

NOTICE OF AN ELECTRONIC MEETING

The following meeting will have a videoconferencing/teleconferencing option. The public may attend in person at the location noted on the agenda. The public is encouraged to attend via electronic means.

	Public Works Committee Monday April 4, 2022 – 6:00 pm Conference Call 1.312.626.6799 Zoom Meeting ID: 884 2278 9249 Passcode: 296440 Health & Human Services Center – Community Room 303 W. Chapel Street Dodgeville, Wisconsin	Iowa County Wisconsin
For information regarding access for the disabled please call 935-0399. <i>Any subject on this agenda may become an action item.</i>		
1	Call to order.	
2	Roll Call. (Committee & Audience)	
3	Consent Agenda: One motion to adopt all of the consent agenda items: A. Approve the meeting Agenda for April 4, 2022. B. Approve the Minutes of February 22, 2022 meeting. C. Next meeting: Monday May 2, 2022.	
4	Report from committee members and an opportunity for members of the audience to address the committee. No action will be taken.	
5	Consider Driveway Variance for Scott Gilbertson 2500 CTH I Town of Clyde.	
6	Consider Policy updates for Land Conservation Department: A. #1201 Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Cost-Share Prioritization. B. #1202 Farmland Preservation Tax Credit Program Compliance. C. #1203 Agricultural Performance Standards Compliance for Non-Farmland Preservation Tax Credit Program (Non-FPP) Landowners.	
7	Consider Iowa County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and Resolution for adoption.	
8	Consider Amendment of the Highway Access Ordinance for Variances and Appeals.	
9	Highway Commissioner's Report: A. Draft Intergovernmental Agreement with Village of Hollandale – CTH K School Road Improvements for review and comment. B. Draft Jurisdictional Transfer Agreement with Village of Blanchardville for CTH F Mound and Baker Streets for review and comment. C. CTH C – STH 23 to Golf Course Drive sinkhole and slide. D. CTH T Public Information Meeting recap. E. Correspondence from Town of Clyde regarding General Transportation Aids Funding. F. 2022 Road Oil Price Increases.	

	G. Surface Transportation 2023 Project Application Submittal Summary. H. 2022 Project Updates – CTH II / F. I. Employment Update – Crew Lead, Equipment Operator, Auxiliary and Section Patrol resignations. Equipment Operator and Section Patrol vacancies update.
10	Adjournment.
Posting verified by the County Clerk's Office: Kris Spurley, County Clk Date: 12-2-21 @ 1:48 pm Initials: KKS	

NOTICE OF AN ELECTRONIC MEETING

The following meeting will have a videoconferencing/teleconferencing option. The public may attend in person at the location noted on the agenda. The public is encouraged to attend via electronic means.

	Public Works Committee UNAPPROVED MINUTES Tuesday February 22, 2022 – 6:00 pm Health & Human Services Center – Community Room 303 W. Chapel Street Dodgeville, Wisconsin	Iowa County Wisconsin
For information regarding access for the disabled please call 935-0399. <i>Any subject on this agenda may become an action item.</i>		
1	The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Sup. Gollon	
2	All members present: Gollon, Butteris, Deal, Masters, Storti, and Meyers Others present: Administrator Bierke, Dax Connely, Dave Morzenti. Attending via zoom: Sup. Mike Peterson, Sup. Storti, Sup. Meyers, Business Manager Fitzsimons	
3	Sup. Butteris moved to approve, seconded by Sup. Storti; the agenda for this meeting and the minutes for January 3, 2022. Motion to approve unanimously. Next meeting date was set to be held April 4, 2022 at 6:00PM	
4	Sup. Masters asked about GPS in our plow trucks. Currently, the Highway Dept has 2 types of GPS tracking installed in the plow trucks.	
5	Kwik Trip is acquiring a property along STH 23/BUS 151 in Mineral Point. There is an issue with the definition of existing right of way along the highway and an issue with a previously platted non-existent city street, Eaton Street. Kwik Trip proposes that Eaton Street between 620 Dodge Street and 662 Dodge Street be recognized as abandoned by the City and reverted to the surrounding landowners and the State to ensure the appropriate right-of-way for STH 23/Dodge Street. The Committee discussed the proposal and what impacts it could have on the county. Hardy explained the process and that the county would not bear liability from the Quit Claim Deed. Sup. Masters moved to approve the Quit Claim Deed of highway right of way along STH 23, seconded by Sup. Storti. Motion carried unanimously.	
6	WisDOT is proposing various spot intersection improvements in the corridor on USH 18/151 between Dodgeville and Verona. As requested by the Committee, Hardy prepared a draft Resolution supporting the Limited Access study interchanges in lieu of the spot intersection improvements. Sup. Masters made a motion to approve and send the Resolution Regarding USH 18-151 Dane and Iowa Counties USH 18/151 – Verona Corridor to the County Board for consideration, seconded by Sup. Deal. Motion carried unanimously.	
7	Resolution #05-0819 directs certain funding to be utilized for highway and bridge reconstruction improvements. Due to a delay in the county receiving the new utility revenue directed towards road reconstruction until the year 2025 the Committee reviewed the timeline and considered revisions to the end date. Sup. Storti moved to extend the sunset date from 2025 to 2027 of Resolution #05-0819. Seconded by Sup. Masters. Motion carried unanimously.	

8	The County adopted a Vehicle Registration Fee Ordinance in 2014, implementation of February 2015. The ordinance requires review prior to October of 2022. The Committee discussed the ordinance and suggested to move to county board for review. Sup. Deal moved to send the Vehicle Registration Fee Ordinance to the County Board for review. Sup. Butteris seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
9	Annually the County recognizes the national ATSSA workzone safety week, which this year is April 11-15, 2022. Sup. Deal moved to approve the Resolution designating Workzone Safety week April 11-15, 2022 in Iowa county. Seconded by Butteris. Motion carried unanimously.
10	Review Draft minutes for the February 8, 2022 Traffic Safety Commission meeting. A. Hardy provided a summary of fatal incidents related to atv/utv usage in the state as reported by WDNR for 2021. The information was also sent out in the packet and is available from the WDNR website. In summary, there were 47 fatalities in accidents involving atv/utv in 2021 in the state. Of those incidents; 22/47 were alcohol related; 13/47 involved atv's; 34/47 involved utv's; 33/47 were on adopted roadway routes; 7/47 were on private property; and 7/47 were on public/private trails B. CTH HHH No U-turn signage within the Village Limits – Ridgeway. Discussion of the origin of the No U-turn signage in the village limits of Ridgeway. The village was discussing removing them. It was decided the signs have been in installation for a long time, probably back to when CTH HHH was USH 18. The group discussed and did not see any reasons why the signs couldn't be taken down. The rules of the road would then govern as long as safe to do so, a u-turn could occur. C. USH 18/151 corridor Ridgeway - 7 of the existing 16 curves were illustrating they would benefit from a high friction surface treatment. Signal and intersection upgrades were being pursued for STH 18/23 intersection, 18 / Johns street intersection, and the STH 23 / King Street intersection. The Department is considering a two way left turn lane with removal of the four lane segment on STH 23 from Military Ridge Road to STH 18. Byom with WisDOT was working on discussing the Loeffler and Johns street intersection with the City of Dodgeville about a signal installation project as well as a local HSIP application.
11	2022-2027 Capital Plan Discussion – ongoing review STP – BIL eligible Projects List: - STP – Surface Transportation Program (Rural and Bridge). - BIL – Bipartisan Infra-structure Legislation Bill.
12	Highway Commissioner's Report: A. CTH F update – Bid letting results and ATC Compensability Agreement. B. There were no bids and no awards for pickup trucks. C. The spring auction went live on February 16, 2022. Some of the larger pieces of equipment listed are 1 Tri-axle, 1 Tandem Axle, 3 pickup trucks, 1 trailer, and 3 tractors. The auction ends on March 03, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. D. We had 2 applications for the Grade Crew Lead position. The vacancy was filled and an offer was accepted. Equipment Operator Grade & Road Oil: Received 2 applications. Both applicants turned down offers. Revisit applications March 15th. County Section Maintenance Patrol: 1 application received.

	E. WisDOT 6-Year Program Project Listing – Iowa County.
	F. WisDOT Proposed Improvement for STH 130 Curve Re-alignment near Spring Valley Road.
13	Sup. Deal moved to adjourn the meeting. Sup. Storti seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 P.M.
Minutes prepared and submitted by Tammy Fitzsimons, Highway Business Manager	

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AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: Consider driveway variance request for Scott Gilbertson 2500 CTH I

☒ Original

☐ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

Scott Gilbertson is rezoning some property on CTH I, such that the rezoning requires the existing driveway to be improved to come into compliance with the Highway Access Ordinance.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

Review options/alternatives for the location. Poor sight distance and excessive grade are the issues with the existing driveway location / condition. Staff has reviewed in the field and recommends moving the driveway to the east where sight visibility is improved and grade can be improved, both of which may still not meet the Ordinance requirements.

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

Driveway application. Power point explaining the site conditions will be provided to the committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Impact on owner to reconstruct access of \$2500-\$4000, depending on who performs the work.

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PRESENTATION?:

☒ Yes

☐ No

How much time is needed? 15 Minutes

COMPLETED BY: CRH

DEPT: Highway

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE: 04-04-2022

AGENDA ITEM # 5

COMMITTEE ACTION:

①

Blank



Email: highway@iowacounty.org
1215 N Bequette Street
Dodgeville WI 53533-0078

Tel 608.935.3381
Fax 608.935.0372

**HIGHWAY
DEPARTMENT**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Permit # _____ Check # _____
Invoice # _____ Fee Waived By: _____
Fee _____
Paid _____ Checks payable to: Iowa
Date _____ County Highway Dept.

**APPLICATION/PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT DRIVEWAY
TO IOWA COUNTY TRUNK HIGHWAY SYSTEM**

By authority provided in Chapter 86.07 (2) Wis. Stats

Please fill out the required information on this form and submit with application fee to the Highway Office per the attached instructions. **PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE.**

Applicant/Property Owner Name Click here to enter text. Scott Gilbertson	Phone # Home: Click here. Cell: Enter text. 651.210.8228	Nearest Fire Number Click here to enter text. 2500 Cty Rd I Highland	County Click here to enter text. Iowa
Applicant/Property Owner Mailing Address Click here to enter text. 2450 Linwood Court Click here to enter text. Maplewood, MN 55119		Email Address: Click here to enter text. meridiantree@gmail.com	
		☒ Town of Click here to enter text. CLYDE ☐ Village of Click here to enter text.	
Tax Parcel Identification # Click to enter text. 006 0666.01		Anticipated Completion Date: Click to enter date. 8/2022	
Driveway Located Within The:			
☐ NW ☒ NE ☐ SW ☐ SE ¼ Quarter of NW1/4 LOCATED NORTH OF CYT RD I LE-D			
☐ NW ☐ NE ☐ SW ☐ SE Quarter of Section # Click here to enter text.			
Township # Click to enter text. North, Range # Click here to enter text. ☒ East ☐ West			
Type of Driveway:			
☐ New Driveway ☐ Multi-Driveway (more than one residence / add increase access)			
☒ Improve Existing Driveway ☐ Relocate Existing Driveway (Single or Multi-Existing)			
What type of use will the driveway serve? (Review Highway Access Ordinance Section 5 (f) sub (12))			
☒ Type A Access (Residential) ☐ Type B Access (Ag Field) ☐ Type C Access (Commercial) ☐ Type D Access (Industrial)			
Type of access surface being constructed:			
☐ Concrete ☐ Asphalt ☒ Base Coarse/Gravel			
Approximately how many times will vehicles use this driveway daily:			
☒ 0-50 ☐ 51-150 ☐ 150-500 ☐ Over 500			
What side of the highway is the proposed driveway located?			
☒ North ☐ South ☐ East ☐ West			
Is the proposed driveway less than 300 feet from another driveway on the same highway?			
☐ Yes ☒ No			
What is the name of the nearest side road from the proposed driveway? CTY RD II			
Click here to enter text			
Approximately how far is the proposed driveway from the side road listed above (distance can be measured in feet or miles) and in what direction from the side road?			
Click to enter text. ☒ North ☐ South ☐ East ☐ West			

Does this parcel of land abut or border alongside another public road? ☐ Yes ☒ No	
If yes, please indicate roads' name Click here to enter text.	
How many existing driveways does this property currently have: Click here to enter text.	
0	
Are there any access restrictions limiting the number of driveways to this property, i.e., subdivision plat, certified survey map, deed, access covenant (recorded or unrecorded)?	
☐ Yes (If yes, please submit a copy of the access restriction agreement with the permit application) ☒ No	
Are there any access easements across the property (recorded or unrecorded)?	
☐ Yes (If yes, please submit a copy.) ☒ No	
<u>DRIVEWAY LOCATION SKETCH</u> Form must be completed and submitted with application	
Property Owner Name: Click here to enter text.	
SCOTT GILBERTSON	
Highway: Click here to enter text.	Nearest Side Road: Click here to enter text.
CTY RD I	CTY RD II
As shown on the example below, please measure and record the distances between the location of the proposed driveway and other driveways/public roads and the owner's property lines along the highway center line (CL). This information should be recorded on the centerline shown below the example and record distances in feet or miles. Example:	
Complete detail below showing proposed driveway location. Circle the North Arrow in relation to the highway.	
N ↑ N ↓ N ← N N →	

The construction and maintenance of the driveway shall be the responsibility of the applicant. It is understood and agreed that approval is subject to the applicant's full compliance with the pertinent Statutes, as well as any codes, rules, regulations, and permit requirements of other state and local jurisdictional agencies.

The applicant shall also comply with all permit provisions, superimposed notes, and detail drawings, which may be added by the Department. Any alteration of this form by the applicant is prohibited and may be cause to revoke this permit.

Upon completion of the driveway installation, applicant will be required to contact Commissioner by phone and/or letter stating the driveway is completed. After hearing from applicant, Commissioner will then do a second inspection to make sure driveway is in compliance.

Upon a satisfactory second inspection, Commissioner will sign in the space below. Our office will forward a signed copy to the applicant, Town Board, and Zoning Administration as a zoning permit will not be issued until they receive a signed copy from our office.

*This permit will expire one year from the date of the approval of this application. If the driveway is not completed by the "Completion Date" specified, a one-time 6 month extension may be obtained from the Department. This permit shall be considered null and void and the driveway shall not be constructed unless authorized through a subsequent permit.

APPLICANT SHALL PLACE A FLAG OR MARKER IN THE HIGHWAY DITCH VISIBLE FROM THE HIGHWAY AT THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED DRIVEWAY.

An aerial picture of the property must accompany the Driveway Permit Application. These can be obtained through Iowa County Planning and Development Office at 608-935-0365 or by contacting the Iowa County Highway Department.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at (608) 935-3381 or 1215 N. Bequette Street, Dodgeville, WI 53533

Signature of Property Owner

Date

Click here to enter text.

3/29/2022

Click here to enter a date.

Additional permit provisions are listed below (to be added by the Highway Department):

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY



Not a valid driveway permit unless signed
By commissioner in both spaces provided below

Dear Driveway Applicant,

After an initial inspection of the driveway for which you have applied, I hereby give approval for you to construct the driveway according to and with the recommendations of the enclosed permit.

Highway Commissioner or Authorized Representative

Date

Driveway was reviewed for final acceptance and compliance with the Highway Access Ordinance by

Highway Commissioner or Authorized Representative

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Name of Applicant	Permit Fee \$	See Access Ordinance for details
Applicant Address	Type A - \$175.00 Type B - \$175.00 Type C - \$325.00 Type D - \$325.00	
Phone #		
Highway	Log Mile of Reference Point	

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: #1201 Soil and Water Resource Management Grant Cost-Share Prioritization

☐ Original

☒ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

Consider an amendment of the policy. A copy of the policy changes are highlighted and provided in the packet as attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

Recommend to approve and move to the County Board for consideration.

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

Copy of Policy with the proposed revisions highlighted.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PRESENTATION?:

☒ Yes

☐ No

How much time is needed? 5 mins

COMPLETED BY: CRH

DEPT: Highway

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE: 04/04/2022

AGENDA ITEM # 6A

COMMITTEE ACTION:

13

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SOIL AND WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GRANT COST-SHARE PRIORITIZATION

Date Originated:

Date of Modifications: 2022

Policy Number: 1201

1. PURPOSE:

To describe the process for prioritizing and administering cost-share projects funded by Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's Soil and Water Resource Management Grants.

2. ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED:

Land Conservation Department

3. POLICY:

Cost-share administration shall follow guidelines set forth in Wisconsin Administrative Code ATCP 50.

Cost-share amount shall not exceed \$14,000 without Land Conservation Committee (LCC) approval.

The Land Conservation Department (LCD) staff shall rank structural cost-share projects prior to contracting to ensure funding is spent on priority projects that have a documented conservation benefit and prioritize land that is actively engaged in a farming operation.

Project ranking shall be based on:

- a. level of conservation benefit
- b. alignment with Iowa County's current Land and Water Resource Management Plan
- c. current geographic or resource priorities
- d. current practice priorities
- e. Farmland Preservation Program participation
- f. cost-effectiveness of the practice
- g. availability of other funding sources
- h. landowner's compliance and project completion history

4. REFERENCES:

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter ATCP 50

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter NR 151

5. PROCEDURES:

- a. The LCD shall create a numerical ranking form based on the above criteria, including delineating high-, medium-, and low-priority practices and a minimum numerical value for eligibility.
- b. The LCC shall approve the ranking form and any future updates. The form shall be updated as needed, with a review no less than once every five years.
- c. The LCD shall create a "Request for Technical Assistance" form. A landowner and/or cost-share recipient must submit this form to the LCD before any site visit, cost-share, or other technical assistance will be provided.
- b.d. The LCD may, at their discretion, create one or more deadlines per year by which Request for Technical Assistance forms are due. Forms received after that date will be considered dependent on funding and staff availability, or will be saved for the following year. Due dates may vary by practice or funding source as needed, and shall be included on the Request for Technical Assistance form.
- e.e. Based on a site investigation, maps, and other information, LCD staff shall rank each project using the approved form before offering a cost-share contract.
- d.f. If funding is limited, projects with the highest ranking value shall be funded first.
- e.g. Lower-ranked projects may be cost-shared if there is adequate funding, provided they meet the established minimum value.

~~If the cost-share recipient is a member of the County Board, Land Conservation Committee or County staff, or a family member thereof, at least one neutral party, who is not an Iowa County Employee, Supervisor, or Committee member, shall be asked to rank the project using the current ranking form to corroborate the value of the project. The neutral party may be from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, a different County's Land Conservation Department, or other qualified party.~~

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: #1202 Farmland Preservation Tax Credit Program Compliance Policy

☐ Original

☒ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

Consider an amendment of the policy. A copy of the policy changes are highlighted and provided in the packet as attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

Recommend to approve and move to the County Board for consideration.

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

Copy of Policy with the proposed revisions highlighted.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PRESENTATION?:

☒ Yes

☐ No

How much time is needed? 5 mins

COMPLETED BY: CRH

DEPT: Highway

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE: 04/04/2022

AGENDA ITEM # 6B

COMMITTEE ACTION:

17

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FARMLAND PRESERVATION TAX CREDIT PROGRAM COMPLIANCE

Date Originated:

Date of Modifications: 2022

Policy Number: 1202

1. PURPOSE:

To describe the process for issuing Notices of Noncompliance Wisconsin's Farmland Preservation Tax Credit Program (FPP).

2. ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED:

Land Conservation Department

3. POLICY:

Compliance determination shall follow guidelines set forth in Wisconsin Administrative Code ATPC 50.

The Land Conservation Department (LCD) staff shall require an annual Compliance Self-Certification Form from each FPP participant. Participants who do not return their form by the deadline will be issued a Notice of Noncompliance.

Each farm shall also have an on-site compliance check by LCD staff no less than once every four years. A site visit will also be conducted if LCD staff receives a complaint or has other compliance concerns. Any compliance issues found during the site visit shall be resolved by the landowner within the compliance timeframe set forth below. If the compliance timeframe is not met, the Land Conservation Committee (LCC) will issue a Notice of Noncompliance.

Tier 1 violations: one year compliance schedule

- Soil Tests Overdue (Nutrient Management Plan Violation, NR 151.07)
- Idle Manure Storage Closure Needed (NR 151.05)
- Not following guidelines set forth in the most current University of Wisconsin Division of Extension publication A2809, "Nutrient application guidelines for field, vegetable, and fruit crops in Wisconsin." (Nutrient Management Plan Violation, NR 151.07)
- Not following nitrogen or manure application limitations in sensitive areas (Nutrient Management Plan Violation, NR 151.07)

Tier 2 violations: one year compliance schedule*

- Clean Water Diversions needed for feedlot, barnyard, or manure storage in a Water Quality Management Area (WQMA- 300ft from a stream, NR 151.06)

- 70% self-sustaining cover is not present on pasture streambanks (NR 151.08)
*fencing to exclude cattle or reduce average stocking density must be installed within 6 months
- Unprotected concentrated flow channel identified (Nutrient Management Plan Violation, NR 151.07)
- 5 ft. tillage setback from streambanks not being followed (NR 151.03)

Tier 3 violations

- Overflowing manure pit (NR 151.08): one-month compliance schedule
- Cracked, leaking, or failing manure pit (NR 151.05): six-month compliance schedule
- Tillage results in rotational T exceedance (NR 151.02): one year compliance schedule
- Phosphorus Index violation, not using P-reduction strategy when needed (NR 151.04): one year compliance schedule
- Not following manure winter spreading restrictions, groundwater conduit/well setbacks, or SWQMA spreading strategies (Nutrient Management Plan Violation, NR 151.07): one-year compliance schedule
- Manure stacking occurring in a WQMA (NR 151.08): one-month compliance schedule
- Significant Discharge of Process Wastewater to waters of the state (NR 151.055): one-year compliance schedule
- Direct runoff of manure into waters of the state (NR 151.08): immediate action required to stop manure flow; three-month compliance schedule to prevent reoccurrence

The LCC may approve an extension of the compliance window, not to exceed three years, under extenuating circumstances. The LCC may also approve an immediate Notice of Noncompliance for grievous violations, lack of cooperation by the landowner, or other circumstances as warranted.

Multiple Violations: Subsequent violations found after the site visit may result in shorter compliance timeframes or immediate NONs according to the following guidelines:

If the first site visit found:

- Only Tier 1 violation(s): if 2 subsequent Tier 2 and/or 3 violations are found within one year of the site visit, a Notice of Noncompliance (NON) is issued immediately.
- Any Tier 2 or 3 violations(s): If a subsequent Tier 2 or 3 violation is found within one year of the first site visit, a NON is issued immediately.

Probationary Period: Once a participant has achieved compliance they will fall under a ~~one~~two-year probationary period. Within one year of achieving compliance from any Tier of violation:

- A subsequent Tier 3 violation will result in an immediate NON
- A subsequent Tier 2 violation will result in a written warning and a schedule of compliance set for one year. If not achieved, a NON is issued with no extension possibility.
- A subsequent Tier 1 violation will result in a 1 year schedule of compliance after which an extension request may be made for no more than 1 year. No further extensions may be requested

Voluntary reporting: If a participant voluntarily reports a subsequent compliance issue on their own property or operation that would have resulted in an immediate NON under the Multiple Violations or Probationary Period procedures above, the NON will not be issued immediately. Instead, the Participant will be allowed half of the time listed in the compliance timeframe to come into compliance. The LCC may approve an extension at their discretion.

Requests for response: If a letter from the Department requests or requires that the landowner respond, the landowner shall have thirty (30) calendar days to provide the response.

Return to program: Notices of Noncompliance will be cancelled at any point a landowner comes back into full compliance, allowing eligibility for the same tax year in which compliance was achieved.

4. REFERENCES:

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter ATCP 50

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter NR 151

Iowa County Ordinance 400.18: Manure Storage and Management

5. PROCEDURES:

- a. The LCD shall mail Compliance Self-Certification Forms to all FPP participants in mid-October each year with a deadline of December 1 (or nearest week day).
- b. Participants who turn in their Form after the December 1 deadline will be assessed a late fee.
- c. The LCC will approve Notices of Noncompliance for participants who have not turned in their form by the December LCC meeting date.
- d. LCD staff will send Notices of Noncompliance to the Department of Revenue by December 31 each year.

- e. If at any time the LCD is made aware of an issue with a farm enrolled in FPP, staff shall visit the site as soon as possible to verify the issue, and will work with the landowner to address the problem within the compliance timeframe.
- f. Any compliance issues that pertain to Iowa County's Manure Storage and Management Ordinance shall also be referred to the Iowa County Planning & Development department. Any compliance issues that pertain to an existing CAFO application or CAFO permit shall also be referred to the Department of Natural Resources.
- e.g. If a landowner wishes to obtain LCD technical or financial assistance to achieve compliance, they must first submit a "Request for Technical Assistance" form.

If the FPP ~~participant~~ island ownership includes a member of the County Board or Land Conservation Committee, ~~is~~ a sibling, parent, spouse, or child thereof, or is considered county staff, at least one neutral party, who is not an Iowa County Employee, Supervisor, or Committee member, shall be asked to verify Iowa County staff's compliance assessment. The verification may include review of maps, photos, descriptions, and other supporting materials provided by staff, or joining ~~accompany~~ Iowa County staff on site visits. The neutral party may be from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, a different County's Land Conservation Department, or other qualified party.

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: #1203 Agricultural Performance Standards Compliance for Non-Farmland

☐ Original

☒ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

Consider an amendment of the policy. A copy of the policy changes are highlighted and provided in the packet as attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

Recommend to approve and move to the County Board for consideration.

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

Copy of Policy with the proposed revisions highlighted.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PRESENTATION?:

☒ Yes

☐ No

How much time is needed? 5 mins

COMPLETED BY: CRH

DEPT: Highway

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE: 04/04/2022

AGENDA ITEM # 6C

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Blank



AGRICULTURE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS COMPLIANCE FOR NON-FPP LANDOWNERS

Date Originated:

Date of Modifications: 2022

Policy Number: 1203

1. PURPOSE:

To describe the process for addressing issues of non-compliance with Wisconsin Agriculture Performance Standards, as specified in Administrative Code Chapter NR 151, for farms that are not enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Tax Credit Program.

2. ORGANIZATIONS AFFECTED:

Land Conservation Department

3. POLICY:

The Land Conservation Department (LCD) shall investigate all complaints in a timely manner. A voluntary approach, including education, technical assistance and/or an offer of cost-share, will be the primary strategy. Urgent violations will be referred to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Cost-sharing offers and other requirements of enforcement are specified in NR 151.

4. REFERENCES:

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter NR 151

Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter ATCP 50

Iowa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan

Iowa County Ordinance 400.18: Manure Storage and Management

5. PROCEDURES:

- a. Active manure spills that have the potential to have an adverse impact to human health, welfare or the environment, should be immediately reported to the DNR Spills Hotline. Any issues on CAFO-permitted farms will also be referred to DNR.

- i. With manure spills, LCD staff shall accompany DNR on site visits whenever possible. If DNR issues a Notice of Discharge (NOD), LCD shall cooperate with DNR and the landowner to explore cost-sharing options. If DNR chooses not to issue a NOD, the LCD shall follow steps b.i-b.iv below.

- b. For other complaints Complaints must be relevant to NR 151 or the Iowa County Manure Storage and Management Ordinance in order for LCD staff to follow up. Staff shall provide other options or contacts for non-relevant complaints, to the extent practicable.

- ~~b.c.~~ For relevant complaints, LCD staff shall review the potential issue as soon as possible from a public road, ~~or a neighboring property, air photo, or other documentation~~ to determine ~~if there is the likelihood of~~ a compliance violation of the Agriculture Performance Standards and document observations via notes and/or photographs.
- d. Any site visits, letters, or other follow-up on issues relevant to the Iowa County Manure Storage and Management Ordinance shall be carried out in collaboration with the Iowa County Planning & Development Department.
- ~~e.c.~~ Upon confirmation of ~~a~~ violation ~~is confirmed or likely~~, LCD staff will call the landowner within two weeks to request an on-site meeting to document the issue, discuss management, technical assistance, and cost-share options, and determine next steps with the landowner. If no phone number is available, calls are not returned within two weeks of a second attempt, or the landowner refuses a site visit, a letter will be mailed.
- i. Following the site visit a letter will be sent to the landowner summarizing the discussion, outlining next steps, and including notification requirements as specified in NR 151 and the Iowa County Land and Water Resource Management Plan.
 - ~~ii.~~ The Iowa County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) will be notified at the next LCC meeting of these complaints and the follow-up that occurred.
 - ~~iii.~~ If a landowner refuses to cooperate or implement corrective practices within the timeframe provided, LCD shall ~~work with the LCC to determine next steps~~ follow procedures of WI Codes NR151 and ATCP50, and/or the Iowa County Manure Storage and Management Ordinance. Follow-up may include ~~including~~ referring the issue to the DNR or other State or Federal agencies.

If the ~~landowner~~ land ownership includes a member of the County Board, Land Conservation Committee or County staff, or a family member ~~(sibling, parent, spouse, or child)~~ thereof, ~~at least one neutral party, who is not an Iowa County Employee, Supervisor, or Committee member,~~ shall be asked to verify Iowa County staff's compliance assessment. The assessment may include review of maps, photos, descriptions, and other supporting materials provided by staff, or joining Iowa County staff on site visits. The neutral party may be from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, a different County's Land Conservation Department, or other qualified party, and after a violation has been confirmed by Iowa County staff, steps ~~5.b.i and 5.b.ii~~ above shall be referred to another County's LCD.

AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Title: Consider Iowa County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and Resolution

☐ Original

☒ Update

TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY DEPARTMENT HEAD

DESCRIPTION OF AGENDA ITEM (Please provide detailed information, including deadline):

The 1981-1986 comprehensive plan has been updated for the County related to outdoor recreation by Southwest Regional Planning. Having an approved plan opens opportunities for grant funding for projects and to identify, protect, preserve, create, and develop opportunities for recreation and enjoyment of county parks and recreation resources. The accompanying resolution is to signify adoption of the plan by the County.

RECOMMENDATIONS (IF ANY):

Recommend to approve the Resolution and Plan and move to the County Board for adoption.

ANY ATTACHMENTS? (Only 1 copy is needed)

☒ Yes

☐ No

If yes, please list below:

Copy of the plan and resolution for adoption.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Annually determined with the Budget and Long Range Planning for local cost share match of any grants as deemed necessary.

LEGAL REVIEW PERFORMED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PUBLICATION REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

PRESENTATION?:

☒ Yes

☐ No

How much time is needed? 10Mins

COMPLETED BY: CRH

DEPT: Highway

2/3 VOTE REQUIRED:

☐ Yes

☒ No

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE CHAIR

MEETING DATE: 04/04/2022

AGENDA ITEM # 7

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Blank

RESOLUTION NO.....

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION
PLAN

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN
MEMBERS,

WHEREAS, Iowa County has recognized the need for a Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan based upon an inventory of outdoor recreation facilities and natural resources within the municipalities, Iowa County, and Southwest Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, the development of the plan will serve as a guide for making future decisions related to outdoor recreation in Iowa County and through its adoption will make the county eligible to participate in state and federal recreation aid programs; and

WHEREAS this comprehensive outdoor recreation plan has been prepared for the Iowa County Board of Supervisors by Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, this recreation plan is based on sound planning principles and long-range goals and objectives for the county's recreational development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for Iowa County hereby go on record to adopt the Iowa County Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as the county's guide for future outdoor recreation improvements and development;

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors requests the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to provide eligibility to Iowa County for participation in the state and federal cost-sharing programs for an additional five-year period.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2022

IOWA COUNTY

John M. Meyers, Board Chair

Kristy Spurley, Clerk

ATTEST:

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the resolution passed by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors at the regular meeting thereof held on this 19th day of April, 2022.

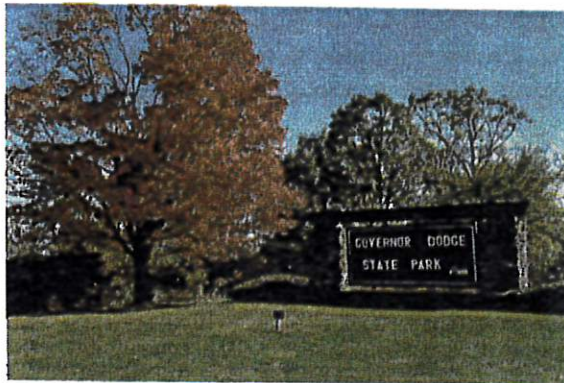
Kristy Spurley, Clerk

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Draft Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

Iowa County, WI

March, 2022



PLANNING ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY



SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO.....

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION
PLAN**

TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF IOWA COUNTY, WISCONSIN
MEMBERS,

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AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors requests the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to provide eligibility to Iowa County for participation in the state and federal cost-sharing programs for an additional five-year period.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2022

IOWA COUNTY

John M. Meyers, Board Chair

Kristy Spurley, Clerk

ATTEST:

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the resolution passed by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors at the regular meeting thereof held on this 18th day of May, 2021.

Kristy Spurley, Clerk

STAFF

Troy Maggied
Executive Director
Kate Koziol
Economic Development Specialist
Matthew Honer
Associate Planner
Griffin Koziol
Associate Planner
Cory Ritterbusch
Associate Planner
Jaclyn Essandoh
Planner/GIS Specialist
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Marty Brewer*
Melissa Luck
Raymond Schmitz

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SOUTHWESTERN WISCONSIN
REGIONAL PLANNING
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Introduction

The county, by virtue of this plan, has placed itself in a position of leadership among all providers of recreation in the county. It's most basic responsibility will be to lead a program that protects public and private investment, insures wise use of natural resources, and provides its citizens and their guests with the most fulfilling recreation experiences possible. As such, the county will serve as the coordinator and facilitator of partners and projects geared towards creating and maintaining recreation opportunities in the county.

Iowa County is very conducive to outdoor recreation. It's topography, low population density and location from populated cities makes it a popular spot. The county also has a long tradition as a recreational area. However, Iowa County's role in providing and promoting the development of outdoor recreational opportunities is varied because of its intermediate position between federal, state, town and municipal governments. In addition, private enterprise which is becoming an emerging market often provides recreation opportunities similar to those offered by the county.

This plan will consider the contributions of all providers of recreation, evaluate these contributions in relation to demands for them, and develop recommendations for action to satisfy recreational deficiencies identified by this study. Both quantity and quality of opportunities are considered and have direct bearing on decisions for specific recommendations. The county will not be responsible for implementing all recommendations. Many, in fact, will be aimed at other units of government and private enterprise.

Parks can serve a limited neighborhood area, the entire community, and the region as a whole. They provides outdoor recreation for both residents and visitors. **Open spaces** are not limited to parks but also include greenbelts, wetlands, scenic overlooks, and floodplains. Open space can also serve many functions for a community in addition to recreation, such as:

- Preservation of scenic and natural resources
- Flood management
- Protecting the area's water resources
- Preserving prime agricultural land
- Limiting development that may occur
- Buffering incompatible land uses
- Structuring the community environment

Image 1: Governor Dodge State Park in Iowa County, WI



Plan Purpose

This plan is an update of the Iowa County's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP) 1981 – 1986. The purpose of this plan is to guide the development and improvement of the county's outdoor recreation facilities over the next five years in order to meet the recreational needs and growing demands of the county.

Policy decisions made by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors for outdoor recreation programs and improvement shall be guided by the goals, objectives, findings, and recommendations of this adopted plan. Actual public policy decisions or choices are contingent on funding sources, new opportunities and ideas, changing growth patterns, budget priorities as well as changing county needs and desires. For this reason, the plan should be reviewed annually, and a detailed update such as this should be completed every five years. Updating the plan every five years is also a requirement of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) for a jurisdiction such as Iowa County to stay eligible for matching government funds for parkland acquisition and facility improvements. But just as importantly, Iowa County needs to set a course of action for continued improvement of its outdoor recreational system.

Image 2: The Pendarvis historic site located in Mineral Point, Iowa County, WI.



Goals and Objectives

This plan is designed to provide a feasible program for meeting the recreational needs of Iowa County. Agreement upon basic goals and objectives is necessary to set the general direction for developing this program. Four goals related to recreational and resource protection are outlined below. The goals point toward final ends while the eight objective statements are more directly related to achieving those ends through specific actions.

Goals

- To preserve the county's open space resources and to protect them from visual blight and degradation of quality.
- To provide quality parks and recreational facilities to meet the needs of county residents.
- To provide opportunities for nonresident recreational activity to an extent compatible with preserving irreplaceable resources.
- To identify and preserve sites having scientific, historic, or archaeological significance.

Objectives

- To use multiple approaches to resource protection, including acquisition and easements through partnerships with other entities when appropriate.
- To combine resource protection with park and recreation development, where feasible, through multi-purpose projects.
- To coordinate the county's recreation program with the programs of other levels of government and with private enterprise in order to achieve maximum public benefit.
- To provide areas and facilities for those activities specified in the plan as a county responsibility.
- To develop a coordinated system of river access points emphasizing resource-based recreation areas.
- To maintain the quality of recreational experiences offered within the county by adhering to the standards contained in the plan.
- To encourage quality development of privately owned recreation facilities, particularly for nonresident-oriented activities.
- To maintain the county's eligibility to participate in federal and state financial and technical aid programs having recreation planning requirements.

Image 3: Avoca Lake within the Village of Avoca, Iowa County, WI



Recommendations for Improving Recreation Facilities

The following recommendations for improvement by the Iowa County Land Conservation Committee follow the proposed Capital Improvement Plan (Appendix B). These recommendations will be completed based on availability of county funding and grants.

Bloomfield Prairie property:

Several improvements are needed on the Bloomfield Prairie property. Recommendations for individual projects or activities are listed below:

1. Pond area:

- Dredge (or start with feasibility study for dredging)
- Weed/algae control
- Install canoe launch
- Build longer accessible pier (to reach deeper water/fewer weeds)
- Brush/weed control around the edge
- Rework trail and repair/rebuild footbridge just north of the Pond
- Possibly expand shelter (or maintain/repair as needed)
- Add pit toilet
- Add electricity (or solar panels) to the pond shelter so users could have light.

2. Non-CRP/CREP areas:

- Create accessible trails
- Create bike-able trails
- Create interpretive signs
- Add footbridges in pasture for public access to eastern fields
- Upgrade/replace other bridges (3)
- New or updated kiosks
- Create off-leash dog area

- Improve existing and add additional parking areas

3. Red shed:

- Add pit toilet/bathroom
- Preserve red barn; modify to a shelter or meeting facility
- Add electricity (or solar panels) to the red shed

4. White shed:

- Add a cement floor and more garage doors to the white shed.

5. General:

- Increased management of invasive brush and herbaceous invasive weeds, including but not limited to wild parsnip, Canada thistle, crown vetch, and bush honeysuckle.

Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area:

Several improvements are needed on the Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area. Recommendations for individual projects or activities are listed below:

1. Pit toilet repairs/Remodel
2. Weed/Algae control in beach swimming area
3. Roof replacement on pavilions
4. Retaining wall at beach area
5. Cabin repairs/Rebuilds
6. Parking lot maintenance
7. Shower house repairs and remodels
8. Nature Center improvements/Taxidermy
9. New playground equipment
10. Walk bridge replacement on hiking trail

Military Ridge State Trail:

Several improvements are needed on the Military Ridge State Trail. Recommendations for individual projects or activities are listed below:

1. Increase trail repair/ maintenance on Military Ridge State Trail.
2. Provide dog waste station along trail.
3. Provide bore benches along trail for walking people to sit.
4. Provide more trash cans along trail.

Additional recreation needs/recommendations:

1. The County owns some properties in the Mifflin area along the Pecatonica River and CTH E; which could be made into a park if there is interest to do so, otherwise should consider selling.

2. There is some additional right of way also owed by the county at Factory road and CTH 11 which could be an access point for fishing easements or a park along Otter Creek.
3. The County and the DNR should continue to work on a cooperative basis to enhance recreational opportunities in the State Riverway and on other public lands for residents of the County. This effort should include on a regional level, integrating a future planned Wisconsin DNR trail along the lower Wisconsin River between Muscoda and Avoca. The proposed trail could link the recreational park and boat launches in Avoca as well as that in Muscoda. Both of these facilities have been constructed in the past two years. This would greatly enhance the recreational opportunities for both of these communities and increase tourism and economic development for this region. Additional recreation needs to be implemented within Pulaski township include:
 - Trail to the Avoca Prairie, possibly some interpretive trail, with signs talking about its unique ecosystem/flora/fauna.
 - Improving/fixing the bridge to cross the river/creek to get out to the Avoca Prairie.
 - Trail/loop in the Avoca prairie.
 - Improvement/building out sand for their beach on the Wisconsin River in Avoca.
 - Life jacket library for the beach.
 - A canoe/kayak launch or some canoe/kayak access on the Wisconsin River.
4. Continue to provide and enhance public access to the Lower Wisconsin Riverway.
5. Continue to upgrade the parks and recreational areas the county owns or manages by bringing all facilities up to ADA standards over the next five to ten years.
6. Consider including paved shoulders as part of future road reconstruction projects to allow safer passing of slower moving vehicles which would benefit ATV/UTV, bicycle, and farm implement traffic.
7. Use the University of Wisconsin Platteville engineering students for any future park project(s). SWWRPC should help guide the process in pairing Iowa County with a suitable team.

Plan Process

This section of the report gives a brief description of the sequences of events that took place during the development of the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (CORP). It also describes the process that can be used to amend the plan.

Description of Process

Iowa County has had an Outdoor Recreation Plan since 1971. However, there is always a need to evaluate progress and update the plan to meet the future goals for recreation in this county. Therefore, the Iowa County Land Conservation Department (the agency currently responsible for park and recreational development in Iowa County) met to discuss what had been done since the last plan. After the Committee understood what had been accomplished in the past, they looked to the future. Results from the Iowa County Land Conservation Committee meeting were shared with the Iowa County Highway Department (the department responsible for maintaining some of the park and recreational amenities in Iowa County). Feedback from the Iowa County Highway Department were compiled and added to the project recommendations proposed by the Iowa County Land Conservation Committee. Additional public comments which have also been included in the plan were received from members of the public via email. A complete list of recommendations can be found on pages 7-9 of this plan.

The Committee with assistance from the Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SWWRPC) then developed a preliminary draft of the updated Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, based on the recommendation of the Committee, the Highway Department, and the general public.

The updated report was reproduced in draft form and copies given to members of the Land Conservation Committee for their review and comment. After suggesting any minor revisions to the planning document, the Land Conservation Committee were then asked to endorse the draft Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan as their guide for future decisions related to park development in Iowa County. The Land Conservation Committee then submits an updated report to the Public Works Committee for consideration and approval. The Land Conservation Committee reviewed a proposed resolution to be taken to the Iowa County Board of Supervisors regarding adoption of the planning document. Following this meeting the Land Conservation Committee produced the final report and provided copies to all County Board members for their review and comments. The County Board was also given a copy of the proposed resolution recommending adoption of the plan as the county's official park and recreation plan for the next five year period. Upon adoption, the plan was submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources requesting re-certification for participation in the state's park and recreation cost sharing programs.

Amending the Plan

Plan amendments are common and should be considered part of the planning process. They frequently represent good implementation or plan usage and should be acceptable for consideration by local decision makers. Amendments must follow the same process as when the original plan was prepared. Amendments generally prolong the effectiveness of the original plan.

The following steps will ensure any new amendment is approved with respect to state statutes and to the citizens of Iowa County:

1. **Initial meetings/framing the amendment:** Depending on the size and scope of the amendment, the Land Conservation Committee will meet several times to discuss the proposed amendment.

2. **Opportunity for Public Input:** A public forum should be provided with ample time for the community to know about the proposed changes to the plan. Then a public meeting should be held so the community can understand the need for amendment and have an opportunity to provide direct feedback on the proposed changes.
3. **Draft Amendment:** The Land Conservation Committee develop a draft amendment that still captures the need for the amendment and feedback from the public.
4. **Amendment Adoption:** At an official public meeting, the County Board will vote to approve the plan amendment with the recommendation of the Land Conservation Committee.
5. **WIDNR Approval:** The board action on the plan amendment should be sent in writing to the WIDNR for re-certification of the county's Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan with the new changes. The plan amendment will not be effective until a letter is received from DNR indicating their approval.

Image 4: Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area in Iowa County, WI



Summary of State, Regional and Local Planning Efforts

Image 4: View of the Wisconsin River in Iowa County, WI



Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

"Our effectiveness in meeting future recreation needs will be shaped by many factors including the shifting demographics of our population, the quality of habitats and the impacts from invasive species and changing climate conditions, our ability to improve the compatibility between and among recreation participants, and sustainable financial resources. Parks and nature preserves, wildlife areas and refuges, and forests and trails connect people to the natural environment. These places, from small neighborhood parks to the large national, state and county forests, are the stages on which we enjoy the outdoors, improve our health, protect our air and water, and provide a large economic boost, particularly to our rural areas. — Wisconsin Statewide Outdoor Recreation Plan

The 2019-2023 Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), provides recommendations to guide public outdoor recreation policy, planning decisions, the use of Land and Water Conservation Fund money, and other WIDNR administered Iowa programs.

High-quality outdoor recreation experiences available in Wisconsin contribute to our exceptional quality of life; reflected in sustained economic growth and in outdoor recreation traditions passed down through generations. From community river walks to expansive public forests, public recreation lands and facilities enhance our lives, draw millions of visitors, and support businesses large and small. The economic, social, and health benefits of outdoor recreation in Wisconsin far outweigh the investment.

To support the development of SCORP, a statewide survey of Wisconsin residents was conducted regarding outdoor recreation participation and frequency, as well as opinions about future needs. In addition, WIDNR undertook an assessment of recreation opportunities and needs in each region of the state. Together, these supporting documents show that an estimated 95% of Wisconsin adults participated in some type of outdoor recreation in the past year. Activities in

which residents most frequently engaged tend to be those that require little preparation or travel time and can provide a high-quality experience in a limited amount of time. Examples include hiking and walking on trails, fishing, bicycling, dog walking, and bird/wildlife watching.

SCORP goals include:

- Boost participation in outdoor recreation.
- Grow partnerships.
- Provide high-quality experiences.
- Improve data to enhance visitor experiences and benefits.
- Enhance funding and financial stability.

Additionally, the SCORP highlights regional recreational demands that supports Iowa County's priorities for its location in the Southern Gateways Region. The top ten (10) most frequently identified recreation opportunities, needed in the Southern Gateways Region, based on public input gathered during the SCORP Recreation Opportunities Analysis (ROA) process include:

- More trails for motorized recreation (ATVs, UTVs, off-road motorcycles, etc.)
- More hiking/walking/running trails
- More natural surface (dirt) bicycling trails
- More paved bicycling trails
- More rustic/quiet campgrounds (pit toilets, no electricity or generators)
- More public shore access to lakes & streams
- More developed campgrounds (electric hook-ups, flush toilets, showers)
- More local parks and playgrounds
- More horse trails
- More public shooting ranges

Regional Planning Efforts

In 2010, SWWRPC initiated a regional visioning and planning project titled "Grow Southwest Wisconsin" as part of the Sustainable Communities program of the U.S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, and Environmental Protection Agency. Goal 3 of the Culture and Creativity element is to "Attract people from outside Southwestern Wisconsin through regional branding and marketing," with Strategy 3.5.2 recommending that the region's leaders "Connect the marketing of arts and culture opportunities with recreational trails such as bike and ATV." Goal 2 of the Transportation element also recognizes the importance of prioritizing safety in all transportation projects with Strategy 2.2.1 recommending the needs of all users in road construction projects. Strategy 2.2.3 of the same goal also recommends adhering to or exceeding the Americans with Disabilities Act standards.

Summary of Previous Outdoor Recreation Plan

Iowa County's previous Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan was completed in 1981 by the Iowa County Board of Supervisors, with technical assistance from the Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission. The plan was prepared with the intent of guiding the future recreation programs of the county and the communities located within it. The plan was divided into two parts--the county plan and the community plans for Dodgeville, Mineral Point, Arena, Avoca, Barneveld, Cobb, Highland, Hollandale, Linden, Rewey, and Ridgeway. Consideration of park facilities and needs of smaller

unincorporated Iowa County communities were covered under the county portion of the plan. The most significant recommendation in the 1981 plan which has since been implemented is the Military Ridge State Trail. The 40-mile Military Ridge State Trail, in Iowa and Dane counties, connects Dodgeville and Madison by way of an 1855 military route between Verona and Dodgeville. The trail runs along the southern borders of Governor Dodge and Blue Mound state parks passing by agricultural lands, woods, wetlands and prairies, and provides a public trail opportunity for biking, hiking, and snowmobiling.

Description of the Planning Region

Social characteristics of Iowa County

According to the 2020 Census, the population of the Iowa County is 23,709, which is up 22 persons from the 2010 US Census count. Iowa County's racial composition is largely homogenous; 94.2% of the County's population being white. The remaining 5.8% is split between the "Some Other Race" "Asian", and "Black or African American" categories. Iowa County's lack of racial diversity is standard for the southwestern Wisconsin region, and lags behind the state average, with 80.4% white and a 19.6% split of other races, black being the highest at 6%.

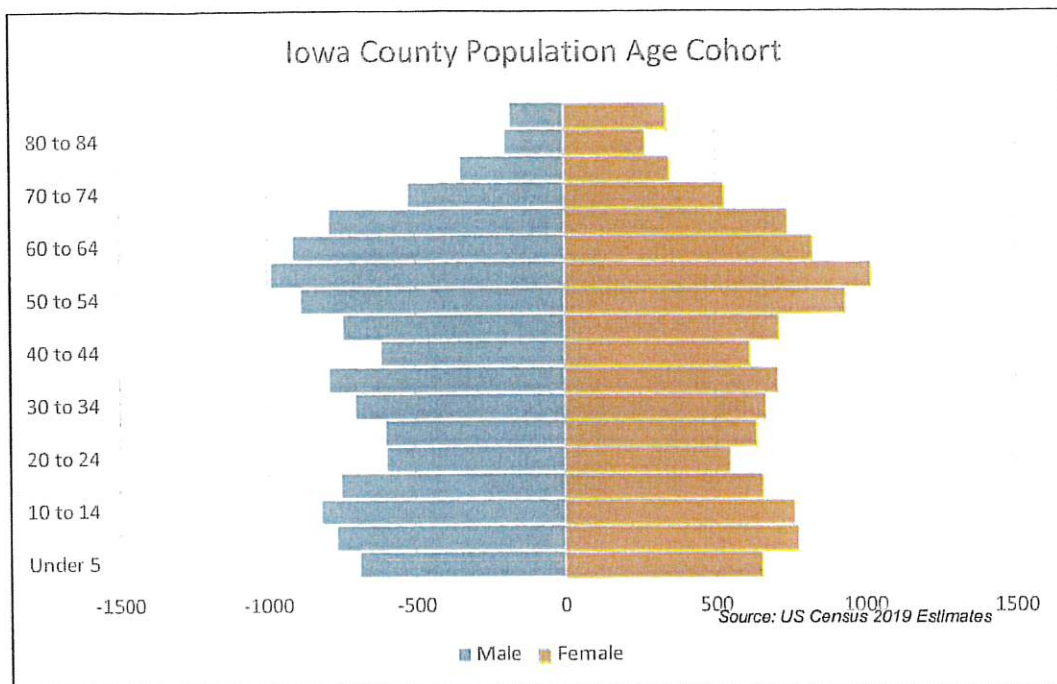
Iowa County maintains a median age of 42.8, similar to many communities in southwestern Wisconsin. Table 2 illustrates that roughly 57% of the community is between 20 and 64 years old. This wide working-age base helps ground the community economically and provides stability. Unlike most surrounding counties, Iowa County has a sufficient youth population to have population growth projected out to 2035.

Table 1: Iowa County Age Cohorts

	Total Population		Total Male		Total Female			
Total Population	23618	100%	11865	50.24%	11753	49.76%		
Under 5 years	1343	5.7%	686	5.8%	657	5.6%	5,877 Total "youth" population	24.9% of total population
5 to 9 years	1543	6.5%	765	6.4%	778	6.6%		
10 to 14 years	1583	6.7%	817	6.9%	766	6.5%		
15 to 19 years	1408	6%	748	6.3%	660	5.6%		
20 to 24 years	1144	4.8%	596	5%	548	4.7%	13,487 Total working- age population	57.1% of total population
25 to 29 years	1238	5.2%	599	5%	639	5.4%		
30 to 34 years	1368	5.8%	698	5.9%	670	5.7%		
35 to 39 years	1500	6.4%	789	6.6%	711	6%		
40 to 44 years	1227	5.2%	613	5.2%	614	5.2%		
45 to 49 years	1453	6.2%	740	6.2%	713	6.1%		
50 to 54 years	1817	7.7%	884	7.5%	933	7.9%		
55 to 59 years	2003	8.5%	985	8.3%	1018	8.7%		
60 to 64 years	1737	7.4%	910	7.7%	827	7%		
65 to 69 years	1533	6.5%	789	6.6%	744	6.3%	4,254 Total retired-age population	18% of total population
70 to 74 years	1053	4.5%	523	4.4%	530	4.5%		
75 to 79 years	693	2.9%	347	2.9%	346	2.9%		
80 to 84 years	463	2%	198	1.7%	265	2.3%		
85 years and over	512	2.2%	178	1.5%	334	2.8%		
Source: US Census 2019 Estimates								

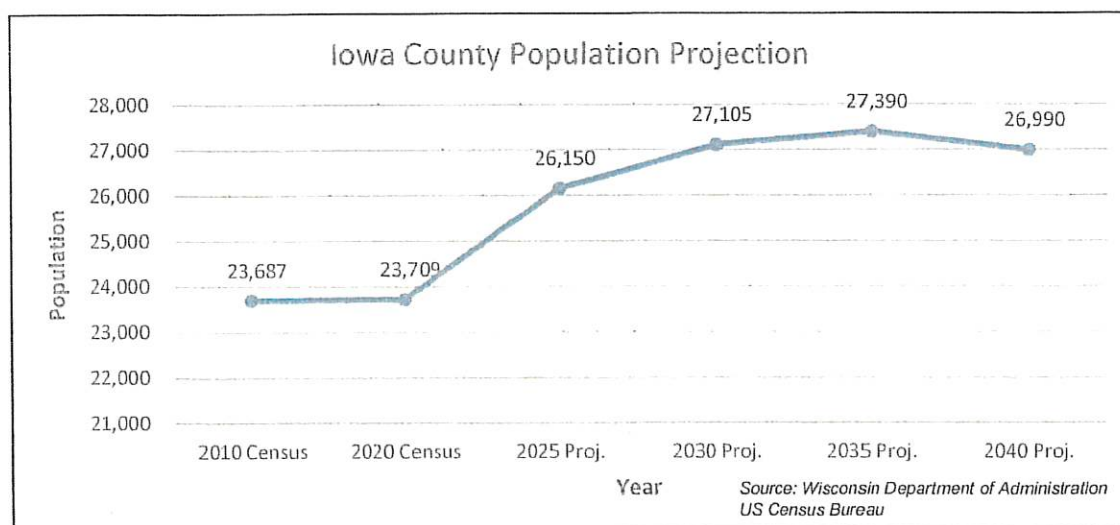
Figure 1 is a population pyramid that shows a snapshot of Iowa's population taken from the 2019 US Census Estimates. As mentioned previously, the largest portion of the pyramid is the "working-age" population between 20 and 64 years. The middle of the pyramid is bloated and the top and bottom are narrow. This means that while the County's population is currently stable, in the future it will decline, unless more residents move into the County.

Figure 1: Iowa County Population Pyramid



These findings are consistent with information from the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA), which is believed to provide a more accurate reflection of population growth estimates. The Wisconsin DOA estimates are based on the 2010 Census and analysis of contemporary data including housing units, dormitory and institutional populations, automobile registrations, and other indicators of population change. According to the DOA, Iowa County's population will increase slightly from 2010 to 2035, but as the large "working-age" population advances in age, there will not be enough of a youth population to support their loss and the community will lose residents from 2035 to 2040. Figure 3 illustrates the potential rise and decline thereafter in population.

Figure 2: Iowa Population Projection



Economy

Within Iowa County, the local economy is driven by businesses within the “Educational services, and health care and social assistance”, “Retail trade”, and “Manufacturing” industries. The Iowa County has an estimated 2.8% unemployment rate according to the 2019 US Census estimates and approximately 8.8% of people at or below the poverty level. The median household income for people living within the County is \$64,124 according to the 2019 US Census estimates.

Physical Characteristics of Iowa County

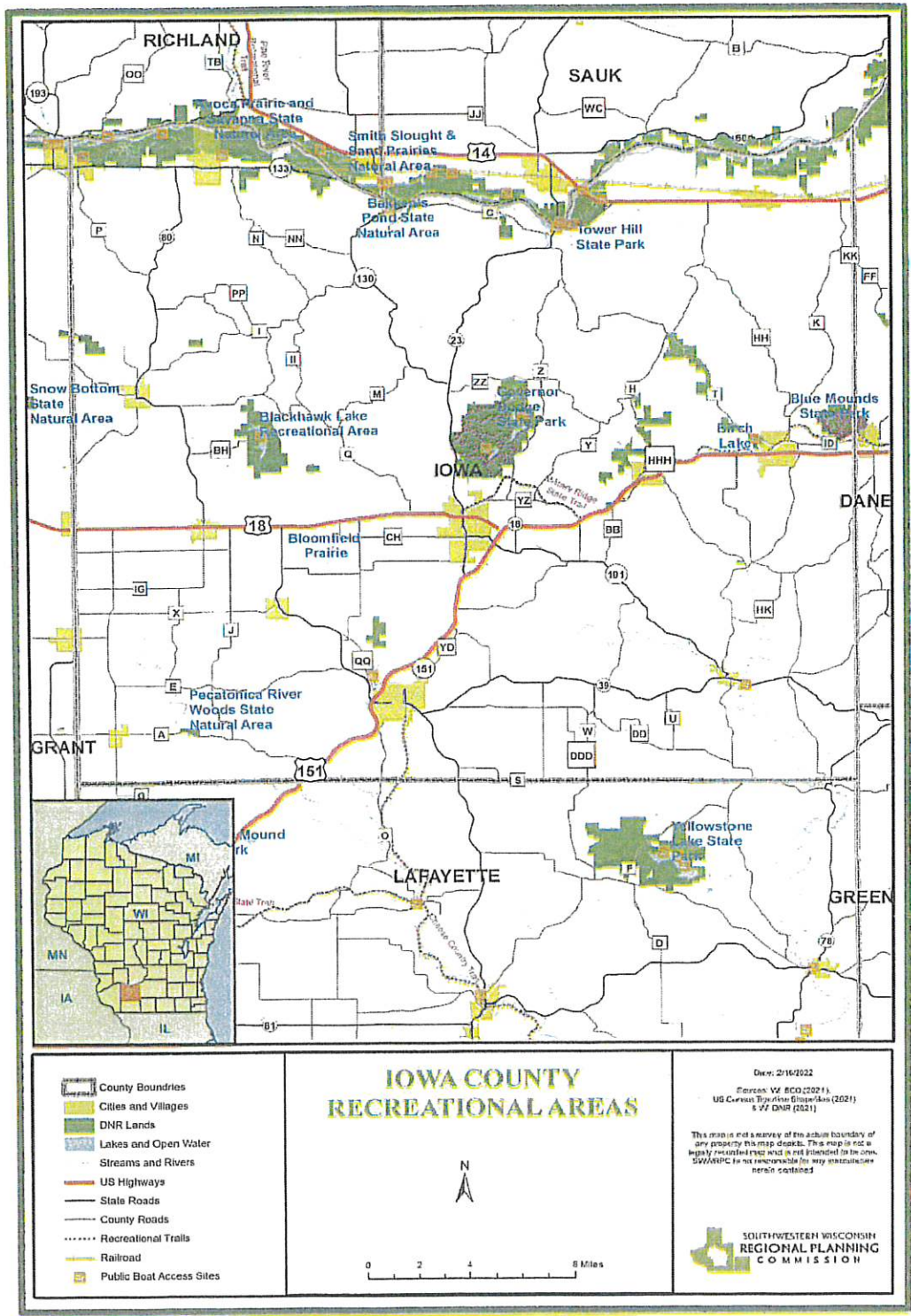
Location

Iowa County is located in the southwestern part of the state bounded on the north by the Wisconsin River (beyond which are Richland and Sauk Counties), on the east and southeast by Dane and Green Counties, on the west by Grant County, and on the south by Lafayette County.

Figure 3 shows some recreational opportunities in Iowa County. The county is well-positioned to provide residents with a variety of recreation activities, including Bloomfield Prairie, Governor Dodge State Park, Blackhawk Lake Recreational Area, Birch Lake Park, Tower Hill State Park, Blue Mounds State Park, among others. Within 50 miles, residents can utilize Yellowstone Lake State Park, Wyalusing State Park, Nelson Dewey State Park, O’Leary’s Lake Recreational Area, Snow Bottom State Natural Area, and more. Many also utilize the numerous smaller rivers and streams. This makes outdoor recreation a large part of the local economy. The locations of all public access lands and state parks in Iowa County can be found at the following websites:

Wisconsin’s Public Access Lands Web Map:
https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?Viewer=Public_Access_Lands

Figure 3: Recreation Opportunities in Iowa County



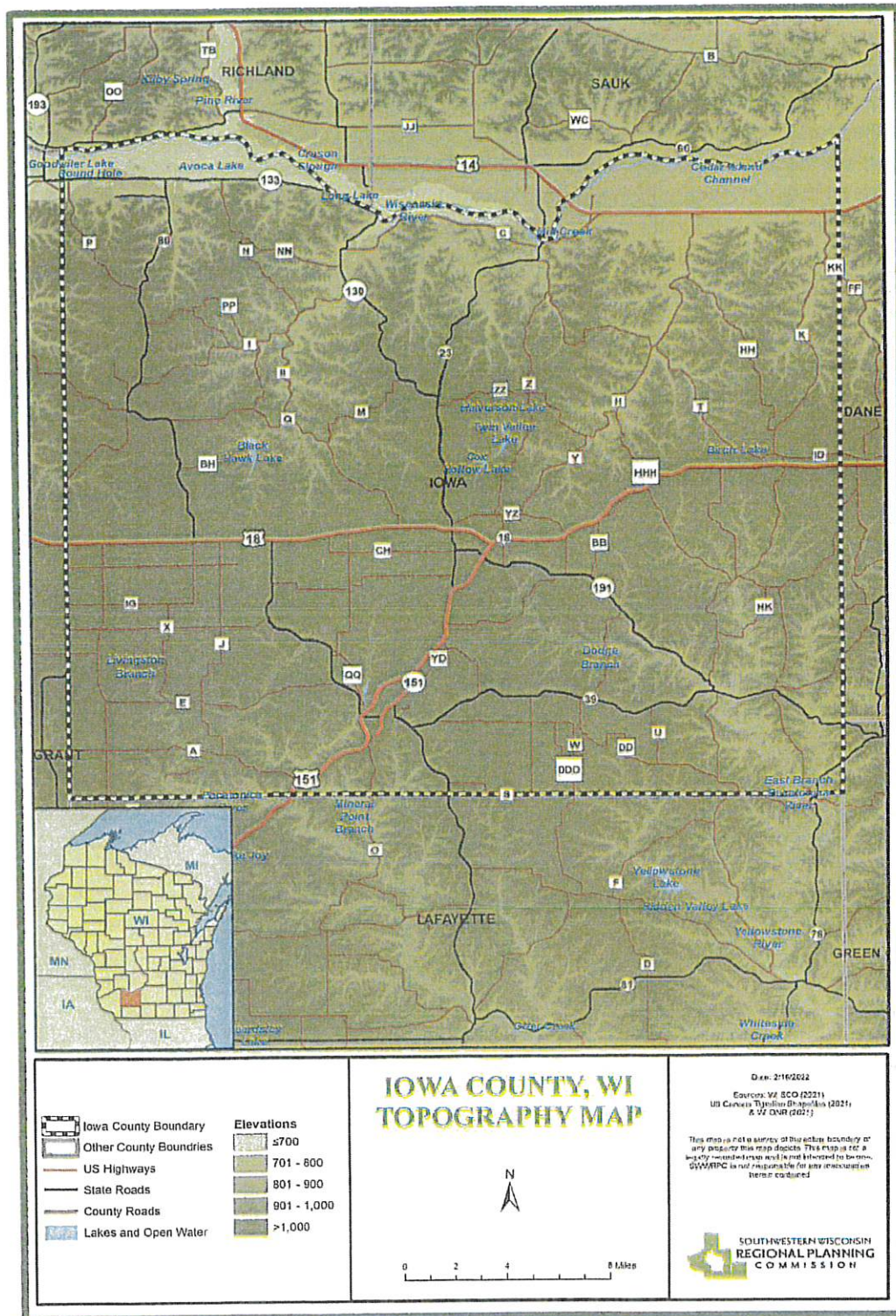
Topography

Iowa County is located entirely within the Western Upland. The Western Upland is a geographical region covering much of the western half of Wisconsin. It stretches from southern Polk County in the north to the state border with Illinois in the south, and from Rock County in the east to the Mississippi River in the west. Wisconsin's Western Upland is a rugged, hilly region deeply dissected by rivers and streams. The area is characterized by rocky outcroppings and numerous small caves, as well as sharp and frequent changes in altitude. The average elevation in the region is between 900 to 1,200 feet above sea level, where the area immediately adjacent to the highland averages 600 to 900 feet in elevation. Aside from the Upland itself, the strongest topographic features of the region are the trenches of the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers and their numerous branches. One of the most dominant topographic features of the region is Military Ridge. The Ridge is the divide between the north flowing tributaries of the Wisconsin River and the south flowing tributaries to the Rock and Mississippi Rivers. It has also been important to the region's history.

The entire region, with the exception of the eastern half of Green County and a small portion of southeast Lafayette County, is characterized by rugged, steep-walled valleys and high relief. The region is referred to as the Driftless Area which preserves a large sample of what the rest of Wisconsin, as well as the northern and eastern United States were like before the Glacial Period.

Figure 4 is a topographic map for Iowa County, a prime example of the topography of the Driftless Region.

Figure 4: Iowa County Topographic Features



Climate

Iowa County's climate is continental and typical of the central areas of a continent in the middle latitudes. Winters are relatively cold and snowy with extended periods of rain during the spring and autumn and intermittent periods of hot humid summer weather. Air temperatures within the county are subject to large seasonal change and yearly variations. Precipitation in the county for the six-month period from April through September may range in intensity and duration from showers to destructive thunderstorms. The snow fall average for Iowa County is about 40 inches annually which has risen in the past few decades. Prevailing winds are westerly in winter and southerly in summer.

Soils

The soils of Iowa County can be characterized as generally being underlain by dolomite (limestone) or sandstone bedrock with a mantle of loess (silty, wind-blown material) ranging from 1 to more than 10 feet in thickness. The soils of the upland ridges formed partly in this loess and partly in materials weathered from the underlying bedrock. On the lowest stream terraces along the Wisconsin River, sandy glacial outwash is exposed. This is parent material of the Plainfield and Sparta soils.

Flora and Fauna

Iowa County includes both the "Southwest Savanna" and "Western Coulee and Ridges" ecological landscapes in Wisconsin. Both landscapes were once dominated by fire-dependent natural communities of Prairie, Oak Savanna, Oak Woodland and Oak Forest. They are now predominately dominated by agriculture, however, remnants of the former natural communities do exist but typically in small low-quality pieces. Three-percent of the land in the Western Coulee and Ridges eco-region are in public ownership so care for the public lands are important. The Western Coulee and Ridges eco-region also includes high quality streams. On the other hand, less than one-percent of the land in the Southwest Savanna eco-region are in public ownership. The WIDNR believes the Southwest Savanna landscape offers the best opportunity in the state for large scale grassland management and restoration. The Southwest Savanna ecosystem also has high quality streams, and so making buffer zones adjacent to them is very important.

Threats from invasive plant species have been increasing and control of them should be considered in both ecosystems. Invasive plants reduce opportunities for recreation, increase chances for erosion, decrease habitat, and lessen the aesthetics of areas. Some of these invasive plants include: Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*), Spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Crown vetch (*Coronilla varia*), Common teasel (*Dipsacus sylvestris*), Autumn olive (*Elaeagnus umbellata*), Burning bush (*Euonymus alatus*), Dame's rocket (*Hesperis matronalis*), Tartarian honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*), Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), White mulberry (*Morus alba*), Wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*), Reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), Black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*). Any plant that is dominating an area could be considered as invasive.

Common trees of the area historically would include fire tolerant Oaks, Shagbark Hickory and Hazelnut undergrowth. In ravines and near waterways would have been Maple, Basswood dominated. However, due to mesophication, woodlands are becoming dominated by other low-quality tree species.

Both landscapes contain public lands which provide abundant recreation opportunities with some of the most popular being surface trail bicycling, paddle sports, fishing and hiking, and walking or running on trails. The cold and cool water streams are also vital to recreation opportunities and their protection and enhancement should be imperative to any land use decision. Warm water streams with small mouth bass populations should also be prioritized.

Water Resources

In general, the county is divided into two drainage areas by the Military Ridge, which runs east and west across the middle of the county. North of the ridge surface waters drain into the Wisconsin River. The main streams of this north-flowing system are the Blue River and Morrey, Otter, Sneed, Lowery, Rush, Mill, and Blue Mounds Creeks.

Almost all of the surface waters south of the ridge drain in a southeasterly direction into the east and west branches of the Pecatonica River. Some tributaries of the Platte River also have their beginnings in Iowa County and flow southwesterly toward the Mississippi River.

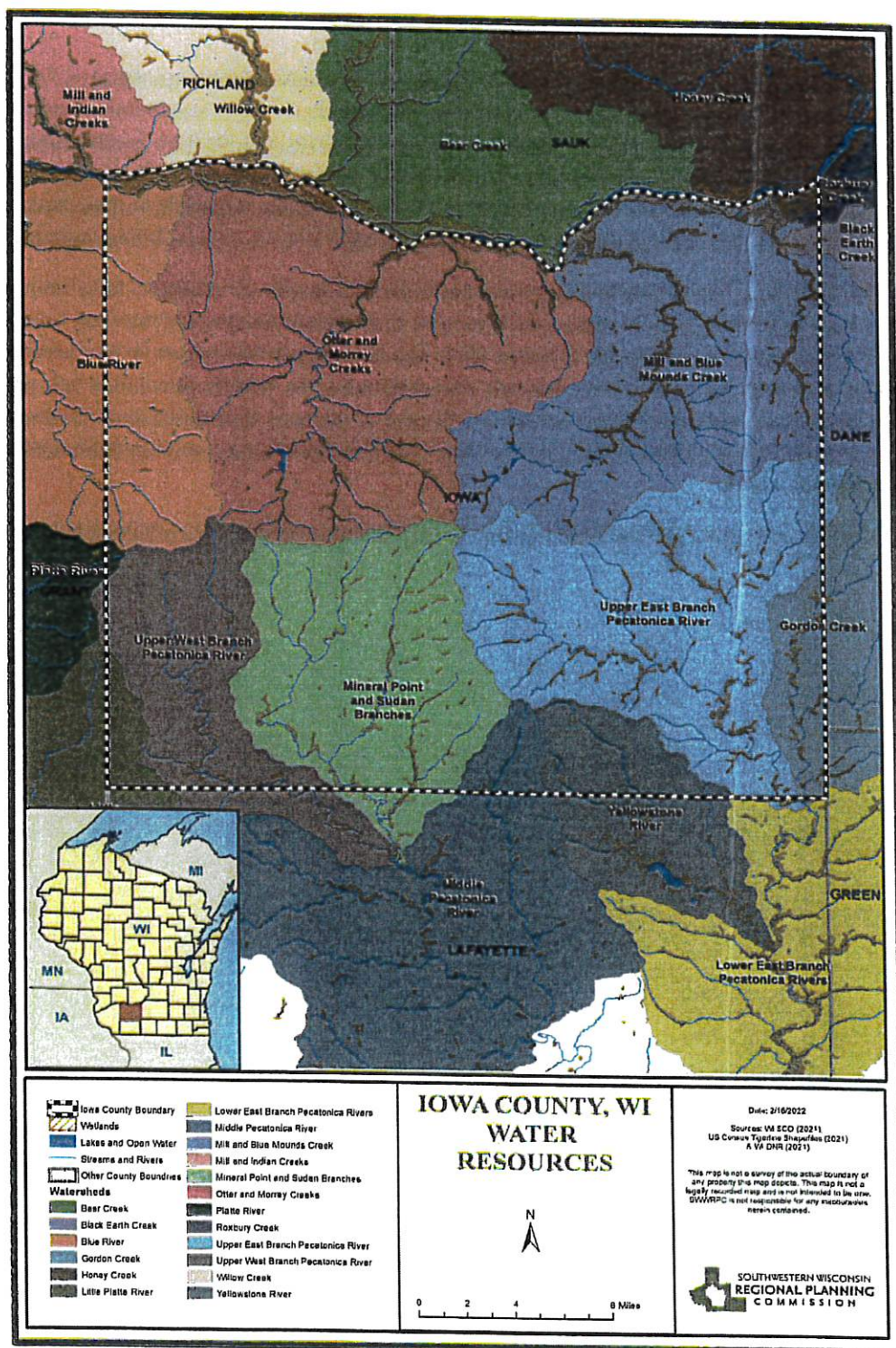
Since Iowa County lies wholly within the Driftless Area, there are few natural lakes. Oxbows and meander scrolls in the floodplain of the Wisconsin River and man-made impoundments comprise all of the lakes in the county (including Blackhawk Lake opened in 1972).

The surface water features of Iowa County total 7,093 acres, excluding farm ponds, and comprise 1.4% of the county area. Perennial streams account for 6,500 acres and lakes and sloughs comprise 592 acres. The Wisconsin River, which forms the northern border of the county, has about 5,600 acres of the total. The total stream length is 600 miles including 76 miles of the Wisconsin River. The lakes range in size from 6.4 acres to the 220 acre impoundment of Blackhawk Lake which has, to date, exhibited excellent water quality.

The county has an abundant supply of underground water. All of the geological formations underlying the soils contain water, the main source being the Upper Cambrian sandstone. Springs are numerous and furnish cold, clear water with a high mineral content. The springs support a good trout fishery in the upper reaches of many of the streams.

Wetlands in Iowa County include all marshes and swamps and those areas which are excluded from cultivation or other use because they are intermittently wet. Most wetland areas are subject to periodic flooding. The most extensive and productive wetlands for wildlife are located in the bottom lands bordering the Wisconsin River. The values of wetlands are many. In addition to providing filtration of pollutants from surface water and providing flood water storage capacity, the wetlands and the transitional areas between wetland and upland provide habitat for many wildlife species. Although there is only a relatively small wetland area in Iowa County, it is a resource which is much sought after for recreational purposes.

Figure 5: Iowa County's Water Resources



Fish and Game

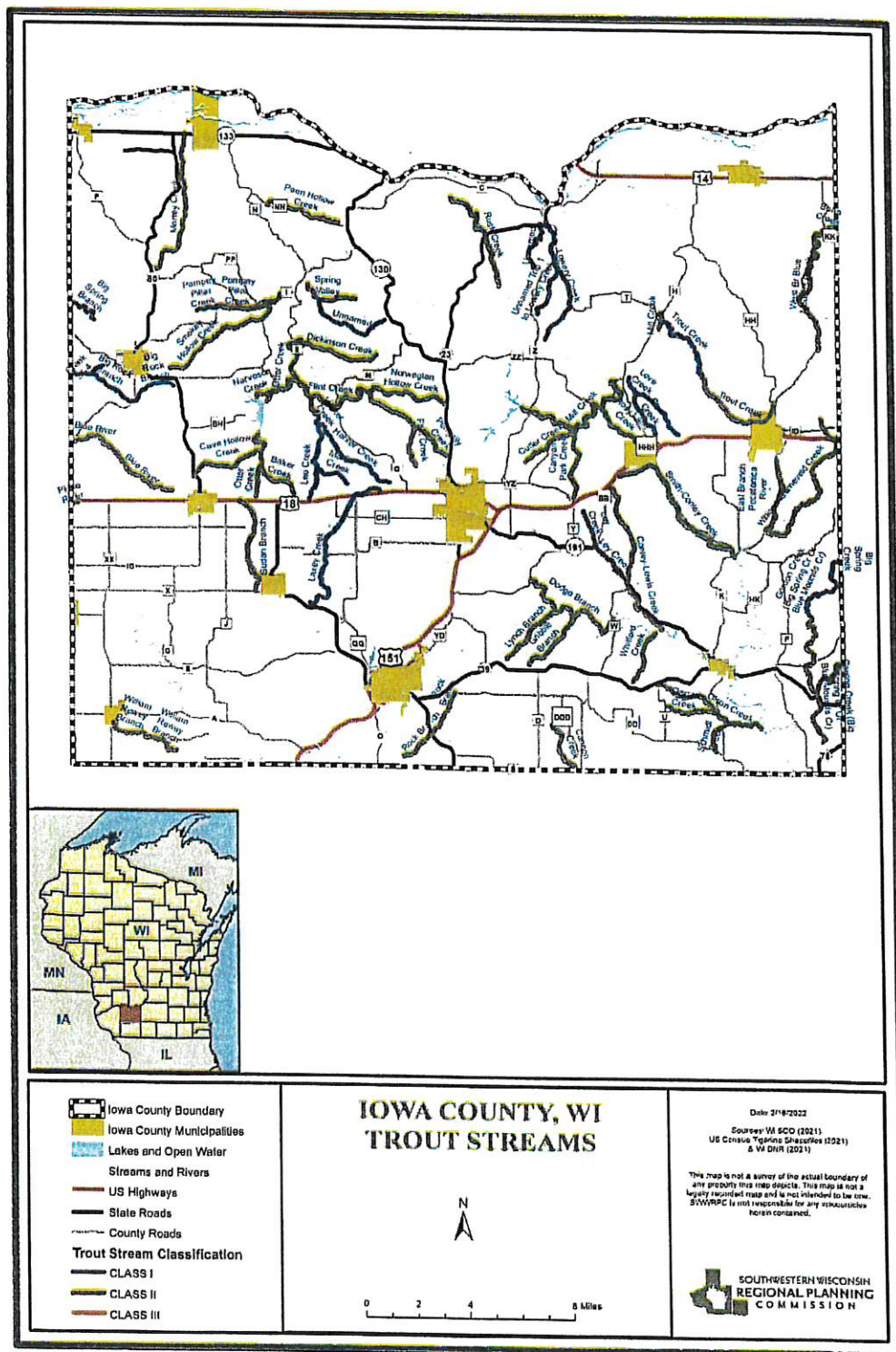
Numerous species of fish are found in Iowa County streams and lakes. Sport fish include largemouth and smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, catfish, white sucker, and several species of trout.

Rainbow, brook, and brown trout are abundant in Iowa County trout streams shown on Figure 6. There are 49 trout streams stretching a total distance of 254 miles in Iowa County. The majority of these stream miles have been designated Class II, or streams that have native trout but require moderate to heavy stocking for high quality fishing opportunities. Class I streams indicates that conditions are favorable for natural reproduction and that little or no stocking of hatchery fish is required. Usually these streams are of short length and have small trout, especially in their headwaters. Class III streams are marginal trout habitat and require extensive stocking of legal trout to sustain fishing opportunities.

Topography plays an important role in determining the amount and distribution of wildlife in Iowa County. For instance, water fowl are the most abundant along the Wisconsin River and its attendant sloughs and marshes. Land use in northern Iowa County has become more recreationally oriented while the influence of agriculture in the area has declined. As grasslands and bush as well as woodlands have become more common, the wildlife population has expanded. White-tailed deer, for example, have made substantial increases in the size of the herd. Substantial populations of ruffed grouse and squirrel are also located in the northern part of the county. Southern Iowa County contains habitat areas for pheasant, squirrel, and Hungarian partridge.

Further discussions of fish and game and their relationship to recreational activities are contained in later sections of this plan.

Figure 6: Iowa County's Trout Streams



Land Use

The amount of land specifically devoted to recreational purposes is minor in relationship to the total land area of Iowa County. However, it is recognized that a considerable amount of farm acreage is used for extensive forms of recreation, like hunting, hiking, nature study, and snowmobiling. These activities seldom require elaborate recreation facilities or a financial investment of consequence.

Agriculture has long been the major land use and principle industry in Iowa County. About 70% of the county's total land area is used for agriculture and open land. Nearly all of the forest land in the county is in private, farm ownership and, therefore, has been assigned to agricultural use. Forestry has a positive impact on recreation. Forests complement numerous outdoor recreation activities, like sightseeing, nature study, and hunting, and provide visual variety to the agricultural landscape. They also protect the soils and water supplies of the county. While there are many important oak dominated woodlands in the north, there are also significant prairies, savannas, and grasslands particularly in the south of the county. Within many of these grass-dominated habitats there are many critical habitats for endangered or declining insects and birds. For example, the Mounds View Grassland north of Hollandale is a remnant prairie serving as vital habitat for the Wisconsin-endangered Regal Fritillary Butterfly as well as declining grassland birds such as the Dickcissel, Upland Sandpiper and Bell's Vireo.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) owns and manages approximately 21,609 acres of recreational land within Iowa County including a great deal of land located along the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway. There is also a significant amount of land open to the public for recreation that is owned and managed by non-profit organizations such as the Driftless Area Land Conservancy, The Prairie Enthusiasts, and The Nature Conservancy.

Recent population trends and the influx of new business into Iowa County are expected to reduce the amount of land dedicated to agrarian and forestry purposes and to recreation in general. Land lost to growth may be less than significant quantitatively. Nevertheless, growth must be controlled because of its cumulative effects and because it may occur on properties best suited to other purposes.

Standards for Park and Recreation Planning

The standards system is a method of assessing an area's outdoor recreation needs. The National Recreation and Park Association developed standards to provide a scale against which the existing recreation system can be measured. Standards can be used to create guidelines for future needs. Typically, standards link park acreage to the area's population, or link the number of recreation facilities to the population. In addition, service area standards are also used to determine recreational needs.

Recreation Open Space Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has endorsed a park and open space classification system which will serve as a guide throughout much of this plan. These standards pertain only to parks, recreation lands, and other open spaces discussed in this plan. Standards can be a good starting point or reference when determining a county's outdoor recreation land and facility needs. However, each county's needs are different based on such factors as the county's demographic profile and what types of facilities and outdoor recreation priorities the citizenry deem important. Resident input in the form of surveys and/or public hearings are also important when recreation and park planners look at future development and/or preservation of public lands.

NRPA's standards have been modified to more accurately define park, recreation land and open spaces within Iowa County. For example, NRPA recommends that a County Park have a desirable size of 15+ acres. In Iowa County, most parks of this nature are in the 5 to 100+ acres range. This has been noted in the definition section below. All parks, recreation lands and open space under the jurisdiction of Iowa County have been assigned one primary classification or code using the following titles and abbreviations: (CP) County Park; (LP) Linear Park; (SU) Special Use Area.

- CP: County Park
 - Desirable/Typical Size: 5 to 100+ acres
 - Service Area: 1 – 15 miles.
 - Acres/1,000 Population: Variable.
 - Use: Area of diverse environmental quality. This may be an area of natural quality for outdoor recreation such as walking, viewing, sitting or picnicking. It may be any combination of the above depending upon site suitability and community need.
 - Site Characteristics: May include natural features, such as water bodies and areas suited for intense development. The site has easy access by all modes of transportation.
- SU: Special Use Area
 - Desirable/Typical Size: Variable depending on type of facility.
 - Service Area: Entire County, or part of the county.
 - Acres/1,000 Population: Variable.
 - Use: Areas for specialized or single purpose recreational activities such as golf courses, nature centers, marinas, zoos, conservancies, arboreta, display gardens, arenas, outdoor theaters, gun ranges, and downhill ski areas. Also includes plazas or squares in or near commercial centers, boulevards, or parkways.
 - Site Characteristics: Located within the county.
- LP: Linear Park
 - Desirable/Typical Size: Sufficient width to protect resources and to provide maximum use.

- Service Area: No applicable standard.
- Acres/1,000 Population: Variable.
- Use: Area developed for one or more varying modes of recreational travel or activity such as hiking, biking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, fitness trails/skiing and canoeing. May include active play areas.
- Site Characteristics: Built on natural corridors such as utility or railroad right-of-way, bluff lines, vegetation patterns, and roads that link other components of the recreation system or community facilities such as school, libraries, commercial areas, and other park areas.

Recreational Facility Development Standards

Standards for the development of recreation facilities, similar to open space standards are expressed in facility units per population ratio. The purpose of evaluating a recreation system is to determine the amount of needed facilities in each recreation area.

Recreation facility development standards serve as an excellent resource guide when local officials are developing a new park or are upgrading an existing recreation area. These standards provide recommendations regarding space requirements for various recreation activities. They also provide recommendations regarding size and dimensions for each activity, the best orientation to avoid sunlight in the eyes, a recommended service radius for each activity, and other criteria to be considered when locating a recreation facility/activity.

Age, income and education all contribute to people's recreational preferences, yet facility standards sometimes ignore these variables. Another problem with using standards is that they have been developed primarily for urban communities and have limited application to rural areas. Despite these problems, facility development standards have a place in recreation planning. County leaders use them to approximate the adequacy of their parks systems.

A listing of the NRPA's park and open space standards and suggested facility development standards can be found in Appendix A of this report. Included in the listing of recreation facility development standards are such activities as baseball, softball, football, field hockey, soccer, volleyball, tennis, badminton, ice hockey, archery range, golf-driving range, and track running.

Outdoor Recreation Supply Inventory

To determine what course of action county officials must take to provide comprehensive outdoor recreational opportunities, it is necessary to evaluate the supply of existing areas and facilities. This section of the report provides an inventory of Iowa County's recreational facilities. Recreational opportunities in Iowa County are provided by the state, county, communities, and private enterprise. For ease of presentation, activities based on land resources are discussed separately from those based on water resources.

Land-Based Activities

Golfing

There are three privately owned golf courses in Iowa County. The Dodge-Point Golf Course is a 18-hole facility located between the cities of Dodgeville and Mineral Point. The Springs Golf Course located south of Spring Green is an 27-hole championship course. The former facility primarily serves the resident population of south central Iowa County whereas the latter serves residents of northern Iowa County and southern Sauk County as well as a substantial number of tourists.

Golf courses at Spring Green, New Glarus, and Mt. Horeb, while not located in Iowa County, do have service areas that extend into Iowa County and serve portions of the resident population.

Pleasure Driving and Sightseeing

Iowa County offers uniquely scenic landscapes for the traveling public. Northern Iowa County contains forested hills, spectacular rock formations, trout streams, and picturesque farms. The southern portion of the county is more agrarian in character with its beautiful pastoral scenes of well-maintained farms, woodlots, and rolling hills that are dissected by the area's stream network. Several wayside areas along major travel routes in Iowa County serve to enhance pleasure driving and sightseeing. Certain communities like the Village of Cobb have parks located adjacent to travel routes which also serve travelers.

Skiing

The rolling topography of Iowa County is excellently suited to skiing. However, the county lies below the snow belt which creates a problem in developing ski hills. Without snow making equipment, ski hills cannot operate on an economical basis in southern Wisconsin. There has historically been a ski resort in the county, but it is no longer in operation.

Cross-country skiing, a sport rapidly gaining in popularity, should also be mentioned here. This activity requires neither hills nor deep snow. Only adequate space and light snow cover are necessary. Trails for cross-country skiing are located at Governor Dodge State Park, Blackhawk Lake, and Blue Mound State Park.

Camping

A summary of campgrounds is made in Table 2. More than one-half of the total camping units are located in the three state parks in the county. Governor Dodge State Park has the most campsites of any one campground with 269 units. The majority of the campsites are in public ownership, although one-third of the campgrounds are privately owned. Group or backpack campsites were not included in this inventory although it should be noted that several parks in the county do maintain facilities for, this type of camping. It also should be mentioned that certain businesses like motels, taverns, and gas stations allow overnight camping but these places as well were not included in the inventory.

Table 2: Campground Inventory of Iowa County

Name of Campground	Ownership
Avoca Lakeside Park	Village of Avoca
Birch Lake Park	Village of Barneveld
Spring Valley Trails	Private
Hideaway Acres	Private
Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area	State of Wisconsin
Governor Dodge State Park	State of Wisconsin
Tower Hill State Park	State of Wisconsin
Blue Mound State Park	State of Wisconsin

Hunting

There are 6,995 acres of land open to hunting by the public in Iowa County. Most of this acreage is found in five public reserve areas--the Avoca Unit of the Wisconsin River Wildlife Area, the Blackhawk Lake Area, the Helena Marsh Wildlife Area, Trout Creek and Love Creek. In addition, there are 112 acres- in the Hollandale Wildlife Area (see Table 3).

Table 3: Public Hunting Areas in Iowa County

Name of Area	Acreage
Avoca Unit--Lower Wisconsin River Wildlife Area	3,873
Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area	1,495
Helena Marsh Wildlife Area	636
Trout Creek	679
Love Creek	200
Hollandale Wildlife Area (Pecatonica River Reserve)	112

The Avoca Unit is the largest of the six areas and, together with the Helena Marsh Area, is managed for hunting and wildlife habitat using several techniques including food and cover plantings and prescribed burning. The area has good hunting for deer, grouse, ducks, and pheasants as well as trapping. There is also good access for fishing. Both the State of Wisconsin and Iowa County Land Conservation Department manage portions of Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area. The Department of Natural Resources retains the right of fish and game management in all the tracts of land. This includes hunting as the areas have been operated and managed as a public hunting reserve.

Love Creek and Trout Creek are primarily fish habitat areas along trout streams. Both are open to the public for hunting and fishing and are managed by the WIDNR. In addition to the six public areas identified above, some private owners permit hunting on their land, occasionally on a fee basis. However, this involves a relatively limited number of tracts of land.

Picnicking

Picnicking supply is difficult to determine since a picnic table per se does not necessarily reflect the recreational opportunity. Some highway waysides and municipal parks, for example, have picnic tables, but they were omitted from the inventory because they are underutilized or because they lack the support facilities necessary for enjoyable picnicking. Every local park that is mentioned has picnic tables, but the number fluctuates with the use or movement by need or other reasons. The picnic areas considered to have an impact on outdoor recreation on a countywide basis are listed below. Nearly all of the picnic areas inventoried offer recreational opportunities in addition to picnicking.

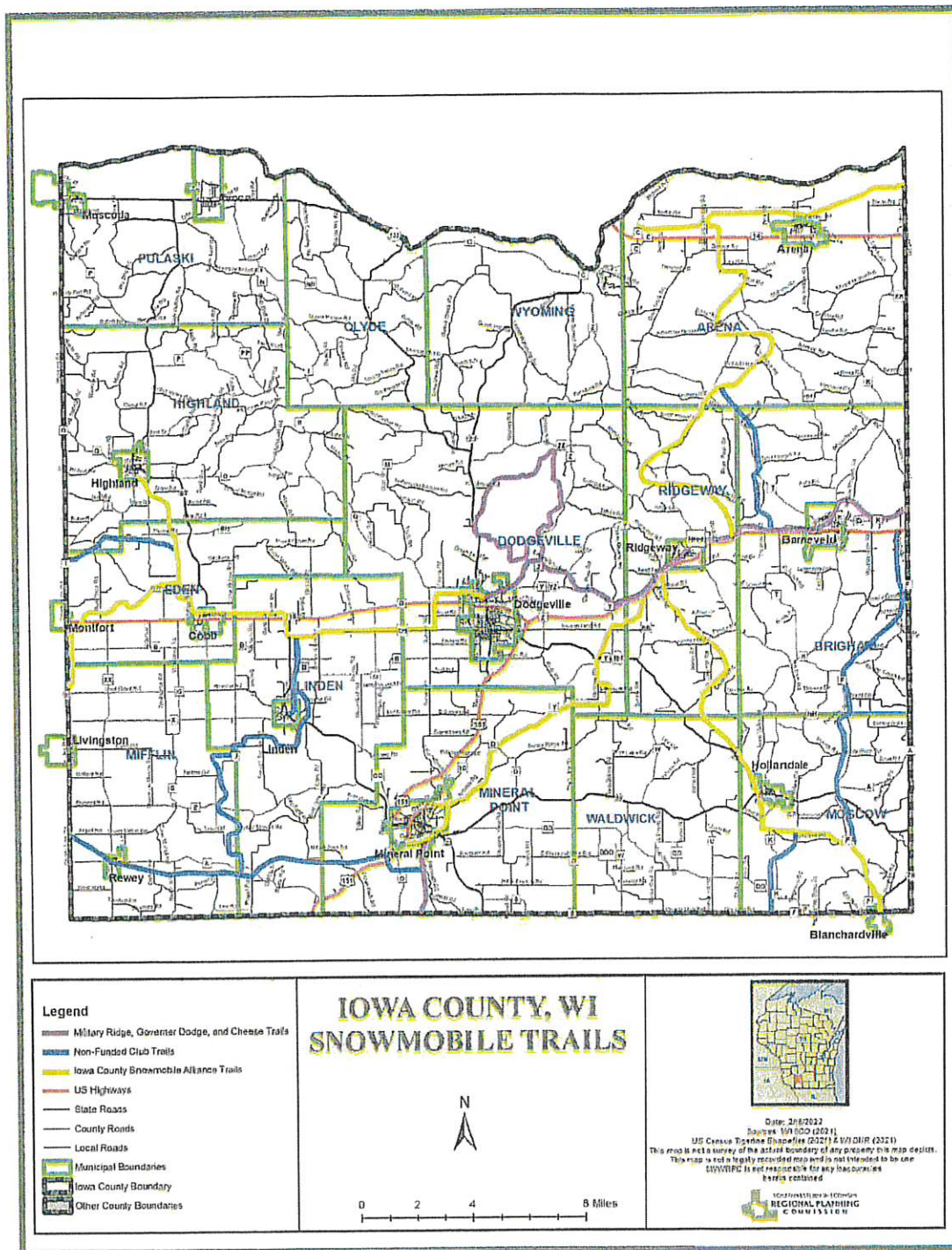
Table 4: Picnic Area Inventory of Iowa County

Name of Area	Ownership
Soldiers Memorial Park	City of Mineral Point
Water Tower Park	City of Mineral Point
John Wilson Memorial Park	City of Dodgeville
Centennial Park	City of Dodgeville
Scheper Park	Village of Cobb
Village Park	Village of Cobb
Village Park	Village of Linden
Jonesdale Sportsman's Club	Organizational
Rewey Community Park	Village of Rewey
Wis. Power & Light Co. Park	Private/Public
Valley View Park	Hollandale
Birch Lake Park	Village of Barneveld
Village Park	Village of Ridgeway
Lakeside Park	Village of Avoca
Highland Park	Village of Highland
Highway Wayside (Arena)	State of Wisconsin
Highway Wayside (Dodgeville)	State of Wisconsin
Highway Wayside (Mineral Point)	State of Wisconsin
Highway Wayside (Mazomanie)	State of Wisconsin
Lost River Cave & Campground	Private
Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area	State of Wisconsin
Governor Dodge State Park	State of Wisconsin
Tower Hill State Park	State of Wisconsin
Blue Mound State Park	State of Wisconsin

Snowmobiling

There are currently 120.3 miles of public trails eligible for state funding with an additional 54+ miles of club funded trails. All trails are maintained and groomed by volunteers with the clubs that are members of the Association of Iowa County Snowmobile Clubs, Inc. In addition, Iowa County has several privately owned or sponsored snowmobile areas including the Ski Timberline and Spring Valley Trails. Snowmobiling also takes place on right-of-ways of public highways but safety problems are involved with this. This recreational activity is also carried on over private lands with local snowmobile clubs owning or having been given permission to use some of these areas. Snowmobiling provides a tourism draw during an otherwise slow period. Figure 7 shows existing snowmobile trails in Iowa County.

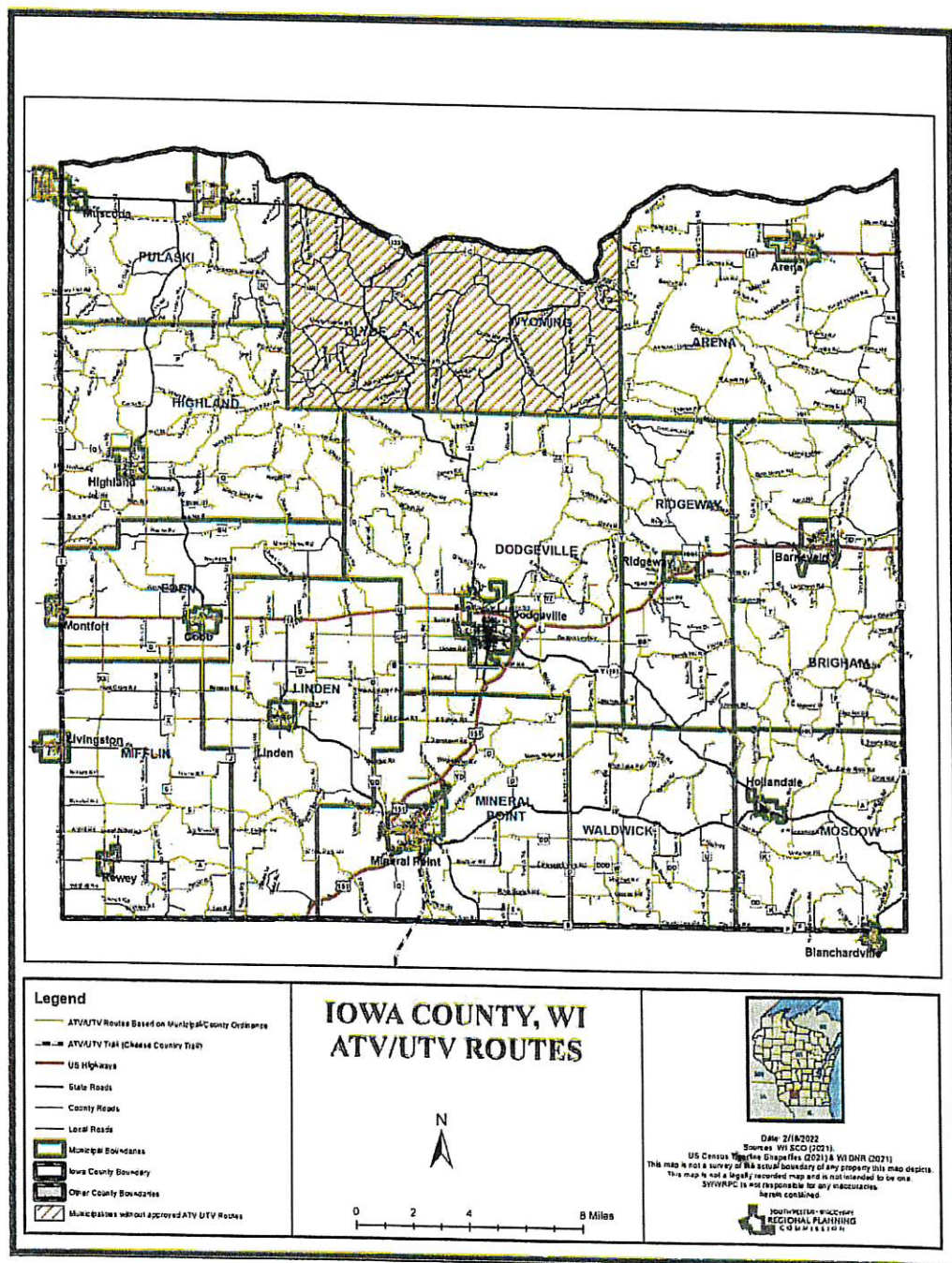
Figure 7: Snowmobile Trails in Iowa County



ATV/UTV Routes

Figure 8 shows existing ATV/UTV routes in Iowa County which include approximately 936 miles of county, town, and municipal roads open to ATV/UTV use. Proper signage and access to information is crucial to the expansion of this market.

Figure 8: ATV/UTV Trails in Iowa County



Water-Based Activities

Fishing

The State of Wisconsin maintains overall responsibility for the management of fishery resources. The state, Iowa County, and local units of government share the responsibility for providing public access to water resources and for the adoption and enforcement of measures that serve to preserve the quality of our water resources.

There are 67 streams and 15 lakes in Iowa County with a combined water surface of 6,769 acres. The Wisconsin River forms the northern boundary of the county. Public access points along the Wisconsin River, other streams, and lakes are shown on Figure 3.

There are 49 listed trout streams in Iowa County, several of which have naturally reproducing trout. There are several small mouth bass streams and panfishing occurs in a few lakes and farm ponds. Largemouth bass, walleyes, channel catfish, white suckers, and northern pike are also found in certain Iowa County lakes and streams.

Inadequate public access points for those desiring to fish and pursue other water-related recreational activities is a small problem. Poor water quality at certain locations is another problem that limits the quality of recreational experiences.

Canoeing and Boating

Few lakes in Iowa County are suitable for boating because of size limitations. The Wisconsin River and its backwater lakes are the only bodies of water that are truly adequate for this type of recreational pursuit. Physically limiting factors such as sandbars act to restrict recreational boating even on the Wisconsin River. Non-motorized boating is possible on some of Iowa County's larger bodies of water like branches of the Pecatonica River, Cox Hollow and Twin Valley lakes in Governor Dodge State Park, and on Blackhawk Lake.

Canoeing is possible on 44 miles of Iowa County streams including the East and West Branches of the Pecatonica River, Mineral Point Branch, Dodge Branch, Mill Creek, Otter Creek, and the Wisconsin River which stretches a distance of 34.8 miles along the northern Iowa County line. These streams are gentle and slow moving, being suitable for canoeists of all ability levels. The natural resources of Iowa County can be viewed from a different perspective that most certainly proves to be aesthetically pleasing for those persons making a canoe trip.

Swimming

Supervised swimming pools within the municipalities provide swimming opportunities in Iowa County. Public pools are located in Dodgeville, Mineral Point, Muscoda, Montfort, and Blanchardville. In addition to the pools, there are public beaches located within the county at the Avoca Lakeside Park, Birch Lake Park, Governor Dodge State Park, and Blackhawk Lake Recreation Area. The total land area of beaches is 3.05 acres of which 1.8 acres are found at the two swimming beaches in Governor Dodge State Park, 0.20 acres at the Avoca Lakeside Park, 0.30 acres at the Birch Lake Park, and 0.75 acres at the Blackhawk lake Recreation area. Iowa County is located in the Driftless Area of Wisconsin where there are few naturally occurring lakes which explains why there is a relatively small number of swimming beaches compared to parts of northern Wisconsin where glaciation did occur.