# PHASE 2 – LONG RANGE ACTION GOALS PLAN

Long-range action plan providing specific action goals focused on the natural resources, historic-cultural resources, recreation opportunities, and the education-interpretation opportunities of each zone established in the "General Management Plan" for...

## **Rockport Property**



Prepared by:

The project was directed by Paul N. Curtis, Management Plan Administrator Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Recreation Division with assistance from Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc.

PLAN APPROVALS:  Chief, Recreation Division	Date /	NORA THE THE PART OF COMME
Chief, Operations Section	/o //8//o Date	BIAI
Chief, Planning Section	10-15-10 Date	





## PLAN APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

Paul N. Curtís	8/19/2010
Park Management Plan Administrator	Date
Ray Fahlsing	8/23/2010
Stewardship Unit Manager	Date
Gary Ellenwood 1	9/14/2010
Gaylord District Supervisor (see e-mail appended to plan)	Date
Keíth Chelí <sup>1</sup>	9/8/2010
Gaylord District Planner (see e-mail appended to plan)	Date
Tom Paquín <sup>1</sup>	9/29/2010
Маладег, Cheboygan FO (see e-mail appended to plan)	9/29/2010 Date
Kevin Frailey	9/7/2010
METD - Marketing, Education, and Technology Division	Date

## **Approval Comments:**

#1 – Recommend approval of plan if appropriate funding/staffing is obligated

## FOR INFORMATION:

NRTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NRC – MICHIGAN STATE PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE & STEWARDSHIP/OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

DNRE - STATEWIDE COUNCIL

DNRE - NLP ECOTEAM

RD - SECTION CHIEFS AND MANAGEMENT TEAM

#### INTRODUCTION

A General Management Plan develops as a result of a series of planning steps. Each step builds upon the previous, and action decisions focus on the mission of the Recreation Division (RD), and the specific Purpose and Significance of the park. Phase I GMP is the first of four phases of planning. This document, Phase 2 Action Plan, is directed by the Phase 1 plan and identifies goals to be obtained over the next ten years.

In this phase, the first action is to re-evaluate the General Management Plan to assure that no conditions have changed that would cause a change in the overall guiding document. Having recently adopted the General Management Plan for this park in 2008, it stands as written.

The second phase of management planning for the Rockport Property establishes long-range action goals for each of the management zones defined in the "General Management Plan" (GMP). For each management zone in the plan, action goals are recommended that address the following categories:

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

## **BACKGROUND OF THE ROCKPORT PROPERTY AND OVERVIEW OF PHASE 1**

Rockport is a 4,237-acre State-owned property on Lake Huron, located in Alpena and Presque Isle Counties. The Recreation Division (RD) completed the Phase I General Management Plan (GMP) process for the Rockport Property in 2008. The endeavor represents a new planning philosophy of the RD. "Management Planning," a comprehensive, resource-based process, is the RD's adaptation of National Park Service planning methodology. Through the planning process, the Planning Team (made up of DNRE Department staff, government officials, stakeholders and the public), the Core Values for Rockport were developed. Rockport was determined to be significant for the following reasons:

- 1. Uniqueness among exposed limestone formations in that the entire thickness of the rock formation is exposed at the surface.
- 2. Significant cultural and historic resources: Native American influences; the limestone quarry and deep water port that played an active role in Michigan's mining history and the location of the construction of the Mackinac Bridge

- caissons; settlement remnants from the once-active mining operation; fossils within the quarry; and, the quarry's demonstration of a limestone formation.
- 3. The deep water port is unique to the northeast shoreline, and is a major attraction for visitors and those seeking deep water access for launching boats.
- 4. Provision of boat access to Lake Huron for the public and the Chippewa tribe fishing fleet.
- 5. It is located within the Lake Huron Flyway (State and Federal agencies use the bird census data from this area as a litmus test of the health of Lake Huron and the shoreline environment).
- 6. Several historic shipwrecks lie in and around Rockport (the schooner PORTLAND at Bolton Point, and the steamer PORTSMOUTH at Middle Island, all popular and accessible dive and snorkel sites).
- 7. Sinkholes, karst features, and dramatic land forms are found in Rockport, which are educational and of interest to geologists, botanists, and recreational divers.
- 8. Unique natural features, such as old growth white pines, and cobble beach, and the prevalence of fens, which tend to be located in the northern portion of the property.
- 9. Shoreline and access to Lake Huron is an exceptionally valuable resource in terms of commercial fisheries.
- 10. Proximity and relationship to the Besser Natural Area that contains a sandy beach, rare along the typically cobbled Lake Huron shoreline, and sensitive natural features.
- 11. Prevalence of wildflowers, and species of special concern, threatened species and endangered species, such as Houghton's goldenrod, Dwarf lake iris and Pitcher's thistle.
- 12. Inclusion of land on Middle Island.
- 13. It is part of several regional networks.

In concert with this analysis of Rockport's identity and significance, the Planning Team, with stakeholder and public input, established appropriate Management Zones and their extent of influence on the property. From a pallet of nine standard zones, four were applied to Rockport. While the full descriptions of these zones are included in the Phase 1 document, a condensed review of the Management Zones follows:

- o <u>Primitive Zone</u> reflects a desired condition that emphasizes the natural resources. It is managed to only allow dispersed and low frequency use for low impact recreational purposes. The Primitive Zone includes approximately 1,645 acres, or 39%, of Rockport land. The zone covers: Land that contains sensitive wetland areas, and sensitive or undisturbed forested land; the northern and southern portions of Rockport; the Besser Natural Area; and, land on Middle Island.
- Natural Resource Recreation Zone permits active recreation with moderate to high density of use conducted in a natural setting. At 49%, or 2,040 acre, the Natural Resource Recreation (NRR) Zone comprises the greatest amount of Rockport land area. The designation was applied due to the resources contained within the land, and the potential uses for these resources. Access for exploration of the sinkholes, the potential for designated rustic camping, as well as higher-intensity uses of the trails is also facilitated by the NRR designation.
- Developed Recreation Zone provides for active recreation with high density of use conducted in areas not designated for natural resource significance. Approximately 560 acres, or 13%, of Rockport is zoned Developed Recreation. Land in this zone contains largely that which is currently disturbed, including the quarry and port. The port is shared with many users, including the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the Chippewa Tribe. In a regional context, Rockport is the central hub where development can be encouraged while Negwegon State Park and Thompson's Harbor State Park retain their undeveloped, natural status.
- O Cultural Landscape Zone addresses the overall setting in which is found not only historic structures, but also non-structural evidence of the traditions, beliefs, practices, lifeways, arts, crafts and social institutions of any community. Approximately 288 acres, or 6.8%, of Rockport is covered by the overlay, which applies to the eastern coastline of the Developed Recreation Zone and the Besser Natural Area. During the limestone quarry's operation, approximately 1927 to 1958, the land in this zone was occupied by settlement formed by quarry workers and their families. Remnants of this once vibrant community can be found there today.

In addition, to the Management Zones, the GMP recommends that other aspects of the property be considered:

- Regional Consideration. The planning for the Rockport Property was performed in conjunction with the planning for Thompson's Harbor State Park and Negwegon State Park. The planning effort, supported by a consensus of the Planning Team, resulted in the following concept: Rockport would be established as the central "hub" of the three sites, allowing Negwegon and Thompson's Harbor to remain in a relatively undisturbed, natural state.
- Access and Parking. Current access to the Rockport Property is by Rockport Road, from US-23. This Plan considers two additional points of entry, both would include small parking areas: County Line Road (a central point of access that could facilitate

easier access to the sink holes); and access from the north (adjacent to the Besser Natural Area).

- Signage. Appropriate signage is needed to inform the public of Rockport's location. Interpretive, directional and education signage within each park is incorporated in Phase 2.
- O Camping. The highly modified quarry area, in general, may offer opportunities for more extensive development with low resource impacts. The quarry also offers other recreational opportunities and any camping development would be respectful of other uses. Designated rustic camping has potential in the Natural Resource Recreation zone.
- o <u>Future Purchases</u>. Part of the DNRE's mission is to acquire lands with unique natural, cultural and historic resources for the purposes of public recreation and education. The Natural Resources Commission approved a dedicated boundary for Rockport in 2004. The Planning Team's recommendation for expanding the project boundary includes acquiring additional frontage along East Grand Lake Road, and all remaining ownership of Middle Island. Land within the dedicated boundary would be a priority purchase for the DNRE, should the opportunity to purchase and funding become available. Major land purchases would prompt an amendment to the GMP.



Rockport Property

#### Acronyms used:

• RD Recreation Division

FMD Forest Management DivisionNAC NRTH Advisory Committee

METD Marketing, Education, and Technology Division

MNFI Michigan Natural Features Inventory
 TBNMS Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary

These final draft goals were developed based upon input and discussion from the full Planning Team, Stakeholders, and the public.

# **The Rockport Property**

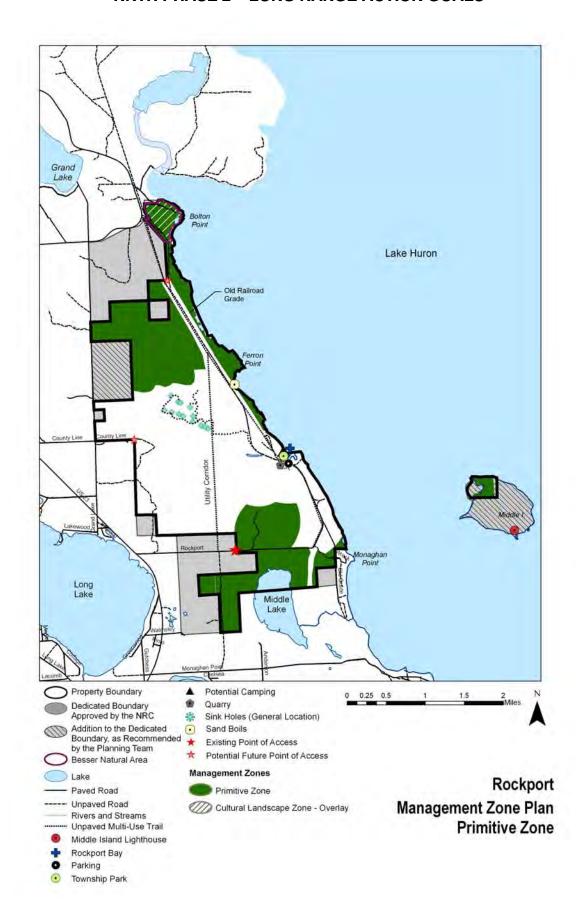
1.	1. General Action Goals (Applies to the whole park)				
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position	
1.	Transfer administration of Rockport from FMD to RD. Develop and conduct public info session(s) on what the change means (use NAC)	After October 1, 2010 (2011 fiscal year)	RD FMD	RD & FMD Lands Managers	
2.	Land acquisition within boundary	On-going after transfer from FMD	Lands- Management	Lands Manager	
3.	Prepare a Director's Order to close entire park to snowmobile use (with review of appropriate user group)	Concurrent with transfer from FMD	Park User group	Park Manager	
4.	Prepare a Director's Order to open this park to hunting (under RD) then maintain park open to hunting	Concurrent with transfer from FMD	Park	Park Manager	
5.	Expand NRC boundary per the Phase 1 plan recommendation	2012	Lands- Management	Lands Manager	
6.	Develop (Phase 1) Stewardship Plan	2014	Stewardship	Stewardship Ecologist	
7.	Implement (Phase 2) Stewardship Plan for the park	Per Stewardship Plan	Stewardship Park	Park Manager	
8.	Implement the specific provisions of the Biodiversity Conservation Planning Process (BCPP)	On-going	Stewardship Park	Park Manager	
9.	Develop a cultural resources inventory of the park for interpretation, protection and preservation	2020	Stewardship	Stewardship Cultural Specialist	
10.	Develop a geological resources inventory of the park for interpretation, protection and preservation	2020	Stewardship DNRE geologists Universities	Stewardship Ecologist	

11. Prepare an Emergency Plan	Following transfer from FMD	Park	Park Manager
12. Develop a Wildfire Plan (annual review per policy)	2011	Stewardship Park	Stewardship Ecologist
13. Identify opportunities to improve connectivity within and beyond park boundaries; e.g. opportunities with US 23 Heritage Route	On-going	Planning Park NAC	District Planner and Park Manager
14. Work with county road commissions, local government units and private landowners to improve access to the park.	On-going. Set up joint meeting with county road commissions 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 2010	Planning Park	District Planner
15. Increase/improve access to the park at the west and north, and at south end of Boating Access Site location	On-going	Planning Park	District Planner
16. Tie into ecotourism plan recommendations	Ongoing	Operations Park NAC METD	Marketing Specialist and Recreation Programmer
17. Review all proposed earthwork activities for potential impact on historic/cultural resources	On-going	Stewardship	Stewardship Cultural Specialist
Develop ecotourism concession opportunities	On-going	NAC Park METD Resource- Management	Contract Specialist
19. Develop specific interpretation and education opportunities with Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary (TBNMS)	On-going	METD TBMS Park	METD Education Unit
20. Explore and develop revenue generating opportunities that are sustainable	On-going	Program- Services Operations District Park	RD Funds Specialist
21. Conduct / Update Natural Features Inventory	2016	MNFI Stewardship	Stewardship Ecologist
22. Develop a master 'Site  Development Plan' for the  park	2018	Planning	District Planner
23. Dedicate staffing and budget resources to address goals (including partnerships and volunteers as appropriate)	On-going	Program- Services District Park	District Supervisor Park Manager

24. Promote volunteer partnerships to meet resource goals	On-going	Friends NAC Park Stewardship	Park Manager
25. Identify water trail connections (e.g. Blue Water Trails)	On-going	Planning	District Planner
26. Develop a marketing plan for this park based on natural and historic resources found within the park	2016	NAC Operations Park METD	Marketing Specialist
27. Develop/improve parking areas at north and south access points	2018	Planning	District Planner
28. Update zone plan for new acquisitions	2011	Planning	Park Management Plan Administrator
29. Encourage formation of a Rockport Friends Group	2012	Park NAC	Park Manager
30. Develop efficient review process for appropriate commercial interpretation and recreation opportunities	2016	METD Planning Stewardship Resource- Management Park	Resource Management Unit



Rockport Property – former mine entrance

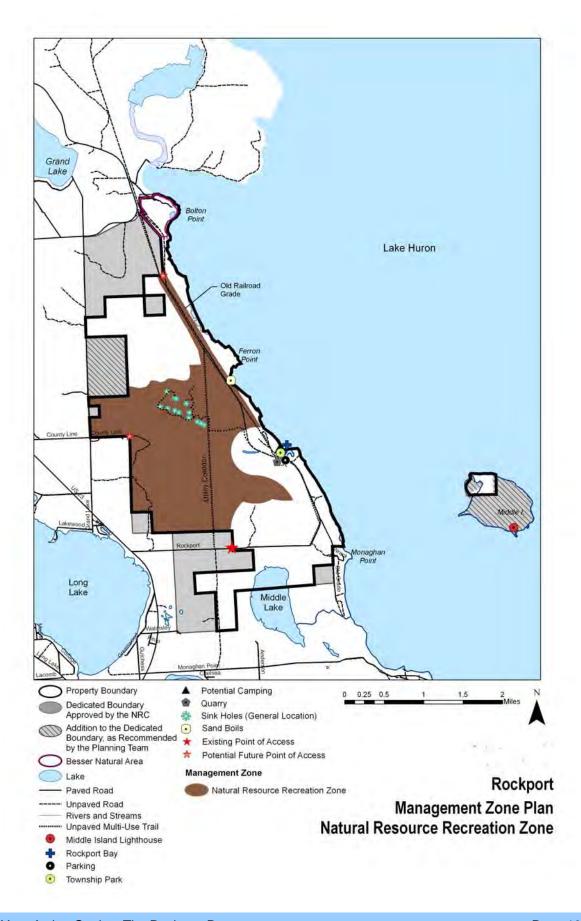


2.	Primitive Zone (P)					
Na	Natural Resources (P)					
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
1.	Conduct surveys and control invasive species as described in the park stewardship plan	On-going	Stewardship MNFI	Stewardship Ecologist		
His	storic/Cultural Resources (P)					
Ac	tion Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
1.	Protect archaeological/cultural resources identified by inventory (includes known resources at Besser Natural Area and on Middle Island (Lifesaver station)	On-going	Stewardship Park	Park Manager		
Re	creation Opportunities (P)					
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
1.	Maintain hiking foot trails in Besser Natural Area	On-going	Park	Park Manager		
2.	Identify other trail opportunities in the zone	2016	Planning Stewardship Park	District Planner		
3.	Maintain and enhance opportunities for hunting/gathering/trapping, bird watching, trail use and camping	On-going	Planning Park Friends NAC	Park Manager		
Ed	ucation Opportunities (P)					
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
1.	Develop interpretive message for designated trail(s) and viewing areas of cultural and natural resources for the purpose of interpretation	On-going	Planning Stewardship METD	METD Education Unit		
2.	Identify resources to highlight for off-site interpretation (e.g. Middle Island/fens)	On-going	Park Stewardship METD	Stewardship Ecologist & Cultural Specialist		
3.	Interpret the natural and cultural features of the Besser Natural Area	On-going	Planning Stewardship METD	METD Education Unit		
4.	Utilize variety of media, including audio and visual technologies for interpretation	On-going	METD	METD Education Unit		

Management Focus (P)					
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
Meet requirements of the Natural Areas Act	Upon transfer from FMD	Stewardship Park	Park Manager		
<ol> <li>Implement the education/interpretation recommendations for the zones</li> </ol>	On-Going	METD Stewardship Park	METD Education Unit		
3. Address user conflicts	On-going	Park NAC Friends	Park Manager		
Development (P)					
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
Develop appropriate     education and interpretation     trail(s) and viewing location		Planning Stewardship Park	District Planner		
<ol><li>Improve parking at Besser Natural Area</li></ol>	2016	Planning Park	District Planner		



Rockport property



3. Natı	ural Resource Recreation Z	Zone (NRR)		
Natural Resources (NRR)				
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
(ex	otect integrity of sink-holes cplore Northern Florida odel and others)	On-going	Planning Stewardship Park	District Planner
inv	enduct surveys and control rasive species as described the park stewardship plan	On-going	Stewardship MNFI	Stewardship Ecologist
Histor	ic/Cultural Resources (NRF	₹)		
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
NA				
Recrea	ation Opportunities (NRR)			
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
a v sno	entify trail opportunities for variety of trail users (e.g., owmobile, ski, equestrian, ing and biking)	2016	Planning Park	District Planner
2. Ide ba oth ove	entify opportunities for ckcountry camping and ner opportunities for ernight accommodations in some	2015	Stewardship Planning Park	District Planner
3. Im ho	prove access to the sink- les with focus on safety d resource protection	On-going	Planning Stewardship Park	District Planner
4. Ma op hu bir	portunities for nting/gathering/trapping, d watching, trail use and mping	On-going	Planning Park Friends NAC	Park Manager
Educa	tion Opportunities (NRR)			
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
ge ka	ucation/Interpretation of ology including sink-holes, rst and karst river valley, I beach cobble line, etc.	2016	Planning Stewardship DNRE- Geologists Park	METD Education Unit

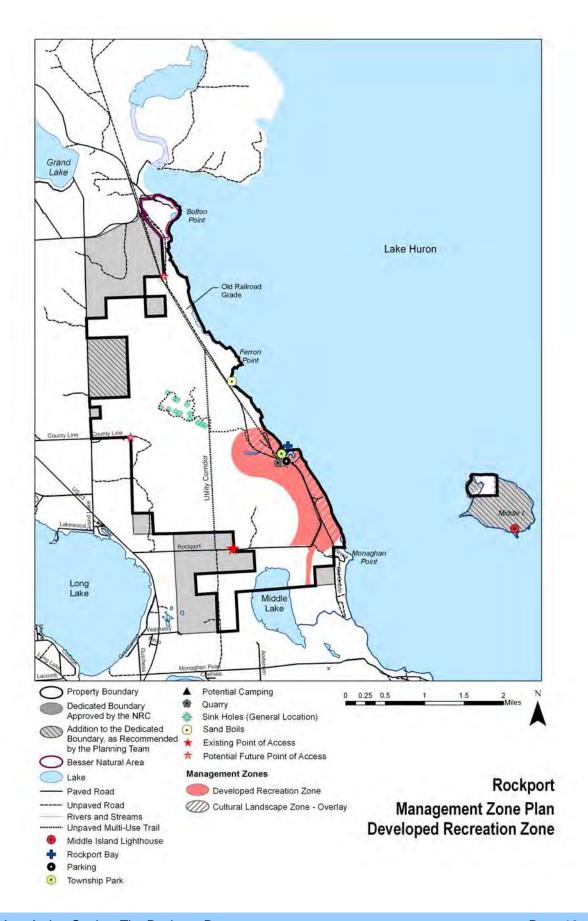
2.	Develop appropriate interpretive message for trail(s) and viewing areas of cultural and natural resources for the purpose of interpretation	2015	METD Park Stewardship TBNMS	METD Education Unit
3.	Develop appropriate designated trail(s) and viewing areas of cultural and natural resources for the purpose of interpretation	2018	Planning Stewardship Park	District Planner
4.	Identify resources to highlight for on and off-site interpretation	2015	METD Planning Park Stewardship TBNMS	Stewardship Ecologist & Stewardship Cultural Specialist
5.	Utilize variety of media, including audio and visual technologies for interpretation	On-going	METD	METD Education Unit

## **Management Focus (NRR)**

	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
1.	Identify existing trails and make recommendations for new trails	2016	Planning Stewardship Park	District Planner
2.	Address user conflicts	On-going	NAC Friends Park	Park Manager

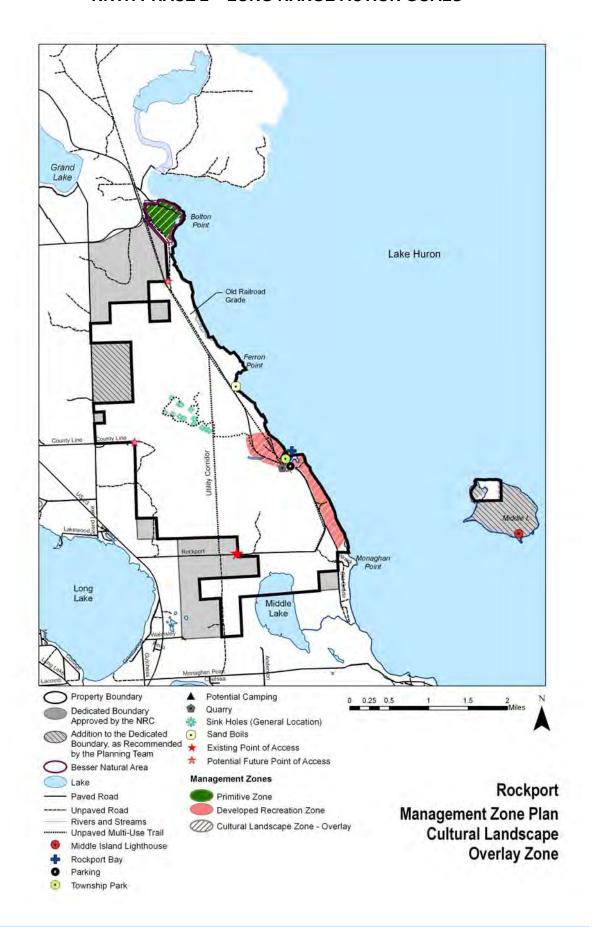
# **Development (NRR)**

	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position
1.	Develop safe access to (and into) sink-hole(s) where appropriate and feasible	2020	Planning & Park	District Planner
2.	Develop parking from west side of park and trail into the zone	2020	Planning & Park	District Planner
3.	Designate and improve trails based on above recommendations	2020	Planning & Park	Park Manager



4.	4. Developed Recreation Zone (DR)					
Na	Natural Resources (DR)					
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
1.	Conduct surveys and control invasive species as described in the park stewardship plan	On-going	Stewardship MNFI	Stewardship Ecologist		
His	storic/Cultural Resources (DR)					
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
1.	Preserve cultural and historic resources: old settlement along shore at and south of BAS; construction of Mackinac Bridge caissons	On-going	Stewardship & Park	Park Manager		
Re	creation Opportunities (DR)					
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position		
1.	Identify opportunities for a variety of trail uses (e.g. snowmobile, ski, equestrian, hiking, and biking)	2016	Planning	District Planner		
2.	Fossil collecting and Education/Interpretation of geology	2016	Stewardship METD	Stewardship Ecologist & METD Education Unit		
3.	Work with Alpena Township on long-term plans for incorporating Alpena Township park use in the overall operation in this zone.	On-going	Lands Management Planning Park	Park Manager		
4.	Assess feasibility for campground or other overnight accommodations	2016	Planning Park	District Planner		
5.	Improve diver access to water (sinkhole(s) and Lake Huron)	2020	Planning Park	District Planner		
6.	Conduct a feasibility study with Law Enforcement Division and METD on the development of a safe shooting range and long- range shooting in this zone	2016	Law Enforcement METD Planning Park	District Planner		
7.	Maintain/improve existing BAS	On-going	Planning Park	District Planner		
8.	Assess pier for recreational and safety improvements	2013	Planning Park	District Planner		
9.	Improved access for fishing	2020	Planning Park	District Planner		

Ed	Education Opportunities (DR)						
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
1.	Geological interpretation	2016	METD Stewardship TBNMS	METD Education Unit			
2.	Partner with TBNMS for maritime history and the underwater preserve, etc.	On-going	Planning METD TBNMS	METD Education Unit			
3.	Develop appropriate interpretive message for trail(s) and viewing areas of cultural and natural resources for the purpose of interpretation	2016	METD Planning Park Stewardship TBNMS	METD Education Unit			
4.	Identify resources to highlight for on and off-site interpretation	2017	Park Stewardship METD	Stewardship Ecologist & Cultural Specialist			
5.	Assess feasibility for a programmed Visitor Center to serve Rockport, Negwegon and Thompson's Harbor; consider partnerships with local providers, etc.	2018	Planning All Three Parks TBMS NAC Friends	District Planner(s)			
6.	Identify opportunities for education and interpretation of quarry operations	2016	Park Stewardship METD DNRE Geologists	METD Education Unit			
7.	Utilize variety of media, including audio and visual technologies for interpretation	On-going	METD	METD Education Unit			
Management Focus (DR)							
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
1.	Address user conflicts	On-going	NAC Friends Park	Park Manager			
2.	Maintain Boat Access Site (BAS)	On-going	Park	Park Manager			
3.	Develop plan for reclamation of old gravel piles	2016	Planning Stewardship Park	District Planner			
De	velopment (DR)						
	Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
1.	Develop an improved access point and parking	2016	Planning Park	District Planner			



5. Cultural Landscape Zone (overlay of entire park) (CL)						
Natural Resources (CL)						
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
Follow underlying zone recomme	endations					
Historic/Cultural Resources (CL)						
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
Follow underlying zone recommendations						
Preserve, protect and enhance old settlement and quarry	On-going	Stewardship Park	Park Manager			
Recreation Opportunities (CL)						
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
Follow underlying zone recomn	nendations					
Education Opportunities (CL)						
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
Follow underlying zone recommendations						
Management Focus (CL)						
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
Follow underlying zone recommendations						
Development (CL)						
Action Goal	Target Date	Program Input From	Responsible Program Position			
Follow underlying zone recommendations						



## RECOMMENDATIONS TO APPROVE

Negwegon SP, Rockport, and Thompson's Harbor SP

## **Request for Recommendation**

From: Curtis, Paul (DNRE)

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 9:24 AM

To: Ellenwood, Gary (DNRE); Sylvester, Anna; Cheli, Keith; Rife, Troy (DNRE); Mullen, Daniel (DNRE);

Paguin, Thomas

Cc: Nardo, Mary (DNRE)

Subject: "Recommendation to Approve" - NRTH PH2 - Long Range Action Goals Plans

All...I' m trying this a different way so that I don't have to send out a hardcopy for signatures. I need each of you to respond to this e-mail with your response (yes or no) indicating your recommendation that the plan be approved, for:

(1) Negwegon SP - PH2 Plan

(2) Rockport - PH2 Plan

(3) Thompson's Harbor SP - PH2 Plan

I will make the notation on the second page and include your e-mail recommendations in the appendix for each plan. Please respond no later than Friday, September 24...sooner if you can. Let me know if you have any questions...Paul

#### Responses (Negwegon SP)

From: Sylvester, Anna (DNRE)

**Sent:** Monday, October 11, 2010 8:27 AM

**To:** Curtis, Paul (DNRE)

Subject: RE: NRTH Phase 2 - recommendation to approve

Yes, I approve

From: Mullen, Daniel (DNRE)

Sent: Thursday, September 09, 2010 2:31 PM

**To:** Curtis, Paul (DNRE)

Subject: RE: "Recommendation to Approve" - NRTH PH2 - Long Range Action Goals

Plans Yes! Dan

From: Rife, Troy (DNRE)

Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 9:58 AM

**To:** Curtis, Paul (DNRE)

Subject: RE: "Recommendation to Approve" - NRTH PH2 - Long Range Action Goals

**Plans** 

#### yes on negwegon, troy

**Responses** (Rockport and Thompson's Harbor SP)

From: Ellenwood, Gary (DNRE)

Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2010 9:13 AM

**To:** Curtis, Paul (DNRE) **Cc:** Paquin, Thomas

Subject: RE: "Recommendation to Approve" - NRTH PH2 - Long Range Action Goals

Plans Paul....

The two plans I'm comfortable commenting are Thompson's Harbor and Rockport.

While I agree with the plan scopes and recommendations and give my conditional approval; I feel that in both case's it must be recognized and acknowledged that for either plan to be successful the Division needs to be fiscally committed to making them a reality. I would not endorse the transfer of Rockport from Forest Management Division to Recreation Division unless the funding is in place to make it a viable State Park. Field Staff has shrunk to the point that we can no longer continue to set them up for failure by continuing to give card blanche endorsement of unfunded mandates.

#### Good plan – but funding is crucial.

From: Cheli, Keith Sent: Wed 09/08/2010

To: Mullen, Daniel; Paquin, Thomas; Sylvester, Anna; Curtis, Paul; Ellenwood, Gary; Rife, Troy

Cc: Nardo, Mary

Subject: Re. "Recommendation to Approve" - NRTH PH2 - Long Range Action Goals Plans

#### Paul -

I Recommend Approval of the NRTH Phase 2 - Long Range Action Goals Plans with the following contingencies and observations.

#### Thompson's Harbor State Park

- 1. Recreation Division has acquired two 80 acre parcels within the park and the maps should be updated to reflect these additions. The two parcels lie along US 23, east and west of the park's main entry/ exit from US 23.
- 2. The plan should reflect that there are two cabins within the park now not just one. The 80 acre acquisition west of the entry/ exit along US 23 has a cabin that is now for rent.
- 3. We need to be clear that additional staff and financial resources will be required to effectively achieve the Long Range Action Goals as outlined.

#### **Rockport Property**

1. With the recommendation of administrative transfer of the property in 2011 we should also be including additional operational staff and financial resources in order to maintain and manage the existing facility with a commitment to work towards accomplishing the Long Range Action Goals.

Without the required resources it will be difficult to make significant progress as outlined in our NRTH Phase 2 Long Range Action Goals Plans.

From: Paquin, Thomas (DNRE)

Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2010 1:32 PM

**To:** Curtis, Paul (DNRE)

Subject: RE: "Recommendation to Approve" - NRTH PH2 - Long Range Action Goals

Plans Paul,

I concur with what Gary and Keith have stated. No other issues to date.

Tom

## **REMAINING RECOMMENDATIONS TO APPROVE:** (all three plans)

Paul N. Curtis, Park Management Plan Administrator
 Ray Fahlsing, Stewardship Unit Manager
 Kevin Frailey, Marketing. Education. Technology Division
 9/7/2010