

Appendix B –Summary of Public Input

Public Participation

The Department of Natural Resources Parks & Recreation Division (DNR-PRD) emphasizes that comments on the general management plans are accepted at any time during the process. Two structured approaches to gathering public input are included in the general management plan process. The participation initiatives are summarized below, and the results are presented in this Appendix.

❑ August 15-16, 2011 Stakeholder Workshop

The purpose of the workshop was to obtain comments on the draft General Management Plans for Waterloo Recreation Area. With assistance from the Planning Team, approximately 100 people and/or organizations were identified as stakeholders. Invitations to the Stakeholder Workshop were sent by email and via post. Approximately 60 people attended the workshop.

Stakeholders were invited to comment at the meeting. Stakeholders could also comment by completing a survey. The surveys were provided at the workshops to complete in person or submit by mail.

- ❑ October 13, 2011** A public input open house was held to allow the public the opportunity to express their comments about the park. The above noted people were again contacted regarding the public input workshops by mail and email. A notice was published in the local paper. Flyers were posted in the Eddy Center. Stakeholders and others were encouraged to share this information with interested members of the general public. Approximately 25 people attended.

There were two opportunities to provide comments:

- 1) Comment at one of the workshops
- 2) A hard-copy survey available at the workshops - for completion on site or submitted via mail

Meeting Summary
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

General Management Plans – Stakeholder Meeting

DATE: August 15-16, 2011

TIME: 5:00 – 8:00 PM

PLACE: Eddy Discovery Center – Waterloo Recreation Area

Planning Team members and Stakeholders in attendance (Group Represented):

(See sign in sheet that follows)

1. Introductions and Background
All Team members and Stakeholders introduced themselves and identified the DNR Division, stakeholder group, or issue they represented.
2. Presentations:
 - Paul Curtis (PRD) - General Management Planning Process & Overview of Draft Plan process for Pinckney & Waterloo Recreation Areas
 - David Birchler (Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc.) - Overview of Draft Plan for Pinckney & Waterloo Recreation Areas
3. Questions & Answers/Comments Session
The Planning Team members fielded questions and heard comments from the stakeholders present.
4. Open House / Stakeholder Survey Session
 - Open house format was explained, as well as resource maps and materials available for review
 - Progression of Management Zone Objectives
 - Aerial Photos
 - Recreational Resources Maps
 - Draft management Zones Maps
 - Detailed Description of Management Zones
 - Stakeholder Survey
 - Team members and Stakeholders engaged one another in discussions about each park's resources and its importance to the greater region
 - Stakeholders who did not return a completed survey promised to send them to Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc. via mail
5. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 PM after all Stakeholders had departed.

Waterloo Recreation Area
Workshop Input Worksheet Results
August 15-16, 2011

1. Do you agree with the above statements? Would you add anything to the above statements?
 - Yes, nothing to add
 - To provide a safe environment for a diverse use of public land that promotes exercise and nature.
 - Yes.
 - Yes, to encourage the public to appreciate natural areas and do more to support their preservation and management. To provide a chance for person to experience nature close to home (as opposed to
 - Yes, also to preserve and protect hunting and fishing – Good Job!!
 - Agree.
 - Yes.
 - I agree with the Statements of Purpose

2. Do you agree with the above statements? What else makes Waterloo Recreation Area significant to you?
 - Yes, I do. The many recreation opportunities available.
 - This is the divide of the Huron & Grand Water Shed
 - Yes, A long mountain bike trail (18+ miles) linked to the Potawatomi Trail would make Pinckney/ Waterloo a trail system unique to the Midwest and incredibly special.
 - Yes; 1) love, 2) topographic diversity; 3) range of recreational opportunities; 4) chances to educate youth/give young persons a chance to interest with nature.
 - Yes.
 - Provides land for hunting in SE Michigan (hunters are the main \$ source and PR \$ bought a lot of land).
 - Agree
 - Yes.
 - Current Statements of Significance: I agree with the Statements of Significance. Waterloo Recreation Area is significant to me because of the many opportunities to enjoy a diverse natural environment which is very close to my home and which I can enjoy year round without driving for many hours. I especially love the opportunities to experience the natural beauty of Waterloo Recreation Area from the back of a horse in all seasons.

3. What natural resources are important?
 - All of them in the Waterloo Rec Area.
 - Native plant and animal species, as undisturbed as possible.
 - They're all important but what is especially important is the ability to provide epic level recreation for a variety of sports in a setting close to a lot of population.
 - Lakes and Forest
 - Wonderful to have pristine land so close to big metro area.

4. What cultural resources are important?
- The past use of this area by Native Americans, the CCC Footprint (that initially built this infrastructure in the park and the Eddy Center.
 - Native American, early settlers, farm history.
 - All of them
 - Wetlands
 - Cultural resources are important. However, I do not think that the cultural area around the old prison site needs to be as large as it has been shown on the current maps. It would adequate to have a plaque or marker on the site where the prisoner of war camp stood. The lagoon and surrounding areas are not historically significant, as they were later additions.
5. What are the education and interpretation opportunities?
- Teach people about how to protect and preserve; identification and information on plants and animals.
 - Those provided by the Eddy Center staff and augmented by the WNHA.
6. What are the recreation opportunities?
- Hiking, Boating, Fishing, Hunting, Camping
 - Winter sports, sledding hill at Waterloo & M-52
 - I'm mostly interested in trail running, mountain biking and kayaking.
 - Bicycling Trails using existing and adding additional for return.
 - There are multiple recreation opportunities in Waterloo Recreation Area, including horseback riding, camping, camping with horses, hunting, fishing, water sports, nature walks, hiking, wildlife and wildflower observation, mushroom hunting, photography and many more. It is important that all users treat other types of users with respect and recognize everyone's right to quiet enjoyment of the Recreation Area.
7. What should be the visitor experience?
- As natural as possible while providing for non-motorized traffic where appropriate.
 - Since you mentioned that "Up North Feel", an experience of that "Up North Feel" without going up north.
 - Joy of outdoors.
 - A range of possibilities; from guided to solo exploration.
8. Are there any known user conflicts or issues?
- Mountain bikers and horses are best segregated.
 - I know there have been conflicts with horse groups and bikers and hikers in the past. Not aware of any now.
 - None. Plenty of land for everyone.
 - Most trail users would benefit from trails customized for their use.
 - There have been reported cases of harassment by mountain bikers toward horseback riders and other types of Recreation Area users. It is important to discourage this type of behavior and to deal with those who harass other users, so that all may enjoy the Recreation Area peacefully.

9. What should be the identity of Pinckney Recreation Area

- Natural and accessible to non-motorized trail users.
- As a recreational destination for Southeast Michigan to enjoy all of the recreational opportunities available here in the WRA.
- Michigan outdoors.

Other Comments:

- GIS Mapping needs improvement. Legend on side of maps should only show the information needed for that map. Go to Lyndon Township's Recreation Plan on the website to see some clear GIS mapping.
- Good presentation.
- Most of the land zones seem appropriate. Areas that limit hunting and limit active habitat management concern me. I do not see any limiting areas outside campgrounds/nature centers. The plan seems reasonable to me.
- Please keep trails open for all users. Thank you.
- As a member of the Equestrian Trailways Subcommittee, I believe that opening the Waterloo Pinckney Trail and Lakeland Trail to horses along their entire length would contribute greatly to the statewide network of horse trails which the subcommittee is tasked with helping to create. However, I am very concerned that mountain bikers may create problems for equestrian users if both are permitted to use the same trails. I hope that any changes in the use of these trails will be carefully planned to avoid user conflict, possibly with separate trails or regulation of dates/times of use.

Additional comments from aerial boards

- More accessibility for day camps.

**Sign In Sheet from DNR Stakeholders Workshop
Pinckney Recreation Area | Waterloo Recreation Area
August 15-16, 2011**

Name	Affiliation	Address	Phone #	Email Address
Tom Caplis	Chelsea R & Gun	1703 Lingane Road	475-8561	
Brad Utrup	Ruffled Grouse Society	332 Territorial Road 48158	419-302-7784	Utrupb@michigan.gov
Jason Aric Jones	MMBA			
Larry Bean	DEQ Geologists	204 Washington Chelsea MI 48118	734-475-4648	Beanl@michigan.gov
John Francis	Lyndon Township	17755 N. Territorial Road	475-2401	Supervisor-lyndon@twp-lyndon.org
Fred Fischmeister	Back Country Horsemen	7900 S. Draper Road Jackson, MI	517-937-4257	Muleman189@gmail.com
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Charity Steere	Legacy Land Conservancy	5259 Monte Road Grass Lake 49240	517-522-5010	Charity_steere@gmail.com

Barry Lonik	Citizen	11300 Island Lake Road Dexter 48130	734-223-2321	Blonik12@aol.com
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Paul Curtis	MDNR-PRD			
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Ron Hoffman	Jackson Audubon	6142 Territorial Road Pleasant Lake 49272	517-769-6891	Ronandjoanhoffman@yahoo.com
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GreggV. Burg	Waterloo Natural History Association	6655 Jackson Road #611 A2 48103	734-662-3238	Greggb@thomsonshore.com
Sally Rutzky	Pinckney Rec Area Steward	9640 Joslin Lake Road Gregory MI	734-433-0543	Srutzky@earthlink.com
Kris Olsson	Huron River Watershed Council	1100 N. Main Ste 210	734-769-5123	Kolsson@hrwc.org
Don Walz	Farmline Campground	8020 Clear Lake Road Grass Lake	734-260-9009	Farmlanecampground@yahoo.com
Gary O. Moore	Chelsea Road & Gun MUCC	135600 McKinley Chelsea	475-71247	
Tom Keene	WHA	6280 Baldwin	522-6482	

Randy Step	Running Fit	5700 Jackson Road A2	734-929-9026	Randy@runningfit.com
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Tom Brown	YMCA Camp	5305 W. Michigan Ave. Tipton, MI 49287	517-605-4934	
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Meeting Summary
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PARKS AND RECREATION DIVISION

General Management Plans – Public Input Meeting

DATE: October 13, 2011

TIME: 4:00 – 8:00 PM

PLACE: Eddy Discovery Center – Waterloo Recreation Area

AGENDA

All Team members introduced themselves and identified the DNR Division they represented.

1. Presentations:

- Paul Curtis (PRD) - General Management Planning Process & Overview of Draft Plan process for Pinckney & Waterloo Recreation Areas
- David Birchler (Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc.) - Overview of Draft Plan for Pinckney & Waterloo Recreation Areas

2. Questions and Answers

3. Open House

- Participants were invited to visit each of the map stations and talk to Planning Team members
- Post-it notes were available to add any comments to the map
- Participants who did not return a completed survey promised to send them to Birchler Arroyo Associates, Inc. via mail

Additional comments

- The following is recommended as an addition to the Statement of Purpose: “To preserve and restore park’s unique natural areas---“. A plan that identifies and actively restores natural areas would ensure future biodiversity
- Within the park some statement of a goal to limit light pollution, particularly around the “developed recreation zones”, would be important. In particular around the Cassidy Lake detention area where light pollution impacts the surrounding park zones.