

# 2019-2023 KEWEENAW COUNTY RECREATION PLAN



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## INTRODUCTION

Keweenaw County is located in Michigan's Western Upper Peninsula at the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula, a jagged finger of land bound on three sides by Lake Superior. It is Michigan's northernmost county and is also the smallest geographically and in population. The county has been shaped by its copper mining history, large expanses of corporate-owned forest land, a unique rugged landscape, and its loyal people who visit and call the place



View from atop Mount Bohemia – Photo by [Chad Johnson \(CC BY 2.0\)](#)

their home. Today, it is known internationally as a recreational destination where outdoor activities, heritage tourism, natural beauty and forest management intermingle on 343 square miles, 95 miles of Lake Superior coastline, over 374 lakes and ponds, and countless miles of creeks and streams. Adding to Keweenaw County is Isle Royale National Park, covering an additional 218 square miles, (composed of the mainland and 200 small islands) located 45 miles off the west coast of the peninsula in Lake Superior.

The County has enjoyed a long history of accessible lands, available thanks to Commercial Forest Act provisions and also an unofficial “open door” policy for the use of corporate lands. In recent years, the tireless work of advocates has kept snowmobile, bicycle, hiking and ATV trails available to the public, however it's an ongoing battle as access is being restricted by ownership changes and corporate policies. This recreation plan has been developed at a time when land access is at a critical point with large expanses of publicly accessible land being sold off in smaller sections for private development or forestry. With tourism as a mainstay of the local economy, Keweenaw County prides itself on the recreational opportunities available. Unless protected through permanent easement or acquisition, the loss of key recreational property, including motorized and non-motorized trail corridors, waterfront, rivers, beaches, access roads and habitat for flora and fauna, threatens the economic sustainability of Keweenaw County.

The purpose of this plan is to **set forth a recreation strategy for Keweenaw County that addresses the forces of change and confront future challenges; and provides direction for decision-making regarding investment in recreational projects in Keweenaw County.** This plan was developed in accordance with the guidelines for Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans published by the Michigan's Department of Natural Resources

## ***Keweenaw County Recreation Plan | 2019-2023***

(DNR). A five-year, DNR-approved Recreation Plan is necessary for governmental entities to pursue DNR-administered grants. This plan drew from, and may also serve as the recreational annex to, the County's 2017 "Blue Print for Tomorrow" Land Use Plan updates and a resource for organization seeking information on the county's recreation needs, facilities and activities.

### **Keweenaw County Initial Recreation Committee:**

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*This plan has been developed with assistance from the Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region (WUPPDR).*



Photo by [J. Stephen Conn \(CC BY-NC 2.0\)](#)

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

Consisting of five political townships and one village (**Figure 1**), Keweenaw County is characterized by rocky shores with agate beaches, large tracts of woodlands, and rugged terrain. Dispersed among the natural amenities are the small isolated communities of Ahmeek, Copper Harbor, Mohawk, Gay, Eagle River, Eagle Harbor and Lac La Belle. All of the communities are tied economically to the natural resources of the area but each enjoys its own character.

### Ahmeek

This former mining community lies near the southern boundary of Keweenaw County on U.S. Highway 41 and essentially serves as one of the two gateways into the County. As a village it is the only incorporated municipality in the County.

### Copper Harbor

Serving as the northernmost community in Keweenaw County, Copper Harbor was once a port for shipping copper during the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Today the town is a tourist destination, home to Fort Wilkins State Park, a gateway to Isle Royale National Park, and has an internationally recognized mountain bike trail system.



Photo by [DebMomOf3 \(CC BY-ND 2.0\)](#)

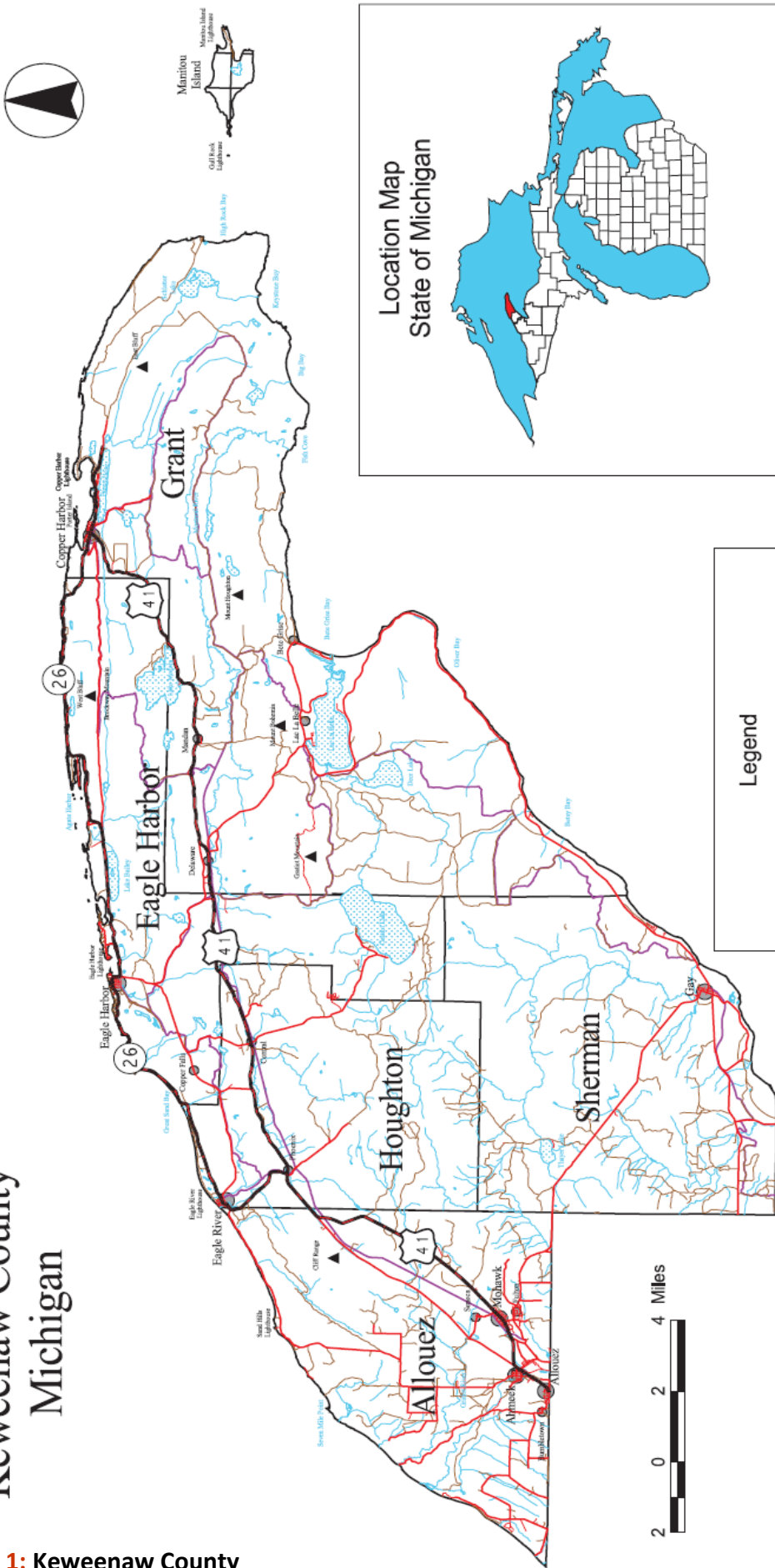
### Eagle Harbor

Eagle Harbor is 14 miles west of Copper Harbor along the northern shore of the Peninsula. The town is a tightly knit community of mostly seasonal residents who live elsewhere during the long winters. The community has its own ski trail system and is also adjacent to the Nature Conservancy's Mt. Baldy Preserve.

### Eagle River

Eagle River is located along Highway M-26 on the north side of the Peninsula and serves as the County Seat. Once a booming copper mining town due to its proximity to the Cliff Range, the community offers a great view of the Eagle River and a sandy public beach.

# Keweenaw County Michigan



**Legend**

- Highways
- County Roads
- Residential Roads
- Two Track Roads
- Snowmobile Trails
- Towns



July 2016

Data Source:  
MIRIS/MI Geographic Framework Base Data  
Keweenaw County 911 - Snowmobile Trails

Map is for Reference Only

Figure 1: Keweenaw County

## Gay

Not far from Mohawk is Gay, a community so named because of mining operations initiated by Joseph E. Gay. Gay is the site of a former copper ore stamping mill where the ore, consisting of native copper metal and volcanic rock, was smashed into progressively smaller pieces until the copper became dislodged from the host rock.

## Lac La Belle

Located on the south shore of the peninsula, Lac La Belle was originally the site of a stamping plant for the copper mines of the Keweenaw including the Mendota Mine and the Delaware Mine. Today Lac La Belle is a resort community with primarily summer cottages.

## Mohawk

Like its neighbor Ahmeek, Mohawk is a former mining town and is the largest town in the County. In 1896, a lumberman found some native copper in the area and exploration by Joseph E. Gay proved the value of the find. In 1898, the Mohawk Mining Company began operation and the community developed with the mine

The population of Keweenaw County as of the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) was 2,198. The majority of the population is located in Allouez Township in the southern portion of the county with 1,516 (66.6%), while Houghton Township has the smallest population of 110.



Farm Block Fest 2010 in Allouez, MI – Photo by [Robert Emperley \(CC BY-SA 2.0\)](#)



Keweenaw County snow depth gauge sign along US 41 – Photo by [Joe Ross \(CC BY-SA 2.0\)](#)

Population does increase during summer months as seasonal residents visit the nearly 1,278 seasonal homes (2010 Census) which account for over 87.9% of the housing units. The most seasonal homes are in Eagle Harbor with 378 units (population 306) and the least are in Sherman Township with 107 seasonal units. The median age of residents in the county is 54.5, much higher than the state

average of 39.5 and of neighboring Houghton County at 32.8. The highest median ages are found in Eagle Harbor and Grant Townships while Houghton and Allouez Townships have the youngest.

Important demographic statistics from the 2015 ACS are shown in **Table 1**, providing a brief snapshot of the area as compared to the State of Michigan.

**Table 1:** Selected demographic data

Statistic	Keweenaw County	State of Michigan
<b>Population</b>	2,198	9,900,571
<b>% of Population 65 &amp; Older, 2015</b>	29.7%	15.0%
<b>% of Population Under 18, 2015</b>	17.0%	32.7%
<b>Median Age, 2015</b>	54.5	39.5
<b>% w/Bachelor’s Degree or Higher, 2015</b>	19.1%	21.8
<b>Median Household Income, 2015</b>	\$37,813	\$49,576
<b>Per Capita Income, 2015</b>	\$24,384	\$26,607
<b>Average Household Size, 2015</b>	2.10	2.52
<b>Median Housing Value, 2015</b>	\$102,000	\$122,400

*Source: 2015 American Community Survey*

The diverse population living and visiting Keweenaw County requires a range of recreational activities, supporting programs and services specific to each community. The county is also dependent on tourism, specifically keyed on outdoor recreation, trails, natural beauty, copper mining heritage, and as home to partner sites of the Keweenaw National Historic Park.

Keweenaw County is known for its rugged ridgeline (the Cliff Range) with elevations ranging from 400 to 900 feet above lake level. The terrain varies from conglomerate rock to sandy beaches. The rugged terrain and variable soils limits development potential in many areas. Northern hardwoods are the predominant forest cover with 128,632 acres considered prime forest lands mostly located in inland areas of the county. The county also supports a number of rare, threatened, and endangered plant species, as well as, special plant communities which are the focus of conservancy groups in the area.



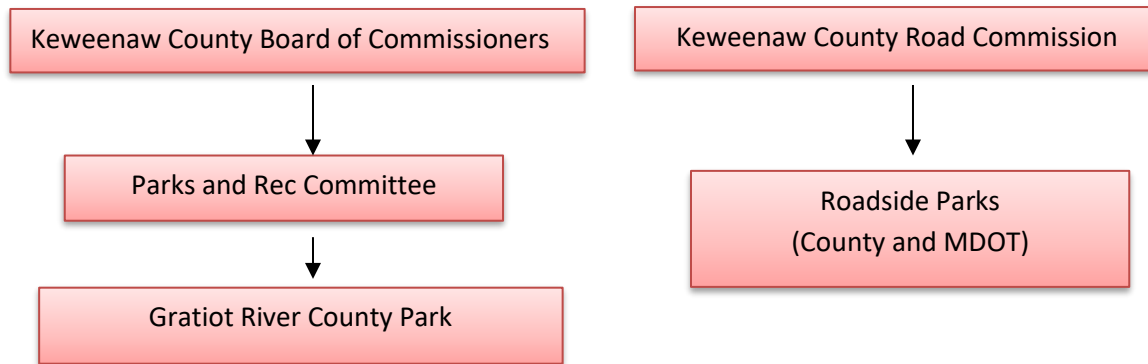


Lake Superior helps to moderate the temperatures in the county but also encourages high precipitation rates. Annual snowfall averages 240 inches as a result of the lake effect. The weather has a tremendous impact on the tourist potential as summer visitors seek the cooling effect of the lake, while winter guests seek the abundant snowfall for downhill and cross country skiing, snowshoeing, and snowmobiling.

## ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE & SUPPORTING PARTNERS

### Staffing

Parks and recreation responsibilities in Keweenaw County are split among the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners, Keweenaw County Road Commission/Road Commission Engineer and the Keweenaw County Parks and Rec Committee (See **Figure 2**). The Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners provides oversight to county-owned facilities, while the Parks and Rec Committee is responsible for management of the Gratiot River County Park and other recreation assets owned by the county. The Keweenaw County Road Commission is responsible for maintenance of Road Commission owned facilities and also for caretaking Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) roadside facilities.



**Figure 2: Administrative Structure**

### Budget

The Keweenaw County Road Commission has a budget of approximately \$50,000 for annual maintenance of county roadside parks and an additional \$30,000 for the maintenance of MDOT roadside facilities. The County does not have a dedicated budget for general recreation expenses. For additional recreation projects, the County Board of Commissions allocates funds as needed and available.

## ***Partnerships/Volunteers***

While the County, Road Commission, Townships (Allouez, Eagle Harbor, Grant, Houghton and Sherman), and DNR are primary recreation providers for Keweenaw County, they are only one aspect of the community of partners that support recreation programming in the region. In the county there are numerous entities that protect lands and public access, provide recreation and education programs, volunteers, funding and are social outlets for various interests. These partners and potential partners include:

- Bike Initiative Keweenaw (BIKE!)
- Calumet-Keweenaw Sportsman's Club
- Copper Country Audubon Society
- Copper Country Chapter of Trout Unlimited
- Copper Country Ski Tigers
- Copper Country Trail Scenic Byway Committee
- Copper Harbor Trails Club
- Copper Harbor Improvement Association
- Federal Agencies (Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)
- Finlandia University
- Gratiot Lake Conservancy
- Horizon School
- Houghton Keweenaw Conservation District
- Keweenaw ATV Club
- Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce
- Keweenaw Community Foundation
- Keweenaw Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Keweenaw County Historical Society
- Keweenaw Land Trust
- Keweenaw Nordic Ski Club
- Keweenaw National Historic Park
- Keweenaw Snowmobile Club
- Keweenaw Water Trail Association
- Isle Royale National Park (and Institute)
- Michigan Nature Association
- Michigan Technological University
- Northwoods Conservancy
- Portage Health Foundation
- Private Land Owners (TRG is the largest)
- The Nature Conservancy
- Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region (WUPPDR)

## **RECREATION INVENTORY**

A wide range of recreation facilities are available to both local residents and visitors to Keweenaw County. Working together, the townships, county, Keweenaw County Road Commission, State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Michigan Department of Transportation, and other private entities provide an extensive network of recreational opportunities within Keweenaw County. This plan will focus on the county and road commission-owned and managed facilities and their contribution to recreation. The inventory was completed with the assistance of previous plans, on the ground inventories and interviews with the County Road Engineer. Following are descriptions of the types and location of county/road commission-owned or maintained recreation facilities (**Figure 3**). All sites inventoried serve the entire county. In addition, accessibility assessments and rankings are provided for each site based on the parameters outlined in the DNR Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans.

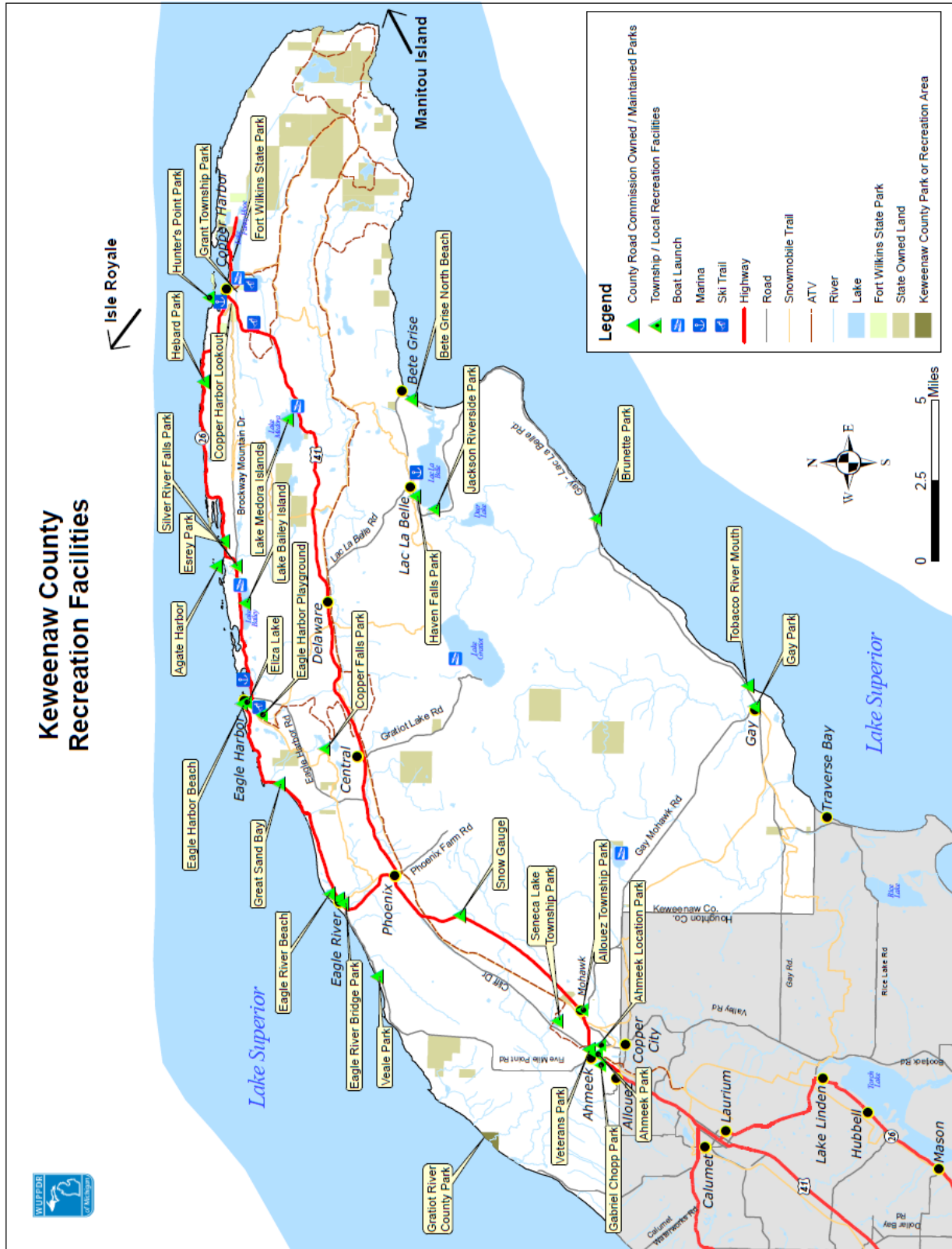
- 1 = none of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 2 = some of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 3 = most of the facilities/park areas meet accessibility guidelines
- 4 = the entire park meets accessibility guidelines
- 5 = the entire park was developed/renovated using the principals of universal design

### ***County/Road Commission Owned or Managed Facilities***

**Agate Harbor:** The County owns the tip of the rocky peninsula and an island located there. This property is undeveloped for recreational use. Accessibility Assessment = 1

**Bete Grise North Beach:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this beach provides over 1,000 feet of beautiful sand frontage on Lake Superior. Toilet and changing facilities are provided. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Brunette Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this roadside park occupies a narrow strip of land with 1,000 feet on Lake Superior with a beautiful sandy beach. Picnic and toilet facilities are provided. Accessibility Assessment = 2



**Figure 3: Keweenaw County Recreation Sites**

**Cliff Mine:** The Cliff Mine is historic site famous for being the first copper mine in the Keweenaw to generate a profit. Opened in 1845, the mine reliably produced copper until its closing in the 1950s. Today, the site is owned by the Keweenaw County Road Commission and contains some archaeological remnants in addition to hiking trails. The site is visited by individuals interested in region's mining heritage, geological enthusiasts and outdoor recreationists. Accessibility Assessment = 1



*Cliff Mine site in Keweenaw County – Photo by Brad Barnett*

**Copper Falls Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this roadside park includes an observation tower platform for viewing the Copper Falls area. Picnic tables, stoves, and toilet facilities are provided. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Copper Harbor Overlook:** Overlooking the town of Copper Harbor, this roadside property on Brockway Mountain Drive is owned by the Keweenaw County Road Commission. Accessibility Assessment = 3

**Eagle Harbor Beach:** Keweenaw County and Eagle Harbor Township own this sandy public beach on Lake Superior. Eagle Harbor Beach is used for swimming, boating, and picnics. It occupies a narrow strip of land along Highway M-26 in the community of Eagle Harbor. Playground equipment is available. Accessibility Assessment = 1

**Eagle River Beach:** Public beach located in the community of Eagle River with picnic tables, and toilet/changing room facilities. The land is owned by Houghton Township, Keweenaw County, and Keweenaw County Road Commission. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Eagle River Bridge Park:** A roadside park adjacent to the township hall in Eagle River featuring the historic Eagle River Bridge along with a view of the Eagle River Falls. This is owned by MDOT. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Esrey Park:** Keweenaw County and MDOT own this roadside park located off Highway M-26. It features over 1,000 feet of rocky shoreline, a small shelter, a small pavilion near the water, water source, toilet facilities, picnic tables, rock stairway, grills, and bear-proof garbage cans. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Gay Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this park overlooks the stamp sands and tailings piles on Lake Superior. No facilities are provided and there are no plans for the site. Accessibility Assessment = 1

**Gratiot River County Park:** This park is owned by Keweenaw County provides 222 acres of land, 8,489 feet of Lake Superior shoreline, and one-half mile on the Gratiot River. Only day usage is allowed. Accessibility Assessment = 1



*Gratiot River County Park – Photo by [Mike Kestell \(CC BY 2.0\)](#)*

**Great Sand Bay Public Beaches:** State (MDOT) owned scenic turnouts and table sites with parking, restrooms, and beach access near Owl Creek on M-26 in Eagle Harbor Township, four miles west of Eagle Harbor. Maintained by Keweenaw County Road Commission. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Haven Falls Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this roadside park includes picnic and toilet facilities along with an attractive waterfall. The park is located across the road from beautiful Lac La Belle. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Hebard Park:** A developed MDOT roadside park with 990 feet of rocky Lake Superior shoreline. Picnic and toilet facilities are provided. Park is split by M-26. Owned by MDOT and maintained by Keweenaw County Road Commission. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Jackson Riverside Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this developed roadside picnic area is a popular site for fishing and smelting during the spring of the year. It is located on the Little Gratiot River near Lac La Belle. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**Lake Bailey Island:** The County owns this undeveloped island and it is used primarily for primitive camping, day use, and fishing. Accessibility Assessment = 1

**Lake Medora Islands:** Several undeveloped islands in Lake Medora are owned by the County and are used by fishermen for primitive camping. There is a public access site on the east side of the lake where boats can be launched. Accessibility Assessment = 1

**Tobacco River Mouth:** This Keweenaw County Road Commission-owned area is popular with fishermen and features pit toilets and picnic tables. Plans are in the works for further development to include a boat launching site with handicap access. Accessibility Assessment = 2

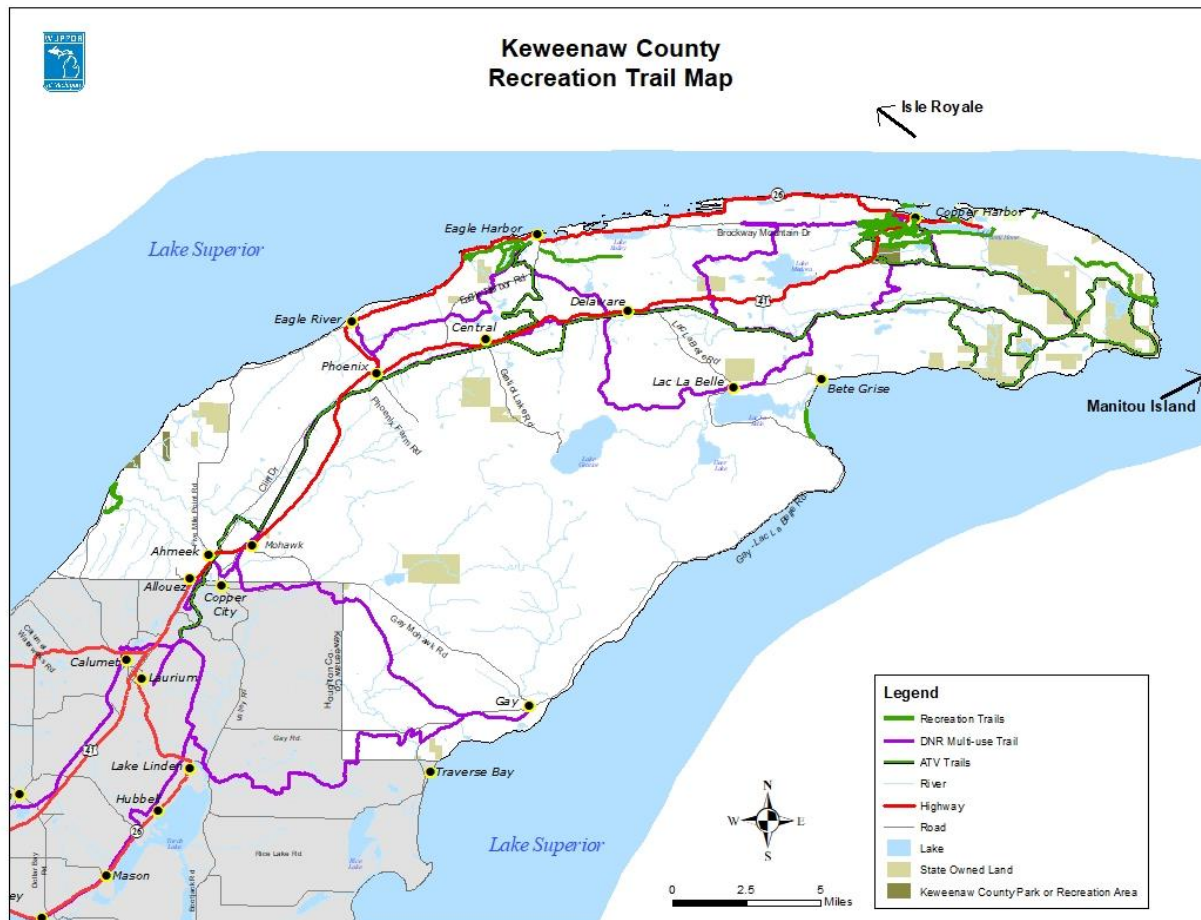
**Veterans Park on U.S. 41 in Ahmeek:** A roadside park with tourist information center, toilets and a Veterans Memorial. West of the highway is owned by MDOT and the east side with the memorial is owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission. Accessibility Assessment = 2

**W.C. Veale Park:** Owned by Keweenaw County Road Commission, this small roadside park has a rocky shore and is a day use park and includes picnic facilities, pit toilets and 235 feet of Lake Superior frontage. Accessibility Assessment = 2

### ***Recreation Trails***

Recreation trails have become an integral component of economic development and quality of life for Keweenaw County residents and are a major drive of tourism to the region. The county offers an extensive trail network system for both motorized and non-motorized outdoor

recreation enthusiasts. **Figure 4** provides the locations of major trail systems in the County.



**Figure 4: County Recreation Trails**

### Motorized Trails

**Snowmobile:** An extensive snowmobile trail system connects the communities of Keweenaw County in the winter months. This system provides a vital economic resource for businesses that rely on winter tourism. The majority of the trails are on a mosaic of private (TRG and others), township, county, state and conservancy lands with continued access contingent on one-year easements. Keweenaw Trails Services maintains 233 miles of trail between Toivola in Houghton County and the tip of the Keweenaw with funding assistance from the DNR.



*Photo courtesy of keweenawatvclub.com*

**ATV:** Currently there is a total network of 120 miles of ATV trails with 54 miles being state-designated trails thanks to the work of the Keweenaw ATV Club. Like the snowmobile trails, the



majority of the trails are on a mosaic of private (TRG and others), Township, County, State and conservancy lands with continued access contingent on one-year easements.

### *Non-Motorized Trails*

#### **Copper Harbor Trail System**

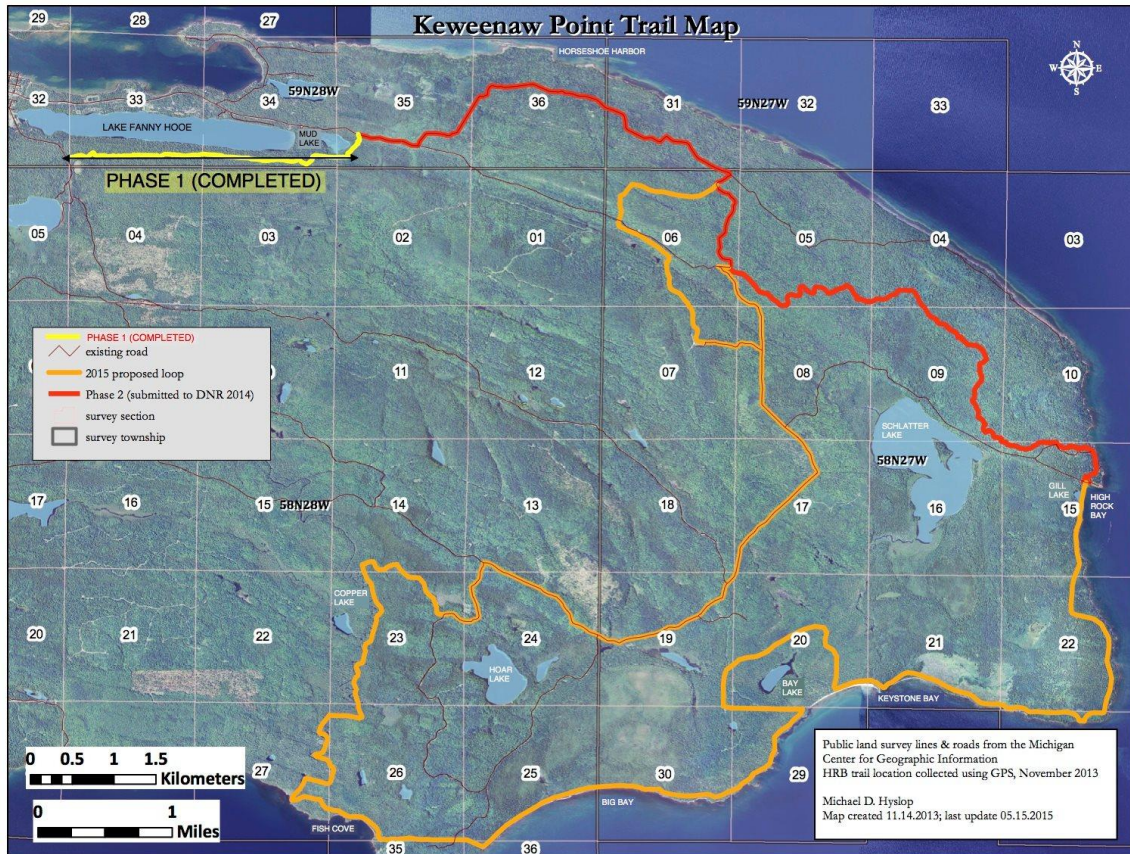
The Copper Harbor Trail System is a well-developed non-motorized trail system of more than 35 miles in Grant Township on state, county, and privately owned land in and around Copper Harbor. The trails, maintained by the Copper Harbor Trails Club (CHTC), provide skiing and snowshoeing activities in the winter; and mountain biking and hiking during non-winter months. Ski trails do not connect, but loop systems are available at the Mountain Lodge and in Copper Harbor. Trails on private land are subject to annual permissions from landowners.



*Fat tire mountain bike race in Copper Harbor – Photo by [Robert Emperley \(CC BY-SA 2.0\)](#)*

#### **Keweenaw Point Trail**

The Keweenaw Point Trail is a proposed, 30-mile non-motorized trail that circumnavigates the tip of the Keweenaw. CHTC has worked with Grant Township, DNR, Keweenaw County, and a number of private land owners and conservancies to acquire the lands for permanent access to establish the Point Trail. Currently, Phases 1 (2.6 mile trail from Manganese Road to Mandan Road) and 2 (approximately 9 mile trail from Mandan Road to High Rock Bay) of the Point Trail have been completed. Phase 3 is in development and plans to connect High Rock Bay to Keweenaw Point, then head west touching the shoreline at times before reaching Montreal Falls and looping back north-east of the Montreal River. CHTC is actively seeking funds to complete this project. **Figure 5** is a map of the current and proposed trail system.



**Figure 5: Keweenaw Point Trail**

### Keweenaw Trail

The Keweenaw Trail is a proposed regional silent sport trail system, separate from existing motorized recreation trails, with a mission to promote recreational activity, economic growth, and conservation in conjunction with the esthetic, ecological, and historical uniqueness of the Keweenaw Peninsula. See **Appendix A** for an executive summary of the proposed project. The long-term goal is to build a trans-peninsula silent trail system that could start at the National Historical Park in Calumet and go to the tip of the Keweenaw. As proposed, it would cross four of the five townships in the County (excluding Sherman Township) and would connect several existing trails including the Keweenaw Point Trail, Keweenaw Ridge Trail, Great Sand Bay Trail, and the Cliff’s Trail.

## Connecting Keweenaw Communities

Over the course of the county’s 2017 “Blue Print for Tomorrow” land use planning process, a goal of facilitating access to outdoor trail recreation for individuals with mobility challenges was identified. The plan recommended connecting all community parks with an ADA-accessible multipurpose trail from Allouez to Copper Harbor and every recreation area in the County. Existing public recreational facilities vary from small roadside parks to larger tracts such as the Fort Wilkins Historic State Park complex that includes historic, recreational and natural attractions.

## Keweenaw Water Trail

A designated 100-plus-mile route around the Keweenaw Peninsula established for paddlers of sea kayaks and canoes. Since 1996, the Keweenaw Water Trail has been promoted by enthusiasts in Houghton and Keweenaw Counties through a [website](#) and brochure. The Keweenaw Water Trail has been a great success and has encouraged thousands to explore the coastal area from the Portage Lake Lift Bridge to the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula. The entire route can be covered in six to eight days and maps are available to assist users. The trail is part of the Western U.P. Water Trail which consists of more than 300 miles of Lake Superior and Portage Waterway shoreline (see **Figure 6**).



**Figure 6: Water Trails in Western U.P.**

## Regional Facilities

**Isle Royale National Park:** This remote wilderness island in Lake Superior is a part of Keweenaw County and is known for its extensive hiking trails, camping, wildlife and excellent fishing. Isle Royale includes 132,018 acres of land that was federally designated on October 20, 1976. Local ferries are available from Houghton and Copper Harbor.

**Fort Wilkins State Park:** Located on the east side of Copper Harbor, it offers a restored fort and interpretive center, extensive camping, playgrounds, boat launch, bike path, non-motorized trails and picnic area.

**Marinas:** There are three state-owned marinas and harbors of refuge facilities in Keweenaw County located at Eagle Harbor, Copper Harbor and Lac LaBelle. State boat launches are available at Thayer Lake, Gratiot Lake, Lake Bailey, Lake Medora and Lake Fanny Hooe. Boat access is available at other inland lakes.

**Copper Country Trail Scenic Byway:** U.S. 41 from the Portage Lake Lift Bridge to Copper Harbor is a designated National Scenic Byway.

**The Keweenaw Underwater Preserve:** A 103-square mile preserve which hosts a variety of shipwrecks including the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mesquite that ran aground in 1989 off the tip of the peninsula. Other shipwrecks are concentrated at Eagle River, Eagle Harbor and Copper Harbor and include both steamers and schooners, primarily of the 1800s and very early 1900s.

**Tip of the Keweenaw:** In 2003, the State of Michigan, working with The Nature Conservancy, acquired 6,275 acres of land and over 7 miles of shoreline near the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula to prevent private development and preserve public use. This acquisition brought the state's total land ownership on the Keweenaw Point to 8,387 acres.



Fort Wilkins, Keweenaw Peninsula – Photo by [Pavel Trebukov](#) (CC BY-SA 2.0)



Photo by [Robert Emperley](#) (CC BY-SA 2.0)

**Estivant Pines:** Located just outside Copper Harbor, this is the last stand of privately owned virgin white pine in Michigan. The sanctuary features trees over 600 years old and 130 to 150 feet tall. Unique rock outcroppings, steep hillsides, cliffs, and old upper mine workings dating back to the 1850s, are nearby.

**Keweenaw National Historical Park:** Established in 1992, the park celebrates the life and history of the Keweenaw Peninsula. It is a partially privatized park made up of two primary units, the Calumet Unit and the Quincy Unit, and 22 cooperating "Heritage Sites" located on federal, state, and private land in and around the Keweenaw Peninsula. Keweenaw County has four Heritage Sites: Central Mine, Delaware Copper Mine, Fort Wilkins Historic State Park and the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse and Museum. More information on the Keweenaw Heritage sites can be found at [www.keweenawheritagesites.org](http://www.keweenawheritagesites.org).

### ***Township Facilities***

Numerous additional recreation facilities owned by various townships within Keweenaw County serve both residents and visitors include local playgrounds, ice rinks, ballfields and the larger facilities of Seneca Lake Recreation Area (Allouez Township), Hunter's Point Park (Copper Harbor in Grant Township), Eliza Lake Park (Eagle Harbor in Eagle Harbor Township) and Grant Township Park (Copper Harbor).

Eagle Harbor Township maintains a ski trail system and a number of preservation groups in the County maintain hiking trails for visitors including: Michigan Nature Association, The Nature Conservancy, Gratiot Lake Conservancy, Michigan Audubon Society and Northwoods Conservancy. Owned by Eagle Harbor Township, Brockway Mountain Conservation and Recreation Area is a Copper Country Trail National Byway-designated site and a popular tourist destination known for its scenic views. From the top of Brockway, visitors are treated to a 360-degree panoramic view of miles of beautiful Lake Superior coastline and Keweenaw forestland.

### ***Historic and Archeological Assets***

The county's rich mining history provides an abundance recreational resources for history, archeology and geological enthusiasts. The remnants of these sites provide popular attractions to tourists and locals alike interested in exploring a bygone era. The sites often also serve as a unique backdrop for outdoor recreationalists as they traverse the county's extensive trail networks. The Keweenaw County 2017 "Blue Print for Tomorrow" land use plan provides a detailed overview of sites within its boundaries. A number of the sites have been recognized by the state and federal government, and others are promoted by the Keweenaw County Historical Society. Sites include, but are not limited to: past mining sites, lighthouses, churches, cemeteries, bridges, shipwrecks and ghost towns.

## ***PREVIOUSLY COMPLETED PROJECTS/GRANT INVENTORY***

Keweenaw County and the Keweenaw County Road Commission have completed a number of projects in recent years. The following list highlights projects completed by the county and road commission with the support of MNRTF funding and other funding sources.

### **Gratiot River County Park – Acquisition-**

- \$442,500 (1999 MNRTF Grant No. TF99-276)
- \$1,957,500 (2005 MNRTF Grant No. TF05-078)

### **Keweenaw Mountain Lodge – (now under private ownership)**

- Conference Center and Winterization- \$3,000,000 (Economic Development Administration, Rural Development and MEDC)
- Terrain Park, Ski Trails and Disc Golf- \$30,000 (Copper Harbor Trails Club, Keweenaw County)

### **W.C. Veale Park near Five Mile Point – Moved outhouses to center of park near roadway.**

- \$8,000 (Local funds from KCRC and private donation)

### **Eagle River Beach –Acquisition-**

- \$55,000 (Houghton Township and Keweenaw County)
- Built new toilet/changing room facility and chip sealed parking area- \$13,000 (Local funds from KCRC, County and Houghton Township)

### **Haven Park– Pavilion built along with a new built-in grill.**

- \$8,000 (Local funds from the South Shore Association)

### **Great Sand Bay – Land Acquisition in support of future improvements.**

- \$30,000 (Keweenaw County, Eagle Harbor Township and KCRC)

**Central Mine** – Efforts by the Keweenaw County Historical Society have rehabilitated many of the structures on site in recent years. A grant has been received from the Keweenaw Community Foundation to enhance the site’s access to hiking trail systems and build upon the two site trails opened in 2005.

### **Acquired “Top of Brockway” –Acquisition-**

- \$268,600 (2013 MNRTF Grant No. TF16-0143)
- In 2013, Eagle Harbor Township acquired approximately 320 acres at the summit of Brockway Mountain to preserve public access to the historic vista.

## **COUNTY RECREATION GOALS**

Keweenaw County is intended to be place where residents and visitors have continued access to the many scenic, recreational and historical assets of our area. Identifying goals and objectives is an important part of the recreation planning process. In order to develop goals and objectives, the recreation committee collected community input through an extensive community survey and by soliciting feedback at regularly scheduled township meetings. Based on this process, three goals for the county recreation plan were identified:

- Protect existing and development new recreation trail assets, both non-motorized and motorized;
- Maintain and enhance public access to forestlands, rivers, lakes and Lake Superior to facilitate a diverse array of recreational activities so that all individuals, regardless of mobility status, can enjoy these resources to the fullest;
- Develop recreation opportunities to attract younger residents and visitors.

With these needs in mind, goals and objectives were developed to help address the identified needs and guide the action program for the county. Goals are meant to be overreaching and general while objectives carry out the purpose of the goal.

**Goal:** Protect existing and develop new recreation trail assets, both non-motorized and motorized

**Objective 1: Secure trails throughout the county through land acquisition or permanent easements.**

- Secure rights-of-ways and main connections between communities and points of interest.
- Purchase lands to protect the Copper Harbor non-motorized system.
- Protect Lake Manganese to Montreal corridor through easement or purchase.
- Work with partners to secure access for the development of the Keweenaw Trail, a proposed non-motorized long distance trail following the spine of the peninsula.
- Support all efforts to permanently preserve trail access and improve trails for both motorized and non-motorized.

**Goal:** Maintain and enhance public access to forestlands, rivers, lakes and Lake Superior to facilitate a diverse array of recreational activities

**Objective 2: Encourage use of public lands and improvement of recreational facilities in Keweenaw County.**

- Work with the DNR to improve access to the “Tip of the Keweenaw” properties including development of facilities proposed by tip committees and protection of special places (See **Appendix B**).
- Improve facilities at Gratiot River County Park

**Objective 3: Support all recreation facilities open to the public including lands and historic sites.**

- Actively seek grant opportunities and other funding when available.
- Encourage public and private efforts to maintain public access.

**Objective 4: Build on partnerships with active groups in order to leverage resources (money and people) and enhance support of community projects and events.**

- Support all efforts to enhance community access to recreation facilities and lands.
- Provide funding as feasible to support community projects.
- Support community recreation events and provide funding as feasible.

**Objective 5: Improve public awareness and appreciation for recreational opportunities through regular communication with residents and visitors.**

- Increase awareness of recreation opportunities through improved communication with residents and visitors including signage, literature and website.
- Work with local organizations to encourage Leave No Trace ethics.
- Provide protection for historic resources.

**Goal:** Develop recreation opportunities to attract younger residents and visitors

**Objective 6: Improve youth recreational opportunities and facilities.**

- Provide opportunities for youth to establish recreation priorities through targeted public engagement efforts (e.g. surveys, forums, discussion groups, etc.)
- Provide more/better publicized opportunities for youth (clinics, camps, etc.)
- Support efforts to improve family friendly recreation facilities

## ***ACTION PLAN***

With goals and objectives in place, the committee was able to develop a five-year action program to work towards accomplishing the goals and objectives. The action plan intent is to provide direction to the community in order to maintain and improve the quality and diversity of park and recreation opportunities. The action plan is not intended to be all inclusive or



exclusive, but used rather as a guide for recreation development. This plan will remain flexible to account for changing needs and new ideas so that it will provide the best overall recreation opportunities for Keweenaw County residents and visitors.

## **Funding**

Grant opportunities are constantly changing, so the county will remain diligent in pursuing funding programs and be willing to partner with other organizations in order to accomplish projects. A number of possible sources of funding for recreation projects within Keweenaw County are available and include the following:

**Table 2: Possible funding sources**

Description	Grant/Match	Source
Local Funds	—	County
Community Foundations/Other (local service organizations and businesses)	—	Local
Copper Harbor Trails Club (CHTC)	—	CHTC
Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI)	—	GLRI
Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF)	75/25	DNR
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	50/50	DNR
Recreation Passport Grants (RP)	75/25	DNR
Boating Infrastructure Grants (BIG)	75/25	DNR
Off Road Vehicle (ORV)/Snowmobile Grants	—	DNR
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Coastal Zone Management (CZM)	50/50	DEQ
Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)	80/20	MDOT
North American Wetlands Conservation Act – US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	50/50	USFWS
United States Department of Agriculture – Rural Development	Varies	USDA
Miscellaneous Grants/To be determined	—	Unknown

## **Five-Year Action Plan**

Based on the goals and objectives for Keweenaw County, the following projects have been identified to pursue over the next five years. The project list is to be used as a working guide to meet the recreation needs within Keweenaw County. Other projects and opportunities may be identified over time and the schedule may also be adjusted as funding is available.

### **2019 Park Endowment**

Work with the Keweenaw Community Foundation to establish a park endowment to support maintenance at Gratiot River County Park and other facilities.

Estimated Cost: \$100,000+ (Donations)

### **2019 Trail Acquisition and Development**

Establish the Keweenaw Trail in addition to activities that will help to secure motorized and non-motorized trail access and enhance trail connectivity. Additional priority placed on securing long-term easements for existing trail networks in collaboration with DNR.

Estimated Cost: \$5,000,000 (MNRTF, Trail Clubs, local donations)

### **2019 Groomer**

Purchase trail groomer equipment and construct/identify storage facilities for county equipment.

Estimated Cost: \$50,000 (RP, Local, County, Unknown)

### **2019 Cliff Mine Protection and Development**

Support and participate in efforts to protect the historic and recreational asset of the Cliff Mine.

Estimated Cost: To be determined (Keweenaw County Historic Society, MNRTF, Scenic Byways)

### **2019 Gratiot River County Park Improvements**

Implement improvements as determined by Gratiot River County Park Management Plan including onsite restroom facilities, parking, accessibility improvements, enhanced road access and motorized trail access.

Estimated Cost: To be determined (Coastal Zone, MNRTF, Passport, County)

## **2019 Gratiot River County Park Management Plan**

Develop management and improvement plan for the Gratiot River County Park.

Estimated Cost: \$20,000 (Coastal Zone, County)

## **2020 Keweenaw County Recreation Site Signage**

Better promote and educate the public on recreation facilities within the county by establishing road signage along key intersections, corridors, roads, etc.

Estimated Cost: \$10,000 (Local, Rural Development)

## **2020 Trail Head Bike Racks & Signage**

In an effort to reduce accidents on mixed use trails, bike racks and safety signage will be installed at trailheads.

Estimated Cost: \$1,000 - \$3,000 total - \$500/bike rack; \$200/Sign (Local, County, KCF, PHF)

## **2020 Community Dog Parks**

Develop public dog parks within County communities to accommodate residents and tourists seeking “off-leash” recreation location for pets.

Estimated Cost: \$12,000 Fencing cost for a half acre park, signage, and waste receptacles. (County, Local)

## **2021 Bete Grise Additional Facilities**

Due to the popularity of the Bete Grise beach area, an additional changing facility/restroom would help to better serve the number of users at this location.

Estimated Cost: Changing facility \$10,000, Restrooms with flush toilets \$80,000, vault toilets \$12,000 (RP, KCRC, County, Local)

## **2021 ADA Accessible Fishing Piers**

Install ADA accessible fishing piers (location to be determined) to facilitate fishing opportunities for individuals requiring specialized recreation accommodations.

Estimated Cost: \$2,000 per new construction for ADA accessible fishing pier. Additional cost of \$2,000/100' to create accessible route to pier (RP, County, Local)

### **2022 Improve On-Road Bicycle Facilities**

Support road commission efforts to secure funding for Brockway Mountain Drive road resurface and work with road commission and MDOT to develop additional paved pathways and bicycle shoulders throughout County.

Estimated Cost: \$130,000/mile (national average) - (KCRC, Byways, MDOT)

### **2023 Develop Additional Camping Sites along Trail Systems (motorized, non-motorized and water trails)**

Identify locations for and develop accessible primitive campsites along trails.

Estimated Cost: \$50,000 (RP, Coastal Zone, Local)

## ***DESCRIPTION OF THE PLANNING AND PUBLIC INPUT PROCESS***

A small committee was selected by the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners in 2017 to represent diverging recreation interests and tasked with the update of the plan. The committee was charged with identifying goals and making project recommendations. The County partnered with the Western U.P. Planning & Development Region (WUPPDR) to assist with developing the Plan.

The committee held a kick-off meeting on October 12, 2017 to discuss the process of developing a new five year recreation plan and brainstorm strategies to gather public input to establish recreation priorities for the county. Committee members developed an outreach strategy which focused on a community survey. A copy of the survey can be found in **Appendix C**. Representatives of the committee also attended township meetings to discuss local recreation priorities.

The community survey was launched the week of November 8<sup>th</sup> and hosted online using Survey Monkey and accessible through the County's and WUPPDR's websites. Paper copies were also made available at the Keweenaw County courthouse and at the townships and Village of Ahmeek offices. A press release was issued to generate publicity for the survey and resulted in a number of articles by local print and online media outlets (**Appendix D**). Committee members also forwarded the survey to recreation organizations within the county to solicit participation.

The survey was available for four weeks and had 725 submitted responses (See **Appendix E** for Survey Results). The committee met on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to review the results of the survey and identify recreation priorities for the Plan. The committee met again on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to review a draft of the plan and prepare it for the public review process.

The draft plan was presented to the Keweenaw County Planning Commission, Keweenaw Economic Development Commission, Keweenaw County Road Commission, Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners, townships, Village of Ahmeek and the public for their review. The draft plan was available for inspection both online and at the courthouse for 30 days beginning on November 13, 2018. A summary of received written comments are included in **Appendix F**. A public hearing was held on December 19, 2018 at the County Courthouse (See **Appendix G** for the meeting's public notification). Attendees identified corrections to the draft plan regarding land ownership. The plan was subsequently adopted by the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners on December 19, 2018 (See **Appendix H**: Agenda, Resolution of Adoption & Meeting Minutes).

## ***APPENDICES***

- APPENDIX A: KEWEENAW TRAIL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
- APPENDIX B: KEWEENAW POINT RECOMMENDATIONS
- APPENDIX C: COMMUNITY RECREATION SURVEY
- APPENDIX D: PRESS RELEASE FOR COMMUNITY SURVEY
- APPENDIX E: RECREATION SURVEY RESULTS
- APPENDIX F: WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC REVIEW
- APPENDIX G: PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION
- APPENDIX H: AGENDA, RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION & MEETING MINUTES

**APPENDIX A: Keweenaw Trail Executive Summary**

# KEWEENAW TRAIL EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## KEWEENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN

REVISION 1



KEWEENAW RIDGE TRAIL, EAGLE HARBOR TOWNSHIP

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: EAGLE HARBOR TOWNSHIP  
GRANT TOWNSHIP  
HOUGHTON TOWNSHIP  
WESTERN UPPER PENINSULA PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGION



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# INTRODUCTION

The KEWEENAW TRAIL Committee was formed in January 2006 to establish a Keweenaw Peninsula wide silent sport trail system. It will be used not only as a recreational resource but also to conserve and consolidate important ecosystems and promote economic growth, while increasing access to historical and aesthetic locations. It is one leg of an important multiuse Keweenaw County wide trail system that encompasses all trail uses including both motorized and non-motorized. To that end it is the desire of this committee to support and work with all trail users to establish the Keweenaw Peninsula as a world class trail destination.

## KEWEENAW TRAIL MISSION STATEMENT

The KEWEENAW TRAIL mission is to establish a silent sport trans-peninsula trail system that promotes recreational activity, economic growth, and conservation in conjunction with the esthetic, ecological, and historical uniqueness of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

## KEWEENAW TRAIL ORGANIZATION

The KEWEENAW TRAIL organization is a multi-jurisdictional municipal project in partnership with conservation organizations, local businesses and recreational organizations.

## MEMBERS

Many members, supporters and stakeholders are needed to be successful. The KEWEENAW TRAIL Committee will be asking for support from organizations and individuals as the project proceeds and the time is appropriate. The current founding members are listed below:

- Eagle Harbor Township
- Grant Township
- Houghton Township
- Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region

## SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Copper Harbor Improvement Association

# KEWEENAW TRAIL OVERVIEW

The long-term use of the KEWEENAW TRAIL is as a recreational silent sport trail system providing access to and interconnecting conservation and historical areas. It also forms a larger conservation wildlife corridor for the protection of coastal habitat. It will provide public coastal access in perpetuity protecting view sites as they naturally exist. Where appropriate, it will co-exist with motorized trails for the better good of other trail users.

## KEWEENAW POINT TRAIL

The Keweenaw Point Trail encircles the tip of the Keweenaw which is owned primarily by the State of Michigan and The Nature Conservancy. It contains both motorized and non-motorized trails as managed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR). A citizen's advisory committee was formed in 2004 to help provide local input to the MDNR on resource usage and long term planning.

The trail would start in Copper Harbor and form a loop around the peninsula's point back to Copper Harbor. The trail maximizes its shoreline exposure and includes destinations such as Horse Shoe Harbor, High Rock Bay, Keystone Bay, the Montreal River, and Estivant Pines.

## KEWEENAW RIDGE TRAIL

The Keweenaw Ridge Trail runs from Copper Harbor to Eagle Harbor. It follows along the top of the ridge parallel to the shoreline and provides grand vistas of Lake Superior Shoreline and the surrounding wetland habitat. It would provide a wildlife corridor connecting the Eagle Harbor Conservation area to the Copper Harbor Conservation area. Destinations along the Trail include The Nature Conservancy's Mount Baldy preserve, the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, and several other conservation properties including Michigan Nature Association and two Michigan Audubon Society preserves.

## GREAT SAND BAY TRAIL

The Great Sand Bay Trail system is made up primarily of the Eagle Harbor Conservation Area but also extends to Eagle River. It encompasses the Eliza Lake Preserve, Long Lake Refuge, and the Dunes Marshes Preserve. It also links into the Michigan Nature Association's Redwyn Dune Hiking Trail. Furthermore, it provides access to the beach at Great Sand Bay, which is one of the most popular summer spots in the area. In the winter it serves as the Eagle Harbor Township Cross Country Ski Trails.

## CLIFF'S TRAIL

Running between Eagle River and Allouez, the trail climbs to the top of the Cliff's providing peninsula wide vistas along this stretch of the trail. Additionally, Eagle River located in Houghton Township, is the County seat. Numerous historical sites are located along this trail as well as the historical mining town of Central.

# KEWEENAW TRAIL MAP

## Keweenaw Trail Project Area

DRAFT

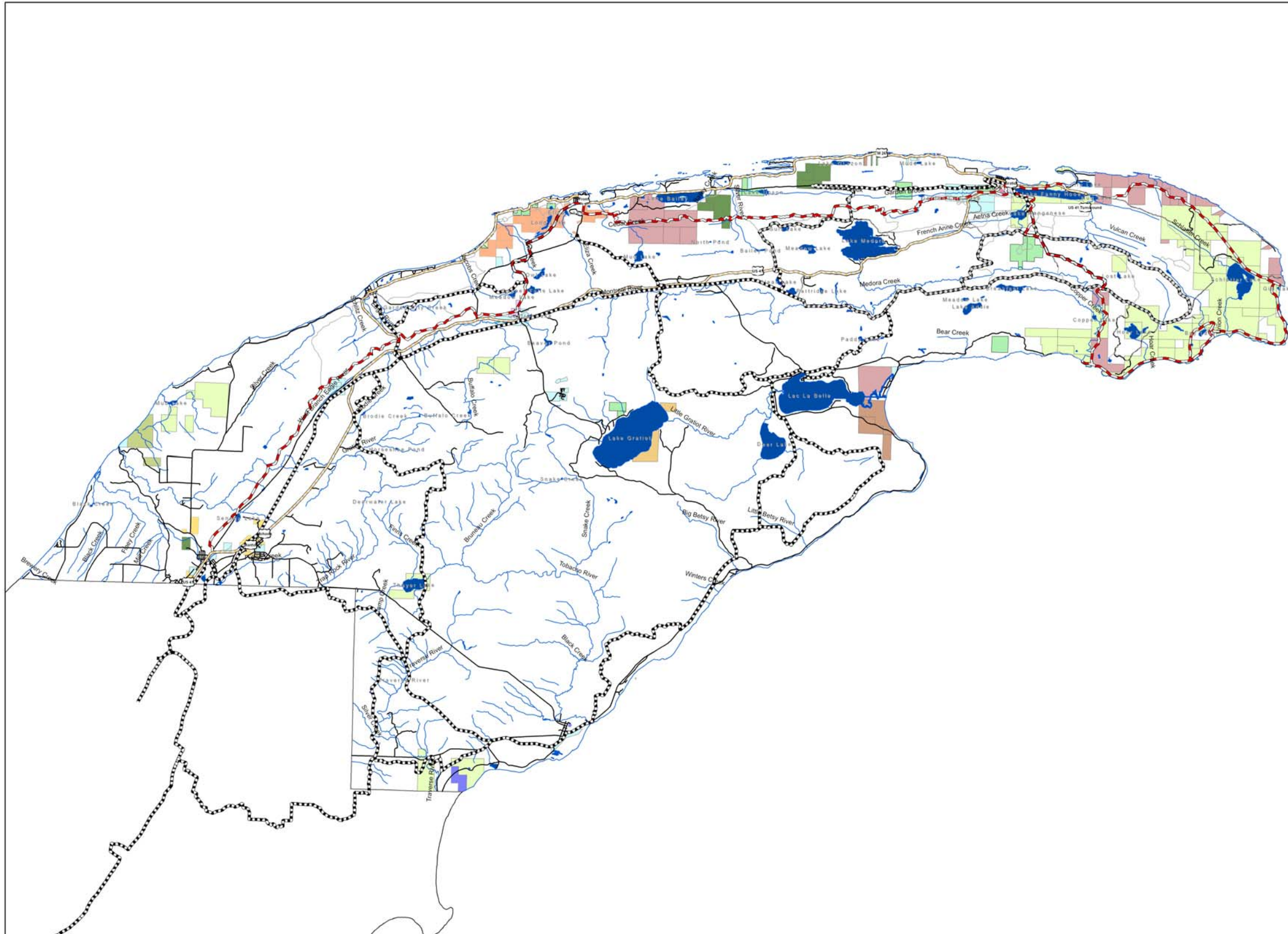
Meters  
0 875 1,750 3,500 5,250 7,000

### Trails

- Other Trails
- Keweenaw Trail
- Snowmobile Trails
- Copper Country Trail Byway

### Ownership

- Gratiot Lake Conservancy
- Houghton Keweenaw Conservation Dist
- Michigan Audubon Society
- Michigan Nature Association
- North Woods Conservancy
- The Keweenaw Land Trust
- The Nature Conservancy
- Keweenaw Historical Society
- Ahmeek Village
- Allouez Township
- Eagle Harbor Township
- Grant Township
- Houghton Township
- Sherman Township
- Keweenaw County Property
- State of Michigan Property



# GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

## PRIMARY PURPOSE

The primary purpose of the KEWEENAW TRAIL is to provide a non-motorized recreational trail system within the ecological, esthetic and historical resources of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

## RECREATIONAL

It is the goal of the KEWEENAW TRAIL to provide a world class silent sport trail system to enhance economic growth and provide low impact recreational use on a scale currently not present on the Keweenaw Peninsula.

Tourism and Forest Management are the top two industries in Keweenaw County. By establishing KEWEENAW TRAIL System, we will protect coastal and other valuable habitat and renewable forest resources from fragmentation while providing low impact recreational opportunities.

While motorized sports enjoy continuing support, non-motorized recreational activity is the fastest growing form of recreational use in the Keweenaw and is arguably the least developed. The area hosts some isolated non-motorized trails but lacks a peninsula wide trail system.

The KEWEENAW TRAIL system will form the basis of a large wildlife land corridor by linking isolated existing municipal and conservation properties.

By leveraging municipal, conservancy, and state and private owned properties, a large-scale trail system is being proposed that will provide multiple non-motorized uses, public access, and resource fragmentation protection in perpetuity.

## Proposed Uses

- Hiking
- Mountain Biking
- Birding
- Trail Running
- Back Country Camping
- Cross Country Skiing
- Snow Shoeing
- Skijoring

Some of the many recreational events currently held in the area are the Brockway Mountain Challenge, Copper Harbor Fat Tire Festival, the Keweenaw Trail Running Festival, the Copperman Triathlon, the



Longest Day Fishing Tournament and the Keweenaw Annual International Migratory Bird Day in Copper Harbor.

## ECOLOGICAL

The KEWEENAW TRAIL supports the ecology of the area through the concept of contiguous large-scale multi-jurisdictional conservation. This has not been done before on the Keweenaw Peninsula. By protecting large wildlife corridors that contain different but integral ecosystems, the peninsula will benefit as a unified ecosystem.



The Nature Conservancy Mt. Baldy Preserve along the proposed KEWEENAW TRAIL System

The overall ecological importance to habitat, as well as the diversity of species that live or stop by here, is that the project is central to the wildlife corridor concept and watershed protection of the Keweenaw Peninsula and the nearby shorelines of Lake Superior.

With this in mind, all areas of the Keweenaw Peninsula provide habitat for a set of threatened and endangered species common to the peninsula. Forty-four rare plant species, either western disjunct or peripheral, have been identified in the region. Twenty-three of the rare plants are listed by the state as endangered, threatened, or species of special concern.

Many Michigan Threatened bird species are in the area and the Keweenaw is a crucial and central part of a large and spectacular raptor flyway that crosses the high ridges of the peninsula. Every spring many enjoy the large swirling displays of soaring raptors. Furthermore, coastal wetlands are crucial to the reproduction and rearing of 75% of the fish species in Lake Superior. Protecting upland watersheds helps to protect Great Lakes fish.

The project area forms a continuum of ecologically similar habitat of high rocky forest to bare ridges and peaks separated by valleys of wetlands, lakes, rivers and creeks. It also links many conservation sites, including the Eagle Harbor Conservation Area, the Copper Harbor Conservation Area, the Keweenaw Point and many private conservation properties. To that end, it is critical not to lose such an important location to residential or other development interests. The area's scenic beauty is already rapidly becoming inaccessible to the public due to private development and fragmentation.

Through partnering with local conservation organizations and local governments, the KEWEENAW TRAIL will extend the ecological and recreational benefits of existing isolated municipal and conservation properties to a larger and broader interconnected area. The formation of this large wildlife conservation corridor will greatly enhance the practical benefit and protection beyond that of any one entity.

## HISTORICAL

From the prehistoric mining sites to the industrialized operations of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Keweenaw Peninsula is blessed with a rich and diverse history. Many historical sites exist that are accessible by motorized access. Secondary access has become more relevant because of the Copper Country Trails National Byways designation awarded to the Keweenaw Peninsula. With a minimal effort many of them can be made available through non-motorized means.

Fort Wilkins, a Michigan State Park, is just one location that tells the story of the Keweenaw through reenactments of the Battery D 1<sup>st</sup> Michigan Light Artillery Civil War Encampment and other supporting programs. Many lighthouses surround the peninsula as well as copper mining ghost towns such as Mandan and Central Mine. Delaware Mine provides underground mine tours to get a truly first hand experience of 19<sup>th</sup> century copper mining in the Keweenaw.



The area is historically significant enough to warrant the creation by the U.S. National Parks Service of the Keweenaw National Historical Park. It is comprised of many cooperating site that are uniquely positioned to help tell the history of the Keweenaw.

The Proposed KEWEENAW TRAIL maximizes non-motorized access to as many historical sites from the main trail as possible. Additional sites will be accessed by spur trails. Additional trailheads can be established to accommodate day hikers while providing scenic as well as historical destinations.

By working with the Keweenaw Historical Society and the United States National Park Service, the historical story of the Keweenaw can be enhanced by providing non-motorized access through the beautiful natural resources of the area.



Eagle Harbor Lighthouse



AESTHETIC



Copper Harbor Overlook, Mt Brockway



The Nature Conservancy Mt. Baldy Preserve

## RELEVANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL PLANS

This project supports many different plans at various levels of government and private efforts of non-profit conservation based groups. Fundamentally it supports “Blue Print for Tomorrow”, the Keweenaw County Land Use Plan. In this plan, land conservation and recreational use play a major role in the desired use of land in the local community.

It further supports the Parks and Recreation Plans of the State of Michigan, Keweenaw County, Eagle Harbor Township, and Grant Township. The project supports the needs of the governments to supplying recreational opportunities on public lands at all levels with easy access.

It supports the US-41 Copper Country Trail Byways Management Plan by providing for alternative public access to this historically significant and aesthetically pleasing region. The Tip of the Keweenaw Citizens Advisory Recommendations are supported through the proposed recreational use of the area. Likewise, the Keweenaw County Mountain Lodge’s Expansion Plan is supported by providing additional non-motorized trail access.

### SUPPORTED PLANS

- State of Michigan Recreation Plan
- Keweenaw County Land Use Plan “Blue Print for Tomorrow”
- Keweenaw County Parks & Recreation Plan
- Eagle Harbor Township and Grant Township Parks and Recreation Plans
- Copper Country Trail National Byways Management Plan
- Michigan State Heritage Route
- Watershed Planning Efforts
- Private non-profit Conservancies

Many public agencies and private conservancies are stakeholders in the KEWEENAW TRAIL area. Planning regarding land, watersheds, view sites, and wildlife management are supported through these organizations. It is our desire to have a broad relationship with all them through common goals, objectives, and long term planning efforts. It is through such partnerships that large-scale recreation, conservation and education goals can be accomplished.

**APPENDIX B: Keweenaw Point Recommendations**

# Keweenaw Point Recommendations

## Camping

### 1. General Comments

We considered three types of camping facilities.

- **Motorized primitive campsite.** Accessible by high clearance SUV or car – to be developed with toilet, fire ring, table and tent pad. Motor homes, trailers, or similar large recreational vehicles will not be able to get into these sites.
- **Non-motorized primitive campsite.** May or may not have toilet or table but will have tent pad and fire ring.
- **Wilderness campsite.** Will have tent pad and fire ring.

### 2. Motorized primitive campsite

#### A. High Rock Bay

This area has been long been used as a camping area. Originally it was thought that a small primitive motorized campsite could be developed just to the north of the big pines, where most now camp, near the boundary with The Nature Conservancy property. However, there may be insufficient land here due to the proximity to the TNC land. There is the possibility of locating a non-motorized campsite on TNC land at the rocket launcher site as people currently use this spot as a camping area (noted below). A State Forest Campground may be the most reasonable solution to accommodate motorized campers at this popular location.

#### B. Schlatter Lake

Develop motorized campsites at two locations around the lake with three camping pads per location. Suggested areas include (a) the existing camping location along the SW side of the lake and (b) at the existing camping location located on the east side of the lake. For future expansion, a third campsite might be considered along the NW corner of the lake near the High Rock Bay Road.

#### C. Schlatter Lake Island

Camping will continue to be allowed here. Small groups of only a few people will be allowed under the general State Land Rules. Reservations for large groups of over 20 people such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, church groups, etc. will be required. Reservations will be by Special Event Use Permit only and issued by Baraga Area Forester. Only a limited number of camping dates will be allowed annually - this will be determined by FMFM Division.

#### D. Hoar Lake

Develop three motorized campsites at various locations around the lake including (a) the existing, traditional camping location, (b) somewhere along the north shore of the west bay and (c) along SW shore. Each campsite to have no more than three pads per location.

Campsites to be located at least 100 feet from shoreline so that beach will become a “commons” area for all campers.

Road easements will have to be acquired from the Hoar Lake loop road to state property around the lake before any development can occur at the proposed campsites (b) and (c) above.

### **E. Keystone Bay**

After a new access road is constructed around the private parcel and a parking area and toilet is installed, develop a State Forest Campground in the vicinity of the beach. All campsites are to be set back at least 100 feet inland from the drop or break to the beach. No camping will be allowed on the beach, which will be a “commons” area.

## **3. Non-motorized primitive campsite**

- Mouth of Montreal River – one-3 pad campsite on east side of the river. Two and possibly three campsites to be located on west side of river. Beach and first terrace at river mouth are to be a “commons” area. Campsites will be located farther uphill from the shoreline or river. Archeological survey of potential campsites is a must at this prehistorically active location.
- Montreal River east of the old dam site – for hikers of the proposed trail system.
- Fish Cove – location to be determined but should be in the western cove.
- Keystone Point – inland a short ways behind remnants of old fishery buildings.
- Mouth of Hoar Creek in Big Bay
- Mouth of Union Creek at the east end of Keystone Bay
- Keweenaw Point – somewhere between High Rock Bay and the Point, if possible. Extensive wetlands encroach the shoreline in most areas south of Gill Lake and may prevent much development.
- High Rock Bay – either just to the north of the “commons” area in the big pines on DNR property, or if there is not enough land to accommodate the campsite, on The Nature Conservancy’s rocket launcher site.
- Copper Lake – one, three-pad campsite, at the lake for hikers. To be constructed at the end of the existing logging trail. Logging trail to be gated or otherwise blocked to vehicular traffic where it enters state land.

## **4. Wilderness campsite**

- Lost Lake – two single tent pads at widely separated locations.

## **Maintenance and Enforcement**

1. Committee strongly endorses the creation of a new Conservation Officer position primarily for Keweenaw County. This person should live in the Mohawk – Calumet area. Primary duties will be to patrol newly acquired lands at the tip of the peninsula including the lakeshore by boat, enforce snowmobile regulations, hike and mountain bike the non-motorized trails, assure camping regulations are being followed, ATV use restricted from beaches and other shoreline areas plus existing snowmobile trails during non-snow season and similar duties. All hunting and fishing regulations will also be enforced as well as unregulated camping and logging.
2. Keweenaw Point lands are to be managed as a working forest with a strong recreation component by Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division (FMFM) of the DNR. Existing logging roads and trails will be maintained for both future timber harvest as well as fire protection and other possible emergency access. Committee proposes to have the DNR create one or two positions to be located at Fort Wilkins State Park but funded by FMFM for the management and maintenance of Keweenaw Point lands. This includes primitive campsite maintenance and construction, toilet maintenance at parking areas, garbage pickup from all areas visited by recreational users, construction of hiking and mountain biking trails and non-motorized primitive campsites (with assistance from those user groups) and other duties as may arise plus assisting Fort Wilkins S.P. in a maintenance capacity when use on Keweenaw Point lands is low. This will require a new level of cooperation and coordination between FMFM and the Parks and Recreation Division of the DNR.

## **Motorized Access plan for Keweenaw Point**

The following is a list of recommendations for motorized recreational trails:

- A. The State would sign and manage existing roads according to state forest management rules.  
Note: This applies only to EXISTING roads.
- B. Establish a motorized loop through the site to provide access to the five preferred shoreline destinations to snowmobile trail specs, including campsites on Schlatter Lake.

High Rock Bay and Keweenaw Point are noted as preferred areas mainly because of ice formations during the winter. This area is largely conglomerate so vehicle impact would be minimal.

After some discussion, and before a motion was made, it was noted to list the 5 destinations. Add "...1) High Rock Bay, 2) Keystone Bay, 3) Fish Cove, 4) W. side of Montreal River, and 5) Keweenaw Point.

It was agreed the gates would be placed at 1) the junction to Schlatter Lake campsite and 2) Union Creek. This limits the trail from the Schlatter Lake campsite to Keweenaw Point then on to Union Creek to snowmobile use only – not open to ATV's in the summer.

- C. Establish a parking area at the final curve of the road to High Rock Bay and declare a 100' setback "commons" area along the shore from the curve to East Point.  
"Commons Area" term was decided on because other verbiage would have the area fall under predetermined rules, regulations and management practices.
- D. Create a parking lot approximately 100' from the water at Keystone beach, west of Union Creek, for all the public to access the beach.
- E. Create motorized spur trail to level area, approximately ¼ mile behind beach at Fish Cove.
- F. Create motorized access to Hoar Lake for camping at two sites.
- G. Create a motorized spur trail to 50" specs as per state forest land rules to west area of the mouth of the Montreal River to end at approximately 600' from river outlet.

## **Day Use Areas**

### **1. General Comment**

These areas are set aside for all Tip of Keweenaw users on a daily basis. No camping will be allowed. They will function primarily as destination areas for beach users, scenic vistas, picnicking, rest stops for hikers and other recreational users, etc. There will be primitive campsites nearby all day use areas. Some will be motorized and others non-motorized.

Signage to be included indicating no motorized use of shoreline. Also, signs suggesting carrying out all items site users brought with them allowing for minimal trash pickup and other maintenance.

### **2. Schlatter Lake Island**

- Survey required to determine how to regenerate native shrub and ground vegetation.
- There is the possibility of developing a 3-pad campsite or two eventually here depending on how the ground vegetation regenerates.

### **3. Keystone Beach**

- In lieu of easements or land exchange/purchase, a new route must be developed to this heavily used beach.
- Close road leading into private land.
- Create new route to beach on old existing network of logging roads but keep it at least 200-300 yards from lake. Construct parking lot at end of road.
- Minimal maintenance and improvements on other portions of road.
- Toilet facilities, trash pickup and other maintenance as required.
- ATV and other motorized vehicle use to be prohibited from Lake Superior shoreline.

### **4. High Rock Bay**

- Construct parking lot just inland from large pines and traditional camping area.
- Toilet facilities, trash pickup and other maintenance as required.
- ATV and other motorized vehicle use to be prohibited from Lake Superior shoreline.

### **5. Fish Cove**

- Construct parking lot approximately ¼ mile from lake. To be developed on high, flat ground previously examined with Forestry personnel.
- Toilet facilities, trash pickup and other maintenance as required.
- Existing trail to lakeshore to be blocked to ATV and other motorized vehicles through use of gates, large rocks or root wads.



## **Keweenaw Point Minimum Impact Zones**

Minimum Impact Zones are areas of sensitive resources, and include shoreline, river and stream corridors, steep slopes, wetlands, and areas where rare plants, habitat or other natural features occur. Some of these zones deserve permanent protection. Minimum impact zone designation will not exclude any and all activity or entry into an area, but will require special consideration and natural features surveys prior to any activity or crossing of the zones.

The original charge for Minimum Impact Zones is "to limit the use of these areas", to prevent damage to the sensitive resources. Minimum Impact Zones will require limiting motorized access and timber harvesting; trails and ORV/ATV usage shall be minimized or restricted. Once zones are designated, campgrounds, trails, roads and other uses can be assigned accordingly following thorough review and safeguarding guidelines. Continued monitoring will be required to ensure protection of these zones for the long term.

Based on botanical information, the presence of shoreline, riparian and wetland habitat, and steepness of slope, the following general areas qualify for minimum impact zones. Designation is based in part on the occurrence of rare plants, habitat and natural features (from Chadde, 2000 Natural Heritage Grants Program, Tip-of-the Keweenaw Botanical Survey). Larger blocks are proposed rather than smaller fragmented areas, although isolated smaller wetlands and steep terrain outside of the main areas should also be given appropriate consideration when proposing management recommendations.

- 1) Lake Superior shoreline with a minimum of 660 ft (1/8 mi) buffer. "The majority of rare plants known from the Tip-of-the-Keweenaw occur in these shoreline and glade habitats...", Chadde 2000; other natural features: bird habitat, archeological sites, rock outcrops; potential for erosion.
- 2) Montreal River corridor with a minimum of 660 ft buffer on each side. The Montreal River contains several rare plants and habitat, falls, and archeological sites; the lower portion of the Montreal River to Smith Fisheries is lowland conifer and contains steep slopes.
- 3) Other stream corridors with a 330 ft buffer on each side; Hoar Creek, Union Creek and the unnamed creek that runs along Bay Lake are included here; fish habitat, potential for erosion; rare plants.
- 4) Hoar Lake and surrounding wetlands; rare plants occur in wetland; fish habitat; potential for loon nesting.
- 5) Rich wetland fen between Bay and Hoar Lakes to the shore of Lake Superior; several threatened plant species; sensitive habitat; eagle nest (LSLC records).

- 6) Wetlands above Bay Lake and small streams feeding the lake; critical fish habitat; rare plants.
- 7) Schlatter Lake shorelines with a buffer of 330 ft (except north side where road runs along shore, buffer will only go to road); Schlatter Lake wetlands and surrounding unbroken areas, especially west, south and east of lake; rare plants; eagle nest on south point; potential for loon nesting. Large wetland north of Schlatter Lake included here.
- 8) Extreme steep slopes and cliffs along Mandan Road in Sections 6, 7 and 8; paralleling Union Creek (inlet to Schlatter Lake); defined by topography; rare plants; easily disturbed and potential for erosion.
- 9) Manitou Island in entirety; rare plants, bird habitat, eagle nest, general inaccessibility and desolation; fragile thin soils.

## **Non-motorized**

### **1. General Trail Development**

- Partner with local experienced interest groups to design, develop and maintain network of non-motorized trails that will eventually interconnect with 'greater' Keweenaw trails (Copper Harbor System, Estivant Pines, and Horseshoe Harbor). Trails will offer high-quality user experiences and a variety of trail opportunities (terrain, difficulty, scenery, etc.) This "Hiking / Biking Paths of Keweenaw" partnership would be established by the MDNR to assist them in meeting yearly trail development goals. This kind of Cooperative effort has worked well in the development of the North Country Trail. The partnership would prevent budget restrictions from stalling progress
- All trails will be developed with the enjoyment and safety of all non-motorized trail users in mind and built using sustainable methods. Preference will be given to using existing sections of trails, and separating non-motorized trails from motorized trails as feasible. Trails should be carefully planned as to minimize impact on environmentally sensitive areas.
- Non-motorized trails will be designated 'non-motorized multi-use' including but not-limited to hiking, walking, running, mountain biking, horseback riding, xc skiing, and snowshoeing. Terrain will dictate the type/level of non-motorized use while education and monitoring will help to mitigate conflict. Portions of trail are expected to follow roads/motorized routes (shared use) where terrain and sensitive areas limit new trail options.
- Non-motorized trails will also include the already developed Keweenaw Water Trail (kayak, canoe, etc.)

### **2. Trails**

- Primary trail will be a 'shoreline trail' that begins on the Mandan Road near the intersection of Mandan Rd and Montreal River. The trail will generally parallel Montreal River to the mouth, then head east paralleling shoreline around the tip of the Keweenaw to Schlatter Lake, then northwest towards Horseshoe Harbor and finally reconnecting with Mandan Road.
- Primary trail will include connector trails as needed to control points including: parking areas, campsites and scenic locations (Montreal

Falls, Mouth of the Montreal, Fish Cove, Keystone Bay, High Rock, etc.)

- Additional, less strenuous, 'short' loops should be developed that allow for 'mini-adventures' from specific trailheads where feasible (Schlatter Lake and Hoar Lake).
- Continue promotion of already developed Keweenaw Water Trail with identification of water-accessible only primitive campsites at Fish Cove west, Keystone Point, and south of High Rock Bay.

### **3. Trailheads and Signage**

- Trailheads should be identified at accessible locations along Mandan Road, at Keystone Bay, and near Schlatter Lake. Additional future network trailheads that would allow access could include: Copper Harbor, Keweenaw Mtn. Lodge, and Estivant Pines.
- Develop a "Hiking / Biking Paths of Keweenaw" logo and trail sign design concept to compliment the rustic State Forest trail signage (Local graphic designers would enjoy the challenge to develop such a program at N/C.) Signage should be kept to a minimum while providing both direction and confidence to users.

### **4. Access**

- Easements (or land purchase) may be needed at Keystone Bay, Tip of Keweenaw and north of Schlatter Lake to develop recommended direct trail routes but second option would be to work around current private parcels as necessary.
- Obtain trail easements (or land purchase) for connecting trail from Estivant Pines (to Mandan Rd). Work with Nature Conservancy to incorporate Horseshoe Harbor Road into system.

## **Public Access**

### **1. General Comment**

These areas are set aside for all Tip of Keweenaw users. Camping will be allowed at most locations. They will function primarily as destination areas for beach users, scenic vistas, picnicking, rest stops for hikers and other recreational users, etc. There will be primitive campsites nearby. Some will be motorized and others non-motorized.

Signage to be included indicating no motorized use of shoreline. Also, signs suggesting carrying out all items site users brought with them allowing for minimal trash pickup and other maintenance.

### **2. Keystone Beach**

- In lieu of easements or land exchange/purchase, a new route must be developed to this heavily used beach.
- Close road leading into private land.
- Create new route to beach on old existing network of logging roads but keep it at least 100 feet from lake. Construct parking lot at end of road.
- Minimal maintenance and improvements on other portions of road.
- Toilet facilities, trash pickup and other maintenance as required.
- ATV and other motorized vehicle use to be prohibited from Lake Superior shoreline.
- FMFM Division will develop a State Forest Campground in the vicinity of the beach but not right on it.

### **3. High Rock Bay**

- Construct parking lot just inland from large pines and traditional camping area.
- Toilet facilities, trash pickup and other maintenance as required.
- ATV and other motorized vehicle use to be prohibited from Lake Superior shoreline.

### **4. Fish Cove**

- Construct parking lot approximately ¼ mile from lake in a location west of the present trail to the shore. Topography will determine where to locate the lot. Obliterate old trail and create new one to beach on east cove.
- Toilet facilities, trash pickup and other maintenance as required.
- Existing trail to lakeshore to be blocked to ATV and other motorized vehicles through use of gates, large rocks or root wads.

## Roads

### 1. Mandan Road

- Obtain legal easements on entire portion of road accessing Tip property.
- Minimal maintenance and improvements – some ditching and water runouts
- New bridge or arch culvert over Schlatter Creek with improved approaches on both sides, ditching and drainage to protect creek from sediment input.

### 2. High Rock Bay Road

- Obtain legal easement across private parcel.
- Improve approaches to two stream crossings including ditching and directing road drainage away from Schlatter Creek. Construct new crossings – either timber bridges or large arch culverts.
- Construct water runoffs to eliminate the larger puddles and mud holes along road.
- Construct parking area near High Rock Bay Point but away from the big lake (100-200 yards).
- Minimal maintenance and improvements on other portions of road. In order to retain the rustic and remote character of this road, the present width is to be maintained and not increased at all. Keep the road narrow.
- Bridges are recommended rather than culverts

### 3. Schlatter Lake (West) Road

- Eliminate mud hole by improved drainage or bridge/arch culvert. This will improve access to motorized primitive campsites along west shore of lake.
- Signs required

### 4. Keystone Bay Road

- Eliminate large mud hole by improved drainage, removing old beaver dam or possibly rerouting the road around the mud hole.
- Close road leading into private land.
- Create new route to beach on old existing network of logging roads but keep it at least 200-300 yards from lake. Construct parking lot at end of road.
- Minimal maintenance and improvements on other portions of road.
- Ban vehicular traffic to beach.

### 5. Hoar Lake Loop Road

- Since the Hoar Lake Loop Road is entirely on IP land, no recommendations are needed for it. This road is in satisfactory shape as is. Maintain as necessary, working with I.P.
- Bridge over Hoar Creek (outlet from Hoar Lake) will eventually have to be replaced.
- Access road to lake is very short but rutted and narrow. Minimal improvements needed to access motorized primitive campsite. Consider possible routes to additional campsite or two.

5. Fish Cove Road – spur off Hoar Lake Loop Road
  - Minimal improvements needed, better drainage in several places
  - Construct parking lot ¼ mile from lake, block existing trail from ATV use.
6. All Other Existing Roads, Two-tracks, Old Logging Roads
  - Monitor present uses. If overuse, abuse of the land, habitat destruction or other problems arise, consider gating or other types of closure to control.

A general recommendation for all roads within the Tip of the Keweenaw lands is to have signs indicating each road leading off the Mandan Road i.e. Fish Cove Road, High Rock Bay Road, Keystone Bay Road, etc.

# **Forest Management Recommendations**

8-16-04

By Warren Suchovsky, MAT

Forest management and logging has been and continues to be a significant part of the local economy. There is ample evidence of recent logging activity throughout the general area. The acquisition of the Keweenaw Point properties by MDNR as State Forest land as opposed to State Park land suggests that management of forest stands for fiber production would be a proper use of the property.

This property is quite unique both geologically and biologically. These unique qualities will impose many restrictions upon how the timber resource is managed and utilized.

In some cases vegetative cover manipulation may be a tool used to encourage or discourage other plant species. Although many stands are not necessarily "old" chronologically, many attributes of old growth forests are quite apparent upon the landscape. Dense old growth stands tend to have less species represented than is usually found in early successional stands; however there is a difference in both flora and fauna species present in the various types of stands.

The area appears to be heavily used by locals as well as visitors for a variety of purposes. It appears that this is a historical usage which continues. The ruggedness of the land and past ownership patterns have restricted residential development in the area. Access to the area is primarily via logging roads. The lack of public roads, other infrastructure and current ownership patterns will probably continue to suppress residential development. Some private, non-corporate in-holdings do exist in the general area. Largely due to geology and topography, many portions of the road system are in poor repair and may be factors in degradation of other resources. Frequent snow storms and deep accumulations of snow will have an impact upon winter usage of the area.

It is not the intent of the forestry portion of the recommendations to the DNR to do a stand-by-stand micro management appraisal. The development of stand specific management options are best left to resource professionals within the department. The agency's existing policies and procedures regarding public review and input regarding proposed site specific alternatives should provide ample opportunity for public input in an orderly and timely fashion prior to implementing activities.

The following are some general recommendations which the department should consider as it develops a management plan for the Keweenaw Point property.

Develop a working relationship with other landowners in the point area so that



management across the landscape is coordinated.

Consider landscape objectives as a higher priority than stand specific objectives.

Continue to foster multiple use of the area largely following historical patterns, but carefully consider impacts of over-use in specific areas.

Forest management for fiber production, i.e. logging, should be an on-going use, but minimum impact zones should be excluded due to critical habitat or other special features.

Maximize the use of long rotation stands, but do consider some early successional stands to give some balance to ecological diversity and to allow for replacement processes to function if there is an absence of natural disturbance events. It may be useful to employ logging activities to emulate the effects of natural disturbance to accomplish some pre-determined outcomes.

Specifications for enhancement of old growth characteristics, in appropriate stands, should be included in sales contracts.

Use longer stand entry periods within stand rotations. Perhaps 20 to 30 year entries.

Minimize logging activity on very steep sites and in narrow, wet valleys. Logging these areas should be considered only as an alternative to achieve some objective other than fiber production.

Minimize construction of new haul roads. Modern forwarding equipment can economically reach out at least three-eighths of a mile. With cost consideration this can be extended to over a half mile. This greatly reduces the amount of land which is disturbed for road construction. Often only a short stub which the trucks can back into is all that is needed.

Given the large amount of high conservation value and sensitive areas, consider restricting logging activities to dry periods or when there is a reasonable amount of snow accumulation. Extra diligence should be employed when delineating future work areas and schedule activities so as to minimize impacts.

Extra diligence should be exerted relative to monitoring insect and disease activity.

Special attention needs to be given to invasive species, especially exotics. In addition, as climate changes, it will be necessary to try to separate out what is "natural" vs. species which are more "people induced".

Timber sale contracts issued in this area should consider more stringent

requirements regarding aesthetic quality control.

Bids on timber sales in this area might be by invitation only, or “goods for services” types of contracts might be considered in lieu of usual bid formats.

As an educational opportunity, erect some signage which explains the objectives of the logging operations which occur from time to time.

Consider doing what ever logging is necessary, over the whole area, in a short time frame (one or two years) and then go several years before the next entry is made. There are pros and cons to this strategy relative to the public’s perception of use and activity.

Use the habitat classification system as a guide to future forest cover type vs. a particular perception of what the cover type was during some previous historical period. Although from an educational standpoint there is some value in being able to illustrate what the area might have looked like during various eras.

Relative to in-holdings, consider acquiring development and access rights. Various types of easements, trades or fee purchases should be considered. The Forest Legacy program, a federal program administered by the department, should be investigated as a potential way to acquire certain rights to private property.

Use logging contracts as a means to work with other groups in installing and maintaining other infrastructural needs as identified in the over-all plan.

Close some existing logging roads to ORV’s where there are erosion problems, lead into private land, or lead into minimum impact zones.

Improve location signage on existing road system, consider mile markers.

In the treatment of stands where visual quality is a factor, consider using techniques which will encourage quicker development of some large diameter trees, also consider a variable residual basal area strategy so stands are thinned less heavily as one nears public use roads. For the maple stands consider a residual basal area greater than 80 square feet.

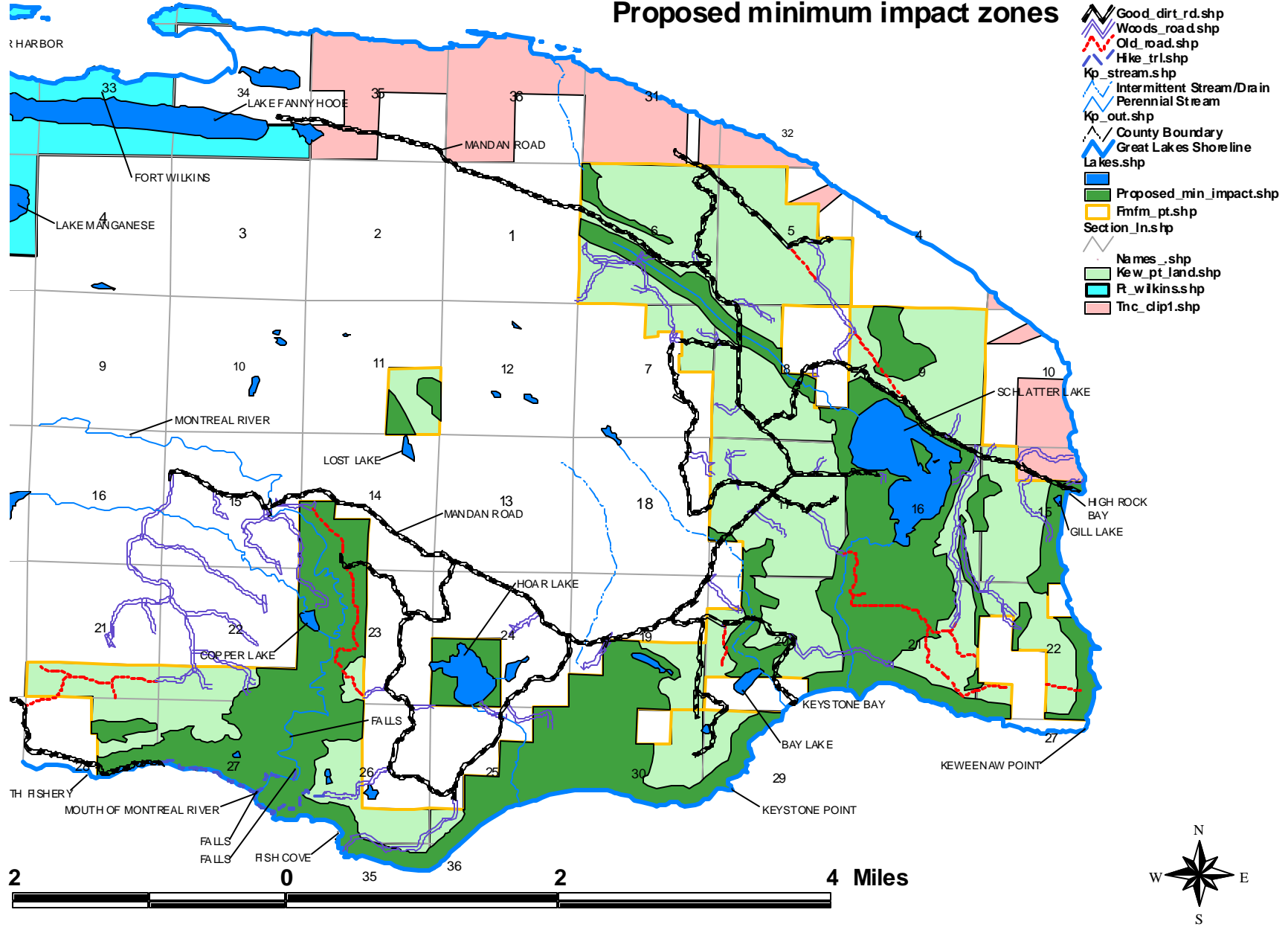
In the Montreal River corridor consider an old growth set aside management option. Perhaps, in at least portions of the corridor, a more permanent protection status or designation should be considered.

## Committee Resolutions




















- o Don Keith was given the floor, he then read his motion for a resolution: *We recommend that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources protect, preserve, and manage the Keweenaw Point lands in a manner that will insure future generations the opportunity to enjoy and experience this area in much of the way that now exists.* Motion was seconded by Friederike Gast. Warren asked if Forest Certification fit in with the direction the State is going regarding Keweenaw Point property. Yesney and Nelson both stated there were no conflicts. Deephouse asked for a vote on the resolution. Motion passed.
  
- o Dana Richter made a motion *propose the Department of Natural Resources develop a brochure with a detailed map, guidelines and educational text, which would be widely distributed.* Jason Wyglendowski seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- o Deephouse made a motion *1) Propose Forest, Mineral and Fire Management Division hire two (2) temporary/seasonal employees specifically to maintain facilities at the tip of the Keweenaw, other duties as deemed necessary; 2) a conservation officer be hired to enforce state statute primarily on the tip of the Keweenaw land.* Seconded by Dana Richter. Motion passed.
- o Sam Raymond asked to keep the area primitive, pursue hiring a conservation officer and continue education of the area. All of these were addressed in other resolutions, but were noted as important.
  - o Charles Eshbach proposed a motion to *ask for and seek Natural Features status of the Montreal corridor excluding parking areas, ATV trails and campsites.* Warren asked Yesney and Nelson how does the DNR administer special areas like the one proposed? Nelson stated the DNR would not do treatments in designated areas. Two unique characteristics within the area were 1) archeological and 2) botanical. Warren suggested flagging areas of concern. Warren seconded the motion. Motion passed

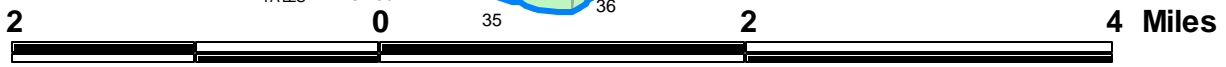
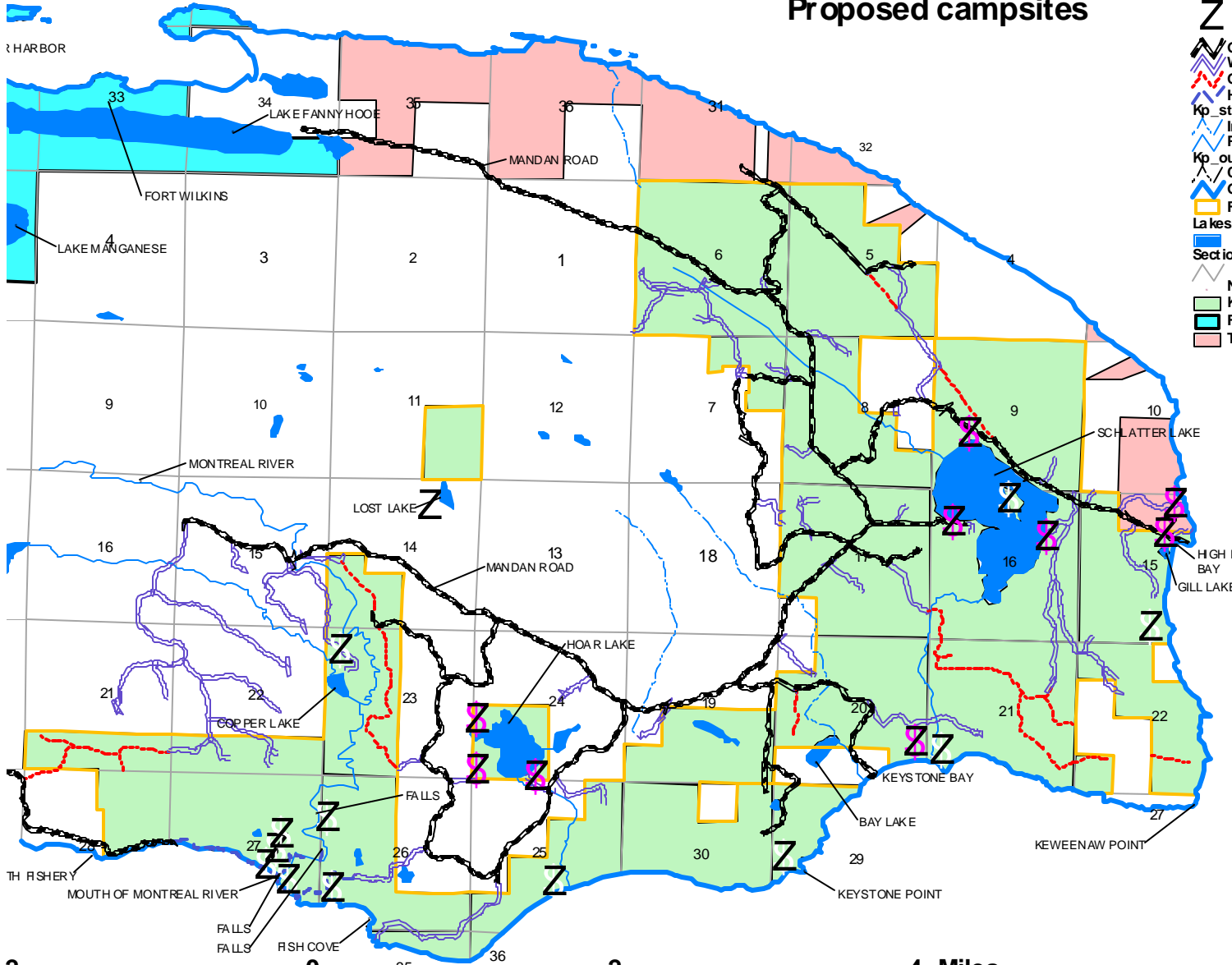


# Keweenaw Point Proposed minimum impact zones

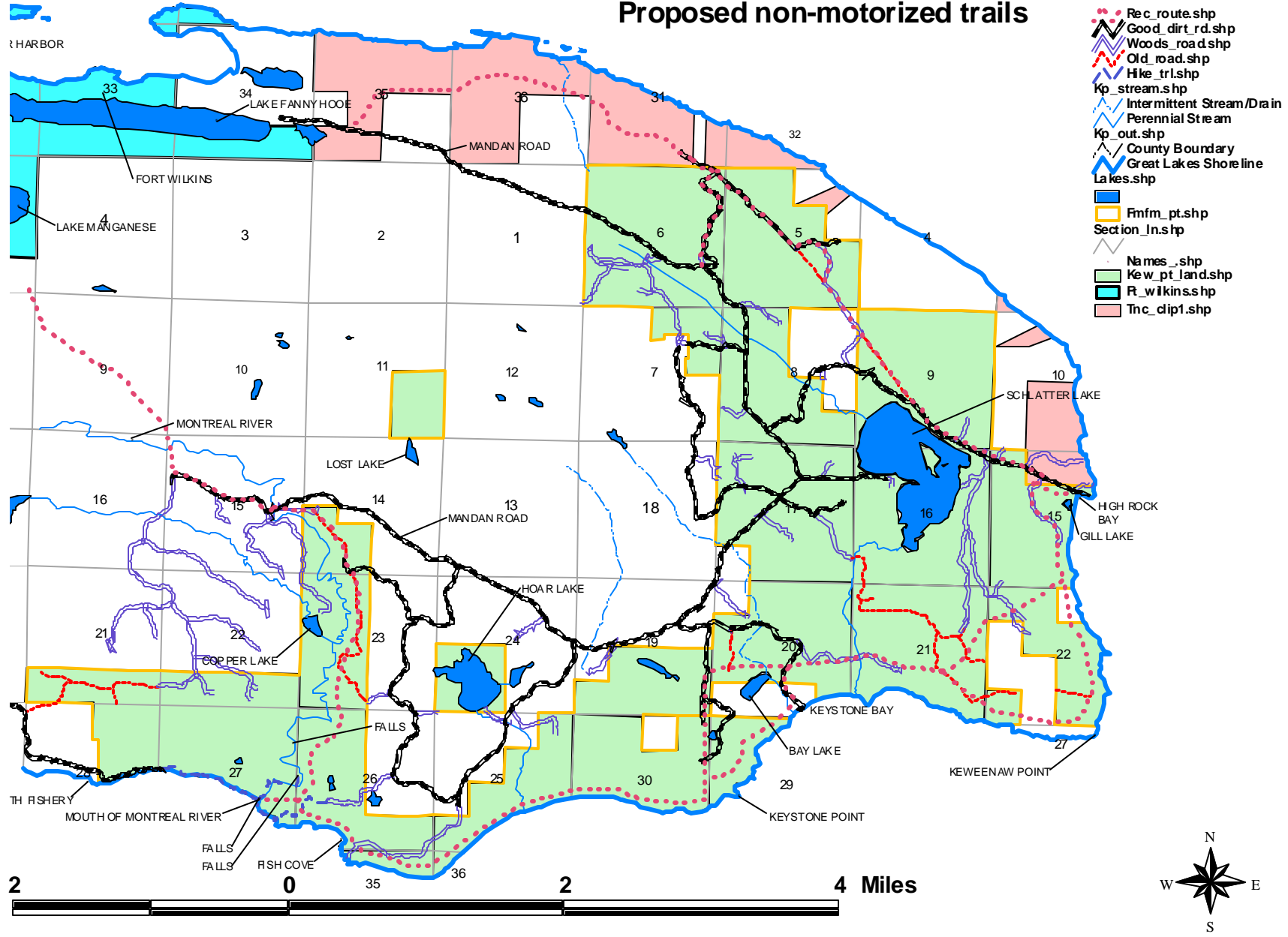


# Keweenaw Point Proposed campsites

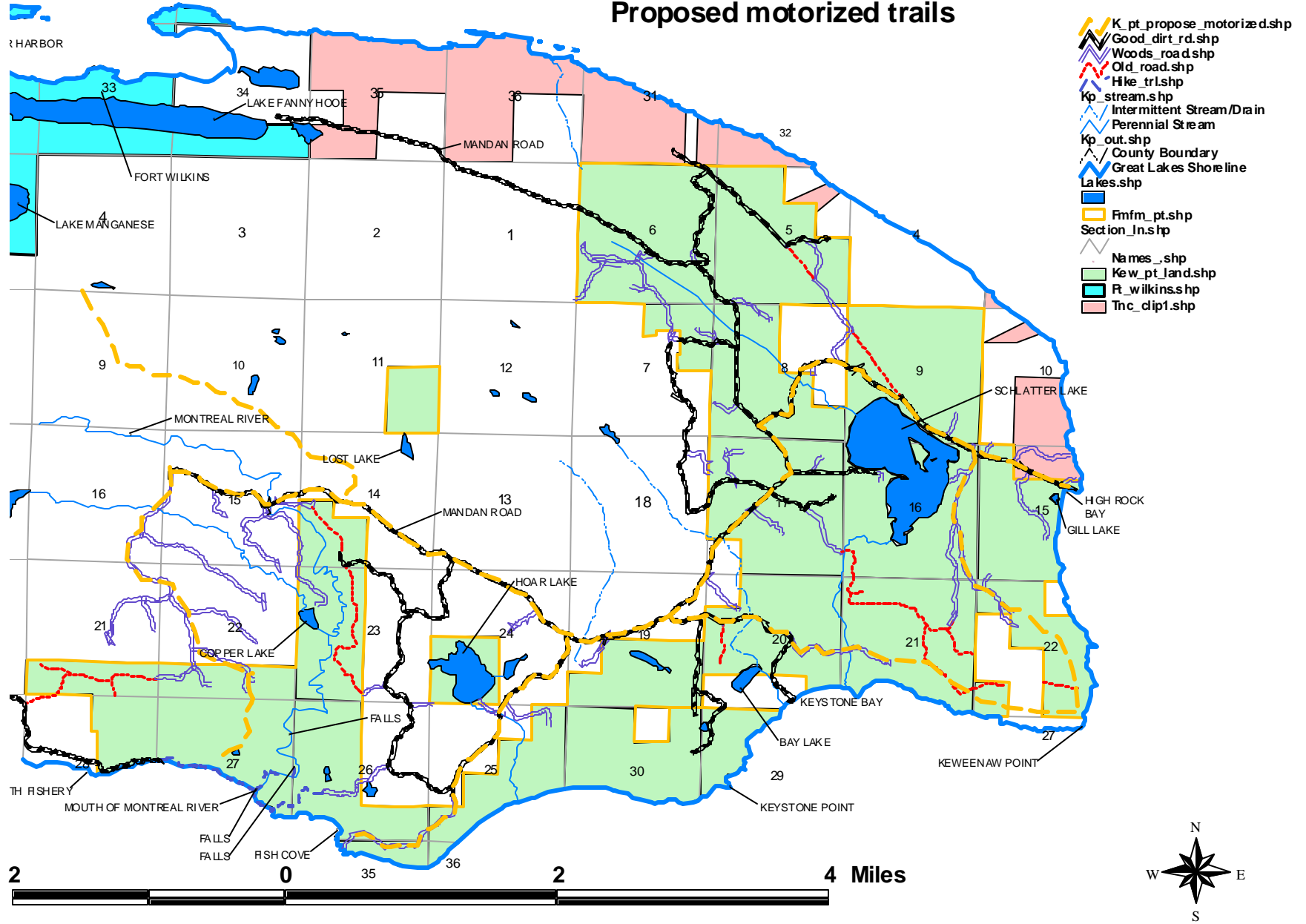
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-  Proposed\_primitive\_camp.shp
-  Good\_dirt\_rd.shp
-  Woods\_road.shp
-  Old\_road.shp
-  Hike\_trl.shp
-  Kp\_stream.shp
-  Intermittent\_Stream/Dra
-  Perennial Stream
-  Kp\_out.shp
-  County Boundary
-  Great Lakes Shore line
-  Fmfm\_pt.shp
-  Lakes.shp
-  Section\_In.shp
-  Names\_.shp
-  Kew\_pt\_land.shp
-  Ft\_wilkins.shp
-  Tnc\_clip1.shp



# Keweenaw Point Proposed non-motorized trails



# Keweenaw Point Proposed motorized trails





**APPENDIX C: Community Recreation Survey**

# Keweenaw County Recreation Survey

The Keweenaw County Recreation Committee is seeking public input to help plan improvements to recreation sites in the County. The purpose of this short 10-minute survey is to collect feedback from residents on the types of recreation opportunities they would like the County to maintain, develop and/or improve. The results of the survey will help develop the County's Five Year Recreation Plan.

The survey includes questions about your recreation interests and preferences for improvements to recreation sites owned by the County. Participation is voluntary, and responses are confidential. We will make the combined results from this survey available through the County's Five Year Recreation Plan.

If you have any questions about this survey, please contact the County Office at (906) 337-3471. Thank you for your time and thoughtful responses!

Sincerely,

The Keweenaw County Recreation Committee

*Sandra Gayk, County Commissioner*

*Ann Gasperich, Zoning Administrator*

*Tess Ahlborn, Volunteer*

*Mark Ahlborn, Volunteer*

## ***How to Return the Survey***

Completed surveys should be returned to the County Office through any of the following options:

- **Mail or Drop Off:**  
Keweenaw County Court House  
Attn: Recreation Committee  
5095 4th Street  
Eagle River, Michigan 49950
- **Online:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KeweenawRec>

## ***Response Deadline***

In order for your feedback to be included, please complete and return the survey no later than **November 30th, 2017.**

# Keweenaw County Recreation Survey - 2017

1. Are you (check all that apply):

- A resident of Keweenaw County...If "yes", which Township do you live in: \_\_\_\_\_
- Own property in Keweenaw County
- Desire to purchase property in Keweenaw County
- Desire to be a permanent resident of Keweenaw County
- An regular visitor
- Has strong ties to the Keweenaw
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_

3. How many persons in your household falls into each of the following age groups:

0-5\_\_\_\_ 6-12\_\_\_\_ 13-19\_\_\_\_ 20-29\_\_\_\_ 30-39\_\_\_\_ 40-49\_\_\_\_ 50-64\_\_\_\_ 65+\_\_\_\_

4. Does anyone in your household have a disability or require specialized recreation? Specialized recreation refers to accommodations or modifications made to recreation facilities and equipment to remove barriers that prevent individuals with disabilities from using the facilities or equipment. Yes  No

If "yes", please specify:

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5. Does anyone in your household participate in any of the following recreation activities? (Check all that apply).

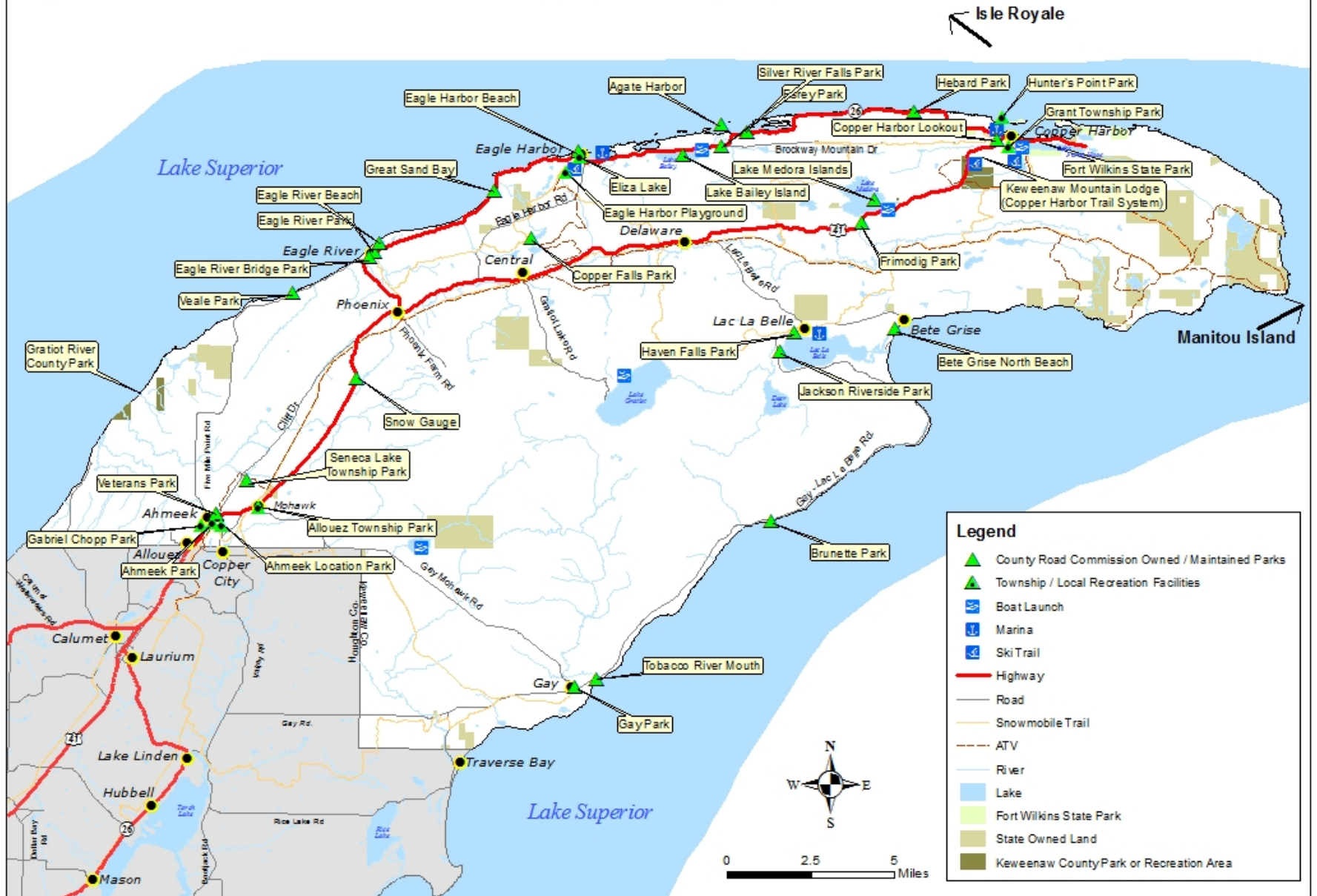
- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ATV/off road vehicles      | <input type="checkbox"/> gardening        | <input type="checkbox"/> skiing—cross country    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baseball/softball (youth)  | <input type="checkbox"/> hiking           | <input type="checkbox"/> sledding                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baseball/softball (adult)  | <input type="checkbox"/> hockey—adult     | <input type="checkbox"/> snowmobiling            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> basketball                 | <input type="checkbox"/> hockey—youth     | <input type="checkbox"/> snowshoeing             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> beach activities           | <input type="checkbox"/> horse shoes      | <input type="checkbox"/> soccer                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bicycling (paved surfaces) | <input type="checkbox"/> horseback riding | <input type="checkbox"/> swimming                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bicycling (trail/BMX)      | <input type="checkbox"/> hunting          | <input type="checkbox"/> tennis                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> boating (motorized)        | <input type="checkbox"/> ice skating      | <input type="checkbox"/> visiting historic sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> camping                    | <input type="checkbox"/> playgrounds      | <input type="checkbox"/> volleyball—beach        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> canoeing/kayaking          | <input type="checkbox"/> picnicking       | <input type="checkbox"/> walking for pleasure    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dancing                    | <input type="checkbox"/> skateboarding    | <input type="checkbox"/> wildlife viewing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fishing                    | <input type="checkbox"/> running/jogging  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____            |

6. The purpose of this survey is to collect feedback from residents on the types of recreation opportunities they would like the County to maintain, develop and/or improve. Using the list below, please indicate your **Top 3** forms of recreation you'd like the County to focus on (Please check up to three options).

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ATV/off road vehicles      | <input type="checkbox"/> gardening        | <input type="checkbox"/> skiing—cross country    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baseball/softball (youth)  | <input type="checkbox"/> hiking           | <input type="checkbox"/> sledding                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baseball/softball (adult)  | <input type="checkbox"/> hockey—adult     | <input type="checkbox"/> snowmobiling            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> basketball                 | <input type="checkbox"/> hockey—youth     | <input type="checkbox"/> snowshoeing             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> beach activities           | <input type="checkbox"/> horse shoes      | <input type="checkbox"/> soccer                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bicycling (paved surfaces) | <input type="checkbox"/> horseback riding | <input type="checkbox"/> swimming                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> bicycling (trail/BMX)      | <input type="checkbox"/> hunting          | <input type="checkbox"/> tennis                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> boating (motorized)        | <input type="checkbox"/> ice skating      | <input type="checkbox"/> visiting historic sites |
| <input type="checkbox"/> camping                    | <input type="checkbox"/> playgrounds      | <input type="checkbox"/> volleyball—beach        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> canoeing/kayaking          | <input type="checkbox"/> picnicking       | <input type="checkbox"/> walking for pleasure    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dancing                    | <input type="checkbox"/> skateboarding    | <input type="checkbox"/> wildlife viewing        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fishing                    | <input type="checkbox"/> running/jogging  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____            |



# Keweenaw County Recreation Facilities



7. Overall, how would you rate the quality of recreational opportunities in Keweenaw County?  
 Poor       Average       Excellent
8. Before this survey, were you aware of the following County-owned recreation sites? Indicate your response for each site by placing an "X" inside the appropriate response option.

Recreation Site	Yes	No	Unsure
Agate Harbor			
Bete Grise Beach			
Bete Grise North Beach			
Brunette Park			
Copper Falls Park			
Copper Harbor Overlook			
Eagle Harbor Beach			
Eagle River Beach			
Eagle River Bridge Park			
Eagle River Park			
Esrey Park			
Frimodig Park			
Gay Park			
Gratiot River County Park			
Haven Park and Falls			
Hebard Park			
Jackson Riverside Park			
Lake Bailey Island			
Lake Medora Islands			
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge			
Silver River Falls Park			
Tobacco River Mouth			
Veale Park			
Veterans Park on U.S. 41 Ahmeek			

9. Below is a list of recreation goals for the County to prioritize. Indicate how you would prioritize each goal using the provided scale where "1" = "Low Priority" and "5" = "High Priority". Indicate your response for each site by placing an "X" inside the appropriate response option.

Goal	1 = Low Priority	2	3	4	5 = High Priority
Enhance and/or build new motorized recreation trails					
Enhance and/or build new non-motorized recreation trails					
Enhance and/or develop new water trail routes for paddle craft					
Increase public access to rivers and streams					
Increase public access to Lake Superior shorelines					
Create new green spaces (e.g. parks) for public use					
Create designated dog parks for public use					
Increase recreational opportunities for individuals with mobility challenges					
Enhance bike-"ability" of our communities					
Improve access to "team sports" facilities (e.g. baseball)					
Enhance/improve playground facilities for children					
Preserve/enhance public access to historical and cultural sites					
Enhance/increase primitive camping opportunities					
Enhance/increase camping facilities					
Other:					

10. Please indicate which recreation sites you visited this year. Indicate your response for each site by placing an “X” inside the appropriate response option.

Recreation Site	Yes, I visited this year	No, I did not visit this year	I do not know if I visited this year
Agate Harbor			
Bete Grise Beach			
Bete Grise North Beach			
Brunette Park			
Copper Falls Park			
Copper Harbor Overlook			
Eagle Harbor Beach			
Eagle River Beach			
Eagle River Bridge Park			
Eagle River Park			
Esrey Park			
Frimodig Park			
Gay Park			
Gratiot River County Park			
Haven Park and Falls			
Hebard Park			
Jackson Riverside Park			
Lake Bailey Island			
Lake Medora Islands			
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge			
Silver River Falls Park			
Tobacco River Mouth			
Veale Park			
Veterans Park on U.S. 41 Ahmeek			

Please provide any additional comments or explanations for your responses that you think would be helpful in developing recreation opportunities in Keweenaw County:

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Thank you! Your input is important to help identify and prioritize recreation projects throughout the County.

**APPENDIX D: Press Release for Community Survey**



## Western Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Region Commission

P.O. BOX 365, HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN 49931  
906-482-7205 FAX 906-482-9032 E-MAIL: [info@wupdr.org](mailto:info@wupdr.org)

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Brad Barnett, Regional Planner  
906.482.7205, ext. 316  
[bbarnett@wupdr.org](mailto:bbarnett@wupdr.org)

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### **Recreation Plan Survey Available for Keweenaw County**

Keweenaw County is working with the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) to update its five-year Recreation Plan. Keweenaw County residents can assist in the planning effort by taking a short survey. The survey is available on the Keweenaw County website at <https://tinyurl.com/KeweenawRec>. Paper copies are also available at the Keweenaw County Office, located at 5095 4th Street, Eagle River, MI 49950 as well as the Township offices in Keweenaw County.

The survey will be available through November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017. For further information, please contact Brad Barnett at 906.482.7205, ext. 316 or [bbarnett@wupdr.org](mailto:bbarnett@wupdr.org).

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# KEWEENAW COUNTY RECREATION SURVEY DEADLINE IS THURSDAY

🕒 November 29, 2017 📁 Featured, Local News 👁 221 Views

Whether you're a Keweenaw County resident or an occasional visitor, your input is wanted.

Thursday is the deadline for the Keweenaw County Recreation Survey.

This is a chance to let the county know what can be done to improve Keweenaw County recreation facilities and opportunities.

A link to the survey can be found by clicking *here* or at the *Keweenaw County website* under "Upcoming Community Events".

The results of the 10-minute survey will be used to help develop the county's Five Year Recreational Plan.



Local News

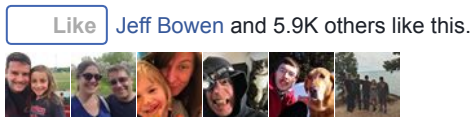
# Recreation Plan Survey available for Keweenaw County

Updated: Nov 08, 2017 03:30 PM EST



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**KEWEENAW COUNTY** -- Keweenaw County is working with the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) to update its five-year Recreation Plan.

Keweenaw County residents can assist in the planning effort by taking a short survey. The survey is available on the Keweenaw County website at <https://tinyurl.com/KeweenawRec>.

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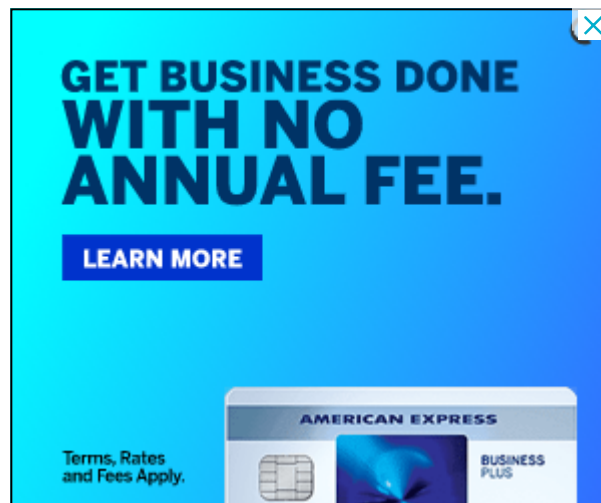
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# The Daily Mining Gazette

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## Keweenaw rec survey available

HOUGHTON — Keweenaw County is working with the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR) to update its five-year Recreation Plan. Keweenaw County residents can assist in the planning effort by taking a short survey. The survey is available on the Keweenaw County website at <https://tinyurl.com/KeweenawRec>. Paper copies are also available at the Keweenaw County Office, located at 5095 4th Street, Eagle River, MI 49950 as well as the township offices in Keweenaw County.



The survey will be available through Nov 30. For further information, please contact Brad Barnett at (906) 482-7205, ext. 316 or [bbarnett@wuppdr.org](mailto:bbarnett@wuppdr.org).

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# The Daily Mining Gazette

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## Keweenaw County surveying recreational opportunities

EAGLE RIVER — The Keweenaw County Recreation Committee is seeking the public's input to help in the planning and updates of recreational opportunities in the county.



The recreation plan must be updated every five years, said Sandra Gayk, chairman of the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region (WUPPDR), who is also a commissioner on the Keweenaw County Board.

The recreation plan was last updated in 2010. The recreation committee is working with WUPPDR to update its plan.

*“We want to hear from everybody,”* Gayk said, *“not just county residents, but also people from neighboring counties, visitors from out of the area and anyone who wants to enjoy the county.”*

To provide input or opinions, there is an online survey, which takes no more than 10 minutes to complete, Gayk said.

The survey asks which types of recreation opportunities the county should maintain, develop, and/or improve. The survey asks which types of outdoor activities people enjoy, such as motorized and non-motorized activities, including ATV use, motor boats, biking, hiking, picnicking, swimming, horseshoes, playgrounds, parks, and beaches.

The survey also asks if people would like to see things like trail and access improvement and other topics.

The online survey can be found at [surveymonkey.com/r/KeweenawRec](https://surveymonkey.com/r/KeweenawRec).

Paper survey forms are also available at the Keweenaw County Office, 5095 4th Street, Eagle River, 49950, as well as the township offices in Keweenaw County. The survey will be available through Nov. 30.

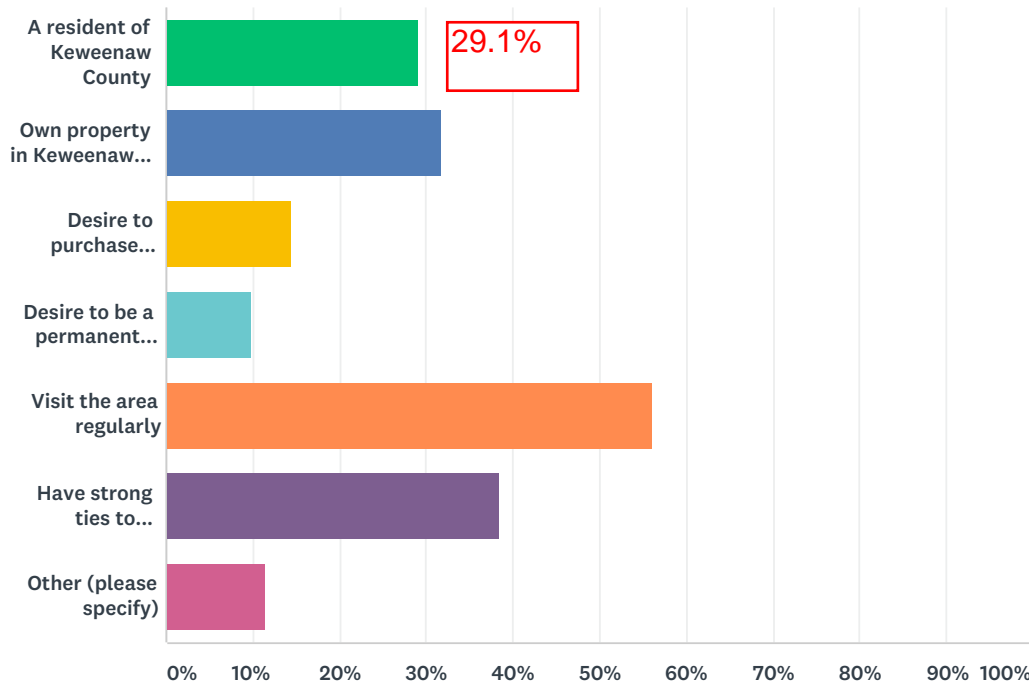
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**APPENDIX E: Recreation Survey Results**

### Q1 Are you (check all that apply):

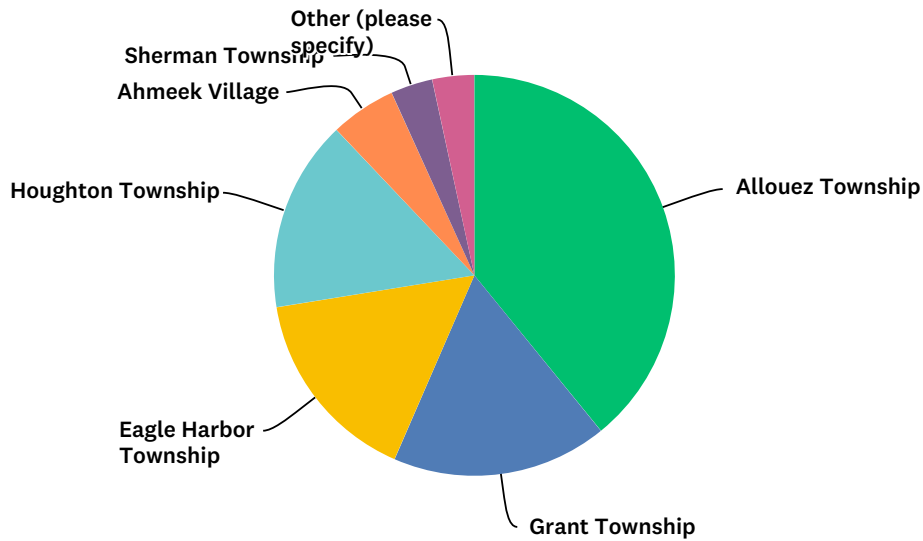
Answered: 725 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
A resident of Keweenaw County	29.10%	211
Own property in Keweenaw County	31.72%	230
Desire to purchase property in Keweenaw County	14.34%	104
Desire to be a permanent resident of Keweenaw County	9.93%	72
Visit the area regularly	56.14%	407
Have strong ties to Keweenaw County	38.48%	279
Other (please specify)	11.45%	83
Total Respondents: 725		

## Q2 Where do you live in Keweenaw County?

Answered: 207 Skipped: 518



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Allouez Township <input type="checkbox"/>	39.13% 81
Grant Township <input type="checkbox"/>	17.39% 36
Eagle Harbor Township <input type="checkbox"/>	15.94% 33
Houghton Township <input type="checkbox"/>	15.46% 32
Ahmeek Village <input type="checkbox"/>	5.31% 11
Sherman Township <input type="checkbox"/>	3.38% 7
Other (please specify)	3.38% 7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>207</b>



### Q3 What is your age?

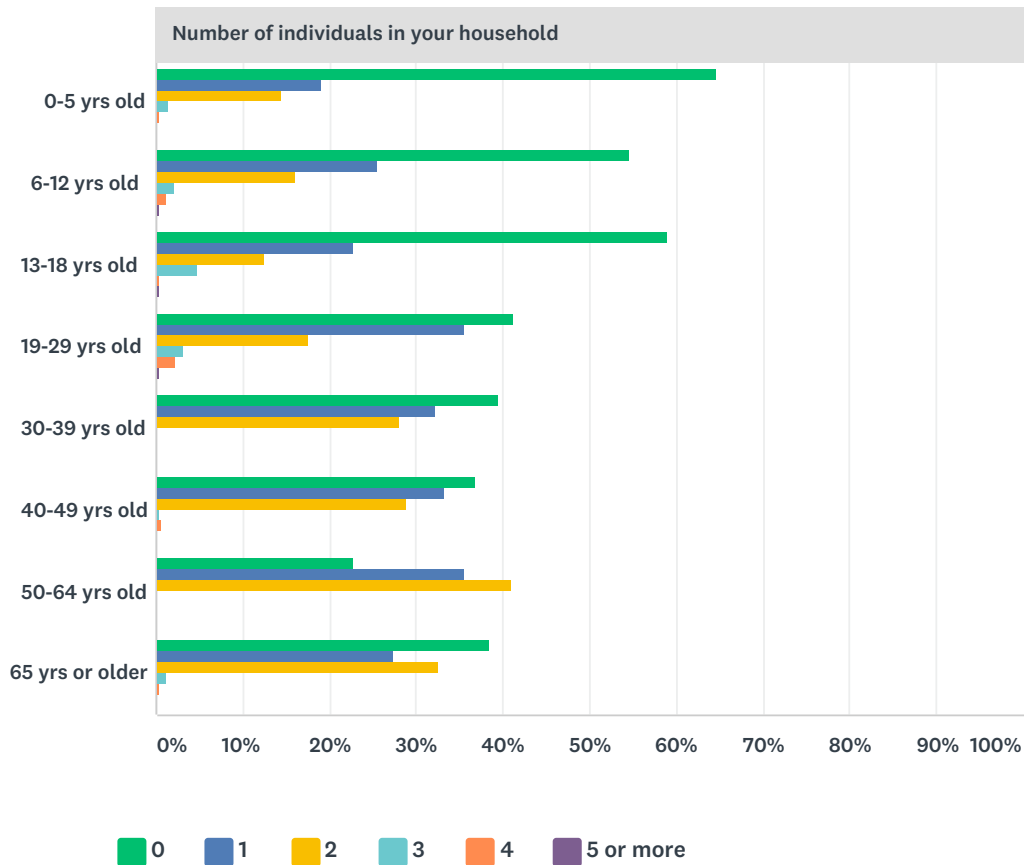
Answered: 691 Skipped: 34

Average respondent age = 48.9 yrs old

Respondent Age	Total	%
0-19	12	1.7%
20-29	73	10.1%
30-39	124	17.2%
40-49	143	19.9%
50-59	130	18.1%
60-69	146	20.3%
70-79	48	6.7%
80+	10	1.4%
Skipped	34	4.7%

### Q4 How many persons in your household fall into each of the following age groups:

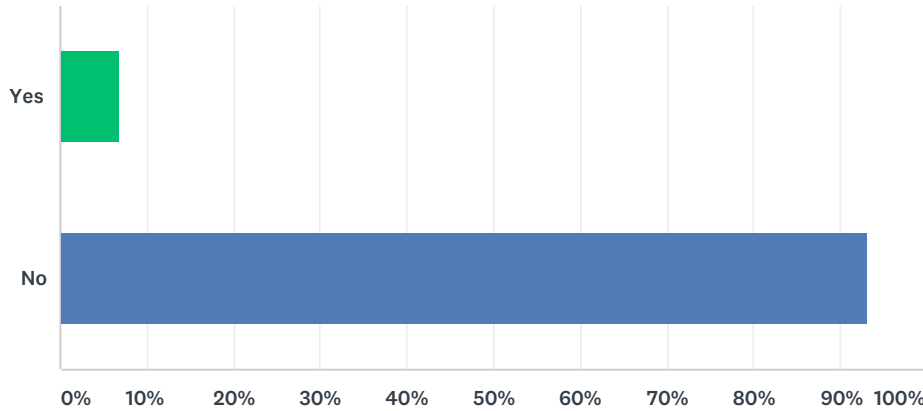
Answered: 696 Skipped: 29



Number of individuals in your household								TOTAL
	0	1	2	3	4	5 OR MORE		
0-5 yrs old	<b>10.5%</b> 64.65% 139	19.07% 41	14.42% 31	1.40% 3	0.47% 1	0.00% 0	215	
6-12 yrs old	<b>32.6%</b> 54.66% 129	25.42% 60	16.10% 38	2.12% 5	1.27% 3	0.42% 1	236	
13-18 yrs old	<b>30.9%</b> 58.93% 132	22.77% 51	12.50% 28	4.91% 11	0.45% 1	0.45% 1	224	
19-29 yrs old	<b>36.1%</b> 41.22% 108	35.50% 93	17.56% 46	3.05% 8	2.29% 6	0.38% 1	262	
30-39 yrs old	<b>36.3%</b> 39.54% 104	32.32% 85	28.14% 74	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	263	
40-49 yrs old	<b>38.6%</b> 36.79% 103	33.21% 93	28.93% 81	0.36% 1	0.71% 2	0.00% 0	280	
50-64 yrs old	<b>45.8%</b> 22.89% 76	35.54% 118	40.96% 136	0.00% 0	0.30% 1	0.30% 1	332	
65 yrs or older	<b>35.9%</b> 38.46% 100	27.31% 71	32.69% 85	1.15% 3	0.38% 1	0.00% 0	260	

**Q5 Does anyone in your household have a disability or require specialized recreation? Specialized recreation refers to accommodations or modifications made to recreation facilities and equipment to remove barriers that prevent individuals with disabilities from using the facilities or equipment.**

Answered: 701 Skipped: 24



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	6.85% 48
No	93.15% 653
TOTAL	701

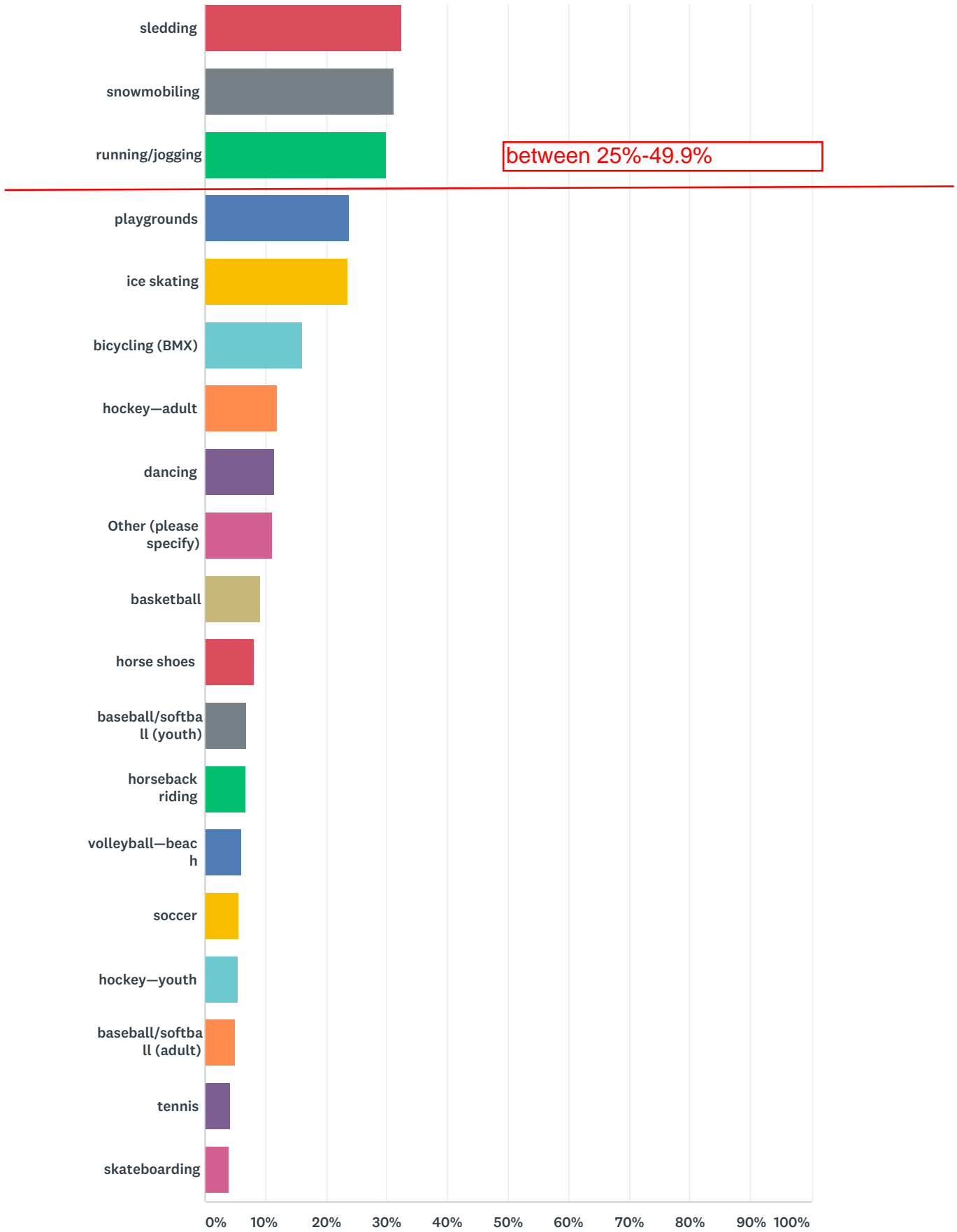
- Mobility/Wheelchair - 28
- MS-4
- Bathroom railing - 2
- Shoulder/Arm - 1
- Cerebral palsy-1
- Parkinson's-1
- Benches requested - 1
- Steps with Rails - 1
- Exercise pool requested - 1
- Can't ride motorcycle anymore - 1

### Q7 Does anyone in your household participate in any of the following recreation activities? (Check all that apply).

Answered: 681 Skipped: 44



50% or more



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
----------------	-----------

walking for pleasure	74.30%	506
hiking	72.39%	493
camping	66.52%	453
canoeing/kayaking	64.76%	441
beach activities	63.14%	430
visiting historic sites	61.97%	422
wildlife viewing	61.82%	421
snowshoeing	57.86%	394
fishing	52.42%	357
bicycling (paved surfaces)	51.40%	350
ATV/off road vehicles	48.31%	329
swimming	47.58%	324
skiing—cross country	46.40%	316
picnicking	45.52%	310
gardening	43.91%	299
hunting	39.21%	267
boating (motorized)	35.39%	241
bicycling (mountain)	34.51%	235
sledding	32.45%	221
snowmobiling	31.13%	212
running/jogging	29.96%	204
playgrounds	23.94%	163
ice skating	23.64%	161
bicycling (BMX)	16.01%	109
hockey—adult	11.89%	81
dancing	11.45%	78
Other (please specify)	11.01%	75
basketball	9.10%	62
horse shoes	8.22%	56
baseball/softball (youth)	6.90%	47
horseback riding	6.75%	46
volleyball—beach	6.17%	42
soccer	5.73%	39
hockey—youth	5.43%	37

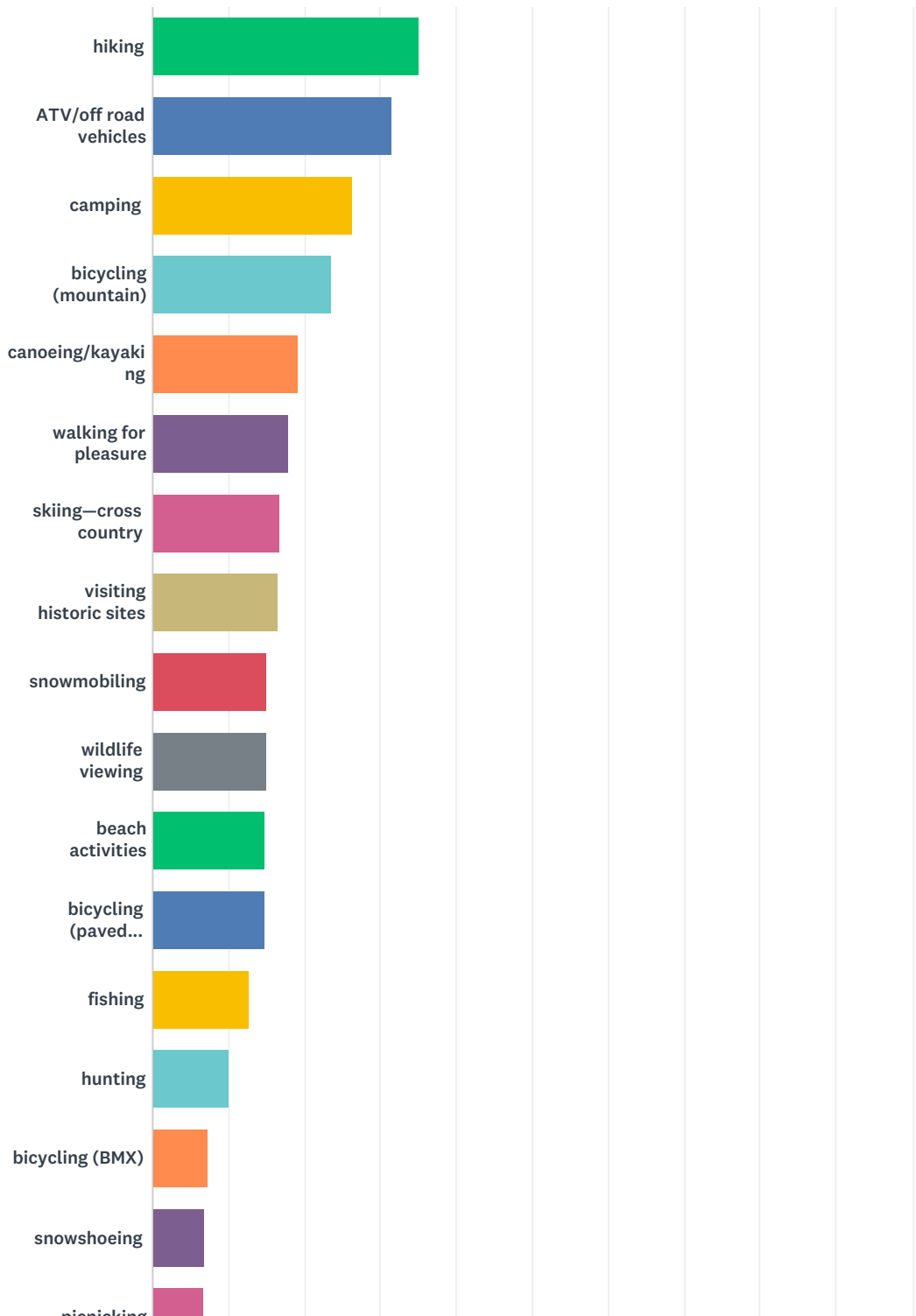
baseball/softball (adult)	4.99%	34
tennis	4.26%	29
skateboarding	3.96%	27
Total Respondents: 681		

## OTHER:

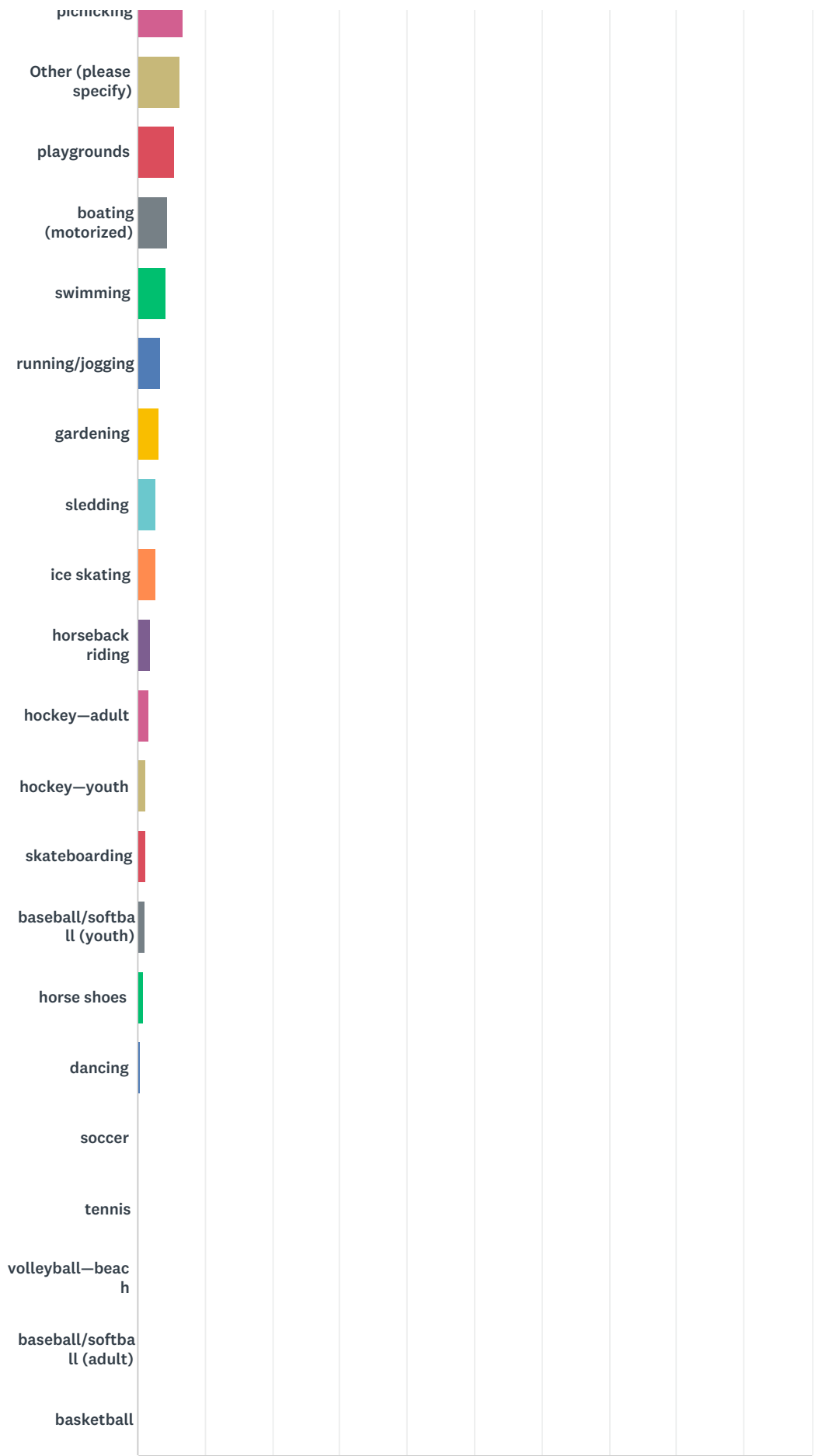
Birding watching - 9  
 Downhill skiing - 9  
 Foraging - 9  
 Rock collecting - 7  
 Golf - 5  
 Photography - 5  
 Disc golf - 4  
 Sailing - 4  
 Snowboarding - 3  
 Motocross - 3  
 Motorcycle/Car riding - 3  
 Rock climbing - 2  
 Snow biking - 2  
 Shooting - 2  
 Site seeing - 2  
 Star gazing - 1  
 Flying - 1  
 Dog activities - 1  
 Paddle boarding - 1  
 Beach combing - 1  
 Scuba diving - 1  
 Partying - 1  
 Surfing - 1  
 Dog sledding - 1  
 Windsurfing - 1  
 Canoeing - 1  
 Rowing - 1  
 Curling - 1  
 Roller derby - 1  
 Skating - 1  
 Archery - 1  
 Fishing - 1

Q8 The purpose of this survey is to collect feedback from residents on the types of recreation opportunities they would like the County to maintain, develop and/or improve. Using the list below, please indicate your **Top 3 forms of recreation you'd like the County to focus on** (Please check up to three options).

Answered: 678 Skipped: 47







0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
hiking	35.10%	238
ATV/off road vehicles	31.56%	214
camping	26.40%	179
bicycling (mountain)	23.60%	160
canoeing/kayaking	19.17%	130
walking for pleasure	17.99%	122
skiing—cross country	16.81%	114
visiting historic sites	16.52%	112
snowmobiling	15.04%	102
wildlife viewing	15.04%	102
beach activities	14.90%	101
bicycling (paved surfaces)	14.90%	101
fishing	12.83%	87
hunting	10.03%	68
bicycling (BMX)	7.37%	50
snowshoeing	6.93%	47
picnicking	6.78%	46
Other (please specify)	6.19%	42
playgrounds	5.46%	37
boating (motorized)	4.42%	30
swimming	4.28%	29
running/jogging	3.39%	23
gardening	3.10%	21
sledding	2.80%	19
ice skating	2.65%	18
horseback riding	1.92%	13
hockey—adult	1.77%	12
hockey—youth	1.18%	8
skateboarding	1.18%	8
baseball/softball (youth)	1.03%	7
horse shoes	0.88%	6
dancing	0.44%	3

soccer	0.29%	2
tennis	0.29%	2
volleyball—beach	0.29%	2
baseball/softball (adult)	0.15%	1
basketball	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 678		

## OTHER:

Golf - 5

Downhill skiing - 4

General public land access - 3

Motorized-off road - 3

Motocross/dirt bike racing/motorcycling - 3

Snow biking - 3

Trail/mountain biking - 3

Disc golf - 2

Public Superior shoreline access - 2

Rock hunting - 2

Lighthouse - 1

Dog friendly activities - 1

Shooting - 1

Fishing - 1

Paved off-road biking - 1

Public camping sites - 1

Activities for low income youth - 1

Trails - 1

Dog sledding - 1

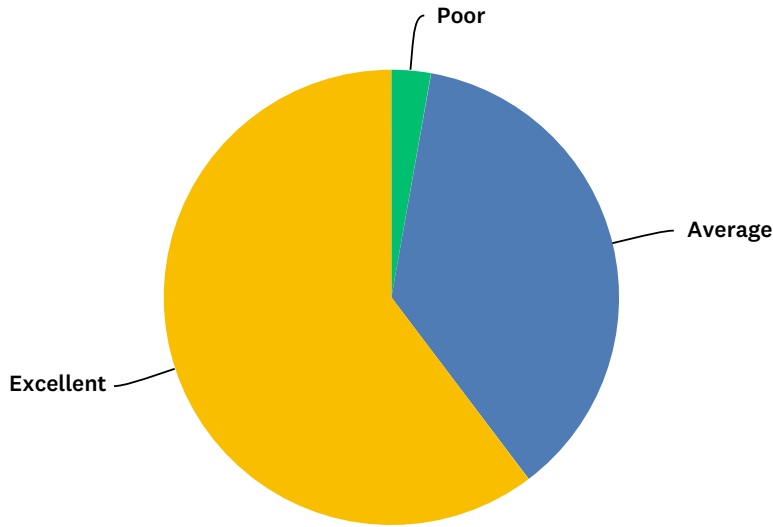
Walking tracks at parks - 1

Snowboarding - 1

Sailing - 1

### Q9 Overall, how would you rate the quality of recreational opportunities in Keweenaw County?

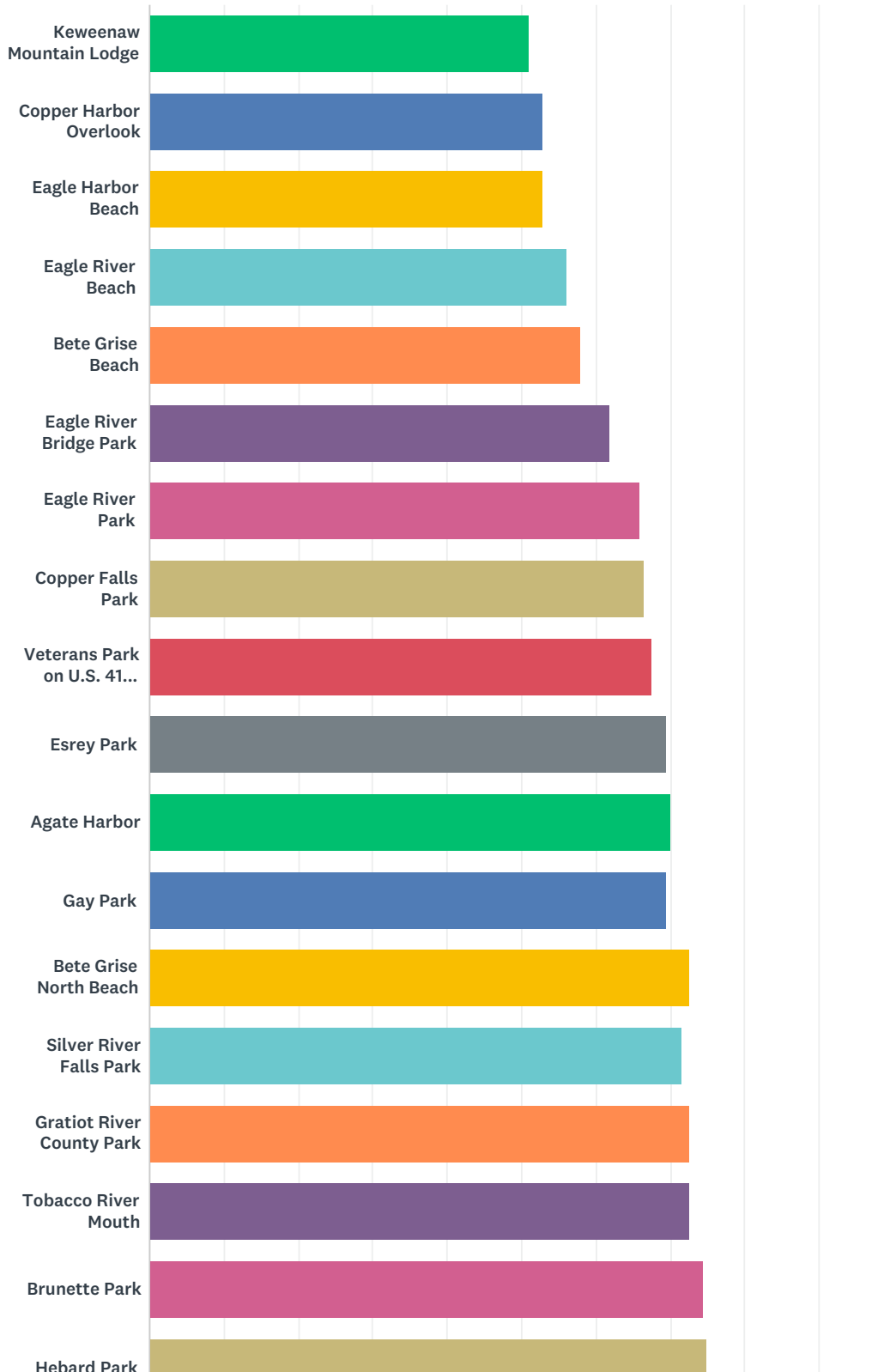
Answered: 680 Skipped: 45

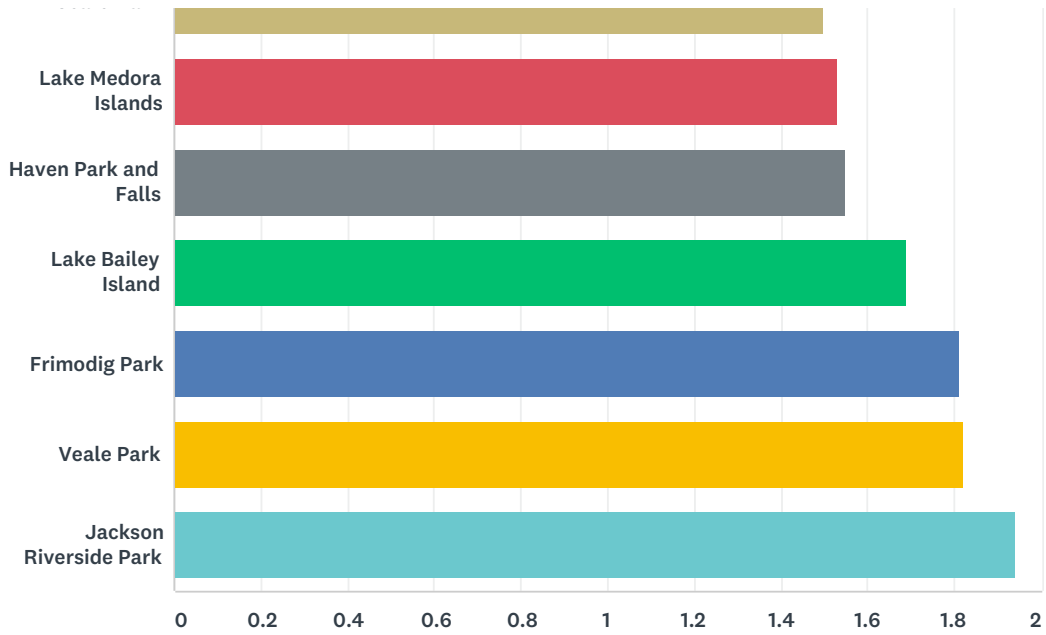


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Poor	2.79%	19
Average	36.91%	251
Excellent	60.29%	410
TOTAL		680

### Q10 Before this survey, were you aware of the following County-owned recreation sites? Indicate your response for each site by clicking the appropriate response option.

Answered: 633 Skipped: 92



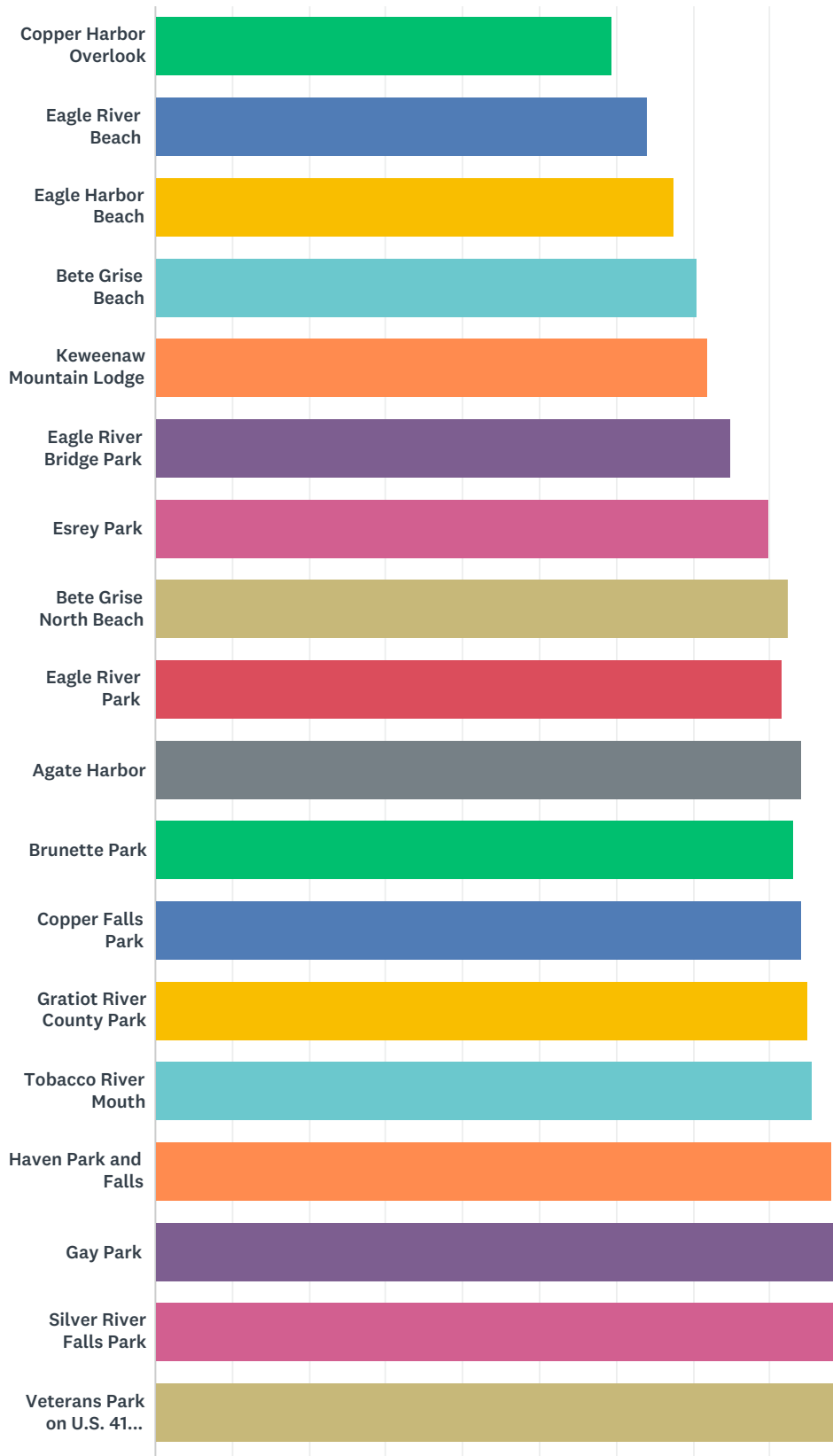


	YES	NO	UNSURE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge	98.26% 621	1.11% 7	0.63% 4	632	1.02
Copper Harbor Overlook	95.87% 604	2.22% 14	1.90% 12	630	1.06
Eagle Harbor Beach	94.90% 596	3.82% 24	1.27% 8	628	1.06
Eagle River Beach	90.56% 566	6.72% 42	2.72% 17	625	1.12
Bete Grise Beach	86.12% 540	11.48% 72	2.39% 15	627	1.16
Eagle River Bridge Park	80.77% 504	14.10% 88	5.13% 32	624	1.24
Eagle River Park	76.41% 473	15.67% 97	7.92% 49	619	1.32
Copper Falls Park	74.40% 465	17.92% 112	7.68% 48	625	1.33
Veterans Park on U.S. 41 Ahmeek	71.57% 443	21.81% 135	6.62% 41	619	1.35
Esrey Park	68.97% 429	23.47% 146	7.56% 47	622	1.39
Agate Harbor	67.47% 419	24.64% 153	7.89% 49	621	1.40
Gay Park	67.92% 417	24.76% 152	7.33% 45	614	1.39
Bete Grise North Beach	67.21% 414	20.62% 127	12.18% 75	616	1.45
Silver River Falls Park	64.34% 397	27.88% 172	7.78% 48	617	1.43
Gratiot River County Park	63.74% 392	27.15% 167	9.11% 56	615	1.45

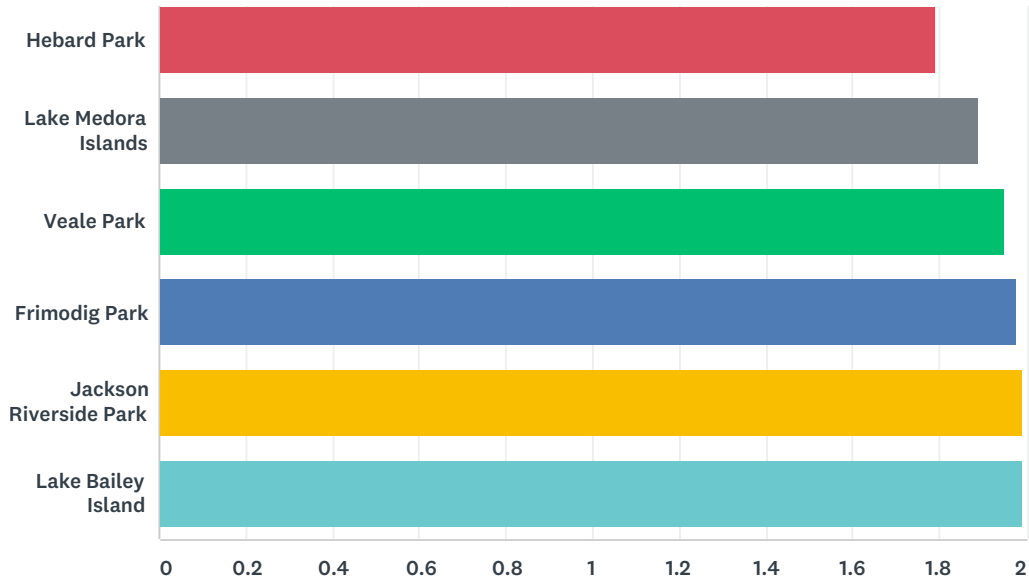
Tobacco River Mouth	60.13% 371	34.52% 213	5.35% 33	617	1.45
Brunette Park	58.94% 366	32.85% 204	8.21% 51	621	1.49
Hebard Park	57.23% 356	35.37% 220	7.40% 46	622	1.50
Lake Medora Islands	53.71% 333	39.19% 243	7.10% 44	620	1.53
Haven Park and Falls	53.92% 330	37.42% 229	8.66% 53	612	1.55
Lake Bailey Island	40.10% 247	50.65% 312	9.25% 57	616	1.69
Frimodig Park	32.13% 196	54.75% 334	13.11% 80	610	1.81
Veale Park	30.11% 184	57.77% 353	12.11% 74	611	1.82
Jackson Riverside Park	20.90% 126	64.68% 390	14.43% 87	603	1.94

Q11 Please indicate which recreation sites you visited this year. Indicate your response for each site by clicking the appropriate response option.

Answered: 629 Skipped: 96





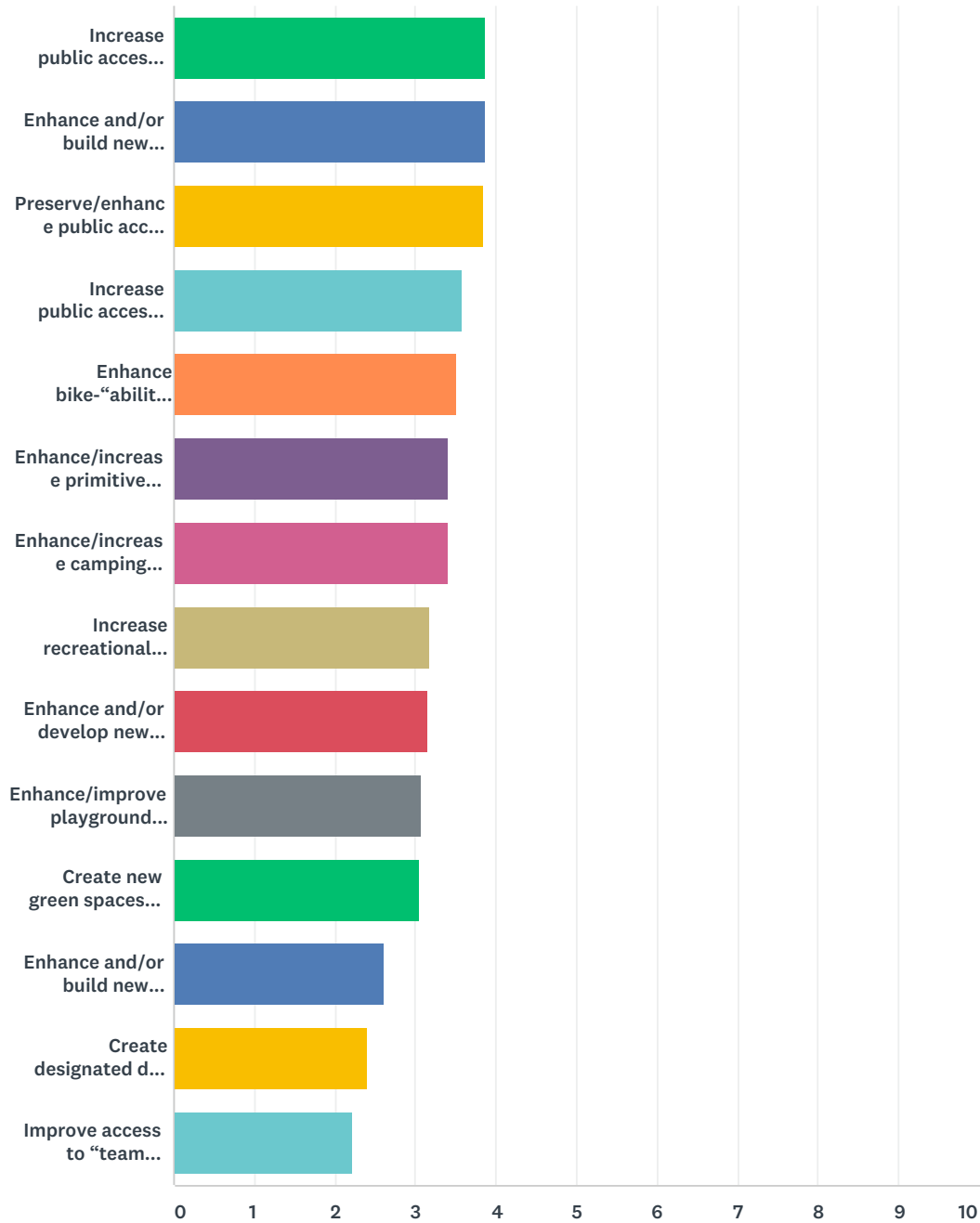


	YES, I VISITED THIS YEAR	NO, I HAVE NOT VISITED THIS YEAR	I DO NOT KNOW IF I HAVE VISITED THIS YEAR	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Copper Harbor Overlook	81.55% 504	17.48% 108	0.97% 6	618	1.19
Eagle River Beach	71.92% 438	27.75% 169	0.33% 2	609	1.28
Eagle Harbor Beach	65.24% 396	34.10% 207	0.66% 4	607	1.35
Bete Grise Beach	61.12% 371	37.07% 225	1.81% 11	607	1.41
Keweenaw Mountain Lodge	56.52% 338	42.47% 254	1.00% 6	598	1.44
Eagle River Bridge Park	51.33% 308	47.33% 284	1.33% 8	600	1.50
Esrey Park	43.07% 255	54.22% 321	2.70% 16	592	1.60
Bete Grise North Beach	39.73% 232	55.14% 322	5.14% 30	584	1.65
Eagle River Park	39.39% 232	57.89% 341	2.72% 16	589	1.63
Agate Harbor	35.14% 208	61.49% 364	3.38% 20	592	1.68
Brunette Park	34.80% 205	64.01% 377	1.19% 7	589	1.66
Copper Falls Park	33.90% 198	64.04% 374	2.05% 12	584	1.68
Gratiot River County Park	31.42% 186	66.72% 395	1.86% 11	592	1.70
Tobacco River Mouth	30.27% 178	68.20% 401	1.53% 9	588	1.71
Haven Park and Falls	27.59% 160	68.62% 398	3.79% 22	580	1.76

Gay Park	25.09% 146	73.20% 426	1.72% 10	582	1.77
Silver River Falls Park	25.44% 146	72.47% 416	2.09% 12	574	1.77
Veterans Park on U.S. 41 Ahmeek	24.31% 141	72.76% 422	2.93% 17	580	1.79
Hebard Park	24.18% 140	72.37% 419	3.45% 20	579	1.79
Lake Medora Islands	12.70% 72	85.54% 485	1.76% 10	567	1.89
Veale Park	9.14% 52	86.64% 493	4.22% 24	569	1.95
Frimodig Park	6.89% 39	88.16% 499	4.95% 28	566	1.98
Jackson Riverside Park	6.17% 35	88.18% 500	5.64% 32	567	1.99
Lake Bailey Island	3.88% 22	93.30% 529	2.82% 16	567	1.99

Q12 Below is a list of recreation goals for the County to prioritize. Indicate how you would prioritize each goal using the provided scale where “1” = “Low Priority” and “5” = “High Priority”. Indicate your response for each site by the appropriate response option.

Answered: 623 Skipped: 102



	1 = LOW PRIORITY	2	3	4	5 = HIGH PRIORITY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Increase public access to Lake Superior shorelines	6.72% 41	8.03% 49	19.02% 116	22.95% 140	43.28% 264	610	3.88

Enhance and/or build new non-motorized recreation trails	10.70% 66	7.62% 47	14.75% 91	17.83% 110	49.11% 303	~50% or more rank these as high-ish priority	
Preserve/enhance public access to historical and cultural sites	4.92% 30	7.70% 47	22.30% 136	27.54% 168	37.54% 229		
Increase public access to rivers and streams	7.36% 45	9.49% 58	29.79% 182	25.86% 158	27.50% 168		
Enhance bike-“ability” of our communities	14.19% 87	10.60% 65	19.41% 119	20.23% 124	35.56% 218		
Enhance/increase primitive camping opportunities	12.81% 78	12.48% 76	24.14% 147	21.18% 129	29.39% 179		
Enhance/increase camping facilities	10.53% 64	11.84% 72	28.13% 171	24.51% 149	25.00% 152		
Increase recreational opportunities for individuals with mobility challenges	11.00% 67	17.73% 108	32.35% 197	20.69% 126	18.23% 111	609	3.17
Enhance and/or develop new water trail routes for paddle craft	16.45% 101	13.19% 81	28.83% 177	21.17% 130	20.36% 125	614	3.16
Enhance/improve playground facilities for children	14.12% 86	18.72% 114	28.24% 172	22.82% 139	16.09% 98	609	3.08
Create new green spaces (e.g. parks) for public use	16.42% 100	17.57% 107	28.08% 171	19.87% 121	18.06% 110	609	3.06
Enhance and/or build new motorized recreation trails	41.38% 252	10.51% 64	15.93% 97	8.70% 53	23.48% 143	Most polarizing!	
Create designated dog parks for public use	35.61% 214	23.13% 139	17.64% 106	12.31% 74	11.31% 68	601	2.41
Improve access to “team sports” facilities (e.g. baseball)	34.87% 212	26.81% 163	25.49% 155	7.40% 45	5.43% 33	608	2.22

## Bonus Keweenaw County Recreation Survey Analysis Detail: Residents Compared to Non-Residents

### Opinion on Keweenaw County Recreation Quality by Residency

		A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total	
		NO	Yes		
Recreation Quality	Poor	Count	9	7	16
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	2.1%	3.7%	2.6%
Average	Average	Count	141	85	226
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	32.1%	45.2%	36.0%
Excellent	Excellent	Count	289	96	385
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	65.8%	51.1%	61.4%
Total	Total	Count	439	188	627
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi-Square = .002

### Crosstab

		A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total	
		NO	Yes		
Enhance and/or build new motorized recreation trails	Low priority	Count	189	61	250
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	45.0%	33.5%	41.5%
Lowish priority	Lowish priority	Count	44	19	63
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	10.5%	10.4%	10.5%
Mid priority	Mid priority	Count	63	32	95
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	15.0%	17.6%	15.8%
Highish priority	Highish priority	Count	32	20	52

	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	7.6%	11.0%	8.6%
High priority	Count	92	50	142
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	21.9%	27.5%	23.6%
Total	Count	420	182	602
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = 7.907\*

### Crosstab

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Enhance and/or build new <u>non-motorized</u> recreation trails	Low priority	Count	37	29	66
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	8.7%	15.8%	10.8%
	Lowish priority	Count	34	11	45
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	8.0%	6.0%	7.4%
	Mid priority	Count	60	30	90
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	14.1%	16.4%	14.8%
	Highish priority	Count	77	31	108
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	18.1%	16.9%	17.7%
	High priority	Count	218	82	300
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	51.2%	44.8%	49.3%
	Total	Count	426	183	609
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = .08\*

### Crosstab

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Increase public access to Lake Superior shorelines	Low priority	Count	27	14	41
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	6.4%	7.9%	6.8%
	Lowish priority	Count	28	21	49
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	6.6%	11.8%	8.1%
	Mid priority	Count	78	37	115
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	18.4%	20.8%	19.1%
	Highish priority	Count	94	41	135
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	22.2%	23.0%	22.4%
	High priority	Count	197	65	262
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	46.5%	36.5%	43.5%
	Total	Count	424	178	602
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = 7.834\*

### Crosstab

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total	
			NO	Yes		
Increase recreational opportunities for individuals with mobility challenges	Low priority	Count	52	14	66	
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	12.4%	7.7%	11.0%	
	Lowish priority	Count	76	31	107	
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	18.1%	17.0%	17.8%	
			Count	137	57	194

	Mid priority	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	32.6%	31.3%	32.2%
	Highish priority	Count	92	34	126
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	21.9%	18.7%	20.9%
	High priority	Count	63	46	109
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	15.0%	25.3%	18.1%
Total		Count	420	182	602
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = 10.727\*\*

### Crosstab

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Improve access to "team sports" facilities (e.g. baseball)	Low priority	Count	158	54	212
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	37.5%	29.8%	35.2%
	Lowish priority	Count	120	39	159
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	28.5%	21.5%	26.4%
	Mid priority	Count	101	53	154
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	24.0%	29.3%	25.6%
	Highish priority	Count	26	18	44
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	6.2%	9.9%	7.3%
	High priority	Count	16	17	33
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	3.8%	9.4%	5.5%
Total		Count	421	181	602
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



Chi Square = 15.514\*\*\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Enhance/improve playground facilities for children	Low priority	Count	64	22	86
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	15.2%	12.2%	14.3%
	Lowish priority	Count	90	22	112
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	21.4%	12.2%	18.6%
	Mid priority	Count	115	55	170
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	27.4%	30.4%	28.3%
	Highish priority	Count	96	39	135
% within A resident of Keweenaw County?		22.9%	21.5%	22.5%	
High priority	Count	55	43	98	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	13.1%	23.8%	16.3%	
Total	Count	420	181	601	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 15.996\*\*\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Priority: ATV/off road vehicles	No	Count	317	120	437
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	71.9%	63.5%	69.4%
	Yes	Count	124	69	193
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	28.1%	36.5%	30.6%
Total	Count	441	189	630	

% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
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Chi Square = 4.383\*\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Priority: bicycling (paved surfaces)	No	Count	384	154	538
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	87.1%	81.5%	85.4%
	Yes	Count	57	35	92
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	12.9%	18.5%	14.6%
Total	Count	441	189	630	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 3.319\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Priority: bicycling (BMX)	No	Count	412	169	581
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	93.4%	89.4%	92.2%
	Yes	Count	29	20	49
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	6.6%	10.6%	7.8%
Total	Count	441	189	630	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 2.96\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Priority: bicycling (mountain)	No	Count	306	175	481
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	69.4%	92.6%	76.3%
	Yes	Count	135	14	149
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	30.6%	7.4%	23.7%
Total	Count	441	189	630	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 39.452\*\*\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Priority: camping	No	Count	318	150	468
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	72.1%	79.4%	74.3%
	Yes	Count	123	39	162
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	27.9%	20.6%	25.7%
Total	Count	441	189	630	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi-Square = 3.647\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Priority: canoeing/kayaking	No	Count	349	161	510
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	79.1%	85.2%	81.0%
	Yes	Count	92	28	120
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	20.9%	14.8%	19.0%
Total	Count	441	189	630	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 3.137\*

**Crosstab**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Priority: walking for pleasure	No	Count	372	147	519
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	84.4%	77.8%	82.4%
	Yes	Count	69	42	111
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	15.6%	22.2%	17.6%
Total	Count	441	189	630	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 3.942\*\*

## Age of Respondents

### Opinion on Keweenaw County Recreation Quality by Age

			Age cohorts			Total
			0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	
Recreation Quality	Poor	Count	1	8	6	15
		% within Age cohorts	1.4%	2.3%	3.3%	2.5%
	Average	Count	20	128	73	221
		% within Age cohorts	27.4%	36.1%	39.9%	36.2%
	Excellent	Count	52	219	104	375
		% within Age cohorts	71.2%	61.7%	56.8%	61.4%
Total	Count	73	355	183	611	
	% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = .293

### Preserve/enhance public access to historical and cultural sites \* Age cohorts

			Age cohorts			Total
			0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	
Preserve/enhance public access to historical and cultural sites	Low priority	Count	7	16	7	30
		% within Age cohorts	9.9%	4.7%	4.0%	5.1%
	Lowish priority	Count	11	28	6	45
		% within Age cohorts	15.5%	8.2%	3.4%	7.7%
	Mid priority	Count	17	88	28	133
		% within Age cohorts	23.9%	25.7%	16.1%	22.6%
	Highish priority	Count	20	89	51	160
		% within Age cohorts	28.2%	25.9%	29.3%	27.2%
	High priority	Count	16	122	82	220
		% within Age cohorts	22.5%	35.6%	47.1%	37.4%
Total	Count	71	343	174	588	
	% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 27.652\*\*\*

**Enhance/increase primitive camping opportunities \* Age cohorts**

		Age cohorts			Total	
		0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above		
Enhance/increase primitive camping opportunities	Low	Count	4	42	30	76
	priority	% within Age cohorts	5.6%	12.3%	17.1%	12.9%
	Lowish	Count	8	34	32	74
	priority	% within Age cohorts	11.1%	9.9%	18.3%	12.6%
	Mid	Count	14	86	42	142
	priority	% within Age cohorts	19.4%	25.1%	24.0%	24.1%
	Highish	Count	15	79	30	124
	priority	% within Age cohorts	20.8%	23.1%	17.1%	21.1%
	High	Count	31	101	41	173
	priority	% within Age cohorts	43.1%	29.5%	23.4%	29.4%
Total		Count	72	342	175	589
		% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = 21.56\*\*

**Crosstab**

		Age cohorts			Total	
		0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above		
Priority: bicycling (paved surfaces)	No	Count	70	317	139	526
		% within Age cohorts	95.9%	88.8%	75.5%	85.7%
	Yes	Count	3	40	45	88
		% within Age cohorts	4.1%	11.2%	24.5%	14.3%
Total		Count	73	357	184	614
		% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = 24.419\*\*\*

**Crosstab**

		Age cohorts			Total
		0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	

Priority: bicycling (mountain)	No	Count	48	257	162	467
		% within Age cohorts	65.8%	72.0%	88.0%	76.1%
	Yes	Count	25	100	22	147
		% within Age cohorts	34.2%	28.0%	12.0%	23.9%
Total		Count	73	357	184	614
		% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = 22.019\*\*\*

### Crosstab

			Age cohorts			
			0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	Total
Priority: camping	No	Count	46	254	155	455
		% within Age cohorts	63.0%	71.1%	84.2%	74.1%
	Yes	Count	27	103	29	159
		% within Age cohorts	37.0%	28.9%	15.8%	25.9%
Total		Count	73	357	184	614
		% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### Crosstab

			Age cohorts			
			0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	Total
Priority: picnicking	No	Count	73	342	163	578
		% within Age cohorts	100.0%	95.8%	88.6%	94.1%
	Yes	Count	0	15	21	36
		% within Age cohorts	0.0%	4.2%	11.4%	5.9%
Total		Count	73	357	184	614
		% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Chi Square = 16.6\*\*\*

### Crosstab

			Age cohorts			
			0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	Total
Priority: skiing—cross country	No	Count	62	304	143	509
		% within Age cohorts	84.9%	85.2%	77.7%	82.9%
	Yes	Count	11	53	41	105
		% within Age cohorts	15.1%	14.8%	22.3%	17.1%
Total	Count	73	357	184	614	
	% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 4.978\*

### Crosstab

			Age cohorts			
			0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	Total
Priority: visiting historic sites	No	Count	65	308	139	512
		% within Age cohorts	89.0%	86.3%	75.5%	83.4%
	Yes	Count	8	49	45	102
		% within Age cohorts	11.0%	13.7%	24.5%	16.6%
Total	Count	73	357	184	614	
	% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 12.005\*\*\*

### Crosstab

			Age cohorts			
			0-29 yrs old	30 - 59 yrs old	60 yrs and above	Total
Priority: walking for pleasure	No	Count	71	317	122	510
		% within Age cohorts	97.3%	88.8%	66.3%	83.1%
	Yes	Count	2	40	62	104
		% within Age cohorts	2.7%	11.2%	33.7%	16.9%
Total	Count	73	357	184	614	
	% within Age cohorts	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 55.528\*\*\*



**Age cohorts \* A resident of Keweenaw County? Crosstabulation**

			A resident of Keweenaw County?		Total
			NO	Yes	
Age cohorts	0-29 yrs old	Count	58	15	73
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	13.4%	8.2%	11.9%
	30 - 59 yrs old	Count	274	83	357
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	63.4%	45.6%	58.1%
	60 yrs and above	Count	100	84	184
		% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	23.1%	46.2%	30.0%
Total	Count	432	182	614	
	% within A resident of Keweenaw County?	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	

Chi Square = 32.505\*\*\*

**APPENDIX F: Written Comments from Public Review**

## **WRITTEN COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING RECREATION PLANNING PROCESS**

### **October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – by Email**

I agree with the plan as it is proposed, but would add that I absolutely support on road biking/walking lanes.

I would like to see a designated and defined biking/walking path on the shoulder of M-26 from Eagle River to Copper Harbor. There are too many people doing that already, with no shoulder, cars 2 feet away, curves and blind spots, and it is DANGEROUS.

I would like to see us capitalize on our natural resources in this fashion and follow the lead of other recreational communities, such as Jackson Hole, who have installed these paved designated paths next to the road and reaped enormous economic tourist – and local community - benefits.

### **October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – By Email**

Hi, Ann,

My only comment would be to convince the Nature Conservancy to restore handicapped access for an aging population to Mount Baldy behind Eagle Harbor. In a survey that was the basis for the Eagle Harbor Township Development Plan, Mt. Baldy was rated the second-favorite place in the township, after the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse. Yet, the gating off of Mt. Baldy and denial of ATV or snowmobile access for those who can no longer take that long and rugged hike, denies seeing it to a large portion of the local population. The trail to the summit does not contain endangered flora — that is on the side of the peak overlooking Lake Bailey. The site was gated after a few rude ATV riders from MTU insulted a Conservancy official near the summit several years ago...a poor excuse to deny access to this favorite place for the rest of us.

As an anecdote, only a few years ago a summer visitor to Eagle Harbor in his mid-80s desperately wanted to see the view from Mt. Baldy one more time before he died. With the help of some younger relatives, he was able to climb the 1.5 miles from the gate to the summit. But he didn't have the strength to hike all the way down again. I and others had to find a way to wrestle a 600-pound ATV around the Conservancy barriers to rescue the man, which was difficult and dangerous. I wonder how the gate might also prevent firefighters from quickly putting out a future fire on the mountain that could endanger my home and others below it.

That's my two cents. I deeply resent having one of the reasons I settled here closed to people with my health conditions for spurious reasons. The Nature Conservancy seems to value privacy more than people, and shows a visceral hatred of motorized recreation.

Thanks for listening! :-)

Paul Freshwater

Eagle Harbor

## **October 29, 2017 – by Email**

Ann

The only comment I would make is that there has been and will continue to be tremendous comments about motorized and non-motorized vehicles. If both groups are going to use "shared trails" then

both groups should be required to have trail tags. This would generate more revenue for trail maintenance and perhaps create a more harmonious relationship between the groups.

In addition non-motorized vehicles should be prohibited from using M-26 and M-41 west of Phoenix the roads are not designed for non-motorized vehicles especially in the more natural areas....someone is going to be killed.

Phillip O. Barry Ph.D.

North of 47°

## **November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – by Email**

Here are a few suggestions:

- Could the county possibly clean up the stamp mill area by removing some of the trees that are growing in the concrete? It would be a shame to lose what is left of the structure.
- Also the Gay Park needs a lot of attention. It would be nice to have the stairs redone from the upper area to the bottom. Also the county should keep the brush cut along the cliff area by the ball diamond. Good luck.

## **November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – by Email**

Flotation devices need to be available at all the beaches...especially at Great Sand Bay, Eagle River, and Lac La Belle. We have built facilities that encourage people to stop...and possibly swim...at these beaches (parking, toilets, changing rooms, stairs to the beach, and, sometimes, tables). As we can expect increased use of the beaches we must assume the responsibility to improve safety.

## **December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 – by Email**

Hi Ann, the Keweenaw at club has reviewed the rec. plan for 2019 -2023. We noticed 2 things to be updated.

1. Under public access. Roads -number 5. Hoar lake loop road. Reference to I.P is wrong. The new name is TRG.
2. From the same paragraph - The bridge has been replaced by The Keweenaw ATV Club and TRG (previously GMO)

Thank you for all your time and efforts put into this. Kitty Beleck Vice Pres. Kate  
Club Happy Holidays

**APPENDIX G: Public Hearing Notification**

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF HOUGHTON SS

YVONNE ROBILLARD

Being first duly sworn, says that he/she is the agent of the Publisher of The Daily Mining Gazette, a newspaper published in the English Language for the dissemination of local or transmitted news and intelligence of a general character and legal news, which is duly qualified newspaper, and that annexed hereto is a copy of a certain order taken from said newspaper in which order was published on the following dates:

NOVEMBER 19, 2018

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
AND PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

Keweenaw County will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, **December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018** at the County Courthouse located at 5095 4th Street, Eagle River, Michigan 49950 beginning at 6:00 P.M. The purpose of the hearing is to receive any public comments regarding the 2019-2023 Keweenaw County Five Year Recreation Plan. Following the Hearing, there will be a County Board meeting to consider those public comments and possibly move to adopt the Five Year Recreation Plan.

The Recreation Plan is available for Public Comment and can be viewed online at the County website [www.keweenawcountyonline.org](http://www.keweenawcountyonline.org). Printed copies are available at the County Courthouse during normal business hours, Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Written comments can be submitted to WUPPDR, 400 Quincy Street, 8th Floor, Hancock, MI 49930 or emailed to [bbarnett@wuppdr.org](mailto:bbarnett@wuppdr.org) through December 18th, 2018.

Yvonne Robillard

Agent of the Publisher of The Daily Mining Gazette

Subscribed and sworn before me this 15<sup>th</sup>

Day of January A.D., 2019

Catherine O'Connell Ricci

Notary Public, Houghton County, Michigan

Acting in and for the County of Houghton, Michigan

CATHERINE O'CONNELL RICCI  
Notary Public, State of Michigan  
County of Houghton  
My Commission Expires Aug. 10, 2024  
Acting in the County of Houghton

**APPENDIX H: Agenda, Resolution of Adoption & Meeting Minutes**



PUBLIC HEARING  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
December 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

**The purpose of the hearing is to receive any public comments regarding the 2019-2023 Keweenaw County Five Year Recreation Plan. Following the Hearing, there will be a County Board meeting to consider those public comments and possibly move to adopt the Five-Year Recreation Plan**

PUBLIC HEARING  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
December 19, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.

The purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comment on the proposed 2019 County General Fund and Special Fund Budgets.

AGENDA  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
December 19, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

1. Commissioners Present
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum
4. Open Meeting Compliance
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Approval of Minutes of the November 13, 2018 Regular Meeting and the November 28, 2018 Budget Meeting
7. Reports
  - a) Sheriff
  - b) Treasurer
  - c) Mine Inspector
8. Guests
9. Public Comment\*\*
10. Committee Meeting Reports
11. Bills
  - General = \$194,189.37
  - Construction Codes= \$4,485.27
  - 911 Fund = \$34,128.44
  - Law Library= \$203.10
  - Houghton County Medical Care Fund= \$1,551.24
  - Veterans Affairs Fund= \$299.90
  - K-9 Fund= \$4,439.76
  - KML Fund= \$1,657.11
12. Unfinished Business
  - a) Shorewaves
13. New Business
  - a) Recognition of Doc Gilbert as Medical Examiner for his 42 Years of Service-Resolution #18-7
  - b) **Adopt the Keweenaw County Recreation Plan for 2019-2023-Resolution #18-8**
  - c) Hazard Mitigation Plan by WUDDPR-Commit \$3,000 of in-kind service from Chris VanArsdale
  - d) Survey and Remonumentation Grant Application for 2019
  - e) Reappointments and Appointments and Thanks to Those Who are Retiring
  - f) Union Agreement Approval-Sheriff Department and Custodian
  - g) Adopt 2019 General Fund and Special Funds Budgets
  - h) Budget Amendments
  - i) Allow Clerk to Make Budget Transfers Within Funds

- j) Motion to Move KML Bank Balance to General Fund, Close KML Accounts \$108,488.91
- k) Motion to Appropriate Unpaid Balance of Loan from General Fund to KML Fund \$35,511.09
- l) Opting out of PA 152-Resolution #18-9
- m) OPUS Web Contract for New Webpage
- n) Adopt Mileage Rate for 2019-.58 per mile
- o) Fingerprinting Fees for 2019-\$48.50 for Residents, \$53.50 for Non-Residents
- p) Long Term Plans for the Grounds
- q) Procedure for Selection of Engineering Firms for Projects
- r) Drug Testing Policy for County Employees
- s) Delta Dental Contract

14. Public Comment\*\*

15. Adjournment

\*Three minute time limit to each person, please stand to be recognized and state your name\*

PUBLIC HEARING  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
December 19, 2018

A public hearing was held on December 19, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI to receive public comment regarding the 2019-2023 Keweenaw County Five Year Recreation Plan and began with the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioners present: Sandy Gayk, Don Piche, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala Absent: Bob DeMarois

There were a few public comments:

- Glad to see support of non-motorized and motorized trails are a part of the plan
- Impressed with the amount of work put into the plan and glad to see the variety in the plan
- Keweenaw County had the highest amount of responses (over 700) to the recreation survey
- There were a couple of errors, change GMO to TRG and under the County recreation goals, add purchasing permanent easements for trails
- Thanks to Ann Gasperich for her help with the plan

Motion by Gayk to close the public hearing at 6:08 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
December 19, 2018

The Public Hearing was held for the 2019 budgets at 6:15 p.m. at the Courthouse in Eagle River, MI.

Commissioners present: Bob DeMarois, Sandy Gayk, Don Piche, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala.

The Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners held a public hearing for comments on the 2019 County budgets including the General Fund and all Special Funds. There was no public comment.

Motion by Rajala to close the public hearing at 6:17 p.m.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
KEWEENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
December 19, 2018

The regular monthly meeting of the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners was held on December 19, 2018, 6:30 p.m. at the Courthouse, Eagle River, MI following two public hearings.

Commissioners present: Bob DeMarois, Sandy Gayk, Jim Vivian, Del Rajala, Don Piche.

Motion by Gayk supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the following corrections: Under New Business, item r. reads Drug Testing Policy for County Employees, it should read Drug Policy; and Under New Business, item a. Move this item up once Doctor Gilbert enters the meeting.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to approve the minutes from the November 13, 2018 regular monthly meeting and the November 28, 2018 budget meeting as written.

The Treasurer, Sheriff, and Mine Inspector reports were received.

Time was allowed for public comment.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Vivian to pay the approved and audited bills in the following amounts: General Fund=\$194,189.37 Construction Codes=\$4,485.27 911 Fund=\$34,128.44 Houghton County Medical Care Facility Fund=\$1,551.24 Veterans Affairs=\$299.90 K-9 Fund=\$4,439.76 Law Library=\$203.10 Keweenaw Mountain Lodge=\$1,657.11 Board polled. Ayes: DeMarois, Gayk, Vivian, Piche. Abstain: Rajala. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Steve Fitzgerald from Shorewaves was present to talk about the lease for tower space between Keweenaw County and Shorewaves. After much discussion, Shorewaves is to email their revised lease to the county attorney and the attorney will distribute it for the commissioners to review before the next meeting.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to pass the resolution adopting the Keweenaw County Five-Year Recreation Plan 2019-2023 with the addition of the following: The Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners supports the land swap between TRG (formally known as GMO) and the State of Michigan which would help with trail connectivity. The plan was developed as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation. (#18-8)

Motion by Gayk supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to allow WUPPDR to apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding to update the Keweenaw County Hazard Mitigation Plan beginning in late 2018 or early 2019. The funding source, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, requires a nonfederal local share of at least 25 percent of the total project budget. Keweenaw County will benefit significantly from this project through a plan of action to mitigate future hazards and disasters, as well as through establishment of eligibility for future FEMA pre or post disaster funding, the County board will commit to a local share not to exceed \$3,000 which will be provided through in-kind services (facilitated and documented with assistance from the County Emergency Manager).

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the 2019 Survey and Remonumentation grant application. Joe Foster was present at the meeting to answer any questions about the survey grant.

Motion by Gayk supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to approve the following reappointments/appointments/thanks for years of service:

PLANNING COMMISSION

Reappoint Steve Siira-term ending 12/31/2021

Appoint Jim LaMotte-term ending 12/31/2021

Thank Richard Schaefer for his years of service on the Planning Commission

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Appoint Marty Faassen-term ending 12/31/2022

Appoint Kelly Treganowan-term ending 12/31/2022

Appoint Alternate-John Wilhelm-term ending 12/31/2022

Thank Frank Kastelic for his years of service on the Zoning Board of Appeals

EDC

Reappoint Kass Simila-term ending 12/31/2021

Reappoint Joe Miller-term ending 12/31/2021

Reappoint Matt Kero-term ending 12/31/2021

BROWNFIELD

Reappoint Steve Karpiak-term ending 12/31/2021

Reappoint Erica Vye-term ending 12/31/2021

VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Reappoint Joe Finch-term ending 12/31/2021

JURY COMMISSION-SEE LETTER FROM JUDGE GOODMAN

Reappoint Barb Foley (D)-term ending 4/30/2024

Appoint Ron Lahti (D)-term ending 4/30/2022 (Partial term vacated by Judy Rota)

U.P. FAIR AUTHORITY

Reappoint Joe Langdon-term ending 12/31/2020

Thanks to Hon. Jim Jaaskelainen for his 41 years of service as Probate Judge

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to approve the union agreement with the Keweenaw County Deputy Sheriff's Association represented by POAM for a 3- year contract at 3% increase per year from December 1, 2018 through November 30, 2021. The part time road deputy wage will be raised to \$19 per hour to be in line with other area police agencies. Also included in this motion was to allow Piche to sign the union contract with the Keweenaw County Courthouse Employees' Chapter of Local #226, Michigan Council #25, AFSCME, AFL-CIO with a \$1,500 raise and then 2% per year for 2019 and 2020.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to adopt the following budgets for 2019: General Fund, Friend of the Court, Courthouse Improvements, Building Codes, Register of Deeds Automation, 911 Fund, Concealed Pistol Licensing, Sheriffs Training, Drug Law Enforcement, Law Library, Revenue Sharing, Medical Care Facility, Probate Child Care and Juvenile Fund, Veterans Affairs.

Ann Gasperich went over the budget amendments that were made prior to the December meeting and there were no amendments needed for this meeting if the Board agrees with the next item on the agenda.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to authorize the County Clerk (as the County's Chief Financial Officer) to make budget transfers between accounts and between activities without increasing the total board authorized fund expenditures. The allowed transfers must be subsequently submitted to the County Board for approval. This is in accordance with the State's Uniform Budgeting Act.

Motion by Rajala supported by Vivian and unanimously carried to remove the remaining Keweenaw Mountain Lodge bank balance to the General Fund in the amount of \$108,488.91.

Motion by Gayk supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to appropriate General Fund money into the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge for the unpaid balance of the loan for 2018 in the amount of \$35,511.09.

Motion by Rajala supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to close all the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge bank accounts.

Motion by DeMarois supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution opting out of PA 152:

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2011, P.A. 152 of 2011, an act to limit a public employer's expenditures for employee medical benefits plans, became immediately effective; and  
WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners have reviewed the requirements of that Act; and  
WHEREAS, in keeping with the County's established, long-range budgeting practices that actively balance the interests of taxpayers and County employees, and in keeping with the long-established practice of Keweenaw County employees working with the County to defray escalating costs associated with employees' medical benefit plans and having made wage and salary concessions; and  
WHEREAS, Section 8 of Act 152 authorizes a local unit of government, defined to include a county government, upon a 2/3 vote of the governing body, to exempt itself from the requirements of the Act for the next succeeding year; and  
WHEREAS, by exempting itself under Section 8 of Act 152 for calendar year 2019, Keweenaw County is allowed prudent time to continue making changes over time that yield significant reductions in health care costs in a manner that is fair to both taxpayers and employees; and  
WHEREAS, exempting Keweenaw County from Act 152 for calendar year 2019 is equitable considering that Keweenaw County's employees have already demonstrated by their actions a continuing willingness to fairly share in the burden of meeting the significant economic challenges associated with Michigan's long recession; and  
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that acting pursuant to the authority granted a county under Section 8 of Act 152, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby exempts Keweenaw County government from the requirements of P.A. 152 of 2011 for calendar year 2019. **(#18-9)**

Motion by Rajala supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to approve the OPUS Webpage contract for a new webpage for the County as written in the amount of \$5,000 plus \$100 per month for maintenance.

Motion by Rajala supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to set the mileage rate for 2019 at \$.58 per mile.

Motion by Gayk supported by Rajala and unanimously carried to set the following fingerprinting fees for 2019: \$48.50 for County residents and \$53.50 for non-residents.

Vivian brought up that there needs to be some long-term plans for the grounds which could include things like an elevator, storage/garage, tower and perhaps an addition for more office space if an elevator does get put in. Piche read off a list of projects that have been completed since 2012. Vivian also mentioned that we should have at least two firms presenting options for projects. Gayk mentioned that having a long-term relationship with an engineering firm is important. It was brought up that there is a Capital Improvement Plan that should be updated in January.

Motion by Gayk supported by DeMarois and unanimously carried to have a committee of DeMarois and Rajala meet to investigate what a zero-tolerance policy might look like for county employees. This will be put on the January agenda.

Motion by Rajala supported by Gayk and unanimously carried to approve the Delta Dental Plan contract for 2019.

Doctor Gilbert will be invited to the January meeting. This is resolution **#18-7**.

Public comment was allowed.

There being no further business, motion by Rajala to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

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Donald Piche, Chairman

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Julie A. Carlson, Clerk

# Resolution of Adoption

## ***KEWEENAW COUNTY FIVE-YEAR RECREATION PLAN 2019-2023*** *Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners*

*WHEREAS, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2019 through 2023, and*

*WHEREAS, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners began the process of developing a community recreation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and*

*WHEREAS, residents of Keweenaw County were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation plan, and*

*WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and*

*WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on December 19, 2018 at the Keweenaw County Courthouse to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Keweenaw County Five-Year Recreation Plan 2019-2023, and*

*WHEREAS, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the Keweenaw County, and*

*WHEREAS, after the public hearing, the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners voted to adopt said Keweenaw County Five-Year Recreation Plan 2019-2023 including their reiterated support for the potential Land Swap between the State of Michigan and TRG, the largest land owner in Keweenaw County.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby adopts the Keweenaw County Five-Year Recreation Plan 2019-2023.*

Motion made by Rajala Seconded by Vivian to approve this resolution.

AYES 5

NAYS 0

ABSENT 0

ABSTAIN 0

Seal here (if available)

*I, Julie A. Carlson, Keweenaw County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by the Keweenaw County Board of Commissioners at a Meeting thereof held on December 19, 2018*

Signature Julie A. Carlson