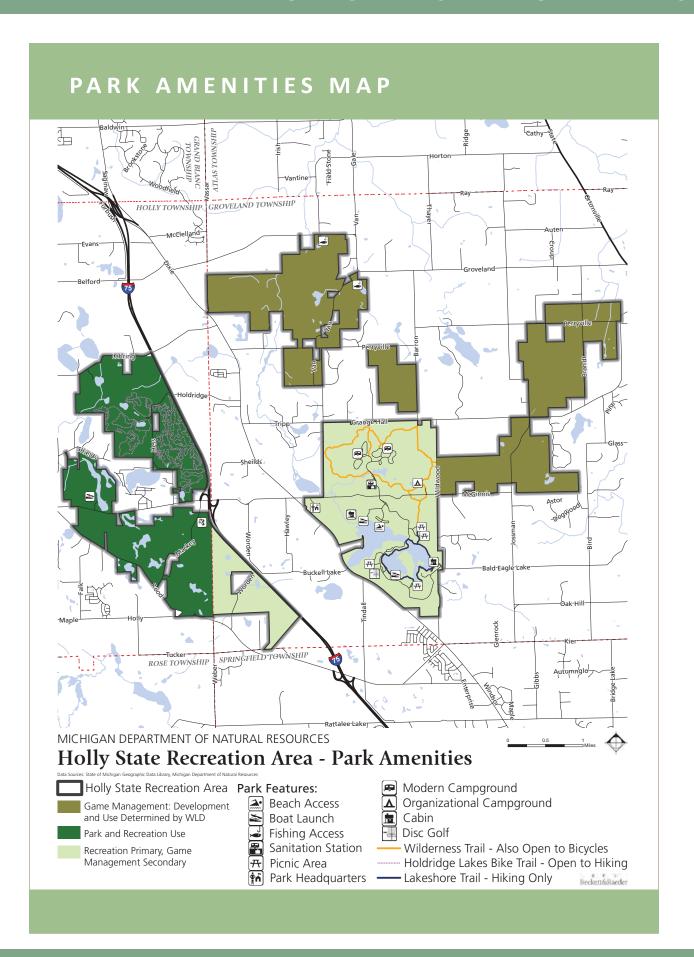
#### **Historic Rolston Cabin**

Holly State Recreation Area is home to the historic Rolston Cabin, an authentic log cabin constructed in 1938-39. Some of the original materials still remain, such as a portion of the cedar shingle roof, oak flooring, fireplace, rafters, and wood frame windows.

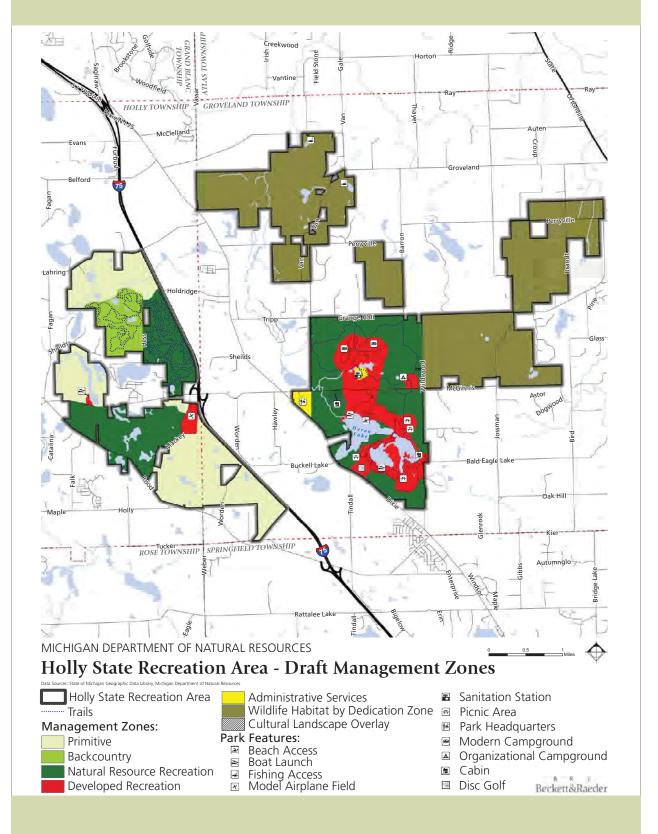


SIGNIFICANCE STATEMENTS COMMENTS		
Significance Statement	Comment	
Wide Range of Activities Close to Population	Many local residents don't even know of all the event/activities you can participate in at Holly/Rec., maybe better public relations is needed such as targeted Facebook advertising for example	
Administration	Actively seek to purchase Dr. office property at Dixie & Grange Hall for administration space; interpretive center, teach stewardship & about snake population	
Administration	Engage sportsman and provide/maintain access points as well as planting of wildlife crops	
Trend Setting	Make Jump Island less of the main focus of the beach area	
Trend Setting	And hopefully we can add groomed snow/fat bike trails to the trend setting. No other state park in southeast Michigan has this	





## DRAFT MANAGEMENT ZONES





PARK AMENITIES MAP COMMENTS		
Zone	Comment	
Park and Recreation Use	Why no bike symbols at maps?	
Park and Recreation Use	Great Mountain Bike trail system	
Park Amenities Legend	Biking? (with bike symbol added to legend)	

#### **GENERAL ACTION GOALS**

Many of the 10-year action goals for Holly State Recreation Area 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 <b>Stewardship Plan</b> to identify targets for conservation and related natural resource management strategies	3 years	• •
Implement invasive species control (part of Stewardship Plan) with an emphasis on early detection/rapid response, and on protecting high quality natural communities and sites occupied by protected species.	Ongoing	••••
HISTORIC/CULTURAL RESOURCES		
Review all proposed earthwork activities for <b>potential</b> impact on cultural resources	Ongoing	
EDUCATION/INTERPRETATION OPPORTUNITIES		
Provide appropriate level of education about eastern massasauga rattlesnake	1-3 years	•
Promote waste reduction, reuse, and recycling, and educate about stewardship	Ongoing	•
MANAGEMENT FOCUS		
Continue to review and update capital outlay list as needed	Ongoing	
Coordinate with Oakland County on the Dixie Highway Corridor planning	Ongoing	•
Coordinate with Oakland County on the ORV Adventure Park planning	Ongoing	• • • •
Continue the cooperative management between PRD and Wildlife in accordance with the intent of the dedication of a game (wildlife) management area within the recreation area	Ongoing	
Continue to explore land acquisition within the GMP project boundary	Ongoing	•

#### GENERAL ACTION GOALS, CONTINUED

Many of the 10-year action goals for Holly State Recreation Area 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
DEVELOPMENT		
Update maps with consistent land designations (WLD and PRD)	1-3 years	
Update park trail signage with correct use designations	1 year	
Update directional signage outside of park with specific park names: Holly State Recreation Area and Seven Lakes State Park	1 year	•
RECREATION		
Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/ trapping, fishing, gathering and wildlife viewing	Ongoing	

#### 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
Continue to maintain and restore prairie fens and other natural communities	Ongoing	

#### **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
Continue to operate and maintain the Holdridge Lakes Mountain Bike Area in partnership with the Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association (CRAMBA)	Ongoing	

#### 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.

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ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Continue to operate and maintain the Holdridge Lakes Mountain Bike Area in partnership with the Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Association (CRAMBA)	Ongoing	

#### **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. The park's modern campground and primary day use areas are located within this zone.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Construct playground at Heron Beach	1 year	
Remove Oak Flats shelter	3-5 years	
Construct multi-use trail from campground to the beach	2-3 years	••
Construct improvements to provide ADA access to the water and address erosion issue at Heron Beach	1-3 years	
Construct shelter at Heron Beach	1-3 years	•
Construct at Heron Lake boating access site	5-10 years	
Construct one additional deluxe camper cabin	3-5 years	
Upgrade non-electric campground loop to 20-30 amp electrical service	5-10 years	
Construct a rustic campground loop	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 Holly State Recreation Area.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Update heating in the shop area	5 years	

#### WILDLIFE HABITAT BY DEDICATION ZONE

This specially-designated zone reflects a desired condition that emphasizes the natural resources. It is managed for game and non-game wildlife species and only allows dispersed and low frequency use in the zone for low impact recreational purposes. Recreational improvements, other than those needed to facilitate hunting, fishing or wildlife viewing will be limited or restricted.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Continue to proactively co-manage lands within this zone	Ongoing	

#### CULTURAL LANDSCAPE OVERLAY

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.

ACTION GOALS	TARGET COMPLETION DATE	VOTES
Evaluate and complete Rolston Cabin renovations	2-10 years	
Construct interpretive signs at the Rolston Cabin	5-10 years	



10-YEAR ACTION GOALS COMMENTS		
Zone	Comment	
Natural Resources	Collaborate with OCPRC in managing NR stewardship activities, i.e planning, equipment, etc.	
Backcountry Zone	I know these are zoned differently, but please consider these dots as important for biking in Natural Resource Recreation Area as well.	
Developed Recreation Zone	Move Jump Island to one side of the beach or the other, not the middle.	

## PHONE COMMENTS

#### Comment

A Grand Blanc resident called and commented that there is insufficient parking for hunters; Many of the roads have no parking and the gates are not open early enough.

# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES LANSING

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR KEITH CREAGH DIRECTOR

January 26, 2017

To:

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Dowagiac, Michigan Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, Fulton, Michigan Gun Lake Band of Pottawatomi Indians, Dorr, Michigan

Dear Mr. Seal:

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 Holly Recreation Area in Oakland County, Michigan. This 7,817 acre recreation area offers camping, swimming, picnicking, fishing and boating on one of the many lakes within the recreation area, and 34 miles of hiking, mountain biking and cross-country ski trails. The majority of the recreation area is open to hunting, with approximately one-third of the acreage dedicated to game management. Holly Recreation Area contains a number of exemplary natural communities, including prairie fen, dry-mesic southern forest and southern hardwood swamp, which support several rare and threatened plants and animals.

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 Holly Recreation Area webpage at <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/holly">www.michigan.gov/holly</a> and the results will be used to inform the planning team. A stakeholder focus group has been scheduled for Tuesday March 7, 2017, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at North Oakland County Fire Authority, 5051 Grange Hall Road, Holly, Michigan 48442. A public meeting to review and provide comments on the draft plan will be scheduled in summer 2017. In addition, the draft plan 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 <a href="https://www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans.">www.michigan.gov/parkmanagementplans.</a>

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

## PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT

Holly Recreation Area General Management Plan Page 2 January 26, 2017

Please contact 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,

Dennis Knapp Tribal Coordinator 517-284-6237

cc: Ms. Debbie Jensen, DNR

Mr. Mike Terrell, DNR

Mr. Shawn Speaker, DNR



## 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 29, 2016) near Holly State Recreation Area
  - O 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 14, 2016) near Holly State Recreation Area
  - o 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 5, 2017) near Holly State Recreation Area
  - o 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 (April 25, 2017) via web conference
  - O 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 (June 20, 2017) via web conference
  - O The team met to review the first draft of the Holly State Recreation Area Management Plan.
- Planning Meeting 6: (October 9, 2017) via web conference
  - O 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.



Planning Meeting #1 Minutes Thursday, September 29, 2016 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

#### Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator Shawn Speaker, Unit Supervisor Gary Orr, Lead Worker John Terpstra, Regional Planner Peter Rose, Geologist Joseph Leonardi, Fisheries Biologist Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist Lisa Gamero, Cultural Resources Analyst Julie Oakes, Wildlife Biologist Brady Pettengill, Ranger Sarah Burton, Student Assistant Jon Curtis, Wildlife Technician Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

- 1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. The meeting began around 9:00 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 schedule may be adjusted to be able to take the Wildlife Division's planning process into account in the plan.
- 3. Overview Management Planning Process
  - a. D. Jensen gave an overview presentation of the management plan process.
- Park Overview
  - a. S. Speaker 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





- a. S. Speaker led the planning team on a tour of the park headquarters, historic cabin, new campground shower building, campgrounds, day use area at Heron Lake, disc golf course, Wildlife Division managed lands, and deluxe rental cabins.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 4:00 pm.





Planning Meeting #2 Minutes Monday, November 14, 2016 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator Matt Lincoln, Lands Liaison Shawn Speaker, Unit Supervisor John Terpstra, Regional Planner Peter Rose, Geologist Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist Lisa Gamero, Cultural Resources Analyst Mike Hanley, Forester Julie Oakes, Wildlife Biologist Brady Pettengill, Ranger Sarah Burton, Student Assistant Jon Curtis, Wildlife Technician Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

- 1. Review Meeting #1 Summary
  - a. The meeting began at 10:07 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.
- 3. Review Supporting Analysis and Resource Maps
  - a. The second draft of the resource maps and supporting analysis were reviewed by the planning team. Several edits were suggested and will be incorporated into the next drafts.
- 4. Lunch
  - a. Lunch was provided at the meeting location.
- 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. Beckett & Raeder will digitize this draft map for the next meeting.

- b. The planning team reviewed the 2004 project boundary and determined edits to be incorporated into the revised project boundary.
- 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 Holly Recreation Area. 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 3:00 pm.





Planning Meeting #3 Minutes

Thursday, January 5, 2017 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

#### Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator Lisa Gamero, Cultural Resources Analyst Matt Lincoln, Lands Liaison Shawn Speaker, Unit Supervisor Gary Orr, Lead Worker Mike Terrell, District Supervisor John Terpstra, Regional Planner Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist

Sarah Burton, Student Assistant Jon Curtis, Wildlife Technician 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. Shawn will work on the "Wide Range of Activities Close to Population Center" statement and share his thoughts with the team.
  - b. Edits to wording and grammar were suggested.
  - c. Park purpose statements have not yet been drafted. Debbie will investigate the park purpose.
- 3. Review draft Management Zone Map
  - a. The draft management zone map was presented. As a whole, the map boundaries are close to complete. Buffering around the roads should be consistent, and the map symbols should be corrected and resized. Whenever possible, defined physical features should be used to divide the zones.
  - b. The justification behind the zone locations should be noted for inclusion in the final plan.
  - c. Trails will be added to the map with one generic trail symbol.
  - d. The current park boundary will be shown on this map instead of the proposed park boundary.
  - e. The Wildlife Division zone will be changed to Wildlife Management, and the Cultural Landscape Zone (Overlay) will be changed to Cultural Landscape Overlay. Debbie will work on a description of the Wildlife Management zone.
- 4. Review Project Boundary Map
  - a. The project boundary map was reviewed and will become a separate map. Debbie will send an example of a project boundary map to BRI.
- 5. Develop First Draft of Action Goals





- a. The team brainstormed a set of action items for the next ten years. Debbie and BRI will work to categorize those items for the team's further review.
- 6. Finalize Online Survey Questions
  - a. The online survey questions were reviewed and several minor changes were requested. The survey will be administered such that only one response per IP address is allowed. With these edits, with the exception of a fisheries question, the survey is now final.
  - b. BRI will send a fisheries question to Joe Leonardi for review.
- 7. Finalize Stakeholder list and details of Stakeholder Workshop
  - a. The stakeholder list was refined. Caitlin will send the list out to the team for assistance with finding appropriate contacts and their information.
  - b. Shawn will investigate a location for the stakeholder meeting. An alternate fire hall was suggested.
- 8. Review Supporting Analysis and Resource Maps
  - a. Minor edits were requested for the supporting analysis document and resource maps.
  - b. Caitlin will ask Debbie and Shawn for assistance with finding additional photos if necessary.
  - c. The additional proposed boundary map will be added to the plan.
- 9. Adjourn
  - a. Debbie will write a letter to the tribes.
  - b. Debbie will look for dates for the stakeholder meeting (mid-March in the afternoon) and the following team meeting, and Caitlin will send out a doodle poll.





Planning Meeting #4 Minutes

Tuesday, April 25, 2017 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

#### Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator Matt Lincoln, Lands Liaison Shawn Speaker, Unit Supervisor John Terpstra, Regional Planner Jon Curtis, Wildlife Technician Julie Oakes, Wildlife Biologist Nicole VanBloem, Southern Lower Trail Specialist Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

#### 1. Review Meeting #3 Summary

- a. The team reviewed the meeting summary and outstanding tasks.
- b. Debbie will investigate the park purpose.
- c. Debbie will work on a description of the Wildlife Management Zone.

#### 2. Review Draft Management Zone Map

- a. BRI will send Glenn and Debbie the management zone shape file to review.
- b. Debbie will check with Glenn about a revised park boundary. The boundary may have changed due to recently purchased land.
- c. BRI will develop the boundary map showing the current park boundary, 2004 NRC approved boundary, and proposed boundary.

#### 3. Review Public Input Survey Results

- a. BRI will clarify in the summary that due to the advertisement method of the survey, there may be an overrepresentation of campers vs. day users in the survey respondents.
- b. BRI will clear up minor errors.

#### 4. Summary of Stakeholder Input Workshop

a. Shawn would like to touch base with Robert DePalma from Groveland Township to keep him apprised as no township representatives were available for the workshop.

#### 5. Review and Further Develop Action Goals

- a. The team reviewed the action goals which are broken down into management zone categories. Detail was added as well as additional action items.
- b. Debbie will ask Glenn if there are any items to be added to the Primitive Zone.
- c. The final plan should link to the Wildlife Management Plan.

#### 6. Next Steps

- a. Shawn will investigate a location for the public meeting. BRI and Debbie will discuss the format of the public meeting.
- b. The next meeting is yet to be scheduled.

#### 7. Adjourn

a. The meeting was adjourned around 3:20 pm.

Beckett&Raeder



#### Planning Meeting #5 Minutes

Monday, June 19, 2017 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm Web Conference

#### Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator Shawn Speaker, Unit Supervisor Jon Curtis, Wildlife Technician Peter Rose, Geologist Nicole VanBloem, Southern Lower Trail Specialist Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist Sarah Burton, Student Assistant Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant Caitlin Jackson, Management Plan Consultant

- 1. Review Meeting #4 Summary
  - a. No edits were suggested to the meeting #4 summary.
- 2. Review Draft Management Plan
  - a. Executive Summary
    - i. Minor edits were suggested to the description of HSRA in the opening paragraphs.
    - ii. Significance of Holly State Recreation Area
      - 1. No edits were suggested to the statements of significance.
    - iii. Management Zones
      - 1. The correct number of zones should be included in the opening paragraph.
      - 2. The name of the "Wildlife Management Zone" may be revised. Debbie will discuss this internally.
    - iv. Ten-Year Action Goals
      - 1. Goal descriptions will be added for the Primitive, Backcountry, and Natural Resource Recreation zones.
  - b. Chapter 1
    - No edits were suggested.
  - c. Chapter 2
    - i. 2.1 Planning Process
      - 1. Sarah will check if a formal master plan was written for HSRA.
    - ii. 2.4 Summary of Input Opportunities
      - 1. Debbie will send BRI a copy of the letter to the tribes.
  - d. Chapter 3
    - i. 3.1 State Park Purpose
      - 1. Debbie will send the Department of Conservation dedication for inclusion in the appendix.
    - ii. 3.4 Relationship to the Local Community
      - Information will be added about overnight lodging for events, the partnership with the county for the ORV area, and the Route 66 plan.





- 2. Debbie will send information about the Route 66 plan.
- e. Chapter 4
  - i. The correct number of zones will be included in the opening paragraph.
  - ii. Caitlin will follow up with Matt for the narrative of changes in the project boundary.
  - iii. The Tamarack Camp land acquisition will be mentioned.
  - iv. The boundary map will be revised to show shaded changes between the 2004 Project Boundary and the 2017 Proposed Project Boundary.
  - v. 4.1 Management Zones
    - 1. The team made minor edits to the zone descriptions during the meeting.
    - 2. BRI will clean up the management zone GIS file and send to Debbie and Glenn for review.
    - Debbie will review the historic / cultural resources description for each zone.
    - 4. Debbie will review the management focus for the developed recreation zone.
    - Debbie will send the Wildlife Management Zone description to Jon and Julie for comment.
- f. Chapter 5
  - i. The team made minor edits to the action goals during the meeting.
  - ii. A co-management goal is needed for the general action goals.
  - iii. Goals have been added to the primitive zone, backcountry zone, and natural resources recreation zone.
- 3. Review Boundary Map
  - a. The team reviewed the boundary map. The map will be revised to show transparent green shading for the existing park property and cross-hatching for property added or deleted from the 2004 project boundary.
- Discuss Public Meeting
  - The team discussed an agenda for the public meeting, which will include a
    presentation of the draft plan followed by an open-house style event for gathering
    input.
  - b. Shawn will look for a meeting location.
- Next Steps
  - a. BRI will incorporate edits from the team into the draft management plan and format it for the public meeting.
- Adjourn
  - a. The meeting was adjourned around 3:00 pm.

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#### Planning Meeting #6 Minutes

Monday, October 9, 2017 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Web Conference

#### Planning team members present:

Debbie Jensen, Management Plan Administrator Shawn Speaker, Unit Supervisor Jon Terpstra, Regional Planner Julie Oakes, Wildlife Biologist Glenn Palmgren, Ecologist Christy Summers, Management Plan Consultant Morgan Haffey, Management Plan Consultant

- 1. Review Meeting #5 Summary
  - a. No edits were suggested to the meeting #5 summary.
- 2. Review of Public Input Comments
  - a. Public Meeting Summary
    - The public meeting summary was reviewed by the team and few changes were made.
    - ii. Comments from the public were reviewed and discussed. Suggestion for a fat bike and groomed snow trails lead to the development of a new general action goal under "Recreation." Debbie and Shawn will work with BRI to develop wording and a target completion date.
    - iii. Action goal priorities indicated by the meeting attendees included implementing invasive species control, coordination with Oakland County on the ORV Adventure Park, updating trail signage, continuing to maintain Holdridge Lakes Mountain Bike Area, and constructing a rustic campground. Some action goals will be re-ordered to reflect this prioritization.
  - b. Phone Comments
    - i. The team reviewed and discussed comments submitted via phone and no action goals were added.
- Plan Revisions
  - a. Significance Statements
    - i. The team had very few comments about the significance statements and no changes were made.
  - b. Management Zones
    - Debbie will get an exact acreage of the park now that the Tamarack Camp property has been acquired.
    - ii. Debbie will update Shawn and Glenn of the acreage changes.
  - c. Park Amenities Map
    - i. Debbie will send BRI a typical bike symbol and BRI will add the bike symbol to the Park Amenities Map, as requested by Public Meeting attendee(s).
  - d. Action Items/Goals
    - i. The team decided that all action items in each section should be organized by target completion date, starting with "Ongoing" and then continued in

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- order of completion. This requirement excludes the items listed under the Natural Resources section under General Action Goals.
- ii. The completion date of the general action goal under "Natural Resources" stating, "Develop a Stewardship Plan to identify targets for conservation and related natural resource management strategies", was revised to say "1 year".
- iii. Debbie will consider the possibility of creating an action goal regarding the purchase of the doctor's office property at Dixie and Grange Hall.
- Other Draft Plan Comments and Corrections
  - a. Debbie will send BRI her edits of the public and stakeholder summary descriptions.
  - Debbie will send BRI the press release in order for it to be incorporated into the draft plan.
  - c. BRI will add both meeting #5 and meeting #6 minutes to the draft plan when they are finalized.
  - d. BRI will update all acreages in the draft plan.
  - e. Shawn will provide photos of the new playground to be incorporated into the developed recreation zone section of the draft plan.
  - f. Debbie will send BRI the necessary data to create an updated forest types map.
  - g. BRI will move the supporting analysis table of contents to the front of the draft plan and create a title page for the supporting analysis section of the plan.
  - h. BRI will add a public meeting description and mention that the plan was available online for comments via email.
  - i. BRI will work with Debbie on formatting issues within the draft plan.
  - Julie will send the Wildlife Management Plan to Glenn and the team as a resource of information.
  - 5. Plan Review and Approval Process
    - a. Debbie will check with Ray to see if the Stewardship plan needs to be completed at the same time as the general management plan.
    - b. The team is aiming to wrap up any last edits in order to present the final draft to the Michigan State Parks Advisory Committee for approval at either their December or February meeting.
  - 6. Adjourn
    - a. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.