

Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan

Washington
County
Perkins&Will
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Contents

01. Planning Framework Overview	4
02. Demand Forecast	10
03. Existing Conditions	18
04. Planning & Public Process Overview	24
05. Development Concept & Design Guidance	32
06. Natural Resource Management & Stewardship Recommendations	48
07. Operations, Maintenance & Related Efforts	58
08. Implementation: Estimated Costs & Funding	62
Appendix	72





01. Planning Framework Overview

Pine Point Regional Park

Pine Point Regional Park is a natural treasure at the heart of Washington County that serves as a major trailhead to the regional Gateway State Trail connecting Pine Point Regional Park and Stillwater Township to the city of Saint Paul. Covering an area of 287 acres, this regional park has multiple trails that are used in summer and in winter, as well as views to the serene lakes, Louise and Loon. Based on the Metropolitan Council’s Regional Parks System Annual Use study, annual visits were estimated at 125,397 as of 2018.

The Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan is a product of collaboration with the community and project stakeholders that delivers a new comprehensive vision for the future of the park and its legacy. This vision strives to enhance the active and passive recreational offerings, promote environmental awareness and ecological stewardship, enhance the rich cultural and natural resources and allow for the engagement of the natural environment.

The intention of the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan is to address planning and management of current assets as well as future growth opportunities to create a vision for Pine Point Regional Park that meets the needs of Washington County’s future park users. This master plan is intended to provide the strategy necessary for short- and long-term planning and implementation guidance for the park capital improvements, acquisitions, natural resource management, and growth of the park.

Key Goals Include:

- Improving park and trail connectivity
- Strengthening equitable usage of the park
- Exploring opportunities to connect to the park’s unique history and cultural value
- Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
- Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
- Promote environmental awareness.

This section outlines the connection of the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan to the region’s park system framework and identifies areas of opportunity for collaboration and systemic support.

Regional Park and Trail System

The Twin Cities Metropolitan Area’s Regional Parks System includes 389 miles of regional trails and 64 regional parks, park reserves, and

What is a Regional Park?

The Metropolitan Council defines a regional park as dedicated park land area of natural or ornamental quality for nature-oriented outdoor recreation such as picnicking, boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and trail uses, particularly including water bodies or watercourses where possible, typically 200 to 500 acres in size (minimum 100).

special recreation features. Pine Point Regional Park is one of forty-four regional parks that are available to the public. Regional parks are notable for their nature-based resources and recreational opportunities. The Regional Parks System offers many recreational and educational opportunities for residents and visitors throughout the metropolitan area and beyond. These parks celebrate east-central Minnesota’s wide variety of landscapes and diverse natural resources.

The Regional Parks System serves around 3.1 million residents in the Twin Cities Metropolitan area, and this will rise as forecasted population growth continues. Support for the park system is evident in its frequent use and ongoing expansion. About 59.5 million visits were recorded to the area’s parks and trails in 2018.

The regional planning agency, the Metropolitan Council, provides policy guidance through a variety of means: The Regional Parks Policy Plan, and partial acquisition, development, and operation funding through several funding programs. Park ownership, daily operations and maintenance, and ongoing development is overseen by ten implementing agencies, among them Washington County.

Washington County

Washington County offers a wide variety of unique natural landscapes, many of which are included within the county’s over 4,400 acres of parkland. The county is framed by the Saint Croix and Mississippi Rivers and contains six regional parks and park reserves, one county park, two regional trails, and one historic courthouse site.

Washington County staff assembles master

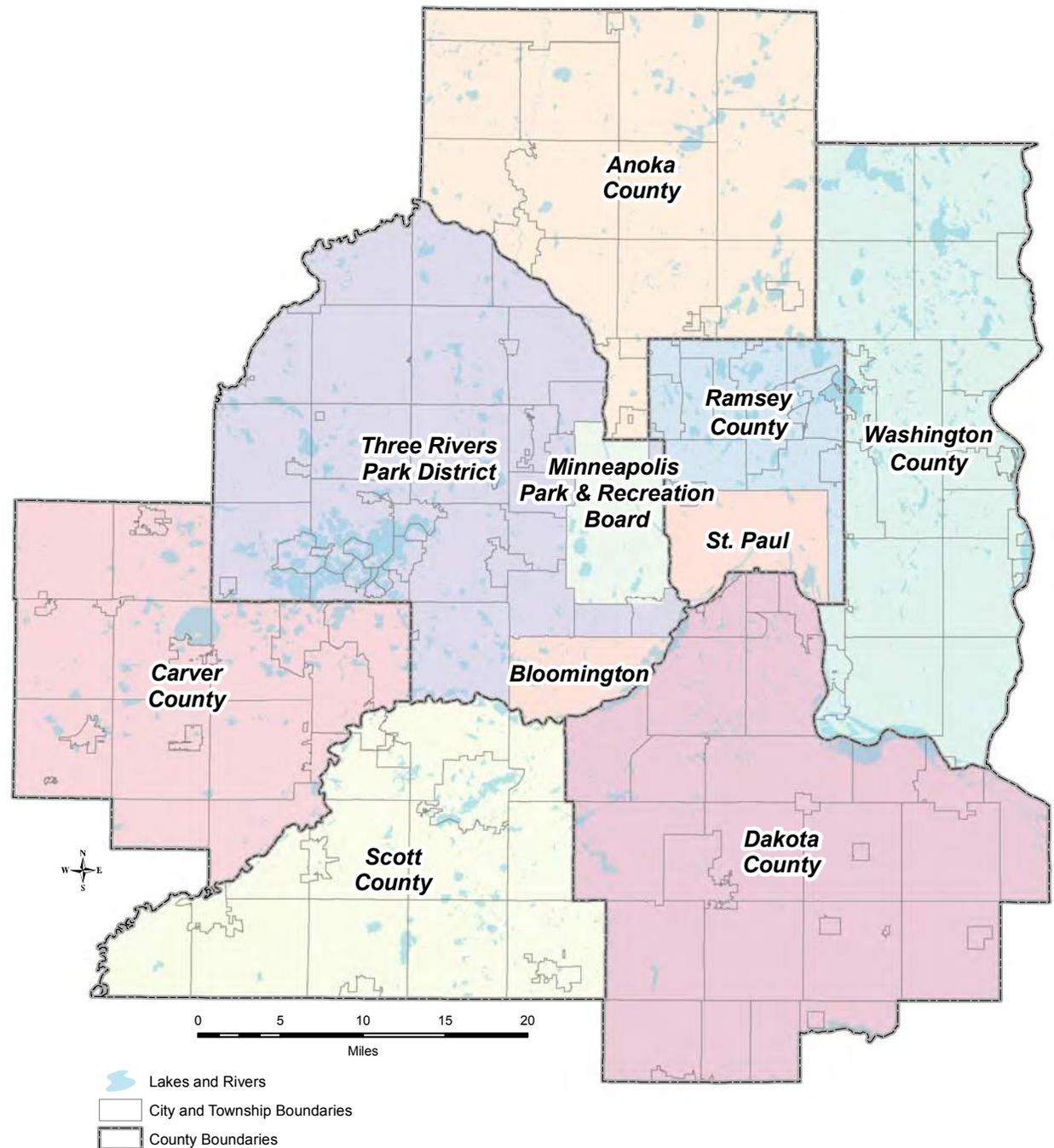


FIGURE 1 | 2040 Regional Park System. Source: 2040 Regional Parks Park

plans and other planning documents that guide the future development of the parks and trails in Washington County and adhere to the Metropolitan Council’s Regional Parks Policy Plan, as well as other local, county, regional, state and national plans. Washington County works cooperatively with local communities, counties, public agencies, the Metropolitan Council and the State Legislature to maintain a high level of park service and to ensure long term planning strategies complements regional planning efforts.

Regional Park Guidelines

The Regional Parks system manages its open spaces depending on its categorization into four main types: park reserves, regional parks, special recreation features and regional trails. Regional parks, including Pine Point Regional Park, include a range of nature-based resources, which can either be naturally present or human built. The quality of recreation in regional parks is related to availability of natural resources and ability to accommodate a diverse range of nature-resource based recreational opportunities, especially access to water bodies.

Local Park Systems

Pine Point Regional Park is adjacent to several rural communities, including Stillwater Township, Grant, City of Stillwater, and May Township. Pine Point Regional Park offers a diverse mix of both recreational and ecological opportunities, and this master plan seeks to maintain and enhance this unique characteristic of Pine Point.

Precedent Planning Documents

The Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan

supports the work of past planning initiatives and is consistent with related regional, state, and local planning visions. The following planning documents were consulted and referenced while undergoing this master plan process.

2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan

The Metropolitan Council’s 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan, as part of Thrive MSP 2040, introduced key initiatives to guide this region’s future development, and this master plan has adhered to the planning requirements laid out in that document. As the Twin Cities and its communities continue to grow, the Metropolitan Council recognizes a need to expand and diversify its regional park system. The process for implementation detailed in Thrive is based on three primary principles: integration, collaboration, and accountability. Through use of these principles, the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan seeks to achieve these five aims:

- Expand the Regional Parks System to conserve, maintain, and connect natural resources identified as being of high quality or having regional importance, as identified in the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan.
- Provide a comprehensive regional park and trail system that preserves high-quality natural resources, increases climate resiliency, fosters healthy outcomes, connects communities, and enhances quality of life in the region.
- Promote expanded multimodal access to regional parks, regional trails, and the transit network, where appropriate.
- Strengthen equitable use of regional parks and trails by all our region’s residents across age,

race, ethnicity, income, national origin, and ability.

(Source: 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan, 7).

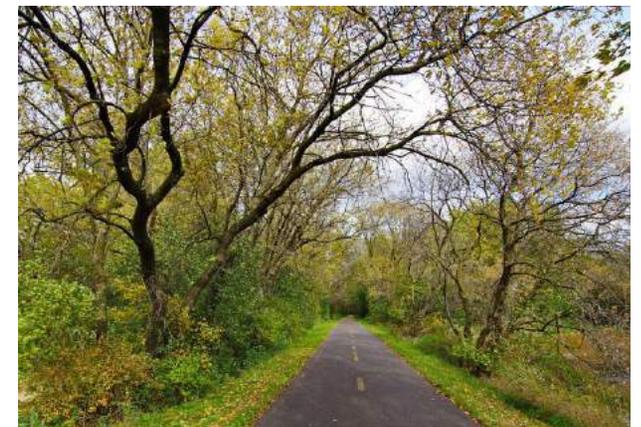
Pine Point Regional Park is part of the Rural Service Area. Due to its connection to more urban communities via the Gateway State Trail, proximity to growing communities, and its valuable nature-based recreational opportunities, the park is well situated to support these outcomes.

Regional Trails

In keeping with the Metropolitan Council’s aims related to expanding multimodal access regional parks, trails, and transit, the Pine Point Regional Master Plan integrates planning recommendations pertaining to the Gateway State Trail and in keeping with additional planning initiatives such as the Brown’s Creek State Trail Master Plan.

Gateway State Trail

The Gateway State Trail is an 18.3-mile paved, non-motorized trail. Starting in Saint Paul, it runs through Maplewood, North Saint Paul, Oakdale, through Washington County, and concludes in



Gateway State Trail | Source: Bike Hike Travel

Pine Point Regional Park, northwest of Stillwater. Once a Soo Line Railway, the trail is now a popular route for biking, runners, and hikers and passes through a variety of different environments, including urban areas, parks, and wetlands. There is an adjoining 10 mile-gravel section of trail from I-694 and Pine Point Regional Park for horseback riding. Much of the trail is level and wheelchair accessible. In the winter, the western 10 miles from Oakdale to Saint Paul are plowed, providing a year-round commuting route for cyclists from Saint Paul suburbs to downtown Saint Paul and the State Capitol Complex. The eastern 10-miles are groomed for skiing, snowshoeing, and other winter activities. The Gateway State Trail is one of the most popular state trails in Minnesota with over 300,000 users a year.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is actively engaged in efforts to extend the Gateway State Trail beyond Pine Point Regional Park north to William O'Brien State Park. This master plan incorporates the potential alignments for the Gateway State Trail's future expansion, as well as strategies for accommodating an increased number of park visitors that would relate from expanding the Gateway State Trail into surrounding areas.

Washington County will work with the DNR to coordinate proposed improvements that impact the Gateway State Trail, including natural resource work, trail crossings, wayfinding/signage, and access improvements. The two parties will develop a joint agreement that will formalize the framework for this partnership.

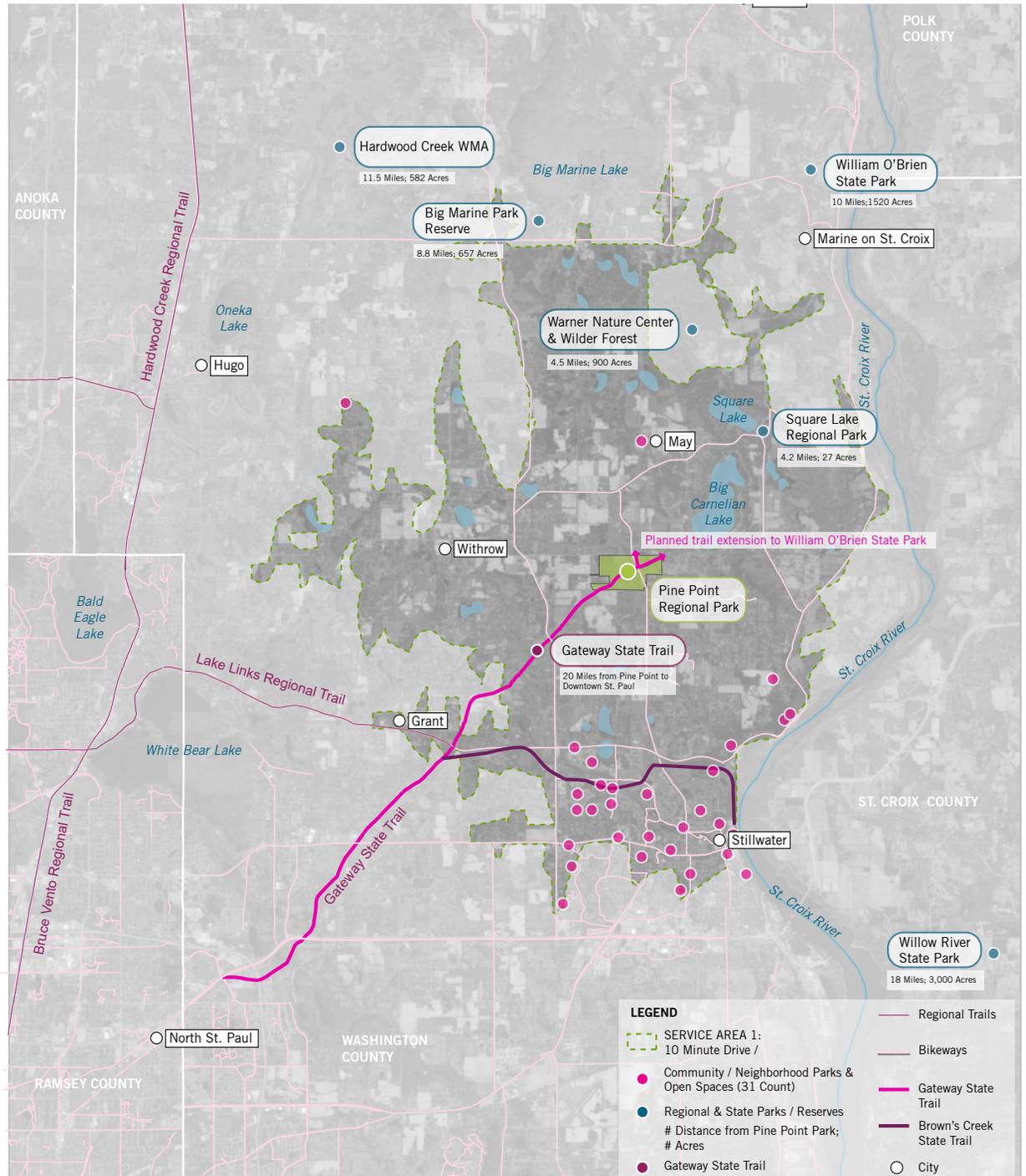


FIGURE 2 | Regional Park & Trail Connections | Source: Perkins and Will

Brown's Creek State Trail

The Brown's Creek Master Plan (2012) identifies and provides recommendations for a multi-use trail between the City of Grant to the City of Stillwater with connection to the Gateway State Trail. Through its connection to the Gateway State Trail, this will allow new users easier access to Pine Point Regional Park.

Washington County

The Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan is in accordance to Washington County's planning efforts and a valuable step forward for achieving its vision for the county's parks, trails, and open space.

Washington County 2040 Comprehensive Plan

The Washington County 2040 Comprehensive Plan gives an overview of the parks and open space it manages, their planning status, and proposed developments. In order for a park to receive regional funding for park acquisition and future development, an approved master plan is required to guide its vision. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan recognizes the need to create an updated master plan for Pine Point Regional Park.

This document includes the following strategy in the Parks, Trail, and Open Space chapter: Plan and adopt new park master plan; including, Square Lake Special Recreation Feature and Pine Point Regional Park.

1989 Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan

The 1989 Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan was adopted by the Washington County Board, but not the Metropolitan Council. Development

recommendations included in the 1989 master plan were to expand soft surface and paved trail networks, add viewing blinds, rustic camping, and interpretive programming, and to restore park vegetation. The new Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan includes and explores those recommendations from the 1989 Pine Point Regional Park that are still relevant today.

Local Communities

To maintain a shared vision for the area, this master plan has also reviewed the following planning documents from Pine Point Regional Park's adjacent communities:

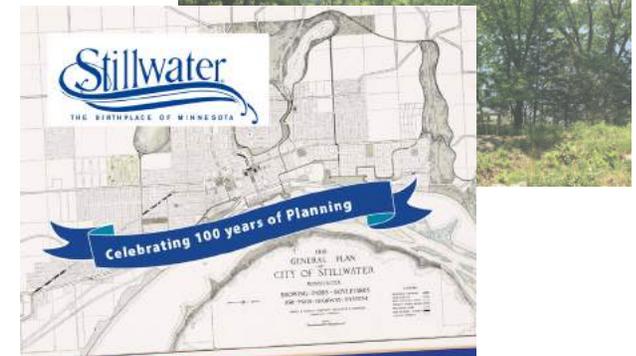
- Stillwater Township 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- City of Grant 2040 Comprehensive Plan
- City of May 2040 Comprehensive Plan

The documents all support the protection of their surrounding natural resources and expanding regional and local trail systems. Additionally, these plans serve to protect rural character while planning for future growth. Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan is in accordance with these efforts.



May Township 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Prepared By:
Northwest Associated Consultants, Inc.
January 25, 2019



2040 Comprehensive Plan

November 2019



CITY OF GRANT
Comprehensive Plan Update 2040
DRAFT April 9, 2019

FIGURE 3 | May, Stillwater, and Grant Comprehensive Plans | Source: May Township, City of Stillwater, City of Grant
Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan 8

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02. Demand Forecast

Pine Point Regional Park’s intriguing history and important ecological resources lend it a special character and unique draw throughout Washington County and the wider metropolitan area. The park is further distinguished through its role as a major trailhead for the Gateway State Trail. As the Gateway State Trail continues to be developed and communities along it continue to grow, Pine Point Regional Park will receive increased visitor counts with new types of recreational interests. Additionally, due to changing systemic conditions, such as climate, the park’s plant ecologies may begin to shift and will need to be strategically managed. Planning for increased visitor numbers with new recreational needs and protecting the health of the park’s natural resources will ensure the park remains resilient and vibrant in the face of social and ecological changes.

Population

Pine Point Regional Park is in the center of Washington County, which is the fifth most populous county in Minnesota. According to the Washington County 2040 Comprehensive Plan, population growth in Washington County increased significantly throughout the second half of the 20th century, and the largest concentrations of the county’s population are in Woodbury, Cottage Grove, and Oakdale. While the county’s current population growth has slowed since 2000, the communities of Lake Elmo, Hugo, Saint Paul Park, May Township, and Woodbury are projected to increase in population by 40% by 2040. The county is expected to grow in population, rising

from 251,015 in 2015 to an estimated 330,200 people by 2040. Overall, the greater Twin Cities metropolitan area is expected to grow to around 3.7 million by 2040, according to Metropolitan Council population forecasts.

In total, there are already 524,100 residents who live within the 30-minute drive of the park, with a median age of 36.9 years old. As adjacent communities near Pine Point Regional Park and the wider metropolitan area continue to grow, this will likely lead to increased use of the park and place stress on park services unless properly planned for. However, growth in these areas is also an opportunity to improve the connections

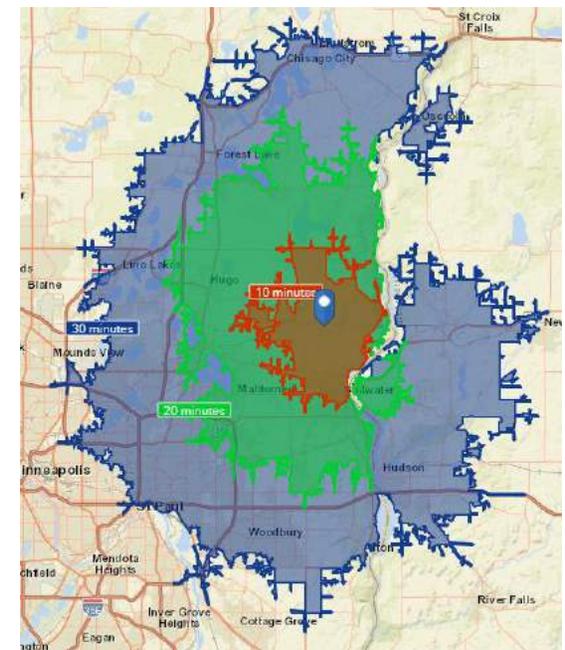


FIGURE 4 | 10, 20, & 30 Minute Drives From Pine Point Regional Park. | Source: National Park & Recreation Association

between the park and these communities, and ensure residents have equitable access to high-quality parkland.

Specific population trends are also important to note regarding future planning for Pine Point Regional Park. As of 2015, 73% of households in Washington County were family households, compared to a 64% average in the wider metropolitan area. Also, 37.2% of these Washington County family households have children under 18 years old, demonstrating the importance of having park facilities that facilitate social interaction and family activities. Additionally, the county's population is aging. In 2008, individuals 65 and older accounted for about 9% of the county's residents and grew to almost 14% in 2015. Between 2020 and 2030, there is expected to be an almost 60% growth in this age demographic. This aligns with state and national trends and suggests that any park planning should provide greater accommodations for older populations. Washington County is also growing more racially diverse. As reflected in the last census, the non-white population grew from

7.5% in 2000 to 14.3% in 2010. The 2015 American Community Survey, referenced in the Washington County 2040 Comprehensive Plan, states that around 9.2% of Washington County residents speak a language at home aside from English, with almost 50 different languages being spoken in Washington County schools. To provide equity of uses and experiences, parks and their offerings must adapt as populations become more racially and ethnically diverse.

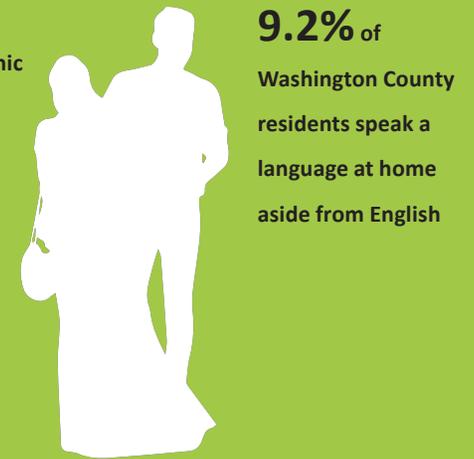
Accessibility

About 1 in 5 people in the United State, totaling 54 million people, identify as a having a disability that significantly impacts one or more major life activities, such as "walking, seeing, hearing, breathing, and thinking," according to the 2010 census (USDA, Accessibility Guidebook, 3). This includes people who use various mobility devices such as wheelchairs, walkers, canes and crutches. As stated previously, the population of Washington County is aging, paralleling state and national trends, which increases that likelihood that park users will develop limitations in their

mobility. Accounting for a range of ages and abilities ensures that Pine Point Regional Park can be enjoyed by all. The Pine Point Regional Park seeks to meet the needs of diverse users, and the master plan recommends an ADA accessible trail alignment that showcases a variety of park habitats.

Climate

Minnesota's climate is expected to experience substantial shifts in upcoming years, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These include a 13% increase in precipitation by 2030 and a 57% increase in extreme precipitation events by 2040. Paralleling global trends, Minnesotan temperatures are anticipated to increase with maximum temperatures expected to increase by 3 degrees and to experience an 8% decrease in days with temperatures below freezing. Climate change will drastically impact plant and animal species. Plant and animal communities in Pine Point Regional Park will need to be monitored, and strategic management methods will be necessary to protect the park's ecological health.



Maintaining healthy plant and animal ecosystems also offers potential for increased programming focused on environmental education. Growing research suggests that environmental education offers a host of benefits to individuals and society, such as increased environmental stewardship and volunteerism and improved social and physical health. The master plan recommends an ecological trail route comprised of various “ecological nodes,” i.e. places that highlight the park’s wide variety of natural features and landscape types.

Social Interaction

The public engagement survey demonstrated that survey respondents who visit Pine Point Regional Park come in small groups of 2-5 individuals. Mounting research shows that having public



Trail Running | Source: Roots Rated

spaces for social interactions is vital to the health of a community. As previously mentioned, there is a large percentage of Washington County’s population that are families with young children, therefore, having gathering spaces where these families can go and mingle will enrich the connections between people, as well as the natural world. The Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan recommends two primary locations for larger gathering spaces, as well as smaller gathering spaces throughout the park.

Recreation

National

The 2018 Outdoor Recreation Participation Report published by the Outdoor Foundation shows a slight increase in outdoor recreation participation from 48.8% in 2016 to 49.0% in 2017. The most common reason people chose to recreate outdoors was to exercise. The report states that running, which includes jogging and trail running, was the most popular American recreational activity, both by number of participants and the number of total outings. The next most popular activities, ranked by participation rate (those with highest numbers of individual participants) were Freshwater, Saltwater and Fly Fishing; Road Biking, Mountain Biking and BMX; Hiking; and Car, Backyard, Backpacking and RV Camping. Frequency of how often people participated in these activities varied. About half of Americans engaged in outdoor activity between 12 to 103 times during the year, 21% were highly active, enjoying the outdoors at least twice each week, and 31% participated less than once every month. Due to its internal trails and connection to the Gateway State Trail, Pine Point Regional Park

currently accommodates running, biking, hiking, and horseback riding, as well as winter activities such as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

The report also states that adults who engaged in outdoor activities as children were more likely to participate in outdoor activities later in life. 38% of adults who did outdoor activities as children continued to do them into adulthood. Improving Pine Point Regional Park’s facilities for families would provide an enhanced multi-generational experience of the park and facilitate an ongoing relationship between children and the outdoors as they continue into adulthood.

State

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Minnesota’s Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) 2020-2024 relays findings about the state’s outdoor recreation trends. According to data from the Minnesota Outdoor Recreation Household Survey 2017, which included 1,987 responses from a random sample of Minnesotans, suggests that outdoor recreation is an important part of many Minnesotan’s lives. While 2004 data had reported that outdoor recreation participation was decreasing, the 2017 survey results indicated that the number of individuals who listed outdoor activities as very important to them increased from 57% to 70%. Also, the survey responses revealed that almost two-thirds of Minnesota residents participate in an outdoor activity more than twice a week. In addition to exercise being a reason to be outdoors, Minnesotans also reported that they see the “outdoors as a place to rest and relax, connect with family and friends, and improve their health” (SCORP, 6). Favorite activities listed included

“relaxing in the outdoors,” walking or hiking,” “relaxing by the water,” and “picnicking outdoors.” Winter favorite activities were “sledding and snow tubing,” and “ice fishing.” The report states that the survey results imply that Minnesotans may prefer outdoor recreation opportunities that do not require extensive equipment or extensive practice, or that increasingly Minnesotans have not had the opportunity to engage in other activities.

The report also discusses key current and future recreation trends in Minnesota. Firstly, there is increasing recognition in the public health benefits of being outdoors – physically, cognitively, psychologically, and socially. Secondly, outdoor recreation spaces must serve all Minnesotans equitably regardless of age, ability, background, and identity. Thirdly, the demographics of Minnesota are changing. Population growth is increasing but has slowed; the population is aging; and communities are becoming more ethnically and racially diverse. Fourthly, climate change is impacting the natural environment, leaving Minnesota warmer and with higher intensity rain events. Finally, there is increasing awareness



Family at Lake Elmo Park Reserve | Source: Twin Cities Pioneer Press

around the necessity of providing accessible recreation options to individuals with disabilities.

Regional

The Metropolitan Council laid out the main strategies and aims for its regional parks in the 2040 Regional Parks Policy Plan. Based on the findings of the previous SCORP, the plan reports the growing racial and ethnic diversity in the region, but also discusses existing disparities. Rates of participation for people of color are lower than white and non-Latino populations, and therefore future planning must focus on “strengthening equitable usages of regional parks and trails by all our region’s residents.” Climate change is also discussed in the 2040 plan. The regional parks system already serves to provide ecological value and resiliency, but the system can be protected and enhanced through careful

conservation and management. Learning to quantify value of ecological systems and facilitate supportive policies will further protect and expand the region’s parks and the recreational opportunities these spaces provide.

Washington County

The Metropolitan Council’s Regional Parks System Visitor Study (2016) surveys users from across regional parks and trails. Compared with other park agencies, Washington County’s key findings included that most users rated the quality of its facilities, services, and recreational opportunities very good (73%). Most users visit parks close to their homes (averaging around 9.5 miles), arrive via automobile (81%), bring children under 10 years old (30%), and arrive in small groups of around two to three. 83% reported that a lack



Cross Country Skiing in Pine Point Regional Park | Source: Washington County

Pine Point Regional Park

524,100

Residents living within a 30-minute drive

36.9

Median age of residents living within a 30-minute drive

20.8%

Percentage of adult population living within a 30-minute drive that exercise at least seven hours per week

Source: National Recreation & Park Association Market (NRPA) Report

of free time was the greatest barrier to visiting parks more regularly. Disparities between users in Washington County Parks included age, income, level of education, physical and mental abilities, and race and ethnicity.

According to the Washington County Park Visitor Study (2016), as referenced in the Washington County 2040 Comprehensive Plan, most visitors to Washington County Parks were engaged in nature walks along trails, swimming, boating/fishing, camping and biking paved trails. Survey respondents stated they would like to see several activities offered more frequently, including canoeing/kayaking lessons, specific outdoor recreation opportunities for women, moonlight hiking/skiing, tree & plant identification, and cross-country ski lessons and rentals.

Pine Point Regional Park

Pine Point Regional Park reflects many of these larger trends. According to the National Recreation and Park Association Facility Market Report for Pine Point Regional Park, the forecasted

population growth of individuals 65 and older living within the 30-minute drive zone between 2018-2023 is likely to increase. Of the adult population living within the 30-minute drive zone, 24.5% exercise only 1-3 hours a week, 21.5% exercise 4-6 hours a week, and 20.8% exercise at least seven hours per week. Among the participation rates of select recreation activities, the highest included weight-lifting (over 11%), yoga (9%), aerobics (8.3%), and basketball (8.1%). Data about the spending habits of those living within the 30-minute drive zone show a significantly higher than average spending on tickets to various entertainment, fees for recreational lessons and participant sports, and membership to social/recreational/civic clubs.

Pine Point Regional Park has a committed community of users, hosting an estimated 125,697 annual visits in 2018. According to the 2019 master plan survey responses:

- Most survey respondents visit the park weekly (around 34%) and monthly (around 48%)
- Survey respondents reported the greatest barrier for more frequent visitation is a lack of time.
- There was almost a balance between the number of visitors who arrive by vehicle (44.06%) and those who arrive by the Gateway State Trail (41.38%).
- Around 62.26% of visitors come in groups of 2-5, while 35.63% visit alone.
- The most common activities respondents participate in at the park are as follows: trail (69.92%), hiking (44.64%), horseback riding (31.80%), cross country skiing (28.35%), and dog

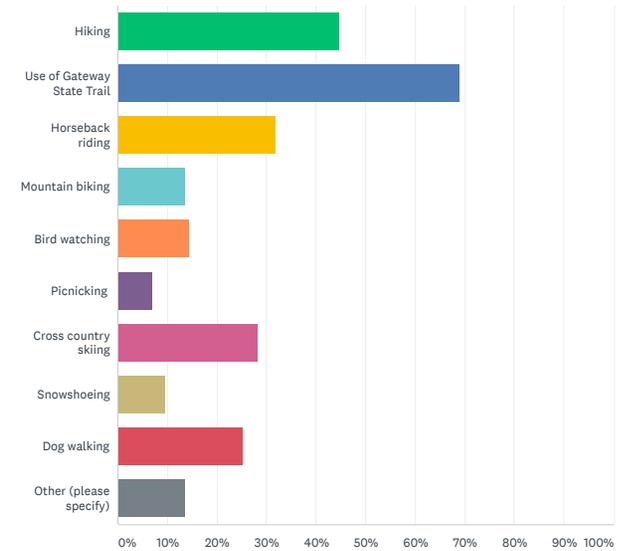
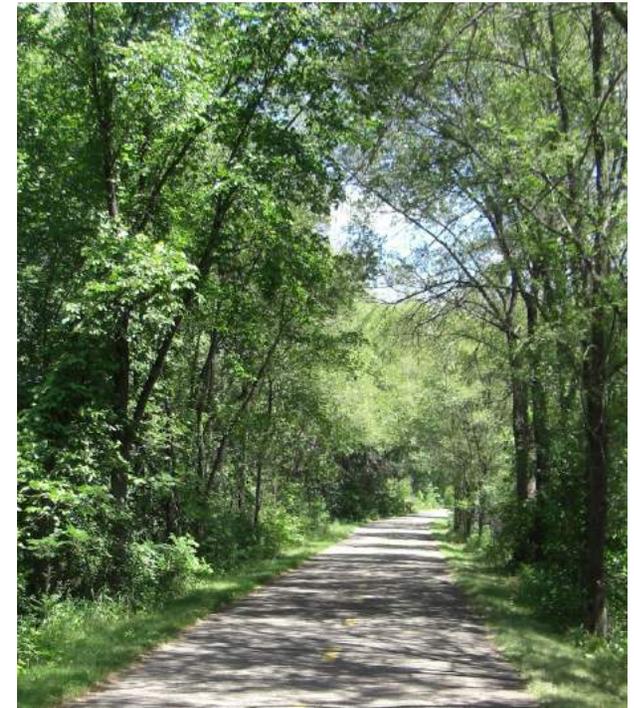


FIGURE 5 | Most Frequently Participated In Activities at Pine Point Regional Park | Source: Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan Survey - Summer 2019 (Washington County)



Gateway State Trail | Source: Washington County

walking (25.10%), followed by bird watching, mountain biking, snowshoeing, and picnicking.

- The top selected activities/amenities respondents felt should be added and/or improved in Pine Point Regional Park include:
 - Equestrian trails (27.01%)
 - Trails – turf (hiking/snowshoeing/skiing) (25.67%)
 - Mountain biking trails (18.39%)
 - Educational signs - nature/ecology/history (18.20%)
 - Canoe/kayak access to the adjacent lakes (17.05%)
 - Trails - paved, multi-use (13.60%)
 - Nature play area (13.22%).

As the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area continues to grow, Pine Point Regional Park’s visitor count will likely increase. Therefore, this master plan seeks to provide direction in ensuring that the park maintains its high-quality amenities for current users while expanding to accommodate new users with different needs and interests.

Living Healthy in Washington County

The outdoor environment also has a huge impact on supporting healthy communities. Providing outdoor opportunities and programming promotes healthier, more active lifestyles for Washington County residents. The Pine Point Regional Park master plan gathered local to regional input, in order to determine what types of outdoor infrastructure and programming most appeal to current and future park visitors.

The “active living by design” movement gaining momentum across the country complements the vision for this regional park. Active living by design” integrates physical activity into daily routines.” Key principles of this movement as it pertains to this plan include:

- Physical activity is a behavior that can favorably improve health and quality of life.
- Everyone, regardless of age, gender, language, ethnicity, economic status or ability, should have safe, convenient and affordable choices for physical activity.
- Parks and trails, should be safe, accessible and part of a transportation network that connects destinations of interest, such as other parks, housing, schools, work sites, transit, community

services and businesses.

- Municipalities and other governing bodies should plan for ongoing interdisciplinary planning and collaboration, promotion of facilities, behavioral supports and policies that implements the vision of active living.
- Routine maintenance and management that ensures continued safety, quality and attractiveness of the physical infrastructure and the natural environment.

The following provides an overview of pertinent findings from research that supports the active living movement and development of this regional park.



Urban Roots Exploring Pine Point Regional Park | Source: Washington County

Physical Activity/Preventing Obesity

Physical inactivity causes numerous physical and mental health problems, is responsible for an estimated 200,000 deaths per year in the United States, and contributes to the obesity epidemic. The design of communities and the presence or absence of parks, trails, and other quality public recreational facilities affects people's ability to reach the recommended 30 minutes each day of moderately intense physical activity. A growing number of studies show that people in activity-friendly environments are more likely to be physically active in their leisure time. For example, research findings clearly indicate that better access to facilities, pleasant surroundings, safe places, walkable neighborhoods, and activity-friendly environments all encourage higher levels of active recreation. Proximity, connectivity, and design quality of parks and trails can be added to this list to encourage more active lifestyles.

Connectivity and Accessibility

Being able to reach or access a variety of destinations (e.g., parks, retail areas, tourist sites, workplaces, health services, grocery stores) is critical to many dimensions of a healthy community and healthy personal lifestyles. Ensuring that the recreational facilities, restrooms, park shelters and trails that meet ADA standards is important to accommodate the broadest cross-section of user groups.

Mental Health

A number of studies have demonstrated how being outdoors and in direct contact with nature leads to improved mental health and psychological development. Recent data show that mental

health disorders will account for some of the world's largest health problems in upcoming decades. People do not have to actively use nature to benefit from it; rather, visual exposure is enough. The outdoor experiences and recreational opportunities offered in the park by natural environment will, at some level, contribute positively to the collective well-being of the users of the park and the adjacent communities.

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03. Existing Conditions

Pine Point Regional Park has a dynamic and unique cultural and ecological history. The land comprised within the park's boundary has had significant shifts over the last couple of centuries. Understanding this larger context, and the intersections between the landscape's social and natural history, was critical in the development of this master plan.

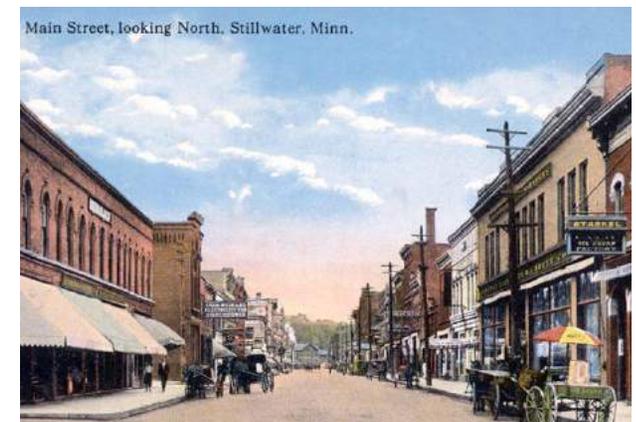
Cultural Resources

History

The landscape of Pine Point Regional Park has a rich cultural history that stretches back over the millennia. It is part of the Saint Croix Basin, and has been occupied by indigenous communities throughout most of the Holocene (around 9 thousand years). In the 1500s, Chippewa communities arrived in the basin, having been displaced from their homes along the Saint Lawrence by the Iroquois. This led to conflicts between the Chippewa and the Dakota throughout the 1600-1700s, and limited Native American hunting and settlements. Routine fire regiments were also reduced during this time. For centuries, interactions between Native Americans and the surrounding landscape had shaped native plant communities of the time through gathering food and fuel, building shelters, and controlled burns of the prairie. With a reduction in these routine fires, prairie succeeded to oak brush and woodland. Europeans began arriving to the area in the 1600s, starting with French fur traders. This impacted numbers of large herbivores, which further impacted the native plant communities

through decreased grazing. In 1763, the French's defeat in the French and Indian Wars led to a rise in English fur trading, and in 1783, the newly formed American government claimed this area of the continent as part of the United States. 19th century European immigrants continued to settle in the area, particularly spurred on by the booming logging and milling industry in Minnesota during the mid-to-late 1800s. Significant steamboat traffic supporting this industry occurred along the Saint Croix.

There are many traces of cultural history present across Pine Point Regional Park's landscape. In 1858, a poor farm of 207 acres was established on the current Pine Regional Park site. Its purpose was to support individuals experiencing poverty, mental illness, and other difficulties. Poor farm residents grew crops and took care of the grounds and livestock. The poor farm also included a cemetery that is located within the park boundary. Additional acreage was added to the farm as its



19th Century Main Street Stillwater | Source: Streets-MN

population increased. In 1925, the poor farm became a convalescent home called “Washington County Home,” and in 1951, it became the Pine Point Nursing Home. This home closed in 1977, and in 1978, the Park and Open Space Commission recommended that the 296-acre site be used for recreational purposes. The historic poor farm and 26 acres of its adjacent land sat vacant until it was purchased in 1982 and turned into the Outing Lodge, a bed and breakfast and meeting hall. Pine Point Park became a regional park in 2005.

The park is also a major trailhead for the Gateway State Trail, which traces the alignment of the former Soo Line railroad track. The trail was opened in 1993 and connects the park all the way to downtown Saint Paul, over 18 miles.

Cultural forces have shaped the landscape contained within Pine Point Regional Park, and additional cultural amenities include restored prairie to the east of Louise Lake, stands of strategically planted pines that were used to stabilize the sandy soils that were degraded from row crop agriculture. This was a common land management strategy used in the 20th century to

reduce soil erosion.

Within the park’s existing border is the Washington County Poor Farm Cemetery, which was used primarily in late 1800s and early 1900s. Buried in the cemetery are more than 50 former Poor Farm residents. This area is currently marked within the park by plaque, in respect to those who are buried. Washington County will continue to be respectful and careful when conducting maintenance in this area. As the master plan suggests, Washington County will also consider opportunities to respectfully share the story of the cemetery with park visitors as part of a proposed “discovery node.”

The cultural resources of Pine Point Regional Park are important markers of the park’s past. Highlighting these unique features are vital in telling a comprehensive story of this fascinating landscape.

Development Inventory

The park today includes eight miles of trails that accommodate hiking, horseback riding, biking,

skiing, and birdwatching. Trails for equestrian users are west of Norell Avenue, and trails for mountain biking and fat tire biking are east of Norell Avenue. As previously mentioned, the Gateway State Trail runs through the southwest to central part of the park. The main vehicular parking, restrooms and current picnicking facilities are in the center of the park to the west of Norell Avenue.

Natural Resources

Pine Point Regional Park falls within the Saint Croix River valley, an area rich in geologic history. Its physiographic and topographic features are a result of at least four glacial epochs ranging from one million to ten thousand years ago. Its sediments and rock formations range from Precambrian igneous lava flows, sandstone, shales, and igneous and metamorphic crystalline formations in the upper valley and Cambrian to Ordovician marine sandstones, shales, and limestones in the lower valley.

The glacial and geologic history of the region have shaped Pine Point Regional Park’s diverse plant



Washington Poor Farm | Source: Asylum Projects



Pine Point Regional Park Trails | Source: Washington County



Pine Point Regional Park Trailhead | Source: Washington County

Figure 6: Minnesota Land Cover Classification System

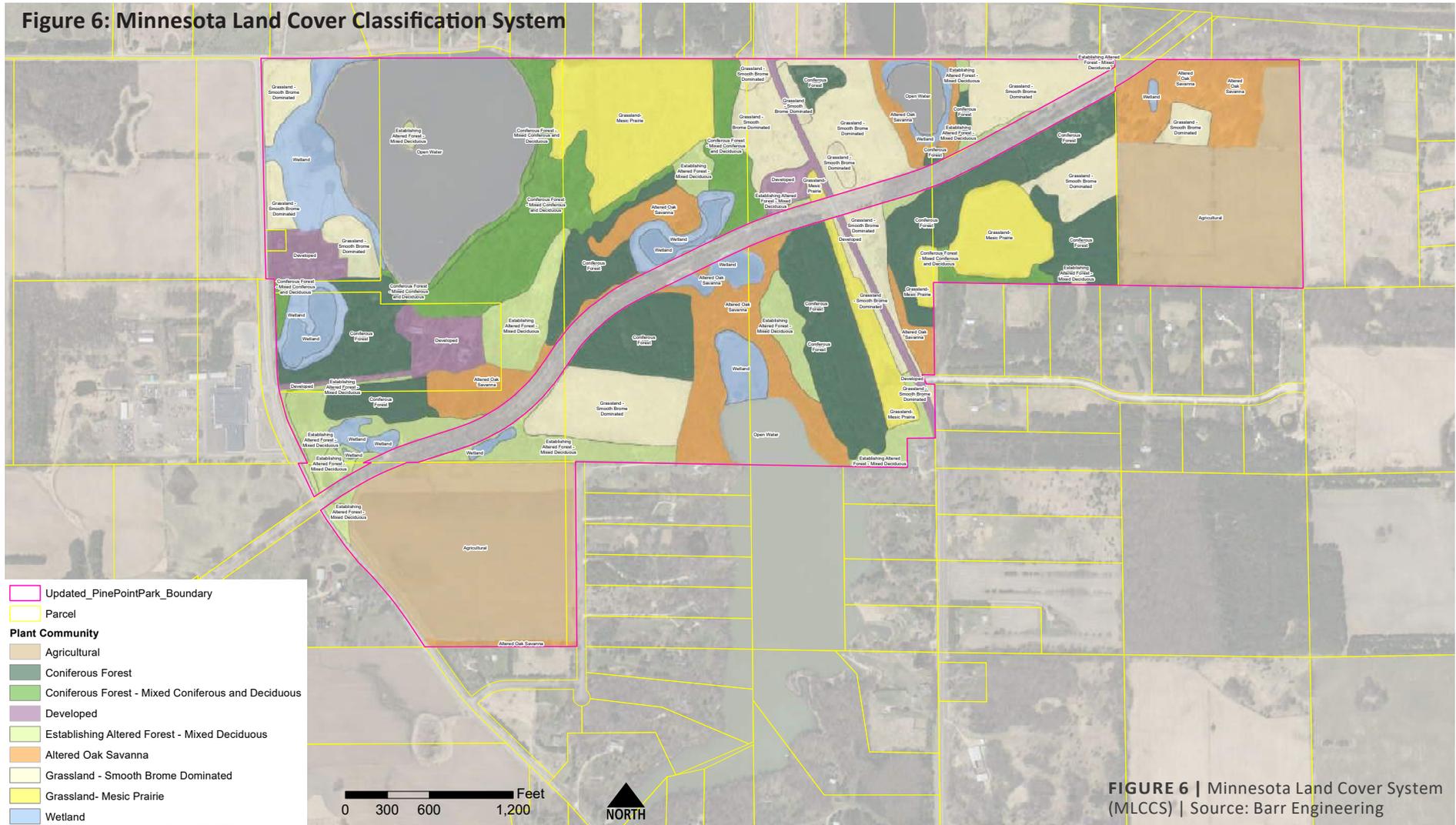


FIGURE 6 | Minnesota Land Cover System (MLCCS) | Source: Barr Engineering

communities and wildlife habitats. As part of the master plan analysis phase, these resources were carefully categorized and ranked based on their level of quality. These rankings helped inform the master plan’s protected core habitat wildlife areas which helped guide the placement of trails, and other recreational features.

Water Resources

Portions of Loon Lake and Lake Louise reside within the existing and future boundary of Pine Point Regional Park. These lakes are identified in the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District 2010 Watershed Management Plan as impaired water bodies, due to excess nutrients. This informed the proposed lake recreational use and access improvements for this park.

Land Cover Inventory

Vegetation communities at Pine Point Regional Park were mapped based on MNDNR Minnesota Land Cover Classification System (MLCCS) (Figure 6). The mapped units were field-verified by qualified ecologists. Ecological quality of the land cover types were also determined in the field based on species richness, community structure, canopy tree regeneration, and invasive non-native

Medium-quality sites often lack many of the species typical of the natural community. Invasive species may range from 5% to 40% cover, but they are not more prevalent than typical native species. (In communities with multiple layers of vegetation, weedy species do not dominate any one layer.) While natural processes may be interrupted and past human disturbance apparent, the nature of the community has not been altered beyond recognition.

Low. Very disturbed sites, most appropriate for alternative uses or total regeneration. 40 percent or more invasive species.

Invasive species are common or dominant in any or all layers of vegetation. Natural processes are highly altered and extensive past human disturbance is evident. The community may not resemble any naturally occurring community (that is, one described by DNR Natural Heritage Database).

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04. Planning & Public Process Overview

The purpose of this master plan is to protect and enhance Pine Point Regional Park as an important cultural and natural amenity for the region. A fundamental aspect of this effort is ensuring that the park meets the current and future needs of individual park users, community groups, and agency partners. To guarantee that this aspect would remain central to the master planning work, a thorough partner and public engagement process was undertaken. Washington County led the overall Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan and began by determining a committee structure and decision-making process. Recommendations from a Project Management Team (PMT), a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) provided guidance, and engagement with the public provided vital input in guiding the master plan's development. Final approval of the master plan will rely on approval from Washington County Board of Commissioner and Metropolitan Council.

As the project began, a set of guiding principles were developed that reflect the larger values of the park and Washington County. These guiding principles served to focus discussion throughout community outreach and engagement, and to provide direction during the master planning process.

The guiding principles of the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan are as follows:

- Improve and expand trail system strategically
- Strengthen equitable usage of the park

- Explore opportunities to connect to park's history and cultural value
- Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
- Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
- Promote environmental awareness
- Connect Gateway State Trail users with the greater park

The project kick-off began in April 2019 where Washington County and project consultants discussed the plan for data collection, site analysis, visioning, and the public engagement strategy. From July to October, early concepts were created, and then refined throughout the fall. The final report was completed in January 2020.

Project Management Team (PMT)

The Project Management Team (PMT) included key staff from Washington County and project consultants. The PMT served as the lead coordinating team for the master planning process. The PMT managed ongoing coordination between the partner agencies and consultant team. There were weekly coordination calls between the county project lead and the consultant team, and the PMT met six times with the consultant team to provide additional feedback. County staff and consultants included:

- Washington County Natural Resource Staff
- Washington County Public Health/Environment Staff



COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

- Washington County Right of Way Specialist-Property Manager
- Washington County Parks Manager
- Washington County Planner
- Washington County Planning Intern
- Perkins and Will (Project Consultant)
- Barr Engineering (Project Consultant)

Partner Engagement

To gain input from affected park partners, the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan involved representatives of related agencies, local government, and associated recreation providers. The PMT assembled two committees to provide input throughout the master planning process, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Community Advisory Committee (CAC).

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was comprised of members of public agencies and other regulatory agency representatives. The TAC served an important function advising on technical matters and sharing expertise from various agency perspectives. This involved cataloging existing park and recreation assets, providing data sources and methodologies, and offering analysis

and design recommendations. The TAC included representatives of the following agencies:

- MN DNR - Forestry
- MN DNR - Parks and Trails
- Washington County Parks Maintenance Staff
- Washington County Parks Guest Services
- Washington County Engineering Staff
- Washington County Parks Programming Staff
- Washington County Planning Staff
- Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District
- Stillwater Township
- Metropolitan Council – Regional Parks Planning staff
- Washington County Conservation District

The TAC evaluated different options of Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan and provided feedback at main milestones during the plan’s development over the course of four TAC sessions. See appendix for summaries of these sessions.

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Community Advisory Committee (CAC) included local residents and representatives from nearby businesses and non-profit organizations

to provide community expertise and insight on issues throughout the planning process from across a diverse range of community perspectives. They worked closely with county staff and the consultant team and made recommendations that shaped the plan. They also served the vital role of advising the PMT on broader outreach efforts, ensuring that key stakeholders and affected communities were informed and given the opportunity to provide input. The CAC included representatives of the following constituent groups:

- Gateway Trail Association
- SASCA Bike Club
- Pollinator Friendly Alliance
- Washington County Parks and Open Space Commission
- Equestrian park user
- Metropolitan Council Parks and Open Space Commission
- Outing Lodge at Pine Point

The CAC evaluated different options of Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan and provided feedback at main milestones during the plan’s development over the course of four sessions. See appendix for summaries of these sessions.

PMT, TAC, & CAC: Planning Exercises

To begin the planning process, the PMT, TAC, and CAC engaged in a “SWOT” exercise and identified Pine Point Regional Park’s “Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.”

Strengths included:

- The park’s natural areas, including its pine plantations, the restored prairie, and its community of regular visitors.

Weaknesses included:

- Drainage issues
- Access in and around the park, such as crossing Norell Avenue, and connections into the surrounding communities.
- Safety and wayfinding
- Trail user conflicts.

Opportunities included:

- The park’s lake views and access and unique cultural assets, such as the Poor Farm Cemetery and Outing Lodge.
- Connectivity with the community
- Ecological education

Threats included:

- Erosion issues
- Health of the forest and pine management and interventions
- Concerns about increased park activity reducing its natural feel

The PMT, TAC, and CAC also completed a Continuum Statements exercise, which involved discussing two opposing statements and deciding where along the spectrum they could reach a group consensus. The full list of continuum statements is included in the appendix.

Sample statements included:

Preserving Natural Resources

A. Preserving the unique natural resources of the park should take priority over any other improvements, even if it limits human use in parts of the park.

B. Although preserving the unique natural resources is important, other improvements and/or additional programming are critical to the successful park function and visitor experience.

Pine Plantation Management

A. Existing pine tree stand are important to the identity and aesthetic of park and therefore should be managed to maintain as many as possible and/or as long as possible.

B. Existing pine trees are not native and are at-risk from the changing climate condition. Therefore, they should be managed in order to eventually be phased out.

Trail Usage

A. Trail usage should be kept separate based on user type. User groups will not share trails, but access will be limited to specific routes in specific areas of the park.

B. All trails should be accessible to all user groups.

Cultural Value/History

A. The master plan should prioritize programming or site features highlighting the historical/cultural features in the park.

B. Although preserving the park’s historical sites and features are important, the master plan should prioritize ecological and recreational

program development.

Overall agreement was reached that adding programming to the park beyond only natural resource preservation would add to the visitor experience. Also, the park would benefit from adding land/inholding properties where possible, improving park circulation and accessibility, and keeping trail usage separate based on user type to reduce conflicts. There was more variability in discussions around the management of existing pine stands, expanding amenities, and whether to have programming that highlighted historical/cultural amenities versus ecological/



TAC #1 - Continuum Statements Activity | Source: Perkins and Will



CAC #1 - SWOT Activity | Source: Perkins and Will

recreational amenities.

PMT, TAC, & CAC: Summary of Feedback

There were common themes that emerged in the ongoing PMT, CAC, and TAC sessions. There exists strong support for enhancing the park’s natural features and plant communities and maintaining its natural and rustic feel. The surrounding lakes provide an opportunity for improvements around highlighting lake views and access. There is excellent potential for increased programming and amenities around environmental education and cultural interpretation. There are trail use conflicts that need to be resolved, particularly between equestrians and bikers. Lastly, the master plan should address equity in access, such as providing ADA trail opportunities, enhanced community connections, and improved wayfinding/safety signage.

The feedback from the PMT and TAC and CAC agency representatives provided the foundation for the master plan, and as the plan was developed, the PMT, TAC, and CAC assisted in determining the key project priorities and phasing, which will be discussed more in depth in Chapter 5 and Chapter 6.

Public Engagement & Participation

Strategic efforts were made to gather feedback from many different groups during the master plan process, from Twin Cities Metropolitan residents previously unfamiliar with the park to Pine Point Regional Park users who visit frequently. Having a diverse range of ideas and feedback is crucial to ensuring that Pine Point Regional Park meets the needs of park users while maintaining its current character. In order to do so, engagement

strategies were developed to meet the needs of different types of potential park users.

General Public

General public includes the populations who are potential Pine Point Regional Park users but may not have visited the park before. Gaining insights from this group is important in investigating wider recreational trends and interests and learning what current barriers may prevent people from visiting the park.

Current Park Users

Current parks users have personal knowledge of the park that is valuable to the planning process. Their experiences in the park allow for improvements catered to specific user groups, such as equestrians, hikers, and cyclists, and their feedback assists in recommending improvements for areas of conflict, modifying trails, and recommending new programming.

Local Communities

Involving communities near to Pine Point Regional Park, such as May Township and Stillwater Township, ensures that the park is considering the area’s larger context and observing what park amenities and offerings may complement other recreational facilities and programs in nearby municipalities. These communities add value to conversations on how to increase use and satisfaction of the park, as these populations are among those most likely to visit.

Underrepresented Populations

Incorporating ideas and feedback from underrepresented populations is an important

aspect of park planning and facilitating equitable park use. Washington County used a variety of communication methods to reach these groups and integrate their comments into master plan recommendations.

Local Clubs and Advocacy Groups

Local clubs and advocacy groups are organizations that are self-organized by individuals engaged in a focused activity or interest, such as horseback riding or cycling. Pine Point Regional Park has a unique draw due to its location along the Gateway State Trail and its extensive internal trails. Seeking



Signage Promoting the Master Plan Survey | Source: Washington County

input from these groups lends understanding toward what elements in the park are currently being used and what elements could be added to increase or enhance these groups' experiences.

Engagement Strategy & Tools

A variety of public engagement strategies and tools were used to reach a wide range of stakeholders and members of the community. The consultant team and county staff worked together to provide the public with a comprehensive understanding of the master plan, and to motivate them to participate in the process. Different strategies were used in order to target specific user groups, as well as more wide-ranging feedback from the general public. Activities and digital platforms were also strategically used to bring project information into the community in order to reach those who are not likely to attend a public meeting.

Digital Outreach

Project Website: Hosted through Washington County, a project website was created to share project background, engagement materials, and contact information, and to give access to an online survey and interactive map. It received 1,167 views during the master planning process.

Online Survey: The online survey was available from May through July 2019 and received 630 responses. Hosted through SurveyMonkey and posted on the project website, the survey was promoted through a variety of platforms including postcard mailers to neighbors, and social media posts. It was posted on signs placed within the park and along the Gateway State Trail. For a full summary of the survey results, see appendix. Key

findings included:

- Of survey respondents, nearly as many visitors arrive via the Gateway State Trail (almost 41%) as by vehicle (almost 45%).
- The most frequently participated in recreational activities at Pine Point Regional Park are use of the Gateway State Trail (69%), hiking (45%), horseback riding (32%), cross-country skiing (28%), and dog walking (25%).
- Of survey respondents, the most desired amenities to be added and/or improved upon in the park are equestrian trails (27%), hiking/skiing/snowshoeing trails (25%), mountain biking trails (19%), canoe/kayaking access (17%), and educational signage (17%).

Online Interactive Map: An interactive mapping exercise was available on the project website from May through November 2019 and received 43 responses. The Online Interactive Map allowed people to leave comments that pinpointed specific areas of Pine Point Regional Park. As with the survey, the interactive map was dispersed through various outreach materials and online platforms. For a full list of these comments, see appendix.

Direct Connect: In order to reach specific user groups and agencies that would be impacted by the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan, Washington County sent out direct email invites to group leaders to share survey and event information with their networks. Many of these groups shared the online survey and project information on their social media sites and through their email lists.

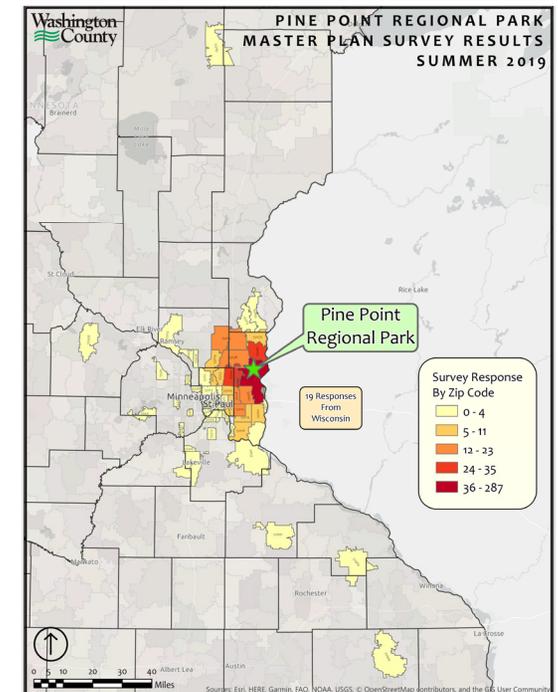
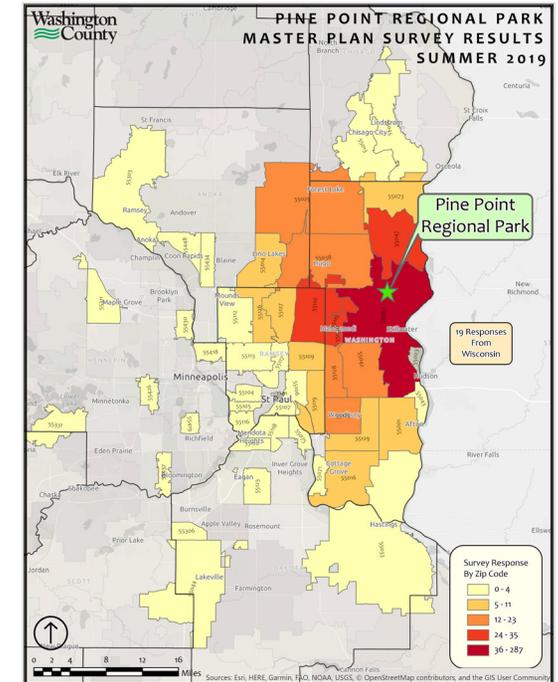


FIGURE 8 | Online Survey Response by Zip Code | Source: Washington County

In-Person Engagement Activities

Open Houses 1 & 2: There were two open houses held during the master planning process. The first Open House took place on July 23, 2019 during early concept development at the Washington County Public Works Building. Over 60 attendees were asked what types of future improvements they would like to see considered as part of the master plan, and 106 written responses of feedback were received. On November 14th, 2019 the second open house was also held at the Washington County Public Works Building. Over 80 community members attended the open house which showcased a summary of community engagement, a preliminary conceptual master plan, and the master plan's design layers and programmatic considerations. Individuals were able to give input on the final plan recommendations and on prioritization of key issues, such as trail alignments and wayfinding. 59 comments were documented.

County Fair: On August 1-2, 2019 Washington County Staff attended the County Fair and

had Fair goers vote with dots on what kinds of activities and amenities they would like to see in Pine Point Regional Park. In total, they received 241 responses.

Park Pop-Up Table: On July 14, 2019 Washington County Staff set up a Pop-Up Table in the park to raise awareness about the master plan. 13 responses were gathered during the day.

Urban Roots: On October 8, 2019, Washington County, Urban Roots, and Metropolitan Council staff hosted an Urban Roots event in Pine Point Regional Park. Urban Roots is a Saint Paul organization focused on empowering youth ages through connections to nature and community. Around 25 youth from Urban Roots visited various areas of the park and participated in an activity to help gather insights into what youth need to enjoy a nature-based park.

Individual Conversations with Key Stakeholders: Individual conversations with key stakeholders often involved interviews with people on specific topics to gather personal expertise and insight

during the master planning process. These conversations were particularly important in involving residents who live directly adjacent to Pine Point Regional Park. Part of the master planning process was to identify potential parcels for acquisition, and, therefore, it was vital to work closely with individuals whom this would directly impact and ensure that their voices were heard. These conversations will continue as master plan recommendations are further considered in order to move forward and will be covered in more detail in Chapter 8.

Public Engagement Themes

Following community engagement efforts, the PMT and consultant team reviewed the collected public feedback and synthesized all the received feedback, identifying major themes and findings present across the engagement events and tools. These served to inform the master plan concept and design recommendations. The master plan recommendations directly address these themes/findings.



Community Open House #1 (7/23/19) | Source: Perkins and Will



Washington County Fair (8/1/19-8/2/19) | Source: Washington County



Open House #2 (11/14/19) | Source: Perkins and Will



Urban Roots Event (10/08/19) | Source: Washington County / Metropolitan Council

Summary of Major Themes & Findings

Major themes/findings included:

- Most popular uses: Gateway State Trail, hiking, horseback riding, bikers and skiing
- Top liked activities to add (multi-use/equestrian trails, wayfinding, canoe & kayak launch, adventure play, mountain biking, and camping)
- Opportunities to enhance connectivity to Gateway State Trail
- Current users like that the park is rustic, natural, and quiet
- There is a demand for family-based recreation

(picnic, play, etc.) and educational programming

- Additional low-impact infrastructure (trails, lights, restrooms, wayfinding, etc.)
- Improve and expand trails for all users – including separation of equestrian and mountain bike uses, where possible
- Prioritize improving wayfinding and signage
- Balance ecological needs and recreational use

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05. Development Concept & Design Guidance

Pine Point Regional Park's varied ecologies, recreational opportunities, and placement along the Gateway State Trail make it an important destination within the Regional Park System. The extensive community and partner engagement determined the master plan's focus on enhancing the park's ecological and recreational qualities while preserving its quiet, rustic character. The following development plan explains the long-term vision of the park, including improved trails, accessibility, wayfinding, and natural resource and recreational considerations.

The master plan responds to conflicts identified during the planning process, through trail adjustments, updated wayfinding, and an improved crossing across Norell Avenue. Located along the proposed trail alignments, there are various types of "nodes," places along the trail of significant interest. The master plan provides general guidance on the development of these nodes. The intention is to not be prescriptive in how the nodes develop, but provide flexibility to allow for new or different park trends to be considered during future implementation. This malleability is essential in long-range planning documents such as the Pine Point Regional Park master plan.

This further strengthens Pine Point Regional Park's categorization as a regional park, as regional parks are encouraged to highlight their water resources. To ensure equitable park usage, an ADA trail loop enhances the park's accessible-trail options. The master plan includes recreational elements that

received public and key stakeholder support, namely new equestrian and biking trails, picnic and play facilities, a non-motorized boat launch, and potential campsites in the long-term. The schedule and cost estimates for each project will be included in Chapter 8.

Natural Resource Elements

The master plan also addresses and resolves conflicts between recreational and natural-resource management needs for park development. Part of the master planning process was to identify high, medium, and low-quality ecological areas within the park. This analysis helped identify core habitat restoration areas to protect and improve through strategic natural resource management. These strategies will be covered at greater length in Chapter 6.

Therefore, some existing trails that pass through these ecologically sensitive areas have been relocated to the core areas' periphery or closed. Also, the plan designates an Ecological Trail to highlight the park's natural resources, while adding boardwalks along stretches of trail to protect wetland areas and providing scenic views of the lakes. Implementation of these new trail alignments will be undertaken in phases. These trail amendments also seek to avoid redundant trails and improve wayfinding for visitors.

Water Resources

Lake Louise and Loon Lake are key features to Pine

Youth Engagement

Part of the park’s engagement process included hosting a group of teenage youth from Urban Roots, a Saint Paul-based organization, in Pine Point Regional Park to get their input on the master plan.

This is an age-group that is typically underserved, and the master plan incorporates their feedback. They recommended having places to gather with friends away from the parking lot, which the Family Recreation Zones accomplish. They discussed having stopping points with viewing blinds and seating along the trails to take photos with friends, which are programming elements reflected in the Natural Resource, Discovery, and Recreation Nodes scattered throughout the design concept.



Urban Roots Event (10/08/19) | Source: Washington County / Metropolitan Council

Point Regional Park. The county will contribute to the improvement of these impaired water bodies through natural resource management (see Chapter 6). This work complements the guidance provided in the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District 2010 Watershed Management Plan (see Appendix). The county will also consider “green infrastructure” and other stormwater management strategies when implementing capital improvements. Additionally, the county will continue to collaborate with the DNR on fisheries and stocking.

The improvements proposed in the master plan will also increase access and provide opportunities for park users to experience Lake Louise and Loon Lake. For example, the recreation nodes and

boardwalks provide interpretive opportunities for park visitors to learn about the lake’s role in the ecosystem. With park improvements providing better access to the lakes, the county will increase the diversity of water recreational programming, including kayaking and fishing. This will help attract families and new park visitors to explore the park.

Accessibility

The master plan recognizes the importance of providing enhanced accessibility in the park. As previously discussed, there are a significant number of Americans with disabilities. Additionally, the percentage of Washington County’s elderly population is expanding,

therefore, providing amenities suited for these user groups ensures that the park continues to meet the needs of its surrounding communities. Also, the master plan seeks to improve connections to adjacent trail systems to expand multimodal access in the park.

The Gateway State trail provides good access to the park today. The trail is flat, wide, and paved. The master plan proposes building off of this amenity to increase ADA-accessible options. The master plan proposes the addition of an ADA Trail Loop which will provide a level, easily accessible trail alignment and allow users of all ages and abilities to experience the park. The design concept integrates plans for a future extension

of the Gateway State Trail and includes “Gateway Interchange Nodes,” multiple entrance points into the regional park to make it easier for pedestrians and cyclists to enter from the Gateway State Trail.

ADA Accessible Loop

Pine Point Regional Park is a unique park within the Regional Parks System through its fascinating mix of cultural and ecological amenities, and such a location should be accessible to individuals of all abilities and mobility levels. The best practice in design is to consider accessibility at the very beginning of a project. Wherever possible, future renovations to Pine Point Regional Park should follow accessibility guidelines, expanding access of site buildings, features, and trails. Especially as new educational programming is offered in the park, it is vital that such programs be experienced by as wide an audience as possible.

A fully ADA accessible one-mile trail loop will begin from the main trailhead and lead visitors to many of the park’s main features. The ADA Accessible Loop will follow standard ADA guidelines to provide a stable surfacing, either using paving materials or compacted stone or gravel.

- The loop includes:
- Views of the park’s major target plant communities (savanna, oak forest, mixed coniferous-deciduous forest, mesic prairie, and wetland)
- Access to the Family Recreation Zones, with picnic and play facilities
- Access to the Outing Lodge
- Connections along the Gateway State Trail

Local and Regional Trail Connections

Pine Point Regional Park is a major trailhead of the Gateway State Trail. The design concept shows the current alignment of the Gateway, which enters through the southwest of the park to Norell Avenue.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources seeks to extend the Gateway State Trail beyond Pine Point Regional Park to William O’Brien State Park. Reflecting feedback from key stakeholders involved in planning the Gateway State Trail extension, the design concept shows two potential alignments. The Gateway State Trail currently terminates at the Pine Point Regional Park trailhead, next to the park’s parking area to the west of Norell Avenue. The first potential alignment would cross Norell Avenue and run parallel along the avenue’s right of way on the east side. The second alignment would also continue from the trailhead and cross Norell Avenue but continue through Pine Point Regional Park, exiting from the northeast. At the time of this master plan, the potential Gateway extension alignments are still under discussion, but Washington County will continue collaborating with the Minnesota DNR to ensure that planning efforts for the Gateway State Trail are integrated into the park’s future development.

Improved Access to the Park

The design concept identifies main park entrances and potential improvements.

Proposed Crossing Improvement on Norell Avenue

Norell Avenue bisects Pine Point Regional Park



Norell Avenue Crossing | Source: Google Maps



Pine Point Regional Park Trailhead and Parking | Source: Washington County

from the north to south, and visitors seeking to cross between the west and east segments of the park must cross this street. While this is not a high-volume roadway, park visitors have expressed safety concerns when crossing it. To improve this user conflict, Washington County will work with the DNR to identify potential crossing improvements. Improvements should coincide with other at-grade Gateway State Trail crossings.

Main Entrance & Gateway State Trail Trailhead

Pine Point Regional Park’s main entrance is the Gateway State Trail trailhead. Since this is most visitors’ first experience of the park, careful design is necessary to ensure that visitors’ basic needs are met, that they can orient themselves quickly, and that they understand the park’s available amenities and their locations. Features to help facilitate a positive park experience include trail system maps, restrooms, access to water, and seating. Many of these amenities are already present in the current trailhead area, but certain strategic improvements will enhance the visitor experience. There is existing parking for vehicles and equestrian trailers, a trailhead building with restrooms, and a small picnic area. The trailhead building is also a water station and is suitable for the park’s recreational uses. At the trailhead, there is an information kiosk to orient park visitors to trails and to feature relevant notices about the park, such as current events and park policies.

The plan recommends that the main park entrance and Gateway State Trail trailhead be enhanced to improve the park experience for both seasoned and new park visitors alike. This includes renovating the trailhead building, improving wayfinding and signage, strengthening the connection between the park and the Gateway State Trail, and amending its current local trails.

Renovations to the Trailhead Building

The master plan recommends this building be expanded to increase its storage capacities, while maintaining its restroom facilities. Public feedback received during engagement included desire for a warming area and year-round use. Currently,

the facility is closed during winter months. Renovations to the trailhead building could include heat lamps or a bonfire pit to address this need.

Proposed Signage to Improve Park User Experience

The park’s information kiosk at the trailhead is highly useful for orienting park visitors. During engagement activities, there were recommendations to post park etiquette, “tips and tricks” for interactions between various user groups, and it would be valuable to post this information at the main entrance. This develops a shared protocol between all visitors and helps establish expectations for users to keep trails clean and safe. It is especially important when various user groups encounter one another at trail intersections, such as cyclists and equestrians, where it is a safety concern if horses are surprised by passing cyclists and may react abruptly.

Improvements Between the Trailhead and the Gateway State Trail

The trailhead is a main point of connection between the park and the Gateway State Trail. Currently, this area has redundant trails that the master plan recommends be simplified. There have also been user conflicts due to the lack of clarity in the current wayfinding signage, which the master plan also recommends updating to ensure ease of use at this important junction of the park and the Gateway State Trail. Washington County will collaborate with DNR on the proposed improvements.

Gateway State Trail & Interchange Nodes

The master plan includes multiple entrances for users to enter Pine Point Regional Park from the

Gateway State Trail, both via Gateway Interchange Nodes, as well as wherever local trails bisect the Gateway. Interchange Nodes are entrances with additional wayfinding signage to mark entries into the park.

Introduction to Park “Nodes”

The master plan concept identifies a variety of nodes. These include:

- **Interchange Nodes** along the Gateway State Trail provide clearer entry points into the park.
- **Natural Resource Nodes** along the Ecological Trail route highlight specific nature areas.
- **Discovery Nodes** along the Discovery Trail route highlight special cultural and historical sites.
- **Recreational Nodes and Zones** highlight potential locations for additional or enhanced recreational opportunities

This plan provides a variety of development options for these nodes. – allowing the county to be flexible, not prescriptive, with implementation. This allows the county to be responsive to the evolving trends. All nodes will be designed to be context-sensitive, taking into account the surrounding environment. These are intended to be low-impact, “light touch” elements that will add value to the park’s nature-based recreation and provide new opportunities within the park.

Trail Route Descriptions and Related Design Elements

Currently, Pine Point Regional Park has 7.9 miles of unpaved trails that provide access through the park to various user groups, including equestrians, hikers, cyclists, skiers, and snowshoers. However, some of these trails are redundant or difficult for users to directionally navigate. Additionally, these redundancies have ecological impacts on the site. The master plan process included a careful assessment of these current trails, as well as adjacent natural systems, topography, and overall usage, to identify redundant trails for closure and to protect ecologically sensitive habitats. Existing trail systems were maintained wherever possible to minimize disturbance to the park's current circulation and established ecologies.

Several primary trail routes and future biking areas were identified to enhance the user experience through the park and clarify uses. These routes will improve wayfinding, reduce potential user conflicts, highlight notable natural, cultural, and

recreational features, and reduce overall ecological impacts. These amended trail alignments will also provide opportunities for educational programming about the site's ecological diversity and cultural/historical amenities.

The proposed routes and future bike trail areas are as follows:

- The Blue Trail
- The Yellow Trail
- Bike Access and Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas

Along these trail alignments, there are additional uses and lenses that highlight various aspects of Pine Point Regional Park.

These additional features include:

- Ecological Trail Route & Natural Resource Nodes
- Discovery Trail Route & Discovery Nodes
- Recreation Nodes and Zones
- ADA Accessible Loop

Trail routes will comply with current Washington County design standards. Trail maintenance will include ongoing assessment and protection of natural resources adjacent to the trails, such as sensitive plant populations, nesting sites, and animal habitats. Natural Resource, Discovery, and Recreation Nodes will require routine vegetation maintenance to preserve desired sightlines. The nodes also serve to concentrate visitor access to strategic areas, thus minimizing user impacts on the overall natural park system.

The Blue Trail

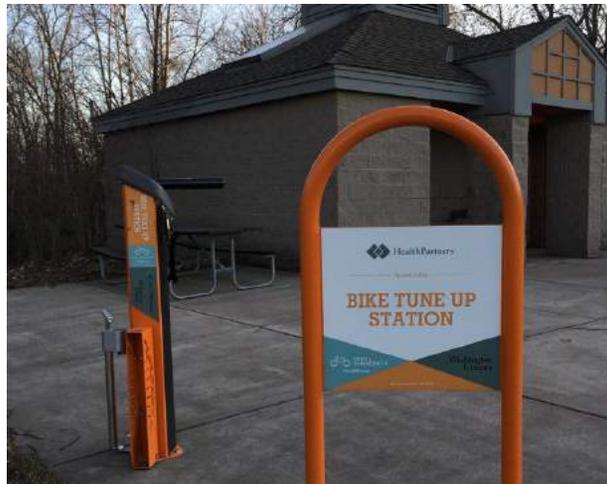
The Blue Trail is a 4.3 mile (6.9 km) unpaved, multiuse trail, and it will be open in summer for equestrian users and hikers. Winter uses include horseback riding, hiking, and snowshoeing. A boardwalk will also be located along this trail for improved access and views of Louise Lake.

The Yellow Trail

The Yellow Trail is a 4.3 mile (6.9 km) unpaved, multiuse trail, and it will be open in the summer for equestrian users and hikers. In winter, the



Single Track Biking Course | Source: Villas at Giants Ridge



Existing Bike Maintenance Station at Pine Point Regional Park | Source: Yelp



Horseback Riding | Source: Uxbridge Times Journal

Yellow Trail will be reserved for cross-country skiers. A boardwalk will also be located along this trail for improved access and views of Loon Lake. Specific segments of the trail will be open in summer only.

Bike Access and Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas

There are also 1.0 miles (1.6 km) of Bike Access trails. These are trails open to cyclists that will give them easy access to proposed single track mountain biking areas. Currently, there is an existing mountain biking area in the northeast corner of Pine Point Regional Park. Mountain biking will be expanded both on the east and west sides of Pine Point within the identified Proposed Single-Track Biking Areas (See **Figure 9** on page 40). Precise mountain biking trail alignments within these zones are to be determined. It is anticipated that these trails will also be used for fat tire biking in the winter.

Ecological Trail Route & Natural Resource Nodes

The Ecological Trail Route allows visitors to sample Pine Point Regional Park's diverse ecological

plant communities and features aquatic zones (wetlands, flood plain forests), woodland zones (oak, mixed coniferous - deciduous), and grasslands (mesic prairie and savanna). This scenic route is comprised of a system of Natural Resource Nodes, which are areas for observing unique ecological features in the park (See **Figure 11** on page 42).

Natural Resource Nodes highlight certain views, types of wildlife, and conservation/management techniques. Natural Resource Nodes may feature one or more of the following items:

- Educational signage on grazing techniques, ecological restoration areas, and pine management
- Wildlife blinds
- Photography hotspots
- Seating for scenic overlooks

Discovery Trail Route & Discovery Nodes

The Discovery Trail Route is an interpretive path showcasing the park's interesting historical and cultural features. Highlighting these features adds richness to the visitor experience and improves

wayfinding by calling out significant park sites. This route directs visitors along a series of Discovery Nodes, comprised of the park's cultural and historical holdings (See **Figure 12** on page 43).

There are five Discovery Nodes located along the Discovery Trail route. They include the Outing Lodge, previously the 19th Century Poor Farm, the Poor Farm historic cemetery and pine plantations, an agricultural site, the Gateway State Trail trailhead, and a restored prairie.

The trail and nodes provide an opportunity for visitors to learn about the park's historical and cultural amenities and lend themselves to educational programming in the park. With appropriate interpretive elements, cultural remnants manifesting in the landscape can tell the larger story of the region – of Native American history, 19th century immigrants, the Lumber Mill Boom, railroads, and transformation of the landscape toward an agricultural economy. For example, the pine plantations, from which Pine Point Regional Park received its name, were a cultural addition to the site's naturally occurring oak savanna vegetation.

Discovery Nodes may feature one or more of the



Campfire Area | Source: Sepaq Anticosti



Stargazing Mound | Source: The Clearing, WI



Natural Playscape | Source: Install It Direct

following items:

- Benches
- Interpretive signage
- Other low-impact recreational improvement

Recreation Nodes and Zones

Recreation Nodes and Zones highlight potential locations for additional or enhanced recreational opportunities and include features geared toward families and groups and/or water-based amenities (See **Figure 13** on page 44). These may include the following:

- Non-motorized boat launch (canoe, kayak, etc.) and pier
- Campfire area
- Potential rustic campsites
- Family Recreation Zones
- Other low-impact recreational improvement

Proposed Recreational Uses

The proposed non-motorized boat launch and pier are envisioned for uses such as kayaking, canoeing, and fishing and to be located south of Louise Lake. Louise Lake is a popular fishing and ice fishing lake for the public. Providing a launch for non-motorized boats will improve safety and access.

Furthermore, a repurposed Outing Lodge will provide nearby parking and facilities. In response to feedback received during engagement efforts, the master plan also proposes two potential hike-in/ride-in locations for rustic camping to the west of Louise Lake. These potential campsites would be low impact, with access to potable water and restroom facilities either on-site or at the

nearby park facility. Site would include adequate screening from the road and neighboring properties. Due to the trail system within the park and nearby trail destinations, rustic camping would be an option for those interested in equestrian camping and/or bike camping. Any camp site would adhere to Washington County camping guidelines.

Proposed Family Recreation Zones

There are two designated Family Recreation Zones included in the master plan. Analysis of the area showed that Washington County is home to many families, and the design concept seeks to provide space for families and groups to socialize and interact. These zones will give groups a place to have multigenerational gatherings of various sizes and expand the park's currently limited play facilities. Family Recreation Zones may feature one or more of the following items:

- Nature/adventure play
- Picnic benches
- Picnic shelter & restrooms
- Sledding hill
- Campfire area
- Star gazing mound

The play facilities planned in the Family Recreation Zones will be nature and adventure play based. They are play spaces that are low impact on and blend into the surrounding environment. They are typically comprised of natural materials, such as boulders, stumps, or downed logs. These play areas will allow park visitors to challenge themselves and interact with the natural environment through physical touch and activity.



Trail Courtesy Signage | Source: Flickr

The Family Recreation Zones may have a picnic shelter, which includes picnic tables, trash receptacles, and water access. The shelter is anticipated to accommodate between 10 to 20 people. The shelter's preferred location is to the west of the park near the Outing Lodge. The second Family Recreation Zone, located to the north of the Gateway Trailhead, would include picnic benches and nature/adventure play.

These Family Recreation Zones will be valuable resources to park visitors, as well as Washington County and community programs. They will be able to accommodate larger groups at central locations and will provide a staging area for visitors beginning or ending their park visit. This is particularly important for family groups with recreation equipment or users with limited mobility. Both are located along the

ADA-Accessible Trail Loop for this reason. They will also concentrate the footprint of group gatherings, helping to minimize ecological disturbances in the park.

Wayfinding

The wide variety of soft-surface, multiuse trails and the unique natural environments offer opportunities for wayfinding and interpretation. A uniform signage theme will continue to be implemented throughout the park for orienting visitors to facility locations and trail circulation and understanding the rules and regulations for park use.

The design and implementation of interpretive signage should be integrated with wayfinding signage to create an attractive appearance throughout the park. Wayfinding and interpretation should include the following elements:

- Kiosks to hold maps and information signs.
- Wayfinding signs to identify destinations and distances.
- Interpretation panels to point out natural features or systems.
- Signage communicating park policies and ordinances, especially trail etiquette regarding equestrian interactions.

Washington County will work to improve existing wayfinding. Implementation will coincide with trail realignments in the phased approach described later in this chapter.

Park Boundary and Related Acquisitions

The master plan includes parcels identified for potential acquisition, which would add an additional 172 acres to the park's current 287 acres, equaling a total of 457 acres. The current park size meets requirements for regional park

status but four additional proposed acquisitions will enhance park's value as a natural and recreational resource. These parcels are identified in **Figure 10** on page 41. As Washington County's population continues to grow, the county must continue to be strategic in how the regional park system grows. The county used a variety of metrics to assess parcels to consider including into the future park boundary, including data on plant communities, land cover, current and guided land use, soil characteristics, and slope variation. This data helped address key factors:

- Potential or existing ecological value of significance
- Opportunity to improve access to the park or natural resources
- Opportunity to improve or expand recreational use of the park

The master plan proposes the acquisition of six privately-owned parcels and the inclusion of one parcel already owned by Washington County. This acreage aligns with the guidance provided in the Regional Parks Policy Plan for regional parks.

Furthermore, Washington County will work with the Metropolitan Council to include this proposed future park boundary in the future system addition update to the Regional Parks Policy Plan. The park expansion in this master plan will be a boundary adjustment request that is contingent on Metropolitan Council approval.

Washington County's current practice for park land acquisition is on a "willing-seller" basis. The projected timing and sequencing of acquiring the proposed property adjacent to the park will ultimately be determined by funding and the



Entrance to Pine Point Regional Park | Source: Washington County

Figure 9: Master Plan Development Concept



FIGURE 9 | Pine Point Regional Park Concept | Source: Perkins and Will

Figure 10: Privately-Owned Parcels Included in the Master Plan (Contingent on Acquisitions)

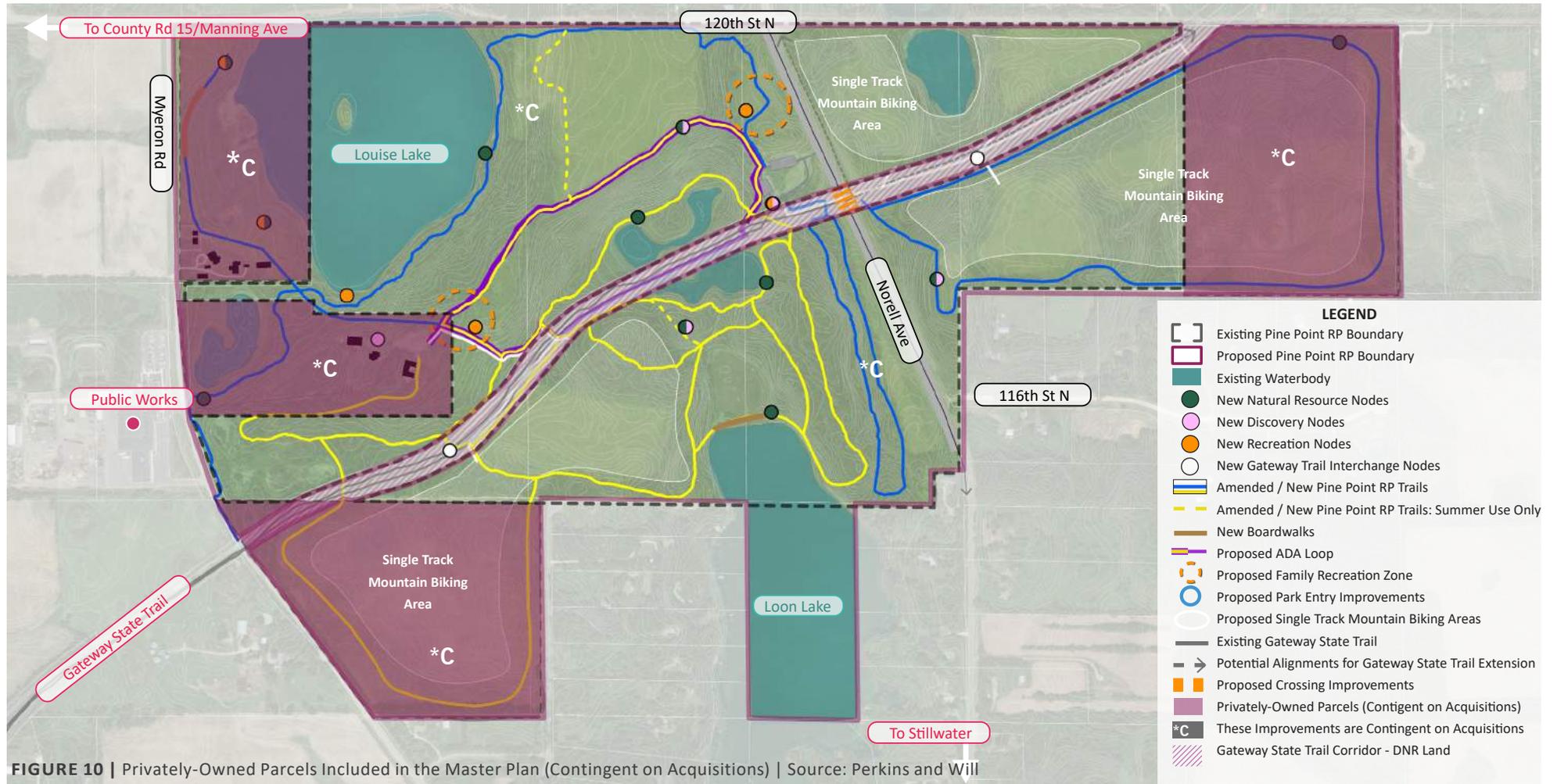


FIGURE 10 | Privately-Owned Parcels Included in the Master Plan (Contingent on Acquisitions) | Source: Perkins and Will

timing of parcel availability. For estimated costs of potential parcel acquisitions, see Chapter 8.

Figure 11: Ecological Trail and Natural Resource Nodes

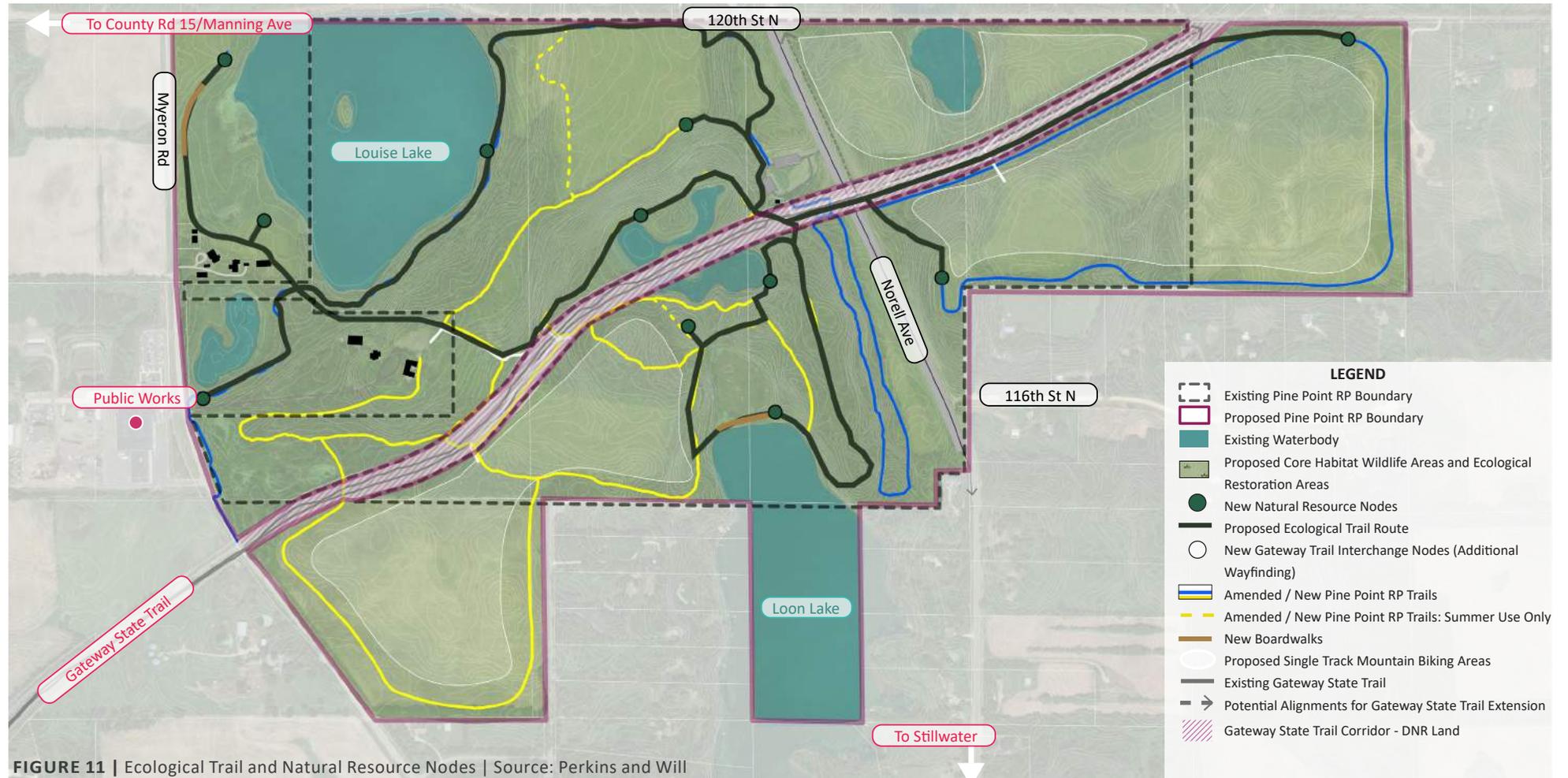


FIGURE 11 | Ecological Trail and Natural Resource Nodes | Source: Perkins and Will



Scenic Overlooks | Source: Villas at Giants Ridge



Wildlife Blinds | Source: Tonaquint Park, MD



Viewing Pier | Source: Brazos Bend State Park

Figure 12: Discovery Trail and Discovery Nodes

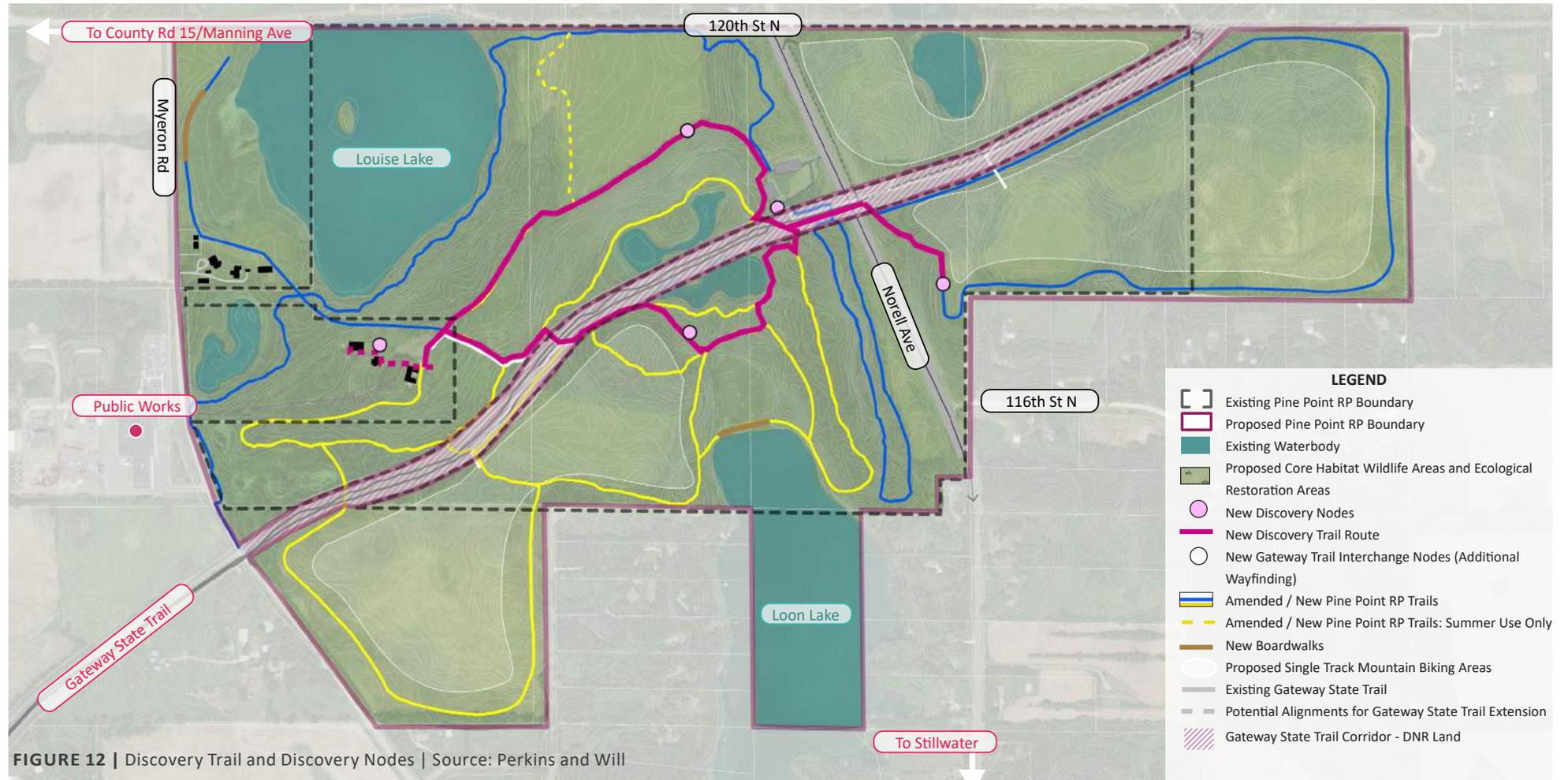


FIGURE 12 | Discovery Trail and Discovery Nodes | Source: Perkins and Will



Interpretive Signage | Source: The Interpretive Design Company; Interpretive Signage | Source: Lake Ledge Naturalist; Restored Prairie | Source: MN Native Landscapes

Figure 13: Recreation Nodes and Family Recreation Zone



FIGURE 13 | Recreation Nodes and Family Recreation Zones | Source: Perkins and Will



Non-Motorized Boat Launch | Source: The Dock Doctors



Rustic Camping | Source: A Camper's Log



Picnic Shelter | Source: City of Urbandale

Figure 14: Concept: Phase 1 (1 to 5 Years)

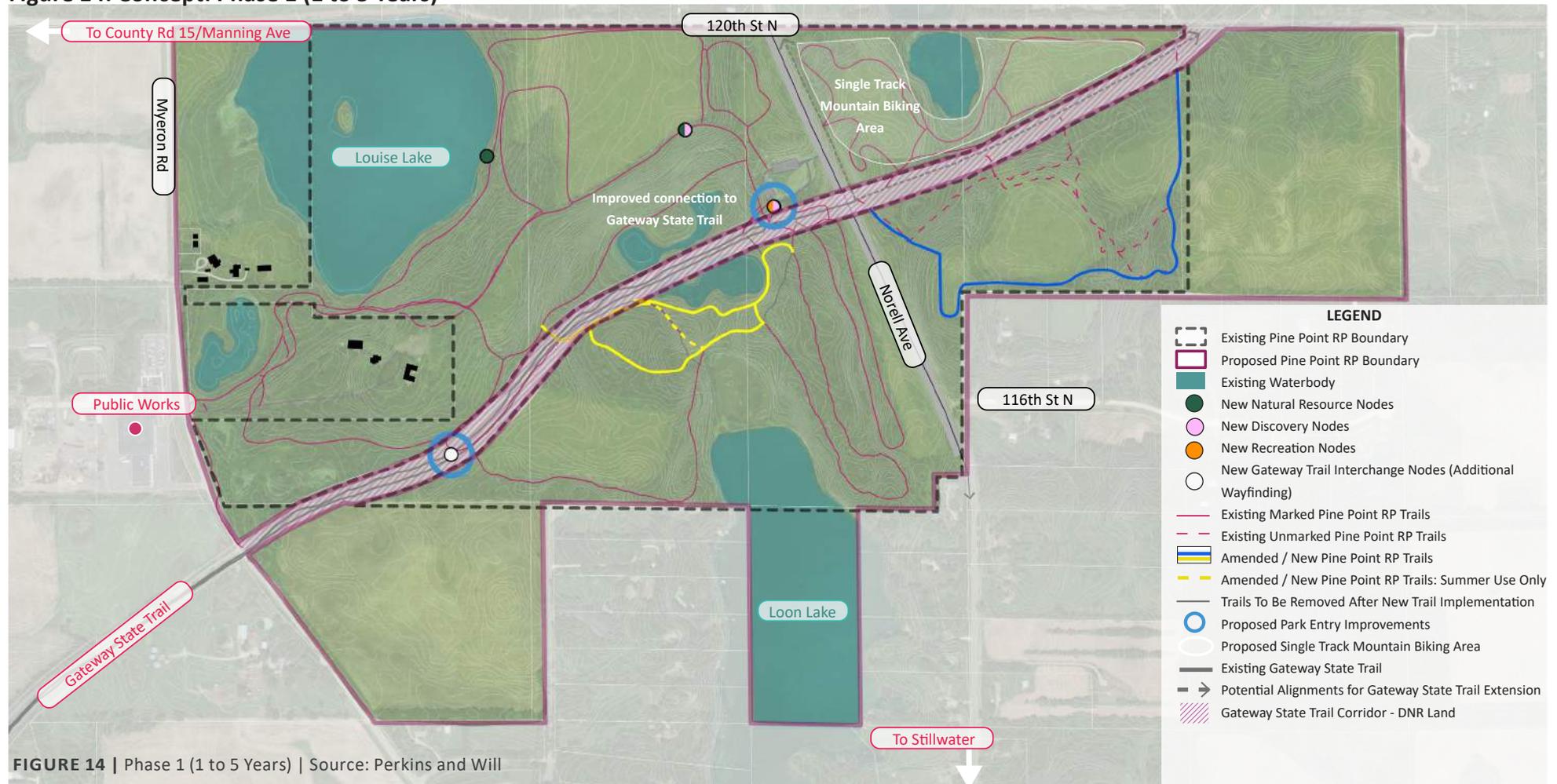


FIGURE 14 | Phase 1 (1 to 5 Years) | Source: Perkins and Will

Concept Phasing

As the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan will be implemented in phases, the Project Management Team (PMT) worked with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to help determine prioritization of the various concept elements.

Phase 1

Phase 1 lists recommendations for Pine Point

Regional Park development in the next one to five years. See **Figure 14: Phase 1 (1 to 5 Years)**.

- Park entry improvements by the Gateway State Trail trailhead/main entrance.
- Interchange Node along the Gateway State Trail.
- New and/or amended Yellow Trail on the west of Norell Avenue, south of the Gateway State Trail.
- New and/or amended Blue Trail on the east of Norell Avenue, south of the Gateway State Trail.

- Recreation Node by Gateway State Trail trailhead/main entrance.
- Two Discovery Nodes highlighting the Gateway State Trail trailhead/main entrance and restored prairie.
- Two Natural Resource Nodes highlighting restored prairie and views of Louise Lake.
- Add/improve single tracking biking area east of Norell Avenue

Figure 15: Concept: Phase 2 (5 to 10 Years)

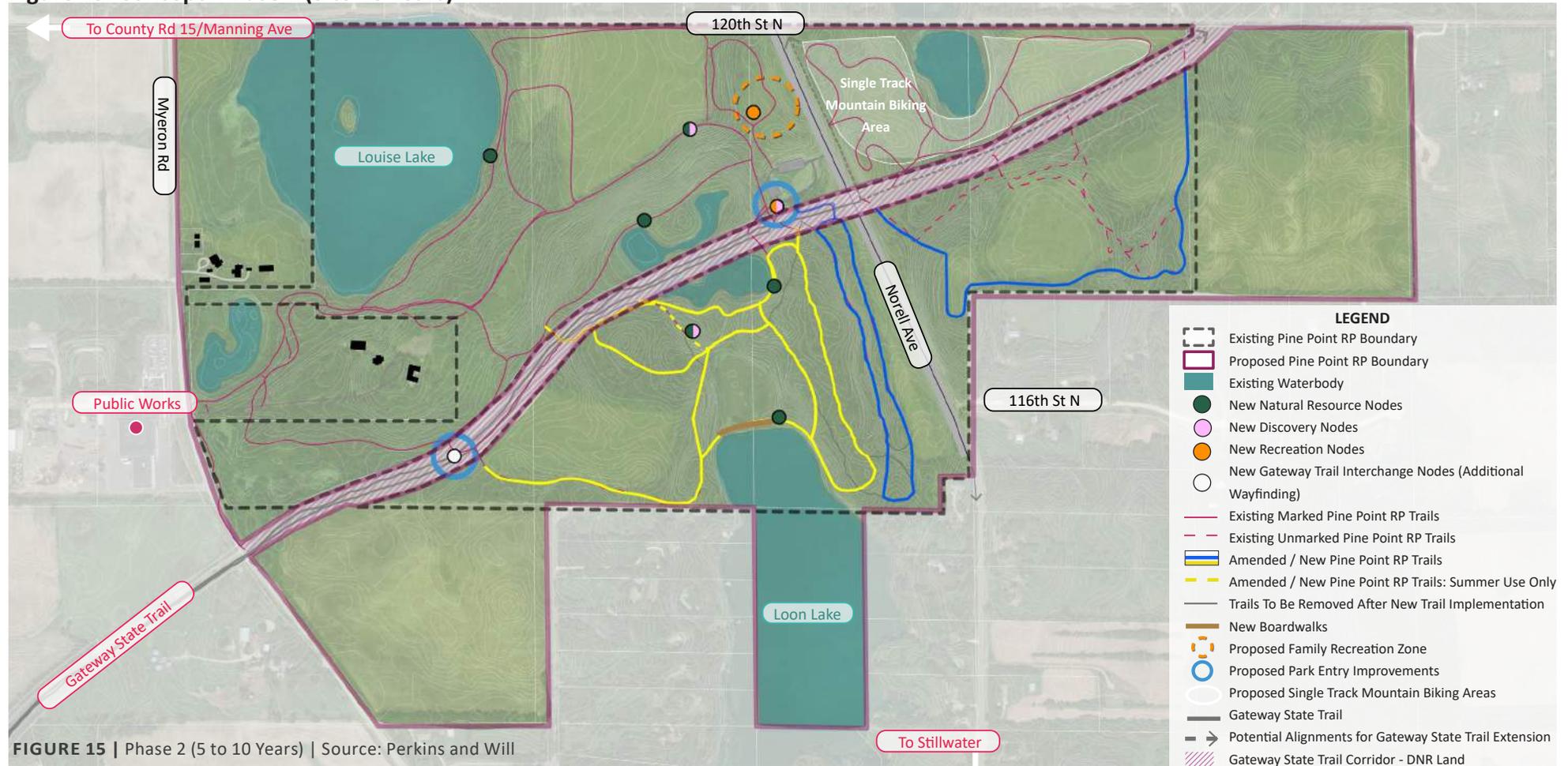


FIGURE 15 | Phase 2 (5 to 10 Years) | Source: Perkins and Will

Phase 2

Phase 2 lists recommendations for Pine Point Regional Park development in the next five to ten years. See **Figure 15: Phase 2 (5 to 10 Years)**.

- Continued park entry improvements off of Norell Avenue, near main entrance.
- Continued developments to new and/or amended Yellow Trail on the west of Norell Avenue, south of the Gateway State Trail.
- Continued developments to new and/or amended

Blue Trail on the west of Norell Avenue.

- Family Recreation Zone/Recreation Node to the north of the Gateway State Trail trailhead/main entrance.
- Discovery Node located by Poor Farm Cemetery.
- Four Ecology Nodes highlighting views of pine stands, Loon Lake, and wetlands.
- Boardwalk along Loon Lake.
- Add/improve single tracking biking area east of Norell Avenue.



Boardwalk | Source: Stocksy

Figure 16: Concept: Phase 3 (10+ Years)



FIGURE 16 | Phase 3 (10+ Years) | Source: Perkins and Will

Phase 3

Phase 3 lists recommendations for Pine Point Regional Park development in the next ten years and beyond. These recommendations include improvements that are contingent on acquisitions. See **Figure 16: Phase 3 (10+ Years)**.

- Park entry improvements to the southwest and northeast of the park at its proposed boundary and by the entrance of the Outing Lodge.
- Repurposing Outing Lodge as park facility for

visitors and park operations.

- Continued developments to new and/or amended Yellow Trail on the west of Norell Avenue to the north south of the Gateway State Trail.
- Continued developments to new and/or amended Blue Trail on the east and west of Norell Avenue.
- Two new Interchange Nodes along the Gateway State Trail.
- Family Recreation Zone/Recreation Node to the east of the Outing Lodge.

- Three Recreation Nodes around Louise Lake.
- Development of new Single-Track Mountain Biking Areas south of the Gateway on both the east and west sides of the park.
- Assessment of crossing improvements at Norell Avenue.
- Discovery Node located at the Outing Lodge.
- Three Natural Resource Nodes highlighting views of Louise Lake and wetlands.
- Boardwalk along Louise Lake.



06. Natural Resource Management & Stewardship Recommendations

The following section provides guidance on the unique natural resources such as lakes, wetlands, degraded oak savanna remnants, prairie restorations, and grass dominated fields, mixed coniferous/deciduous forest and pine plantations for which its name was developed. These habitats provide a unique experience for park users and tell a story how people have interacted with the land, water and wildlife. This chapter provides recommendations on how best to steward the land moving forward with recognition of existing plant communities, and the threats they face, and an increasingly changing climate.

Natural Resource Stewardship Recommendations

History: A Changing Relationship with the Land

As mentioned in Chapter 3, Indigenous communities occupied the St. Croix Valley area from 9,000 BP, with evidence of mound building taking place from 3,000 BP and later. These communities shaped and relied on the native plant communities developed, and the wildlife that use them. To steward these areas, they used fire to clear underbrush and improve grasslands for large herbivores, and to gather food and fuel.

This relationship changed as the region was settled by Europeans, where more intensive uses of the land occurred such as row crop agriculture systems, production based grazing and haying. Due to the intensive use, soils were no longer

productive and were planted into mixed pines and deciduous forest, to ultimately be used as a forested crop. Other areas continued to be in row crop agriculture and intensively grazed. When agriculture ceased, and the land became a county park, the cropland and pastured revegetated primarily with aggressive, locally growing species. This process is a form of what ecologists call “recruitment,” recruiting propagules from the local area which provide the basis for what grows at a site. The elimination of native plants by farming limited the opportunity of native species to re-establish.

Today, plant diversity is limited because aggressive native and non-native species proliferate on these old field sites. Some aggressive plant species found in the park today such as smooth brome, common buckthorn, siberian elm, boxelder, and black locust, likely existed on the original farms and have outcompeted a diversity of native plants. This is an issue because wildlife, including pollinators and birds, are best supported by a diverse native plant community. Invasive plant species tend to drive down biodiversity. Since 2005, efforts have been

What is an Invasive Plant Species?

An invasive plant is defined as a plant that is not native to an area and has negative effects on our economy, environment, or human health. Invasive plants are aggressive species that grow and reproduce rapidly because few checks and balances occur in the ecosystem.



Monarch Butterfly | Source: Minnesota DNR



Pileated Woodpecker | Source: Vistapointe



Blanding's Turtle | Source: Shutterstock

made to restore prairie, and clear invasive shrubs from an oak savanna remnant. These intentional efforts require time, staffing and funding which this plan seeks to prioritize with the challenges faced by lack of a timber market, invasive species a changing climate and public perceptions.

Opportunities:

- Implement an Adaptive Management Plan to restore and enhance native plant communities in the park.
- Focus native plant community restoration and enhancement on the core restoration areas identified. In these areas, efforts will be made to restore native plant communities by controlling plants and implementing natural processes (grazing, fire and people).
- Prepare for the impacts of climate change by actively managing Pine Plantations.
- Implement practices that protect and conserve the parks water resources.

Adaptive Management Plan

An adaptive management approach is recommended for Pine Point Regional Park to preserve and enhance this unique resource. Adaptive management is an incremental process of testing a management technique, observing its effectiveness, and then adjusting the technique in response.

The intention is to guide the plant communities to be more resilient through:

- Controlling invasive plant species that negatively impact native plant communities.
- Restoring native plant communities by disturbance and supplemental seeding.

- Implementing forest management practices to make forests more resilient.

Native Plant Community - Core Restoration Strategy

The restoration of native plant communities should begin within the core areas of highest ecological potential identified in **Figure 19** on page 53. These are where there are remnant native plant communities, that can be restored and connections made surrounding them. Here an intense focus on invasive shrub removal should be prioritized, with the aim of eliminating competition to allow native plant regeneration. The goal is to establish a diverse and protected stand of native plants, and to then repeat invasive species management and planting steps in adjacent areas to expand the area of regeneration. Eventually the entire park could be in the process of regeneration as efforts expand from the cores. **Figure 20** on page 54 illustrates goals for eventual native plant communities in the park (target plant communities). The speed at which regeneration is implemented will depend upon funding and park staff capacity for overseeing or conducting the management work.

Climate change

Climate change is impacting Pine Point Regional Park and will increasingly impact the region through time. In Minnesota, climate change is manifesting with warmer winters (especially increasing night-time lows), increasing precipitation and storm intensity (more heavy rains and fewer slow soaking events), and greater snow events. According to DNR State Climatologist, increased summer day-time temperatures and increased occurrence of drought

has not yet been experienced in Minnesota (although summer night-time lows have been increasing). These changes are, however, predicted to increase after this wet hydrologic cycle and could occur within the next 10 - 20 years. Park users and managers can expect more heat and drought in the near future.

Climate change further aggravates the ecological issues discussed above. As the park experiences greater swings in temperature and precipitation, insects, birds, trees, wildflowers, and soil microorganisms are forced to tolerate conditions beyond those through which they have evolved. Diseases more readily occur in stressed plants and animals, and species might disappear, while new plants move in. This is also relevant to the park's pine plantations, where stressors such as overcrowding and drought can leave them more susceptible to disease.

Pine Plantation Management

Pine plantations were planted throughout the region as an income generating crop appropriate for infertile soils. Pine plantation trees are originally planted densely to compensate for potential failures in establishment. A specific regime of thinning is prescribed for all plantations may allow for some income in the early years (primarily from pulp), and to promote strong growth for eventual timber production. Rows of pines will be strategically prescribed to be removed in their early years to reduce competition for the remaining trees. After that, a consistent pattern of thinning within the rows is required for healthy, strong trees. A goal for pine plantations is to transition from pines to native forest by allowing native trees such as oaks to establish within the pines.

This prescribed regime of thinning has not yet

occurred, resulting in spindly, weak yet tall trees packed close together. These trees are susceptible to disease, drought damage, and wind throw. Through the public engagement process of park planning, park users voiced their appreciation of the pines. To best preserve the pine plantations in the park it is essential to begin thinning as soon as possible. It is recommended to have a professional forester consult on the process of thinning for each stand.

The recommended extent of thinning and proposed phasing plan for plantation management are shown in **Figures 21, 22, and 23** on pages 55-57. The intention of this phasing plan is to 1) improve the health of the stands of pine and 2) to improve the ecological integrity of the park by increasing forest diversity. The plan is to thin pines and allow other native trees and herbaceous plants to establish in between.

Percentages of thinning in the figures represent the final management goal in 10+ years, not the amount of thinning that will take place over a single phase. For example, in areas marked for 30-60% thinning in Figure 22, the thinning process will begin in the first phase, but it will likely take longer for the 30-60% thinning to be completed.

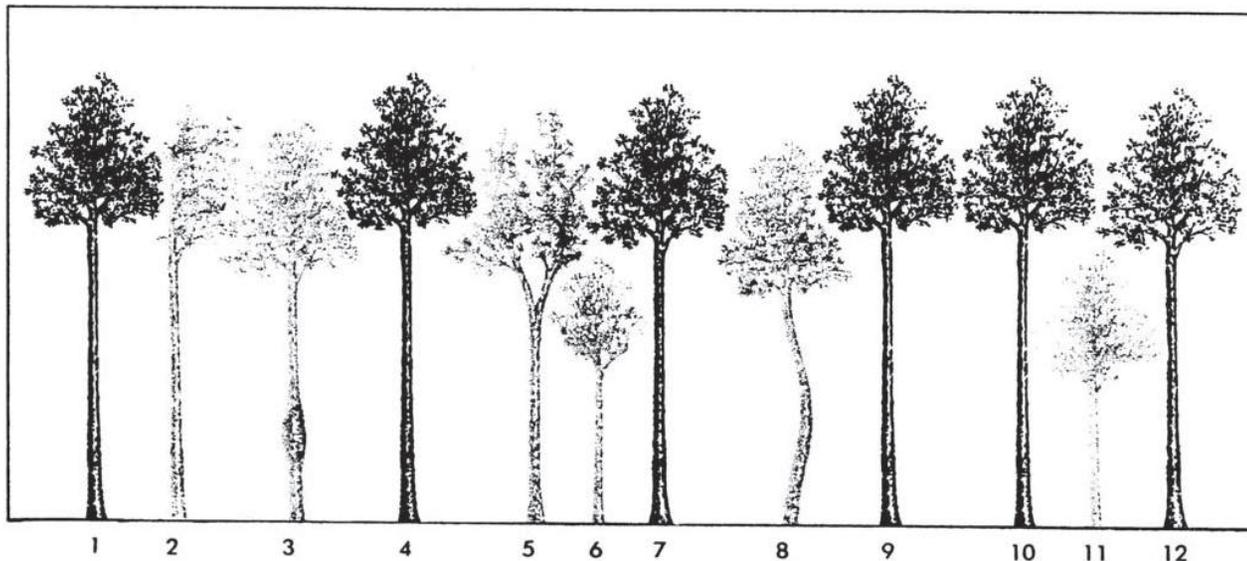


FIGURE 17 | Selective Pine Thinning - "The trees above removed by thinning are (2) one-sided crown, (3) fusiform canker, (5) forked stem, (6) overtopped tree, (8) crooked stem and (11) small tree too close to larger neighbors." | Source: "Improve Your Pine Stand by Thinning," University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture

The Importance of Pine Thinning

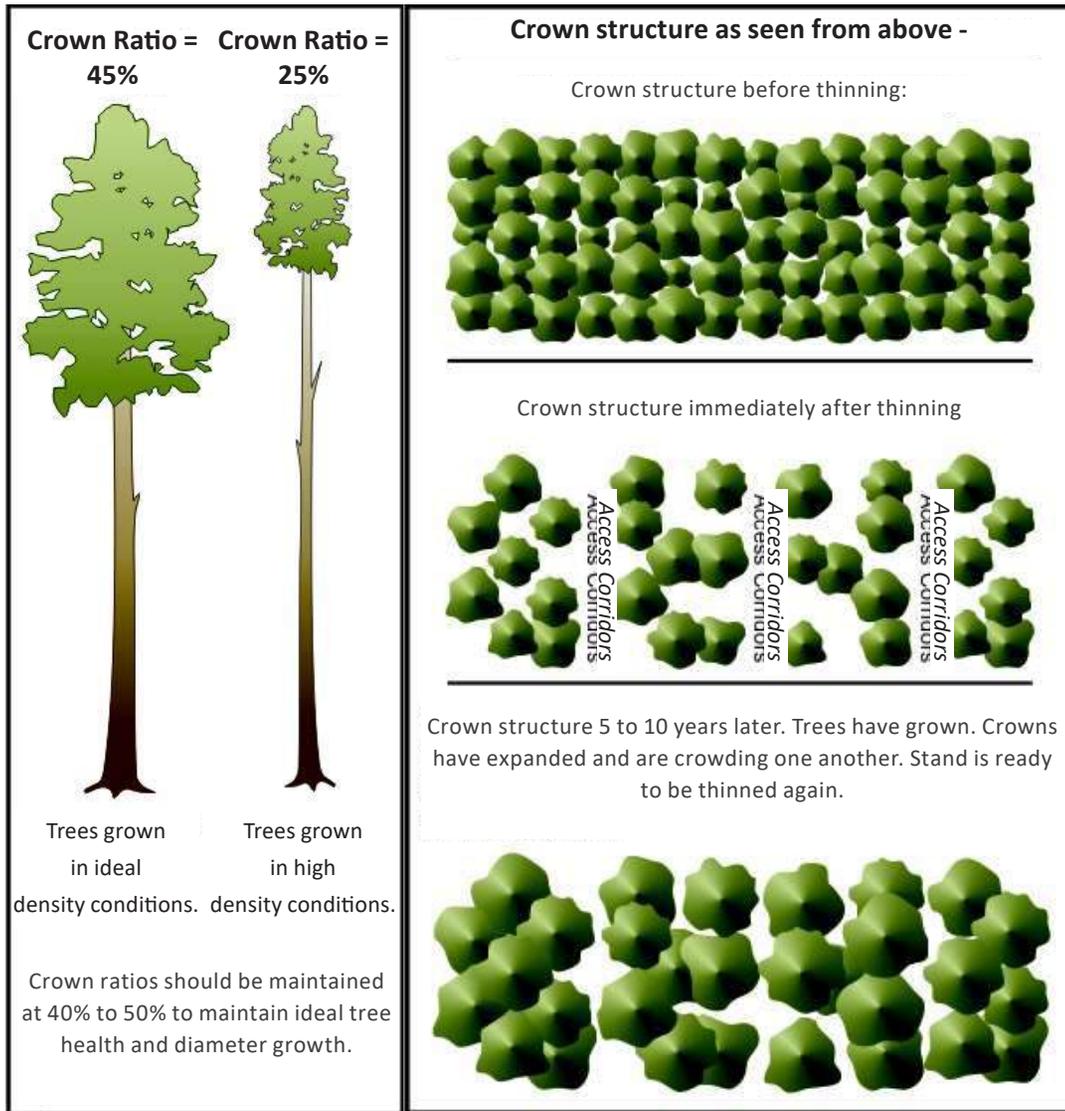


FIGURE 18 | Diagrams demonstrating thinning as a part of a healthy pine stand | Source: Timberland Advisors, Inc.



A “pine stand with post-thinning on the left and foreground of the photo and pre-thin on the right of the photo.” The thinning process removes the defective or diseased trees and small, slow growing trees while leaving the larger co-dominant and dominant trees to mature. | Source: “A Guide to Thinning Pine Plantations,” Georgia Forest Productivity (2015)



“A 42-year old longleaf stand that had been thinned twice (at ages 20-and 31-years old) leaving the best trees to grow out.” | Source: “A Guide to Thinning Pine Plantations,” Georgia Forest Productivity (2015)

Water Resources Protection

The lakes and wetlands within the park have experience some degree of degradation in water quality from past agricultural runoff. Protecting the watershed within the park from extensive development will help to prevent further water quality degradation. Minimal development of hard surfaces are planned for the park. Where development does occur the standards and requirements consistent with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's best management practices for stormwater management will be followed. This master plan completely avoids wetland impacts and instead provides to enhance their quality through habitat restoration.



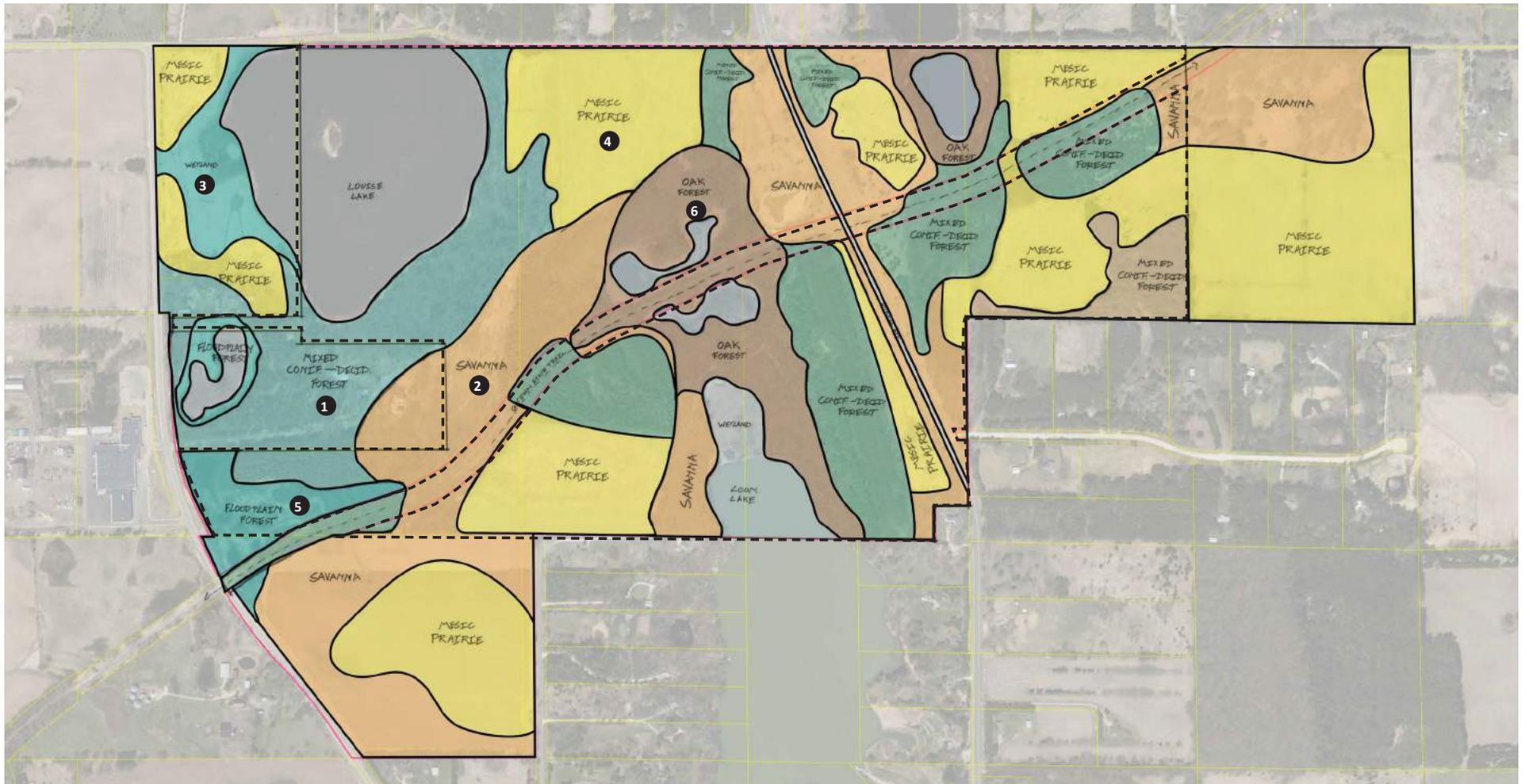
Louise Lake | Source: Washington County

Figure 19: Core Restoration Areas



FIGURE 19 | Highest Priority Core Restoration Areas | Source: Barr Engineering & Perkins and Will

Figure 20: Target Plant Communities



1 Mixed Coniferous -
Deciduous Forest

2 Savanna

3 Wetland

4 Mesic Prairie

5 Floodplain Forest

6 Oak Forest

FIGURE 20 | Target Plant Communities | Source: Barr Engineering & Perkins and Will

Figure 21: Natural Resource Management: Phase 1 (1 to 5 Years)



FIGURE 21 | Phase 1 (1 to 5 Years) of Pine Plantation Management and Core Restoration Areas | Source: Barr Engineering & Perkins and Will

Natural Resource Phasing

The Project Management Team (PMT) collaborated with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), and Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to determine the phases of the natural resource implementation and prioritization for the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan.

Phase 1

Phase 1 lists recommendations for Pine Point Regional Park natural resource management in the

next one to five years (See **Figure 21**).

- Develop and implement ecological restoration in Core Habitat Wildlife Areas between Louise Lake and Loon Lake.
- Begin strategic pine thinning to the west of wetlands, prioritizing topographic areas vulnerable to erosion.

Figure 22: Natural Resource Management: Phase 2 (5 to 10 Years)

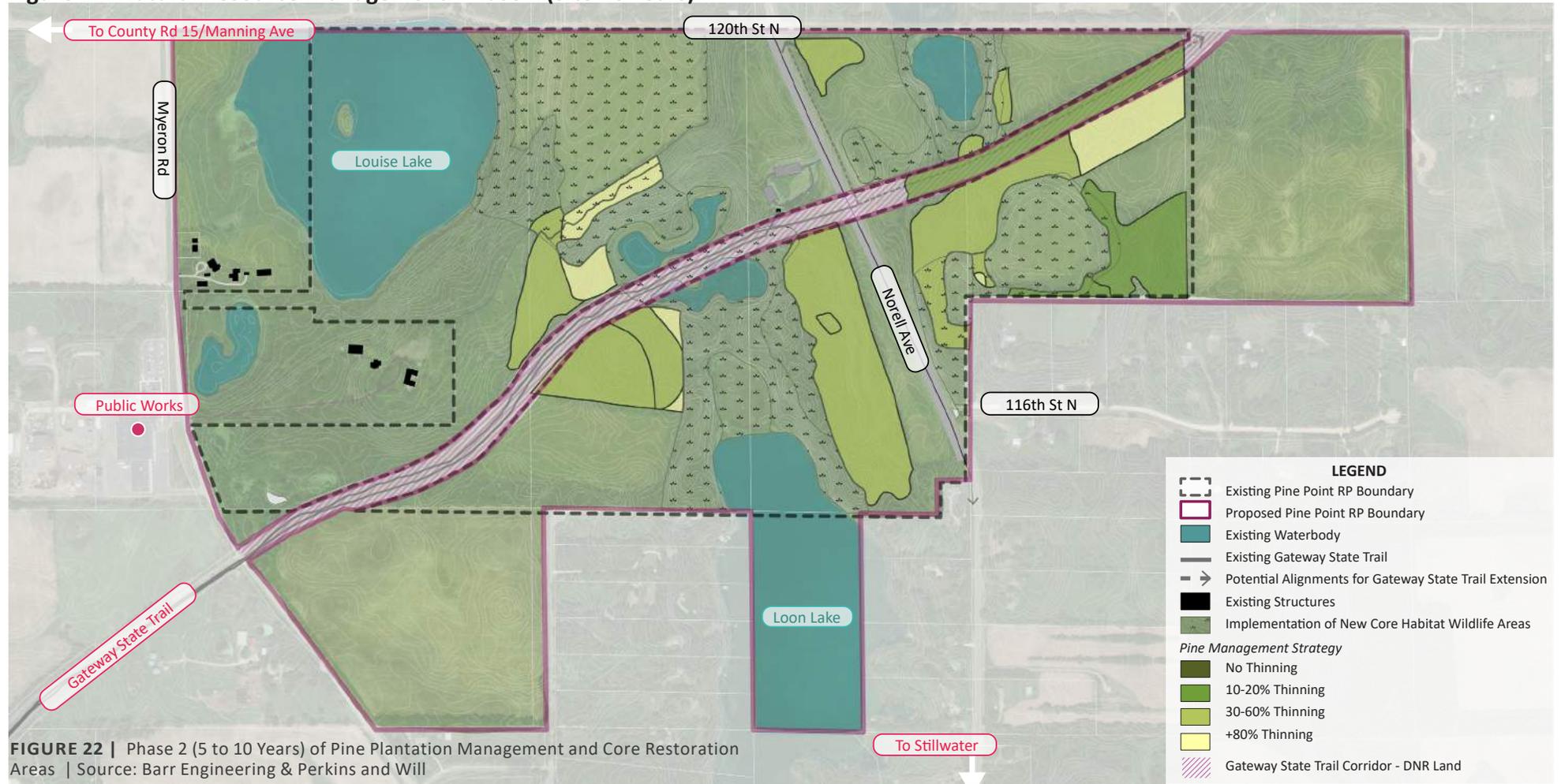


FIGURE 22 | Phase 2 (5 to 10 Years) of Pine Plantation Management and Core Restoration Areas | Source: Barr Engineering & Perkins and Will

Phase 2

Phase 2 lists recommendations for Pine Point Regional Park natural resource management in the next five to ten years (See **Figure 22**).

- Develop and implement ecological restoration in Core Habitat Wildlife Areas to the east of Norell Avenue.
- Continue strategic pine thinning east and west of wetlands and on the east side of Norell

Avenue, prioritizing topographic areas vulnerable to erosion.

Figure 23: Natural Resource Management: Phase 3 (10+ Years)

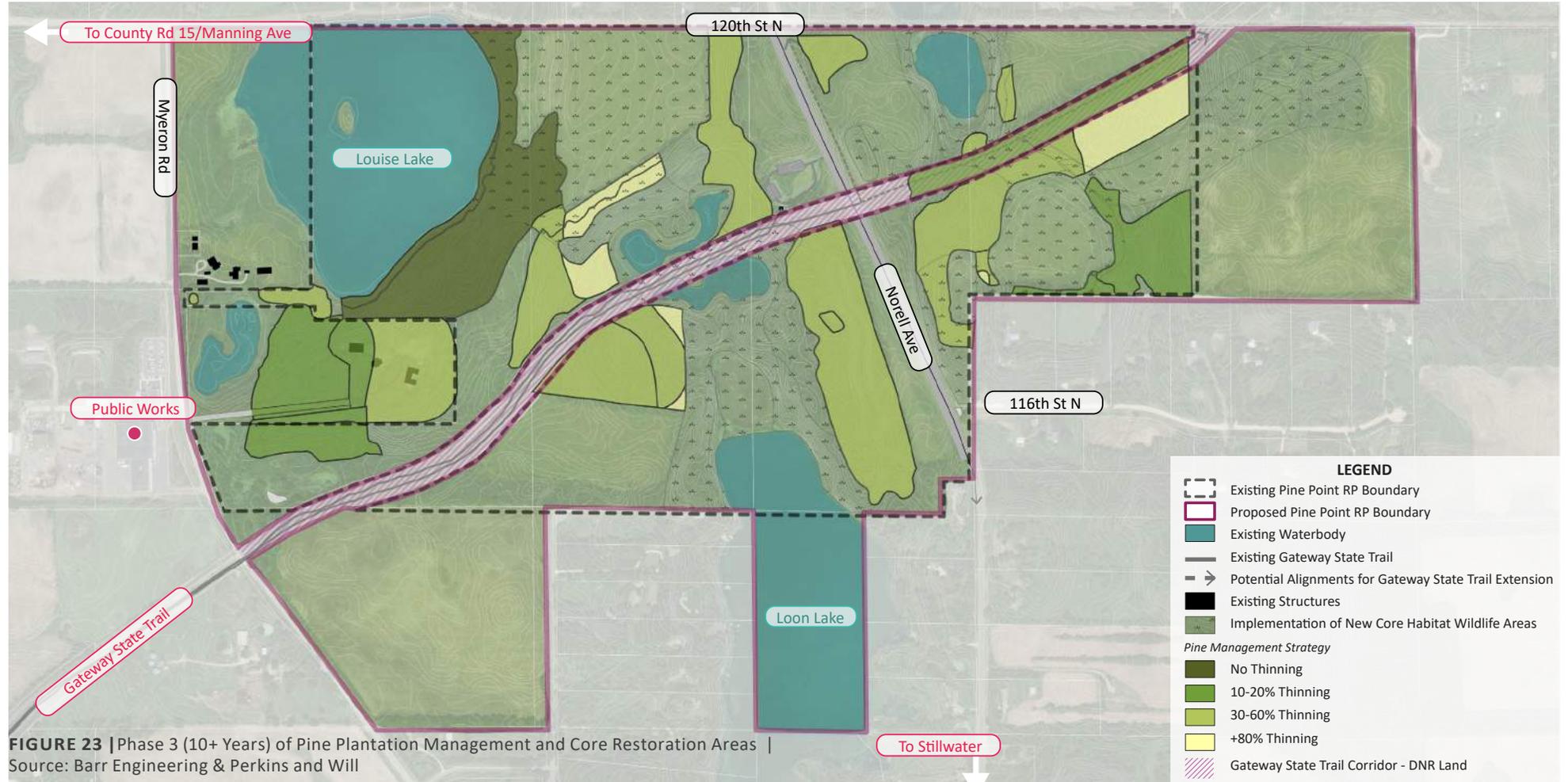


FIGURE 23 | Phase 3 (10+ Years) of Pine Plantation Management and Core Restoration Areas | Source: Barr Engineering & Perkins and Will

Phase 3

Phase 3 lists recommendations for Pine Point Regional Park natural resource management in the next ten years and beyond (See **Figure 23**).

- Develop and implement ecological restoration in Core Habitat Wildlife Areas to the eastern most parcel of proposed Pine Point boundary.
- Continue strategic pine thinning within the park, prioritizing topographic areas vulnerable to

erosion. No thinning will occur to the pine stands located along the southeastern side of Louise Lake.



07. Operations, Maintenance & Related Efforts

The everyday operations, maintenance, and programming at Pine Point Regional Park are the means by which the park's nature-based recreational opportunities and natural resources are both protected and celebrated.

Operations & Maintenance

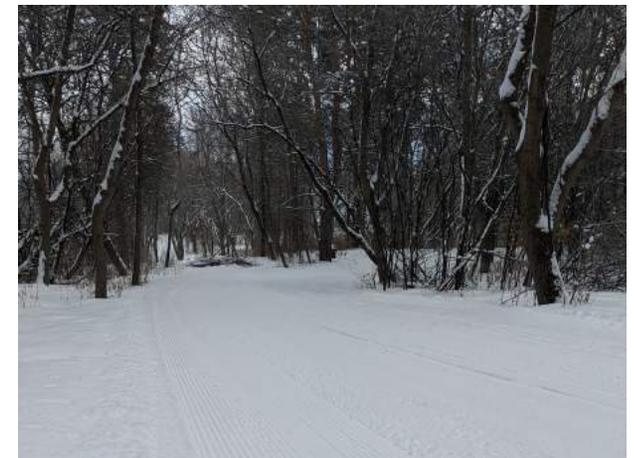
Washington County manages and operates its park and trail system with internal staff including seasonal and full-time employees. The Parks Division has an annual operations and maintenance budget of approximately \$4,000,000 to operate and maintain the County's park and trail system. Pine Point Regional Park is managed by professional public safety, operations, and maintenance staff operating primarily out of the Washington County Public Works North Shop. Typical maintenance of Pine Point Regional Park includes:

- Maintaining trail surfaces
- Brush trimming
- Keeping trails and park spaces clean
- Maintaining signage and wayfinding
- Maintaining the trailhead parking area and the restroom facilities
- Controlling erosion
- Monitoring vegetation and removing diseased trees
- Clearing vegetation after storm events

- Grooming trails for winter use
- Plowing snow

The master plan retains the current maintenance practices, although there will be changes and additions based on the master plan's development concept. These include:

- Phasing out of select trails (See **Figure 16** on page 47: "Trails to be removed after new trail implementation.")
- Maintaining surfaces of new trails
- Clearing vegetation/brush trimming around nodes and overlooks
- Maintaining nature/adventure play facilities
- Maintaining and cleaning Family Recreation Zone picnic shelter(s)
- Monitoring and maintaining board walk



Trail Grooming| Source: Washington County

- Monitoring and maintaining non-motorized boat launch and fishing pier
- Maintaining camp sites and camp facilities
- Managing camp site reservations

The additional acquisition proposed in the Pine Point Regional Park master will add new acreage to the regional park system and operations and maintenance costs will increase because of the expansion of the system. Additional staff time and equipment may be needed to operate and maintain the additional land.

Washington County has existing waste, recycling, and organics receptacles that are standard across the park and trail system. This system will be expanded to accommodate new and expanded uses in the park.

Stewardship Plan

Washington County budgets annually for operating the park system. The budget includes maintenance of recreation facilities and management of



Pine Point Regional Park | Source: Perkins and Will

natural resources within the parks. Revenue for these expenditures originates from three primary sources:

- Vehicle passes and campground reservations
- County levy
- Operations and maintenance grants consisting of State general funds and lottery in-lieu sales tax funds that are disbursed through the Metropolitan Council.

The future implementation of park improvements will all contribute towards increasing attendance and providing additional revenues for the park. Visitation to the park will also increase when the trail system is updated to serve the needs of various trail user groups. As the county develops these new facilities, it will be important to secure the necessary staffing and funding to ensure they can be well-stewarded.

Educational Programming

Pine Point Regional Park offers an excellent location for educational programming opportunities, and this master plan seeks to provide a guide to where these programs could occur and what types of programs these could be. There was feedback received during public engagement that supported increased educational programming in the park. The nodes, particularly the Natural Resource and Discovery Nodes, were created in direct response to this feedback and provide areas for self-guided, as well as group, exploration. The Natural Resource Nodes along the Ecological Trail route will provide focused areas to learn about park ecology and connect to the natural world. The Discovery Nodes along the Discovery Trail route will highlight

cultural and historical park elements. The Recreational Nodes provide improved locations for educational programming where large groups may gather, such as public lectures and nature talks. Interpretive signage located along these routes will also provide an additional layer of educational programming for all park visitors. Answers collected through the Master Plan survey reveal the most widely requested park programming to be: stargazing (30.5%), children-focused environmental education (almost 27%), fitness/wellness programs (almost 27%), adult-focused environmental education (26.5%), and cross-country ski demos and lessons (24%). See appendix for a complete list of results.

Washington County will continue to pursue partnerships in developing programming at Pine Point Regional Park. Recent programs held have already revealed considerable public enthusiasm for events located in the park, and the master plan strives to provide enhanced infrastructure and circulation that support such programs. Offering new or different programming is a strategy Washington County is employing to bring in demographic groups currently underrepresented in the regional park system.

Sustainability

Creating and maintaining resilient and sustainable systems is vital for ensuring that communities remain well-prepared and adaptable. Social equity is an important component of this effort, as well, since a healthy community is measured by the opportunity and wellbeing of all its residents.

This master plan adheres to the aims of resilience, sustainability, and social equity laid out in Washington County's 2040 Comprehensive

Plan. Washington County defines the terms resiliency, sustainability, and social equity as the following statement:

“Washington County will strive to maintain its identity, high quality of life, and access to a healthy lifestyle for current and future residents, by embracing resiliency and sustainability in future decision making. Efforts will be made to ensure resiliency through the county’s ability to react, adapt and thrive in the face of environmental, social, and economic changes. Healthy and vibrant communities are those that are prepared and have the capacity to evolve. Washington County will support the development of a community that is equipped to respond to change with diverse solutions and redundant systems by enhancing social capital and equity through the sharing of risks and opportunities. The ability to mitigate the effects of these changes and disruptions over a long period of time will protect Washington County’s regional vitality for future generations by preserving the capacity to maintain a sustainable future.”



Pine Point Regional Park | Source: Perkins and Will

– Washington County 2040 Comprehensive Plan

The 2040 Comprehensive Plan identifies four primary areas in which to focus their efforts on resiliency, sustainability, and equity:

- Hazard Mitigation/Community Vulnerability
- Healthy Communities
- Energy
- Solid Waste Management

The first two of these are particularly relevant regarding regional park planning. Hazard mitigation and community vulnerability considers the effects of changing climate and precipitation trends. This master plan provides a framework for managing Pine Point Regional Park’s natural resources and ensuring that these assets are protected.

Washington County also seeks to incorporate best management practices with its park management, such as use of native plants and responsible water use. Enhancements to the park also elevate the adjacent Gateway State Trail, which provides a sustainable alternative to vehicular traffic into the park and strengthens the parks connection to the larger metropolitan area. Through these initiatives, Pine Point Regional Park will remain a park of unique ecological value and a valuable place for people to connect with the great outdoors.

Public Services

The master plan does not propose any new non-recreational public services and facilities that would be necessary to accommodate the proposed recreational uses described in this plan. Recommended acquisitions included in the

proposed future park boundary would not require new access roads (one parcel being a farm field that would not require access and the others being residential parcels with existing driveways)

Also, Pine Point Regional Park falls outside of regular metropolitan transit service, and there are no plans for this service to be extended to the park at this time.

Public Awareness

Washington County uses a variety of outreach and marketing strategies to promote its park system, including but not limited to web postings, social media, direct mailings, brochures, flyers, and press releases. Promotional materials will include how one can get to Pine Point Regional Park by foot, bike, transit, and car. Washington County collaborates with many partner organizations to promote and publicize programs, facilities, and initiatives held within its parks.

Washington County Parks engages the public through several on-line and social media tools. The County website has a page dedicated to parks and trails that provides information on the parks and trails across the county, lists information about programs and events, explains how individuals can support the park system by donating or volunteering, and provides information and a link for reservations and permits. Washington County actively posts information on Twitter and Facebook to share news and information about the park system. Opportunities for expanding social media and on-line resources for public awareness will likely expand in the future as new media tools and new platforms become available.

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08. Implementation: Estimated Costs & Funding

Implementation of the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan will depend on the county's ability to secure the necessary funding and acquire additional parcels that support the long-term park vision. This includes enhanced and expanded programmatic park improvements, as well as ongoing management of natural resources that ensure the park's continued ecological health and resilience. The time frame of the master plan will be long term, and improvements will be realized in several phases. The following section provides guidance on the estimated costs to achieve the master plan's various components and potential funding sources.

Estimated Costs

The projections are conceptual cost estimates related to the area improvements and amenities included in the master plan. These items are based on relative project data and are for preliminary planning purposes only. The costs associated with the various amenities and park improvements listed will need additional refinement based on a variety of factors, such as available funding sources, specifics on existing site conditions, and future bidding markets. It should be noted that combining multiple small projects into larger implementation phases may result in construction efficiencies and economies of scale that would provide cost savings.

These estimates are in based on 2020 costs and should be increased at least 5% per 12-month period to account for inflation. The final section of cost estimates includes an overall 10% Design and Engineering Contingency amount for budget items requiring Design & Engineering (D&E), as well as an added 20% Construction/Implementation Contingency for all relevant budget items.

The following conceptual costs for master plan amenities include the following:

- Development concept/infrastructure
- Natural resource management
- Potential parcel acquisition
- Contingencies
- Summary of Overall Estimated Costs

Estimated Development Concept / Infrastructure Costs

Unit Abbreviations: Each (EA), Linear Foot (LF), Square Foot (SF), Lump Sum (LS), Acre (AC)

Trail Improvements	Comments	Quantity	Unit	Unit Costs	D&E	2020 Estimated Cost/Project
Park Entry Signage	Large entrance signage	4	EA	\$4,800	20%	\$23,040.00
Trail Wayfinding Signage	Small wayfinding signage	65	EA	\$150		\$9,750
New Multi-Use Trails (total new length)	All new trails (3.98mi)	21,014	LF	\$ 7.00	20%	\$176,517.60
Existing Trails To Remain- Continued Maintenance	Continued maintenance only (included in maintenance cost)	29,652	LF	N/A		N/A
Demolition of Existing Trails to Be Removed	Trails to be phased out (4.11mi) (Between \$0.50-\$0.60 per SF)	21,243	LF	\$ 0.60		\$12,745.80
ADA Trail	Stabilized 6' Wide Crushed Gravel Trail (1 mi)	1	LS	\$ 62,800.00	20%	\$75,360.00
Boardwalk Sections	456' + 320'	776	LF	\$ 750.00	20%	\$ 698,400.00
Bike Maintenance Station	Bike Maintenance Station	1	EA	\$ 800.00		\$800.00
Single-track Biking	Conceptual cost is based on 6 miles of new single track biking; However, actual distance and alignments are to be determined at time of implementation. (Approximately \$35,000/mile including D&E).	31,680	LF	\$5.52	20%	\$210,000.24
	Subtotal					\$1,206,613.64
Development Improvements	Comments	Quantity	Unit	Unit Costs	D&E	2020 Estimated Cost/Project
Ecological Trail Nodes (11)	May include signage, benches, wildlife blinds, etc.	1	LS	\$ 16,500.00	20%	\$19,800.00
Discovery Trail Nodes (5)	May include signage, seating, etc.	1	LS	\$ 7,500.00	20%	\$9,000.00
Louise Lake Overlook Area						
	Landscaping / vegetation clearing (Between \$800-\$1200)	1	LS	\$1,000	20%	\$1,200.00
	6' Wood Bench	1	EA	\$1,000		\$1,000.00
	Wildlife Blinds (wood)	1	EA	\$3,200		\$3,200.00
Loon Lake Overlook Area						
	Landscaping / vegetation clearing (Between \$800-\$1200)	1	LS	\$1,000	20%	\$1,200.00
	6' Wood Bench	1	EA	\$1,000		\$1,000.00
	Wildlife Blinds (wood)	1	EA	\$3,200		\$3,200.00
Recreation Signage (Recreational Nodes)	Up to 6	6	EA	\$ 500.00	20%	\$3,600.00

Non-Motorized Boat Launch at Louise Lake	Kayak/Canoe	1	LS	\$15,000	20%	\$18,000.00
Fishing Pier	Small pier	1	LS	\$15,000	20%	\$18,000.00
Four Rustic Camping Areas (Hike-In)						
	Campfire Pits (Between \$300-\$750)	4	EA	\$ 550.00		\$2,200.00
	Picnic Table	4	EA	\$ 1,500.00		\$6,000.00
	Pad/Landscaping (Between \$800-\$1200)	4	EA	\$ 1,000.00	20%	\$4,800.00
	Vault toilets (Between \$12000-15,000)	4	EA	\$ 12,000.00		\$48,000.00
Recreational Zone (East of Outing Lodge) Improvements						
General Access Road & Parking Lot Renovation	Outing Lodge in Pine Point Parking (Appr. 50 stalls) & 1,500 foot access road improvements	1	LS	\$ 350,000.00	20%	\$420,000.00
Picnic Shelter	Big enough for 10-12 people (Appr. 600 SF) (125-\$150 per SF)	1	LS	\$ 90,000.00	20%	\$108,000.00
Nature-based playground -Large	Nature/Adventure Play Facility (For 10-20 people)	1	LS	\$80,000	20%	\$96,000.00
Picnic Tables (4)	Picnic Tables (4)	4	EA	\$ 1,500.00		\$6,000.00
Informational Kiosk						
	Informational Kiosk - Large	1	EA	\$ 4,800.00		\$4,800.00
	Informational Kiosk - Small	1	EA	\$ 1,200.00		\$1,200.00
Recreational Zone (North of Trailhead) Improvements						
Picnic Tables	Wood picnic tables	4	EA	\$ 1,500.00		\$6,000.00
Nature-based playground -Small	Nature/Adventure Play Facility (For 5-10 People)	1	LS	\$30,000	20%	\$36,000.00
Stargazing mound	10 ft diameter rounded earthwork; seeding; 18" stone retaining wall; surrounding stone pavers	1	LS	\$ 15,000.00	20%	\$18,000.00
Parking Lot Renovation/Expansion.	Parking lot renovation with 20 additional spots	1	LS	\$ 244,302.00	20%	\$293,162.40
Monument Sign (Lighted)	Monument Sign (Lighted)	1	LS	\$ 80,000.00		\$80,000.00
Informational Kiosk						
	Informational Kiosk - Large	1	EA	\$ 4,800.00		\$4,800.00

	Informational Kiosk - Small	1	EA	\$ 1,200.00		\$1,200.00
Expanded Park Restroom Structure	(Current footprint is 567 SF)					
	Added storage area (Assume 100 SF @ \$200/SF)	1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	20%	\$24,000.00
	Option 1: Enclosed front area/warming area (for 5-10 people)	1	LS	\$ 150,000.00	20%	\$180,000.00
	Option 2: Outdoor overhang with heat lamps (for 5-10 people) (Assume 250 SF @ \$200/SF with added \$25,000 for heating elements.)	1	LS	\$ 75,000.00	20%	\$90,000.00
Campfire Seating area						
	Site preparation	1	LS	\$ 1,450.00	20%	\$1,740.00
	Seating (5-10 People) (Estimate is for 10 people)	15	LF	\$ 175.00	20%	\$3,150.00
	Concrete bonfire pit (5-0 people)	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	20%	\$6,000.00
	Subtotal					\$1,520,252.40
Total						\$2,726,866.04

Overview of Habitat Restoration Costs

This section presents projected costs for the implementation of native plant community restoration and management within Pine Point Regional Park. They were developed from costs incurred from similar projects in the region for the years 2017-2018.

Native Plant Community Restoration	Comments	Quantity	Unit	Unit Costs	2020 Estimated Cost/Project
Core Habitat Wildlife Areas Only	Restoration Cost Per Acre				
Savanna & Prairie	Cost varies depending on vegetation type, \$4000	63.14	AC	\$ 4,000.00	\$252,560.00
Oak & Floodplain Forest	Includes invasive / undesirable tree removal first: \$5,000-\$15,000; Includes forest management plan development and implementation	30.93	AC	\$ 5,000.00	\$154,650.00
Mixed Hardwood Forest	Includes invasive / undesirable tree removal first: \$5,500-\$15,000; Includes forest management plan development and implementation	13.68	AC	\$ 5,000.00	\$68,400.00
	Subtotal				\$475,610.00
Establishing Target Plant Communities <i>Includes Core Habitat Wildlife Areas</i>	Restoration Cost Per Acre				
Savanna & Prairie	Cost varies depending on vegetation type, \$4000	241.81	AC	\$ 4,000.00	\$967,240.00
	Subtotal				\$967,240.00
Native Plant Community Maintenance	Comments	Quantity	Unit	Unit Costs	2020 Estimated Cost/Project
Establishing Target Plant Communities	Maintenance Cost (A land stewardship practice once every 5 years)				
Savanna & Prairie	Includes use of prescribed fire, supplemental seeding, monitoring, noxious weed control, planting	241.81	AC	\$ 700.00	\$169,267.00
Oak & Floodplain Forest	Includes invasive tree seedling management; includes forest management plan development and implementation	58.65	AC	\$ 500.00	\$29,325.00
Mixed Hardwood Forest	Includes invasive tree seedling management; includes forest management plan development and implementation	81.12	AC	\$ 500.00	\$40,560.00
Pine Plantation Management	Pine Plantation timber stand improvement implementation	85.49	AC	\$ 1,000.00	\$85,490.00
	Subtotal				\$324,642.00
Total					\$1,767,492.00

Contingencies

Contingency	
10% Design and Engineering Contingency 10% across all budget items requiring D & E	\$253,497.02
20% Construction/Implementation Contingency 20% across all budget items (save for parcel acquisition costs)	\$898,871.61
Subtotal	\$1,152,368.63

Design and Engineering Contingency amount is based on an additional 10% to all budget items requiring Design & Engineering (D&E).

Construction/Implementation Contingency is based on an additional 20% on all budget items (save for parcel acquisition costs) to account for soft costs.

Potential Parcel Acquisition

Potential Acquisitions		
Parcel ID	Acres	2019 Tax Assessed Value
05.030.20.11.0002	48.52	\$737,900.00
06.030.20.12.0001	29.95	\$839,600.00
06.030.20.12.0002	0.52	\$248,400.00
06.030.20.13.0003	24.54	\$1,381,000.00
06.030.20.41.0001	44.03	\$504,600.00
05.030.20.32.0008	2.18	\$27,500.00
05.030.20.31.0006	20.08	\$0 (County-owned)
Total		\$3,739,000.00

Summary of Overall Estimated Costs

Summary Table	Estimated Totals
Development/Infrastructure	\$2,726,866.04
Natural Resources	\$1,767,492.00
10% D & E Contingency	\$253,497.02
20% Construction Contingency	\$898,871.61
Parcel Acquisition	\$3,739,000.00
Full Park Development	\$9,385,726.67

Potential Natural Resource Funding Sources

This table lists a variety of grant funding sources that are available for natural resource improvement projects at Pine Point Regional Park

Grant Program	Category	Sponsor Agency	General Information	Eligibility	Link to Website	Contact Information
Sort Term Action Request Grants (STAR)	Natural Resources/ Habitat Protection	MN DNR	<p>Your project must be conducted in Minnesota's coastal area, be action-oriented, and align with one of the following categories and goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Coastal Habitat: Protect the coastal areas' natural resources and habitats including wetlands, forests, beaches and fish -Coastal Hazards: Protect lives and property in the coastal area by minimizing risk to hazards such as storms, flooding and erosion -Water Quality: Safeguard and restore water quality in Lake Superior and area streams -Coastal Community Development: Help communities manage development or preserve the historic, cultural and aesthetic features of Lake Superior and its coast -Coordination and Public Involvement: Collect, analyze, synthesize and share information and research results that will lead to better land and water use decisions in the coastal area or engage the public in critical government decisions 	Cities, townships and counties within the coastal area; area-wide agencies; regional planning agencies; state agencies; non-profit organizations; colleges and universities; public school districts in the coastal area; conservation districts; port authorities; tribal governments; joint powers boards; sanitary sewer districts.	http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/waters/lakesuperior/grants.html	Cynthia Poyhonen, Grants Specialist (218) 834-1447 or mlscp.dnr@state.mn.us
Forest Stewardship Program	Natural Resources/ Habitat Protection	MN DNR	Cost share program to provide technical advice and long range planning to interested land owners. Forest stewardship plans are the outcome of the program- plans are designed to meet landowner goals while maintaining the sustainability of the land.	Financial assistance to woodland owners for completing projects to practice good forest stewardship on their land. A typical project is between 3 and 20 acres but could be smaller or larger depending on land goals.	https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/woodlands/cost-share.html	Private Forest Program Coordinator DNR Forestry 500 Lafayette Road, Box 44 Saint Paul, MN 55155 (651) 259-5261

Grant Program	Category	Sponsor Agency	General Information	Eligibility	Link to Website	Contact Information
Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program - Traditional Projects	Natural Resources/ Habitat Protection	MN DNR	Grant program to restore or enhance prairies, wetlands, forests, or habitat for fish, game, or wildlife in Minnesota. Program provides competitive grants of \$5,000-\$400,000 with a 10% non-state match requirement and a total project cost cap of \$575,000. Restoration and enhancement projects will only be funded on lands in public ownership or waters designated as public waters. All project sites must be open to the public for all seasons of hunting and fishing.	Eligible applicants are limited to local, regional, state, and national non-profit organizations, including government entities. Private individuals and for-profit organizations are not eligible to apply for these grants.	http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/grants/habitat/cpl/ecp-grant-cycle.html	LSCPLGrants.DNR@state.mn.us Jessica Lee, CPL Grant Program Coordinator 651-259-5233 (Saint Paul) Conservation Partners Legacy Grant MN DNR 500 Lafayette Road Box #20 Saint Paul, MN 55155
Conservation Corps Minnesota Clean Water Fund: Crew Labor	Water Quality	BWSR	Funds are available for Conservation Corps crew labor only for the purpose of protecting, enhancing and restoring water quality in lakes, rivers and streams and to protect groundwater and drinking water sources from degradation. Project proposals should demonstrate measurable outputs to achieve water quality objectives through the implementation of BMPs. Projects that focus on retaining water on the land through native plantings versus habitat restoration are preferred.	Counties, Cities, SWCDs, Watershed Districts and Watershed Management Organizations	http://conservationcorps.org/clean-water-funding	Brian Miller at (651) 209-9900 ext. 19 brian.miller@conservationcorps.org

Grant Program	Category	Sponsor Agency	General Information	Eligibility	Link to Website	Contact Information
Metro Conservation Corridor Partnership Habitat Restoration Program	Natural Resources/ Habitat Protection	MN DNR	Great River Greening is seeking partners to implement habitat restoration on protected lands and waters, with priority given to projects that 1) protect and restore water quality (projects must include monitoring), 2) protect, restore, and enhance land and habitat, and 3) reduce the spread of invasive species along streams, rivers, and land transportation routes.	Partners can be counties, watershed districts, cities, non-profits and others within the 12-county metropolitan area. Projects must be within a mapped Metro Conservation Corridor	http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/	For more information, please contact: Nick Bancks, 651-917-6282 Minnesota Land Trust, nickbancks@minnesotalandtrust.org Bart Richardson, 651-259-5796 MnDNR, bart.richardson@state.mn.us

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Appendix

List of Documents

- A. Acknowledgements
- B. Equity Analysis
- C. Meeting Notes from CAC and TAC (with SWOT Exercise and Continuum Statements)
- D. List of Comments from Interactive Map
- E. Online Survey Results
- F. Open House Feedback
 - Open House #1
 - Open House #2
- G. Park Pop Up Table
- H. Facility Market Analysis
- I. Watershed Management Plan Profiles
 - Loon Lake Watershed Management
 - Louise Lake Watershed Management
- J. DNR Gateway Trail Extension Fact Sheet
- K. Letters of Support
 - County Board Resolution
 - Stillwater Township Resolution
 - DNR Letter of Support
 - Washington County Conservation District Letter of Support
- L. Packet of Final Graphics (Concept and Diagrams)
 - 1" to 300' Scale
 - 1" to 1000' Scale

Appendix A: Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

Washington County gratefully acknowledges the staff, elected officials, community members and other participants who contributed to the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan. Washington County extends a special thank you to the individuals listed below who provided guidance, time, questions, and critical insight throughout the master planning process.

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Maureen Hoffman, *Public Health/
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Sharon Price,
Right of Way Specialist - Property Manager

Alex McKinney, *Park Manager*

Ben Picone, *Planning Intern*

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Andy McGuire, *MN DNR-Forestry*

Brandon Helm, *MN DNR-Gateway Extension*

Mark Prchal, *Parks Maintenance Supervisor*

Steve Hart, *Guest Services Supervisor*

Nate Arnold, *Public Works Engineer*

Jan Lucke, *Public Works Planning Manager*

Sara Armstrong, *Parks Programming*

Ann Pung-Terwedo, *Public Works Planner*

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Watershed District*

Rod Hunter, *Stillwater Township*

Tracey Kinney, *Metropolitan Council*

Tara Kelly, *Washington County
Conservative District*

Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Dennis Lindeke, *Gateway Trail Association*

Calvin Jones, *SASCA Bike Club*

Matt Lehmann, *SASCA Bike Club*

Laurie Schneider, *Pollinator Friendly Alliance*

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Appendix B: Equity Analysis

Equity Analysis

At the conclusion of the master plan process, Washington County conducted an Equity Analysis: an examination of the public engagement process and outcomes for stakeholders by race, ethnicity, national origin, income, ability, age, and other pertinent characteristics.

1. Project Data:

a. Scope: What are the boundaries and demographics of the public engagement area? Please consider neighborhoods adjacent to the park or trail, travel sheds, and agency/ regional boundaries.

Washington County focused on engaging existing and potential park users within a 30-minute travel shed. Although usage and constituent population vary by the park type, the 30-minute drive time area is presented as a general guideline on the size of the population most likely to visit a regional park. The National Recreation and Park Association’s (NRPA) Facility Market Report provided the county with a greater understanding of the residents served by the park within this travel shed, with additional information on their habits and interests. See 1b for more information.

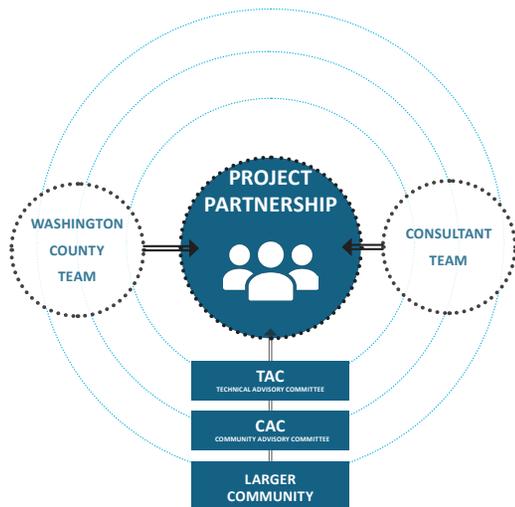
b. Context: What is known about future stakeholders, underserved populations, and how the region’s history created present-day inequitable outcomes?

Key findings included in the NRPA Facility Market Report for Pine Point Regional Park (full report available in Appendix):

Summary	Census 2010	2018 Forecast	2023 Forecast
Population	524,100	564,230	591,466
Households	197,614	210,929	220,692
Families	134,883	142,860	149,033
Average Household Size	2.61	2.63	2.64
Owner Occupied Homes	145,866	156,653	167,405
Renter Occupied Homes	51,748	54,276	53,286
Median Age	36.9	38.0	38.8
Median Household Income		\$75,174	\$83,446

Race and Ethnicity	Census 2010		2018 Forecast		2023 Forecast	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White Alone	412,499	78.7%	420,396	74.5%	422,025	71.4%
Black Alone	33,849	6.5%	40,732	7.2%	46,788	7.9%
American Indian Alone	3,397	0.6%	3,487	0.6%	3,590	0.6%
Asian Alone	49,551	9.5%	69,220	12.3%	84,346	14.3%
Pacific Islander Alone	222	0.0%	400	0.1%	506	0.1%
Some Other Race Alone	10,583	2.0%	12,185	2.2%	13,398	2.3%
Two or More Races	13,999	2.7%	17,811	3.2%	20,814	3.5%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	27,464	5.2%	32,339	5.7%	36,514	6.2%

FIGURE 1 | People Residing Within a 30 Minute Drive of the Facility | Source: NRPA; 2010 Census



Project Partnership | Source: Perkins and Will

The Metropolitan Council also commissioned the [Regional Parks System Visitor Study \(2016\)](#) to provide benchmark data of park and trail visitor experiences at regional parks and trails. Key findings from the report included:

- Disparities in Washington County park and trail visitation included:
 - Age
 - Household income
 - Educational attainment
 - Physical or mental ability
- When compared with other implementation agencies, Washington County park and trail users were more likely to:
 - Rate the quality of facilities, services, and recreation opportunities as very good (73 percent)
 - Visit a park closer to home (average of 9.5 miles to travel to park)

- Arrive in an automobile (81 percent)
- Look for information prior to visiting (18 percent)
- Bring kids under age 10 (30 percent)
- Report a larger average group size (average group size of 2.84)
- Visit longer periods of time (average time spent of 3.01 hours)
- Say that lack of free time is the primary barrier to visiting more often (83 percent)

2. Public Engagement and Participation:

a. Participants: Which stakeholders discussed in 1b contributed to the planning effort? The following list is illustrative of stakeholders to consider including youth, Black, indigenous, and people of color communities, people with disabilities, low-income populations, populations age 60 and over, and neighborhood/regional groups that participated as planning staff, community advisory committee members, outreach liaisons, and the general public.

Washington County strives to provide an inclusive public engagement process for its park planning efforts. To reach a diverse cross-section of the community and to engage people of diverse races, ethnicities, classes, ages, abilities and national origin, Washington County staff developed a plan to provide information to the public in multiple ways with an emphasis on trying to make it easy and accessible for all interested citizens to participate in the planning process. As previously mentioned, the public engagement process included:

- Community Advisory Committee

- Committee of local residents and representatives from nearby businesses and non-profit organization. More information can be found in Chapter 2.
- Technical Advisory Committee
 - Committee of public agencies and other regulatory agency representatives.
- Pop-up Events
- Public Open Houses
- One-on-one listening sessions
- Online interactive engagement
- Urban Roots engagement event

An example that highlights how these stakeholders identified in 1b participated in master plan engagement events is the Urban Roots event. County staff collaborated with the Metropolitan Council to host 25 middle schoolers and high schoolers from Urban Roots, a youth development organization located in East Saint Paul. The age and race/ethnicity of the youth participants represent demographics that are underserved in Washington County and the metropolitan area regional park system.

b. Engagement: What engagement, outreach, and communication was conducted for stakeholders described in 2a? Please identify the level of public impact on the International Association for Public Participation's Public Participation Spectrum and requisite engagement strategies for each stakeholder group. Please consider culturally competent and community representative staffing, training, locations, times, public awareness, and input approaches.

Washington County implemented three key

strategies to address equity within the public engagement process of the Pine Point Regional Park master plan:

- Washington County involved the community systematically by having stakeholders participate in the Community Advisory Committee (CAC). The CAC included local residents and representatives from nearby businesses and non-profit organizations to deliver community expertise and insight on issues throughout the planning process from across a diverse range of community perspectives. They worked closely with county staff and the consultant team and made recommendations that shaped the plan.

They also served the vital role of advising on broader outreach efforts, ensuring that key stakeholders and affected communities were informed and given the opportunity to provide input. This is an example of “Collaborate” on the International Association for Public Participation’s Public Participation Spectrum. More information on the CAC can be found earlier in Chapter 2.

- In order to reach out to populations that may not feel comfortable attending open houses or public meetings, the County set up two pop-up events designed to “meet people where they are already located.” Pop-up style tabling allowed for

more in-depth, one-on-one conversations. The County received positive feedback on conducting this type of engagement, as several members of the public mentioned they would not typically attend an open house, but were happy they were given the opportunity to provide feedback in this setting. The Washington County Fair was particularly notable, as staff was able to engage people who were not regular park users or who were not aware of Pine Point Regional Park. These conversations were insightful because the county was able to discuss what improvement would get them to visit the park for the first time or more-often. This is an example of “Consult” on the International Association for Public Participation’s Public Participation Spectrum. More information on engagement events can be found earlier in in Chapter 2.

- As part of the Urban Roots engagement event, Washington County facilitated a half-day in-park experience, with a goal to gather insights into what youth enjoy about nature-based parks. For many, this was their first time at a Washington County park. Staff first led the group on a tour of Pine Point Regional Park, highlighting the parks natural and cultural history. Then the youth participants split into groups and went to observational points throughout the parks where they answered questions about their experience and provided ideas on how the park could be improved. Metropolitan Council staff worked with Washington County to record and analyze the feedback from the groups, to inform master plan recommendations. This is an example of “Collaborate” on the International Association for Public Participation’s Public Participation Spectrum. More information on the Urban Roots event can be found earlier in in Chapter 2.



Park Pop-Up Table (7/14/19) | Source: Washington County

c. Public Participation: What did you learn from the engagement conducted in 2b? Please summarize the advice you heard into themes and identify the contributing stakeholder.

Feedback received during engagement events were synthesized into themes and included in the Summary of Major Themes & Findings (Chapter 2):

- Most popular uses: Gateway State Trail, hiking, horseback riding, bikers and skiing
- Top liked activities to add (multi-use/equestrian trails, wayfinding, canoe & kayak launch, adventure play, mountain biking, and camping)
- Opportunities to enhance connectivity to Gateway State Trail
- Current users like that the park is rustic, natural, and quiet
- There is a demand for family-based recreation (picnic, play, etc.) and educational programming
- Additional low-impact infrastructure (trails, lights, restrooms, wayfinding, etc.)
- Improve and expand trails for all users – including separation of equestrian and mountain bike uses, where possible
- Prioritize improving wayfinding and signage
- Balance ecological needs and recreational use

3. Evaluation Summary:

a. Transparency: How did the public participation from 2c impact the decisions and policies made? Please consider input that advances, supports, coincides, and diverges from the master plan.

Input from the public engagement permeates the proposed concept plan and guidance described

in the Pine Point Regional Park master plan. One example that highlights this is the proposed development of Natural Resource, Discovery, and Recreation Nodes.

Through the interactive activity with Urban Roots youth participants, Washington County received specific feedback regarding key observational points in the park. Youth participants recommended having places to gather with friends and family away from the parking lot, which is addressed in the master plan with the proposed Family Recreation Zones. They also discussed having observational points along the trail with viewing blinds, interpretative signage, and seating along the trails. These spaces would provide an opportunity for park users to take photos with friends, relax, learn about natural or historical features of the park, etc. This input is directly reflected in the design concept through the proposed development of Natural Resource, Discovery, and Recreation Nodes.

b. Accountability: How will the planning effort create better outcomes? Please consider outcomes related to regional and local access, quality of experience, facility rules/policy, and reporting back about 3a to stakeholders discussed in 2a.

Through the public engagement process, Washington County was able to create relationships and build trust with community stakeholders. For example, trail use conflicts between equestrian riders and bikers were a concern for many park users. To address this challenge, Washington County identified key community representatives from each user group to serve on the Community Advisory Committee. Working as a group, the CAC provided input

and guidance on trail management and trail realignment recommendations. This experience led to a better understanding by all parties. The CAC supported the master plan, as it aims to create a better, safer park experience for all of its trail users.

Furthermore, Washington County will be sharing this master plan with Urban Roots staff and youth to demonstrate their important input.

Appendix C: Meeting Notes from CAC and TAC (with SWOT Exercise and Continuum Statements)



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Working Group Meeting #1

Meeting Date: 4/4/19

Meeting Time: 2pm-4pm

Location: Washington County Municipal Works Building

Attendees: Perkins+ Will and Washington County Team Working Group

Connor Schaefer (Wash. Co.), Dan MacSwain (Wash. Co.), Alex McKinney (Wash. Co.), Mo Convery (P+W), Brendan Dougherty (Barr Engineering), Swati Khimesra (P+W), John Slack(P+W),

Agenda / Goals:

- Introduce Team Members
- Provide an overview of the Master Planning Process and Schedule
- Review initial engagement brainstorming, begin to define big picture engagement objectives, and define engagement groups.

Intros (2pm-2:20)

Ice Breaker: If you could be any animal in the world today, what would you be?

- a. Mo Convery (MC) from P+W - Manatee
- b. Connor Schaefer (CS) from Washington County- Komodo Dragon
- c. Swati Khimesra (SK) from P+W - migratory bird
- d. Brendan Dougherty (BD) from Barr Engineering- his dachshund Barnaby
- e. John Slack (JS) from P+W - Deer
- f. Dan MacSwain (DM) from Washington County - Natural Resources Coordinator- East Siberian Tiger
- g. Alex McKinney (AM) from Washington County - Tapir

Presentation (2:20pm-3:00pm)

SK provided an overview of the project process and schedule. Discussion on potential engagement schedule and locations followed. See attached presentation. Meeting participants raised some initial thoughts and concerns about community engagement to consider going forward.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

CS:

- There is no good space near Pine Point for a community meeting near park that people would attend because of its rural location. Concern that there would be limited participation in events held at the Washington Country Municipal building.
 - Will have access to the Public Works event room which has space to fit 70-80 ppl (standing room)- To be Confirmed.
- Suggested that we use a combination of intercept activities for further reach.
 - Confirmed with the Washington Country staff that P+W will prepare documentation that could be used for Wash Co. staff for intercept activities.
- There are planned park district activities later in summer that could be used for community outreach. The timing falls in line with Public Meetings 2 (Prelim Concept) and 3 (Refined Concept); larger events include Oktoberfest, Square Lake Music Fest, Lumberjack Days, Courthouse Ice-cream social, etc.; smaller events previously at Park were Pollinator, Fat Tire Biking, and Full Moon Hike (Connor collected survey data from these)

AM:

- The team could post engagement announcements at points along Gateway trail for showcasing project/process, i.e. weatherproof graphic board on process, link to survey, etc.
- There is food truck on gateway west of park that could be used for project communications
 - Potential partnership to provide vouchers for participation?
- Post materials at Duluth junction (route continues into Stillwater). Route is heavily trafficked.

DM:

- Hidden Pine State Summer Camp is hosted at Pine Point Park during the summer. Great opportunity to reach kids and youth.
 - JS- Schools will be out for summer so can engage school events early in process or later
 - CS- Want to be careful with engaging groups – need to build the relationship

Stakeholder Visioning (3:00pm-4:00pm)

MC and SK led the group through a series of questions to think through and articulate larger visioning objectives they currently hold going into the community engagement process.

Question 1: What defines a successful community engagement plan to you?

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AM:

- If this park was a 'blank slate', what could it be? We should not just think about what is there now but what it could be.
- Engage a diverse group of users
- Recreational focus

DM:

- Improve awareness of process for all groups
- Ensure accessibility to all users
- Better story
- Accentuate park's features
- Identify what the barriers are

CS:

- Weave in park's programs with the natural resources in the park.
- Be aware of funding
- Should make sense with budget available- realistic goals

Question 2: What programs a missing system wide and could potentially be accommodated here in Pine Point (JS)?

AM: Integration of play into natural areas - Look at Cedar Lake Township- created a marsh play area for kids to go engage with the mucky areas

Discussion followed of the existing conflicting user groups. There is particular concern for mountain bike and equestrian user conflict. Currently mountain bike is designated on the eastern parcel of the park. Though not designated for equestrian use, equestrian users often use these trails for the solitude it provides.

Activity: Name that Stakeholder

Using the list prepared by the Washington County team prior to the meeting, the Washington County staff was asked to review their list and answer two questions about their selections.

1. What information do you hope to gain from this user group?
2. What is an appropriate tool/tools to reach this group?

For expediency, the individual stakeholder groups were organized into 4 general categories.

1. Public Agencies
2. Local Clubs, Interest Groups, Advocacy Groups

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- 3. Park Neighborhoods
- 4. Schools

Stakeholder Brainstorm Activity:

Parent Group		What information are we hoping to gain from this group?	What engagement tools could be used?
Public Agencies	Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District	Regional and Existing Planning Efforts	Direct Connect
	MN DNR - Gateway Extension	Expertise	TAC and/or CAC
	Metropolitan Council - engagement staff	Relationship/Synergy development	Event Invitations
	Metropolitan Council - planning staff	Comprehensive view of resource management	
	Wash Co Conservation District	Local priorities and attitudes	
	U of MN	Long term view of the park	
	Stillwater Township		
	May Township City of Grant		
Schools	Withdraw Elementary	Youth/Kid Voice	Adventure Plus
	Rutherford Elementary	Relationship building for Wash Co with school district	Visualization Exercise
	Stillwater Area High School	New amenities/Recreation Opportunity	Drawings
	Stillwater Middle School	Insight on what kids are drawn to	Nature Based engagement activities
Neighbors	Outing Lodge	How the park can be a good neighbor	Important to control the message
	Adjacent landowners	Identify Potential acquisitions	Small group listening sessions
	Local businesses (Gasthaus, Chilkoot)	How can access the expanded/controlled They can provide an intimate view of the park existing activities (wild life) Relationship with the neighborhood	Ongoing project notifications
Local Clubs/Advocacy Groups	Gateway Trail Association	Technical feasibility	Trailside signs
	Snowmobile STAR Club?	Passionate users	Email blasts
	Wash Co Historical Society	Potential conflicts/concerns for their specific group	Online Survey
	SASCA Bike Club	How can the park develop	CAC
	Pollinator Friendly Alliance	Barriers in use or new project development	

Groups for potential engagement named during the stakeholder activity:

- 1. Minnesota Youth Biking League- 50-60 kids

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2. Pollinator Alliance- Pine Point Prairie areas are more 'protected' due to location, favorable wind direction, and cover for pollinators to thrive. Other areas are adversely affected by pesticide applications
3. Should pay tribute to site: DM- site at "what point in time" ; site has changed greatly over time and not convinced it needs to be returned to previous state due to importance of pollinator areas; Grazing and fire are important regenerative activities
4. Neighbors and potential acquisitions: Neighbor to east of east parcel in line but not confirmed. Master plan should be finished by end of year to assist county with talks for this acquisition-ready parcel
5. AM: What are thoughts on pine plantation- does not feel "natural", yet loved by winter sports people
6. DM: trails are now wide to accommodate equestrians and bikes; need to educate groups and bring dialogue

CS: Provide dates for next meeting/touch point for team discussion and potential site tour. Washington County to continue to review potential engagement activities and venues to support the Pine Point Master Plan process.

End of Meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #1

Meeting Date: 5/16/19

Meeting Time: 2pm-3pm

Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater MN

Attendees:

- Connor Schaefer - Washington County
- Ben Picone - Washington County
- Maureen Hoffman - Washington County
- Sharon Price - Washington County
- Alex McKinney - Washington County
- Steve Hart - Washington County
- Nate Arnold - Washington County
- Sara Armstrong - Washington County
- Swati Khimesra - Perkins+Will
- Mo Convery - Perkins+Will
- Brandon Helm - MN DNR
- Tom Polasik - Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District
- Tracey Kinney - Metropolitan Council
- Tara Kelly - Conservation District

A: Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Project Background
- Small Group Discussion
- Next Steps

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

B. Presentation

Connor Schaefer, Washington County, and Swati Khimesra, Perkins+Will, provided an overview of the project, process, and schedule. The TAC members present were also introduced to their roles and responsibilities.

C. Small Group Discussion

Following the presentation, the TAC separated into three groups for smaller group discussion surrounding 4 questions prepared by the County. Following are brief notes as captured by scribes from each group.

Q1: What should Washington County be aware of as this process begins?

Group 1:

- Working in Rural Area with mostly farmland; quiet, residential; most consider park a “hidden gem”
- Current Programming includes full moon hikes, fitness hikes, bird watching
- Equestrian use is very important
- Charter School north of park; potential to engage youth
- Warner Nature Center nearby; potential to partner?
- Bikers mostly access directly from Gateway State Trail
- Tracey Kinney to connect us to Senior Analyst at Met with Streetlight Data for users
- Review potential transit routes for increased regional access within 30-minute driveshed
- Must look at Mitigating Conflicts between Trail Users and Park Users
- Wetlands are a hotspot for migratory birds; bear tracks also recently spotted across trail

Group 2:

- Heavy use with many trails
- Review if park is handicap accessible;
- Gateway Trail is destination-the MOST used in Minnesota
- Many types of users including horses, bikes, rollerblades, etc.- competing?
- Maintenance- horse use vs biking
- Contamination in lakes-limited opportunities for recreation
- What’s the nature of these lakes? Is it worth restoring? What’s worth promoting? Big Marine one the best in Metro and very close

Group 3:

- Developing a natural resources plan; implementation in December
- Experience of park vs of trail- acknowledging that people’s experience is limited
- Keep in mind sizing- how it does not have to be everything; can be specialized

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- Make it a destination and do it really well
- Master plan does have a regional draw
- Gateway should be integrated; blur those lines
- Big Equestrian and big Biker communities- “wild west”
- Keep the balance
- Opportunities to have ecological education (soils, topo, etc.); integration of the resources into the experience

Q2: Are there any data/policies/plans that you could provide to help inform the master plan?

Group 1:

- Met Council Regional Park Policy Plan
 - 2016 Visitor Study
 - 2014 Community Study
 - 2017 Use Study
- Streetlight Data
- Trail Crossing and Pedestrian Signage for creating connections between Parcels

Group 2:

- Winter Use/Grooming (currently no plan)
- Signage, Sign Manual
- Pollinator Maps
- Data on Lakes

Group 3:

- Board and soil resources
- Pollinators- model of county with sweet spots; creations of corridors
- Overall park uses- trends there, i.e. infrastructure for parking
- Don't forget about entrance point
- Currently not staffed; a lot of questions of Pine Point; Seasonal Staff?
- Trail uses- conflicts between disparate use groups
- What to do about the pine trees? Dry pine oak woodland; FDC 25;
- Native plant community guides

Q3: What are your ideas for the best way to gather public input for this park?

Group 1:

- Work with analyst at Met Council to reach diverse population groups
- Intercept surveys and pop-ups

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PERKINS+WILL

- Understand when park is most heavily used to target larger user groups
- Online Survey and on Social Media, i.e. Facebook; recommend to use more directed questions
- Contact group that represents accessibility
- Input from teens and kids (i.e. Charter School)

Group 2:

- What are we using for?
- In-person surveys at the Park; invaluable; Volunteer for CAC?
- Have engagement meetings at the actual Park
- Leverage online resources with physical brochure; temp. signs on the trail, etc.

Group 3:

- Gateway Trail- intercept direct users
- Visitor counts – County has 16 dates set up (to comply with Met Council reqs)
- Washington County Fair
- Get connected with partners (i.e. EMREP) to assist with taking flyers/surveys to their events (available at tables, etc.)
- Connect with watercraft inspectors in areas- get info to boaters
- Show interactive mapping online ‘click around’
- Neighborhood meetings, especially adjacent communities
- Pop-up engagement; better to engage earlier

Q4: How can we create a plan that is “usable”? In other words, how could a master plan for Pine Point Regional Park help you/your agency do your work?

Group 1: Not Answered

Group 2:

- More strategic than descriptive
- Actionable
- Balance between actionable + flexible and broad but not too broad
- Reflect what people want/need
- Address foreseeable questions for Park

Group 3: Not Answered

D. Next Steps

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

PERKINS+WILL

The meeting ended with some dates on next steps in the process, including the Community Advisory Committee's first meeting on May 22nd, as well as the first Public Meeting in late June/early July.

Connor Schaefer wrapped up the meeting by adding that the meeting notes will be shared with the participants and posted online for future reference.

End of Meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Community Advisory Committee Meeting #1

Meeting Date: 5/22/19

Meeting Time: 6 pm-7 pm

Location: Washington County Public Works, Stillwater MN

Attendees:

- Connor Schaefer (CS) - Washington County
- Maureen Hoffman - Washington County
- Alex McKinney - Washington County
- Swati Khimesra - Perkins+Will
- Mo Convery - Perkins+Will
- Brian Hirsch - Chilkoot Velo Cycling Club
- Calvin Jones - SASCA Bike Club
- Jyneen Thatcher - Washington County Parks and Open Space Commission
- Tori Dupree - Washington County Parks and Open Space Commission
- Carlota & Lee Gohlike - Outing Lodge
- Laurie Schneider - Pollinator Friendly Alliance
- Jody Roone - GTR

Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Project Background
- Small Group Activity: Modified Strength, Weakness, opportunity, and Threat Exercise (SWOT)
- Next Steps

A. Welcome

The CAC members were asked to introduce themselves.

B. Presentation

Connor Schaefer, Washington County, and Swati Khimesra, Perkins+Will, provided an overview of the project, process, and schedule. Connor Schaefer also provided a draft of the project guiding principles. See presentation.

Community Question: The guiding principles are in conflict to one another. How can we diversify the park programs while protecting the ecological features?

CS Response: We are working to identify how each of these items will develop in the plan. It is about a balance of these different project objectives.

Community Request: Provide the CAC with documentation of the Met Council's 2040 Park Policy for Plan approval.

CS Response: We can provide this documentation

C. SWOT Exercise

Following the presentation, the CAC separated into three groups for smaller group discussion. Teams worked to identify and then spatially locate strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats related to the park. Following are brief notes as captured by scribes from each group.

Group 1 (Maureen's Table)

Strengths

1. Horse trails in shade
2. Restored prairie
3. Great birding
4. Geocaching

Weaknesses

1. User conflict between groups (horses vs. cyclists)
2. Pines not sustainable
3. Norell Ave cuts through the park, no one knows the other side of park exists/don't want to cross the road
4. Not enough information at the kiosk

Opportunities

1. Enhance the views of Lake Louise
 - o More natural plantings, already has very nice stand of hardwoods
2. Cemetery
3. More parking at Hadley for horse trailers, don't want to increase parking at main parking lot.
4. Fishing

Threats

1. Pines no intervention/management won't do well
2. Plan feels like drawing more people. Could cause park to become more developed and have less of its natural feel.
3. Similar to above, bringing in more activities to an already busy park.
4. No advertising on trails for plan update.
5. Fishing



Group 2 (Mo's Table)

Strengths

1. Pine plantations are beautiful and unique
2. Beautiful, underutilized trail. Connection to the neighborhood.
3. Lake access. Potential for recreation or programming.

Weaknesses

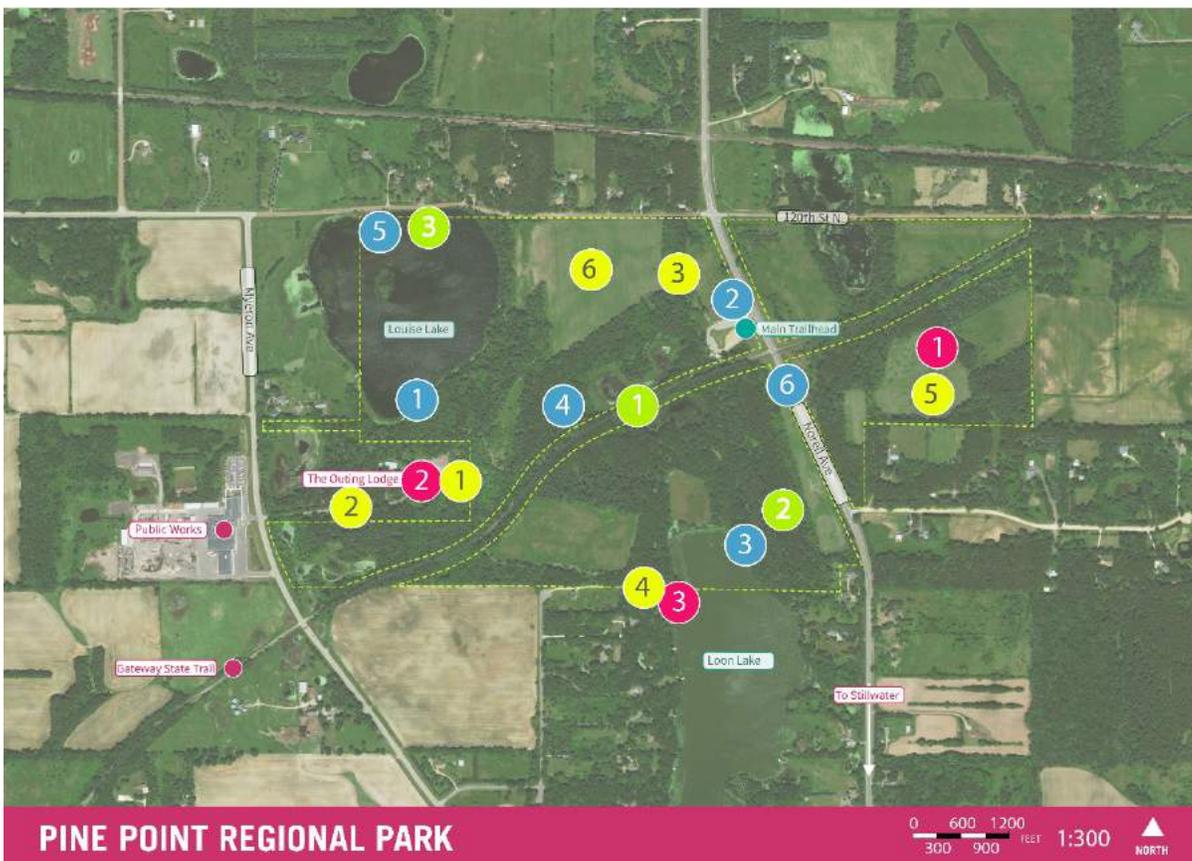
1. Stormwater burden and sediment buildup potential in Louise Lake.
2. Many users using the same main trailhead. Potential for conflicts.
3. No user accessible edge condition for Loon Lake.
4. Health of the pine plantations.

Opportunities

1. Outing Lodge for programming or private/public partnership
2. Opportunity for additional public parking and infrastructure on west side of the park.
3. Public education and training of different user group needs
4. Connectivity with adjacent community.
5. Open field is currently not heavily used by visitors.
6. Oak savannah is a good education and ecological feature

Threats

1. Threat for erosion.
2. Lodge visitors.
3. Culvert on Loon Lake.



Group 3 (Connor's Table)

Strengths

1. Prairie, very scenic.
2. Community of regular visitors who walk their dogs

Weaknesses

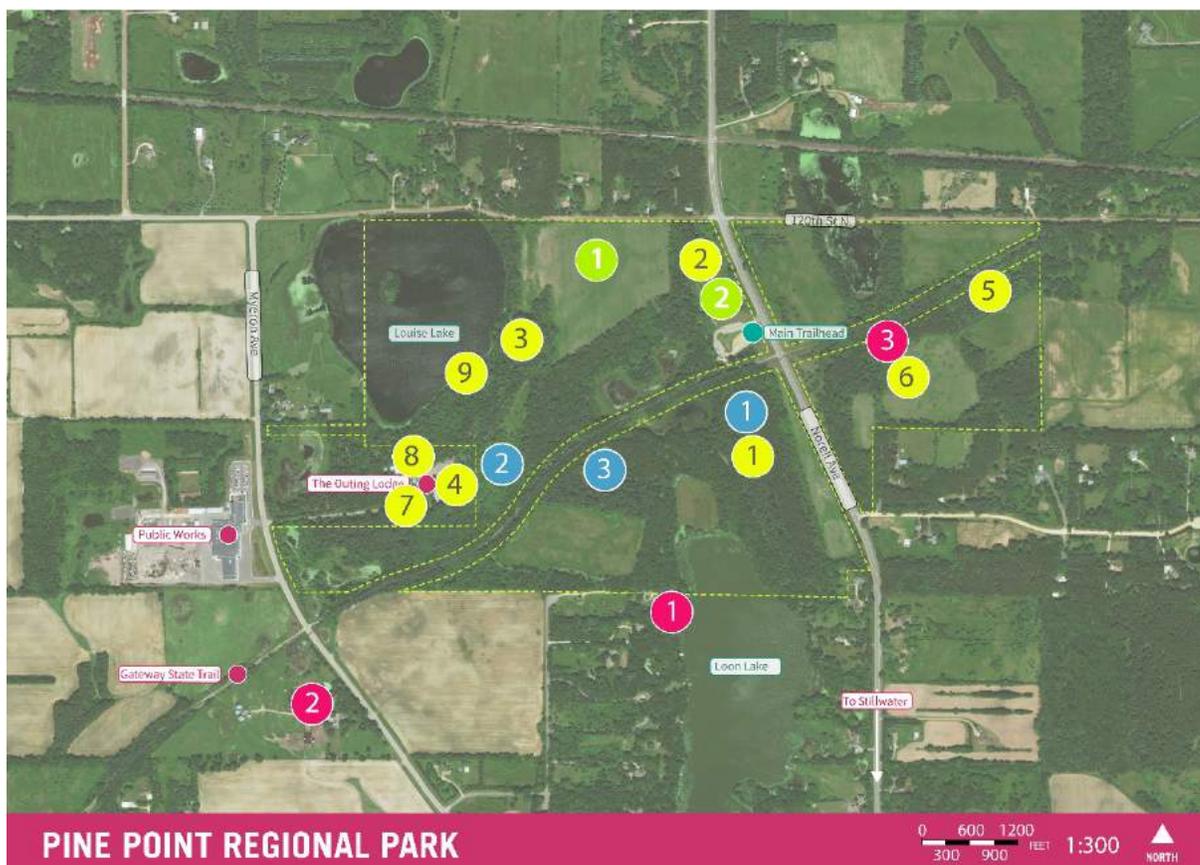
1. Drainage issues, wet trails
2. Dead trees blocking trails
3. Poor lighting in the park

Opportunities

1. Opportunity to reroute wet trails to limit damage to natural resources
2. Main trailhead building could accommodate bike rentals
3. Louise Lake recreational opportunities
4. Food and refreshments available at Outing Lodge – potential collaboration with park events
5. East side improvements – trail development and natural resources restoration
6. Potential for “natural” Off-leash dog park
7. Potential programs with school group on a snowshoe program or mountain bike trail riding
8. Collaborate with Naturalists at Warner Nature Center
9. Louise Lake access

Threats

1. Gateway State Trail safety – night riding and road intersection crossings
2. Dog behavior
3. Health of the forest





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #2

Meeting Date: 6/25/19

Meeting Time: 2:30pm-4pm

Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater MN

Attendees:

- Connor Schaefer - Washington County
- Fred Rozumalski – Barr Engineering
- Ben Picone - Washington County
- Maureen Hoffman - Washington County
- Sharon Price - Washington County
- Alex McKinney - Washington County
- Steve Hart - Washington County
- Nate Arnold - Washington County
- Sara Armstrong - Washington County
- Swati Khimesra - Perkins+Will
- Mo Convery - Perkins+Will
- Brandon Helm - MN DNR
- Tom Polasik - Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District
- Tracey Kinney - Metropolitan Council
- Tara Kelly - Conservation District

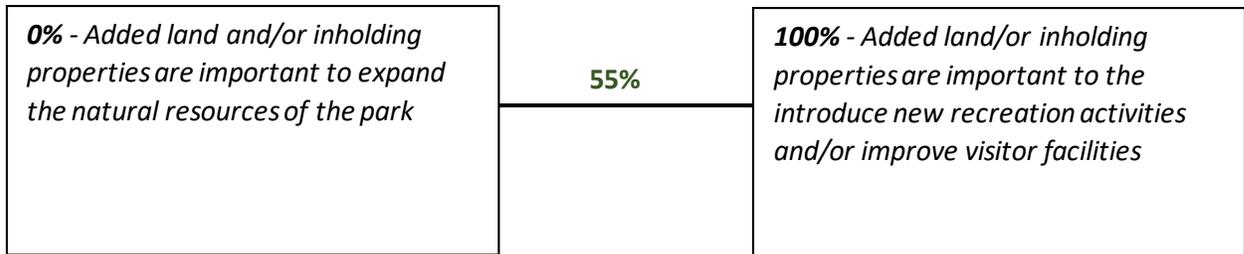
A: Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Presentation
- Continuum Statement Activity
- Next Steps

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

- 75% - more toward the other improvements. It seems to make sense to manage the natural resources we have for recreation.
- 60% - But it is also important to restore/enhance natural resources we have.
- We should use resources to support recreational use in the park, not necessarily built “development,” but expand the variety of uses in the park, such as trail access.
- **Final tally: 72%**

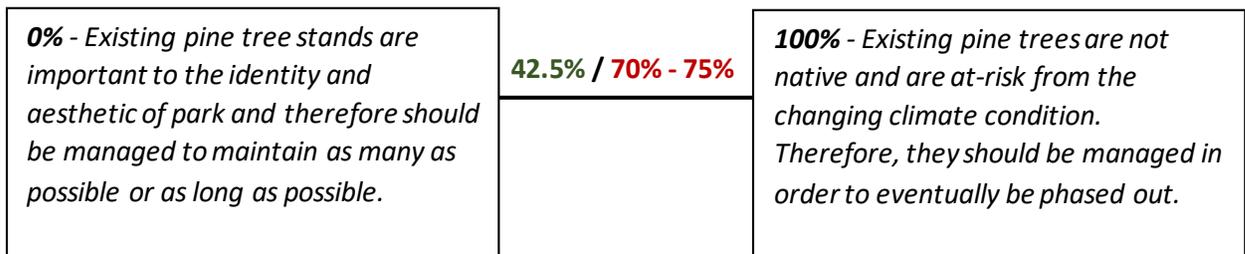
2. ADDED LAND



COMMENTS:

- This depends largely on the existing use or natural resources located already in the added land – the quality of the parcel informs what direction the later use should be. If it’s high quality natural area, use it to expand natural resources, if it’s already development, it could be more for recreation (60%).
- Land should be gained that protects and expands the natural resources of the park (40%).
- We should look into the Legacy Program, which can help determine what types of parcels we may try to add and enhance natural resources through that.
- **Final tally: 55%**

3. PINE PLANTATION MANAGEMENT



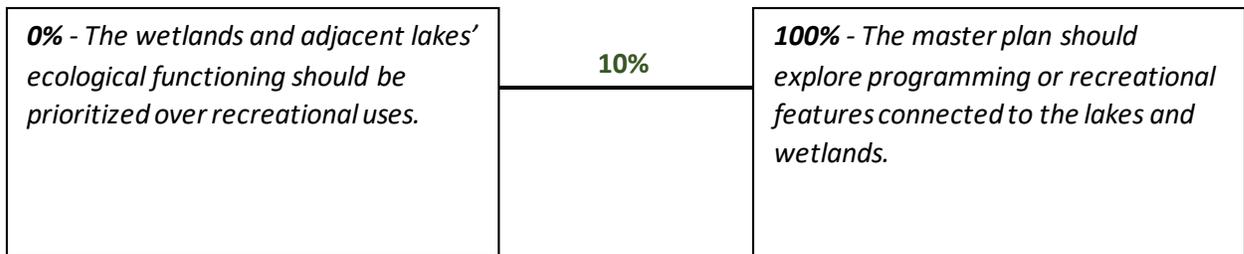
COMMENTS:

- The pine trees are good for winter activities. They should be managed for the value they have. We should use them for as long as we can and reassess as climate and needs change. (0%)

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

- We should phase them out, since they are not long-term viable options. (90%)
- 50% seems fair – The straight rows seem unnatural.
- 35-40% - We should manage them for recreation, but thin them out.
- We shouldn't clear cut them, but gradually try to replace them to more valuable species, if we're thinking 25 years out.
- We should work with what we have and while we have it. It will be helpful to get the recreational benefits, and eventually, maple and oak will come in. To try and manage the pine stands to switch to a savannah would be a high intensity effort, and that may not be where we want to expend our resources.
- **Final tally: 42.5% / 2 Dissent Dots: 70-75%** to “Manage as the pines move out.”

4. WETLANDS

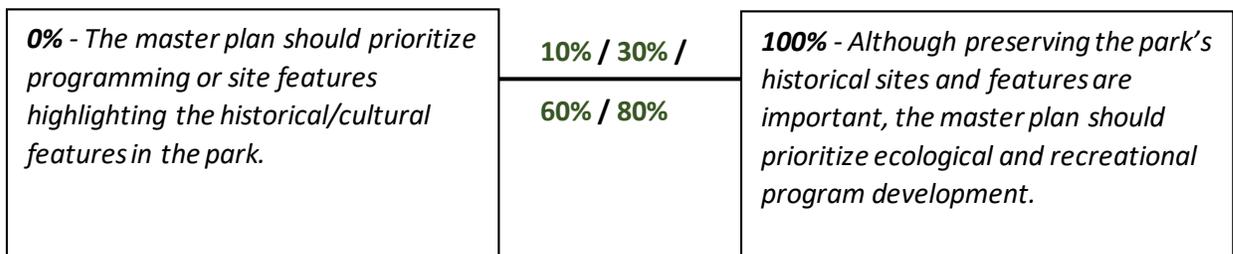


COMMENTS:

- The wetlands' ecological functions should be prioritized first – wouldn't an increase in recreation disturb the shoreline?
- The lakes are shallow – they're not deep enough for boating, perhaps canoeing, possibly swimming.
- No canoe launches.
- There could be some good opportunities for recreation such as wildlife observation.
- Residents wouldn't like a large increase in visitation, maybe a few canoes.
- The ecological value is more beneficial.
- **Final tally: 10%**

CULTURAL VALUE/HISTORY

5. HISTORY



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COMMENTS:

- There is a unique instance of a graveyard in an area of rich ecological value.
- Interpreting the past is really important. It's a unique story and we should highlight that. (10%)
- But the question is where should we allocate our finite resources. There are other valuable attributes of this park, such as pollinator habitat, and we could explore some of park areas as a safe haven for pollinators.
- The cemetery was chosen because it was a beautiful spot – I worry about the cost of restoring some of these areas to accommodate more people who would visit if we highlight it. (70%)
- The Poor Farm, the Outing Lodge, and other cultural sites, may be best treated by benign neglect. Perhaps better to hide them from public view to help preserve.
- **Final tally:** Group was split between **10%** (1 person), **30%** (4 people), **60%** (3 people), **80%** (3 people).

TRAILS and ACCESS

6. TRAIL USAGE



COMMENTS:

- If you are a user on a nature walk with a mountain bike going by you, does that give you the same experience?
- There are certain user groups that just don't work together (horses and bikes, skiers and horses, for example.)
- Trails shouldn't just be for skiers in the winter.
- 25%: Acknowledge that some user groups must be separated, but certain trail maintenance for winter skiers is appreciated by other groups, such as dog walkers, birders, and families, and these trails can be multi-purpose.
- There are specific groups that need certain trails but try to increase multiuse in general.
- What are the best practices for trail creation that we can use as a reference?
- **Final tally: 25%**

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

7. ACCESSIBILITY



COMMENTS:

- We have received feedback to not have all paved trails for the Gateway Trail
- Current trails are at a higher grade than ADA guidelines.
- There's been significant feedback from people taking the survey to not pave the trails.
- Equestrian users don't like it.
- There are other ways to make an accessible trail than paving, such as compacted gravel, not all asphalt.
- There is a legal requirement to improve accessibility where possible. The phrase "where feasible and appropriate" implies that we should add trails where we can. That seems reasonable.
- **Final tally: 90%**

8. GATEWAY



COMMENTS:

- I think we should go for around 78% - to expand amenities – but not just for trail but overall park users. We should try to get more of a range of ages. There are more older users than young families.
- If the prompt said just for park, not just trail, that would change the question a lot.

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- The DNR, county parks, regional parks, etc. would likely work in cooperation with us on improving amenities along the Gateway. We can explore other funding sources for that, so may want to focus our efforts on improvements within the park.
- What is the target group? Everyone? Families? If so, we need to change. The Gateway is used mostly by those in their late 20s and older. There are lots of older people on e-bikes using the trail.
- Young families do use it.
- Gateway trail users or Pine Point Park users – who do we cater to? If we try to attract more families to the park, we need to do something different. We need to define what we're looking for.
- But if this is looking 25 years out, we need to have the appropriate amenities to handle a larger usership as the Gateway Trail extends further out.
- **Final tally: 50%**

D. Next Steps

Connor Schaefer wrapped up the meeting by adding that the meeting notes will be shared with the participants and posted online for future reference.

End of Meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Community Advisory Committee Meeting #2

Meeting Date: 7/16/19

Meeting Time: 6:00pm-7:30pm

Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater MN

A: Agenda

- Introduction
- Presentation:
 - Plant Community Classification & Ecological Quality
 - Strategy for Regeneration
 - Regional Context, Site, History
- Group Activity / Discussion
- Process & Next Steps

The meeting began with introductions by all attendees.

B. Presentation

- Connor Schaefer presented the Pine Point Regional Park master plan process. He summarized the past meetings with the TAC and the CAC.
- Next, Dan MacSwain went over natural resource conditions and management. He began with the history of the land the park occupies. He then went over the different natural resources and land covers contained in Pine Point Regional Park. He showed maps of the park, showing areas of focus for high quality restoration.
- Dan went over the pine plantation management strategy.
- Dan asked for feedback on the Target Plant Communities Map. He was interested in hearing about the residents' opinions on which types of plant communities to prioritize.
- Dan wanted the community to know that there was some room for debate and grey area. He wanted input from the group on whether they were achieving correct balance. There are many ways to do it "correctly", but input would help determine what that way is.

COMMENTS:

- What is meant by restoration: does it mean returning it to pre-European settlement, native plants, etc.?

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- The issue is not in the decision of which types of forests to prioritize, but how to communicate that to other residents. Science and the consultant should dictate what is preserved.
- I enjoy riding in shade, and tree cover should be preserved. I'm concerned about preserving the plant communities that depended on the trees and enjoy the cover for keeping the trail not slippery.
- Washington County needs to be clear on their objectives when planning the park.

C. Group Activity / Discussion

- Swati then presented on the bigger picture, and how the park fits into the park and trail system.
- Swati then reviewed the early engagement results. Highlights include that most people come to Pine Point Regional Park at least monthly. Almost equal number responses came from people come by bike as by car.

COMMENTS:

- Studies have been done analyzing the types of people using trails, and where they are coming from. The Parks and Trail Council, a non-profit, performed this analysis, and it could be used in a presentation to justify investment into the park.
- What is the plan's purpose?
 - Response discussed: The park currently has no guiding principles, the old plan is outdated, and funding would be able to be secured with a master plan.

D. Next Steps

Connor concluded the meeting by explaining the timeline for the remaining phases of the master plan.
Public Open House – July 23rd, from 5 pm to 7 pm.
Survey runs until the end of the month.

End of Meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

ROUND 1

NATURAL RESOURCES AND RECREATION

Preserving the unique natural resources of the park should take priority over any other improvements, even if it limits human use in parts of the park.

Although preserving the unique natural resources is important, other improvements and/or additional programming are critical to successful park function and visitor experience.

When evaluating the potential of added land and/or inholding properties, we should prioritize properties that have the highest impact to natural resources.

When evaluating the potential of added land and/or inholding properties, we should prioritize properties that have the highest potential to expand or improve recreational access and facilities.

Existing pine tree stands are important to the identity and aesthetic of the park and therefore should be managed to maintain as many as possible and/or as long as possible.

Existing pine trees are not native and are at-risk from changing climate conditions. Therefore, they should be managed in order to eventually be phased out.

OTHER

ROUND 2 TRAILS AND ACCESS

Trail usage should be kept separate based on user type. User groups will not share trails, but access will be limited to specific routes in specific areas of the park.

All trails should be accessible to all user groups. User groups will share trails, but will have access to trails in all areas of the park.

The current park amenities (restroom, water access, and bike maintenance station) are sufficient supports for the Gateway trail users.

The master plan should explore ways to improve or expand amenities for Gateway trail users.

CULTURAL VALUE / HISTORY

The master plan should prioritize programming or site features highlighting the historical/cultural features in the park.

Although preserving the park's historical sites and features are important, the master plan should prioritize ecological and recreational program development.

OTHER



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #3

Meeting Date: 10/09/19

Meeting Time: 2:30pm-4pm

Location: Conf. Rm 1244, Washington County Public Works, Stillwater MN

Attendees:

- Connor Schaefer - Washington County
- Maureen Hoffman - Washington County
- Sharon Price - Washington County
- Dan McSwain - Washington County
- Nate Arnold - Washington County
- Sara Armstrong - Washington County
- Brandon Helm - MN DNR
- Tom Polasik - Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District
- Tracey Kinney - Metropolitan Council
- Tara Kelly - Conservation District
- Swati Khimesra - Perkins and Will
-

A: Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Presentation
- Concept Plan Mapping Exercise Review
- Next Steps

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

B. Presentation

Connor Schaefer and Swati Khimesra provided an update to the process so far, including a summary of community engagement, site analysis, and expanded park boundary search. Following the presentation, the group was asked to provide input on three maps showing layers of information incorporated into the proposed concept plan for Pine Point Regional Park.

C. Concept Plan Review

Map 1: Ecological Points of Interest and Trail

1. Question about Lake Loon as an acquisition:
 - a. Tom: May infringe on property owners' (i.e. along lake front) use of lake for recreation if park use or other regulations are enforced on use of lake
 - b. Brandon: Already governed by state laws so incorporation into park is likely just likely for semantics
 - c. Lake is only 3-4' deep so type of recreational use is pretty limited.
2. Speed reduction along Norell:
 - a. Will likely be difficult to pass through County
 - b. Suggest use of blinking lights
 - c. Question of under or over pass for Gateway State Trail; Brandon mentioned will have to be assessed once extension is planned.
3. Trail crossing through core restoration was acceptable to the group as long trail layout is planned well during implementation
4. Observation points make sense during master plan sense; provide access to the best parts of the park; detailed implementation will guide best implementation and prioritization
5. Question about northwestern point on NW corner of Louise Lake- is it additive to experience? Should not be a priority.
6. Question if park could be signed further west on Gateway State Trail. Brandon said yes and would like to work with team to identify points that work best of signage/seating.
7. Brandon mentioned that primary consideration for future Gateway extension is north along the eastern side of Norell. Will be able to use existing trail (can widen to 10' and use heavier aggregate base to match trail requirements.); equestrian trail (unpaved) sections could likely diverge from main path. Points of connection to the north are May Township Park, William O'Brien, and Scandia.

Below is an image capturing results from Map 1.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.



Map 2: Cultural/Historical Points of Interest and Trail

1. Discussion on Poor Farm Cemetery
 - a. Most agreed that ok to access
 - b. Several agreed with idea that trail would not directly impact cemetery grounds
 - c. More eyes on space is good
 - d. By demarcating the cemetery, plan would bring more attention to a relatively unknown part of the park.
 - e. Would be good to give a teaser at the trailhead on park history; include native American history and immigrant history. Could be a way to expand equity.
2. Group suggested that would be good to have a looped accessible trail connecting recreation zones to trailhead
3. For Recreation Zone Options:
 - a. Preference suggested for Option A due to availability of land
 - b. Several others preferred Options B or C due to compatibility with Outing Lodge; could be a future “hub” of activity for the park
 - c. Suggestion to do a short term rec zone and long term.

Image below capturing results of suggested changes to map #2.

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4. Comment was made about the school kids' (Urban Youth) activity from the previous evening; teens/kids like a place where they can go and 'hang out'
5. Rec Option C as a point for showcasing story of immigrants; Rec Option A as a point for showcasing native American/pre-settlement history
6. Camping was seen as a long-range option- can be described in text of report as a potential program element but suggestion was made not to identify location in park
7. Fishing on Louise is questionable (some walleye of good size in deep part of lake); however, a pier was seen as a good element to add.
8. Fat Tire biking as a potential winter use

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

Map 3: Programming of Pine Point RP

Below is an image capturing results of the programming activity related to the master plan.



D. Next Steps

Connor Schaefer wrapped up the meeting by adding that the meeting notes will be shared with the participants and posted online for future reference.

End of Meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #3

Meeting Date: 10/10/19

Meeting Time: 6 pm- 8 pm

Location: Conf. Rm 1244, Washington County Public Works, Stillwater MN

Attendees:

- Connor Schaefer - Washington County
- Swati Khimesra – Perkins and Will
- Tori Dupree - Washington County Parks and Open Space Commission

A: Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Presentation
- Concept Plan Mapping Exercise Review
- Next Steps

B. Presentation

Tori agreed to skip the presentation since she had been updated previously.

C. Concept Plan Review

Map 1: Ecological Points of Interest and Trail

Tori did not have any suggested changes on Map 1.

Map 2: Cultural/Historical Points of Interest and Trail

Tori did not have any suggested changes on Map 2.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

D. Next Steps

Connor Schaefer wrapped up the meeting by adding that the meeting notes will be shared with the participants and posted online for future reference.

End of Meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

Perkins&Will



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Combined Meeting #4

Meeting Date: 12/11/19

Meeting Time: 3 pm- 4:30 pm

Location: Conf. Rm 1244, Washington County Public Works, Stillwater MN

Attendees:

- Connor Schaefer – Washington County
- Swati Khimesra – Perkins and Will
- Cecily Harris – Metropolitan Council Parks and Open Space Commission
- Tom Polasik - Carnelian-Marine Watershed District
- Nathan Arnold – Washington County
- Tracey Kinney – Metropolitan Council
- Jyneen Thatcher - Washington County Parks and Open Space Commission
- Dennis Lindeke – Gateway Trail Association
- Jody Roone
- Pat Roone
- Sheila-Marie Untiedt – Stillwater Township
- Rod Hunter – Stillwater Township
- Mark Prchal – Washington County
- Tara Kelly - Washington County Conservation District
- Dan MacSwain – Washington County
- Alex McKinney – Washington County
- Sharon Price – Washington County
- Ann Pung-Terwedo – Washington County

A: Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

Perkins&Will

- Review of Project Progress and Engagement (Open House #2)
- Park Concept Plan Review
- Interactive Concept Plan Discussion/Exercise
- Next Steps

B. Presentation

Connor opened the meeting by welcoming the combined TAC and CAC member to the fourth meeting to review the progress for the Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan project. A brief overview of the engagement efforts, including the most recent Community Open House #2 and the Urban Roots activity provided additional insight that helped in refinements to the proposed master plan. The refined master plan was then presented by Swati Khimesra. Following were some of the key comments received from the TAC+CAC.

- Phase 1 Park Concept Map
 - Remove bike access trail and east-side interchange
 - Access connecting the Gateway Trail to parking lot is not ideal. Grade and visibility challenges. Prioritize in phase 1
 - One participant commented they did not support including the County-owned Loon Lake parcel in the park master plan boundary
- Phase 2 Park Concept Map
 - Remove bike access trail and east-side interchange
 - Consider moving the Gateway Trail crossing improvement to Phase 2 or Contingent
- Phase 3 Park Concept Map
 - Consider implementing the unmarked trails (east of Norell) in Phase 1 or Phase 2.
- General Comments
 - Work with Met Council to address consistency with 2040 Comprehensive Plan.
 - Gateway Trail extension's implementation is viewed as very long-term. Consider making improvements, with this in mind.

C. Interactive Concept Plan Discussion/Exercise

The following questions were posed to the TAC and CAC members in the meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

Perkins&Will

1. After reviewing the long-term concept - what proposed improvement are you most looking forward to and why?
2. Any questions/comments/considerations regarding the preferred concept and implementation phasing?
3. Are there any opportunities that Washington County should be aware of that may help with implementation (i.e. nearby projects, grant opportunities, programming collaborations, permitting requirements, cost estimate information)?

The following are answers provided by Group 1

Question 1: *After reviewing the long-term concept - what proposed improvement are you most looking forward to and why?*

1. Gateway Trail Improvements and proposed solutions for increasing park safety, especially at trail crossing; also would like existing trail connection between trailhead parking and Gateway Trail to be improved
2. Restoration of natural resources, especially management of pine population and realignment of trails to aide natural restoration efforts
3. Comprehensive approach of plan
4. Trails for everyone
5. Natural Resource Management, especially the restoration of Oak Savanna

Question 2: *Any questions/comments/considerations regarding the preferred concept and implementation phasing?*

1. No particular comments; would like master plan to include language that is enabling and allows changes without having to require an amendment
2. Phasing based on budget – what can realistically be accomplished
3. Explain in document what the pine management thinning measures mean (percentages of thinning) and provide definition of techniques
4. Address access and safety improvements and their implementation; including improving the crossing at Norell (i.e. a durable and more effective flashing sign vs. typical ones that are hard to see in the daylight)
5. Increased signage for safely using Norell crossing.
6. Remove ditch obstacle along the east side of Norell
7. Review DNR Signage requirements/standards

Question 3: *Are there any opportunities that Washington County should be aware of that may help with implementation (i.e. nearby projects, grant opportunities, programming collaborations, permitting requirements, cost estimate information)?*

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

Perkins&Will

1. Make sure DNR has no objections to park trails alongside Gateway State Trail (in ROW)
2. Grading to interchanges/crossing at Gateway- will also need to be worked out with DNR/State as will impact their ROW
3. Grants include Conservation Partners Legacy Grant (Dan M. aware of this one)
4. "One Watershed One Plan" draft report includes Louise Lake as a priority improvement water body. May provide source for funding to help improve water quality.
5. Historical MN Society- may have funds for signage at Poor Farm cemetery/grave site or other important historical nodes in park
6. Existing User Groups could provide aid in form of volunteerism, fund raising, etc. (i.e. Trail Associations; Trail Ambassadors; etc.)

Following are comments from Group 2

Question 1: *After reviewing the long-term concept - what proposed improvement are you most looking forward to and why?*

1. Introducing park for Gateway Trail Users
2. Boardwalk
3. Reestablishment of Native Species (i.e. Berries, Shrubs)
4. Better wayfinding in Phase 1
5. Creating a destination, increasing park's size
6. Trail use separation and signage
7. Integration of natural resource management, interpretation, and history

Question 2: *Any questions/comments/considerations regarding the preferred concept and implementation phasing?*

1. Trail route near cemetery
2. Difficulty with contingent implementation timing
3. Keep shade with pine trees
4. Retain narrow trail segments
5. Short term crossing improvements
6. When implementing benches, consider height, providing a "stepped bench", and pole for assistance
7. Loon Lake basin is a challenge for recreation

Question 3: *Are there any opportunities that Washington County should be aware of that may help with implementation (i.e. nearby projects, grant opportunities, programming collaborations, permitting requirements, cost estimate information)?*

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

Perkins&Will

1. Horse Council Grants- \$7,000 for mounting station (non-profits)
2. Parks Commission
3. Township have be eligible for grants to help improve park
4. DNR- Natural Resources grants

D. Next Steps

Connor Schaefer wrapped up the meeting by adding that the meeting notes will be shared with the participants and posted online for future reference. He also requested a letter of support endorsing the proposed concepts/ideas from the TAC and CAC representative and their agencies. Next steps include documenting the report and approvals in the early part of 2020. Final approvals by February 2020.

End of Meeting.

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

Appendix D: List of Comments from Interactive Map

Interactive Map of Pine Point									
OBJECTID	GlobalID	CreationDate	Creator	EditDate	Editor	Comments	Status	x	y
28	a9cbce7f-e	6/5/2019 1:19		6/5/2019 1:19		We use these trails for horses, they could be cleared better.	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8325	45.12051
29	ea4b1b12-	6/5/2019 1:21		6/5/2019 1:21			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8354	45.11905
30	01027156-	6/5/2019 1:22		6/5/2019 1:22			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8307	45.12094
31	4e217550-	6/7/2019 14:21		6/7/2019 14:21			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8429	45.11743
32	9bb8f4be-	6/7/2019 14:23		6/7/2019 14:23			Key Park Feature	-92.8378	45.1205
33	5e28122e-	6/8/2019 12:14		6/8/2019 12:14		Cross Equine Trail	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8436	45.11931
34	7c286822-	6/8/2019 12:15		6/8/2019 12:15		Cross Equine Trail	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8413	45.1207
						Add a second, northerly connection between purple & blue trails for more loop options	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8377	45.12329
35	8af9df7e-f	6/10/2019 18:06		6/10/2019 18:06			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8455	45.12025
36	83f48759-f	6/10/2019 18:09		6/10/2019 18:09		Allow bicycles on West trails	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8398	45.11663
37	5dbf3268-t	6/10/2019 18:10		6/10/2019 18:10		Allow dogs (skijoring) on skate deck	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8398	45.11663
						Build trail connecting Dellwood & Mahtomedi to the Gateway for getting TO the park	Opportunity to Improve	-92.9563	45.07766
38	568b4eda-	6/10/2019 18:12		6/10/2019 18:12		Multi-use trails are THE reason to visit - ones that allow dogs for bikejoring and skjoring	Key Park Feature	-92.8343	45.12188
39	d32a8267-	6/10/2019 18:13		6/10/2019 18:13		More trails in this part of the park?	Opportunity to Improve	-92.83	45.12012
40	f60cd1ec-f	6/10/2019 18:15		6/10/2019 18:15		Get DNR to finish the Gateway	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8279	45.12339
41	65ed6c0e-	6/10/2019 18:16		6/10/2019 18:16		Needs a multi-use connection between points 5 and 14	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8442	45.11856
42	8620cc11-	6/10/2019 18:20		6/10/2019 18:20		Poor Farm grave yard	Key Park Feature	-92.8398	45.11772
43	2e24388d-	7/1/2019 15:03		7/1/2019 15:03			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8398	45.11777
44	da1162c9-	7/1/2019 15:12		7/1/2019 15:12			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8397	45.11836
45	c0f2e6cc-0	7/5/2019 13:57		7/5/2019 13:57		Signage here is confusing	Key Park Feature	-92.8343	45.1219
46	08d911d2-	7/12/2019 3:00		7/12/2019 3:00			Key Park Feature	-92.8377	45.1233
47	9bfa4d26-	7/12/2019 3:00		7/12/2019 3:00			Key Park Feature	-92.8378	45.12055
48	298df741-f	7/12/2019 13:07		7/12/2019 13:07			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8501	45.11612
49	837752ad-	7/16/2019 19:35		7/16/2019 19:35		Add horse trails in this area	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8336	45.12045
50	231142e0-	7/16/2019 19:50		7/16/2019 19:50		Provide better signage for trail connection here	Opportunity to Improve	-92.835	45.11651
51	226dd6d6-	7/16/2019 19:50		7/16/2019 19:50		Provide horse trail connection here	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8372	45.12
52	0d4eaeaf-e	7/16/2019 19:51		7/16/2019 19:51		test	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8374	45.12098
53	4f9e45e5-e	7/17/2019 0:13		7/17/2019 0:13					
						I like the prairie restoration work that has been done here and I hope more ecological work will be included in the plan.	Key Park Feature	-92.8415	45.12293
54	98981b07-	7/17/2019 14:30		7/17/2019 14:30					
55	7d8a3bd0-	7/19/2019 14:34		7/19/2019 14:34		Opportunity for mountain biking trails somewhere in this park	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8449	45.12074
56	8ec4cfbd-e	7/19/2019 14:36		7/19/2019 14:36		add archery range somewhere? Here?	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8348	45.12039
						create a small "Loop" around this section of the park to create a continuous turnaround for Gateway Trail users reaching the end of the trail	Opportunity to Improve	-92.836	45.12115
57	3b3e3d35-	7/19/2019 14:37		7/19/2019 14:37		Add a 3d archery course in this area	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8337	45.11996
58	37564eef-f	7/19/2019 18:36		7/19/2019 18:36					
						Please do not allow bikes on horse trails. It isn't safe! And please keep these trails for horses/hikers only. We have so very few horseback trails in parks in Washington County (only 3)!	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8462	45.11991
59	9a5e2135-	7/22/2019 19:11		7/22/2019 19:11					
						Please keep the horse trails as "horse only" trails. Bikes and horses are a very unsafe combination, constant spooking of the horse. Very few parks left for horse only trails. Even Gateway is challenging with proximity, speed and lack of respect on some	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8392	45.11925
60	286d1377-	7/23/2019 17:55		7/23/2019 17:55					
						As an equestrian I am very concerned about having bicycles sharing our horse trails. Many if our horses are very frightened by their silent quick approach. Horses react quickly and risk of injury is very high for the horse Rider and the bike Rider.	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8426	45.11982
61	ec931fa9-f	7/23/2019 22:04		7/23/2019 22:04		Since Mountain and Fat Biking are limited in the western part of the park, make more biking trails here	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8333	45.12073
62	de9b807a-	7/25/2019 2:09		7/25/2019 2:09		Allow winter fat biking and mountain biking on trails	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8466	45.11944
63	1267e1f4-c	7/25/2019 2:17		7/25/2019 2:17			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8429	45.11932
64	67eac455-	7/30/2019 2:38		7/30/2019 2:38			Opportunity to Improve	-92.8421	45.11999
65	acd9b8b1-	7/30/2019 2:41		7/30/2019 2:41		add mountain bike trails here please	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8435	45.11878
66	de51b9c0-	7/30/2019 2:42		7/30/2019 2:42		Dedicate mountain bike trails would be awesome!	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8453	45.11964
67	adc66e35-	7/30/2019 2:42		7/30/2019 2:42		Connecting Mountain Bike trails to the gateway!	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8382	45.11844
68	246f9a24-	7/30/2019 2:44		7/30/2019 2:44		Great Area to add some single track Mtb trails!	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8371	45.11809
69	04d13e4b-	7/30/2019 2:46		7/30/2019 2:46		Add some single track here	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8446	45.12115
70	a158e264-	7/30/2019 2:47		7/30/2019 2:47		Make trails multi use not horse ONLY - waste of good trail	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8286	45.12309
71	d1dc9b53-	8/4/2019 18:38		8/4/2019 18:38		Please work with DNR to extend the Gateway Trail.	Opportunity to Improve	-92.8286	45.12309

Appendix E: Online Survey Results



SIGN UP FREE



Pine Point Regional Park Master Plan Survey - Summer 2019

QUESTION SUMMARIES

DATA TRENDS

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES

Q1

Please provide your information:

Answered: 630 Skipped: 0

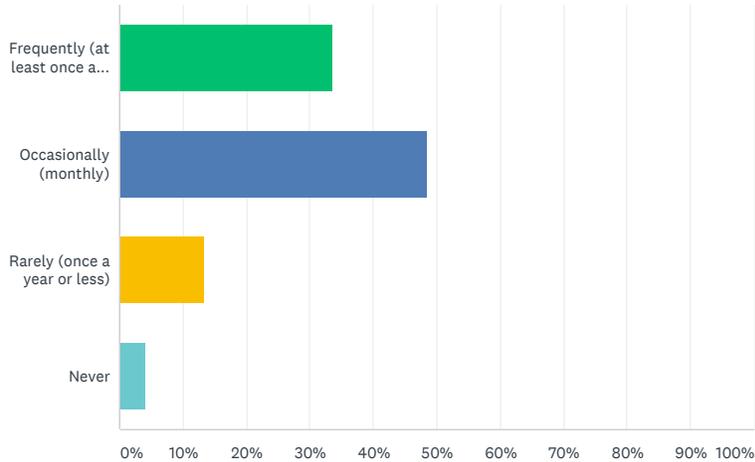
Add a comment

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	Responses	100.00% 630
Company	Responses	0.00% 0
Address	Responses	0.00% 0
Address 2	Responses	0.00% 0
City/Town	Responses	100.00% 630
State/Province	Responses	0.00% 0
ZIP/Postal Code	Responses	100.00% 630
Country	Responses	0.00% 0
Email Address	Responses	0.00% 0
Phone Number	Responses	0.00% 0

Q2

How often do you visit Pine Point Regional Park?

Answered: 630 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Frequently (at least once a week)	33.65% 212
Occasionally (monthly)	48.57% 306
Rarely (once a year or less)	13.49% 85

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630 responses



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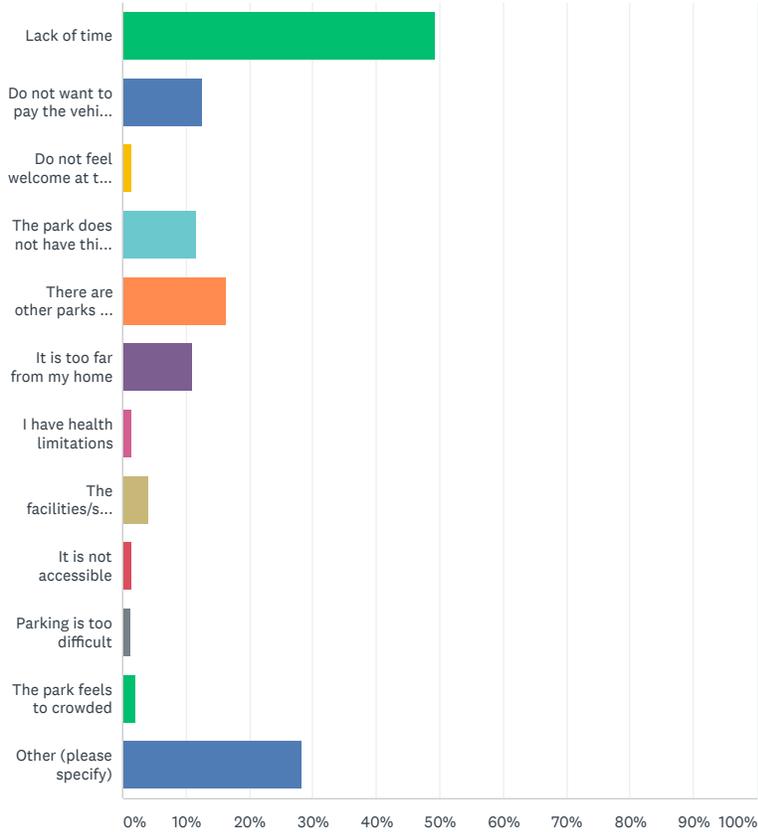


Q3



If applicable, what are your barriers to visiting Pine Point Regional Park? Check all that apply

Answered: 505 Skipped: 125



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Lack of time	49.31% 249
Do not want to pay the vehicle permit fee	12.48% 63
Do not feel welcome at the park	1.39% 7
The park does not have things to do that I am interested in	11.68% 59
There are other parks I prefer to visit	16.24% 82
It is too far from my home	11.09% 56
I have health limitations	1.39% 7
The facilities/services are inadequate	4.16% 21
It is not accessible	1.39% 7
Parking is too difficult	1.19% 6
The park feels too crowded	2.18% 11
Other (please specify)	Responses 28.32% 143
Total Respondents: 505	

Q4



How do you typically get to the park?

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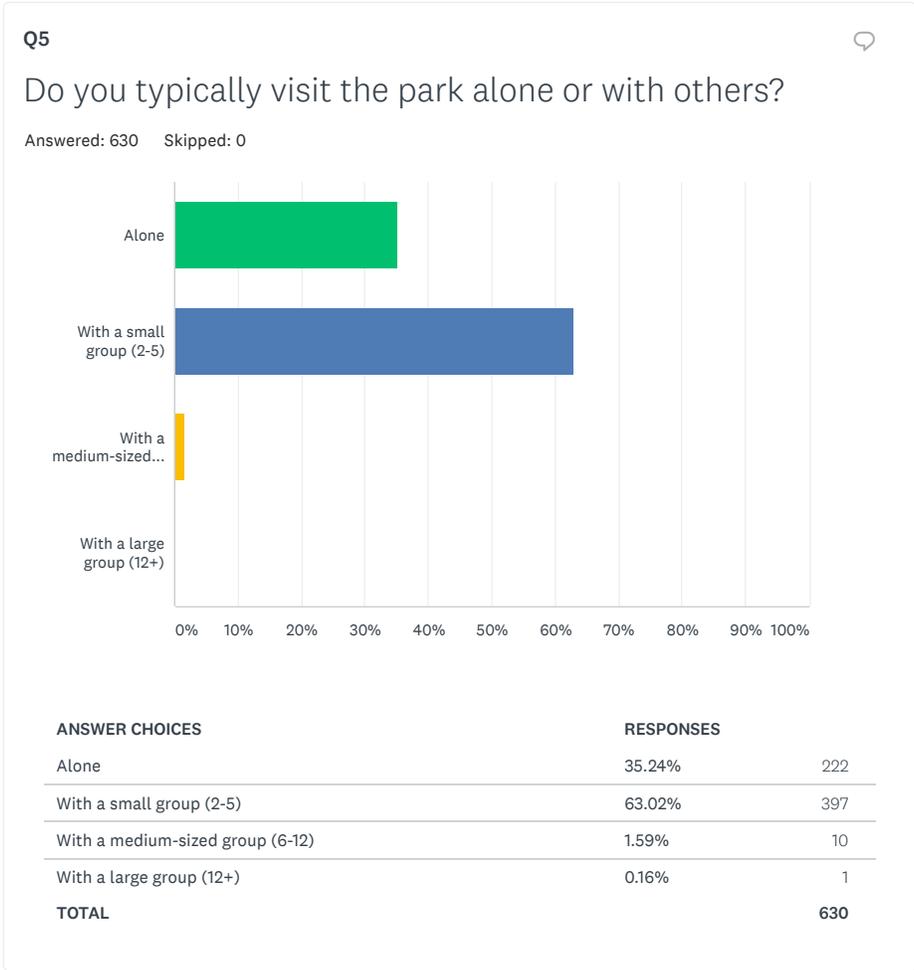
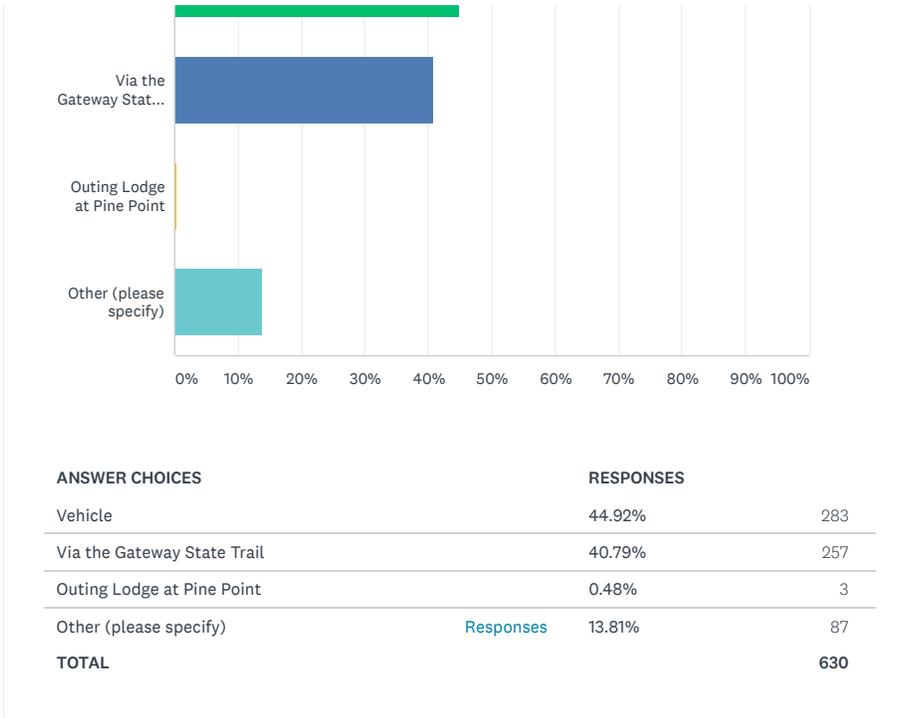
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Q6

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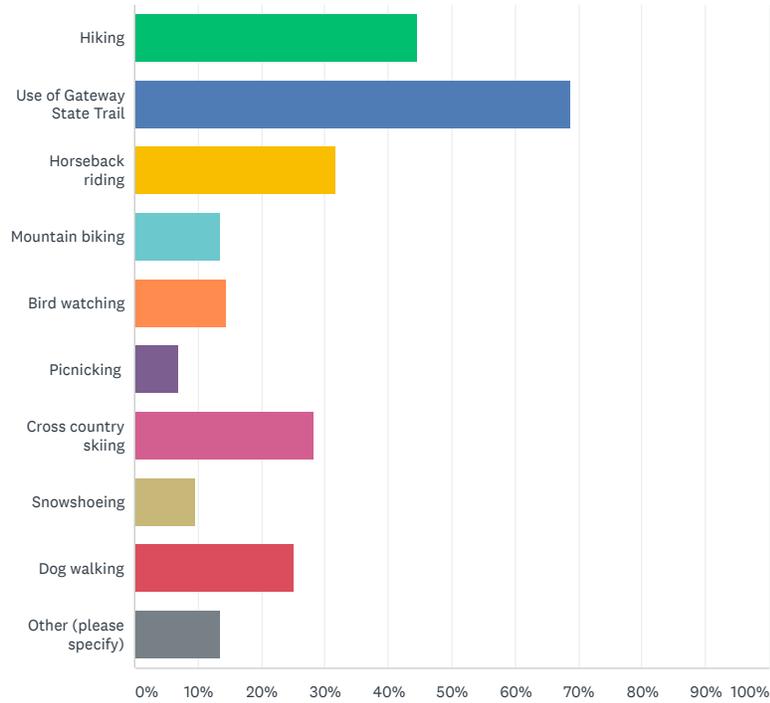
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630 responses



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Hiking	44.60% 281
Use of Gateway State Trail	68.73% 433
Horseback riding	31.75% 200
Mountain biking	13.65% 86
Bird watching	14.44% 91
Picnicking	6.98% 44
Cross country skiing	28.25% 178
Snowshoeing	9.52% 60
Dog walking	25.08% 158
Other (please specify)	Responses 13.65% 86
Total Respondents: 630	

Q7



What activities/amenities should be added/improved in Pine Point Regional Park? Please check up to 3 answers.

Answered: 630 Skipped: 0



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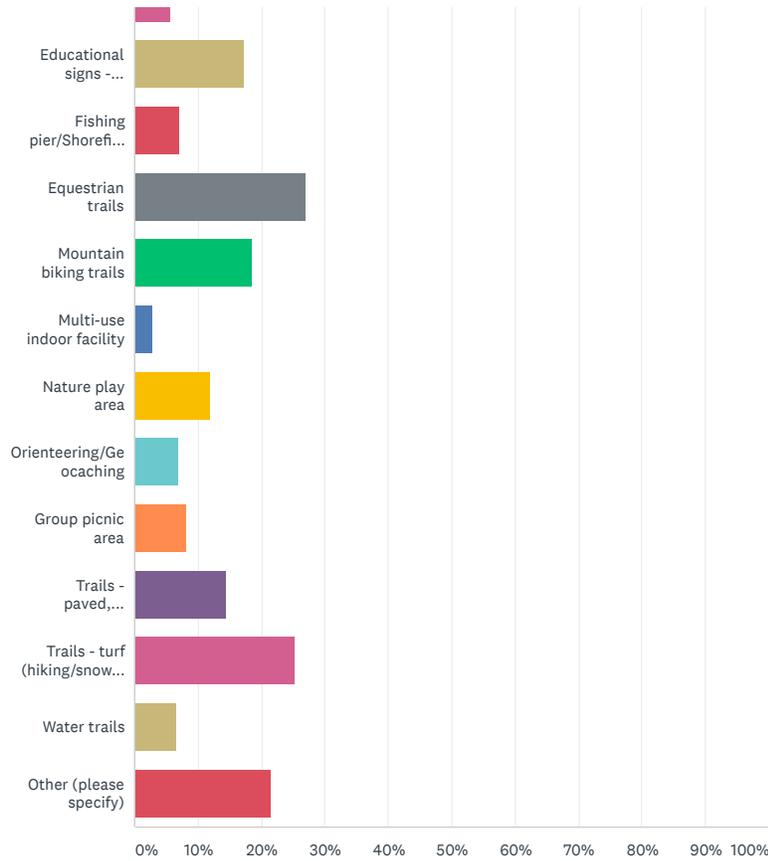
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630 responses



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Archery	3.65% 23
Boardwalk trail	8.73% 55
Camping - cabin/yurt	3.81% 24
Camping - car/RV	3.33% 21
Camping - rustic/hike-in	6.51% 41
Canoe/kayak access to lakes	16.83% 106
Disc Golf	5.56% 35
Educational signs - nature/ecology/history	17.46% 110
Fishing pier/Shorefishing	7.14% 45
Equestrian trails	26.98% 170
Mountain biking trails	18.57% 117
Multi-use indoor facility	2.86% 18
Nature play area	11.90% 75
Orienteering/Geocaching	6.98% 44
Group picnic area	8.10% 51
Trails - paved, multi-use	14.44% 91
Trails - turf (hiking/snowshoe/skiing)	25.24% 159
Water trails	6.67% 42
Other (please specify)	21.59% 136
Total Respondents: 630	

OR

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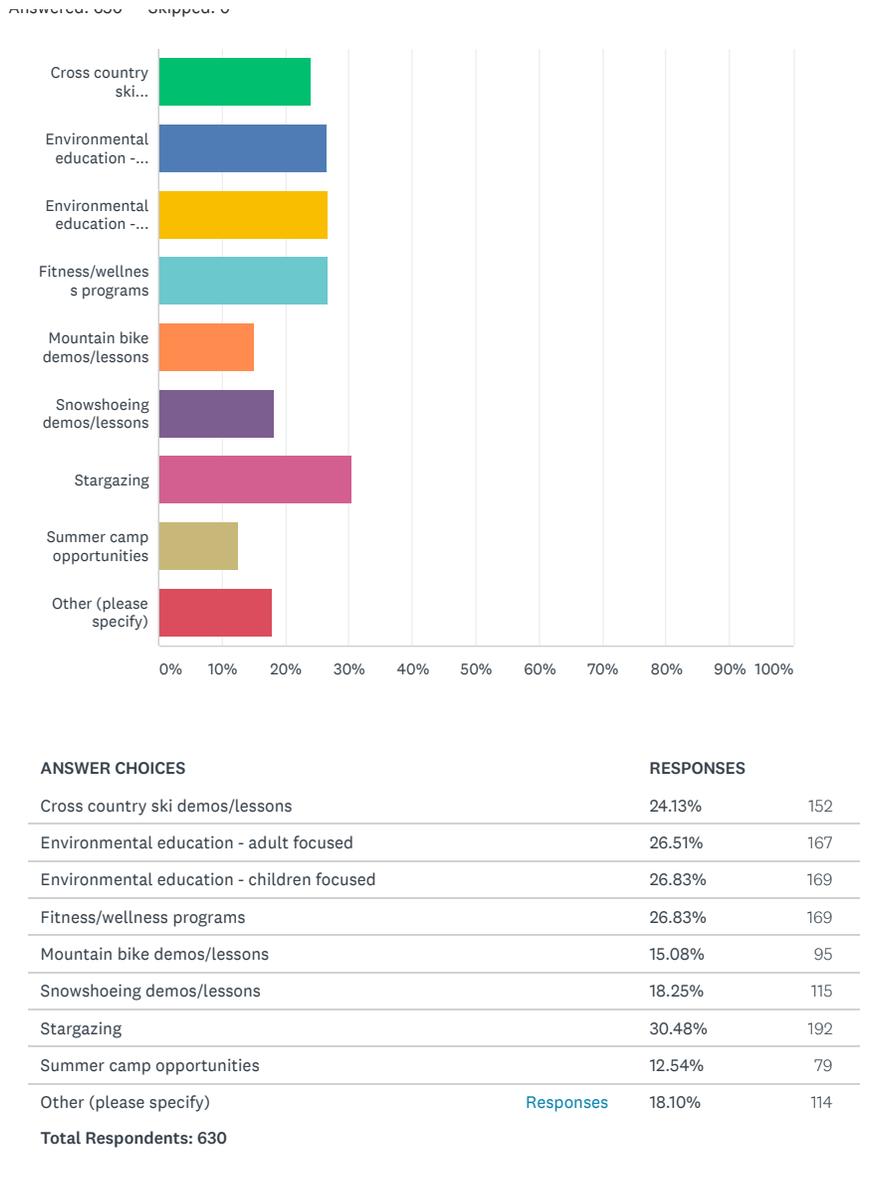
Tweet

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630 responses



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Q9

What do you enjoy most about the park?

Answered: 572 Skipped: 58

- The trails
8/15/2019 11:40 AM
- Bike trails
8/13/2019 10:29 AM
- It's nice and quiet, and also seeing the mix of people (bikers, horseback riders, ...)
8/12/2019 11:59 AM

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630 responses



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[Empty response box]

Q10



What is your biggest concern about the park?

Answered: 520 Skipped: 110

Some of the people that live on the park do not take care of their properties

8/15/2019 11:40 AM

Need more trash cans

8/13/2019 10:29 AM

Diminishing horse trail mileage; bicycle trails that run too close or cross horse trails (fast, quiet, sudden bicycles can frighten horses; they are prey animals and have a strong flight instinct); lack of safety/respect for horse/rider encounters.

8/10/2019 8:09 PM

Too many "improvement" will be made and it will loose its natural outdoor feel.

8/7/2019 5:10 PM

Q11



What suggestions do you have to improve Pine Point Regional Park today?

Answered: 498 Skipped: 132

Trash can on gateway trail

8/13/2019 10:29 AM

a couple more picnic tables

8/12/2019 11:59 AM

Maintain and increase horse trails and keep them well away from bicycle trails. If the two users must meet at a trail intersection, direct the traffic to meet face to face rather than going the same direction where bikes can come up from behind and startle a horse.

8/10/2019 8:09 PM

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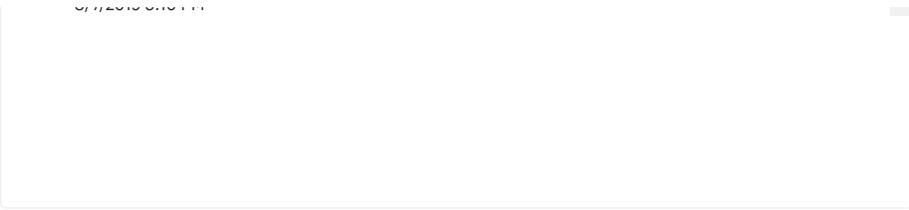
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630 responses



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Q12



If you would like to receive notifications of future public engagement events regarding the Pine Point Regional Park master plan, please provide your email address:

Answered: 380 Skipped: 250

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES		
Name	Responses	0.00%	0
Company	Responses	0.00%	0
Address	Responses	0.00%	0
Address 2	Responses	0.00%	0
City/Town	Responses	0.00%	0
State/Province	Responses	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	Responses	0.00%	0
Country	Responses	0.00%	0
Email Address	Responses	100.00%	380
Phone Number	Responses	0.00%	0

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630 responses

Appendix F: Open House Feedback



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Open House #1

Meeting Date: 7/23/19

Meeting Time: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Location: Washington County Government Center, Stillwater MN

Attendees:

- [Reference Sign-In Sheet](#)

COMMENTS

ANIMAL WASTE / TRASH – *Related to Guiding Principles: Enhance the ecological functioning of the park; Promote environmental awareness*

- Trash/glass cleanup for dog and animal sake
- Require riders to pick up horse waste just like dogs
- Cleaning animal waste on trails from horses
- Require horse owners to clean up waste on paved trails
- Require all animal waste to be picked up (horse, dog)
- Signage to remind users to clean up
- Cleanup days - target winter, work with Gateway Trail Association
- Staff should buy and use drags for manure clearing

CAMPING – *Related to Guiding Principles: Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities*

- No camping! Worried about trash, noise and a lot of people if camping passes
- Not big campgrounds but handful of dispersed ride-in (bike and horse) sites would be nice & don't exist nearby
- This park is too small for campsites. It would destroy the natural beauty of the park

EQUESTRIAN TRAILS AND IMPROVEMENTS -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities*

- Please preserve horse trails. Our area is one of the most densely populated with horses

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

- Evaluate the number of bike trails and the number of horse trails. It seems like there are lots of bike trails compared to horse trails
- Equestrian trails - overnight camping, warming house, firepit
- Bike trail miles vs Horse trails
- Additional horse trailer parking
- Keep horse trails
- Add equestrian trails here
- So many bike trails already in state & area. Keep horse trails
- Continue winter equestrian loop
- Warming shelter for horse riders with firepit and winter riding
- Move horse trailers away from main parking lot with bikes
- Eliminate annual horse fee. Or, keep it and establish a bike fee. Both being used for improvements.
- Additional horse trails
- Equestrian campsites - tie lines, water sources, mounting block
- Separate parking for equestrian horse trailer area
- Sightline - improve at specific trail intersections

PARK BOUNDARY -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Enhance the ecological functioning of the park; Promote environmental awareness*

- Buy the Parent/Steinbeizer property next to County park on 120th St
- Expand size of Pine Point Regional Park
- Consider expanding boundary
- In general, expand park boundary where possible

GATEWAY STATE TRAIL -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Improve park and trail connectivity*

- Pressure state to complete Gateway State Trail
- Promote continuation of Gateway State Trail
- No electric bikes on Gateway State trail
- Continue Gateway State Trail to the east

LAKE ACCESS

Approves of lake access -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities*

- Kayak access
- Yes kayak access!
- Kayak access

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

- Yes kayak access!
- More/better canoe/kayak access

Disapproves of lake access – *Related to Guiding Principles: Enhance the ecological functioning of the park; Promote environmental awareness*

- Leave lake wild. Kayaking available many places. Please preserve lake as a natural landmark for birds and viewing

MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities*

- If you add single track trails, get help from MORC or IMDB. Don't screw it up like Oak Park Heights did.
- Roll/grade trail to promote mountain biking in summer
- Not all mountain bikes are the same – single-track and wide soft-surface are both needed and attract different users
- Single track mountain bike trails
- Access for biking on lakes in the winter
- No single-track mountain bike trail systems in this area

NATURAL RESOURCES/HABITAT -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Enhance the ecological functioning of the park; Promote environmental awareness*

- Clean up lake - work with watershed district
- Re-introduce ruffed grouse
- Nature hikes led by birders, plant specialists. Well-advertised
- Manage invasive species better. Elicit volunteers. Trail design is too wide. The size of the park cannot provide all needs.
- Add oak savannah area

NATURAL/RUSTIC FEEL -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Enhance the ecological functioning of the park; Promote environmental awareness*

- Minimize built structures, keep park as natural as possible
- Beware of decorating the park with flags, banners, artwork. Keep this park natural, please. Manmade things have plenty of space in town. The birds seem pretty happy in Pine Point so far - don't need campfires and noise.
- Keep as it
- Maintain natural or rustic prairies and trails
- It's a small park. Avoid group things like camps, big areas. Keep it quiet. Horse trails.
- Keep the same

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

- Keep as is! We need to protect land as is.
- Please keep the park low-key so there is a quiet feel. The larger parks like Lake Elmo Regional have opened itself up to yoga, for example, that is easily accommodated in urban settings. Reengage the animals and birds who live here - humans have lots of areas for their use.
- Please keep this wild and natural. It needs no "improvements"!
- No more bike trails in this park. Stillwater is adding miles of trails and Washington County has miles more. Please don't add more - Keep what is there but leave the Park wild. No kid playground!
- Keep it natural and wild - so much wildlife here - it will all go away if overused.
- If you start adding too much to County park land - you take away from the purpose of having undeveloped County land

SHARED TRAILS FOR SEPARATE USERS -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Improve park and trail connectivity*

- Keep the mountain bike trails separate from the horse trails, please!
- Bicycle/horse multiuse trails are unsafe to everyone. Many horses spook and many bicyclists are unaware
- Wide natural trails are more accommodating to multiuse with horses. Not enough space for single-use trails, need to be multi-use
- Separate winter cross-country ski and horse trail
- Please! There are so many options for bike trail all over the TC. Very few horse trails close to the cities. Please leave them alone & not share trails with bikes.
- Keep horse trails horse-only
- Mountain bike area separate east of Norell, equestrian west of Norell. Education of multiuse is unworkable in my opinion
- Expand mountain bike trails and keep separate from horse trails
- Designated use trails (horses) for the safety of both riders and those one the ground or bicycles
- Signs reminding people to announce themselves when approaching horses
- How can we be better shared use horse people
- Signs to educate people about safety around horses
- Allow dogs on more of the trails both for 3-season & winter use - not enough places for mushing
- Signs that say "Announce yourself when passing"
- Adopt-a-mile trail collaboration program
- Educate multiuse trail etiquette
- Broadcast emails for big events

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

SKI/ADDITIONAL RECREATION USES -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities*

- Disc golf course
- Widen ski trails and the rerouting of ski trails
- Add cross-country ski trail on the southeast corner of property - east of Norell. Make parallel with horse trails
- Winter use - how can it be improved?
- Shelter/ warming hut - similar to what snowmobilers have
- Disc golf course, such as White Bear Lake Lakewood Hill

SURROUNDING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY -- *Related to Guiding Principles: Improve park and trail connectivity*

- Keep trails dirt, not pavement on 120th St side
- Northern connection between trail halves
- Improve access to north-side trails from 120th St
- Mow access to crossing (for horses to cross)
- County to patrol speed limit on 120th St
- 120th St - trim bushes more for horses
- 120th St - lower speed of cars
- Trail pavement along Norell needs improvements

TRAILHEAD BUILDING-- *Related to Guiding Principles: Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities*

- Bathroom open longer
- Water bottle fill station

WAYFINDING-- *Related to Guiding Principles: Improve park and trail connectivity*

- Add some signage on the trails/maps - "you are here"
- Park border signs
- Better trail markers here
- Wayfinding improvements for bikes and horses
- Horse signs should be higher, bigger, zoomed in, easy to read
- Wayfinding should include map with local destinations
- Connection between Blue and Green trail loops should be added and updated on the map
- Public and private land should be signed better
- Interpretation signage for wetlands

The foregoing constitutes our understanding of matters discussed and conclusions reached. Other participants are requested to review these items and advise the originator in writing of any errors or omissions.

RESULTS: WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE CONSIDERED AS PART OF FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS IN PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK?

RUSTIC CAMPING

LIKE: 0 / DISLIKE: 21



YURT CAMPING

LIKE: 3 / DISLIKE: 15



BIKE-IN CAMPING

LIKE: 2 / DISLIKE: 21



RUSTIC CAMPSITE

LIKE: 0 / DISLIKE: 26



GROUP CAMPSITE

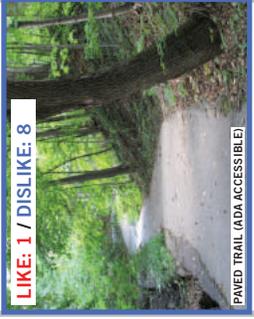
TRAILS

LIKE: 35 / DISLIKE: 1



ADDITIONAL MULTI-USE/EQUESTRIAN TRAILS

LIKE: 1 / DISLIKE: 8



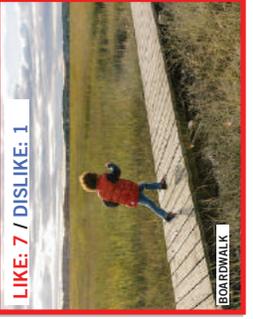
PAVED TRAIL (ADA ACCESSIBLE)

LIKE: 12 / DISLIKE: 14



ADDITIONAL MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

LIKE: 7 / DISLIKE: 1



BOARDWALK

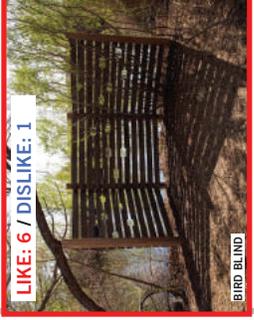
INTERPRETIVE AMENITIES

LIKE: 6 / DISLIKE: 2



INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

LIKE: 6 / DISLIKE: 1



BIRD BLIND

LIKE: 12 / DISLIKE: 3



INTERPRETATION OF HISTORICAL SITES

LIKE: 34 / DISLIKE: 0



COURTESY SIGNS & WAYFINDING

RECREATIONAL USE

LIKE: 9 / DISLIKE: 1



PICNIC SHELTER

LIKE: 2 / DISLIKE: 4



STAR-GAZING MOUND

LIKE: 1 / DISLIKE: 10



GROUP FIREPIT

LIKE: 13 / DISLIKE: 0



CANOE & KAYAK LAUNCH

NATURE PLAY

LIKE: 10 / DISLIKE: 5



ADVENTURE PLAY

LIKE: 6 / DISLIKE: 3



NATURAL PLAY ELEMENTS

LIKE: 2 / DISLIKE: 9



ARTISTIC PLAY ELEMENTS

LIKE: 5 / DISLIKE: 6



NATURAL-THEMED PLAYGROUND

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

7/23/19 OPEN HOUSE ACTIVITY RESULTS

KEY
 VOTES: LIKE / DISLIKE
 MAJORITY: **LIKE** **NEUTRAL** **DISLIKE**

RESULTS: WHAT OTHER IDEAS DO YOU HAVE FOR PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK?

ADDITIONAL IDEAS:	ADDITIONAL VOTES:
Signage from south of Pine Point and north of Morning Star on roads and trails. - Courtesy Signs for shared access.	+ LIKE: 5 / DISLIKE: 0
Disc golf course	-
Horse mounting blocks	+ LIKE: 4 / DISLIKE: 0
Equestrian camping - High lines - Water	+ LIKE: 3 / DISLIKE: 1
Keep designated horse trails as single use for horses only. No "shared trails."	+ LIKE: 5 / DISLIKE: 0
Do something more with the Poor Farm Cemetery	+ LIKE: 1 / DISLIKE: 0
Connectivity to Northern Parks for shared activities	+ LIKE: 4 / DISLIKE: 2
Cross country ski trails Straighten, widen, remove ruts, smoother	+ LIKE: 4 / DISLIKE: 0
Classic skating	+ LIKE: 1 / DISLIKE: 2
Ropes course / obstacle	+ LIKE: 0 / DISLIKE: 2
Skijouring; Bikejouring (Existing/New)	-
Sun / rain shelter	+ LIKE: 1 / DISLIKE: 0
Bike Rental	-

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

7/23/19 OPEN HOUSE ACTIVITY RESULTS

KEY
 VOTES: LIKE / DISLIKE
 MAJORITY: LIKE NEUTRAL DISLIKE

Open House Comments - November 14, 2019

Event	Station (Map Room, Natural Resource Boards, Engagement Boards, ect.)	Comment Number	Comment (What was said)	Primary Topic (Word or Phrase applicable to the comment)	(Word or Phrase applicable to the comment)	Guiding Principle
11.14 Open House	Follow-up Comments	J3	Retain some pine corridors	Natural Resource Improvements		Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
11.14 Open House	Follow-up Comments	J4	Shelter for Gateway Trail users and skiers	Recreational / Facility Improvements		Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Follow-up Comments	J1	Appreciate separated trail uses	Trail Etiquette		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Follow-up Comments	J2	Better Communicate rules and wayfinding	Wayfinding / Signage	Trail Etiquette	Strengthen equitable usage of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	22	Unequal approach to funding and implementation of bike trails.	Bike Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	23	Focus on all trail users, especially as demand for mountain bike trails grows	Bike Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	24	Increase length and variety of mountain bike trails	Bike Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	25	By building a robust mountain bike trail system, you will decrease the trail conflicts	Bike Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	37	Fat tire biking in winter	Bike Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	41	Provide bike access and trail opportunities	Bike Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	50	In the short term, implement bike trail network	Bike Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	2	Don't get rid of existing horse trails	Equestrian Trails		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	9	Consider woodsy narrow trails for horse	Equestrian Trails	Operational Changes	Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	45	Provide equestrian loops east of Norell Avenue	Equestrian Trails		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	46	On land east of Norell Avenue, provide separate trail networks for equestrians and mountain bikers	Equestrian Trails	Bike Improvements	Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	47	Additional equestrian amenities to consider: shelter within a loop, high line, and hitching posts	Equestrian Trails		Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Map Room	21	Consider providing interpretive education on insect and pollinator population and impact in this area	Interpretive Improvements		Explore opportunities to connect to park's history and cultural value
11.14 Open House	Map Room	8	When planning the interpretive signage, consider including agricultural heritage	Interpretive Improvements		Explore opportunities to connect to park's history and cultural value
11.14 Open House	Map Room	31	Increase opportunities to practice mindfulness on the trail	Interpretive Improvements	Wayfinding / Signage	Explore opportunities to connect to park's history and cultural value
11.14 Open House	Map Room	48	Add more signage by the cemetery	Interpretive Improvements		Explore opportunities to connect to park's history and cultural value
11.14 Open House	Map Room	14	Improve water quality along Lake Louise	Natural Resource Improvements		Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	15	Consider the agricultural impact on water quality	Natural Resource Improvements		Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	28	Prevent horse access to Loon Lake	Natural Resource Improvement	Equestrian Trails / Im	Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	6	Provide space along ski trail for multimodal use	Operational Changes	Trail Use	Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	17	Improve signage and communication for wet trail conditions	Operational Changes		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	43	Consider implementing skinnier trails to provide a different experience	Operational Changes		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	29	Trails connecting to the family recreational zones should be planned to accommodate children and horse interaction	Recreational / Facility Improvements	Equestrian Trails / Im	Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Map Room	38	Improve trailhead facility area and retain trailer parking	Recreational / Facility Improvements		Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Map Room	11	Support the proposed lake access improvement	Recreational Improvement		Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Map Room	12	As part of lake access improvements, include a fishing pier	Recreational Improvement		Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Map Room	26	Retain current ski trail network and consider making longer more continuous loops	Ski Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	27	Consider adding a ski shelter i.e. adirondack lodge	Ski Improvements		Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Map Room	32	Retain more existing ski trails in proposed winter trail plan	Ski Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	33	Ski trails should be more continuous with more loop options	Ski Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	35	Retain existing ski trails until acquisition opportunities provide for implementing new loops	Ski Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	36	Keep existing green loop ski trail for beginners	Ski Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	44	Provide ski loops east of Norell Avenue	Ski Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	7	Connect southeast loop with the west loop	Trail Connections		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	10	Add a loop trail along Loon Lake	Trail Connections		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	16	Is there enough space to fit a trail on the north side of Lake Louise	Trail Connections		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	1	Increase equestrian programming to help encourage trail etiquette and build connections among trail users	Trail Etiquette		Strengthen equitable usage of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	19	Encourage better trail etiquette	Trail Etiquette		Strengthen equitable usage of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	20	Horse waste signage	Trail Etiquette	Equestrian Trails / Im	Strengthen equitable usage of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	30	Increase trail signage educating trail users on trail etiquette. Provide opportunities for trail users to learn about one	Trail Etiquette	Wayfinding / Signage	Strengthen equitable usage of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	40	Encourage trail etiquette	Trail Etiquette		Strengthen equitable usage of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	4	The county needs to consider e-bike use on their multiuse trails	Trail Use		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	5	Mileage of trail available in the winter should be reflective of the usage according to mode	Trail Use		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	13	Kayaks and canoes do not mix well with equestrian uses	Trail Use		Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
11.14 Open House	Map Room	3	Short term implementation and wayfinding signage	Wayfinding / Signage		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	18	Improve trail use signage	Wayfinding / Signage		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	34	Height of signage should be adjusted based on trail user	Wayfinding / Signage	Equestrian Trails / Im	Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	42	Provide trail etiquette signage (say hey)	Wayfinding / Signage	Trail Etiquette	Strengthen equitable usage of the park
11.14 Open House	Map Room	49	Increase wayfinding signage to improve navigation	Wayfinding / Signage		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	Map Room	39	Improve the trail crossing at Norell Avenue by providing flashing signage	Wayfinding / Signage		Improve and expand trail system strategically
11.14 Open House	natural resource boards	M1	Positive comment on how we were restoring native plant communities, while preserving and improving the pine stand health while being cognizant of climate change and the name for which Pine Point gets its name.	Natural Resource Improvements		Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
11.14 Open House	natural resource boards	M4	Question on pine stand health, and what was being proposed in these areas. Liked the approach that was laid out.	Natural Resource Improvements		Enhance the ecological functioning of the park
11.14 Open House	Recreational board	M3	Wanting access to the park with bike off of the Gateway trail	Bike Improvements		Connect Gateway State Trail users with the greater park
11.14 Open House	Recreational board	M2	Concern on the length of ski trail, why was the number lower?	Ski Improvements		Improve and expand trail system strategically

Appendix G: Park Pop Up Table

Pop-Up Event - July 14, 2019

Event	Station	Type	Comment	Topic	Guiding Principle
Popup Tent in park	Trailhead/Gateway trailhead	Verbal	More bathrooms, water stations	Trailhead building	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Keep bathrooms open longer	Trailhead building	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Expand mountain bike trail system	Mountain bike trails	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Preserve, keep park natural. Do not over develop	Natural/Rustic Feel	Enhance the ecological functioning of the park; Promote environmental awareness
			Extend Gateway State Trail	Gateway State Trail	Improve park and trail connectivity
			Mountain bike trail - expand and improve	Mountain bike trails	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Make park more of a destination	Surrounding access and connectivity	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Welcome facility	Trailhead building	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Provide more and a variety of programming	Programming	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Water stations	Trailhead building	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Replace asphalt with concrete	Gateway State Trail	Improve park and trail connectivity
			More mountain bike trails	Mountain bike trails	Strengthen equitable usage of the park; Provide access to diverse recreational opportunities
			Light trails at road crossings	Wayfinding	Improve park and trail connectivity

Talked to 21 people.

Appendix H: Facility Market Analysis

NRPA Facility Market Report: Community Profile

**Analysis of:
Pine Point Regional Park
11900 Norell Ave N.
Stillwater, MN 55082**

Park and recreation agencies offer a diverse set of offerings and program activities to meet the needs of their communities. But the offerings that work well for one agency, or even one part of an agency's service area, may not be the best fit elsewhere. As a result, park and recreation professionals seek information and insights that empower them to make decisions on the optimal program and service offerings for their communities.

In your hands is the **NRPA Facility Market Report** for the Pine Point Regional Park. This report offers an array of data that provides your agency with a greater understanding of the residents served by the facility, with a particular focus on their habits and interests.

Key Findings About the Pine Point Regional Park:

524,100

Number of residents living within a 30-minute drive of the facility per Census 2010

36.9

Median age of residents living within a 30-minute drive of the facility per Census 2010

20.8%

Percentage of adult population living within a 30-minute drive of the facility that exercise at least seven hours per week

Figure 1: Map of Ten, Twenty and Thirty Minute Drives from the Facility

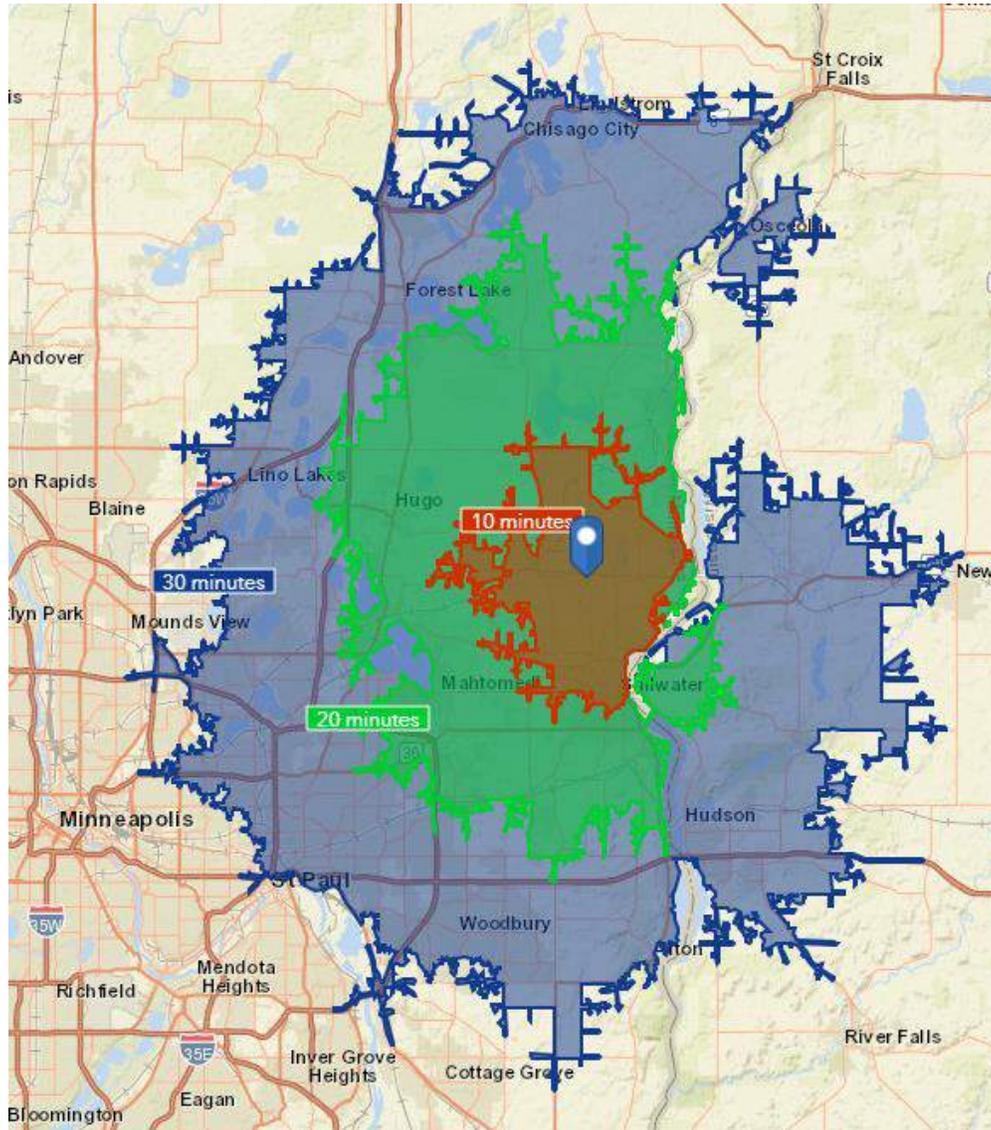


Figure 1 illustrates the physical accessibility, in terms of driving times, of the Pine Point Regional Park. The highlighted areas show the driving times of the facility, broken down into ten (brown), twenty (green) and thirty (blue) minute estimated drive time intervals. Although usage and constituent population will vary by the facility type, the 30-minute drive time area is presented as a *general* guideline on the size of the population most likely to visit the facility. That is, those residing within the area shaded blue may represent the most likely users of common facilities such as recreation and community centers, athletic fields, playgrounds, tennis courts, senior centers and aquatic facilities.

About the Residents Who Live Within a 30 Minute Drive of the Facility

Figure 2: 2010 Census Data and 2018 & 2023 Forecast Data of People Residing Within a 30 Minute Drive of the Facility

Summary	Census 2010	2018 Forecast	2023 Forecast
Population	524,100	564,230	591,466
Households	197,614	210,929	220,692
Families	134,883	142,860	149,033
Average Household Size	2.61	2.63	2.64
Owner Occupied Homes	145,866	156,653	167,405
Renter Occupied Homes	51,748	54,276	53,286
Median Age	36.9	38.0	38.8
Median Household Income		\$75,174	\$83,446

Race and Ethnicity	Census 2010		2018 Forecast		2023 Forecast	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
White Alone	412,499	78.7%	420,396	74.5%	422,025	71.4%
Black Alone	33,849	6.5%	40,732	7.2%	46,788	7.9%
American Indian Alone	3,397	0.6%	3,487	0.6%	3,590	0.6%
Asian Alone	49,551	9.5%	69,220	12.3%	84,346	14.3%
Pacific Islander Alone	222	0.0%	400	0.1%	506	0.1%
Some Other Race Alone	10,583	2.0%	12,185	2.2%	13,398	2.3%
Two or More Races	13,999	2.7%	17,811	3.2%	20,814	3.5%
Hispanic Origin (Any Race)	27,464	5.2%	32,339	5.7%	36,514	6.2%

Figure 2 summarizes Census data of the residents living within a 30-minute drive of the facility, including population, household formation and home ownership status. The 2010 data represents actual United States Census data, while the 2018 and 2023 figures are projections developed by Esri. The projections are based on forecasts for births, deaths, international and domestic migration and other factors that influence population shifts. These projections, which naturally are subject to revision, assist your agency in its planning of future programming at the facility over the coming years.

Figure 3: Forecasted Age Trends of People Residing Within a 30-Minute Drive of the Facility

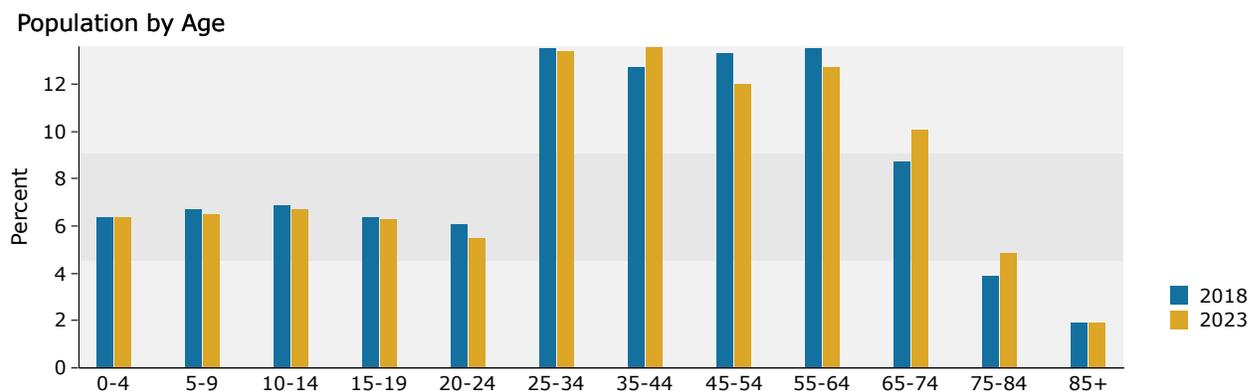


Figure 4: Census 2010 Data and Forecasted Age Trends of People Residing Within a 30-Minute Drive of the Facility

Population by Age	Census 2010		2018 Forecast		2023 Forecast	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0 - 4	36,245	6.9%	36,324	6.4%	38,147	6.4%
5 - 9	37,490	7.2%	37,641	6.7%	38,306	6.5%
10 - 14	38,593	7.4%	39,174	6.9%	39,745	6.7%
15 - 19	37,426	7.1%	35,987	6.4%	37,071	6.3%
20 - 24	31,312	6.0%	34,169	6.1%	32,238	5.5%
25 - 34	68,499	13.1%	76,346	13.5%	78,966	13.4%
35 - 44	68,916	13.1%	71,522	12.7%	80,728	13.6%
45 - 54	83,650	16.0%	74,833	13.3%	71,020	12.0%
55 - 64	62,274	11.9%	76,297	13.5%	75,089	12.7%
65 - 74	31,791	6.1%	49,220	8.7%	59,948	10.1%
75 - 84	19,128	3.6%	22,167	3.9%	29,180	4.9%
85+	8,775	1.7%	10,551	1.9%	11,027	1.9%

Figures 3 and 4 provide an age distribution of the population living with a 30-minute drive of the facility by age groups, as reported in United States Census and American Community Survey (ACS) data.

Note that the age ranges are not of equal size. The age groups ranging from birth to 24 years old are grouped into five-year increments, ages 25 to 84 are grouped into ten-year increments and individuals 85 years and older are placed into a single age group.

From a recreation programming and planning perspective, the classification of youth and young adults into small age groups aid your agency with programing decisions for children and young adults. Whereas adults within a ten-year age range (e.g., ages 35 to 44) may likely share similar recreation interests, the similarly large size age groups may not make as much sense for children and young adults. For example, recreation interests of five year olds have few similarities of those of 15 year olds. Hence, the five-year age ranges for the younger age groupings provide your agency with more valuable insights about the relative size of the youth population when considering their recreation needs.

Personal Interests, Activities and Spending Habits

Figures 5 - 8 summarize the personal interests, activities, and spending habits of residents living within a 30-minute drive of the facility. These tables include predictors of recreation activity and spending that better inform programming decision making for your facility.

Pay particular attention to the Market Potential Index, or MPI. The MPI represents the relative likelihood of adults living near your facility to engage in a particular activity in comparison to the U.S. average. This measure is indexed to 100, so that an MPI greater than 100 indicates a greater than average likelihood (relative to the whole U.S.) to participate in the activity while an MPI less than 100 suggests a less than average likelihood to engage in the activity.

Figure 5: Weekly Exercise Habits of People Residing Within a 30-Minute Drive of the Facility

	Expected Number of Adults	Percent	MPI
Spends 7+ hours exercising per week	89,148	20.8%	102
Spends 4-6 hours exercising per week	92,160	21.5%	107
Spends 1-3 hours exercising per week	104,883	24.5%	103

Figure 5 shows the weekly exercise habits for people within a 30-minute drive of your facility. The percentages are the proportion of adults living within a ten-minute drive of the facility that exercise one to three, four to six or seven-plus hours a week. An MPI value greater of 100 indicates a greater percentage of the adult population living within a 30-minute drive of the facility exercises one to two, three to five or six-plus hours a week versus the U.S. as a whole.

Figure 6: Participation Rates of Select Recreation Activities of People Residing Within a 30-Minute Drive of the Facility

	Expected Number of Adults	Percent	MPI
Participated in aerobics in last 12 months	35,624	8.3%	106
Participated in basketball in last 12 months	34,842	8.1%	99
Participated in yoga in last 12 months	38,634	9.0%	111
Participated in weight lifting in last 12 months	49,794	11.6%	111
Participated in tennis in last 12 months	15,400	3.6%	103
Participated in soccer in last 12 months	16,970	4.0%	96

Figure 6 presents data on the level of adult participation in select recreation activities among residents living within a 30-minute drive of the facility. Using this data, you can estimate the interests of residents in your facility's service area, helping inform programming planning decisions.

Figure 7: Social Media Usage of People Residing Within a 30-Minute Drive of the Facility

	Expected Number of Adults	Percent	MPI
Facebook	278,569	65.1%	105
YouTube	227,595	53.2%	104
Twitter	62,452	14.6%	108

Figure 7 shows the level of social media usage of adult residents that reside within a 30-minute drive of your facility. Understanding the social media habits of the residents living near the facility informs your agency on the potential efficacy of social media channels in supporting marketing strategies for the facility’s programming and services.

Figure 8: Spending Habits on Recreation Activities of People Residing Within a 30-Minute Drive of the Facility

	Spending Potential Index	Average Annual Amount Spent	Total
Total Spent on Entertainment/Recreation Fees and Admissions	122	\$831.09	\$175,300,833
- Tickets to Theatre/Operas/Concerts	121	\$80.12	\$16,900,214
- Tickets to Movies/Museums/Parks	119	\$94.79	\$19,993,949
- Admission to Sporting Events	123	\$73.01	\$15,400,908
- Fees for Participant Sports	122	\$137.62	\$29,027,310
- Fees for Recreational Lessons	123	\$170.34	\$35,930,091
- Membership Fees for Social/Recreation/Civic Clubs	121	\$274.37	\$57,871,569

Figure 8 summarizes the spending habits of nearby residents on recreation activities by presenting the Spending Potential Index (SPI) and average annual spending on select recreation and leisure activities. Similar to the MPI, the SPI is indexed such that a reading of 100 represents average spending among all U.S. households. Hence, a reading above 100 means residents living within a 30-minute drive of the facility spends more on average on the particular activity relative to the U.S. as a whole.

While all of the leisure activities presented in the table may not be relevant to your facility, these data provide your agency with guidance on the leisure interests of your patrons, as well as their ability/willingness to pay for those experiences. For example, a population that has a higher than average SPI for “Fees for Recreational Lessons” may indicate a significant opportunity—and/or a greater willingness to pay—for high quality fee-based recreation programs at your facility.

Final Thoughts

While the information within this report is not intended to be indicative of the entire population served by Pine Point Regional Park, it gives your agency insights on the potential market for the facility with a particular focus on those living within a 30-minute drive. One note of caution: the analysis provided within this report is meant to be for informational purposes only and does not represent a recommendation by NRPA for the facility's operations.

The Premier Membership Advantage

This report is only one example of the many benefits and resources available to you as a Premier member of NRPA. Your all-inclusive membership gives your agency maximum value and convenience to NRPA's exceptional benefits and resources including:

- Up to 30% discount on NRPA products and services.
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- 10 free Premier-exclusive webinars.
- Access to approximately \$2.4 million in grant opportunities annually.
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Appendix I: Watershed Management Plan Profiles

Lake Status

Overall Strategy: Impaired Watershed Management

Water Quality Rating: F: Secchi – 1.0 ft.; TP – 169 µg/L

Impairment: *Aquatic recreation* due to excess nutrients in the lake.

Water Quality Trend: Secchi & TP – Declining

Shoreland Classification: Natural Environment

Subwatershed Land Cover: 17% developed, 15% forests and woodlands, 10% grassland/shrubland/sparse vegetation, 9% lakes and open water wetlands, 40% planted or cultivated, 10% wetlands.



Resource Goals

Short Term Goals – Year 2015

- Achieve a water quality rating of at least D.
- Achieve a five-year mean summer phosphorus concentration at or below 80 µg/L ± 4%.
- Achieve a mean summer secchi depth no less than 2 ft.
- Encourage an active Lake Association for teaming with on lake management and education.
- Revise goals based on the CMSCWD Lake TMDL Study.

Long Range Goals - Year 2020

- Achieve a water quality rating of at least D.
- Achieve a five-year mean summer phosphorus concentration at or below 80 µg/L ± 4%.
- Achieve a mean summer secchi depth no less than 2 ft.
- Revise goals based on the CMSCWD Lake TMDL study.
- Consider area’s importance to the Blanding’s turtle.

DNR Fisheries Lake Management Plan (1993)

- Long Range Goal: Provide bluegill-bass population to support 75 fishing hours per acre.
- Operational Plan: Use as walleye rearing pond in years following severe winter kills.
- Mid Range Objective: Produce 1,500 lbs of walleye fingerlings once every 10 years for stocking lakes.
- Potential Plan:
 - Develop a public access for 5 boat/trailer units.
 - Install an aeration system.
 - Any effort to improve water quality should be supported.

BASIC FACTS

DNR ID	82001500
Section	5
Township	30
Range	20
Lake Area	64 acres
Subwatershed Area	773 acres
Outlet Elevation	903.94
Low Water Level	903.54 (’97)
High Water Level	906.67 (’02)
Ordinary High Water	905.00
100-Yr. Flood Elev	907.4 (District)
Greatest Depth	16 ft.

Control Structures:

Culvert

Fish Species:

Black Bullhead, Green Sunfish, Walleye (1984)

Aquatic Nuisance Species:

Reed Canary Grass, Purple Loosestrife

CMSCWD References:

- WCD Water Monitoring Report (’08)
- DNR Lake Water Level Report
- DNR Lake Information Report
- CMWD Silver Creek Corridor Management Plan (’04)
- CMSCWD TMDL Phase I Report (’08)

Implementation

Operational Priorities

Impaired Watershed Management per TMDL Study Recommendations

Education

Impaired Watershed Education Program per TMDL Study Recommendations

Regulatory

Activities impacting Loon Lake will be regulated by the watershed district through its *Rules of the District*. Regulatory efforts will be coordinated with Stillwater Township, Washington County and the Minnesota DNR, where applicable.

Projects

Current:

- CMSCWD Lake TMDL Study
- Best Management Practices (BMP) Program per TMDL Study Recommendations
- Water Quality Monitoring Program per TMDL Study Recommendations
- Ongoing Monitoring of BMPs
- Permitting Program

Future/Potential:

- TMDL Implementation Plan Projects



* See 2010 Watershed Management Plan Section V, Lake Management Plans for additional information on District lake management activities.

Overall Assessment: Loon Lake

Loon Lake is a shallow, well-developed lake that typically ranks as the poorest water quality lake in the District. Loon along with S. Twin, N. Twin, Silver and Carol lakes form the headwaters of the Silver Creek Flowage and a part of the Silver Creek Protective Corridor. In-lake phosphorus concentrations are significantly worse than the MPCA shallow lake standard of (60µg/L), and the lake is therefore listed as impaired. In 2007 the lake also did not meet the MPCA shallow lake standard of 1 m for sechi depth transparency. In the past residents of the lake were primarily concerned with lake levels, impacts from agricultural runoff, agricultural spraying of chemicals and the impact/enjoyment of recreational boating on the lake.

Based on an Aerial Lakeshore Analysis study (1998), the most common influence on the lake was runoff non-point source pollution. The most common problem is the lack of a vegetative buffer and insufficient lake setback. The recommendations from that study are to investigate and correct all sources of pollution to the lake, to create a forested buffer adjacent to the shoreline to reduce impacts of runoff from adjacent fields and homes, keep the forested areas intact and to implement minor erosion control in particularly identified areas.

Based on measured lake characteristics and land use in the lake's minor subwatershed, water quality modeling indicated that a substantial amount of phosphorus will need to be removed from the lake's system in order to achieve any significant water quality improvement.

In 2001, the Carnelian Marine Watershed District completed a paleolimnological investigation of trophic changes in four lakes in the watershed: Big Carnelian Lake, Big Marine Lake, East Boot Lake, and Loon Lake. The purpose of the investigation was to establish the baseline trophic conditions existing in the lake prior to European settlement in the mid-1800s. Sediment coring in this lake only captured a record back to 1915 due to high rates of sediment loading. Since the lake is hypereutrophic (total phosphorus (TP) often above 100 µg/L), the diatom-TP inference model was unreliable. However, the core showed major changes in diatom assemblages that implied increasingly eutrophic conditions over the last few decades.

Loon Lake is one of 10 lakes in the CMSCWD on the EPA's 303(d) list of impaired waters impaired for nutrients. Phase I of the Lake Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study is complete. The target completion date for the Loon Lake TMDL is 2015. Loon Lake has not achieved any of the 2010 goals of a water quality rating of 'D,' a five-year mean summer phosphorus concentration at or below 50 µg/L ± 4% or a mean summer secchi depth no less than 2 ft based on the 2007 WCD Water Monitoring Report. These goals have been transferred to 2015 goals and Loon Lake is undergoing impaired watershed management as a result of its impaired status.

Lake Status

Overall Strategy: Impaired Watershed Management

Water Quality Rating: D+: Secchi – 2.5 ft.;
TP – 151 µg/L

Impairment: *Aquatic recreation* due to excess nutrients in the lake.

Water Quality Trend: Secchi – Declining; TP – N/A

Shoreland Classification: Natural Environment

Subwatershed Land Cover: 15% developed, 8% forests and woodlands, 5% grassland/shrubland/sparse vegetation, 7% lakes and open water wetlands, 50% planted or cultivated, 16% wetlands.



Resource Goals

Short Term Goals – Year 2015

- Achieve a mean summer phosphorus concentration at or below 140 µg/L ± 4%.
- Achieve a mean summer secchi depth no less than 3 ft.
- Revise goals based on the CMSCWD Lake TMDL Study.
- Establish an active Lake Association and continue cooperative relationship with County Parks Department for teaming on lake management and education.

Long Range Goals - Year 2020

- Achieve a mean summer phosphorus concentration at or below 140 µg/L ± 4%.
- Achieve a mean summer secchi depth no less than 3 ft.
- Conduct watershed management in consideration of the area’s statewide importance to the Blanding’s turtle.

DNR Fisheries Lake Management Plan: none

The DNR uses the lake as a walleye rearing pond following years when the lake experiences winter kills.

BASIC FACTS

DNR ID	82002500
Section	6
Township	30
Range	20
Lake Area	48 acres
Subwatershed Area	1589 acres
Outlet Elevation	Landlocked
Low Water Level	941.64 (‘07)
High Water Level	945.86 (‘96)
Ordinary High Water	943.50
100-Yr. Flood Elev	949.2 (FEMA)
Greatest Depth	12 ft

Control Structures:
None

Fish Species:
Walleye

Aquatic Nuisance Species:
Curlyleaf Pondweed
Reed Canary Grass

CMSCWD References:
WCD Water Monitoring Report (‘08)
DNR Lake Water Level Report
CMSCWD TMDL Phase I Report (‘08)

Implementation

Operational Priorities

Impaired Watershed Management per TMDL Study Recommendations

Education

Impaired Watershed Education Program per TMDL Study Recommendations

Regulatory

Activities impacting Louise Lake will be regulated by the watershed district through its *Rules of the District*. Regulatory efforts will be coordinated with Stillwater Township, Washington County and the Minnesota DNR, where applicable.

Projects

Current:

- CMSCWD Lake TMDL Study
- Best Management Practices (BMP) Program per TMDL Study Recommendations
- Water Quality Monitoring Program per TMDL Study Recommendations
- Ongoing Monitoring of BMPs.
- Permitting Program

Future/Potential:

- TMDL Implementation Plan Projects

* See 2010 Watershed Management Plan Section V, Lake Management Plans for additional information on District lake management activities.

Overall Assessment: Louise Lake

Louise Lake is a shallow, land-locked lake with poor water quality and limited development as approximately half of the lake is located in the Pine Point Regional Park.

Based on an Aerial Lakeshore Analysis study (1998), the greatest influence on the lake is non-point source runoff, particularly from adjacent agricultural fields and 120th Street. The recommendations from that study are to develop or expand vegetative buffers between the residences and the lake, install berms or other retention devices where vegetative buffers are not feasible and to remove nuisance waste and debris from specific locations. A stormwater treatment basin was installed by the County as part of the 2001 reconstruction of County Highway 61 (Myeron Rd.).

In-lake phosphorus concentrations are significantly worse than the MPCA shallow lake standard of (60µg/L) and the lake is therefore listed as impaired. In 2008 the lake did not meet the MPCA shallow lake standard of 1-m for sechi depth transparency and was identified as having a declining trend for this parameter. Based on measured lake characteristics and land use in the lake's minor subwatershed, water quality modeling indicated that a significant amount of phosphorus needs to be removed to improve the water quality of the lake.

Louise Lake is one of 10 lakes in the CMSCWD on the EPA's 303(d) list of impaired waters impaired for nutrients. Phase I of the Lake Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study is complete. The target completion date for the Louise Lake TMDL is 2015. This watershed is undergoing impaired watershed management as a result of its nutrient impairment.



Appendix J: DNR Gateway Trail Extension Fact Sheet

Gateway State Trail Extension

What is the Gateway Extension?

Currently the Gateway State Trail runs from Cuyuga St. in St. Paul to Pine Point Park in Washington County, a distance of 19 miles. Browns Creek State Trail, which was developed in 2014, connects the Gateway to the City of Stillwater. The two trails converge at Duluth Junction in the town of Grant.

DNR, along with non-profit and community partners, are working to extend the Gateway from Pine Point, through Wilder Forest and William O'Brien State Park to city of Scandia.

What is the vision for the Extension?

The long term vision is to develop the Gateway to Taylor's Falls and beyond. The Extension will:

- Continue the dream of a Twin Cities to Duluth Trail System
- Connect with other trails and recreation areas
- Enhance adjacent natural areas
- Connect surrounding communities
- Continue the same non-motorized multi-use recreation trail opportunities as the existing trail system

What will the Extension look like?

Like certain sections of the Gateway and Brown's Creek that have already been built, the Extension's trail corridor will contain a standard 10-foot wide paved trail as well as a natural surface trail. The two trails will run parallel to each other, in fairly close proximity, in order to accommodate a wide range of non-motorized uses including equestrian use. The proposed route for the trail traverses a variety of landscapes, including agricultural land, mature forest, and prairie. When completed, the facility will offer unique recreational opportunities as well as alternative transportation options.

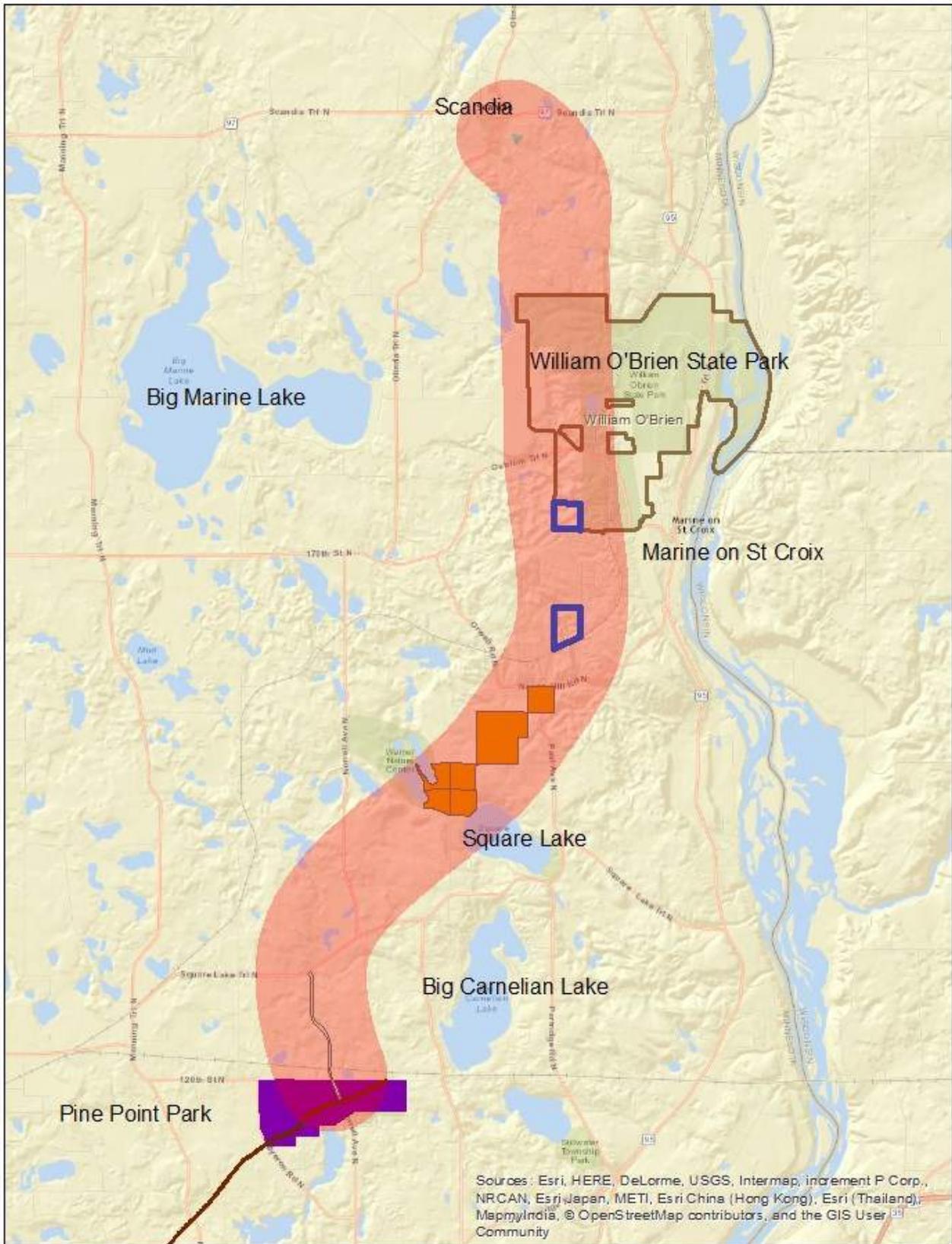
How will it be completed?

The majority of land in the Gateway Extension search corridor between Pine Point Park and Scandia is privately held, therefore completion of the trail will require easements from willing landowners to connect parcels. Since work began on the extension in the early 2000s, DNR and partners have made significant headway in obtaining the necessary land rights to build the trail. We currently have funding from the legislature to fill the gaps as opportunities present themselves.

How can I find out more?

Contact Brandon Helm at Minnesota DNR (Brandon.helm@state.mn.us) or visit the Gateway and Browns Creek Trail Association website at <http://gatewaybrownscreektrail.org/>.

Gateway Extension Search Corridor



 City of Marine on St Croix

 Wilder Foundation

 Pine Point Park

Appendix K: Letters of Support

DATE February 25, 2020
MOTION
BY COMMISSIONER Kriesel

DEPARTMENT Public Works
SECONDED BY
COMMISSIONER Karwoski

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN TO METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

WHEREAS, a regional park master plan is required to address the criteria set forth in the Metropolitan Council's 2040 Regional Park Policy Plan to become eligible for Metropolitan Council regional park system designation and funding; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Pine Point Regional Park master plan provides short- and long-term planning and implementation guidance for the park capital improvements, acquisitions, natural resource management, and overall development to create a regional park that meets the needs of Washington County park users; and

WHEREAS, the master planning process for the Pine Point Regional Park master plan included public engagement events and meetings that provided the opportunity for input from partner agencies and public stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, the draft Pine Point Regional Park master plan was reviewed supported by the Washington County Park and Open Space Commission (POSC) on January 16, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners heard a staff presentation on the Pine Point Regional park master plan on February 11, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Washington County Board of Commissioners supports the proposed Pine Point Regional Park master plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pine Point Regional Park master plan be submitted to the Metropolitan Council for review and approval without further action by the Washington County Board of Commissioners.

ATTEST: 

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR



COUNTY BOARD CHAIR

	YES	NO
MIRON	<u>X</u>	___
KARWOSKI	<u>X</u>	___
KRIESEL	<u>X</u>	___
JOHNSON	<u>X</u>	___
WEIK	<u>X</u>	___

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-02-01

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the proposed Pine Point Regional Park master plan provides short and long term planning and implementation for the park capital improvements, acquisitions, natural resource management, and several development to create a regional park that meets the needs of Washington County park users; and

WHEREAS, the master planning process for the Pine Point Regional Park master plan included public engagement events and meetings that provided the opportunity for input from partner agencies and public stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Stillwater Township representatives participated in the Pine Point Regional Park master plan Technical Advisory Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Stillwater Township Board of Supervisors supports the proposed Pine Point Park master plan.



Sheila-Marie Untiedt, Chair
Stillwater Town Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



Kathy Schmoeckel, Town Clerk

Parks and Trails Division
1200 Warner Rd
St. Paul, MN 55106

February 24th, 2020

Connor Schaefer
Planner
Washington County Public Works
11660 Myeron Road North
Stillwater, MN 55082

Mr. Schaefer,

Thank you for providing Minnesota Department of Natural Resource Parks and Trails Division (MNDNR PAT) the opportunity to participate in the Master Planning Process for Pine Point Regional Park. Your emphasis on interagency coordination is particularly important, and appreciated, since the Gateway State Trail-operated and maintained by MN DNR-runs through the park facility.

MNDNR PAT supports the vision presented by the Master Plan document. We look forward to continued coordination with Washington County as the plan is implemented and more detailed proposals related to natural resource management, proposed signage on state property, intersections between the Gateway and the Pine Point Park trail system, and other park features are developed.

Sincerely,



Brandon Helm
Acquisition and Development Specialist

CC:

Rachel Henzen, Area Supervisor

Equal Opportunity Employer



January 27, 2020

Metropolitan Council Chair and Parks and Open Space Commission
390 North Robert Street
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Dear Chair and Commission Members,

I am writing to offer my support for the Pine Point Regional Park master plan. The mission of the Washington Conservation District is to enhance, protect and preserve the natural resources of Washington County through conservation projects, technical guidance, and educational services. The pine forests, wetlands, and oak savanna at Pine Point Park in Washington County offer a range of ecological systems to experience and are important to the region's ecology. Lake Louise in the northwest corner of the park has been identified as a priority lake in the One Watershed, One Plan for the Lower St. Croix River.

Washington Conservation District supports the improvements proposed in the Pine Point Regional Park master plan. This plan provide a strategy for the restoration and conservation of the natural resources to promote biodiversity without sacrificing recreational opportunities. WCD was especially impressed with the professionalism in the planning process and the thoughtful incorporation of feedback.

Thank you for the opportunity to send our support. We look forward to working with all agency partners on the implementation of the Pine Point Regional Park master plan.

Regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Riggs', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

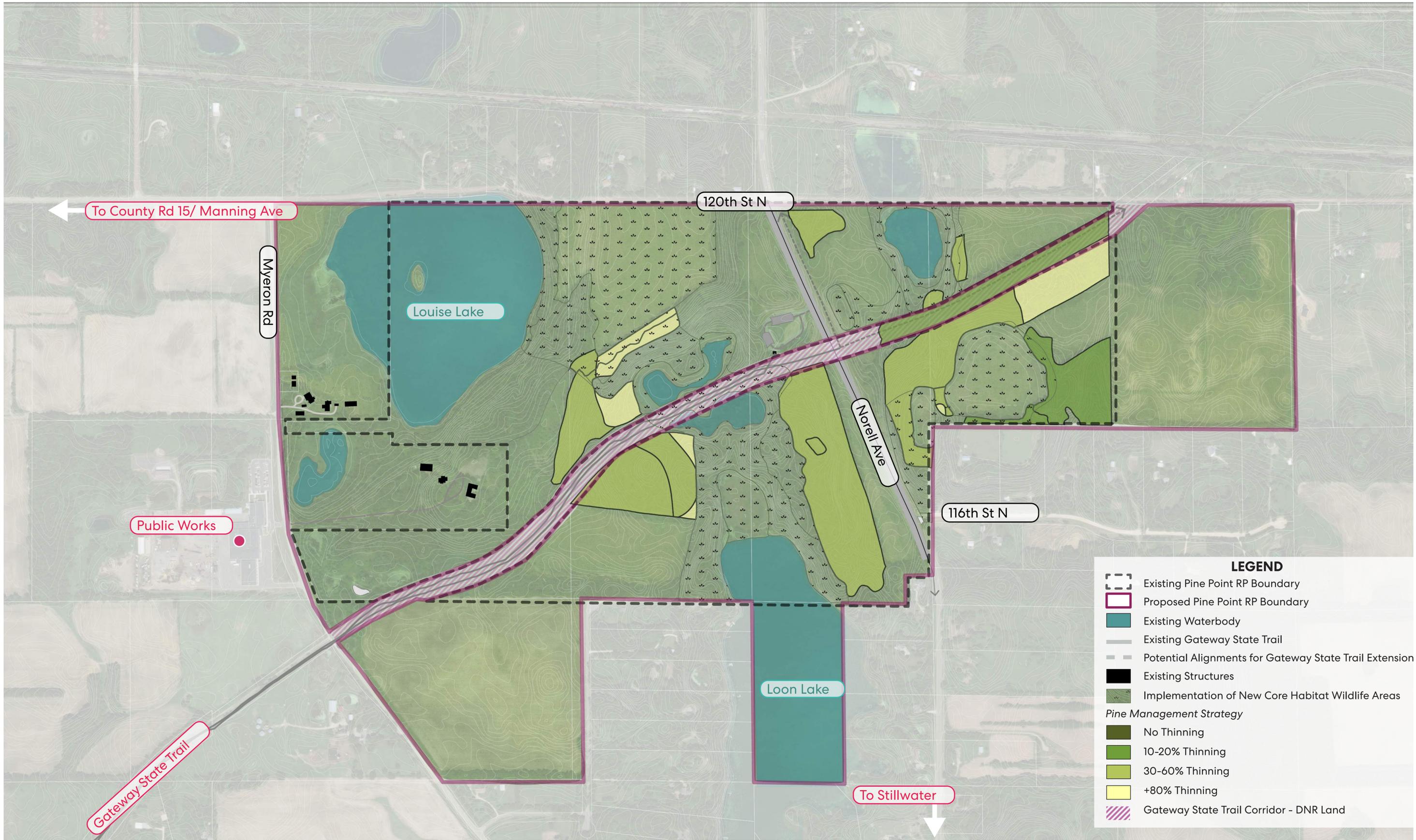
Jay Riggs
District Manager
Washington Conservation District

Appendix L: Packet of Final Graphics (Concept and Diagrams)



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - NATURAL RESOURCES: PHASE 1 (1-5 YEARS)





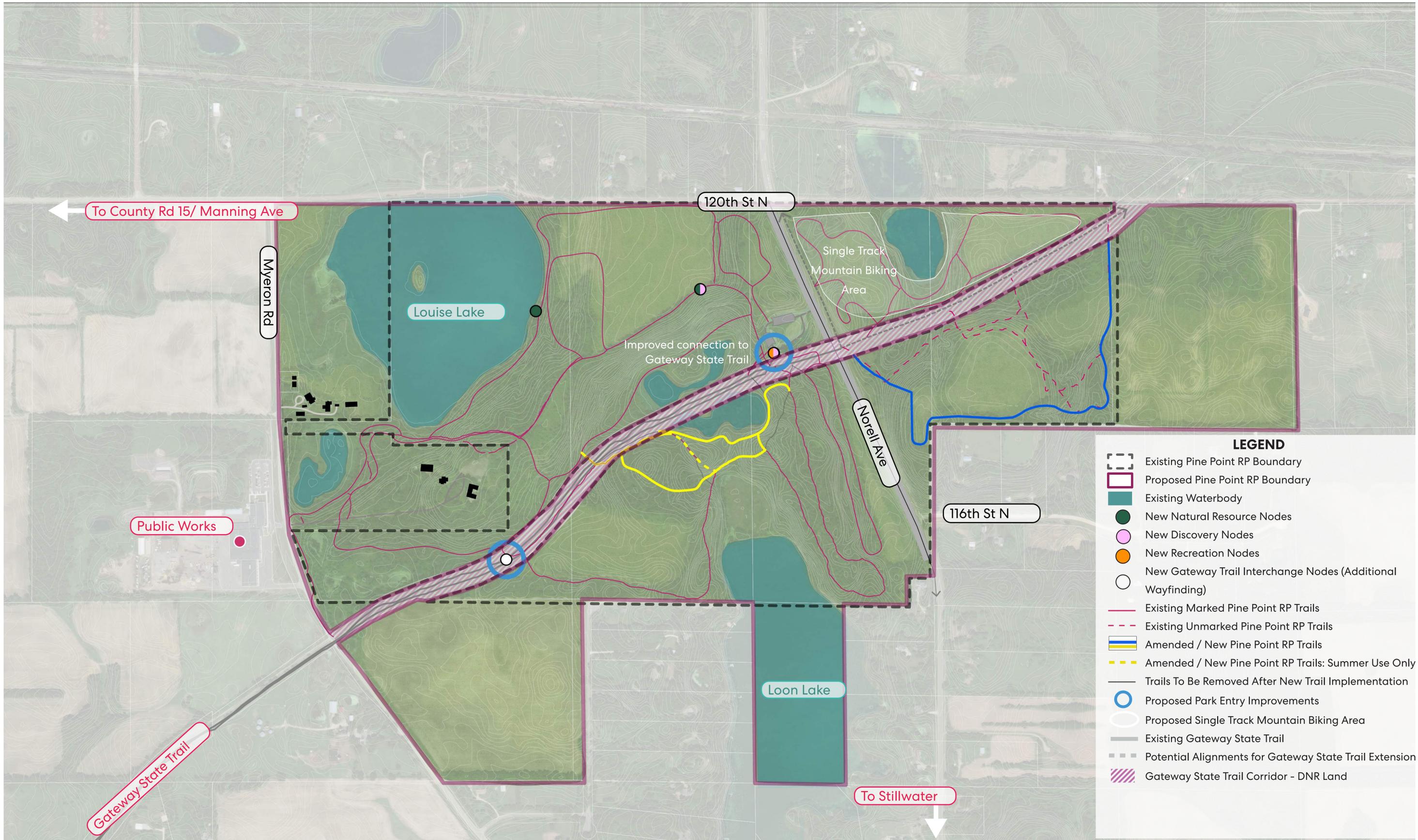
PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - NATURAL RESOURCES: PHASE 2 (5-10 YEARS)





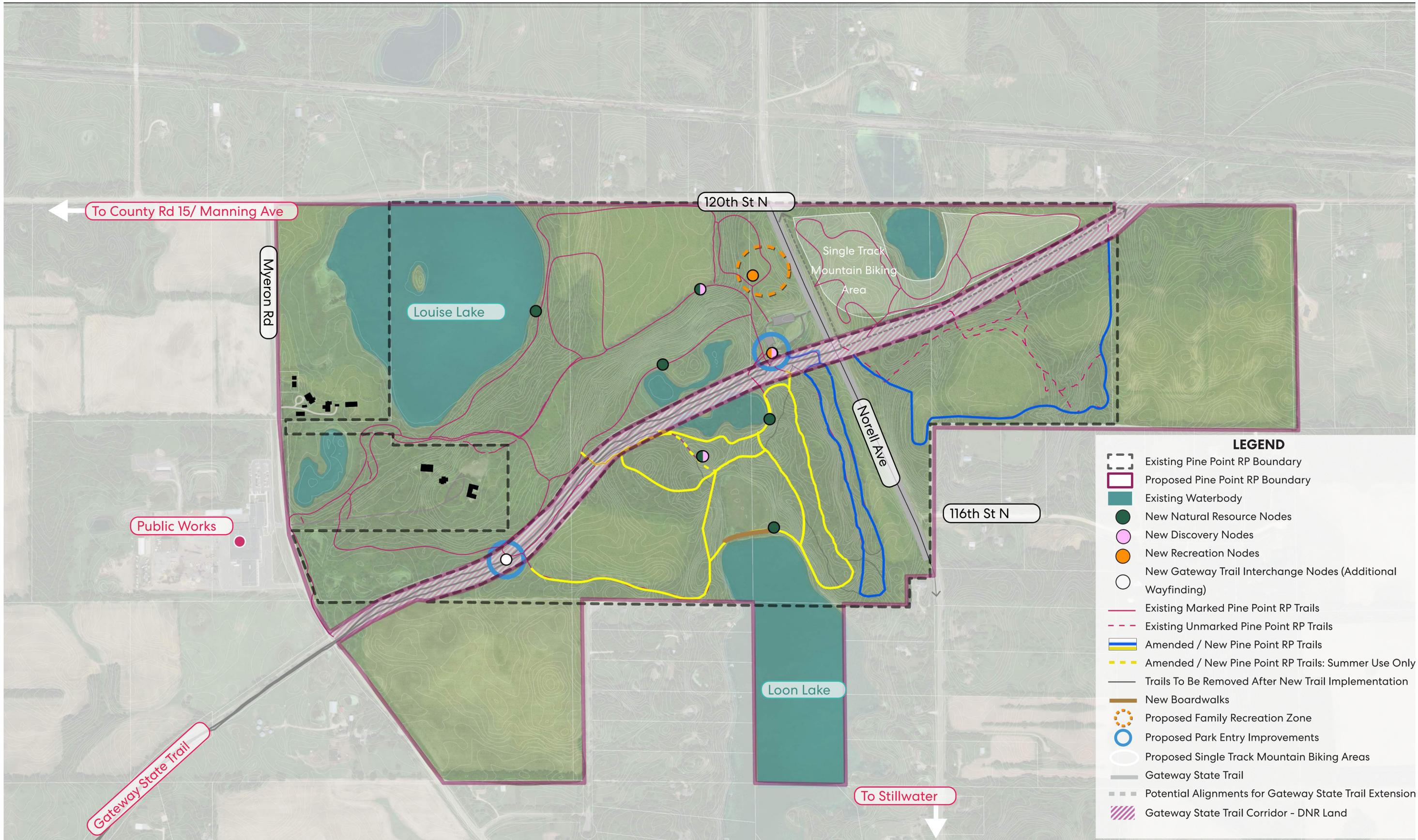
PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - NATURAL RESOURCES: PHASE 3 (10+ YEARS)





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CONCEPT PHASE 1 (1-5 YEARS)



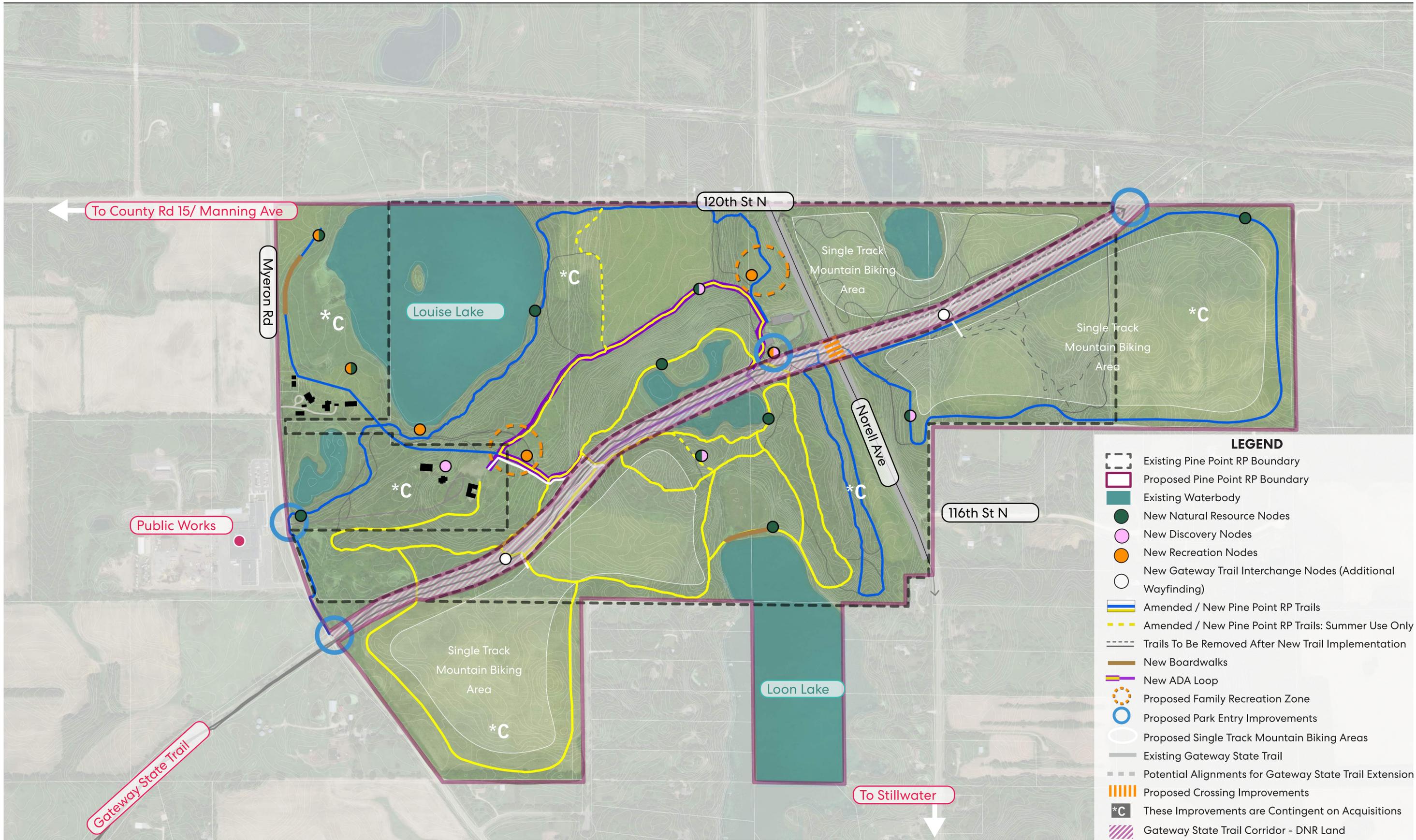


LEGEND

- Existing Pine Point RP Boundary
- Proposed Pine Point RP Boundary
- Existing Waterbody
- New Natural Resource Nodes
- New Discovery Nodes
- New Recreation Nodes
- New Gateway Trail Interchange Nodes (Additional Wayfinding)
- Existing Marked Pine Point RP Trails
- Existing Unmarked Pine Point RP Trails
- Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails
- Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails: Summer Use Only
- Trails To Be Removed After New Trail Implementation
- New Boardwalks
- Proposed Family Recreation Zone
- Proposed Park Entry Improvements
- Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas
- Gateway State Trail
- Potential Alignments for Gateway State Trail Extension
- Gateway State Trail Corridor - DNR Land

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CONCEPT PHASE 2 (5-10 YEARS)





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CONCEPT PHASE 3 (10+ YEARS)

*Includes Improvements Contingent on Acquisitions

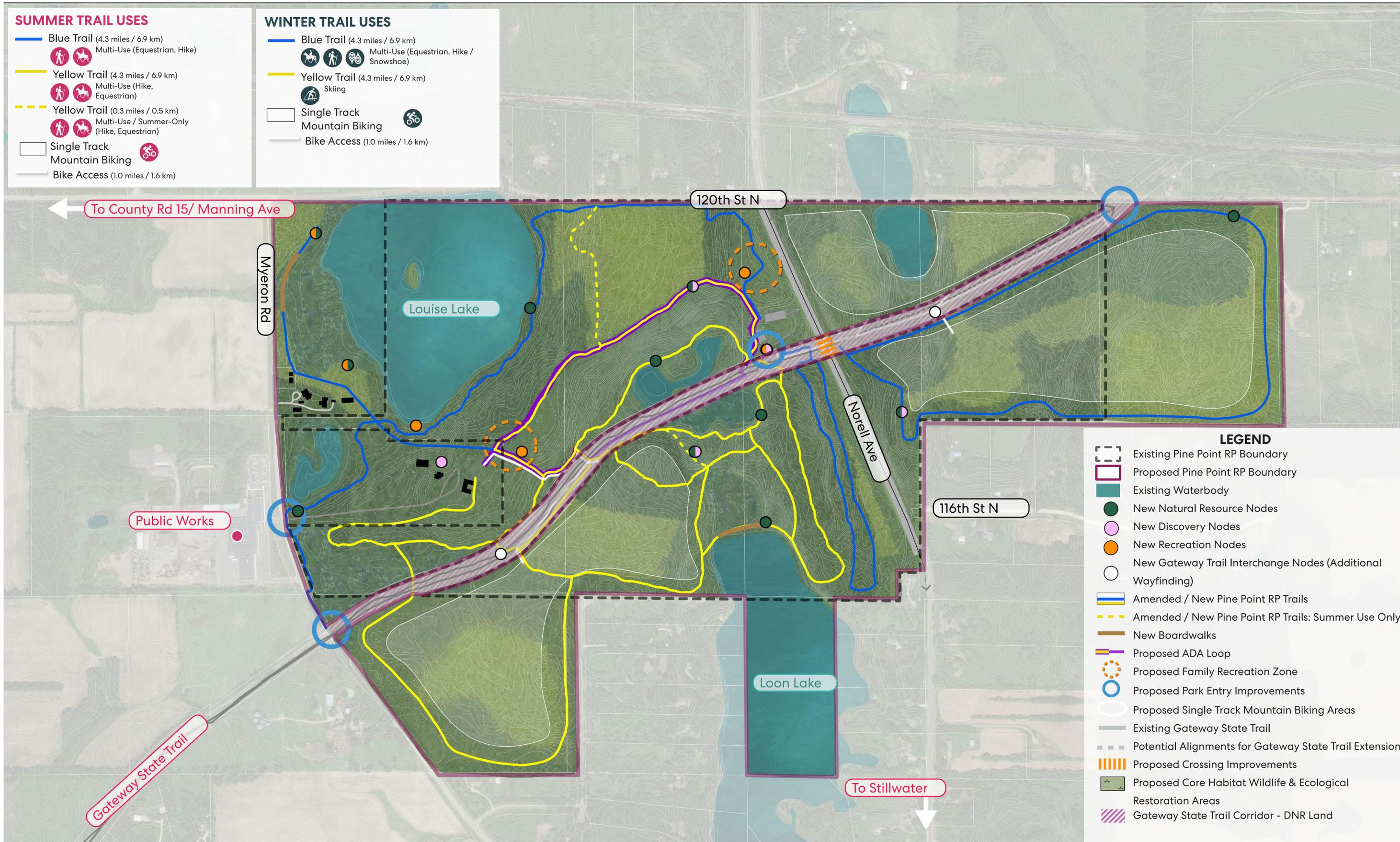


SUMMER TRAIL USES

- Blue Trail (4.3 miles / 6.9 km)
Multi-Use (Equestrian, Hike)
- Yellow Trail (4.3 miles / 6.9 km)
Multi-Use (Hike, Equestrian)
- Yellow Trail (0.3 miles / 0.5 km)
Multi-Use / Summer-Only (Hike, Equestrian)
- Single Track Mountain Biking
- Bike Access (1.0 miles / 1.6 km)

WINTER TRAIL USES

- Blue Trail (4.3 miles / 6.9 km)
Multi-Use (Equestrian, Hike / Snowshoe)
- Yellow Trail (4.3 miles / 6.9 km)
Skiing
- Single Track Mountain Biking
- Bike Access (1.0 miles / 1.6 km)

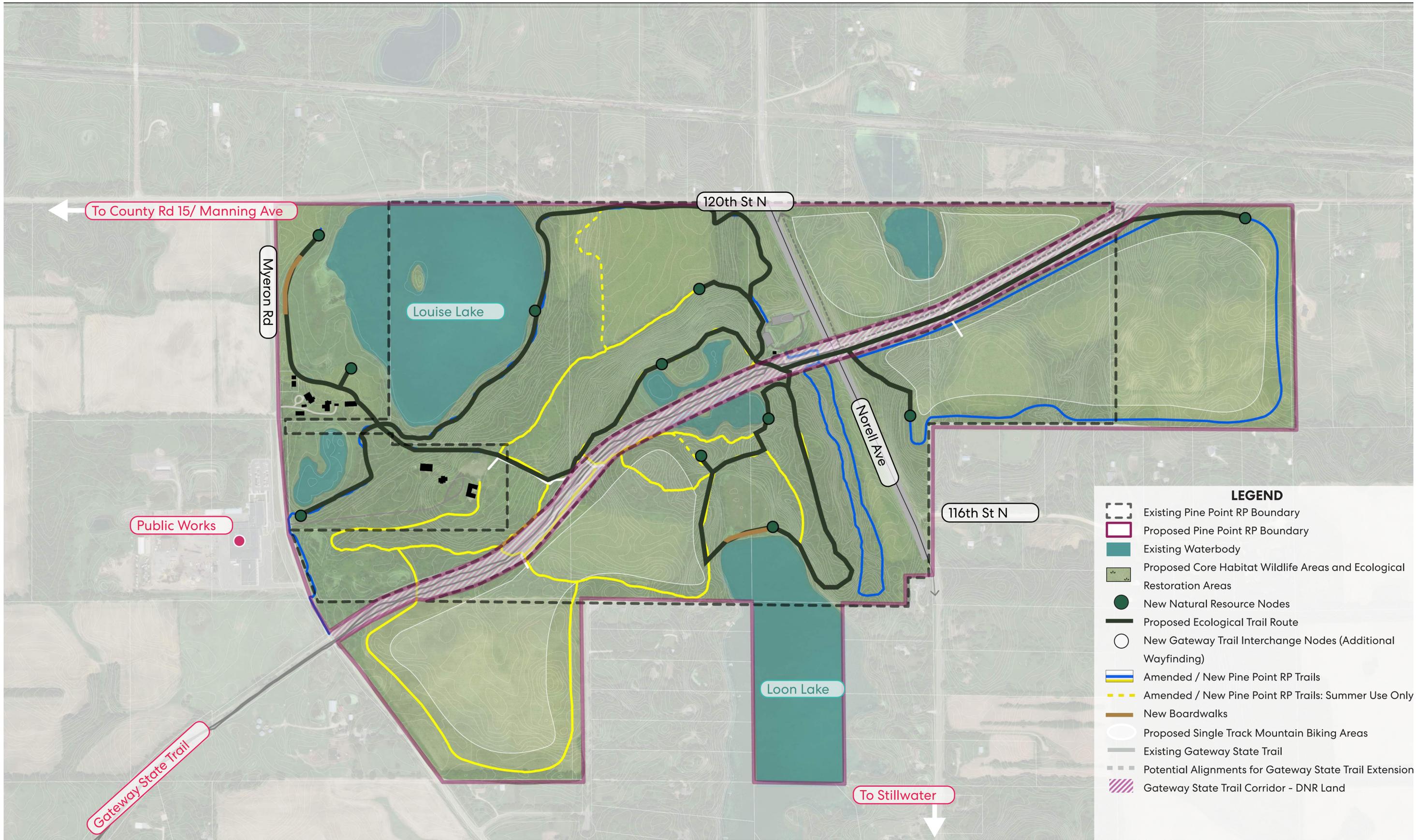


LEGEND

- Existing Pine Point RP Boundary
- Proposed Pine Point RP Boundary
- Existing Waterbody
- New Natural Resource Nodes
- New Discovery Nodes
- New Recreation Nodes
- New Gateway Trail Interchange Nodes (Additional Wayfinding)
- Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails
- Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails: Summer Use Only
- New Boardwalks
- Proposed ADA Loop
- Proposed Family Recreation Zone
- Proposed Park Entry Improvements
- Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas
- Existing Gateway State Trail
- Potential Alignments for Gateway State Trail Extension
- Proposed Crossing Improvements
- Proposed Core Habitat Wildlife & Ecological Restoration Areas
- Gateway State Trail Corridor - DNR Land

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

0 300 600
150 450 FEET 1"=300' NORTH



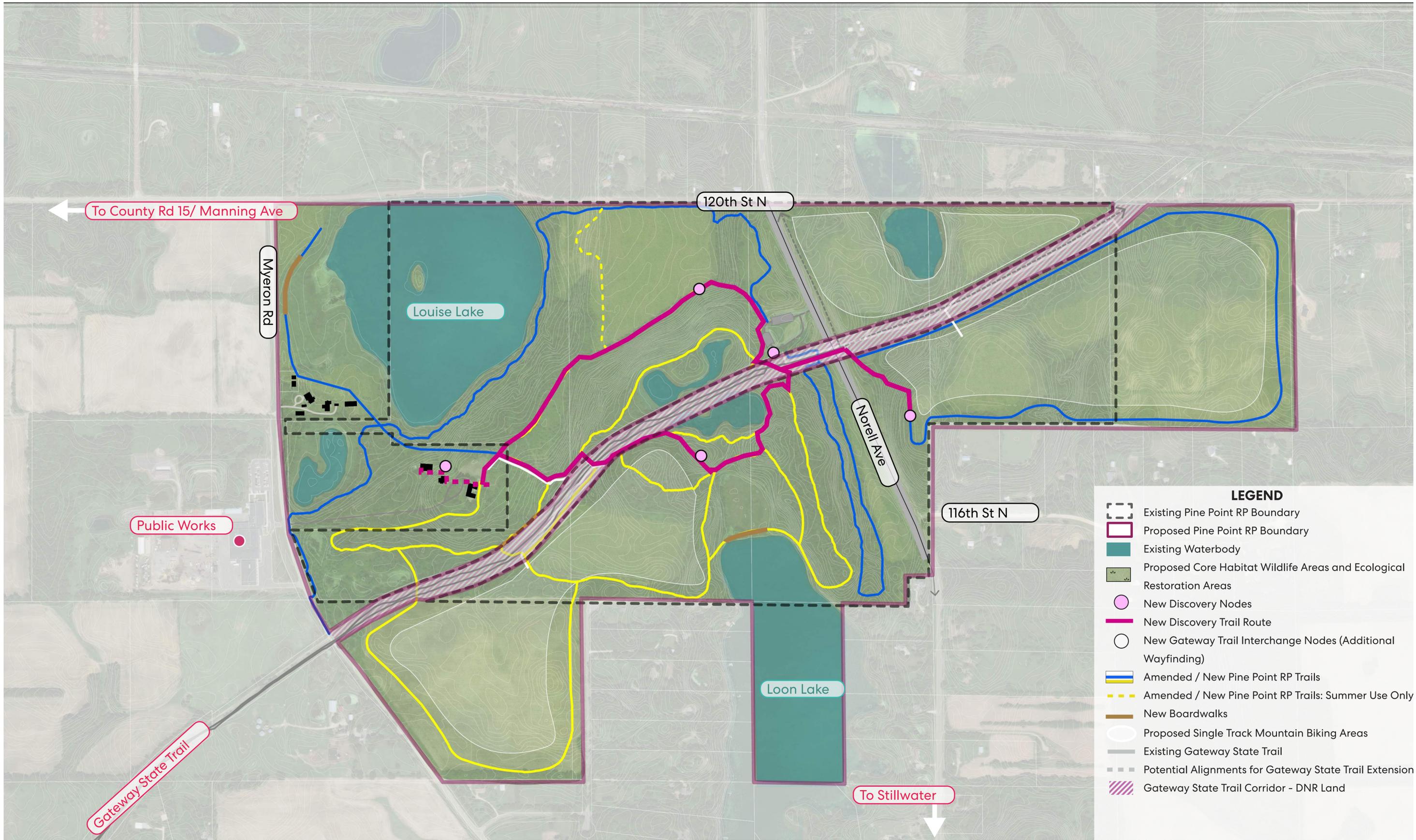
LEGEND

- Existing Pine Point RP Boundary
- Proposed Pine Point RP Boundary
- Existing Waterbody
- Proposed Core Habitat Wildlife Areas and Ecological Restoration Areas
- New Natural Resource Nodes
- Proposed Ecological Trail Route
- New Gateway Trail Interchange Nodes (Additional Wayfinding)
- Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails
- Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails: Summer Use Only
- New Boardwalks
- Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas
- Existing Gateway State Trail
- Potential Alignments for Gateway State Trail Extension
- Gateway State Trail Corridor - DNR Land

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - ECOLOGICAL TRAIL

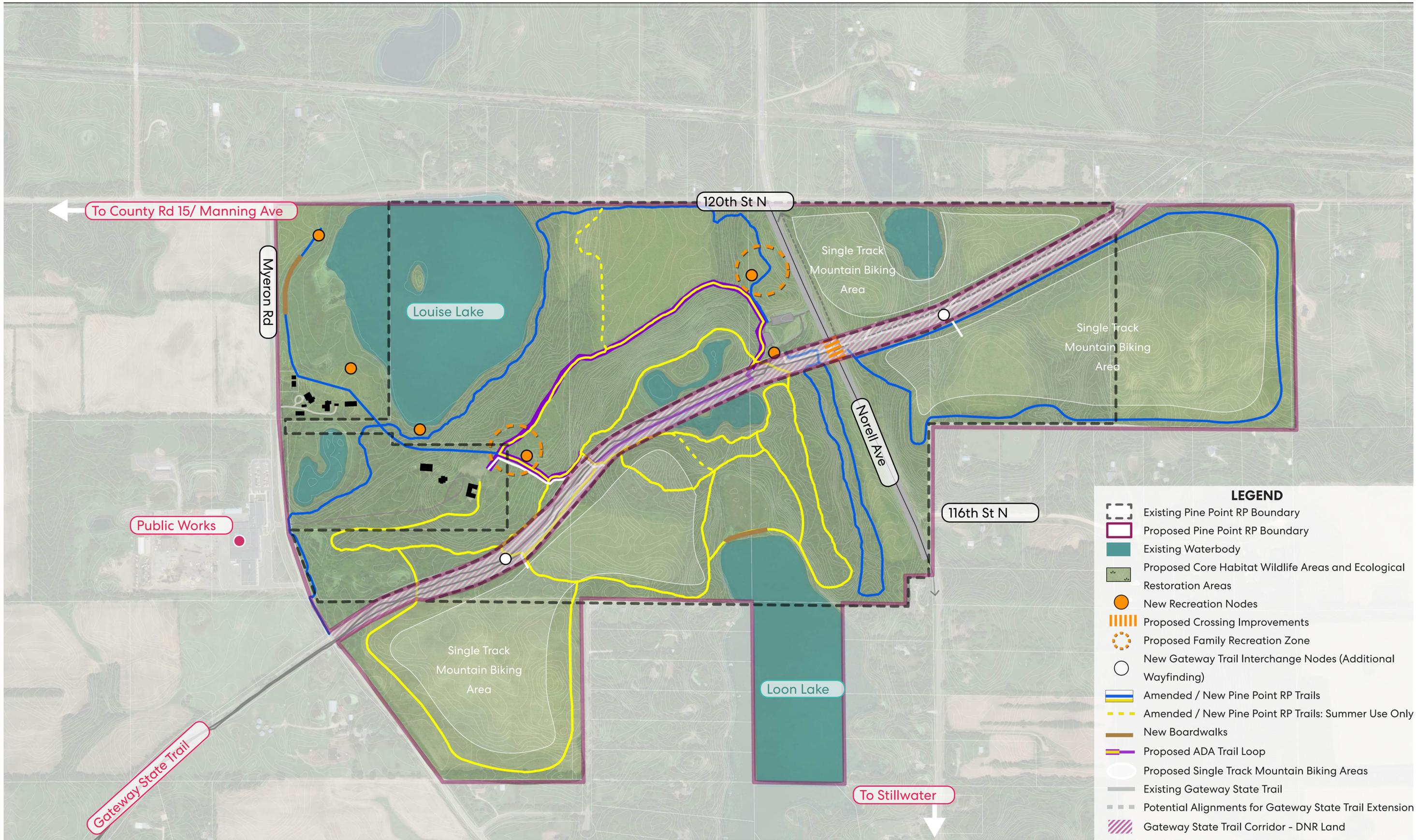
0 300 600
150 450 FEET 1"=300'

NORTH



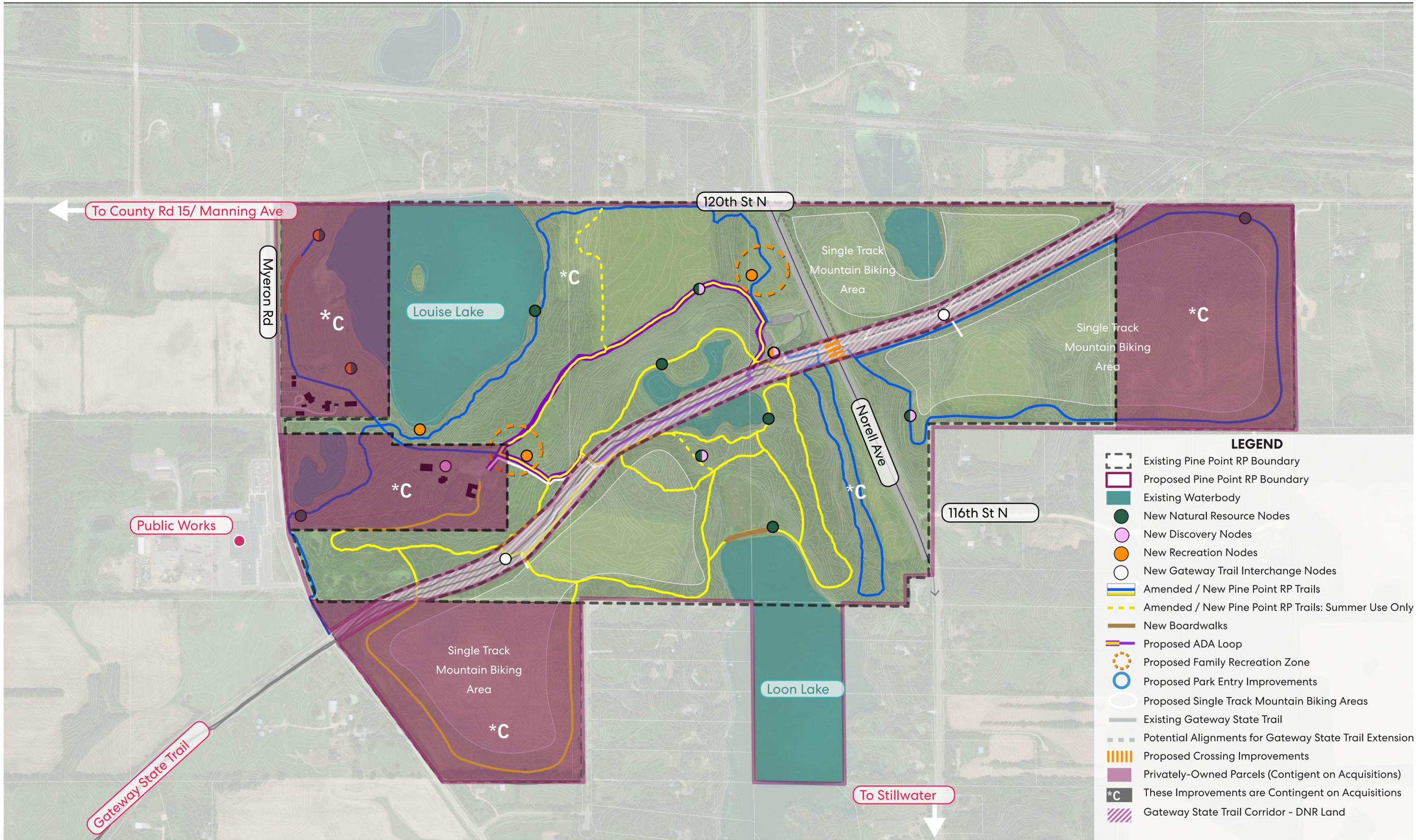
PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - DISCOVERY TRAIL





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK -RECREATIONAL ELEMENTS





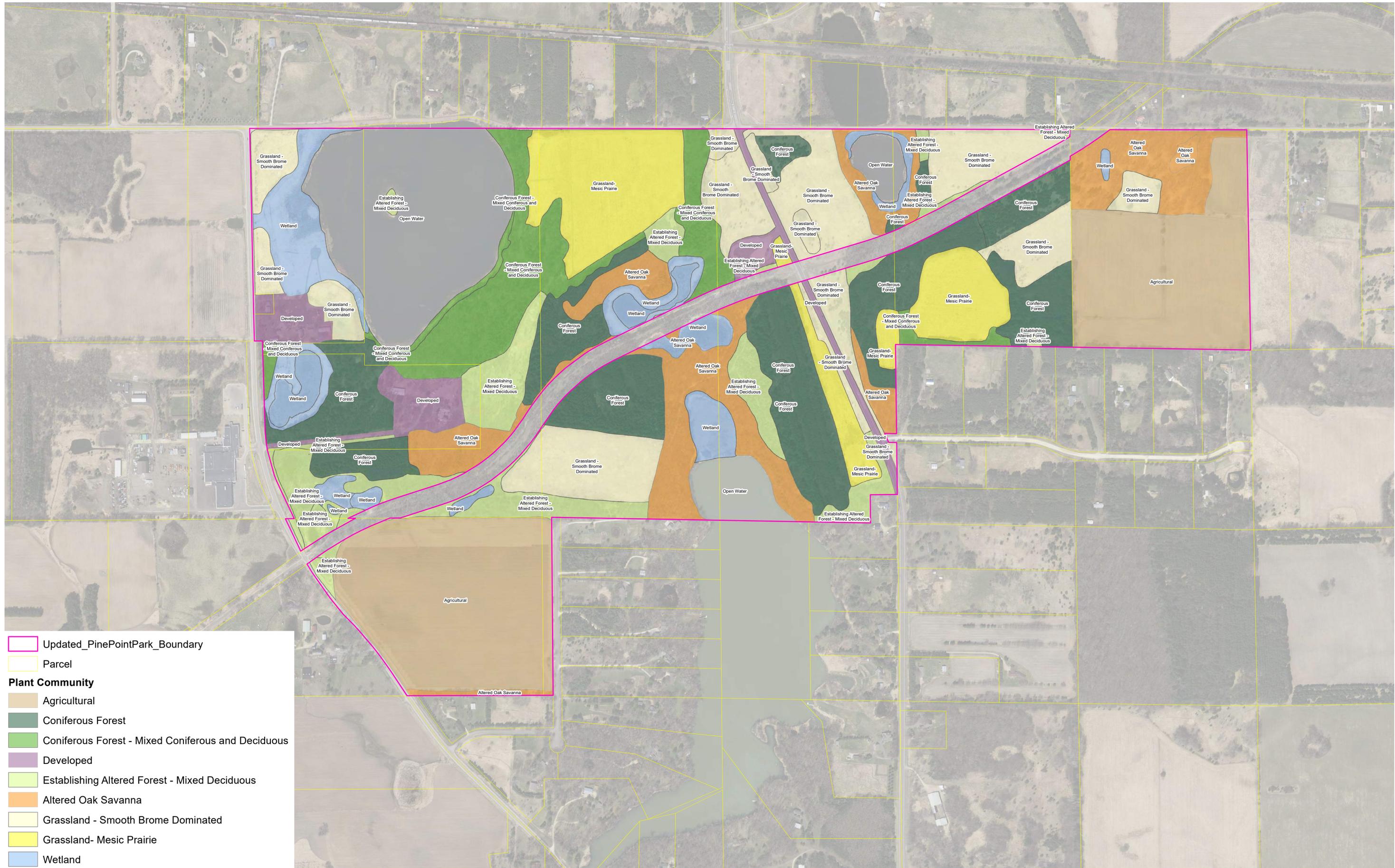
LEGEND

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- New Recreation Nodes
- New Gateway Trail Interchange Nodes
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- Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails: Summer Use Only
- New Boardwalks
- Proposed ADA Loop
- Proposed Family Recreation Zone
- Proposed Park Entry Improvements
- Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas
- Existing Gateway State Trail
- Potential Alignments for Gateway State Trail Extension
- Proposed Crossing Improvements
- Privately-Owned Parcels (Contingent on Acquisitions)
- *C These Improvements are Contingent on Acquisitions
- Gateway State Trail Corridor - DNR Land

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - PRIVATELY-OWNED PARCELS

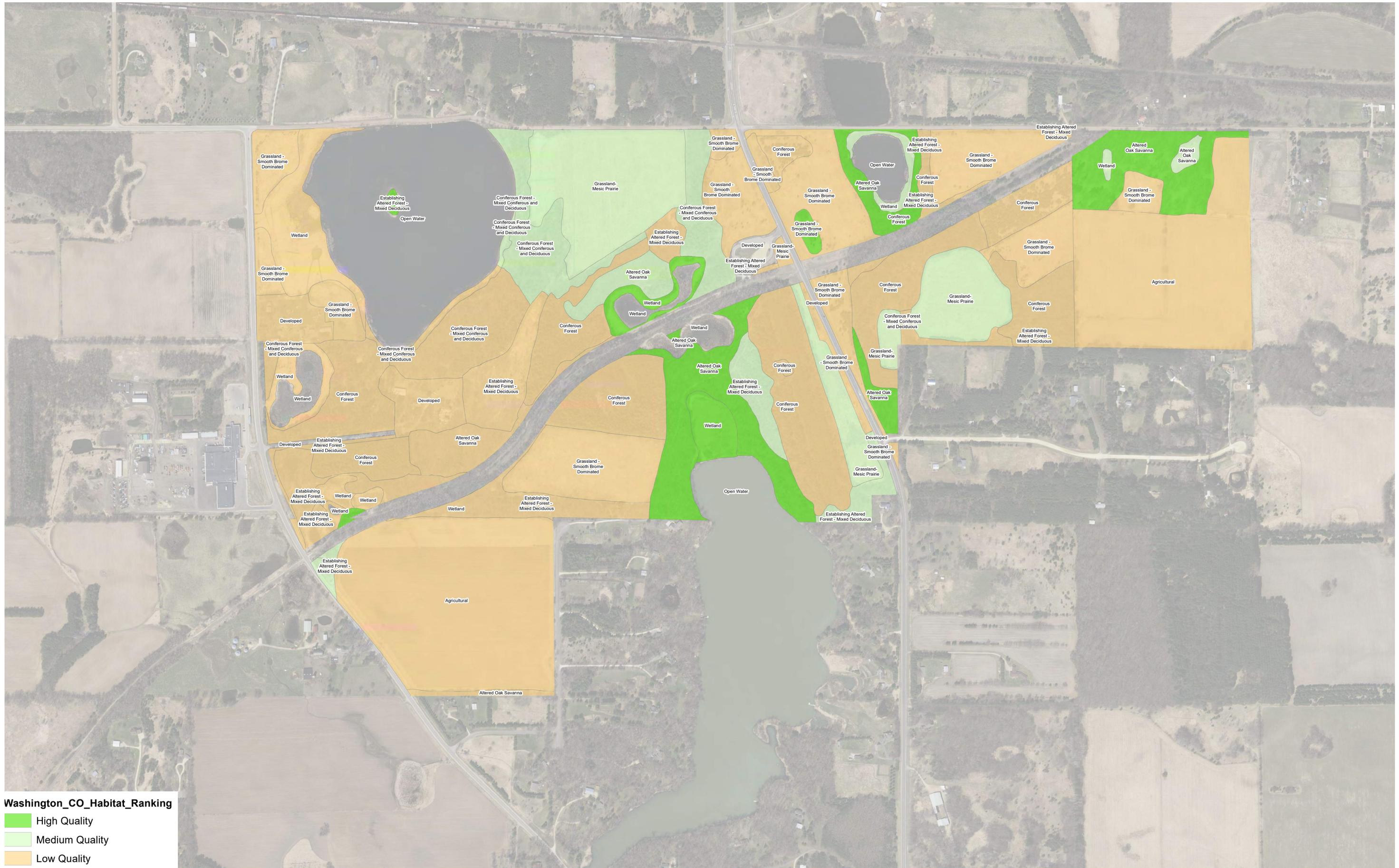
*Includes Improvements Contingent on Acquisitions





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - LAND COVER (MLCCS)

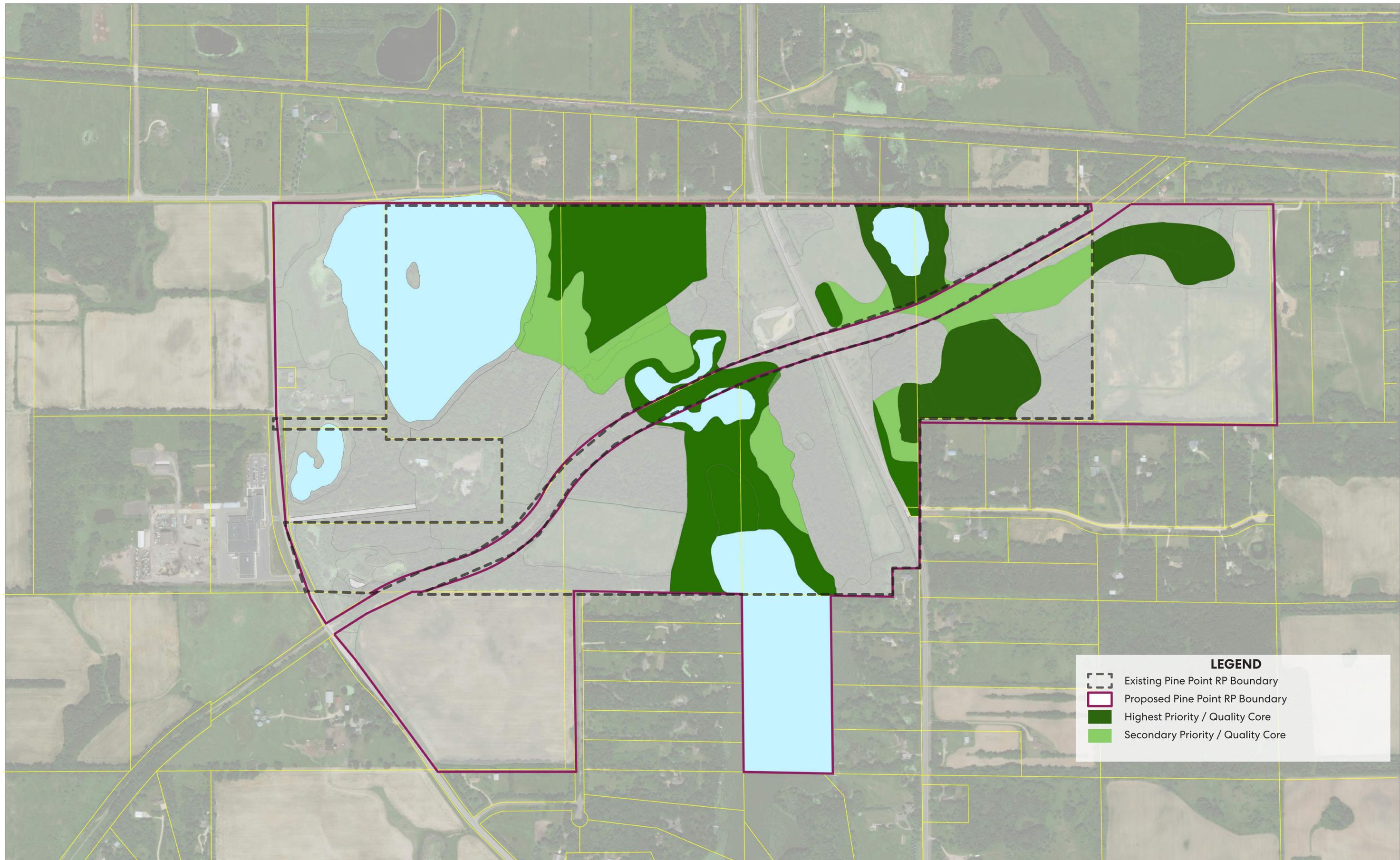




Washington_CO_Habitat_Ranking
 High Quality
 Medium Quality
 Low Quality

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - PLANT COMMUNITY RANKINGS





LEGEND

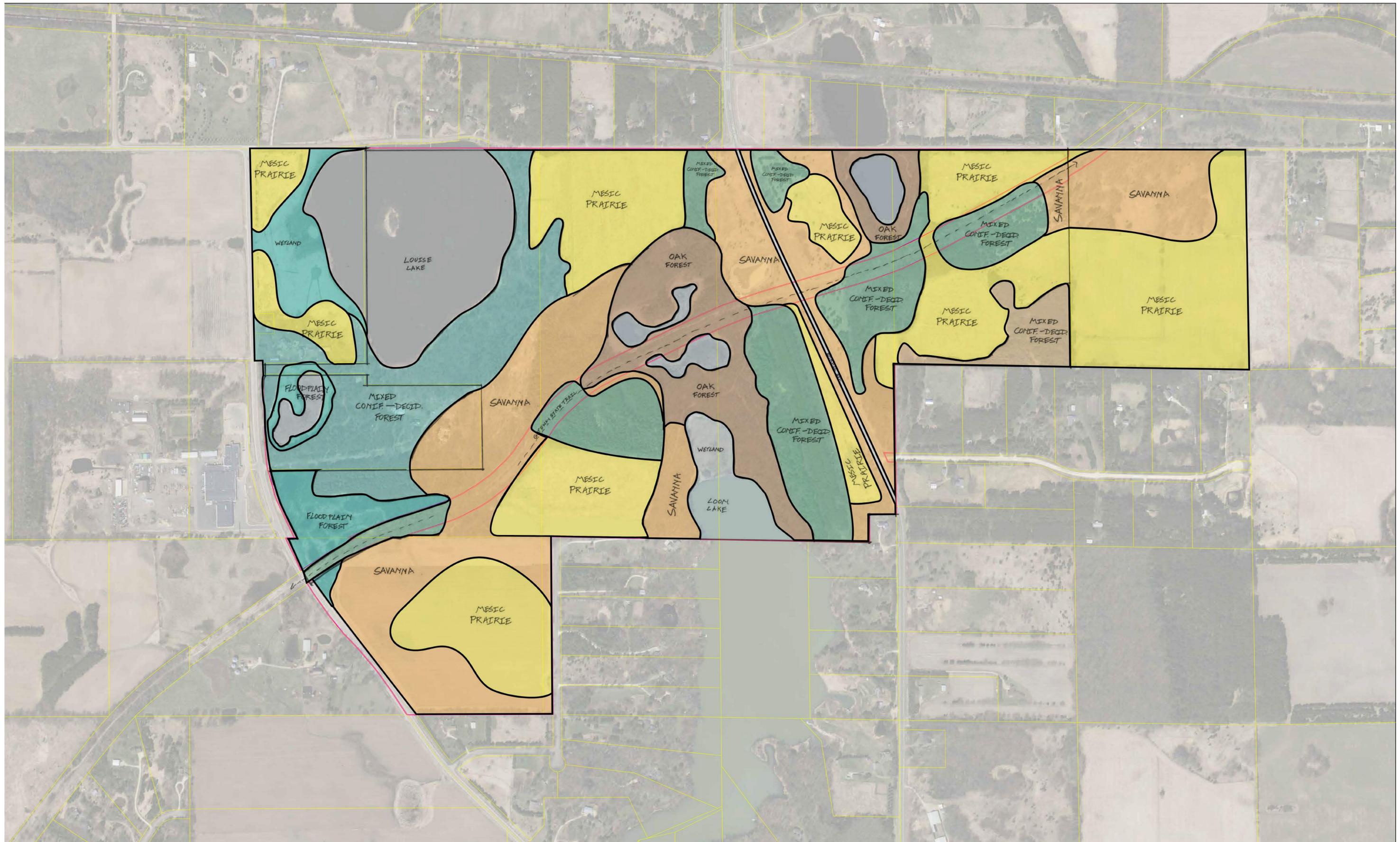
- Existing Pine Point RP Boundary
- Proposed Pine Point RP Boundary
- Highest Priority / Quality Core
- Secondary Priority / Quality Core

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CORE RESTORATION AREAS

0 300 600
150 450 FEET 1"=300'



NORTH



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - TARGET PLANT COMMUNITIES





LEGEND

- Existing Pine Point RP Boundary
- Proposed Pine Point RP Boundary
- Existing Waterbody
- Existing Gateway State Trail
- Potential Alignments for Gateway State Trail Extension
- Existing Structures
- Implementation of New Core Habitat Wildlife Areas

Pine Management Strategy

- No Thinning
- 10-20% Thinning
- 30-60% Thinning
- +80% Thinning
- Gateway State Trail Corridor - DNR Land

PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - NATURAL RESOURCES: PHASE 1 (1-5 YEARS)





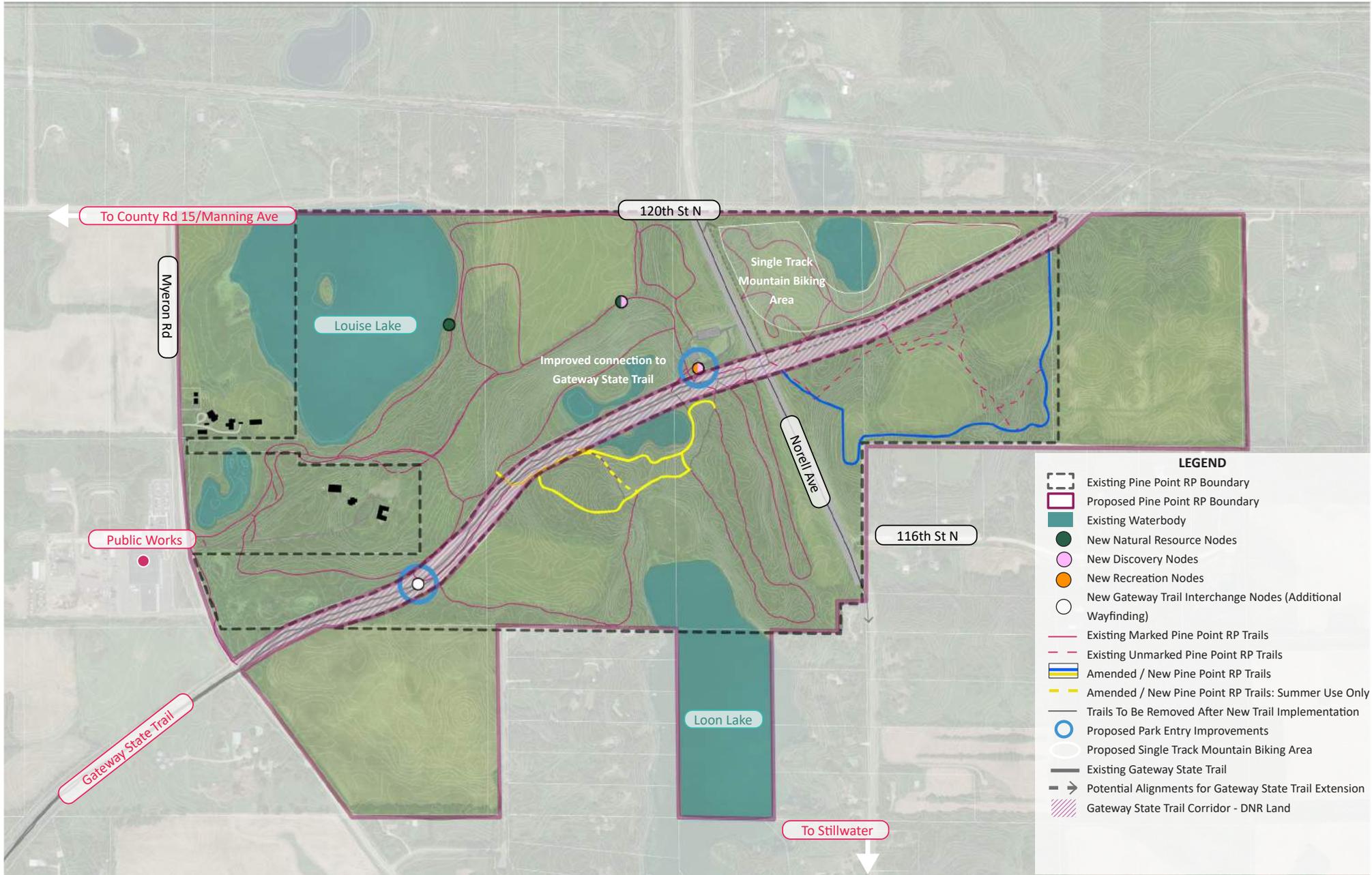
PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - NATURAL RESOURCES: PHASE 2 (5-10 YEARS)





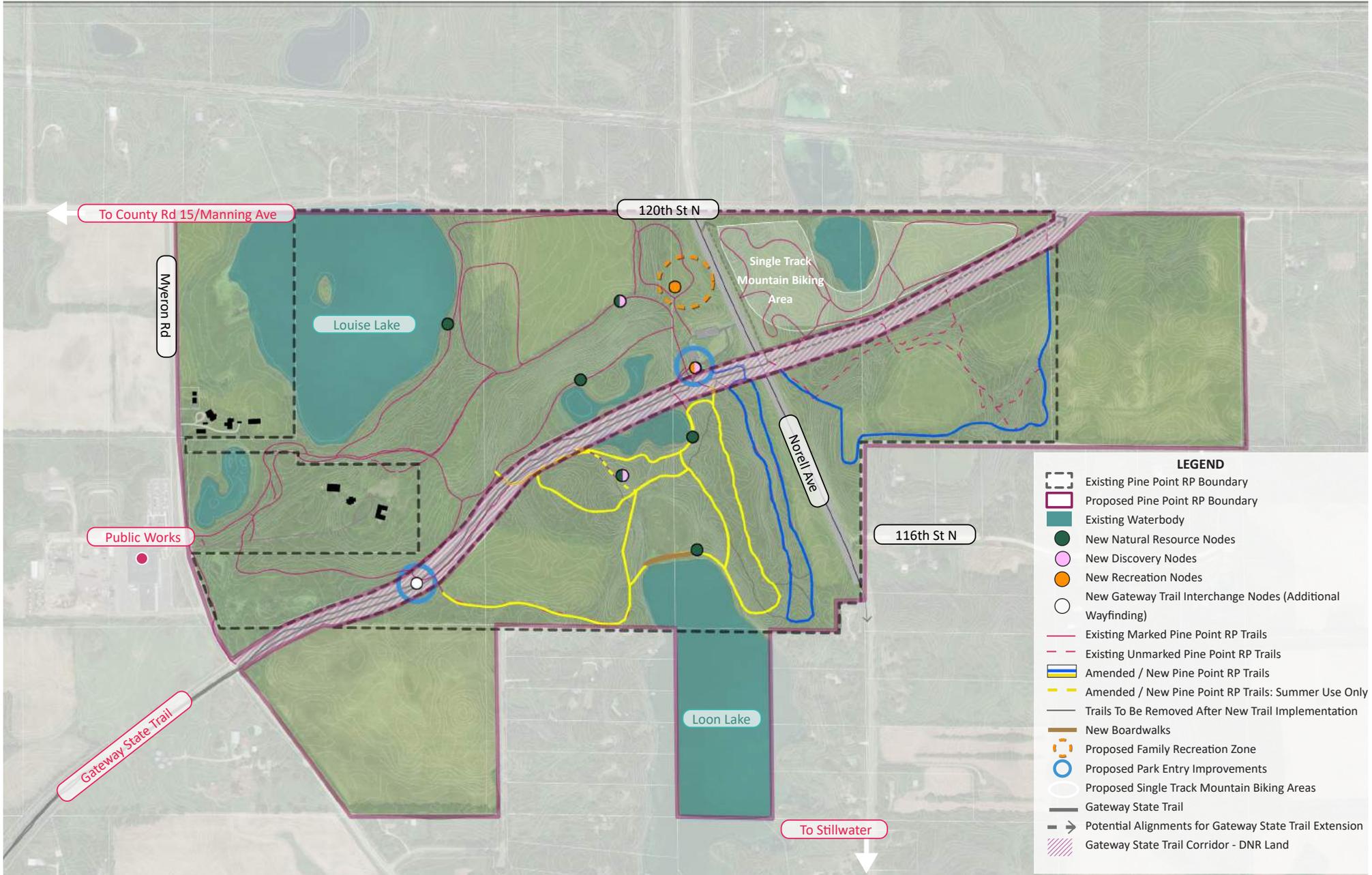
PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - NATURAL RESOURCES: PHASE 3 (10+ YEARS)





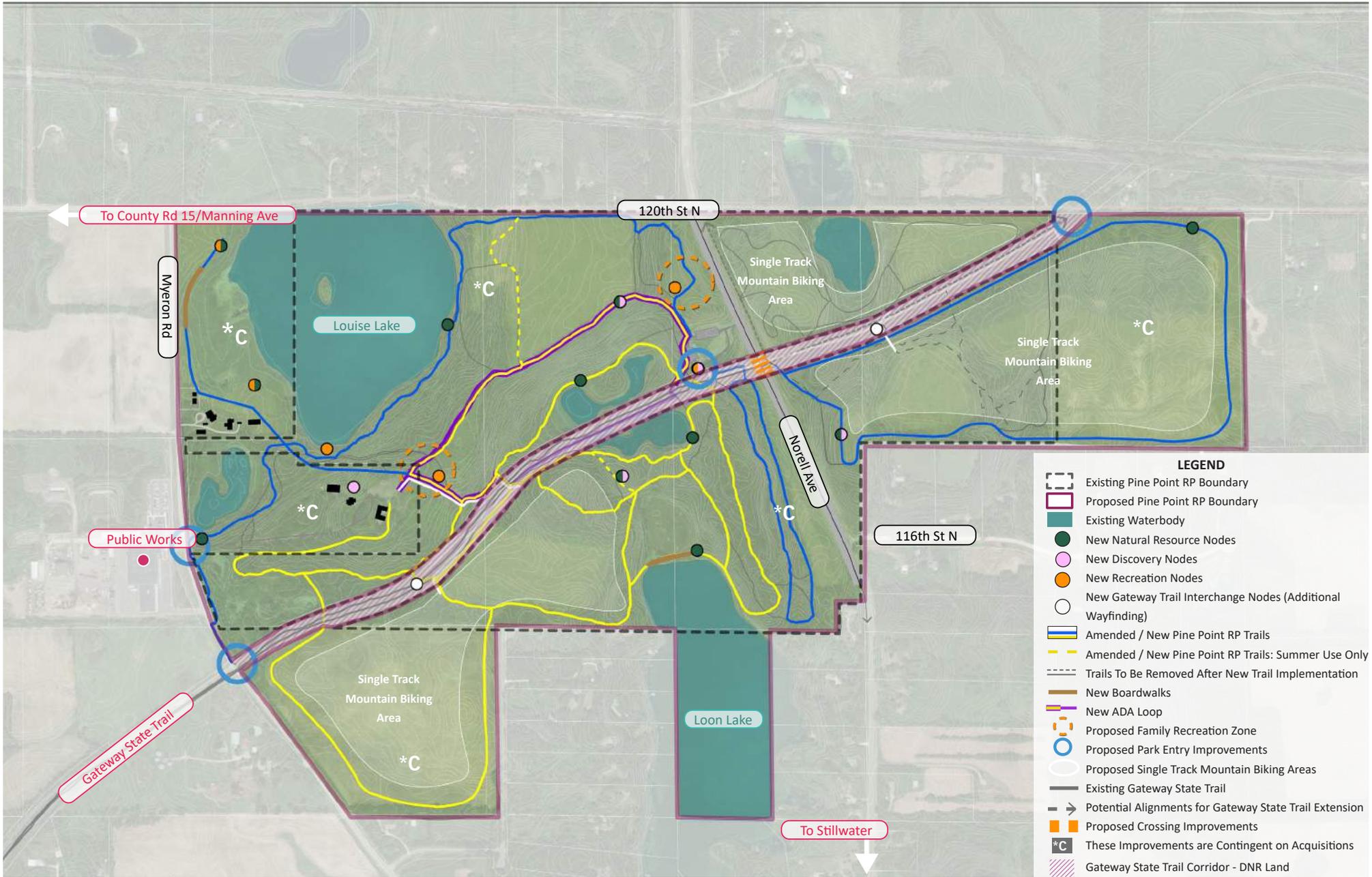
PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CONCEPT PHASE 1 (1-5 YEARS)





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CONCEPT PHASE 2 (5-10 YEARS)





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CONCEPT PHASE 3 (10+ YEARS)

*Includes Improvements Contingent on Acquisitions

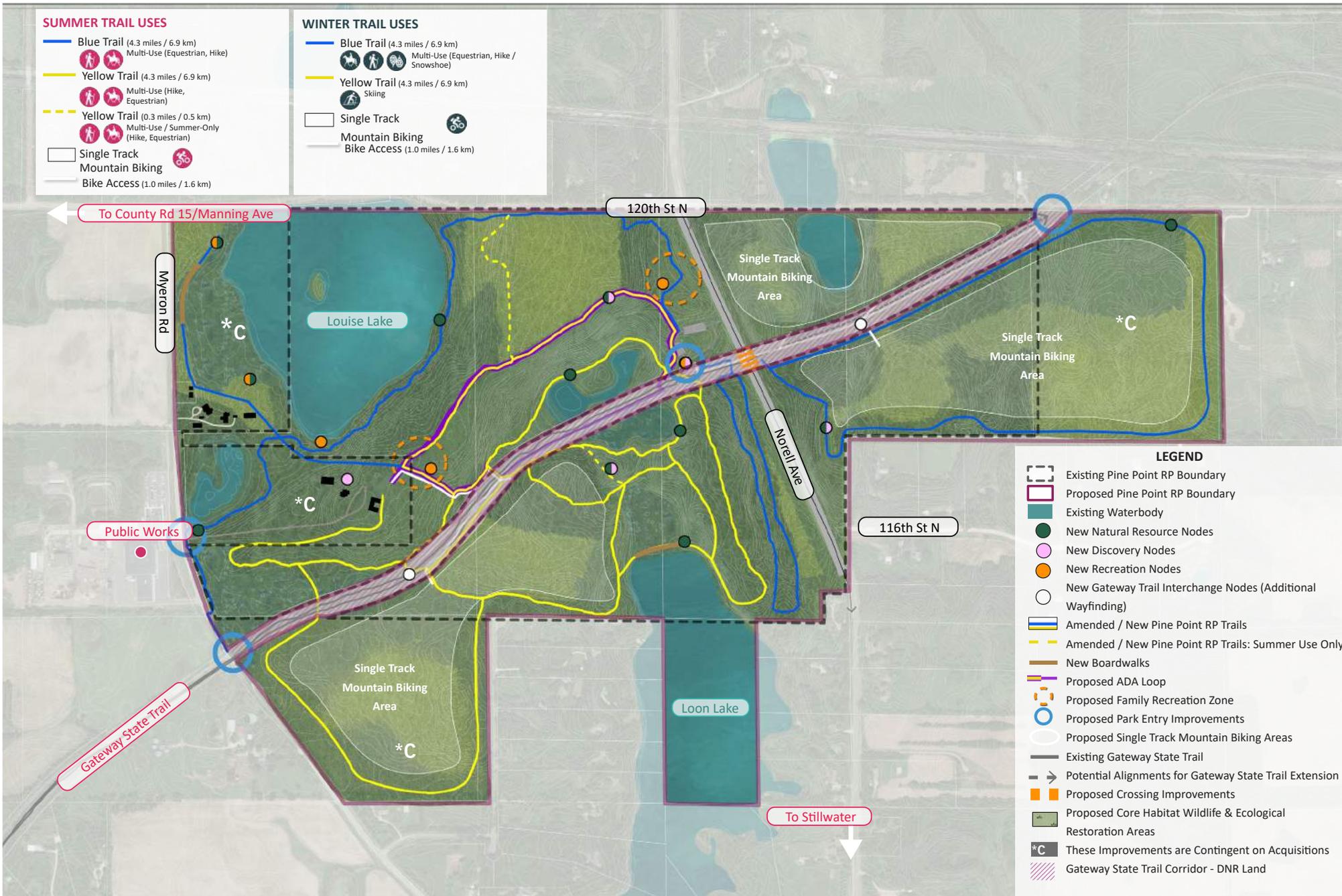


SUMMER TRAIL USES

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Multi-Use (Equestrian, Hike)
- Yellow Trail (4.3 miles / 6.9 km)
Multi-Use (Hike, Equestrian)
- - - Yellow Trail (0.3 miles / 0.5 km)
Multi-Use / Summer-Only (Hike, Equestrian)
- Single Track Mountain Biking
- Bike Access (1.0 miles / 1.6 km)

WINTER TRAIL USES

- Blue Trail (4.3 miles / 6.9 km)
Multi-Use (Equestrian, Hike / Snowshoe)
- Yellow Trail (4.3 miles / 6.9 km)
Skiing
- Single Track Mountain Biking
- Bike Access (1.0 miles / 1.6 km)



To County Rd 15/Manning Ave

120th St N

Myron Rd

Louise Lake

Single Track Mountain Biking Area

Single Track Mountain Biking Area

Norell Ave

116th St N

Public Works

Single Track Mountain Biking Area

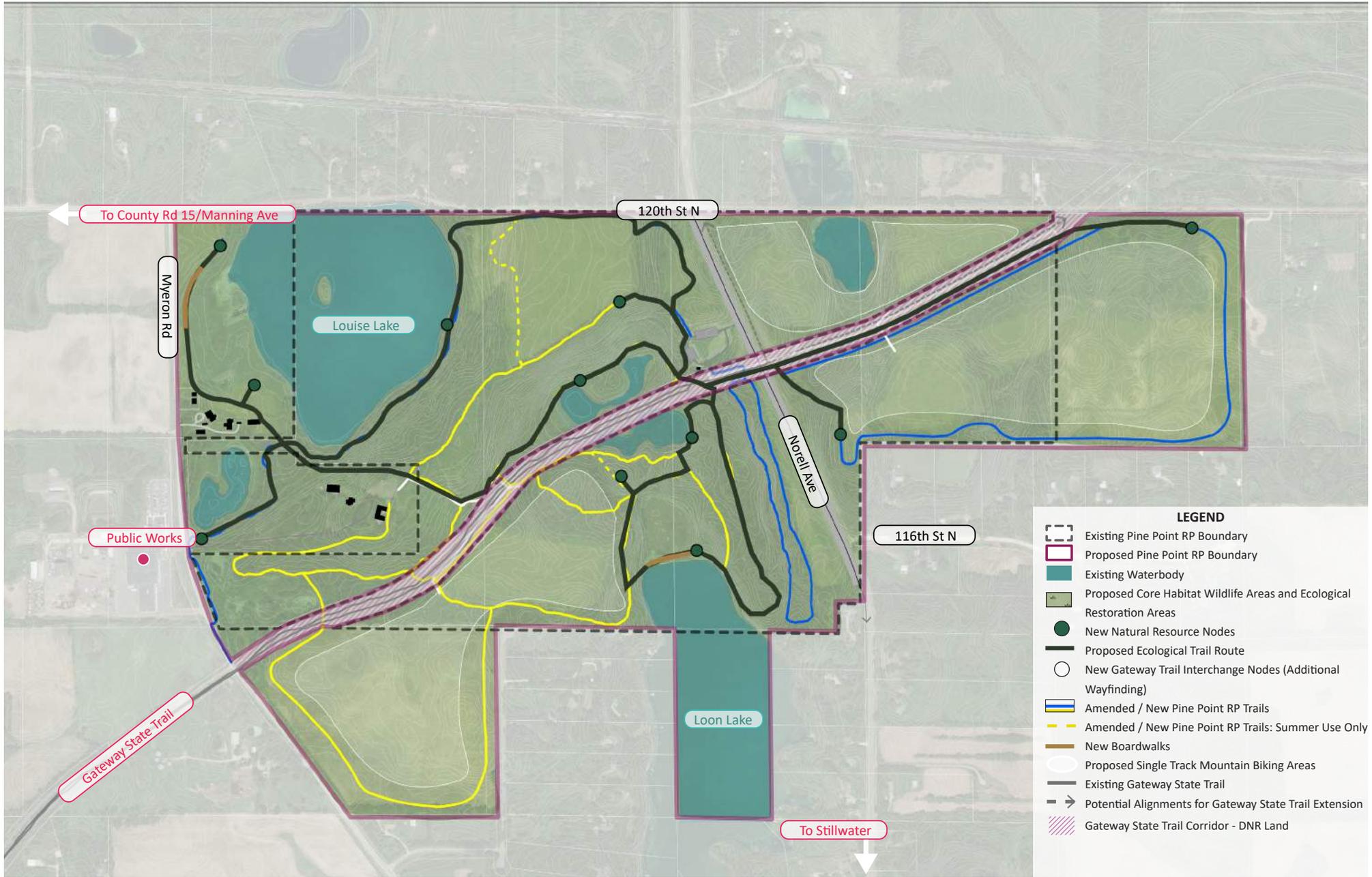
Loon Lake

Gateway State Trail

To Stillwater

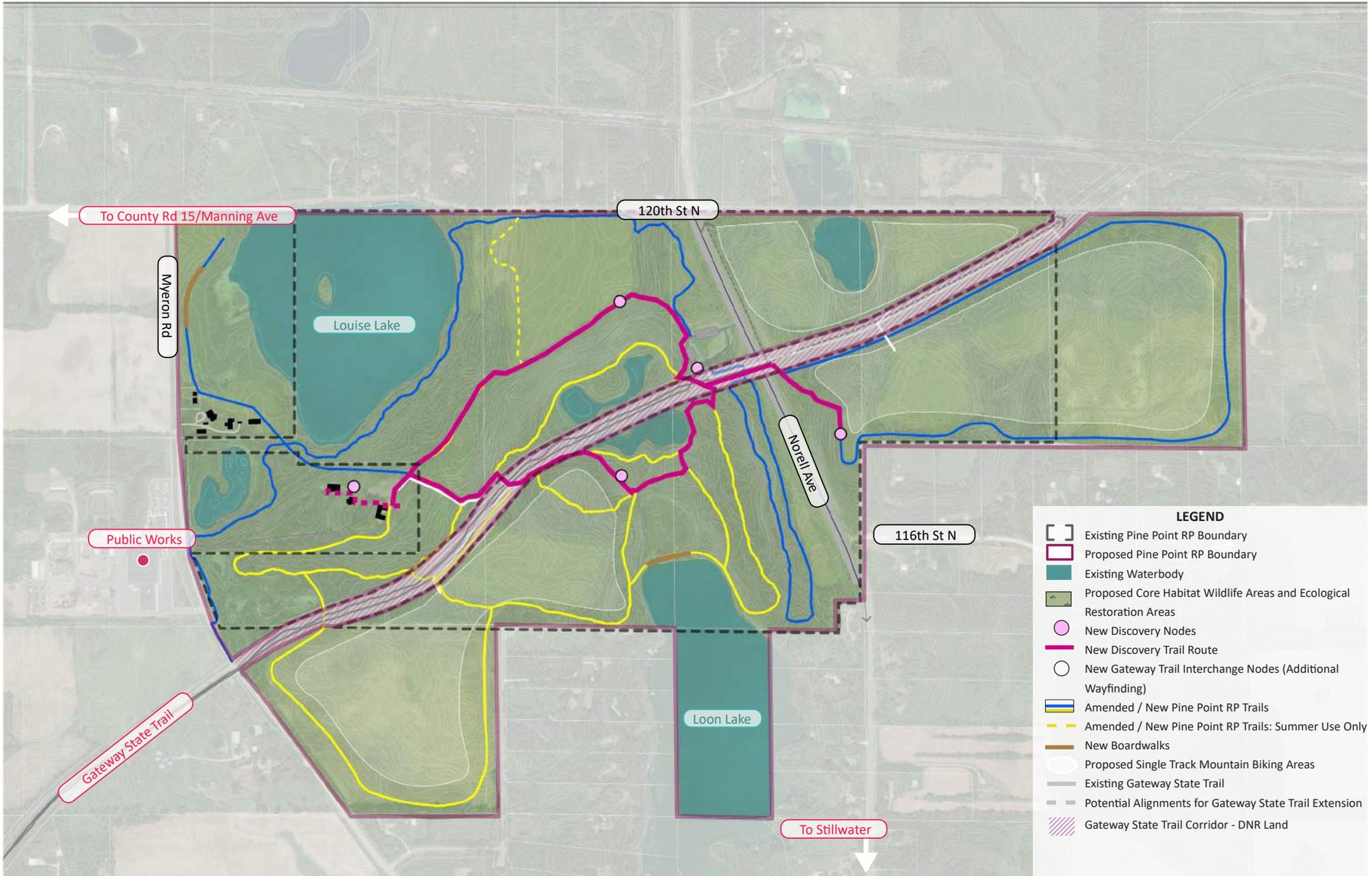
LEGEND

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- New Discovery Nodes
- New Recreation Nodes
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- Proposed Family Recreation Zone
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- Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas
- Existing Gateway State Trail
- - - Potential Alignments for Gateway State Trail Extension
- Proposed Crossing Improvements
- Proposed Core Habitat Wildlife & Ecological Restoration Areas
- *C These Improvements are Contingent on Acquisitions
- Gateway State Trail Corridor - DNR Land



PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - ECOLOGICAL TRAIL



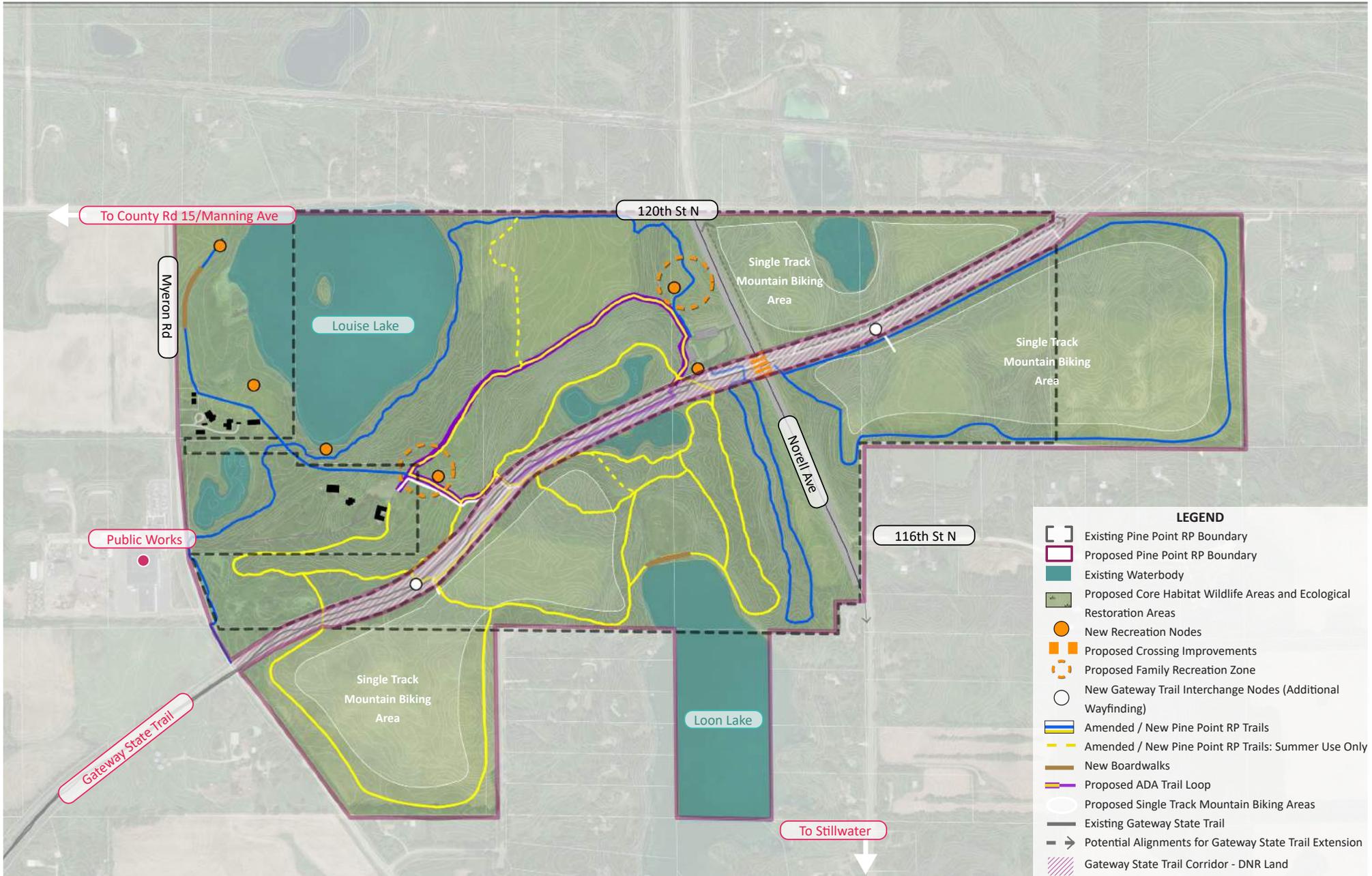


LEGEND

- [] Existing Pine Point RP Boundary
- [] Proposed Pine Point RP Boundary
- [] Existing Waterbody
- [] Proposed Core Habitat Wildlife Areas and Ecological Restoration Areas
- New Discovery Nodes
- New Discovery Trail Route
- New Gateway Trail Interchange Nodes (Additional Wayfinding)
- [] Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails
- [] Amended / New Pine Point RP Trails: Summer Use Only
- [] New Boardwalks
- Proposed Single Track Mountain Biking Areas
- Existing Gateway State Trail
- Potential Alignments for Gateway State Trail Extension
- [] Gateway State Trail Corridor - DNR Land

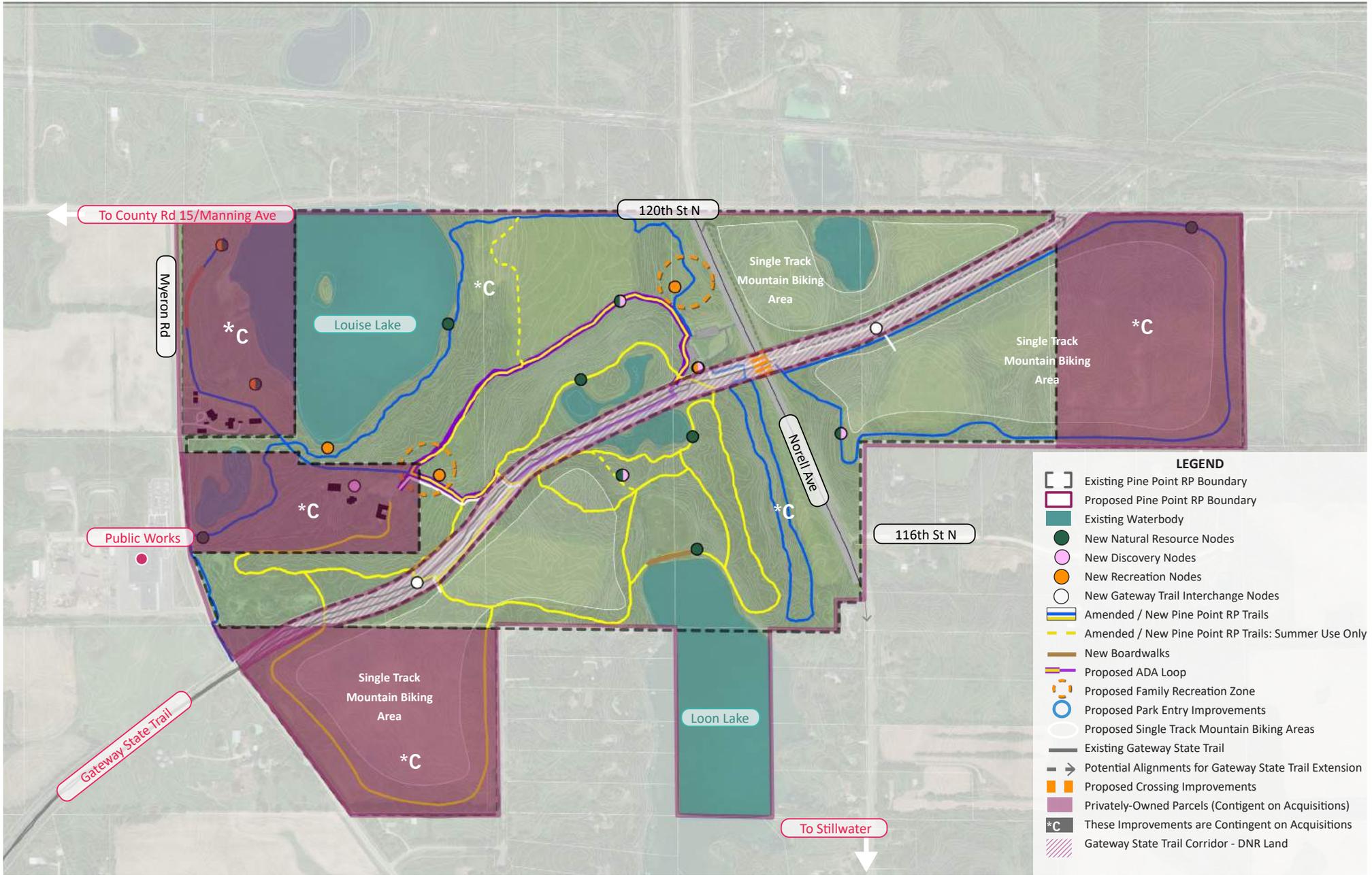
PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - DISCOVERY TRAIL





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK -RECREATIONAL ELEMENTS

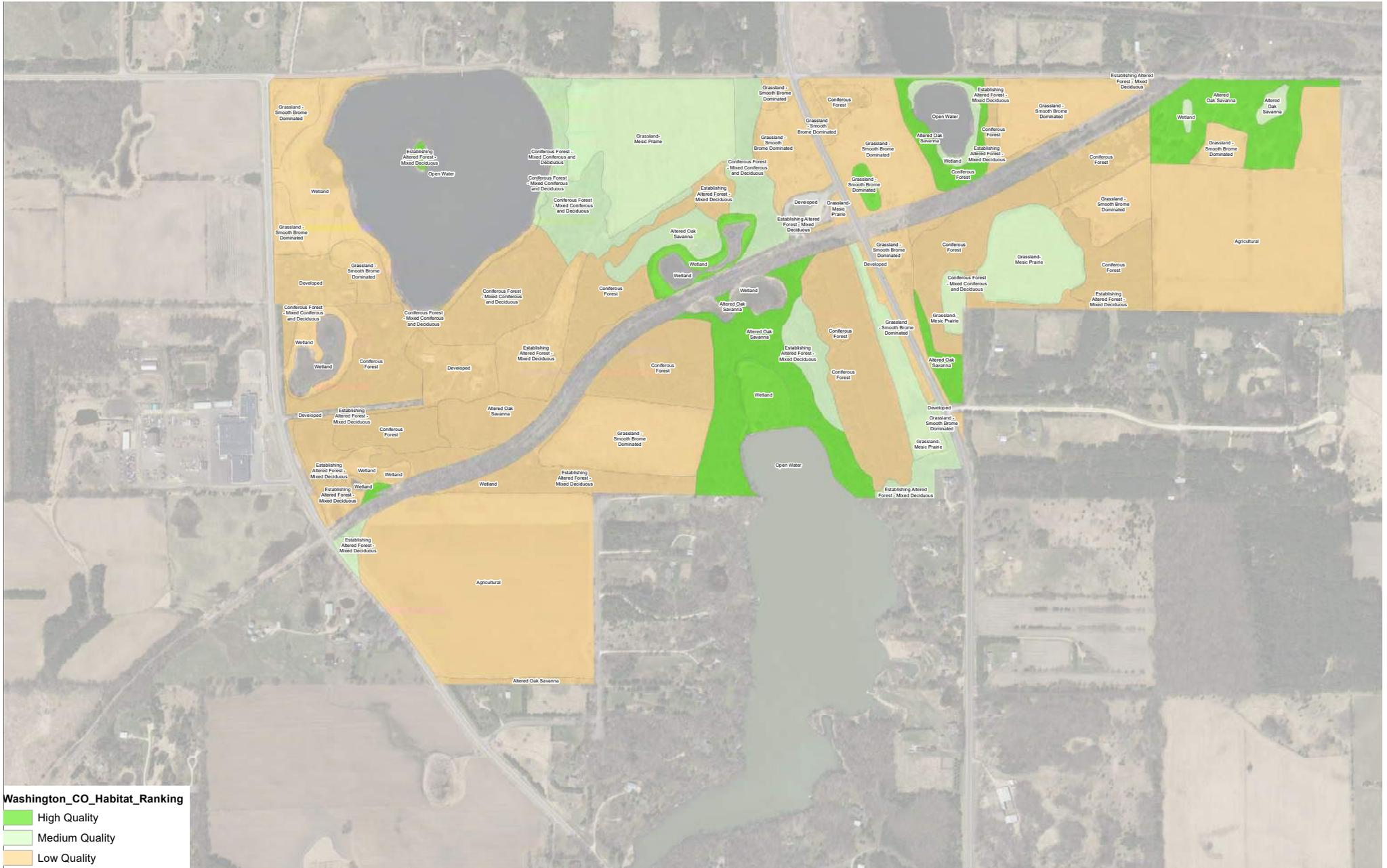




PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - PRIVATELY-OWNED PARCELS

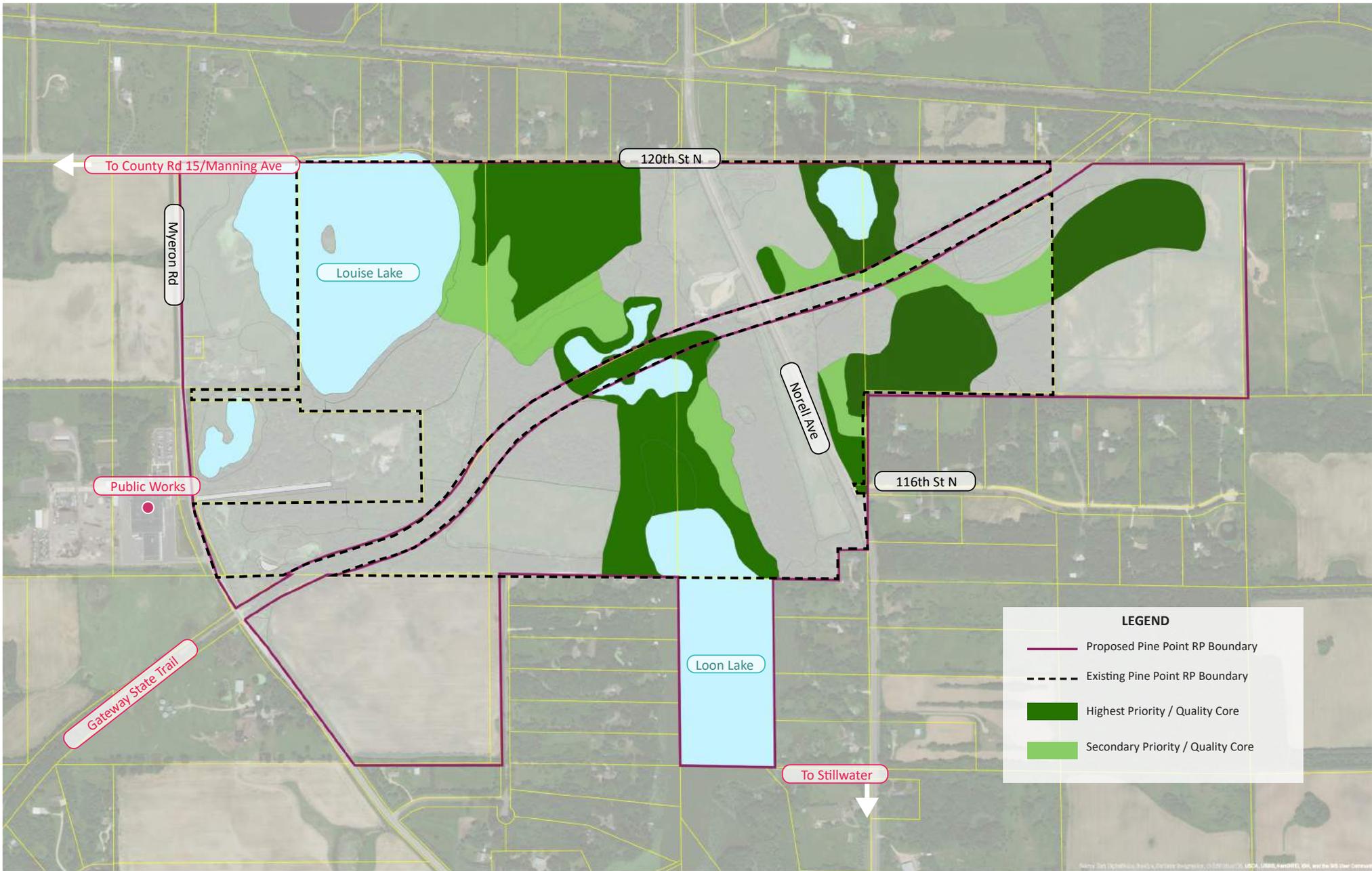
*Includes Improvements Contingent on Acquisitions





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - PLANT COMMUNITY RANKINGS





PINE POINT REGIONAL PARK - CORE RESTORATION AREAS

