

USDA United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service

Eastern
Region

Allegheny
National
Forest

March 2002



Recreation Strategy

*for the
Allegheny National Forest*



USDA Forest Service
Center for Design & Interpretation



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Introduction

The Allegheny National Forest (ANF) Recreation Strategy is an internal document that will guide managers in implementing our current Forest Plan direction providing consistent strategies for managing and marketing recreation as well as setting investment priorities.



The complexity of recreation management has risen sharply in the last few years. Recreation planning is more complex as new information on other resource conflicts has come to light. Costs of planning and design have risen dramatically. Resources and budgets are stretched to the limit. We cannot do everything for everybody. We need a strategy that will help us establish priorities for doing the right things in the right places.

To survive, the Forest must become more businesslike. We must create a greater customer focus and increase customer satisfaction. We must focus on working together with local agencies, communities, and businesses to enhance tourism and not duplicate services. We must seek out partnerships to develop and operate Forest Service sites, providing small business opportunities and a stronger, more stable, local economy.

The Recreation Strategies and recommended actions in this plan will be implemented through the ANF's annual work planning objectives and capital investment process. The ANF Recreation Team, which consists of employees from all units involved in management of recreation, oversees and monitors these processes. Through the strong teamwork and unified budget, the ANF has built an efficient and effective recreation program and with this strategy hopes to refine its delivery to our stakeholders.

Vision

In collaboration with our recreation management partners and the public, provide a diversity of high quality recreation experiences across the ANF with a special emphasis on the following: Nationally Designated Trails, Sites, and Areas; Allegheny Reservoir; Road Based Dispersed Recreation; ATV Trail Riding; and Heritage Sites and Stories.

Recreation Environment

Setting

The Allegheny National Forest is the only National Forest in Pennsylvania and covers approximately 513,257 acres. Much of the Allegheny National Forest is located on the Northern Unglaciated Allegheny Plateau. The plateau is bisected by three major waterways – the Allegheny River, Clarion River and

Tionesta Creek – which are characterized by relatively narrow flood plains bordered by steep hillsides. Away from the large river valleys, the plateau can be characterized as gently rolling. Hardwood forest covers much of the area, but small farms and scattered residential areas are evident along major highways.

The Allegheny National Forest is one of the most intensively used national forests due to the high level of oil and gas activity, the high timber values, and the year-round recreational uses that occur throughout the Forest.

The world's commercial oil industry began in Titusville at Drake's Well (1859) and is still a prominent activity in the ANF as 93% of mineral rights on the Forest are outstanding or reserved (owned by someone other than the federal government). The ANF furnishes roughly 33% of the world's black cherry furniture veneer and 25% of the USA's black cherry sawtimber. Black cherry veneer is very desirable for fine furniture, and the black cherry on the Allegheny National Forest is especially high quality with excellent color characteristics.

The potential for increased recreation use is significant as the ANF lies within a day's drive of 1/3 of the nation's population. An extensive network of roads provides access and helps to disperse use that occurs during all seasons of the year. Pennsylvania leads the nation in the number of hunters, with over one million hunting licenses issued annually. Pennsylvania also ranks in the top 10 in the number of anglers and number of days fished.

According to the 1990 Census, the population of the four counties within which the ANF resides (Warren, Forest, Elk, and McKean) is just over 133,000, or 43 people per square mile. The average density in PA is 266 people per square mile. More than 70 percent live in rural areas. The 30 percent of urban populations mostly reside in small communities of less than 10,000 people. Over 37 percent of the land base of the four counties is also in public land ownership. Twenty-eight percent of the housing units are unoccupied. These are largely seasonal residences. Historically people have come from urban areas within the ANF market area and established camps and vacation homes to enjoy a myriad of outdoor recreation activities on public lands.

Public lands make up about 14.3 percent of the state of Pennsylvania. There are nearly 2 million acres of State Forests and 1.4 million acres of State Game Lands, over one-half million acres of National Forest and 278,00 acres of State Parks. One of the 116 State Parks is within 25 miles of every state resident. With a contiguous land base of over 514,000 acres (over 12 percent of the public land in PA) the Allegheny National Forest plays a major role in providing outdoor recreation to western PA residents and visitors alike. Within the four county region of the National Forest, there is an additional 221,173 acres of public land, the bulk of which are State Game Lands primarily managed for wildlife and associated hunting.

During the 1920's, recreation on the ANF focused mostly on dispersed activities such as hunting and fishing. In the 1930's, the Civilian Conservation Corps changed the face of National Forests across the country by building roads and hundreds of recreation facilities, including the Twin Lakes and Loleta Recreation Areas on the ANF. These and other facilities became popular after World War II when newly mobile families discovered the joys of outdoor recreation. The creation of the Allegheny Reservoir after the Kinzua Dam was completed in 1965 brought the most dramatic change to developed recreation on the ANF. Within ten years, a tremendous development program resulted in campgrounds, boat launches, beaches, picnic areas, hiking trails and overlooks around the 91-mile reservoir shoreline and elsewhere throughout the forest.

During the 1960's, the Forest also saw significant expansion of the pedestrian trail system with the establishment of the 90-mile North Country National Scenic Trail. In the late 1970's, the Forest began development of the 106-mile motorized trail system, which has become the premiere ATV riding experience in PA if not the entire Northeast. In the 1980's and 1990's, Congress provided long-term protection to special places on the Forest with the establishment of the Hickory Creek and Allegheny Islands Wilderness, the Allegheny National Recreation Area, and the Allegheny and Clarion National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Activities and Use

The Allegheny National Forest provides recreation opportunities every season of the year. During the summer, recreation users favor camping and trail activities. The fall brings colorful foliage and numerous hunting seasons, with deer season being the peak of activity. Snowmobile and cross-country ski trails provide miles of opportunity for enthusiasts in the winter. In the spring, trout fishing season attracts anglers to the hundreds of miles of sparkling streams.

In general, recreationists to the ANF region are budget minded. Many visitors have seasonal homes in the area or choose to camp in a developed campground or along a FS road in an undeveloped setting. Motorized recreation is a focus for many recreationists. Sightseeing from a vehicle, ATV trail riding, snowmobiling, and power boating are some of the most popular activities in the region.

Recreation use peaks in the summer. Camping (developed and dispersed), hiking, ATV trail riding, sightseeing, wildlife viewing and boating are the primary recreational pursuits during the summer. The next highest recreation use is during the fall. People viewing fall foliage and hunters make up most of the use, but campers, hikers, and sightseers also appreciate the cooler temperatures. Recreation use in the spring is next in quantity. Cabin fever brings many recreationists to the woods to enjoy hiking, camping, wildlife

viewing and fishing. The first weekend of trout fishing season is the highest use period in the spring. Average winters on the Allegheny Plateau are mild with sporadic and insufficient amounts of snow to support snowmobiling and cross-country skiing all season long. This is the period of lowest recreation use on the Allegheny National Forest. Consistent and abundant snow cover occurs every four to seven years. During these kinds of winters, recreational use is high, perhaps as high as fall use levels.

Recreational use year-round is focused around the Allegheny Reservoir. The Marienville and Timberline ATV Trail systems also have a high concentration of recreation use during the summer and winter. Other areas of concentrated recreation use include the developed campgrounds, ATV trails, Allegheny River corridor, Clarion River corridor, all branches of the Tionesta Creek, and smaller stream corridors such as Big Mill Creek, Kinzua Creek, Salmon Creek, and Spring Creek.

Approximately four million people visit the Allegheny National Forest annually. It is one of the most visited eastern National Forests. The natural beauty of the Allegheny Region and the Allegheny Reservoir are the major attractions for many visitors and tour bus groups that stop here.

The following statistics are based on data from various sources currently available. Over 46% of the visitors come to view the scenery, followed by 26% to camp, picnic, and swim, 10% to hunting and fish, and 18% to participate in all other forms of recreation including hiking, horseback riding, water travel, winter sports, viewing interpretive, exhibits, etc. (More detailed forest level data is currently being collected through the National Visitor Use Study and will provide a more accurate description of visitor use by the end of 2002).

The ANF major market area includes people within the tri-state area of Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio. A study done on the ANF 15 years ago indicated over 90% of our use comes from within a 200-mile radius of the Forest. This includes the major metropolitan areas of Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Buffalo. Even though the data is 15 years old, it is still valuable because the population being studied is fairly stable.

Based on traveler characteristics, geographic location, and the key tourism products offered, the PA Department of Community & Economic Development identified eight regional tourism markets, one of which is the Allegheny National Forest Region. This region contains several counties in and around the Allegheny National Forest. The National Forest is geographically located in only a portion of 4 counties. However, the Strategic Tourism Master Plan for Pennsylvania completed in June 1999 provides many insights into the visitors to this region. It reported:

Visitors to the Allegheny Region tend to be younger than the typical Pennsylvania tourist and more interested in outdoor activities. In 1997, this region attracted the highest percentage of travelers in the 18 – 34 year old age group (50 percent) This region also reported the highest share of family travel (58 percent). Travelers in this region typically stay 3.8 days to visit friends/relatives or for weekend getaways. As a major camping destination, this region has the highest share of visitors staying in non-paid accommodations (28 percent), as well as a large number of visitors staying in private homes. The region is also the most economical in the state to visit, with average daily expenditures of \$41. The Allegheny region received 6.7 percent of Pennsylvania’s leisure travel market in 1997.

The report also stated that the Allegheny region’s strongest niche markets are related to outdoor recreation activities and nature/adventure related travel. Other results of the study include:

- ❖ The National Forest area visitors participated in hunting/fishing (25%), camping (20%), and hiking/biking (17%).
- ❖ The average traveler is college-educated, with an above average income and family.
- ❖ The typical leisure visitor travels by car and likes to visit theme parks and historic sites.
- ❖ Compared with national averages, Pennsylvania visitors tend to travel shorter distances, take more day-trips, and stay fewer nights.
- ❖ Approximately 87 percent of Pennsylvania’s total travel comes from markets less than 250 miles away. Auto travel is the dominant mode of transportation.
- ❖ Pennsylvania ranks second to Colorado in the percentage of trips having a primary purpose of outdoor recreation (25%/45%).

Social Assessments and the National Visitor Use Study currently being conducted may provide additional insights into this areas market in the near future.

Facilities

The recreation facilities on the Allegheny National Forest are some of the most developed in the Forest Service, which traditionally provides less developed, primitive facilities. Many of the campgrounds around the Allegheny Reservoir feature showers, electric hookups, sewage treatments plants and paved roads. With this level of development comes a higher than average annual maintenance program and a long list of deferred maintenance needs. Many of the facilities on the Allegheny National Forest were built in the 1960’s and have exceeded their useful design life. The ANF has been involved in an extensive capital

investment program over the past twelve years with major rehabilitation occurring at a number of locations (\$10 Million spent on 16 locations). The remainder of developed areas now requires rehabilitation to replace worn facilities, and provide universal accessibility and amenities modern campers seek.

Summary of Recreation Amenities on the ANF

- 20 Campgrounds - over 674 sites that range from highly developed sites with showers and electric hookups to primitive boat-access sites.
- 6 Boat Launches
- 6 Canoe Access Sites
- 1 Marina
- 9 Facilities - with some universally accessible amenities
- 11 Picnic Areas
- 4 Beaches
- 3 Scenic Overlooks
- Trails
 - Hiking 201 miles
 - Cross-country skiing 53 miles
 - Interpretive 18 miles
 - All-terrain Vehicle (ATV) 108 miles
 - Allegheny Snowmobile Loop System 366 miles

Relationships

Working with communities and partners has long been a staple of ANF management. The Forest currently has over 120 partners and volunteers. Many types of benefits accrue - from trail maintenance by a local citizen to assistance marketing recreation opportunities by the local tourist promotion agencies. The ANF has a long-standing relationship with its state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to address and fund OHV trail issues. It is also an active member of the state's DCNR's Recreation Advisory Committee, the Snowmobile and ATV Advisory Committee, and the Ecosystem Management Advisory Committee.

In the 1990's, the ANF was one of the first forests in Region 9 to establish a large-scale campground concession operation, which is still being run successfully today. The ANF has also administered a successful long-term marina concession permit. Over the last five years the Forest has issued several outfitter guide permits to entrepreneurs for outdoor activities including: both guided and unguided boat and canoe trips on the Allegheny River and Reservoir, guided horseback trips, and guided hiking and biking trips through the Forest.

The ANF has also been a contributing partner in community and regional development projects. The Forest Service has been instrumental in the development of state Lumber and Oil Heritage Initiatives as well as the Warren County Visitor Center, U.S. Route 6 and the Forest County Hunting and Fishing Museum. The ANF has worked with the Elk, Forest, McKean and Warren County tourist promotion agencies to stretch marketing dollars and to promote and attract new visitors to the ANF Region through shared informational maps, brochures, internet sites and through attending regional outdoor travel shows. The ANF has participated in seasonal bus and boat tours by providing historical guides and interpreters. The ANF has helped celebrate local cultural events through promoting land stewardship at the annual Mount Jewett Swedish Festival, Bradford Italian Festival, Kane Black Cherry Festival and local volunteer fire department fundraisers.

The ANF enjoys strong relationships with local state and federal congressional representatives. Our regional representatives work hard to create policy and laws that benefit rural communities and national forest lands. They have also been instrumental in obtaining congressional budget earmarks to help expand and rehabilitate aging recreation facilities on the ANF and other regional economic development projects.

Recreation Direction

The Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) provide the overall direction and sideboards (standards and guidelines) for developing recreation opportunities and experiences across the Allegheny National Forest. The Forest Plan description of the future forest recognized a demand for developed recreation, particularly around the Allegheny Reservoir and major river corridors, as well as a demand for dispersed recreation within larger undeveloped areas that included a variety of motorized and nonmotorized activities.

The demands for recreation experiences are driven by visitors' needs and wants to achieve desired set of outcomes or benefits. Research has shown that people choose a specific setting for each of their activities in order to realize a desired set of benefits. Therefore, the Forest Plan incorporated a recreation management planning tool that recognized the importance of providing a variety of recreation settings from highly developed to semi-primitive.

The Forest Plan utilized the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) framework as the tool to manage these recreation settings and desired experiences. The ROS has divided the major settings and associated

experiences into six major classes: Urban, Rural, Rooded Natural, Semi-Primitive Motorized, Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized, and Primitive. (No primitive setting has been identified on the ANF.) The Forest Plan decision assigned an ROS class objective to each Management Area on the Forest. Table 1 shows the distribution of acres of ROS class by management area for the entire ANF as well as the total projected use by ROS Class.

Table 1. *ROS Class Acres by Management Area and Total Recreation Visitor Day's by ROS Class.*

Management Area	Rural	Rooded Natural	Semi-Primitive Motorized	Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
1.0		7,000		
2.0		6,000		
3.0		328,000		
5.0				10,000
6.1			103,000	
6.2				20,000
6.3			1,000	
6.4			23,000	
7.0	1,000			
8.0			6,000	
9.1		1,000		
Total Acres¹	1,000	342,000	133,000	30,000
Total RVD's²	419,000	929,000	405,000	30,000

¹Acres taken from 1986 Forest Plan as amended p. 4-55. Represents total acres in Allegheny National Forest minus the acres of water surface. Figures have been rounded to nearest 1,000 acres.

²RVD's taken from the 1986 Forest Plan as amended p. 4-57. Represents the amount of recreation use expected annually over the first decade of the Forest Plan.

Standards and guidelines were then established forest wide and for each Management Area that set the limits for future projects and activities to assure their compatibility with the desired ROS setting objective. This includes such standards and guidelines as the appropriate trail types (pedestrian, summer motorized, etc.), recreation site development scale, type of interpretation or information services, visual objectives, trail design and location standards, etc. The management area direction also provides managers with a description of

the desired future condition (DFC), the projected outputs (recreation visitor days), and an estimate of the management practices (i.e. trail construction, recreation site construction) required to achieve implementation of the plan.

The Forest Plan provided direction on the overall setting, the compatible kinds of recreation activities, general location, and standards for recreation development but did not address the specifics of how or where to implement these management practices. Nor does the Forest Plan provide direction on the daily operation, maintenance, and administration of recreation resources.

The Recreation Strategy is designed to fill this void. It is the implementation strategy for the Forest Plan. It documents the strategies for the day-to-day management and development of recreation resources. When daily needs are great and the resources (time and money) scarce, the strategy provides the information necessary to set priorities.

The National Recreation Agenda and the Eastern Region's Recreation Blueprint have been developed to clarify the role of National Forests in meeting recreational needs across the nation.

These documents also provide broad strategies on how to implement our Forest Plan through defining the principles, processes, tools, and priorities for the long-term management of recreation resources. The framework of both the National and Eastern Region strategies includes the following five emphasis areas:

- ❖ **Settings**
 - Assure sound stewardship of forest resources and compatible recreational activities
- ❖ **Service**
 - Provide safe, natural, well-designed, accessible and well-maintained recreational opportunities for all visitors.
- ❖ **Conservation Education and Interpretation**
 - Provide educational opportunities for the public about the values of conservation land stewardship, and responsible recreation.
- ❖ **Community Connections and Relationships**
 - Strengthen community connections through public and private entities, including volunteer-based and non-profit organizations to optimize public service.
- ❖ **Partnerships**
 - Establish and ensure professionally managed partnerships and intergovernmental cooperative efforts.

The Eastern Region's Recreation Blueprint captures the uniqueness of R9 in that we see the region's recreation role as one of connecting people to the land. In a region that contains almost 43% of the nation's population, and a long history of human and resource development, large undeveloped public land areas like the National Forests are relatively scarce. Recreational experiences may provide the only opportunity for many who live in urban areas to experience and learn about the natural environment. The R9 Blueprint recommends each forest identify their niche in the recreation market (the special recreation resources that it is best positioned to provide) and focus our limited resources on achieving the goals in these areas.

The Recreation Strategy was developed to implement the current Forest Plan and integrate the concepts in the National Agenda and Regional Blueprint.

Recreation Strategy

Process

Many people were involved in the recreation strategy planning process (see Acknowledgements section). Many Forest Service employees representing several disciplines and organizational levels directly contributed their ideas and time to this strategy. In addition, over 57 people representing various agencies, organizations, recreation groups, and interested members of the public offered their thoughts and ideas.

The process began with several workshops for forest employees to develop and inventory what the ANF is well known for in providing recreation experiences and to identify possible recreation target markets or niches.

Two meetings were conducted with the public to validate, revise, or supplement these ideas. The first meeting on February 27, 2001, was held with partners in tourism or those public agencies and organizations that are involved with planning and managing recreation and interpretive opportunities in and around the ANF. Fifty-six invitations were sent, and 27 people attended. Many ideas and comments were recorded during the workshop.

On June 9, 2001, a public open house was held and 20 people attended. Invitations were sent to 129 people, as well as the regional news media. The same information provided at the partner meeting was provided at this public open house. A brief presentation explaining the meeting objectives was provided periodically during the open house. Comment forms were available and Forest Service employees were on hand for questions. We received seven completed comment forms and eight letters with many suggestions.

Many people were not familiar with the idea of target marketing or identifying recreation niches but agreed in concept with the proposed niches. Most comments were related to the wording used in the brief descriptions and concern about where the activities they preferred were represented. Several comments noted that experiences in special areas and trails such as Hickory Creek and the Allegheny River Island Wilderness, the North Country National Scenic Trail, and the Allegheny and Clarion National Wild and Scenic River seemed to be missing.

As a result of these comments the Recreation Strategy Team revised each niche and developed an expanded description. The team also added a niche related to experiences in nationally designated sites and trails across the Forest. Many of the comments were also considered in identifying the specific recreation strategies and recommended actions.

The ANF Recreation Strategy Team also completed an analysis of the current facilities and services across the Forest. The Team reviewed the facility inventory, the Capital Investment list, and identified facilities associated with each niche. They identified the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats associated with each major recreation area (See Appendix D).

Based on public comments and the analysis of recreation across the Forest the Team developed management strategies and recommended actions. The strategies were then reviewed and approved by the ANF Leadership Team.

The ANF Recreation Niche

The Allegheny provides a wide array of quality recreation experiences. Although Pennsylvania is blessed with over 4 million acres of public land there is only one National Forest. One of the state's eight regional tourism markets is actually called "The Allegheny National Forest Region" and focuses on the assets of the ANF. The state's Strategic Tourism Master Plan 1997 reported that the strongest niche markets for this region were related to outdoor recreation activities and the nature/adventure travel markets. However, within the Allegheny National Forest Region (which is much larger than the proclaimed National Forest) there are some aspects and experiences of the outdoor recreation market that the Allegheny NF itself is especially well known for. The settings and experiences described below are often what first attracted users to the ANF because of their uniqueness or special qualities that may not be prevalent within the market area. The team believes the following describes the Allegheny's niche in the recreation market.

Nationally Designated Trails, Rivers, and Areas

The Allegheny National Forest provides a special opportunity to visit nationally designated trails, rivers, Wilderness, recreation areas, and special places.

The Allegheny National Forest has a number of specially designated areas with national significance that attract visitors. The settings of these areas range from a Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized to a Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS. Some of these unique settings include the Allegheny River Island Wilderness, the Hickory Creek Wilderness, the Allegheny and Clarion Wild and Scenic Rivers, the Hearts Content and Tionesta Scenic Areas (old growth forests), the Allegheny National Recreation Area, and the North Country National Scenic Trail. The primary activities include hiking, walking for pleasure, backpacking, and canoeing,

Wilderness is a place where solitude and unconfined recreation are found in a semi-primitive nonmotorized natural setting. The 8,663 acres in the Hickory Creek Wilderness and seven islands of 368 acres in the Allegheny River Islands Wilderness are the only designated wilderness areas in the state of Pennsylvania.

Wild and Scenic River status was given to two rivers that form part of the natural boundary for the national forest. In 1992, 86.6 miles of the Allegheny River and in 1996, 51.7 miles of the Clarion River were added to this exclusive list of selected rivers. The Allegheny and the Clarion Rivers provide a similar range of recreation opportunities with the exception that there is motorized and nonmotorized boating on the Allegheny, while the Clarion is primarily nonmotorized. The Allegheny is a broad river valley that is interspersed with undeveloped islands and small communities of homes and seasonal residences. The Clarion lies in a narrower valley within an enclosed landscape that is mostly undeveloped. Water-based activities such as canoeing, fishing, wading and swimming, as well as scenic driving, are the focus for forest visitors and residents alike. These two rivers, forming a natural border along portions of three sides of the ANF, provide habitat for many species of fish and wildlife, including some threatened and endangered species.

The Allegheny National Recreation Area provides an opportunity for a variety of activities such as hiking and camping accessible by boat only in this Semi-Primitive Motorized recreation area that emphasizes nonmotorized activities in the interior. A total of 23,000 acres have been designated in three parcels. Two are on adjacent sides along the north section of the Allegheny Reservoir and one is along the bluff of the Allegheny River.

Old growth forest remnants are found in two different locations on the plateau. Hearts Content National Scenic Area is 122 acres, and Tionesta National Scenic Area is 2,018 acres. The Tionesta is the largest area of old growth remnant in

the Eastern United States and is a part of an original 4,000-acre tract of old growth forest purchased in 1936 by the federal government. Half of these acres were set-aside for aesthetic purposes and the other half for scientific studies. Both areas are on the National Registry of Natural Landmarks and are visited by eco-tourists and researchers alike. These forests consist of 300-400 year old shade tolerant species such as American beech, eastern hemlock, with some sugar maple. This vegetation is typical of that found in Pennsylvania before European settlement.

A portion of the North Country National Scenic Trail traverses the ANF. The 96.3-mile segment of the NCT through the ANF features varied landscapes, from views of the Allegheny Reservoir to the old growth forests of the Tionesta Scenic Area. When completed, the trail will span the distance between Crown Point, New York and the Missouri River in North Dakota. This 4,200-mile route will cross seven states linking state parks, forests, and wildlife areas.

Allegheny Reservoir

The Allegheny National Forest provides water-based outdoor recreation with an emphasis on activities and sites around the Allegheny Reservoir.

The Allegheny National Forest has an extensive network of water-based recreation opportunities in largely undeveloped forested settings. These settings range from a Semi-Primitive Motorized to a Rural ROS. Within the tri-state market area, the Allegheny Reservoir is the largest, most renowned man-made reservoir with over 12,000-acres of water nestled between steep forested hillsides. A body of water this size, surrounded by an undeveloped shoreline all in public or tribal ownership is a unique feature in the northeastern United States.

The natural character of its 91-mile shoreline draws people who enjoy year-round scenic driving, motor boating, and fishing as well as viewing wildlife. Nearly one-half of all use on the ANF is related to activities and experiences surrounding the Allegheny Reservoir area. Highly developed campgrounds, boat launches and two marinas (one ANF and one county) provide facilities for many recreation pursuits.

Road Based Dispersed Recreation

The Allegheny National Forest provides a wide diversity of dispersed recreation opportunities in a natural setting that is supported by an extensive public road system.

Easy access to an extensive natural forested setting is what attracts recreationists to this area. The setting of this area ranges from a Semi-Primitive Motorized to a Roaded Natural ROS. Scenic stream valleys, rock outcrops, vibrant fall colors, and the rolling forested hillsides provide a backdrop to whatever recreational

activity you pursue. Over half of the recreation use that occurs on the Allegheny National Forest, is dispersed use and occurs outside of developed facilities. Opportunities range from areas where solitude and remoteness are important, to areas where a more social experience is desired.

Within just a short drive from your campsite, seasonal residence or home, are many dispersed recreation opportunities in a natural forested setting. Bird watching, dispersed camping, walking/hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, gathering forest products, and scenic driving are some of the most popular activities that occur all over the National Forest with few developed facilities needed except for the road that takes you there. Even the forest roads closed to public vehicle traffic provide pathways for those who enjoy nonmotorized experiences, such as hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding.

The extensive system of public roads (over 2000 miles) reaching across the ANF offers endless opportunities for unconfined outdoor recreation experiences to visitors and residents alike. These highly sought-after “backyard” recreation opportunities are easily accessible to thousands of recreationists.

ATV Trail Riding

The Allegheny National Forest provides a premier trail bike and ATV trail riding opportunity in a natural setting.

Demand for off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails is at an all time high across the United States. There are few legal riding areas in the east even though demand for such opportunities is high. The trail system is well known nationally with riders coming from as far away as Colorado, Florida, and Texas. However, the majority of users originate from the northeast and Mid-Atlantic States (Pennsylvania, Ohio and New York). In Pennsylvania, there are 188 miles of trail on State Forest Land, 150 acres of open riding (no trails) on Corps of Engineers land, and 108 miles on the ANF. Ohio offers 110 miles of ATV trail (Wayne NF). New York has no public ATV trails.

The Allegheny National Forest has offered OHV trails since the late 1970’s. The all-terrain vehicle (ATV) was developed in the 1980’s but it was not until the mid 1990’s that ATV sales in Pennsylvania skyrocketed (registered ATV’s in PA is about 80,000, unregistered exceeds 300,000). Pennsylvania leads the Eastern United States in ATV sales and ranks third nationally. The Allegheny National Forest provides a unique opportunity with 108 miles of ATV/Bike trail. This extensive system of trails provides the full range of difficulty levels. Riders are drawn to this trail system because of the natural forested settings. These settings range from a Semi-Primitive Motorized to a Roaded Natural ROS.

Heritage Sites and Stories

The Allegheny National Forest provides unique heritage sites and stories surrounding native peoples and the development of the Allegheny National Forest with an emphasis on natural resource changes over time.

Demand for heritage tourism is growing. Waiting discovery in the ANF are the remnants of past cultures to remind us of the centuries-old relationship between people and the land. Over 10,000 years of human prehistory and over 200 years of human history are reflected in the over 2,000 heritage resource sites on record within the ANF. These sites occur in settings that cover the entire range of ROS from a Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized to a Semi-Primitive Motorized, Roaded Natural and Rural ROS.

Prehistoric sites that are unique to the forest include: Buckaloons, which represents a veritable archaeological time capsule; the Elk County earthwork sites - probably the most enigmatic sites in Pennsylvania; Jakes Rocks and other rock shelter sites which are natural rock formations that were utilized in prehistoric times for shelter; and several Seneca village sites (including Buckaloons) and later several Indian refugee town sites (e.g., Indian Valley). Historically, Buckaloons was where France claimed the Ohio drainage. Later it was burned by American troops during the Revolutionary War.

Very few areas of the country can match the documented history of the boom and bust periods of the beginning of the world's commercial oil development, logging railroads, lumber, wood chemical, and tanning industries. In the nineteenth century, the forest was at various times the center of the lumber and oil industries. Towns and camps sprang up wherever the railroads choose to go. After making it accessible, the railroads made living there hospitable and profitable. The story of the railroad-logging era will be told at Loleta Recreation Area, which is located on the site of a historic logging boomtown. The ANF region was the center of the tannery industry in the last 19th century. The story of the tanneries will be told at Arroyo, a ghost town located along the Clarion Wild and Scenic River. Arroyo's history is well documented and the site features many remnants of the residential and industrial buildings. At the Owl's Nest site, the story of severe forest fire as the result of the railroad-logging era will be told. Oil history stories will be told at the Tidioute Overlook and the Old Powerhouse sites

The historic logging created the Allegheny hardwood forest. The initial purchases of the ANF in the 1920's and 30's were affectionately known as the "Allegheny Brush Patch." Soon after the creation of the ANF in 1922, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was formed and one of the first camps in the nation was located in the ANF. Fourteen camps were eventually established on the Forest. The first CCC pine plantation was planted in the ANF. The CCC story will be told at Twin Lakes Recreation Area, a site built by the CCC.

In the 1960's the construction of Kinzua Dam destroyed many archaeological sites. It displaced the residents of the towns of Corydon and Kinzua as well as the Seneca Nation residing on the Cornplanter Grant and a part of the Allegheny Reservation. These heritage sites and stories hold clues to past ecosystems, add richness and depth to our landscapes, provide links to living traditions, and help transform a beautiful walk in the woods into an unforgettable encounter with history.

Recreation Management Strategies

These strategies incorporate our current recreation management policies, public and partner comments, the Eastern Region Recreation Blueprint, the National Recreation Agenda, and the ANF Forest Plan.

Strategies Common to All Recreation Opportunities

1. Apply business principles to upgrading and rehabilitating sites.
2. Make Capital Investments in sites and areas providing the greatest benefit relative to cost. Where benefits are equal, existing sites will be upgraded and rehabilitated before building new sites. Prioritize all capital investment projects based on the following criteria:
 - a. Reduces maintenance costs
 - b. Responds to demonstrated demand
 - c. Contributes significantly to the recreation niche
 - d. Addresses health and safety or resource restoration/protection issues (failed facilities or damaged ecosystems/resources)
 - e. Addresses deferred maintenance needs
 - f. Meets Accessibility Transition Plan needs
 - g. Meets Interpretive Plan and Environmental Education needs
3. With financial resources inadequate to develop and maintain all facilities to national quality standards:
 - a. At a minimum meet critical national quality standards or consider closing or reducing the offering.
 - b. Set priorities for investment based on meeting needs in the ANF recreation niche areas first.
 - c. Evaluate underutilized sites for alternative uses or decommissioning.
 - d. Utilize grants, fee demo, partnerships, concessionaire and public-private ventures for construction and maintenance when appropriated funds are insufficient.
 - e. Build facilities to withstand vandalism and long-term use.
 - f. Take preventative measures to reduce criminal activity and people will comply with laws and regulations to protect the recreation setting.
4. Maintain a forest wide capital investment list with priorities established and revised annually.
5. Maintain a forest wide recreation objectives list with priorities

established and revised annually. Annual accomplishments will be recorded on this document.

6. Develop and implement a Forest Master Interpretive Plan.
7. Work with partners to attract people and promote the area by developing websites, common regional advertising, and package deals (hotel, food, eco-tours, etc.).
8. Develop and implement a recreational regional training program for all recreation area providers in collaboration with partners.
9. Provide recreation training and career enrichment opportunities to Forest Service employees emphasizing business principles, emerging issues, and managing partnerships.
10. Use current technology to improve visitor services and reduce operation and maintenance costs.
11. Provide a variety of forums for the public as well as affected and interested parties (interest groups, user groups, recreation and tourism industries, state, tribal, and local governments, etc.) to discuss issues, policies and concerns related to recreation management on the ANF.
12. Assess intermodal transportation needs in concert with the Forest wide Roads Analysis. Can access routes to and within the Allegheny National Forest be improved to meet needs of recreationists?
13. Use demographic data and research findings to better determine needs, allocate resources, and align our settings, services and facilities to the rapidly growing ethnically diverse and urban segments of our society.
14. Maintain recreation INFRA database by collecting condition surveys on 20% of all recreation facilities annually.
15. Maintain and implement the forest wide accessibility transition plan to ensure a variety of experiences for people with disabilities, and annually report accessibility accomplishments.
16. Improve way finding, information, and interpretive signing.
17. Utilize INFRA (Corporate Data Base) as a source of inventory and cost information to help implement these strategies.

Strategies for Niche Recreation Opportunities

Nationally Designated Trails, Rivers, and Areas

Focus management of nationally designated areas (NDA) on the unique qualities that lead to their designation. Improve assets, service delivery and marketing by joining with interested and affected partners as through the Western PA Conservancy, Allegheny River Support Group, Clarion River Basin Commission, North Country Trail Association, and local Tourist Promotion agencies. The ANF will emphasize building public awareness of the opportunities and themes within each NDA using partners to assist in marketing. Increase management presence, utilizing both Forest Service and partners, on the ground to maintain, monitor, and educate users within NDA's.

Priority of FS investments will focus on rehabilitation and upgrading at existing sites before considering new opportunities. Develop new sites only when demand is demonstrated by market data, when fees collected by FS will largely offset cost of annual maintenance, or when cost of development and/or operations can be covered under concession, partnership, or a public-private venture (PPV).

Recommended Actions

1. Develop implementation strategies that are consistent with the current Forest Plan direction for the following: the Allegheny National Recreation Area, and Hickory Creek Wilderness.
2. Implement the Allegheny River Management Plan by exploring new partnerships and volunteers and devoting more district staff time to overall river management.
3. Develop and implement a Clarion River Management Plan utilizing and integrating partner efforts of the Clarion River Basin Commission (Clarion River Basin Plan and Clarion River Water Quality Assessment) and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (proposed Greenways Plan)
4. Increase management presence in Wilderness and W&S Rivers by providing a Forest Service Wilderness Ranger who emphasizes the “Leave No Trace” message and seeking partners or volunteers for assistance in monitoring, compliance, and education.
5. Emphasize collaboration through the Federal Lakes Initiative if funded and implemented.
6. Develop an action plan to move towards the desired future condition as specified in the MOU between the USFS, NPS and NCTA for the North Country National Scenic Trail.

Allegheny Reservoir

Continue to provide high quality water-based recreation opportunities and facilities through a combination of concession and Forest Service operation. Improve assets, service delivery and marketing by joining with interested and affected partners such as current concessionaires, private recreation providers and local Tourist Promotion agencies. Expand facilities only when demand is demonstrated by market data, when fees collected by FS can offset maintenance, or when development and/or operation can be covered under concession, partnerships, or a public-private venture (PPV). When resources and budgets are limited, priority will be given to rehabilitating existing facilities rather than providing new sites or facilities. Evaluate low use sites for adaptive reuse or decommissioning.

Recommended Actions

1. Complete rehabilitation of recreation sites in high demand around the reservoir.

2. Develop and implement program/incentives to increase midweek use at developed sites.
3. Evaluate the following low use sites and trails for adaptive reuse or decommissioning: Kinzua Beach, Tracy Ridge, Roper Hollow, Campbell Mill Interpretive Trail, and Longhouse Interpretive Trail.
4. Emphasize collaboration through the Federal Lakes Initiative if funded and implemented.

Road Based Dispersed Recreation

Actively inventory and manage recreation opportunities (dispersed camping, vistas, parking, wildlife habitat, road closures-gates) along Forest Roads to protect the environment and encourage appropriate recreation use. Provide a high quality public road system that accesses recreation settings forest wide so that a diversity of activity opportunities both motorized and nonmotorized will be readily available. Consider recreation needs for roads within the Forest Roads Analysis process. Manage the scenic quality commensurate with the road use for recreation and management purposes in the Forest Plan.

Recommended Actions

1. Identify opportunities to expand and improve dispersed camping opportunities, road access, road maintenance, unroaded recreation, and off road parking during integrated project analysis.
2. Consider recreation needs for roads and unroaded areas during Watershed Assessment and Forest Roads Analysis.
3. Record data by individual campsites for other information and management purposes during collection of INFRA condition surveys.

ATV Trail Riding

Manage a premiere ATV system that provides casual as well as challenging riding experiences in a natural forest setting. Seek to reduce environmental impact through monitoring, improved trail design, regular maintenance and trail patrols. Offset high maintenance costs through implementing a fee system, and forming partnerships with State agencies and local user groups. Reduce illegal use off designated trails through a combination of increased management presence (FS and partners) and expanding the current trail system. Focus priority of investments on rehabilitating and upgrading the existing trail system before considering new trail opportunities. Consider trail expansion only if either development and or maintenance costs can be offset through partnerships, grants, fees, or other public-private ventures (PPV).

Recommended Actions

1. Develop an action plan that includes engaging partners to develop strategies that reduce illegal ATV use off designated trails to ensure the future of legal riding opportunities.
2. Implement fee system to offset management costs of ATV trails.

3. Improve and reformat ATV trail maps/information to include educational materials (Tread Lightly) and good user ethic guides.
4. Design and implement a sign plan for safety, information, and education.
5. Increase management presence, using a combination of FS and partners, for purposes of monitoring, compliance, and education.

Heritage Sites and Stories

Continue to inventory, manage and protect cultural resources. Establish a priority for development and interpretation of historic and prehistoric sites through a forest wide interpretive master plan. Incorporate development of interpretive opportunities into capital investment plans for existing and proposed sites. Prioritize Forest Service investments on rehabilitating and upgrading interpretation at existing heritage sites before considering new opportunities. Integrate heritage interpretive opportunities with local heritage initiatives (Oil Heritage and Lumber Heritage Region Initiatives, and US Rte 6 Corridor). Develop new heritage interpretive sites only when demand is demonstrated by market data. Explore opportunities where cost of development and/or operations can be covered under concession, partnership, or a public-private venture (PPV). Collaborate with the Seneca Nation of Indians on interpretation of Native American sites.

Recommended Actions

1. Explore non-traditional funding sources for historic and prehistoric interpretive projects.
2. Develop and implement interpretive site plans using professional interpretive skills.
3. Incorporate interpretive plan priorities for historic sites into the capital investment list for the ANF.
4. Establish a relationship with Seneca Nation to assist with interpretation at Native American sites.
5. Continue partnering with US Rte. 6 Corridor, Oil Heritage and Lumber Heritage Region Initiatives.

Implementation and Monitoring

Implementation of the Recreation Strategy will be the responsibility of the ANF Recreation team lead by the Forest Recreation Program Leader. The Strategy will be integrated into our Forest work planning and budgeting process. The strategies and recommended actions will be implemented and tracked through the Forest Objectives Spreadsheet and the Recreation Capital Investment Spreadsheet. A copy of each for 2002 can be found in Appendix B and C respectively. The Recreation Team oversees the development, updating, and monitoring of both spreadsheets as related to recreation resources. Accomplishments will be recorded annually on the Forest Objectives Spreadsheet. A copy of accomplishments for accessibility as reported to the RO and WO will also be attached.

Significant accomplishments will be summarized and recorded annually in the Forest Plan Monitoring Report. The data from these reports will be evaluated as to the need to amend and/or revise the Forest Plan.

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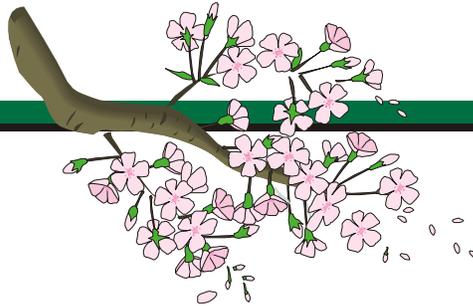
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Prepared by:
*USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region
Center for Design and Interpretation
Sharon Kyhl, Project Manager/Interpretive Specialist
Jackie Twiss, Graphic Designer*



Appendix A



ANF Recreation Niche by Facility Spreadsheet

Facility Evaluation by Niche						
Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
Boat Launches						
Dunkle Corners	Brad	X				
Elijah Run Boat Launch	Brad	X				
Longhouse Dispersed Site	Brad	X				
Roper Hollow Boat Launch	Brad	X				
Sugar Bay Dispersed Area	Brad	X				
Webbs Ferry Boat Launch	Brad	X				
Irwin Run Canoe Launch	Marn					X
Campgrounds						
Buckaloons Rec Area	Brad					X
Dewdrop Rec Area	Brad	X				
Handsome Lake Boat Access Campground	Brad	X				
Hearts Content Rec Area	Brad					X
Hooks Brook Boat Access Campground	Brad	X				
Hopewell Boat Access Campground	Brad	X				
Kiasutha Rec Area	Brad	X				
Minister Creek Campground	Brad					
Morrison Boat Access Campground	Brad	X				
Pine Grove Boat Access Campground	Brad	X				
Red Bridge Rec Area	Brad	X				
Tracy Ridge Rec Area	Brad					X
Twin Lakes Rec Area	Brad				X	
Willow Bay Rec Area	Brad	X				
Bear Creek Campground	Marn					
Beaver Meadows Recreation Area	Marn					
Kelly Pines Campground	Marn					
Loleta Recreation Area	Marn				X	
Red Mill Campground	Marn					
Tionesta Boat-To Campsites	Marn					

Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
Concentrated Use Areas						
Allegheny River: Buckaloons to Tidioute	Brad					X
Allegheny River: Dam to Glade bridge	Brad					X
Allegheny River: Tidioute to W. Hickory	Brad					X
Allegheny River: W. Hickory to Tionesta	Brad					X
Clark Run Disp Site (Tanbark Disp Site)	Brad					X
Devils Elbow, FRs 492, 160, 259, 365, 364	Brad		X			
Farnsworth	Brad					
Fourmile Run	Brad					
FR 116, 449	Brad					
FR 119	Brad					
FR 122, 150, 456, 457	Brad		X			
FR 142	Brad					
FR 148	Brad					
FR 154	Brad					
FR 159	Brad					
FR 176, 173, 202, 137, 271, 271A	Brad		X			
FR 258	Brad					
FR 262	Brad	X				
FR 321	Brad		X			
FR 437	Brad					
FRs 120, 141, 110, 110A	Brad		X			
Guffey	Brad					
Hickory Creek At Queen	Brad					
Kinzua Creek & S. Branch Kinzua Creek	Brad					
Lewis Run Portal Sign	Brad					
Minister Creek Dispersed sites	Brad					

Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
Morrison Road	Brad					
SR 321N & 346	Brad	X				
SR 321S	Brad	X				
SR 337	Brad					
SR 59, FRs 267, 627, 147	Brad		X			
SR 666	Brad		X			
Twomile Run & S. Branch Tionesta Creek	Brad					
Westline Road	Brad		X			
Willow Creek & Sugar Run	Brad					
Big Mill & Bear Creek Road crossings	Marn					
Bluejay Creek	Marn					
Clarion River Road	Marn		X			
Clarion River: Portland Mills to Irwin	Marn					
Corduroy	Marn					
EB Millstone and Millstone Creeks	Marn					
FR 123, 238	Marn					
FR 124, 227, 403 - Spring Creek	Marn		X			
FR 124, 337	Marn					
FR 128, 101, 180	Marn					
FR 130	Marn					
FR 131 - East Branch Millstone Creek	Marn		X			
FR 132 - Millstone Creek	Marn		X			
FR 133, 133E, 195, 198, 324, 264, Fox's Dam	Marn		X			
FR 136 & Big Run Ponds	Marn					
FR 145 - Salmon Creek	Marn		X			
FR 152, Windy City	Marn					
FR 186, 150	Marn					
FR 210, 212, 561 - Stony Point	Marn		X			

Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
FR 221 - Slater Run	Marn					
FR 287, 631, 216	Marn					
FR 335 at EB Spring Creek	Marn					
FR 339, 237, 143	Marn		X			
FR 401	Marn			X		
FR 521	Marn			X		
Indian Valley Disp Site	Marn					X
Laurel Mill Road	Marn					
Nagel Bridge, FR 135, 349	Marn		X			
Salmon Creek	Marn					
Sheffield Junction Rd, FR 223	Marn					
Spring Creek	Marn					
WB Millstone Creek	Marn					
Day Use Areas						
Bat Barn	Brad					X
Hearts Content Day Use	Brad					X
Jakes Rocks Overlook	Brad	X				
Kinzua Beach	Brad	X				
Old Powerhouse	Brad				X	
Rimrock Overlook	Brad	X				
Tidioute Overlook	Brad				X	
Information Sites						
Kinzua Point Information	Brad	X			X	
Trailheads						
Deerlick Trailhead	Brad					
Longhouse Trailhead	Brad	X				
Morrison Trailhead	Brad	X				
Rocky Gap ATV Trailhead	Brad			X		

Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
Tionesta Scenic Area Trailhead	Brad					X
Timberdoodle Flats Trailhead	Brad					
Tracy/Johnnycake Trailhead	Brad					X
Westline Trailhead	Brad					
Willow Creek ATV Trailhead	Brad			X		
Amsler Springs NCT Trailhead	Marn					X
Brush Hollow Trailhead	Marn					
Buzzard Swamp FR 157 Trailhead	Marn					
Buzzard Swamp Trailhead FR 376	Marn					
Laurel Mill Trailhead	Marn					
Little Drummer Trailhead	Marn					
Marienville ATV FR 395 Trailhead	Marn			X		
Marienville ATV Trailhead	Marn			X		
Pigs Ear ATV Trailhead	Marn			X		
Timberline ATV Buehler Trailhead	Marn			X		
Timberline ATV Trailhead	Marn			X		
Trails						
Allegheny Snowmobile Loop	Brad					
Campbell Mill Interp	Brad	X				
Deerlick X-C Ski/Hiking	Brad					
Handsome Lake	Brad	X				
Hearts Content Interp	Brad					X
Hearts Content X-C Ski	Brad					X
Hickory Creek Wilderness	Brad					X
Hopewell	Brad	X				
Johnnycake Hiking	Brad					X
Land of Many Uses Interp	Brad					X
Longhouse Interp	Brad	X				
Minister Creek Hiking	Brad					

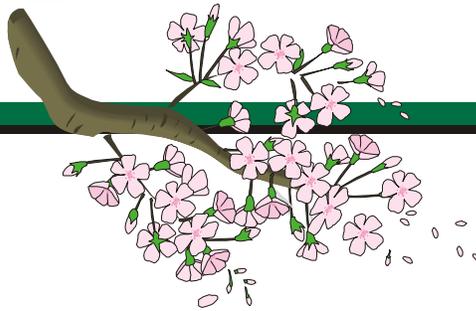
Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
Morrison Hiking	Brad	X				
North Country National Scenic	Brad					X
Rimrock X-C Ski	Brad	X				
Rocky Gap ATV	Brad			X		
Seneca Interp	Brad					X
Snowmobile Connector #20 - FR 187	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #8 - FR 116	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #18 - FR 150	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #19 - FRs 262 & 492 and Jakes Rocks	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #2 - Townline	Brad					
Host House	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #21 - Whig Hill Store	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #27- FR 155	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #3 - FR 437	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #4 - State Game Lands #29	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector #5 - FR 119 & Economite Rd.	Brad					
Snowmobile Connector Graybill	Brad					
Tanbark Hiking	Brad					X
Tidioute Riverside	Brad					X
Timberdoodle Flats Interp	Brad					
Tionesta Scenic Area Interp	Brad					X
Tracy Ridge Hiking	Brad					X
Tracy Ridge X-C Ski	Brad					X
Westline X-C Ski/Hiking	Brad					
Willow Creek ATV	Brad			X		
Allegheny Snowmobile Loop	Marr					

Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
Beaver Meadows Hiking	Marn					
Black Cherry Interpretive	Marn					X
Brush Hollow X-C Ski/Hiking	Marn					
Buzzard Swamp Hiking	Marn					
Irwin Run Bankfishing	Marn					X
Laurel Mill X-C Ski/hiking	Marn					
Little Drummer Historical Pathway	Marn					
Loleta Hiking	Marn					
Marienville ATV	Marn			X		
Marienville Bike	Marn			X		
Mill Creek Hiking	Marn					
North Country National Scenic (NCT)	Marn					X
Snowmobile Connector #10 - FR 287	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #11 - Iron City/ Penoke	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #12 - FR 226/ Goat Farm	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #13 - Duhring Rd	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #14 - FR227/403	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #15 - Kelly Pines	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #16 - FR 131	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #17 - FR 186/ Gladwater	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #20 - FR 279	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #22 - Wetmore	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #23 - Highland	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #24 - Kane	Marn					

Recreation Facilities	District	Allegheny Reservoir	Road Based Disp Rec	ATV Trail Riding	Heritage Sites & Stories	Nat'l Desig Trails, Rivers & Areas
Snowmobile Connector #25 - Russell City	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #26 - Lantz Corners	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #6 - FR 180	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #7 - FR 127	Marn					
Snowmobile Connector #9 - Job Corps Rd.	Marn					
Songbird Sojourn Interpretive	Marn					
Timberline ATV	Marn			X		
Twin Lakes Hiking	Marn					



Appendix B



2002 ANF Capital Investment Spreadsheet

Allegheny National Forest			Evaluation Criteria									
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan		
Marn	Marn District Office replacement	Marn Dist Office	F00	1650								
Brad	Farnsworth Rehab.	Rewiring and Furnace	F99	5		x						
Brad	Farnsworth Rehab.	Septic System	F99	10		x						
Brad	Farnsworth Rehab.	Frlce, Sleep qt, Main Rm	F99	28		x						
Brad	Farnsworth Rehab.	Redo outside	F99	5		x						
Brad	Farnsworth Rehab.	Redo Warehouse	F99	7		x						
Brad	Farnsworth Rehab.	Road Reconst.	F99	8								
Marn	Repeater: Twin Lakes - basin	P&D;Contract Installation	F99	17								
Brad	Buckaloons Rehab	NEPA	L00		NDA	x	x	x	x			
Brad	NRA Boat Access CG Rehab - HW, HL, HB	Design	L00	20	RES							
Brad	NRA Boat Access CG Rehab - HW, HL, HB	SSTS, Sewer lines, pumps	L00	180	RES	x	x	x	x			
Forest	SST replacement - Forestwide	KP, Min, TR, Buck, BM, TL, JR	L00	212	NDA	x	x	x	x			
Brad	Buckaloons Rehab	Design	L01	21	NDA	x	x	x	x	x		
Brad	Buckaloons Rehab		L01	240	NDA	x	x	x	x	x		
Brad	Buckaloons Rehab		L01	300	NDA	x	x	x	x	x		
Brad	Buckaloons Rehab		L01	200	NDA	x	x	x	x	x		
Brad	Redbridge Rehab	Paving	L02	53	RES	x			x			
Brad	Redbridge Rehab	Design	L02	75	RES							
Brad	Redbridge Rehab	Phase 1 Construction	L02	290	RES	x	x	x	x			
Brad	Redbridge Rehab	Phase 2 Construction	L02	270	RES	x	x	x	x			
Brad	Kiasutha Rehab	NEPA	L03	50	RES							
Brad	Kiasutha Rehab	Phase 1	L03	200	RES	x	x	x	x			
Brad	Kiasutha Rehab	Phase 2	L03	500	RES	x	x	x	x			
Brad	Kiasutha Rehab	Phase 3	L03	750	RES	x	x	x	x			
Brad	Kiasutha Rehab	Phase 4	L03	150	RES	x			x			
Brad	Dewdrop rehab	NEPA	L04	60	RES							
Brad	Dewdrop rehab	Design	L04	100	RES							
Brad	Dewdrop rehab	Phase 1 Construction	L04	800	RES	x	x	x	x			
Brad	Dewdrop rehab	Phase 2 Construction	L04	200	RES	x	x	x	x			

Allegheny National Forest			Evaluation Criteria							
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Brad	Kinzua Beach - KPIC	NEPA	L05	100	RES					
Brad	Kinzua Beach - KPIC	Design - evaluate function	L05	80	RES					
Brad	Kinzua Beach - KPIC		L05	600	RES	x	x	x	x	
Brad	Kinzua Beach - KPIC		L05	400	RES	x	x	x	x	
Brad	Buckaloons Invine Rec Site	NEPA	L06		HER					
Brad	Buckaloons Invine Rec Site	Design	L06		HER					
Brad	Buckaloons Invine Rec Site	Interp site, parking, trails	L06		HER	x	x	x	x	x
Forest	Allegheny WSR Enhancements	NEPA	L07		NDA			x		
Forest	Allegheny WSR Enhancements	Design	L07		NDA			x		
Forest	Allegheny WSR Enhancements	Indian Valley, Clark Run, Islands	L07		NDA			x		
Forest	Allegheny WSR Enhancements	Indian Valley, Clark Run, Islands	L07		NDA			x		
Brad	Webbs Ferry Rehab		L08	350	RES				x	
Brad	Jakes Rocks Rehab	Overlook rehab	L09		RES	x	x	x	x	x
Forest	Interp plan projects	implement smaller scale projects	L10	275	ALL					x
Brad	Tracy Ridge Rehab	Phase 1 Construction	L99	495	NDA	x	x		x	
Brad	Tracy Ridge Rehab	Phase 2 Construction	L99	30	NDA	x	x		x	
Brad	Allegheny Front Trailhead Area		L99		NDA					
Brad	Allegheny River Vistas/Parking	Major Dad	L99		NDA					
Brad	Buckaloons Center	NEPA and design	L99	350	HER					
Brad	Buckaloons Center	Arch Site Survey	L99	25	HER					
Brad	Buckaloons Center	Cnst Facility	L99	3150	HER					x
Brad	Buckaloons Center	Arch Survey Cont.	L99	50	HER					x
Brad	Buckaloons Center	Cnst Roads	L99	75	HER					
Brad	Hickory Creek Wilderness	Design	L99	11	NDA					
Brad	Hickory Creek Wilderness	Arch Survey	L99	81	NDA					
Brad	Hickory Creek Wilderness	Construct Parking	L99	32	NDA					x
Brad	Hickory Creek Wilderness	Construct Trailhead	L99	8	NDA					x
Brad	LNSB enhancements (FR 262)	Design	L99	10	NDA					
Brad	LNSB enhancements (SR 321)	NEPA & design	L99	25	NDA					
Brad	LNSB enhancements (FR 262)	NEPA & design	L99	25	NDA					
Brad	LNSB enhancements (FR 262)	Pulloffs, Vista, Parking	L99	125	NDA					
Brad	LNSB enhancements (FR 262)	Platform & trails	L99	100	NDA					

Allegheny National Forest										
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Brad	LNSB enhancements (SR 321)	NCT lot, plantings, vista	L99	160	NDA					
Brad	Tracy Ridge Rehab	Design	L99	20	NDA					
Marr	Arroyo Interp Site	parking, interp, brochures	L99		HER					x
Marr	ATV campground	large dev level 4 CG near Marr ATV	L99		ATV			x		
Marr	Loleta Interpretation	Improve Bldg, Exhibits	L99	165	HER					
Marr	Loleta Misc	131 reloc, amphitheater,	L99	195	HER					
Brad	FR 455	Reconstruction	R09	11		x				
Brad	FR 455	Design - ROW Marshburg end	R09	5						
Brad	Roper Hollow Paving		R99		RES	x		x		
Brad	Twin Lakes paving	beach, loops, groups, fishermans	R99	600		x				
Brad	Twin Lakes Paving	Admin	R99	84		x				
Brad	AROA Deep Water Fish Structures		R99	4	RES					
Brad	AROA Deep Water Fish Structures		R99	4	RES					
Brad	AROA Deep Water Fish Structures		R99	4	RES					
Brad	Chappel Fork Subimpoundment	Design	R99	15	RES					
Brad	Chappel Fork Subimpoundment	Construction	R99	100	RES					
Brad	Hemlock OA projects (RD CLOSED)	Design - FR 267, 266	R99	3						
Brad	Hemlock OA projects (RD CLOSED)	Reconstruction	R99	30						
Brad	RedBridge Rec Fisheries - subimpoundment	Design	R99	26	RES					
Brad	RedBridge Rec Fisheries - subimpoundment	Construction	R99	175	RES					
Brad	RedBridge Rec Fisheries - subimpoundment	Construction	R99	25	RES					
Brad	RedBridge Rec Fisheries - subimpoundment	Construction	R99	60	RES					
Brad	Sugar Bay Subimpoundment	Design	R99	15	RES					
Brad	Sugar Bay Subimpoundment	Construction	R99	100	RES					
Brad	Twin Lakes Paving	Design	R99	36						
Marr	FR 135 Bingham Rd by Owls Nest	Imp drms, resurf, turnouts	R99	30	RDS					
Marr	Kelly Pines Disp Site Rehab	SST, site rehab, add road loop	S05	30		x		x		

Allegheny National Forest			Evaluation Criteria							
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Brad	Camp Complanter	Building removal	\$99	25	RES	x	x			
Brad	Camp Complanter	Rehab Site	\$99	25	RES	x	x			
Brad	Dewdrop and Twin Lakes	Pressure Reducing Stations	\$99	14		x				
Brad	Dewdrop, Elijah, Webbs ferry	Stair replacements	\$99	10	RES	x		x	x	
Brad	Kiasutha	Replace Flocc Tank	\$99	8	RES	x				
Brad	Kiasutha Playground	Safety matting	\$99	50	RES	x	x	x		
Brad	Longhouse Trailhead improvements	SST, security light, paving	\$99	35	RES	x		x	x	x
Brad	NRA Campgrounds - HB,HL,HW, 4 Tracy	Rebuild Handpumps (7 wells)	\$99	15	RES	x	x			
Brad	Portal Signs Replacement	Replace var. signs	\$99	15		x				
Brad	Redbridge playground	Safety matting	\$99	35	RES	x	x	x	x	
Brad	Replace big & small boats	reservoir boats	\$99	110	RES	x				
Brad	Site furniture	Tables, rings, grills, signs	\$99	65		x			x	
Brad	Site furniture	Tables, rings, grills, signs	\$99	65		x			x	
Brad	Site furniture	Tables, rings, grills, signs	\$99	65		x			x	
Brad	Tidioute Overlook barrier free access	Trail, Deck and Signing	\$99	36	HER	x		x		
Brad	Tidioute Overlook barrier free access	Parking	\$99	10	HER	x		x		
Brad	Tracy Ridge	Drill wells	\$99	20	NDA	x	x			
Brad	Twin Lakes	Sewer Lagoon Airlator	\$99	12	HER	x				
Brad	Twin Lakes Paths group sites	Construction	\$99	50	HER	x		x	x	
Brad	Auto Tour- GL CH, C SCOT, OLIVE	Brochures/signs	\$99	15						
Brad	Auto Tour- Klondike	Brochures/signs	\$99	5						
Brad	Auto tour-Sugar Bull	Brochures/signs	\$99	5						
Brad	Auto Tour-Turnup Run	Brochures/signs	\$99	5						
Brad	Boat Access Wildlife Interp Sign		\$99	12						
Brad	Boat Tour-Lily Tract	Brochures/signs	\$99	5						
Brad	Bradford Office	Interactive video info station	\$99	15						x
Brad	Bradford Office	Interp Display upgrade	\$99	10						x
Brad	Construct unmanned info station SR 346		\$99	15	RES					
Brad	Dewdrop playground	Safety matting	\$99	35	RES					

Allegheny National Forest				Evaluation Criteria						
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Brad	Dispersed parking Comp 144	Construct	\$99							
Brad	Dispersed Rec. Areas SST	Install SST	\$99	72						
Brad	Dispersed Site, Comp 144	Improve	\$99							
Brad	Dispersed Site, Comp 120	Improve	\$99							
Brad	Elijah Fishing Pier	Second Pier (Big Rocks)	\$99	70	RES					
Brad	Entrance/exit signs	Replace existing signs	\$99	50						
Brad	Entrance/Exit signs SR 770,59,321	New signs	\$99	40						
Brad	Fish Stocking improvements-Guffey		\$99	5						
Brad	Henry's Mills-Lynch OGM Interp.	construct Interp Material	\$99	2						
Brad	Henry's Mills-Lynch OGM Interp. trail		\$99	16						
Brad	Kiasutha, Dewdrop, Kinzua Beach	Seal water tanks, Replace CL2 BLDG	\$99	15	RES					
Brad	LNSB enhancements (SR 59)	NEPA & design	\$99	8	RES					
Brad	LNSB enhancements (SR 59)	Pulloffs, vistas, signs	\$99	75	RES					
Brad	Longhouse Trailhead improvements	Design	\$99	5	RES					
Brad	Lynch-Kelleetville North Porkys Overlk	Design	\$99	4						
Brad	Lynch-Kelleetville North Porkys Overlk	Construct	\$99	15						
Brad	Lynch-Kelleetville North Porkys Overlk	Construct	\$99	10						
Brad	Messenger Run OGM Interp	Interp - Restore and Interpret	\$99	54	NDA					
Brad	NCT Adirondack Shelters	Boat-To's	\$99	15	NDA					
Brad	NCT construct campsites	Construct	\$99	5	NDA					
Brad	NCT Improve Trailhead & sign, Comp 144		\$99		NDA					
Brad	Radio Station		\$99	15						
Brad	Stateline Wildlife Interp Signs		\$99	5						
Brad	Sugar Bay Wildlife Signs		\$99	5	RES					
Brad	Tidioute Overlook barrier free access	Design	\$99	10	HER					
Brad	Tidioute Overlook barrier free access	Arch Survey	\$99	10	HER					

Allegheny National Forest			Evaluation Criteria							
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Brad	Tionesta Ck Canoe Launches	Build Launches on Ck	S99	40						
Brad	Tionesta Creek Fish Access	NEPA & design	S99	15						
Brad	Tionesta Creek Fish Access	Trails, Boulders, Camps	S99	35				x		
Brad	Tionesta Creek Fish Access	Parking lots	S99	20				x		
Brad	Twin Lakes Paths group sites	Design	S99	5	HER					
Marn	Deferred maint - culverts	at dev rec sites and trails	S99	3.5		x				
Marn	Deferred Maint - Signing	at dev rec sites and trails	S99	10		x				
Marn	SST repairs	Romtecs: FR 395 and Laurel Mill THs	S99			x				
Marn	ATV trailhead improvements	Pigs Ear SST, FR 401 expansion & SST	S99		ATV					
Marn	Beaver Meadows lake rehab	dredge, lime, stock	S99	100						
Marn	Brush Hollow Interp	Interp Sign/Brochure	S99	7						
Marn	Dump Stations - Loleta & Beaver Meadows		S99							
Marn	FR 131 Kelly Pines to Log Run	Interpretive Signing	S99	15						
Marn	Loleta - add more showers	Add 2 showers in bathhouse	S99	11	HER					
Marn	Marn ATV Trailhead improvements	Toilet, Surface, Parking	S99	20	ATV				x	
Marn	Owls Nest Access fish area	acc tr,vista,parking lot,	S99	65					x	
Marn	Portal Sign	Along Rt66 N of RgrSta	S99	12						
Brad	Rocky Gap ATV Trail	Phase 3: relocation and rehab	T00	80	ATV				x	
Marn	Marienville Bike Trail	Penoke boardwalk reconstruction	T00	105	ATV	x		x		
Marn	ASL - Nystrom Farm Rehab	Surfacing and culverts	T00	15						
Brad	Willow Creek ATV Trail Expansion	NEPA-EIS	T01	250	ATV					
Brad	Willow Creek ATV Trail Expansion	Design	T01	150	ATV					
Brad	Willow Creek ATV Trail Expansion	Const	T01	650	ATV					
Brad	Willow Creek ATV Trail Expansion	Const	T01	650	ATV					
Marn	Marienville ATV Trail	FR 401 trail and trailhead rehab	T01	65	ATV	x		x		
Forest	ATV Trailhead paving	Marienville ATV main, and Rocky Gap	T02	120	ATV		x			
Brad	ASL Sheffield Connector	NEPA, construction, admin	T03							

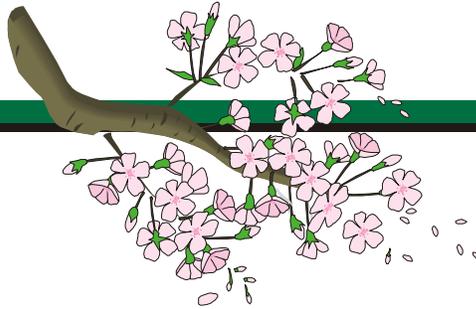
Allegheny National Forest				Evaluation Criteria						
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Marn	Timberline ATV Reconstruction	Surfacing, relocation of roads	T04	467	ATV	x		x		
Marn	Twin Lakes Trail	Replace suspension br-SB Tionesta Ck	T07	50		x	x			
Marn	Buzzard Swamp Trail Surfacing	0.8 miles commercial surfacing	T08							
Forest	NCT - Kelleitville relocation	Remove trail on roads	T09		NDA					
Brad	Deerlick Ski Trail	Trl Rehab+Constr, Trl Hd	T99	15		x				
Brad	Deerlick Ski Trail	Parking Lot	T99	15		x				
Brad	Longhouse Interp Trail	Rehab Design/Construction	T99			x				
Brad	AROA Old Growth Interp Trail	Design	T99	2						
Brad	AROA Old Growth Interp Trail	Trail construction, signing	T99	10						
Brad	ASL Con - Redbridge Connec Rehab	Reconst. for grooming	T99							
Brad	ASL Con - Slaven's Country Store	New Trail Connector	T99	7						
Brad	Bradford Office Interp Trail	Rehab and Interpretation	T99	10						x
Brad	Deerlick Ski Trail	Design	T99	4						
Brad	Duck Ponds Interp Trail	Design	T99	5						
Brad	Duck Ponds Interp Trail	Parking lot construction	T99	8						
Brad	Duck Ponds Interp Trail	Trail construction, signing	T99	14						
Brad	Easy Access Fishing Trail - SR 346	Design	T99	2						
Brad	Easy Access Fishing Trail - ALLEG RIVER	Trail construction, signing	T99	7	NDA					
Brad	Easy Access Fishing Trail - SR 346	Trail construction, signing	T99	12						
Brad	Easy Access Fishing Trail -ALLEG RIVER	Design	T99	1	NDA					
Brad	Henry's Mills-Lynch NCT Overlk	construction Overlook	T99	6	NDA					
Brad	Henry's Mills-Lynch Overlook & Trail	Design	T99	2	NDA					
Brad	Henry's Mills-Lynch Parking lot	construct Parking Lot	T99	10	NDA					
Brad	Henry's Mills-Lynch Trl Overlk	construct Trail to Overlk	T99	5	NDA					
Brad	Horse Trail		T99	10						

Allegheny National Forest			Evaluation Criteria							
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Brad	Interp Trail - Bent Run	Design	T99	1						
Brad	Interp Trail - Bent Run	Trail construction, signing	T99	10						
Brad	LNSB Trails	FR 262-Longhouse Sc Byway	T99	16	NDA					
Brad	LNSB Trails	Trail construction	T99	60	NDA					
Brad	LNSB Trails	Parking Lot construction	T99	18	NDA					
Brad	Lynch-Kellettville North - Trail to Ovrk	Construct Trail	T99	2						
Brad	NCT Reservoir Relocation	Design	T99	10	NDA					
Brad	NCT Reservoir Relocation	Resurface parking lots	T99	9	NDA					
Brad	NCT Reservoir Relocation	Tr Const-Sug to Chap Bay	T99	96	NDA					
Brad	NRA Trail Phase II	Design Ski/Connector	T99	5	NDA					
Brad	NRA Trail Phase II	Construction ski/Connector	T99	30	NDA					
Brad	Queen Creek FR 209 crossing	Connects FR209 + 119	T99	70						
Brad	Queen Creek loop trail		T99	12						
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Big Rock	Design	T99	2	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Big Rock	Trail construction, signing	T99	20	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Chappel Bay	Design	T99	5	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Chappel Bay	Trail construction, signing	T99	45	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Kiasutha	Design	T99	2	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Kiasutha	Trail construction, signing	T99	15	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Redbridge	Design	T99	2	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Redbridge	Trail construction, signing	T99	20	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Redbridge Bank	Design	T99	2	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Sugar Bay	Design	T99	4	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Sugar bay	Trail construction, signing	T99	35	RES					
Brad	Shoreline Fishing Trail - Willow Bay	Design	T99	4	RES					
Brad	SR 337 TO 2 ALT. PED. TRL		T99	40						

Allegheny National Forest										
District	Facility Name	Project Description	Pri	Total M\$	Niche	Deferred Maint	Health & Safety	Resource Protection	Access	Interp Plan
Brad	Tionesta Scenic Area	Design(PRIOR 2-BRAD)	T99	10	NDA					
Brad	Tionesta Scenic Area	Trail and Signing	T99	18	NDA					
Brad	Tionesta Scenic Area	Parking	T99	12	NDA					
Brad	Windfall Run ATV Trail	Design	T99	22	ATV					
Brad	Windfall Run ATV Trail	Parking Lot Construction	T99	19	ATV					
Brad	Windfall Run ATV Trail	Trail Construction	T99	92	ATV					
Marn	ASL - Duhring Reconstruction	Surface and drainage on RR grade	T99	61		x		x		
Marn	ASL Con 11 - Job Corp-Greely Farm Rehab	Reconst. for grooming	T99							
Marn	Buzzard Swamp Interp	Interp signs	T99	50						x
Marn	Horse Trail Construction	Duhring Area, designate exist routes	T99	100				x		
Marn	Lonesome Whistle X-Country Ski	Rehab RR grade:	T99	27						
Marn	OGM-Earthworks Interp Trail	Design & Construction	T99	20						
Marn	Ridg Reservoir Fishing Access	pkg off FR 349, Tr to Res	T99	103						
Marn	Twin Lakes Trail Loop	leg to connect NCT and TLT	T99							
	GRAND TOTAL M\$			###						



Appendix C



2002 Recreation Objective Spreadsheet

Report	FY 2002 Recreation Objectives (excerpt from FY 2002 Forest Objectives February 24, 2002)	Status	Bradford	M/ville	S.O.	Rec Strategy Recommended Actions*1	Interpretive Plan
	The Forest Objective Spreadsheet is the annual action plan to implement the Forest Plan and ANF Recreation Strategy. The last two columns have been added to Recreation Team's version to track the planning and accomplishment of the Recreation Strategy. The strategies and actions items have been numbered and coded as to whether they are a common strategy or an strategy within one of the niche areas of the Forest. See footnote for key to codes.						
	FOREST PRIORITIES:						
	.....Existing obligations (Cong earmarks, contract & sale admin)						
	.....3-year Vegetation Mgmt program						
	.....Steps for Plan Revision (ENRIS, GIS, Inv & Monitoring etc)						
	.....Recreation Strategy development & implementation					X	
	.....GENERAL						
	RURAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES:						
Hedman	... Facilitate implementing all approved Economic Recovery projects	GO	X	X	X		
Hedman	.....Facilitate Visitor Information Services	GO			X	C9, C10, C16	
Hedman	..... Hunting & Fishing Museum, RC&D, Warren Cty Visitor Center				X	C6, C7, C16	X
	UPDATE INFRA DATA						
Hinz	.....Coordinate INFRA	GO	X	X	X	C14, C17	
Kandare	.....Heritage (migrate site info)	GO	X	X	X	C14, C17	
Brenda	.....Recreation (migrate trails, gen forest area from Mean Measures)	GO	X	X	X	C14, C17	
Irvine	.....Special Use Permits (per Meaningful Measures)	GO	X	X	X	C14, C17	

Report	FY 2002 Recreation Objectives (excerpt from FY 2002 Forest Objectives February 24, 2002)	Status	Bradford	M/ville	S.O.	Rec Strategy Recommended Actions*1	Interpretive Plan
	-----INVENTORY AND MONITORING-----						
Kell	.....Human Dimension (prepare for new data AND train)	GO	X	X	X	C13	
Kell	REC & TOURISM SURVEY -- Economic survey with PSU/Strauss	GO			1	C13	
	-----HERITAGE -----						
District	SITES EVALUATED -- for National Register Nominations	GO	1	10			
	... Buckaloons Heritage District	GO	1				
	... Contract to evaluate new PGE package sites	GO	X	10			
	SITES INTERPRETED	GO					
District	... Buckaloons and Indian Valley field schools	GO	3	2		C6	
District	... Mam office site (interpretive displays)	GO		X	X	C6	X
District	..... Use Forest Interpretive Plan to identify other sites	GO	X	X	X	C6	X
District	SITES PRESERVED AND PROTECTED	GO					
Kandare	.....remove woody vegetation at Irvine Flats; plant soft vegetation	GO	TBD				
Kandare	.....Install gates on roads to protect sites	GO	TBD	TBD			
Kandare	PROJECT LEVEL INVENTORY	GO	TBD	TBD			
	PARTNERSHIPS:						
Kandare	... Lumber Heritage Region (help w/ plans for interpretation)	GO			X	C6, HER5	X
Kandare	... Mercyhurst Arch Inst, PHMC, UP-B, Clarion Univ (field schools)	GO	X	X	X		
Kandare	.....Oil Heritage Region/Venango Museum (historical iron furnace)	GO		X	X	C6, HER5	X
Kandare	.....G.Blaisdell school (educational programs)	GO	X	X	X		
Kandare	.....New Castle CCC (sign somewhere and programs with Schultz)	GO	X	X	X	C6, HER5	X

Report	FY 2002 Recreation Objectives (excerpt from FY 2002 Forest Objectives February 24, 2002)	Status	Bradford	M/ville	S.O.	Rec Strategy Recommended Actions*1	Interpretive Plan
	-----RECREATION-----						
C. Burd/ Hedman	VISITOR SERVICES -- Operate Tionesta Service Center and KPIC	GO	X	X	X	C7, C10, C16	X
Districts	MEANINGFUL MEASURES:	GO	X	X	X		
Districts	.....level data for general forest areas and trails	GO	X	X	X	C17	
District	.....complete 20% of condition surveys	GO	X			C14	
Kell	INTERPRETIVE PLAN -- finish and implement	GO	X	X	X	C6	X
Kell	FOREST RECREATION STRATEGY -- finish and implement	GO	X	X	X		
	REC FEE DEMO:						
District	.....Implement fees at Boat-to Campgrounds	GO	X		X	C3,	
District	.....Implement fees at ATV trails	GO	X	X	X	C3, ATV2	
Schultz	FEDERAL LAKES DEMO -- Develop plan outlining ANF participation	GO	X			AR4	
	WILD AND SCENIC RIVER MGMT:						
District	... Comment on permit requests for DEP and COE	GO	X	X	X		
District	... Initiate Water Trail program on Clarion with PA Fish & Boat Comm	GO		X	X	C16	X
District	... Work w/ River Support Group and Allegheny Riv Watrshd Network	GO	X	X	X	NDA2 & 4, C3	
	WILDERNESS IMPLEMENTATION						
Hille	... Initiate development of Class II airshed monitoring program	GO	X			NDA4	
Hille	.....Work w/ Clarion to develop exotic plant mgmt plan for Islands	GO	X			NDA4	
Hille	.....Wilderness covered by Approved Fire Plan	GO	TBD				
Hille	.....Annual Wilderness and Leave No Trace education contacts	GO	TBD				
Hille	.....Wilderness meets FLMP standard for Physical/social conditions	GO	TBD				

Report	FY 2002 Recreation Objectives (excerpt from FY 2002 Forest Objectives February 24, 2002)	Status	Bradford	M/ville	S.O.	Rec Strategy Recommended Actions*1	Interpretive Plan
District	REC SPECIAL USE PERMITS -- administer permits.....Campground concessionaires, marina, Tour de Forest	GO	TBD	TBD			
District	.....Rec cabins	GO	TBD	TBD			
	REC SPECIAL USE PERMITS -- NEPA analysis						
District	.....Camp Tionesta Boy Scouts of America	GO		X			
District	.....Appaloosa Horse Club	GO		X			
District	.....Tour de Forest	GO		X			
District	TOTAL VISITS -- developed & dispersed rec use (# M- visits)	GO	TBD	TBD			
District	CAPACITY -- PAOT capacity at dev rec sites	GO	TBD	TBD			
District	... Developed rec Fee sites		13	2			
District	... Developed rec NON-fee sites		22	16			
	TRAIL MILES: total miles in system						
Districts	... Recreation trails (total miles open for use)	GO	324	321			
Districts	... Wilderness trails	GO	11	0			
Districts	TRAIL MTCE (miles)	GO					
Conn	.....Administer 4 state-funded contracts (heavy, light mtce)	GO	X	X	X	C3	
Clymer	.....Groom snowmobile trail	GO	X	X	X	C3	
Hosmer	TRAIL GRANTS -- Prepare and submit NRTFA Grants	GO			X	C3	
	TRAILS -- CONSTRUCT/RECONSTRUCT: projects: # miles	TOTAL					

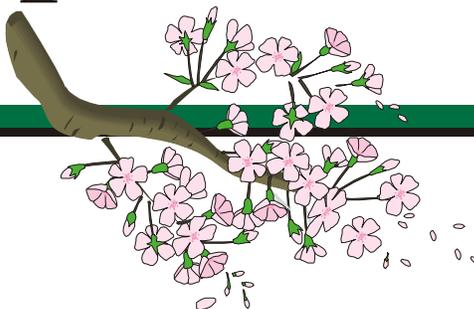
Report	FY 2002 Recreation Objectives (excerpt from FY 2002 Forest Objectives February 24, 2002)	Status	Bradford	M/ville	S.O.	Rec Strategy Recommended Actions*1	Interpretive Plan
District	... ATV - Timberline Deferred Mtn (Phase I)	GO		14		C1,2 &3	
District	... ATV - Rocky Gap Phase III Construction	GO	TBD			C1,2 &3	
District	.....ATV - Marn Bike Trail Phase 3 (Penoke boardwalk)	GO		TBD		C1,2 &3	
District	.....ASL - Nystrom	GO		TBD		C1,2, &3	
District	.....Pave parking lots at Rocky Gap and Marn ATV (CMRD)	GO		X	X	C1,2, &3	
District	.....Marn Bike Trail Hill Climb	GO		X	X	C1,2, &3	
	TRAILS - NEPA analysis (CMTL)						
District	.....Kelly Pines rehab	GO		X		C1,2, &3	
District	... Twin Lakes Bridge/Trail relocation	DEFER		X			
District	.....Kelletville Reroute of NCT	DEFER		X			
Moyer	.....Sheffield ASL connector	DEFER	X				
Moyer	.....Tionesta ASL Connector	DEFER	X				
District	.....Willow Creek ATV trail -- data collection ONLY	GO	X			C1,2 &3	
	TRAILS -- DESIGN for FUTURE TRAIL REHAB (CMTL)						
District	.....ATV -- Marn ATV rehab	GO		TBD		C1,2, &3	
	REC -- CONSTRUCTION & DEFERRED MTCE CONST:						
District	... Red Bridge Rehab -- prepare contract for 03 award (EARMARK)	GO	X		X	AR1, C1,2, &3	
District	... Implement Business plan projects for Buckaloons, Minister, Beaver Meadows, Loleta (EARMARK)	GO	X	X	X	C1&2; C15	
District	... Forest-wide SSTs (CMFC) at 6 sites -- EARMARK	GO	X	X	X	C1&2, C15	
District	... Boat-to rehab at Hooks Brooks, Handsome Lake, Hopewell	GO	X		X	AR1, C1&2	
Stubbe	...Complete Willow Bay landscaping	GO	X		X	AR1, C1&2	
District	.....Kelly Pines rehab	GO		X	X	C1&2, C15	
District	.....Marn office interpretive display	DROP		X	X	C16, C6, C10	
District	.....Birdsell Eddy coop with Girl Scouts	GO	X		X	C1,2, &3; C15	
District	.....Buckaloons (start Sept 2002)	GO	X		X	C1,2, &3; C15	

Report	FY 2002 Recreation Objectives (excerpt from FY 2002 Forest Objectives February 24, 2002)	Status	Bradford	M/ville	S.O.	Rec Strategy Recommended Actions*1	Interpretive Plan
District	REC -- SMALL SCALE MTCE PROJECTS (CMFC): Repair Irwin Run canoe launch	GO		X	X	C1&2	
Ent Team	REC -- NEPA analysis (in priority order by District): Red Bridge Rehab	GO	X			C1&2	
Moyer	.....Buckaloons	GO	X			C1&2	
Moyer	..... Kiasutha Rehab	GO	X			C1&2	
Moyer	..... Vista Maintenance	GO	X			C1&2	
Hille	..... Human waste mgmt on Allegheny Islands	DROP	X				
District	.....Webbs Ferry Courtesy Dock	GO	X			C1&2	
	REC -- DESIGN FUTURE CAP IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CMFC)						
Porter	... Red Bridge rehab	GO	X		X	C1&2; C15	
Porter	.....Buckaloons Shower/ parking lot expansion	GO	X		X	C1&2; C15	
District	.....Marn office interpretive display (contract?)	??		X	X	C1&2	
District	.....Birdsall Eddy (with Girl Scouts)	GO	X		X	C1&2	
	--- 10% ROADS/TRAILS (watershed related) ---						
	NEPA for 10% projects						
Moyer	..... Upper Sheriff Bridge/Trail relocation	GO	X				
	ROADS:						
Salm	.....administer the Farnsworth contract	GO			X		
Salm	.....FR 449/209	GO				RBD1	
Salm	.....Pave timber bridges' decks	GO	X	X			

Report	FY 2002 Recreation Objectives (excerpt from FY 2002 Forest Objectives February 24, 2002)	Status	Bradford	M/ville	S.O.	Rec Strategy Recommended Actions*1	Interpretive Plan
	TRAILS:						
Salm	.....Buzzard Swamp Trails	GO	X		X	C1,2, &3	
Salm	....Upper Sheriff NCT Bridge	GO	X	X	X	C1,2, &3	
	-----ROADS/FACILITIES-----						
Porter	... Remove buildings at Camp Cornplanter	GO	X		X	C1,2, &3	



Appendix D



*Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities,
and Threats (SWOT's) Analysis*

Nationally Designated Trails, Rivers and Areas Niche

The Allegheny National Forest provides a special opportunity to visit nationally designated trails, rivers, Wilderness, recreation areas, and special places.

The Allegheny National Forest has a number of specially designated areas with National significance that attract visitors. Some of these unique settings include the Hickory Creek Wilderness, the Allegheny and Clarion Wild and Scenic Rivers, the Hearts Content and Tionesta Old Growth Forests, the Allegheny National Recreation Area, and the North Country National Scenic Trail (NCT).

Wilderness is a place where solitude and unconfined recreation are found in a nonmotorized natural setting. The 8,663 acres in the Hickory Creek Wilderness and seven islands of 368 acres in the Allegheny River Islands Wilderness are the only designated wilderness areas in the state of Pennsylvania. Wild and Scenic River status was given to two rivers that form a natural boundary for the national forest. In 1992, 86.6 miles of the Allegheny River were designated, and in 1996, 52 miles of the Clarion River were awarded this special status.

The Allegheny and the Clarion Rivers provide a similar range of recreation opportunities. The Allegheny has a broad river valley that is largely undeveloped with a number of homes and cottages interspersed. The Clarion lies in a narrow valley and the enclosed landscape is mostly undeveloped. Water-based activities such as canoeing, fishing as well as scenic driving are the focus for forest visitors and residents alike. These two rivers, forming a natural border along three sides of the Forest, provide habitat for many species of fish and wildlife including some threatened and endangered species.

A variety of activities abound in the 23,000 acre Allegheny National Recreation Area found in 3 parcels two along the Allegheny Reservoir and one along the Allegheny River.

Old growth forest remnants are found in two locations: Heart's Content National Scenic Area is 122 acres and Tionesta National Scenic Area is 2,018 acres. These shade tolerant forests of American beech and eastern hemlock are typical of those found in Pennsylvania before European settlement. A portion of the North Country National Scenic Trail is routed through the Tionesta National Scenic Area. The 96.3 mile segment of hiking trail through the Allegheny National Forest will eventually be part of the 4,600 miles of trail planned through seven states linking state parks, forests, and wildlife areas.

Old Growth Forest – (Hearts Content Scenic Area & Tionesta Scenic Area)

Strengths:

- Included in State Old Growth Tour planned by Don Gibbon
- Trails in both scenic areas are in fair-good condition and well designed
- Tionesta Scenic Area (TSA) - Largest acreage of old growth forest in the east (2,018 Acres)
- Tionesta Scenic Area - Best example of hemlock/beechn climax forest as it appeared throughout PA pre-European settlement
- Tionesta Scenic Area - Adjacent National Research Area and associated benefits
- NCT travels through TSA
- Hearts Content Scenic Area has good access
- Hearts Content Scenic Area has good support facilities (parking, shelters, water, restrooms, accessible, short interpretive trail)

Weaknesses:

- Tionesta Scenic Area - difficult car access from US Route 6, or SR 66 (gravel roads with poor signing, bad in spring)
- Tionesta Scenic Area - lack of signing, parking, and entrance you are here
- Tionesta Scenic Area – costly to maintain because of remoteness
- Tionesta Scenic Area – lack of Forest Service presence
- Tionesta Scenic Area – there are no support and/or interpretive facilities
- Hearts Content Scenic Area – day use area is confusing because of variety of different programs offered at site (Wilderness trailhead, XC skiing, picnicking, interpretive trail loop)
- Hearts Content Scenic Area is 15 miles from main access route (US Route 6)
- Large amount of hazard trees (dying old growth) along trails

Opportunities:

- Link in with State Initiatives – US Route 6 and Lumber Heritage Region
- Develop better interpretive messages
- Provide more first person interpretation
- Market to eco-tours, TPA's, and bus tours

Threats:

- Recreation use could threaten ecology (fire, soil erosion, etc.)
- Forest health
- Tionesta Scenic Area - vandalism and difficult access for management

Wilderness – (Hickory Creek & Allegheny River Islands)

Strengths:

- Only nationally designated wilderness areas in PA
- FS provides wilderness education through wilderness ranger
- Wilderness islands are unique
- Undeveloped, semi-primitive experience
- Minerals in public ownership
- Allegheny Islands - W & S River status
- Allegheny Islands – easy access by canoe
- Allegheny Islands – scenic, undeveloped shoreline
- Allegheny Islands – unique vegetation
- Hickory Creek – gentle terrain, easy to hike
- Hickory Creek – easy access to trailhead

Weaknesses:

- Lack of personnel time to monitor and manage appropriately
- Some campsites overused
- Allegheny Islands – human waste problem at high use sites
- Hickory Creek - people not informed about wilderness ethics, do not have skills required
- Hickory Creek – illegal ATV and mountain bike on edges of Wilderness

Opportunities:

- Increase wilderness education (Leave No Trace)
- Increase FS presence and visitor contacts
- Provide composting toilets at high use sites in the back-country
- Permit more outfitter/guide opportunities, provide LNT training for all O/Gs
- Prepare a checklist to help folks prepare for their wilderness trip

Threats:

- Overuse of some sites threatens wilderness character
- Noxious weeds
- Threatened and endangered species may threaten recreation use at specific sites

Allegheny National Wild and Scenic River

Strengths:

- Beautiful large river
- Forested hillsides/steep slopes (varying landscapes)
- Diversity of scenic attractions
- Provides great canoeing suitable for novices and the whole family
- Good game fishing
- Plentiful wildlife – eagles, T&E mussels
- Provide good opportunity to view and hunt migratory waterfowl

- High water quality
- Private developed and undeveloped shoreline
- Scattered access points with limited facilities
- Historic context with many historic sites – Native Americans
- Wilderness and non-wilderness islands (publicly and privately owned)
- Some dispersed shoreline island camping opportunities in the northern section of the river
- Southern section of the river is more sinuous with focal views
- Outfitter/guides providing boats, pickup, delivery and guide services
- Developed camping facilities at Buckaloons and at some private camps and lodges downstream
- Designation of the Allegheny River Water Trail in cooperation with PA Fish & Boat Commission to emphasize low impact use along with other useful information in a river trail guide and map
- High partnership/public interest potential
- Big Bend and Buckaloons boat launches have lighted paved parking, hardened ramps into the water and flush toilets available. Warren Hospital and Betts Park have flush toilets available.
- A new access point is currently being constructed in downtown Warren at the Island River Park
- Many picnic facilities with tables and grills (Big Bend, Warren Hospital, Betts Park, Buckaloons, Tidioute, Tionesta). Pavilions are provided at Warren Hospital and Betts Park
- Picnic facilities are spacious and usually not crowded and most often associated with another facility
- Birdsell Eddy Girl Scout Camp is historically significant (CCC construction)
- Girl Scout Camp provides youth and community activities
- Girl Scout Camp provides year round outdoor education and interpretive opportunities

Weaknesses:

- Fluctuating water levels
- Cloudy, rainy weather
- Limited public access points with few facilities/services
- Conflicting uses between motorized and nonmotorized boaters (canoes and rowboats verses jet boats and jet skis)
- Limited developed public camping opportunities available (very few private campgrounds, cabins or lodges)
- Need to identify or sign areas open to public camping
- No mileage markers – users don't know where they are
- Interspersion of private development with undeveloped areas – 73% of shoreline is rural residential setting

- Limited information and directional signing (new river brochure out soon)
- Limited interpretive and educational signing
- Limited authoritative presence (little to no Forest Service and/or PA Fish & Boat Commission presence)
- Limited boat motor repair services
- No courtesy docks and or fishing piers available at launches
- Limited access points – more are needed at strategic intervals along the river (refer to the Allegheny River Management Plan for specific points)
- Some existing access points have limited parking, limited hardened ramps and no restrooms or river information available
- Boat launches need to be named/identified to river users. Map names should appear at launches
- Poor security
- No fees charged (except at PA Fish & Boat Commission sites)
- Some Girl Scout Camp buildings and facilities are dated and need of repair and modernizing

Opportunities:

- Coordinate visitor services – TPAs, Chamber of Commerce
- Coordinate emergency response services (fire, water rescue) – Allegheny Water Safety Council
- Improve marketing of services provided for Wild & Scenic River users (O/Gs, TPAs, Hunting & Fishing Museum, private service providers – boats, boat repair, gas, food, lodging. Marketing of the Allegheny River Trail
- Place mile markers in river and names of launch sites so river users know where they are
- Develop/improve railroad grade for trail use. Connect to rail-trail in Oil City and north to Warren.
- Provide interpretive boat/float trips through Outfitter/Guides
- Increased number of facilities and services provided by private sector as outlined in the Allegheny River Management Plan (more developed access opportunities & services)
- Develop landowner guide for landowners in river corridor. Guide should encourage good land stewardship practices, riparian corridor protection, and visual quality conservation when building or adding on to improvements.
- Provide courtesy docks and piers at launches
- Increased number of facilities and services provided by private sector as outlined in the Allegheny River Management Plan (more developed access opportunities & services)
- Improve security at launches
- Coordinate signing program for river users

- Add pavilions at Big Bend, Buckaloons, Tidioute and Tionesta
- Secure grant and private funding to repair and modernize buildings at Girl Scout Camp

Threats:

- Restrictions possible as a result of T&E species (mussels) – closures of sections of the river
- Complexity of NEPA planning limits facility improvement/change
- Unfunded facility improvements
- Uncontrolled development of private lands in a manner that is out of character with the river corridor, or potentially threatening unique river values.

Clarion National Wild and Scenic River

Strengths:

- Forested hillsides/steep slopes
- Good wildlife viewing opportunities – eagles, deer, turkey, bear
- Good fishing (trout and bass)
- Mostly undeveloped corridor with a lot of public lands (65%+)
- Private developments are small and widely interspersed providing high quality opportunities for relatively remote canoeing experiences (scenic classified segments).
- Many outfitter/guides providing boats, pickup, delivery and guide services
- Irwin Run – Forest Service developed boat launch (hardened ramp, SST, information and hardened parking)
- Designated Wild and Scenic River
- High partnership interest and involvement (Clarion River Basin Commission, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Magic Forest, PA State Parks)
- Two State Parks (Cook Forest and Clear Creek) with high quality features
- Many historic sites present
- Plentiful public access points (Love’s, Portland Mills, Arroyo, Irwin Run, Hallton, Millstone, Dark Hollow, Maple Creek, Cook Forest)
- Plentiful private outfitters located both on and off river that will pick up and deliver to river entry/exit points that provide services (food, gas, telephone, etc.)

Weaknesses:

- Cloudy, rainy weather
- Low water levels in summer
- Limited number of developed/improved public access points
- Limited quality facilities at access points – not much parking, limited restrooms, few services

- No security, no lighting at access points
- Few services along river (food, lodging, gas, etc.)
- Forest Service dispersed camping not easily identified. Public land not signed.
- No camping is allowed on state game lands which is inconsistent with Forest Service policy for no apparent reason to users.
- From Irwin Run to Cooksburg, limited dispersed and developed camping opportunities available on public land (flat land is in private ownership)
- Limited information and directional signing available
- Limited interpretive and education signing available
- Limited authoritative presence (little to no Forest Service and/or PA Fish & Boat Commission presence)
- No River Management Plan
- Lack of environmental ethics in some users (boom boxes, trash, obnoxious behavior both from river users and shoreline users)

Opportunities:

- The Clarion River Management Plan along with a greenway plan is underway (Western Pennsylvania Conservancy).
- The Clarion River Management Plan may identify more public access points with quality facilities and services (docks, restrooms, increased and hardened parking)
- Coordinate visitor services – TPAs, (service providers)
- Coordinate emergency response services (fire, water rescue) – Develop Water Safety Council
- Provide interpretative float/boat trips through Outfitter/Guides
- Increase number and quality facilities and services provided by private sector
- Increase Forest Service and PA Fish & Boat Commission Presence on the river
- Designate as a PA Water Trail in cooperation with PA Fish & Boat Commission to emphasize low impact use along with other useful information in a river trail guide and map.
- Educate and inform users on environmental ethics

Threats:

- Weekend overuse (crowded waters) in Cook Forest area
- Limited management of shoreline users (vehicle access) and potential for vandalism
- Complexity of NEPA planning limits facility improvement/change
- Unfunded facility improvements

Longhouse Scenic Byway
See Allegheny Reservoir Niche

National Recreation Area

Strengths:

- Large undeveloped areas that provide a semi-primitive experience
- Good state highway access to both NRAs
- Allegheny Reservoir NRA – good trail access. Provides loop opportunities and access to shoreline of Allegheny Reservoir
- Allegheny Reservoir NRA - Boat access camping opportunities
- Allegheny Reservoir NRA - Boat access camping is in high demand and sites are heavily used

Weaknesses:

- Lack a theme /identity for these areas
- Lack of brochure/printed media on NRAs
- High maintenance costs for boat access campgrounds
- Allegheny Front NRA - Limited trail opportunities

Opportunities:

- Develop NRA management plan
- Develop brochure on NRAs and recreation opportunities
- Implement fee demo at boat access campground
- Expand boat access sites
- Expand trail system on the Allegheny Front NRA

Threats:

- Overuse of boat-to sites may threaten natural character

Kane Experimental Forest

Strengths:

- Research has an educational benefit
- Semi-primitive setting, remote

Weaknesses:

- Remote, not easily access via improved roads

Opportunities:

- Interpretation

Threats:

- Forest health
- Disturbance of research by recreationists
- Vandalism

Nationally Designated Trails (North Country Trail & Black Cherry National Recreation Interpretive Trail)

Strengths:

- National designated trails
- Abundant wildlife
- Easy-moderate level of difficulty
- NCT - NPS is lead agency to manage the entire trail network
- NCT travels through a variety of landscapes
- NCT - travels through special areas such as the NRA, TSA, and is near US Route 6
- Black Cherry Trail is adjacent to Twin Lakes Recreation Area and gets heavy use

Weaknesses:

- Inadequate funding to manage trails to standard
- NCT – few loop opportunities
- NCT – poor trail design/layout in places
- NCT – inconsistent application of forest management mitigation measures across forest
- NCT - lack of improved trailheads
- NCT – lack of interpretation
- NCT – no signs that tell story of national significance and scope of trail
- NCT – not marked to national standard
- Black Cherry Trail – not unique or of national significance
- Black Cherry Trail – no significant resources for interpretation

Opportunities:

- Work with partners on NCT– NCTA, NPS, State chapters, etc.
- Improve layout of trail and eliminate travel on roads
- Un-designate Black Cherry Trail as a “National Interpretive Trail”
- NCT - Develop shelters and camping areas at regular intervals along trail
- Market NCT
- NCT – reroute trail closer to Allegheny Reservoir from Sugar bay to Chappel Fork
- NCT – replace Upper Sheriff Bridge
- NCT – improve stream crossings
- NCT – develop forestwide mitigation measures

Threats:

- NCT - OGM development has affected scenic quality and sense of remoteness along trail

Allegheny Reservoir Niche

The Allegheny National Forest provides water based outdoor recreation with an emphasis on activities and sites around the Allegheny Reservoir.

The Allegheny National Forest has an extensive network of water-based recreation opportunities in a largely undeveloped forested setting. The Allegheny Reservoir is the most significant water-based recreation resource with 12,000-acres of water nestled between undeveloped forested hillsides. Its natural character draws people year-round to enjoy scenic driving, motor boating, and fishing as well as viewing wildlife.

Allegheny Reservoir (General)

Strengths:

- Forested hillsides/steep slopes
- Undeveloped shoreline
- Large body of clean water
- Reservoir not crowded (underutilized)
- Good game fishing – shallow and deep water opportunities
- Scenic attractions, vistas
- Plentiful wildlife – eagles
- Dam
- Example of geology
- Complementary recreation facilities around shoreline
- Historic context – Native Americans, reservoir development
- Good snow for winter activities
- Ice fishing
- No shoreline camping outside of developed areas
- Unlimited horsepower – few speed restrictions
- Speed restricted bays for nonmotorized boating opportunities

Weaknesses:

- Fluctuating water levels
- Cloudy, rainy weather
- Cool water temperature (70 degrees)
- Poor scuba diving (limited visibility)
- Reservoir not crowded (under utilization)
- Snakes
- No shoreline camping outside of developed areas
- No camping along scenic byway
- Conflicting uses between motorized and nonmotorized boaters
- No cabins/lodges/hotels on reservoir
- Limited directional signing

Opportunities:

- Coordinate visitor services – Allegheny Water Council/TPAs/Private & other Public Recreation Providers
- Consider a rustic resort
- Improve marketing for campgrounds
- Utilize differential pricing
- Develop partnerships for maintenance and management of facilities
- Improve directional signing

Threats:

- High cost to monitor zebra mussel, infestation possible
- Lack of public support for increased fees
- Complexity of NEPA planning limits facility improvement/change
- Unfunded mandates
- Restrictions possible as a result of T&E species – closures of sections of reservoir, etc.
- Flat budgets
- High maintenance costs, low revenues
- Potential loss of heritage sites due to winter drawdown and fluctuating water levels

Allegheny Reservoir Drive in Campgrounds

Strengths:

- Highly developed recreation sites (showers, flush toilets, electricity, playgrounds)
- Spacious, screened sites
- Variety of sites from walk-in to RV
- Interpretive programs offered through concessionaire
- 24 hour attendants
- Security & law enforcement provided

Weaknesses:

- No group opportunities
- Dated facilities in poor condition and most not accessible to disabled
- Not enough facilities for weekend/holiday use
- Limited number of electric/water/sewer sites
- Uneven distribution of use – underutilized during week & shoulder seasons

Opportunities:

- Improve facilities and offer more quality services
- Expand waterfront camping opportunities
- Add more electric/water/sewer sites
- Use differential pricing to encourage use during mid week & shoulder seasons

Allegheny Reservoir Boat Access Campgrounds

Strengths:

- Unique, remote, semi-primitive motorized experience
- High demand waterfront camping opportunity
- Developed campgrounds with facilities – SST's, water

Weaknesses:

- Stinky toilets
- Poor condition of facilities and not accessible to disabled
- High cost to maintain due to remoteness
- Lack of security and law enforcement
- Difficult to administer due to remoteness and cost

Opportunities:

- Improve facilities and services with institution of fees
- Expand waterfront camping opportunities

Allegheny Reservoir Boat Launches

Strengths:

- Courtesy docks (Kiasutha, Elijah Run, Willow Bay, KWRM)
- Highly developed facilities and services
- Large parking area
- Accessible to disabled
- Lighted
- Fishing piers & hardened shoreline trails
- Supervised – 24 hour attendant
- Security and law enforcement provided

Weaknesses:

- No courtesy docks (Webbs Ferry, Roper Hollow)
- Limited fee compliance
- Difficult to access
- Poor security

Opportunities:

- Increase educational opportunities related to zebra mussel
- Develop more courtesy docks
- Improve security

Allegheny Reservoir Hiking Trails

Strengths:

- Provide water access
- Access to boat-to campground
- Access to overlooks/vistas
- High concentration of trails for variety of uses – day use, backpacking, hunting, skiing

- Good trailheads with parking, SST's, signing
- Variety of terrain, loops, and relatively remote

Weaknesses:

- Not built to standard
- Lack of maintenance
- Lack of security at trailheads

Opportunities:

- Develop designated campsites with shelters
- Improve trailhead signing – information/orientation/ethics
- Improve trail brochures
- Improve interpretation on interpretive trails

Allegheny Reservoir Overlooks/Vistas

Strengths:

- Highly developed along roads – SST's, picnic areas
- Interesting construction of facilities
- Access to rock climbing
- Good views
- Geological history
- Good cross-country skiing and snowmobiling

Weaknesses:

- Lack of maintenance
- High cost of maintenance
- Large amount of road to access overlooks
- No interpretation

Opportunities:

- Maintain clear vistas
- Provide interpretation (Geology & Heritage)
- Provide more vistas

Threats:

- Overgrown, encroaching vegetation limiting views

Allegheny Reservoir Beaches

Strengths:

- Highly developed
- Prime scenic location
- Good access from Scenic Byway
- Good ice fishing access

Weaknesses:

- Concrete beaches
- Lack of pavilions
- Cold water

- Too many buildings to maintain
- Dated treatment plant
- No lifeguards
- High cost to maintain
- Prone to seasonal closures due to high or low reservoir water levels
- Waterfowl (Goose droppings)

Opportunities:

- Consider alternative uses: resort, RV park, cabins, yurts, and pavilions
- Reduce number of current facilities to SST, water
- Identify as a good special event location
- Use differential pricing to encourage use during mid week & shoulder seasons

Threats:

- Crime

Longhouse Scenic Byway

Strengths:

- Good diversity of recreation opportunities (campgrounds, hiking, scenic overlooks, boating, picking, swimming)
- Forested roadside character, natural appearing, mountain laurel, geological formations
- Good road access
- No commercial signing
- Diversity of vegetation along route
- Seasonal scenic variety
- Four season recreation opportunities
- Only Scenic Byway on Forest
- Good views
- Low traffic volume
- A loop route
- Historically significant – KPIC, Kinzua, CCC, Red Bridge, Cornplanter

Weaknesses:

- No scenic byway management plan
- State program limits funding opportunities
- Directional signing is poor
- Lack of marketing
- Not enough vistas or vista maintenance
- Utility corridor crossings very evident
- Lack of wayside exhibits
- Expanding new oil and gas development along route

Opportunities:

- Add interpretive exhibits
- Improve directional signing
- Increase vistas and pullouts
- Develop a theme (OGM, Overview of the Allegheny)
- Develop management plan
- Market byway to eco-tourists, bus tours, TPAs

Threats:

- Potential development on private lands
- OGM activity along drive is impacting the scenic quality
- New and expanded utility corridors
- Cell towers

Allegheny Reservoir Marina:

Strengths:

- The only marina on the reservoir in PA
- Boat rentals (pontoons, rowboat, canoe, houseboat)
- Services – gas, seasonal and transient slips, store, picnic tables
- Flush toilets, hot showers, boat sewage dump station
- Limited boat parts and repair
- Restaurant/alcohol
- Nice view
- Good access via Scenic Byway
- Hosts national and local fishing tournaments
- Good ice fishing access
- 24 hour attendant – security provided

Weaknesses:

- Lack of trailer parking
- No electricity at slips
- Limited parking expansion opportunities
- Seasonal closures due to high or low reservoir water levels

Opportunities:

- Develop boat tours
- Improve docks
- Add electricity to slips
- Improve security

Threats:

- Restrictions possible as a result of T&E species – closures of sections of reservoir, etc.

Allegheny Reservoir Picnic Areas

Strengths:

- Developed with both flush and SST restrooms, grills and tables

- Some are accessible to disabled
- Scenic
- Spacious
- Not crowded
- Usually associated with another facility

Weaknesses:

- No pavilions
- Low use
- Poor weather

Opportunities:

- Add pavilions at Kiasutha, Kinzua Beach
- Improve facilities
- Use differential pricing to encourage use during mid week & shoulder seasons

Boy Scout Camp

Strengths:

- Historically significant
- Provides youth activities
- Provides outdoor education opportunities

Weaknesses:

- Dated facilities

Opportunities:

- Increase partnerships
- Add environmental education/interpretation

KPIC

Strengths:

- Beautiful location
- Flush Restrooms
- Vista
- Public Telephone
- Pop machine
- Unmanned lighted information kiosk
- Interpretive merchandise for sale
- Manned information booth 6 days a week (Memorial Day through Labor Day) with free maps and brochures available
- Good access from Scenic Byway
- Good ice fishing access
- Snowmobile trailhead

Weaknesses:

- Poor design, not welcoming
- Deteriorating building condition – expensive to operate and maintain

- No display space
- Too small for volume of traffic (50,000 RVDs)
- Limited expansion opportunities
- Dated Gary Kell photo collection
- Restroom only available when booth is manned

Opportunities:

- Re-evaluate site: re-design, alternate use, combine with COE – Big Bend, convert to overlook with self-service kiosk, SST, interpretive heritage (Seneca) signing.
- Improve/expand interpretive signing
- Improve trail to lake
- Open weekends during shoulder seasons
- Improve vista

Threats:

- Unstable bank
- Closure due to high cost to maintain

Road Based Dispersed Recreation Niche

The Allegheny National Forest provides a wide diversity of dispersed recreation opportunities in a natural setting that is supported by an extensive public road system.

The extensive system of public roads (over 2000 miles) reaching across the ANF offers endless opportunities for unconfined outdoor recreation experiences to visitors and residents alike. These highly sought after “backyard” recreation opportunities are easily accessible to thousands of recreationists.

Within just a short drive from your campsite, seasonal residence or home are many dispersed recreation opportunities in a natural forested setting. Bird watching, dispersed camping, walking/hiking, hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, gathering forest products, and scenic driving are some of the most popular activities that occur all over the National Forest with few developed facilities needed except for the road that takes you there. Even the forest roads closed to public vehicle traffic provide pathways for those who enjoy non-motorized experiences.

Easy access to an extensive natural forested setting is what attracts recreationists to this area. Scenic stream valleys, vibrant fall colors, and the rolling forested hillsides provide a backdrop to whatever recreational activity you pursue. Over half of the recreation use that occurs on the Allegheny National Forest, known as dispersed use, occurs outside of developed facilities. Opportunities range from areas where solitude and remoteness are important to areas where a more social experience is desired.

Dispersed Recreation Opportunities

Strengths:

- Extensive road network
- Four distinct seasons
- Abundant wildlife
- Scenic streams and water bodies
- Variety of forest products for gathering (mushrooms, princess pine, berries, firewood)
- Good fishing and hunting opportunities
- Good orienteering opportunities
- Infinite variety of walking, XC skiing, snowshoeing, and biking opportunities on open and gated roads, designated trails, and old grades and right-of-ways

- Forested hillsides/gentle – moderate – steep slopes
- Easy road access – short walk to streams
- Range of opportunities from easy access to remote
- Pre-season and in-season stocked fish (scheduled)
- Native trout present
- Most streams are classified by the PA Fish Commission as Cold Water Fisheries, (good clear/clean water)
- Streams are not crowded after the first few days of trout season
- Plenty of dispersed camping opportunities available near streams

Weaknesses:

- Lack of resources to manage dispersed recreation sites. Resource impacts along stream corridors
- Insufficient supply of improved dispersed campsites
- Road conditions in some areas are poor
- Many recreationists want to see more open or closed roads
- Illegal motorized use in many places
- Lack of signing
- Lack of improved parking areas
- Confusing mix of Forest Service and OGM roads
- Some pedestrian trails lack scenic attraction and get low use
- Streams are crowded the first few days of season
- Cloudy, usually cold/wet rainy/snowy weather the first few days of trout season
- No public and very few private cabins/lodges available for nearby housing
- Limited services available via private sector (food, phone, gasoline)

Opportunities:

- Focus more energy on the high use Forest Road corridors. Improve campsites, mitigate resource impacts, and improve signing
- Increase law enforcement patrols to curb illegal uses and inform users
- Provide more information to users on Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly to raise awareness of environmental ethics
- Provide more educational opportunities for visitors to learn about national forest management
- Develop and enhance pedestrian trails by connecting to scenic attractions (rail-trails, rock cities, waterfalls, etc.)
- Coordinate visitor services – TPAs & private service providers (more camping, cabins, lodges, food, bait, gasoline) available early spring into fall (shoulder season)
- Increase services provided early spring into late fall (shoulder season) by keeping ANF facilities open

Threats:

- Controversy on how roads should be managed
- Poor stream water quality from increased oil/gas drilling and acid rain
- Flat budgets – no funds to operate ANF developed and/or dispersed camping areas (high maintenance costs, no revenues)

ATV Trail Riding Niche

The Allegheny National Forest provides a premier trail bike and ATV trail riding opportunity in a natural setting.

Demand for off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails is at an all time high across the United States. There are few legal riding areas in the east even though demand for such opportunities is high. The Allegheny National Forest has offered OHV trails since the late 1970's. The all-terrain vehicle (ATV) was developed in the 1980's but it was not until the mid 1990's that ATV sales in Pennsylvania skyrocketed (Registered ATVs in PA is about 80,000, unregistered exceeds 300,000). Pennsylvania leads the Eastern United States in ATV sales and ranks third nationally. The Allegheny National Forest provides a unique opportunity with 108 miles of ATV/Bike trails. This extensive system of trails provides a broad range of difficulty levels for novice to expert riders. Riders are drawn to this trail system because of the natural forested setting. The trail system is well known nationally with riders coming from as far away as Colorado, Florida, and Texas. However, the majority of users originate from the northeast and Mid-Atlantic States.

ATV Trails

Strengths:

- Marienville and Timberline systems are interconnected providing all difficulty levels for a total of 75 miles
- Marienville ATV - Large trailhead with restroom, water pump and trail info
- Well utilized facilities, high use
- Unique opportunity (developed trails in forested setting) in region
- A range of challenge levels are available from easiest to most difficult
- Trails maintained on a regular schedule
- Strong user support
- Good partnership with state that contributes registration monies to Allegheny National Forest.
- Marienville Bike - Provides a most-difficult trail opportunity that is in demand by expert trail bike and quad users
- Rocky Gap ATV – Provides trail riding opportunity in NW part of ANF
- Willow Creek ATV - Provides trail riding opportunity in NE part of ANF

Weaknesses:

- Insufficient regional supply of ATV trail opportunities leads to overuse of facilities

- Overuse of trails leads to high maintenance costs and potential environmental effects
- Trailheads too small to accommodate weekend use
- Parking overflow along roads creates safety hazards
- Insufficient supply of dispersed campsites near trailheads for trail users
- No connectors to residential areas. Many local residents and campers will ride illegally to access the trail system rather than trailer their ATV/Bike to a trailhead.
- No access to services on trail (gas, lodging, food)
- ATV use off trails near camp villages and to access designated trails
- Lack of FS management and law enforcement presence
- Marienville Bike and Willow Creek ATV - Difficult to maintain tread because some sections were never surfaced (no material to grade)
- Marienville Bike - Difficult access to maintain some sections because there are no nearby roads to bring in equipment
- Marienville Bike - No large, developed trailhead.
- Timberline ATV - High maintenance costs due to many miles of road-trail
- Rocky Gap and Marienville Bike - Many users do not heed the most-difficult challenge level and are overwhelmed. Some users backtrack to trailhead or road creating hazard on this one-way trail
- Rocky Gap ATV - Part of trail system is in an oil field, which increases signing needs, erosion on trail from roads and encourages illegal riding opportunities on lease roads
- Willow Creek ATV - Insufficient amount of trail mileage to meet riders needs
- Willow Creek ATV - Trailhead is small and undeveloped – no easy access from paved highway

Opportunities:

- Expand trail system and trailheads
- Coordinate education campaign to reduce illegal riding, improve rider ethics
- Improve pamphlets and signing.
- Build campground connected to trail system,
- Provide connectors to towns and services
- Collect fees to offset maintenance costs (implement fee demo authority)
- Issue riding permits to limit number of ATVs/bikes on the system in order to maintain the trail surfacing and quality of the experience.
- Marienville Bike - Provide cut-off (a trail back to FR 395 trailhead) at half way mark to provide increased opportunity and a way out for overwhelmed users

Threats:

- Inadequate maintenance over the long term may result in environmental damage.
- Not being able to reduce ATV use off designated trails may threaten future of trail riding
- Continued growth of ATV sales and subsequent increase use on existing trail systems
- With inadequate budgets, the high cost of maintenance and the potential controversy, future expansion on public lands is limited
- Increasing cost of maintenance to protect environmental values
- Environmental damage from illegal use
- Lack of sufficient riding areas in PA
- NEPA process is complicated, time consuming and subject to appeal or lawsuit
- Some internal bias against motorized trails
- Trail bike and competition style riding is punishing to trail tread. May not be able to support this type of opportunity on our wet soils.

Heritage Sites and Stories Niche

The Allegheny National Forest provides unique heritage sites and stories surrounding native peoples and the development of the Allegheny National Forest with an emphasis on natural resource changes over time.

Demand for heritage tourism is growing. Waiting discovery in the Allegheny National Forest are the remnants of past cultures to remind us of the centuries-old relationship between people and the land. Collectively speaking, over 10,000 years of human prehistory and over 200 years of human history are reflected in the over 2,000 heritage resource sites on record with the ANF. Prehistoric sites that are unique to the forest include: Buckaloons, which represents a veritable archaeological time capsule; the Elk County earthwork sites - probably the most enigmatic sites in Pennsylvania; Jakes Rocks and other rock shelter sites which are natural rock formations that were utilized in prehistoric times for shelter; and several Seneca village sites (including Buckaloons) and later several Indian refugee town sites (e.g., Indian Valley). Historically, Buckaloons was where France claimed the Ohio drainage. Later it was burned by American troops during the Revolutionary War.

In the nineteenth century, the forest was at various times the center of the lumber and oil industries. Towns and camps sprang up wherever the railroads choose to go. After making it accessible, the railroads made living here hospitable and profitable. At the turn of the last century, the area was known for its chemical wood factories, its high density of logging railroads, and many tanneries. The historic logging created the Allegheny hardwood forest. It also created a need for a national forest. Soon after the creation of the forest, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was formed and one of the first camps in the nation was located in the ANF. The first pine plantation was planted in the ANF.

In the 1960's the construction of Kinzua Dam destroyed many archaeological sites and displaced the residents of the towns of Corydon and Kinzua as well as Senecas living on the Cornplanter Grant and a part of the Allegany Reservation. These heritage resources hold clues to past ecosystems, add richness and depth to our landscapes, provide links to living traditions, and help transform a beautiful walk in the woods into an unforgettable encounter with history.

Seneca Nation of Indians

Strengths:

- Many recorded sites (rock shelters, Buckaloons, etc.)
- Developing relationship with nearby Seneca Nation of Indians (SNI), Allegheny Reservation
- SNI Museum in nearby Salamanca, NY
- YCC (Youth Conservation Corp) Program with Seneca youth

Weaknesses:

- Discovered sites are not interpreted
- Limited interaction with the Seneca on ANF projects

Opportunities:

- Improve coordination/collaboration with Seneca Tribe on ANF projects
- Consult with the Seneca at Buckaloons and other identified ANF sites with regard to interpretive opportunities
- Improve and increase security of known heritage sites on the forest

Threats:

- Insufficient budgets – information/interpretation is not developed or implemented at any ANF sites
- Pot hunters – vandalism to sites

Oil & Lumber Era

Strengths:

- Many recorded oil sites (Cherry Grove, Jo Jo, Tidioute, Mallory, Powerhouse)
- Many documented industrial sites (camps/railroads/tanneries – Loleta, Irwintown, Westline, Arroyo, Farnsworth)
- Adjacent to the birthplace of oil (Oil City); center of the oil industry in late 19th century.
- Center of the tannery industry in the early 20th century
- Many documented stories of the oil & lumber era

Weaknesses:

- Documented sites are not developed and/or interpreted

Opportunities:

- Develop some documented sites and stories (support facilities, such as, hardened parking, restrooms, informational signing etc.) and hardened trails and interpretive signing/brochure throughout the site for site protection and interpretation.
- Increase and improve security of known heritage sites

Threats:

- Flat budgets – no money for development and/or continued maintenance
- Vandalism

CCC – Civilian Conservation Corp

Strengths:

- Many identified recorded camps and work sites (Lamont, Duhring, Red Bridge, Sugar Run, Bull Hill, Loleta, Twin Lakes)
- Some camp locations have dedicated historical markers
- Many projects from their work sites are still in good condition today (Loleta dam & pavilions, Twin Lakes dam, bathhouse, pavilion, red pine stands are Red Bridge, Twin Lakes, Hearts Content)
- First CCC tree plantings in the United States stills remains on the ANF - Duhring

Weaknesses:

- Many of the CCC sites are not interpreted

Opportunities:

- Interpret documented work sites and stories (Loleta, Twin Lakes, pine plantations, roads)
- Increase and improve security of known heritage sites

Threats:

- Vandalism

Development of the Allegheny National Forest

Strengths:

- Protection of natural and heritage resources by designation of national forest land
- National Forest land managed for multiple resources
- Protection of environmental values (T&E species, historical sites, clean water)
- Opportunities to provide environmental education and interpretation

Weaknesses:

- Lack of adequate funding and resources
- Poor responsiveness to change

Opportunities:

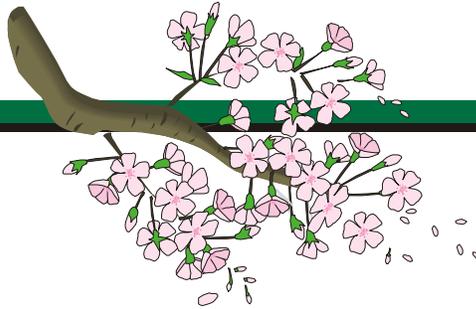
- Make historical photos available to show how Allegheny National Forest has improved natural resources
- Improve recreational services

Threats:

- Controversy from environmental groups



Appendix E



National Recreation Agenda

The Recreation Agenda

FOREST SERVICE

The importance of recreational use as a social force and influence must be recognized and its requirements met. Its potentialities as a service to the American people, as the basis for industry and commerce, as the foundation of the future economic life of many communities, are definite and beyond question.

— ROBERT Y. STUART
Forest Service Chief, 1928-33

VISION

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service will meet the Nation's present and future needs for outdoor recreation in a manner that protects the health, diversity, and productivity of the land.

INTRODUCTION

The USDA Forest Service has significant responsibilities for stewardship of the Nation's forest and grassland resources. The goals and objectives of the USDA Forest Service Strategic Plan will guide future agency actions. The four goals of the Strategic Plan address ecosystem health, multiple benefits to people, scientific and technical assistance, and effective public service. The purpose of the Recreation Agenda is to provide focus for programs and activities we will undertake to meet the recreation-, heritage-, and wilderness-related goals and objectives in our Strategic Plan.

The development of the Recreation Agenda includes ideas, suggestions, and concerns from local and national organizations and individual stakeholders. People are asking for an ever broader spectrum of benefits and services to enrich their outdoor experiences. The Recreation Agenda is an outline for how we will address the needs and expectations of millions of people who use national forests while protecting the health and integrity of the land.

As we head into the new millennium, our challenge is to concentrate on five key areas:

Improve the settings for outdoor recreation.

Improve visitor satisfaction with our facilities and services.

Improve educational opportunities for the public about the values of conservation, land stewardship, and responsible recreation.

Strengthen our relationships with private entities and volunteer-based and nonprofit organizations.

Establish professionally managed partnerships and intergovernmental cooperative efforts.

BACKGROUND

Americans cherish the national forests and grasslands for the values they provide—clean water, clean air, natural scenic beauty, spiritual renewal, important natural resources, protection of rare species, majestic forests, wilderness, a connection with their history, and opportunities for unparalleled outdoor adventure. Recreation visitors want a great deal from their national forests in terms of settings, experiences, facilities, and services; and they will expect even more in the future. Recreation is the fastest growing use on the national forests and grasslands.

The national forests and grasslands offer a diversity of opportunities. We manage 63 percent of the wilderness system in the lower 48 States, and a much larger percentage of backcountry experiences.

The American people have 4,268 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers; 399 wilderness areas in the National Wilderness Preservation System; 133,087 miles of hiking, horse, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) trails, including portions of 6 national scenic trails and 11 national historic trails; extensive hunting and fishing opportunities; 383,000 miles of authorized roads; more than 277,000 heritage sites; over 4,300 campgrounds; and 31 national recreation areas, scenic areas, and monuments. Their active enjoyment of these lands contributes a significant amount to the gross domestic product, with the largest share associated with outdoor recreation. National forests have a unique

"niche" of nature-based, dispersed recreation to offer, including undeveloped settings, built environments reinforcing the natural character, and wildland settings that complement enjoyment of these special places. Resource-based travel and tourism provide a window through which an increasingly urban society can enjoy and appreciate the natural world.

The Forest Service has the opportunity to open that window even wider to special places and experiences to reflect changes in demographic trends and recreation visitor preferences. We will encourage travel and tourism opportunities in collaboration with tourism professionals and State Tourism Offices that represent the diversity of existing and potential visitors.

Both our deteriorating infrastructure and our recreation visitors are demanding more attention. This agenda focuses on meeting as much of that demand as possible within ecological and social limits. These limits include impacts on the resource, impacts on experiences of other visitors, and limits of the recreation infrastructure.

Management of these cherished resources requires a long-term viewpoint and investment strategies. Years of declining budgets and a dwindling recreation workforce have made the challenges even more formidable. The agency has responded with innovative efforts such as the fee demonstration program, permit streamlining, nongovernmental partnerships, and help from volunteers. We will find even more innovative ways to accomplish the work to be done.

"The USDA Forest Service is committed to provide the best possible stewardship, benefiting current and future generations of American people. The realities of diverse interests, finite budgets, and environmental considerations will each influence the choices to be made in the management of forest and grassland resources.

Delivering on this commitment requires understanding of the public's interests through direct discussions and collaboration; financial support through Congressional appropriations, volunteers, partners, and user fees; development and use of scientific information; and broad support for the agency's long-term goals and objectives." —from the USDA Forest Service Strategic Plan.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES

Settings

Maintaining the integrity of the landscape setting is essential to ecosystem viability and the recreation experience. Enjoyment of scenery is central to quality recreation experiences and travel/tourism opportunities. Quality habitat is necessary for wildlife observation and hunting, while productive fisheries depend on clean water. Quality natural settings and well designed and maintained structures and signing must work in harmony to enhance and protect those settings.

Protect and Restore Natural Character

Through skillful application of recreation and ecological planning, cultural resource protection, scenery management, and social research, we will identify attributes of the natural, social, and built environments essential for ecological sustainability and recreation opportunity. As we strive for correct limits of use and balance, we will manage recreation activities within the range of natural variability in ecosystem composition, structure, and function—understanding that the levels of diversity and complexity and natural rates of change are vital to sustaining the amenities and experiences that society desires. Maintaining this natural character will include management of noxious and exotic species and other elements that affect the natural and scenic quality of the landscape and waters. Attention to the full spectrum of recreational opportunities and constructed features will reinforce natural character and image.

Invest in Some Facilities and Remove Others

We estimate there is an \$812 million backlog in repair and maintenance of existing facilities. We must prioritize facilities to be upgraded to meet health, sanitation, and accessibility standards. At the same time we must be prepared to remove buildings and infrastructure that no longer meet our needs, are not in tune with the natural setting, present significant health and safety problems, or are too expensive to maintain. To protect and assure the proper care of natural settings, we will need to strengthen some heavily used and fragile sites. New construction should be limited and will need to focus only on resolving resource impacts, meeting identified demand, and helping to diversify local economies. Appropriations are not sufficient to bring all existing facilities to an acceptable standard, or to construct new facilities that meet changing visitor demands or reduce environmental impacts. We will partner with volunteers, nongovernmental organizations, other agencies, and private sector business partners to get the job done.

Manage OHV Use

Off-highway-vehicle use is a legitimate use of national forest lands, and we are working with the OHV community to assure high-quality motorized opportunities and quality experiences while maintaining acceptable and balanced environmental impacts on trails. We also recognize that certain settings are inappropriate for OHV use due to administrative or congressional designation, impacts on ecological resources, or effects on other recreationists. We will move toward designated use areas and travelways on a site-by-site basis through the forest planning system, establishing a monitoring process that will closely track use over time.

We will work closely with the OHV community, including Tread Lightly! and Leave No Trace, to develop educational materials and good-user ethic guides that will assure acceptable levels of impact in natural settings. We will engage these users to assist with the management of trails and use areas, and in the monitoring of use on environmental quality.

Showcase Nationally Designated Areas

We have the stewardship responsibility for outstanding nationally designated areas whose facilities and services are languishing. We will emphasize national recreation and scenic areas and national monuments, national scenic byways, national trails, and historic sites as showcases for quality recreation and as laboratories for new initiatives. We will capitalize on unique offerings of each special designation. We will examine innovative funding criteria for these areas.

Improve Safety and Security

An experience in the outdoors involves some risk, but we must take preventive measures to reduce criminal activity and have people comply with laws and regulations to protect the setting. We need to use materials focused on preventing problems from natural hazards—wildfire, avalanche, road conditions, weather. Facilities will be built to withstand vandalism and long-term use.

Provide Access to Recreation Opportunities

With the rapid development of areas that surround national forests, many critical public access points are in jeopardy. It is important to work with local governments, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners to plan together for the future of public rights-of-way. With changes in use patterns on the forest transportation system, it is important that we work together to plan for future uses. Equal opportunity and universal design for all people, including people with disabilities, continue to be priorities and will become increasingly important as the baby boomer population ages.

Services

Social science and marketing research will be used to manage and protect resources and shape the services we provide for people. We need better information on when, where, how, and what services should be delivered. We need to make use of a variety of data and delivery sources. These sources include Forest Service employees, national forest permit holders, contractors, private sector partners, and the agency's research and technology arms.

Use Social Science and Market-Based Research

We need to utilize social science and marketing research in determining types and delivery of services. We must use the resources of Research and Development and of the Technology and Development Centers within the Forest Service to address improved visitor services and technology developments to reduce operations costs.

Ensure Services for All People

Ethnically diverse and urban segments of our society are growing rapidly, but their use of the national forests and grasslands is not increasing proportionately. We will use demographic data and research findings to better determine needs, allocate resources, and align our settings, services, and facilities to these populations.

Recreation planning and implementation will incorporate the needs of all people, including people with disabilities and other underserved groups. We will recruit minority employees and employees with disabilities to better serve all people. We will ensure that law enforcement and other service providers are responsive to the issues of our diverse visitors. We will evaluate access and fairness in program delivery as we formulate services.

Create Partnerships To Enhance and Improve Visitor Services

We will work more closely with other agencies, the private sector, and nonprofit partners to improve visitor information and services, both inside and outside forest boundaries. We will conduct market research cooperatively with local, State, and regional tourism providers. We will work jointly to monitor visitor satisfaction during the entire recreation experience, not just the segments provided by one agency or entity.

At the same time, we must move quickly to enact internal policies and authorities that will allow us to more effectively work with partners.

We need to improve the availability of information so visitors can select settings to match the experiences they desire and know what to expect before they arrive. Through natural resource interpretation and conservation education, visitors may learn how to enhance their own experiences and participate with minimum impact on the land.

Conservation Education and Interpretation

Learning-based recreation is a significant opportunity for both visitors and local communities. Through natural resource conservation messages and interpretive programs, we have the ability to foster a land stewardship ethic in millions of national forest visitors. We manage delivery systems at our 56 visitor centers and in natural settings where programs are delivered beyond these facilities. Significant resources are required to maintain facilities, staffing, and quality programming. It will take innovative partnerships by Forest Service employees, community educational institutions, volunteers, nongovernmental organizations, contractors, and permit holders to sustain the potential of natural resource conservation education and interpretive programs long term. We will actively promote the Leave No Trace and Tread Lightly! philosophies.

Using the strategy outlined in The Conservation Education Task Force Report: Vision-to-Action Strategy, we will focus on communicating the sustainability of natural and cultural resources in forests, grasslands, and aquatic ecosystems and the interconnectedness of land and people. We will support the teaching of techniques and skills for citizen participation in all aspects of natural and cultural resource stewardship.

Following the lead in that strategy, we will focus on the following target groups:

Youth: providing educational and interpretive experiences in a variety of environments.

Urban Communities: providing a connection to the land to those who are becoming increasingly disconnected from it.

Visitors: enhancing the recreational experience of forest visitors, influencing visitor behavior, and providing information to protect the resource.

Community Connections and Relationships

Strengthening community connections is vital for ecosystem planning, for economic development, and for tapping into existing community networks and resources. Making connections with new constituencies, including urban populations, as well as minorities, persons with disabilities, and other underserved people, is critical in order to respond with future relevant services. The Forest Service needs to institutionalize community collaboration through policy, processes, incentives, and accountability.

Promote Connections for Community Sustainability

We need to plan together to support community objectives for building recreational programs, facilities, and services that contribute to local and regional economies and quality of life. The economic health of communities relies increasingly on the tourism industry, especially in gateway communities. The Forest Service will join commercial ventures, nongovernmental organizations, trade associations, State organizations, and educational institutions in forming viable and sustainable nature-based tourism industries. When connected to a national forest setting, the Forest Service has a stewardship role in evaluating tourism offerings to ensure they are in the public's best interest and meet ecological constraints and high environmental standards. The agency will provide programs like Passport In Time and Heritage Expeditions.

Conduct Planning Across Boundaries

Because fires, diseases, insects, and even recreationists know no boundaries, State and Private Forestry, National Forest System, and Research and Development will collectively employ a large network of local, regional, State, and multi-State partners. Together these groups can address education, communications, tourism, and stewardship issues that impact or are impacted by recreation.

Promote Stakeholder Collaboration

The most fundamental Forest Service role is management of the forests and grasslands. We will expand opportunities for community input into forest planning. We will welcome environmental interests; user groups; recreation and tourism industries; and State, tribal, and local governments to join us in discussions for planning the future uses of the national forests and grasslands. The close community connection is important to both rural and urban communities.

Address Issues in Urban National Forests

National forests located 1 hour or less from metropolitan areas with populations of 1 million or more are growing in number. These forests are increasingly important because they contribute to the quality of life of millions of people. The agency has the opportunity to become a leader in promoting good land stewardship in communities through the Urban and Community Forestry program. Urban people are placing greater demands on the Forest Service for a wide range of travel and tourism services, educational opportunities, and experiences. Emerging issues such as limits to growth, carrying capacity, competing uses, and multicultural diversity have occurred on these forests first. They can serve as learning centers or "Windows to the Future" for other forests facing urbanization issues.

Partnerships

Continuing to support existing and establishing new professionally managed partnerships and intergovernmental cooperative efforts are a significant means to accomplish the recreation job. Tribal relationships need to be strong on a government-to-government basis to achieve mutual goals. New skills, a spirit of cooperation, shared expectations, accountability, and new legal authorities may be needed to reach longterm resource management and financially sustaining programs.

Strengthen Business Partnerships

To deliver a quality, safe, and responsible recreation program, the Forest Service will need to continue to rely on strong relationships with our recreation partners and cooperators. Declining budgets were the original catalyst, but as the private sector found ways to get the job done at a lower cost, we learned that these relationships also enhanced the variety and quality of services. Expectations and responsibilities of both parties must be clearly defined. There is a need to look at long-term investment and authorities for both existing and future development, always evaluating the business interest within the context of the Forest Service mandate of responsible management of natural resources.

Review Professional Business Practices

We will improve business relationships with contractors and permit holders by making it easier for them to do business on the national forests where appropriate. Streamlined processes will involve less paperwork, impose fewer delays, and be more predictable. We will train Forest Service personnel to become knowledgeable of business parameters such as market research, profit and loss, and contract and permit administration.

Seek New and Expand Existing Partnerships

In addition to private sector business partnerships, there is a growing interest and need to expand other partnerships in the management and delivery of recreation. These include community-based organizations, nongovernmental organizations, tourism organizations, interpretive associations, and volunteers. We recognize the contributions that existing partnerships with volunteer-based, nonprofit organizations have made in providing long-term stewardship of public resources. We will renew and strengthen these relationships.

Promote Federal, Tribal, State, and Local Government Cooperation

Many of our long-standing relationships with Federal, Tribal, State, and local public agency representatives will need to be even closer to maximize efficiencies and plan for mutually beneficial recreation activities. We will coordinate with other governmental bodies and offer "Cooperating Agency" status to those agencies having a stake in our decisions.

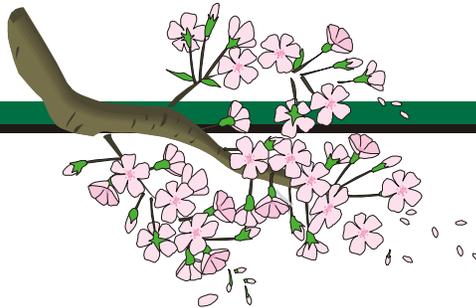
CONCLUSION

Our agenda will guide Forest Service recreation programs into the 21st century. We will prioritize projects based on feedback from our partners and local communities, in accordance with sustainable land management practices. We will leverage funding for new projects through grants, our partners and volunteers, and our Fee Demonstration Program. We will focus on our core competency—offering outstanding natural settings for dispersed recreation. We will also improve our customer service, expand our conservation education and interpretation, and build community relationships.

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December 2000
FS-691



Appendix F



The Eastern Region's Recreation Blueprint

Connecting People with the Land

Through the Benefits of Land Stewardship in the Eastern Region

The Eastern Region's Recreation Blueprint

6-21-2001

The Eastern Region's recreation blueprint "Connecting People with the Land" is an internal working document, which captures the essence of the Eastern Region and defines recreation's role in connecting people to the land. The goals and benefits, aligned with national recreation emphasis areas will guide this region's programs. Subsequent documents, booklets, and brochures are intended to be built from this blueprint to provide implementation and communication strategies to achieve these regional goals.

Recreation as the Conduit to Connect People to the Land

The Eastern Region's effort, "Islands of Green in a Sea of People" describes the geographical situation of being almost exclusively the only federal land available in this 20-state region amidst a growing population, many who reside in metropolitan areas. Recognizing this situation, we are then ideally positioned to connect with the largest diverse public segment in the U.S. and share what the Forest Service and Eastern Region are all about. "Connecting People with the Land" recognizes this unique position in delivering public benefits from federal land stewardship and the role of recreation. Recreation is the key platform or conduit to reach the public through open dialogue concerning the benefits that each forest provides as part of their niche. Sharing and collaborating with the public about these benefits while assessing the forest's niche, revising a forest plan or planning recreation activities are all ways to seek understanding in meeting people's needs, both urban and rural, within the capabilities of the ecosystem.

**The Eastern Region: Ideally Positioned to
Connect People to the Land**

The Eastern Region includes three major ecological Divisions and six ecological Provinces, creating a diversity of landscapes and environments that range from the headwaters of the Mississippi in the glaciated plains of Minnesota, to the Garden of the Gods within the rural farmlands of the Ohio River valley, to the Presidential mountain range in New Hampshire. The temperate climate gives rise to over 10,000 lakes and 15,000 miles of streams for premier water-based recreation. Average winter temperatures in the northern half of the Region remain below freezing while summers are mild, creating a snow-sport wonderland in the winter and the historic "north woods" summer vacation land to cities like Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Chicago, Detroit, and Boston. The dense oak-hickory forests of the southern half of the region experience hot summers and cool winters; surrounding farming and rural communities delight in the forested playground close to home. While urban populations traveling from Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Washington, D.C., retreat to the lush hardwoods of the Allegheny High Plateau and Appalachian Mountains, especially during the brilliance of the fall color season.

Serving almost half of the nation's population the national forests of the Eastern Region and the Midwestern National Tallgrass Prairie play a special role in the lives of people in the east and mid-western United States and are often the only large-scale areas of public land, available within a days drive. Forty-three percent of the nation's population resides within the Eastern Region. The long history of human occupation and "First Frontier" settlement of immigrants across the region is the nation's best expression of historic and cultural diversity. The developed areas surrounding National Forests vary from densely populated rural, suburban, and even industrial areas, in the southern half of the region, to more widely scattered small towns and private landholdings in the northern half. Within national forest boundaries, ownership is often mixed and interspersed. This social diversity and complexity garners working - relationships with numerous and varied interests including a

multitude of surrounding federal, state, local, and tribal governments.

Focusing on the Niche

As each forest and tallgrass prairie focuses on their niche to achieve the goals identified in "Connecting People with the Land", efforts and investments, along with our partners, can be targeted on those settings and services we are best positioned to provide, especially in conservation education and interpretation. The outcomes of achieving these goals have profound benefits:

- stronger **relationships** built on people's sense of connection to the national forests and tallgrass prairie so we can engage and collaborate together;
- quality **settings** that people sense are indeed special;
- **partnerships** that promote a sense of pride and ownership;
- **services** that add a sense of value to these public lands,
- and **conservation education and interpretation** that instill a sense of awareness, appreciation and respect for the land and each other.

RELATIONSHIPS

Goals: Through collaboration, we engage both rural and urban communities in developing a shared vision of natural resource management that transgresses administrative boundaries; and defining the role and niche of each national forest and tallgrass prairie in providing public benefits.

Aligned with each forest's niche and within ecological limits and budgetary constraints, we contribute toward social and economic sustainability and toward the general public's quality of life.

We strive to nurture and improve individual customer relationships and reach out to underserved communities. We forge unique partnerships and build relationships with a multitude of partners including federal, state, local, and tribal governments.

Benefits: People in urban areas and the surrounding rural communities have a sense of connection to their national forests and Midewin Tallgrass Prairie, and become engaged in public land stewardship.

SETTINGS

Goals: As part of the forests' niche, we identify, protect and manage special places. These special places include: state-listed and nationally designated sites. Such special places include blue ribbon trout streams, national scenic and historic trails, National Recreation Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Register of Historic Places, Wildernesses. Other special places, also included the forest niche, are those places that make us unique such as specially managed wildlife habitat, tall grass prairies and quality settings where people can connect with nature.

We conduct inventories and assessments of recreation settings and facilities to integrate with other efforts such as watershed assessments and forest planning processes to make better investment and management decisions.

We take a business-like approach by focusing management efforts and funds on settings and facilities that enhance the unique aspects or niche of each forest. For example, we may explore opportunities to reduce or change the current infrastructure at low use recreation

sites to better meet our niche; or move economically viable facilities into private - public ventures; or concession permits to allow us to focus on other areas of our niche.

Benefits: People realize that national forests and Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie have a very special "sense of place" because each forest's niche provides: connections with natural resources through history and culture; facilities that are safe, accessible and well maintained; and settings that are managed for sustainable high quality recreation opportunities for year-round enjoyment.

PARTNERSHIPS

Goals: We reach out and work with a wide variety of partners, in both public and private sectors, to focus efforts on our niche and connect people with natural resources through history and culture.

We look for opportunities to work with partners to improve visitor information and services, provide conservation education and interpretation, and help maintain recreation facilities.

We leveraged funds through partnerships, as well as grants and fee retention programs, to further enhance the forest's niche.

Benefits: Partners feel a sense of pride and ownership by providing improved customer service that better meets users needs.

SERVICES

Goals: We carefully assess, plan and manage the forest's niche and recreation uses within social and ecological capacities. For example we proactively exchange information and ideas with other recreation entities, utilization of marketing studies, use of State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) data, research information, and other resources.

We collaborate with other recreation managers and specialists such as with State and Private Forestry, Forest Research, State and county agencies, convention visitor bureaus and many others to provide seamless and efficient delivery of information so that users find our service is customer-friendly, easier, and more convenient.

We continue to improve services through research by identifying and acting on information provided by market research such as Urban Connections and customer surveys like the Recreation Use Monitoring Survey.

We connect surrounding rural and especially urban populations, with the opportunities available in the Eastern Region.

Benefits: Through services, people have an understanding of the value of national forests and associated public benefits.

CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION

Goals: We help connect people with natural resources through history and culture.

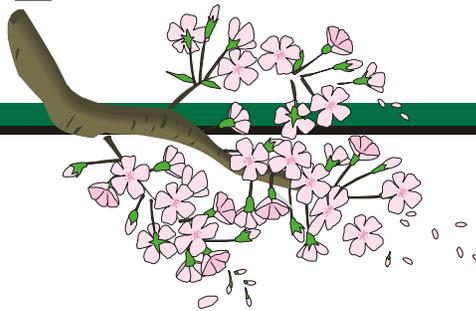
We emphasize, expand, and improve conservation education and interpretation opportunities for visitors,

school children, urban populations, and traditionally underserved populations primarily through collaboration with partners such as federal and state agencies, school systems, and non-profit organizations.

Benefits: People have a sense of awareness of their connection to the land and develop an appreciation and respect for the environment; natural and heritage resources; and other people and cultures.



Appendix G



*ANF National Recreation Use Summary
(Reserved)*

