

# Appendix A:

## Foundational Documents Reference

- **Washington County 2040 Comprehensive Plan List second document title**
  - o Parks, Trails, and Open Space chapter which includes guidance about current and proposed trails in the County, including the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional trail search corridor. Section describes search corridor and provides information on regional significance, existing development, planning status, and the proposed development.
- **Washington County Bike and Pedestrian Plan**
  - o Provides guidance for the county by identifying trail gaps and locations where new trails should be planned, how they should be designed, and an implementation prioritization schedule.
- **St. Croix Valley Regional Trail Master Plan**
  - o This is a master plan of the search for an alignment for the St. Croix Valley Regional Trail. It focuses on the area between Afton and Point Douglas, the corridor directly south of our search area.
- **Brown's Creek State Trail Master Plan**
  - o This plan provides guidance to the county by outlining the trail planning process, vision and goals for the corridor, and actions that local governments can take to support trail development.
- **St Croix County (WI) Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan**
  - o The Plan identified several priority bicycle/pedestrian routes throughout the County, including the Highway #35 Trail.
- **U.S. National Park Service St Croix Scenic Riverway**
- **Lower St Croix Watershed Partnership: One Watershed One Plan**
- **Stillwater Township Comprehensive Plan**
  - o This comprehensive plan provides guidance to the county by identifying two state trails and the proposed RBTN corridor alignment located within the township borders. The two state trails, the proposed Greenway State Trail and the Browns Creek State Trail, run partially through the Township and connect to Tier 2 RBTN corridors where the alignments are currently undefined.

- **Stillwater Comprehensive Plan**
  - This comprehensive plan provides guidance for the county by discussing the existing trail system, the city's priorities for trail system improvements, goals for enhancing recreational facilities, and more. Regarding Regional Trail planning efforts, the Metropolitan Council required Stillwater to include the Middle St. Croix Valley Trail search corridor in their plan.
- **Oak Park Heights Comprehensive Plan**
  - This comprehensive plan provides guidance for the MSCVRTMP by discussing the existing trail system in Oak Park Heights, issues with the City's system of trails, and their priorities for new trails.
- **Bayport Comprehensive Plan**
  - This Comprehensive Plan includes information regarding goals for establishing a safe bicycle and pedestrian program within the city. These goals include providing bicycle and pedestrian connections to Stillwater and Oak Park Heights and working in cooperation with Washington County and adjacent communities to obtain unused railroad right of ways for trail purposes.
- **Baytown Township Comprehensive Plan**
  - The township has no currently plans to add trails through 2040. New trails may be dedicated by private developers as new development occurs, or may be created by Washington County as part of County road projects.
- **West Lakeland Township Comprehensive Plan**
  - This comprehensive plan talks about the plans for bicycle trails in the township. The township itself has no plans for building any bike paths, but does have the Tier 2 RBTN Corridor (the MSCVRT Search Corridor) on the map
- **Lakeland Comprehensive Plan**
  - This comprehensive plan mentions that the only bike and walking trail in the city of Lakeland shores is the Lakeland to Afton Trail. This provides about 5 miles of pathway (in total), including approximately 0.7 miles within the city of Lakeland Shores.
- **Lakeland Shores Comprehensive Plan**
  - There are no regional trails within Lakeland Shores as contained in the Regional Parks Policy Plan adopted by the Metropolitan Council

- **Lake St Croix Beach Comprehensive Plan**
  - o The Lake St. Croix Beach comprehensive plan notes the city is not well suited for fixed route transit service and is outside of the Metropolitan Council Transit Capital Levy District.
  
- **St. Mary's Point Comprehensive Plan**
  - o The paved five-community trail, now under the care of Washington County, is discussed in this Comprehensive plan. No other information regarding trails is discussed in the plan.
  
- **Afton Comprehensive Plan**
  - o This comprehensive plan highlights existing and future trail connections within and to Afton. There are two existing trails within Afton, the five-municipality trail that follows St. Croix Trail S (St. Croix Scenic Byway) running between the Old Village and Interstate 94, and the Afton Bluffs Regional Trail, which runs on County Road 18 and is not separated from the roadway. The Planned St. Croix Valley Regional Trail is mentioned, with the plan noting its proximity to the St. Croix River.

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# Appendix B:

## Corridor Resources Review

- **US Fish and Wildlife Service (IPaC) Resources Report**
  - o An Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) Report is a report compiled by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that generates a list of threatened and endangered species and other resources such as critical habitat under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Jurisdiction within a specified project area. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages in the project area.
- **MLCCS Landcover Classification Report**
  - o The Minnesota Land Cover Classification System (MLCCS) categorizes urban and built-up areas in terms of land cover rather than land use (MN DNR). Land cover classifications capture percent impervious cover as well as plant communities in non-urbanized areas

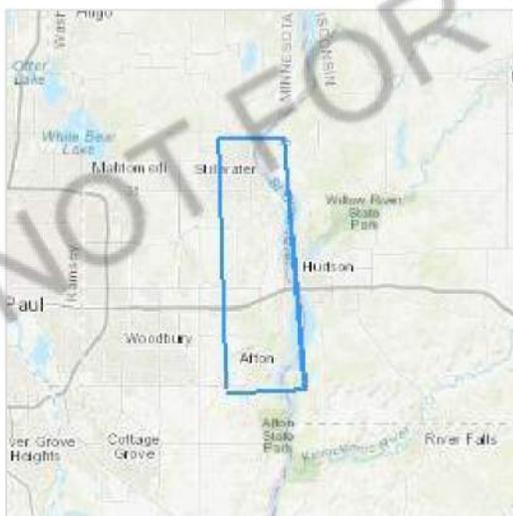
# IPaC resource list

This report is an automatically generated list of species and other resources such as critical habitat (collectively referred to as *trust resources*) under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) jurisdiction that are known or expected to be on or near the project area referenced below. The list may also include trust resources that occur outside of the project area, but that could potentially be directly or indirectly affected by activities in the project area. However, determining the likelihood and extent of effects a project may have on trust resources typically requires gathering additional site-specific (e.g., vegetation/species surveys) and project-specific (e.g., magnitude and timing of proposed activities) information.

Below is a summary of the project information you provided and contact information for the USFWS office(s) with jurisdiction in the defined project area. Please read the introduction to each section that follows (Endangered Species, Migratory Birds, USFWS Facilities, and NWI Wetlands) for additional information applicable to the trust resources addressed in that section.

## Location

### Minnesota and Wisconsin



## Local office

### Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office

☎ (952) 858-0793

📠 (952) 646-2873

3815 American Blvd East

33157 American Blvd East

Bloomington, MN 55425-1659

NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# Endangered species

**This resource list is for informational purposes only and does not constitute an analysis of project level impacts.**

The primary information used to generate this list is the known or expected range of each species. Additional areas of influence (AOI) for species are also considered. An AOI includes areas outside of the species range if the species could be indirectly affected by activities in that area (e.g., placing a dam upstream of a fish population even if that fish does not occur at the dam site, may indirectly impact the species by reducing or eliminating water flow downstream). Because species can move, and site conditions can change, the species on this list are not guaranteed to be found on or near the project area. To fully determine any potential effects to species, additional site-specific and project-specific information is often required.

Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act **requires** Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action" for any project that is conducted, permitted, funded, or licensed by any Federal agency. A letter from the local office and a species list which fulfills this requirement can **only** be obtained by requesting an official species list from either the Regulatory Review section in IPaC (see directions below) or from the local field office directly.

For project evaluations that require USFWS concurrence/review, please return to the IPaC website and request an official species list by doing the following:

1. Draw the project location and click CONTINUE.
2. Click DEFINE PROJECT.
3. Log in (if directed to do so).
4. Provide a name and description for your project.
5. Click REQUEST SPECIES LIST.

Listed species<sup>1</sup> and their critical habitats are managed by the [Ecological Services Program](#) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the fisheries division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries<sup>2</sup>).

Species and critical habitats under the sole responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are **not** shown on this list. Please contact [NOAA Fisheries](#) for [species under their jurisdiction](#).

- 
1. Species listed under the [Endangered Species Act](#) are threatened or endangered; IPaC also shows species that are candidates, or proposed, for listing. See the [listing status page](#) for more information. IPaC only shows species that are regulated by USFWS (see FAQ).

2. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

The following species are potentially affected by activities in this location:

## Mammals

NAME	STATUS
<p>Gray Wolf <i>Canis lupus</i></p> <p>There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Tricolored Bat <i>Perimyotis subflavus</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10515</a></p>	Proposed Endangered

## Birds

NAME	STATUS
<p>Whooping Crane <i>Grus americana</i></p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/758</a></p>	EXPN

## Clams

NAME	STATUS
<p>Higgins Eye (pearlymussel) <i>Lampsilis higginsii</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5428">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5428</a></p>	Endangered
<p>Spectaclecase (mussel) <i>Cumberlandia monodonta</i></p> <p>Wherever found</p> <p>No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7867">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7867</a></p>	Endangered

Winged Mapleleaf *Quadrula fragosa* Endangered  
 No critical habitat has been designated for this species.  
<https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4127>

## Insects

NAME	STATUS
Karner Blue Butterfly <i>Lycaeides melissa samuelis</i> Wherever found There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6656">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6656</a>	Endangered
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Candidate
Rusty Patched Bumble Bee <i>Bombus affinis</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9383</a>	Endangered

## Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Prairie Bush-clover <i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i> Wherever found No critical habitat has been designated for this species. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4458">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4458</a>	Threatened

## Critical habitats

Potential effects to critical habitat(s) in this location must be analyzed along with the endangered species themselves.

There are no critical habitats at this location.

You are still required to determine if your project(s) may have effects on all above listed species.

# Bald & Golden Eagles

Bald and golden eagles are protected under the [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) and the [Migratory Bird Treaty Act](#).

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to bald or golden eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

## There are bald and/or golden eagles in your project area.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<p><b>Bald Eagle</b> <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i></p> <p>This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.</p>	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
<p><b>Golden Eagle</b> <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i></p> <p>This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.</p> <p><a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</a></p>	Breeds elsewhere

# Probability of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

## Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

## Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

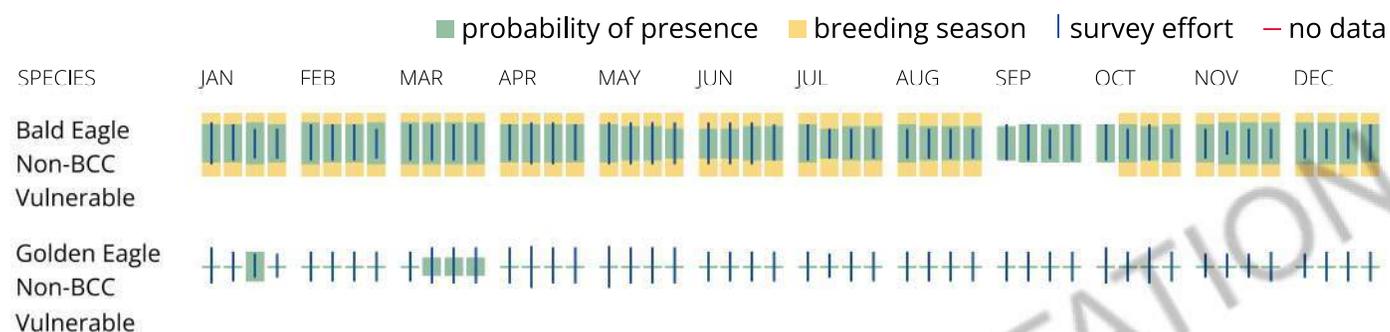
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

### No Data (–)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

### Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.



### What does IPaC use to generate the potential presence of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The potential for eagle presence is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply). To see a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

### What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs of bald and golden eagles in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to obtain a permit to avoid violating the [Eagle Act](#) should such impacts occur. Please contact your local Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office if you have questions.

## Migratory birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act<sup>1</sup> and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act<sup>2</sup>.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described [below](#).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.

Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the [USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ [below](#). This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the [E-bird data mapping tool](#) (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found [below](#).

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
<p><b>American Golden-plover</b> <i>Pluvialis dominica</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p><b>Bald Eagle</b> <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>            This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.</p>	Breeds Oct 15 to Aug 31
<p><b>Black Tern</b> <i>Chlidonias niger</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3093">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3093</a></p>	Breeds May 15 to Aug 20
<p><b>Black-billed Cuckoo</b> <i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399</a></p>	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10
<p><b>Bobolink</b> <i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
<p><b>Canada Warbler</b> <i>Cardellina canadensis</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds May 20 to Aug 10
<p><b>Cerulean Warbler</b> <i>Dendroica cerulea</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2974">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2974</a></p>	Breeds Apr 21 to Jul 20
<p><b>Chimney Swift</b> <i>Chaetura pelagica</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
<p><b>Eastern Whip-poor-will</b> <i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>            This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds May 1 to Aug 20

<p><b>Golden Eagle</b> <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>  This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680</a></p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p><b>Golden-winged Warbler</b> <i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8745">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8745</a></p>	Breeds May 1 to Jul 20
<p><b>Henslow's Sparrow</b> <i>Ammodramus henslowii</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3941</a></p>	Breeds May 1 to Aug 31
<p><b>Lesser Yellowlegs</b> <i>Tringa flavipes</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679</a></p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p><b>Long-eared Owl</b> <i>asio otus</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.  <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631</a></p>	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15
<p><b>Prothonotary Warbler</b> <i>Protonotaria citrea</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31
<p><b>Red-headed Woodpecker</b> <i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10
<p><b>Rusty Blackbird</b> <i>Euphagus carolinus</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA</p>	Breeds elsewhere
<p><b>Wood Thrush</b> <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>  This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.</p>	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

# Probability of Presence Summary

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## Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

1. The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is 0.25.
2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is  $0.25/0.25 = 1$ ; at week 20 it is  $0.05/0.25 = 0.2$ .
3. The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

To see a bar's probability of presence score, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

## Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

## Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

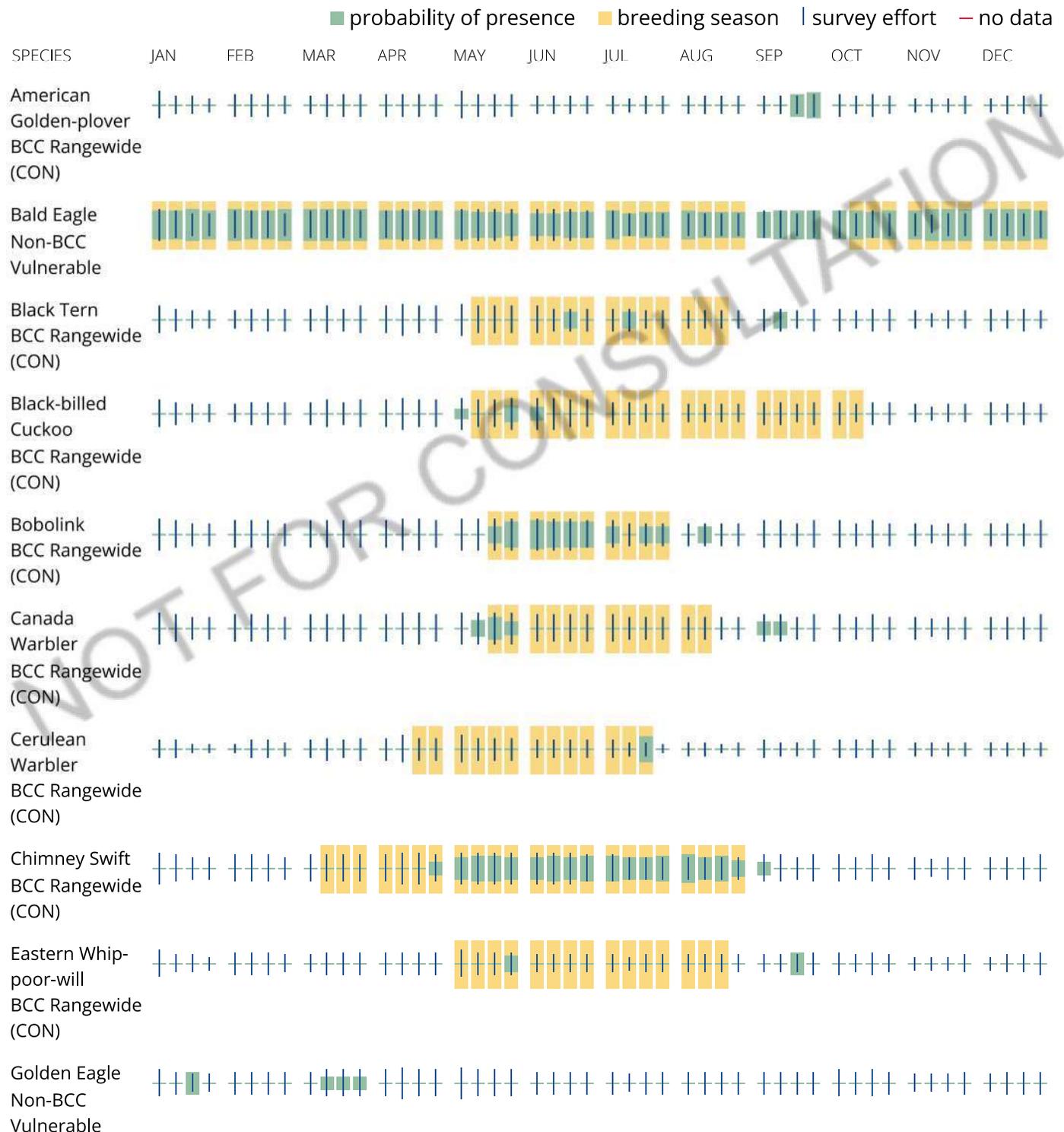
To see a bar's survey effort range, simply hover your mouse cursor over the bar.

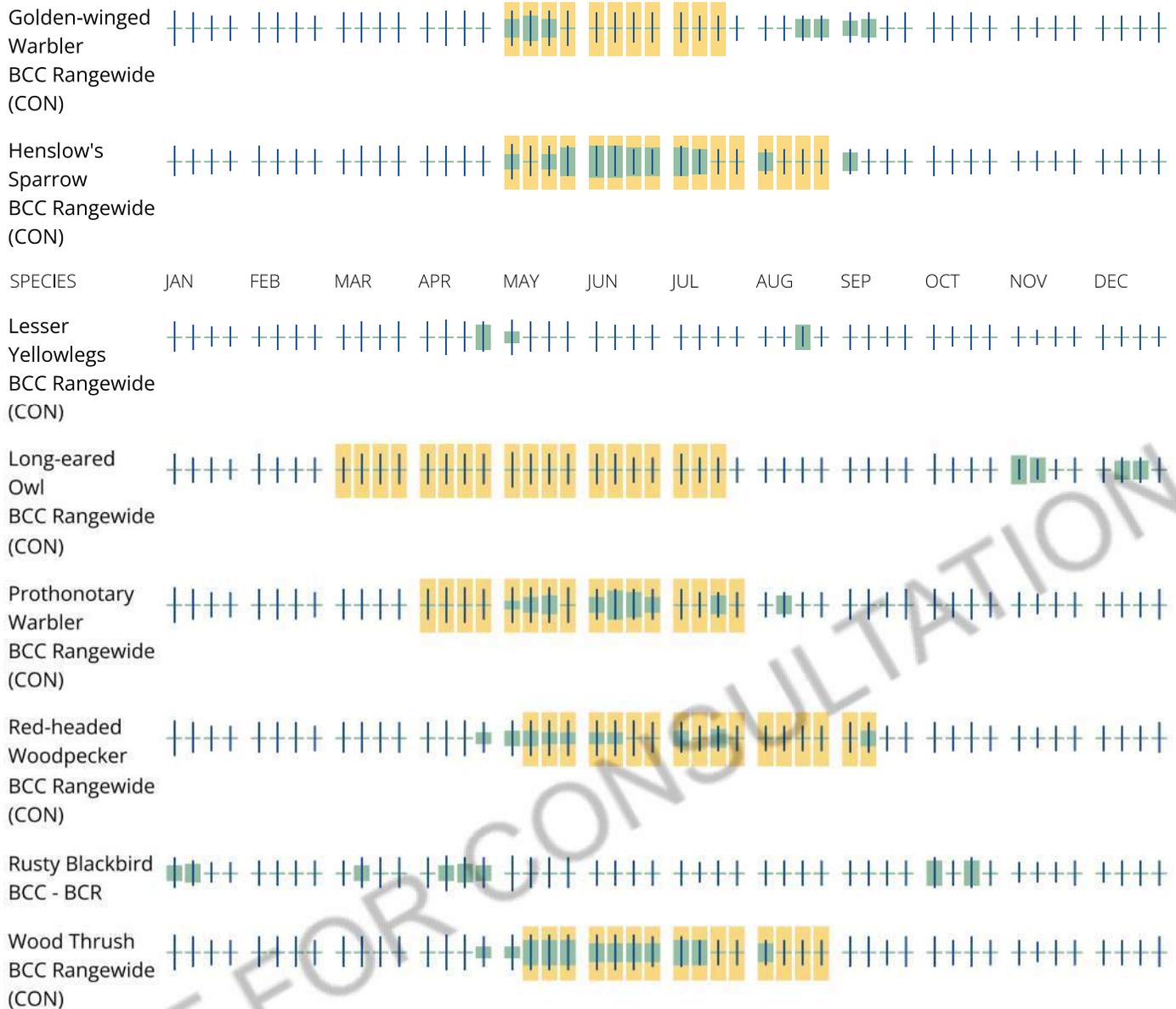
### No Data (-)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

### Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.





**Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.**

[Nationwide Conservation Measures](#) describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. [Additional measures](#) or [permits](#) may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

**What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?**

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS [Birds of Conservation Concern \(BCC\)](#) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). The AKN data is based on a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#) and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle ([Eagle Act](#) requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the [Rapid Avian Information Locator \(RAIL\) Tool](#).

### **What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?**

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the [Avian Knowledge Network \(AKN\)](#). This data is derived from a growing collection of [survey, banding, and citizen science datasets](#).

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go to the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

### **How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?**

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the [RAIL Tool](#) and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

### **What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?**

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

1. "BCC Rangewide" birds are [Birds of Conservation Concern](#) (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
2. "BCC - BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
3. "Non-BCC - Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the [Eagle Act](#) requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

### **Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects**

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the [Northeast Ocean Data Portal](#). The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the [NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf](#) project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the [Diving Bird Study](#) and the [nanotag studies](#) or contact [Caleb Spiegel](#) or [Pam Loring](#).

### What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to [obtain a permit](#) to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

### Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

## Facilities

### National Wildlife Refuge lands

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

There are no refuge lands at this location.

## Fish hatcheries

There are no fish hatcheries at this location.

## Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI)

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

### Wetland information is not available at this time

This can happen when the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map service is unavailable, or for very large projects that intersect many wetland areas. Try again, or visit the [NWI map](#) to view wetlands at this location.

### Data limitations

The Service's objective of mapping wetlands and deepwater habitats is to produce reconnaissance level information on the location, type and size of these resources. The maps are prepared from the analysis of high altitude imagery. Wetlands are identified based on vegetation, visible hydrology and geography. A margin of error is inherent in the use of imagery; thus, detailed on-the-ground inspection of any particular site may result in revision of the wetland boundaries or classification established through image analysis.

The accuracy of image interpretation depends on the quality of the imagery, the experience of the image analysts, the amount and quality of the collateral data and the amount of ground truth verification work conducted. Metadata should be consulted to determine the date of the source imagery used and any mapping problems.

Wetlands or other mapped features may have changed since the date of the imagery or field work. There may be occasional differences in polygon boundaries or classifications between the information depicted on the map and the actual conditions on site.

### Data exclusions

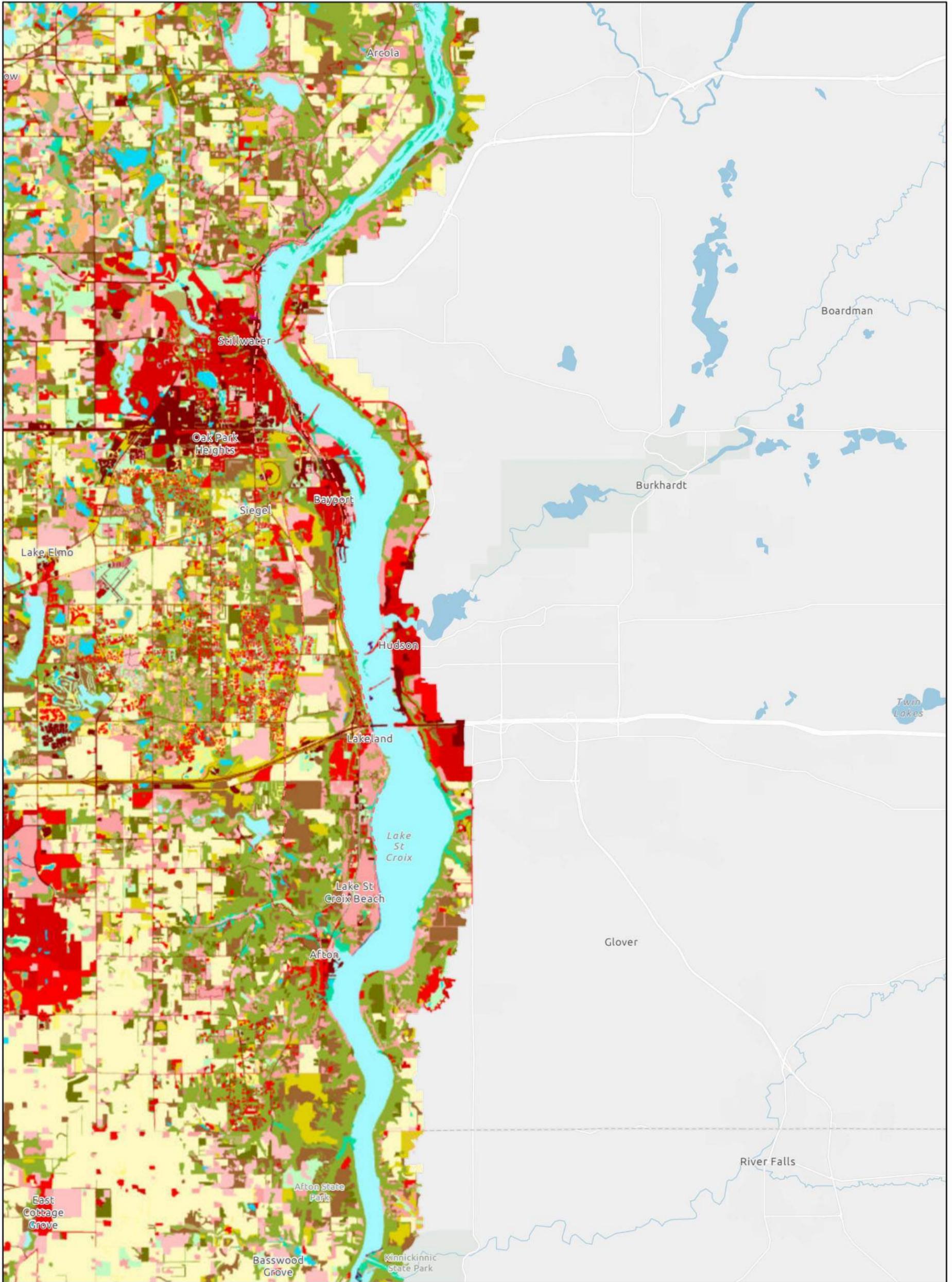
Certain wetland habitats are excluded from the National mapping program because of the limitations of aerial imagery as the primary data source used to detect wetlands. These habitats include seagrasses or submerged aquatic vegetation that are found in the intertidal and subtidal zones of estuaries and nearshore coastal waters. Some deepwater reef communities (coral or tubercid worm reefs) have also been excluded from the inventory. These habitats, because of their depth, go undetected by aerial imagery.

### **Data precautions**

Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over wetlands may define and describe wetlands in a different manner than that used in this inventory. There is no attempt, in either the design or products of this inventory, to define the limits of proprietary jurisdiction of any Federal, state, or local government or to establish the geographical scope of the regulatory programs of government agencies. Persons intending to engage in activities involving modifications within or adjacent to wetland areas should seek the advice of appropriate Federal, state, or local agencies concerning specified agency regulatory programs and proprietary jurisdictions that may affect such activities.

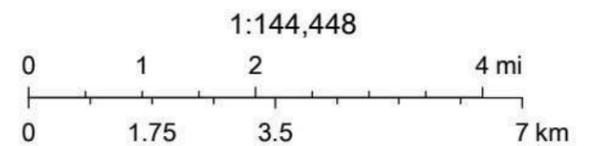
NOT FOR CONSULTATION

# MLCCS Middle St. Croix Valley Trail Corridor



6/21/2023, 1:53:39 PM

- |                    |                       |                       |                    |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Land Cover</b>  | Short Grasses         | Shrubland             | Mud Flat           |
| 5-10% Impervious   | Agricultural Land     | Wetland Shrubs        | Open Water         |
| 11-25% Impervious  | Maintained Tall Grass | Tall Grasses          | Wetland Open Water |
| 26-50% Impervious  | Tree Plantation       | Wetland Emergent Veg. | Trail Search Area  |
| 51-75% Impervious  | Forest                | Dry Tall Grasses      |                    |
| 76-100% Impervious | Wetland Forest        | Rock Outcrop          |                    |



Metropolitan Council, MetroGIS, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA

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# Appendix C:

TAC Summaries & Engagement Survey Result

**Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail Master Plan**

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #1  
10:30-12:00pm - 5/19/22

Click here to access meeting virtually: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

**Project Introduction**

- Introductions
  - *If you had a friend visiting coming from out of town – what would you want to show them along the St Croix Valley, specific to your community/experiences?*
- What are Regional Trails?
- What are Master Plans? And why do we do them?
- Process overview

**Stakeholder Engagement Strategy**

- Project structure
- Role of Technical Advisory Committee
- Public stakeholder engagement questions
  - *Who are key people or organizations we should consider engaging as part of the planning process? What community events could we leverage when conducting public engagement?*

**Corridor Overview**

- Introduce segments
- Corridor feedback
  - *Within this corridor, what should Washington County be aware of as this process begins (opportunities, upcoming projects, barriers)?*

**Next Steps**

- Information gathering
  - *Any data/plans/documents that you could provide to help inform the master plan?*
- Future TAC scheduling
- Opportunities for follow up input

*This meeting is being recorded in order to provide a resource for advisory committee members who may be unable to participate during this time. This recording will be made available after the meeting for those who wish to review the proceedings.*

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**Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail Master Plan**

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #2  
2:00-3:30pm - 8/2/22

***Attendance (22 attendees):***

*Sandy Breuer, Josh Shields, Ron Moorse, Joseph Ayers-Johnson, Connor Schaefer, Maddie Dahlheimer, Jyneen Thatcher, Joe Gustafson, Cecily Harris, Matt Downing, Matt Kline, Tracey Kinney, Tom Dietrich, Ryan Hoefs, Jesse Thornsen, Nathan Moe, Jenni Pinski, Adam Josephson, Michael Samuelson, Sheila-Marie Untiedt, Cindie Reiter, Dave Engstrom*

**Welcome & (Re)Introduction**

- Introductions
- What are Regional Trails?
- What are Master Plans? And why do we do them?
- Process overview

**Review of TAC #1**

- Project background
- Planning process

**Preliminary Findings**

- Historical and cultural findings
- Public engagement

**Draft Project Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures**

- Review
- Gather feedback

**Next Steps**

- Survey promotion!
- Upcoming engagement events
- TAC #3 preview

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## PUBLIC WORKS

Wayne Sandberg, P.E., Director, County Engineer  
Frank D. Ticknor, P.E., Deputy Director

### Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail Master Plan

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #3  
1:00-2:30pm - 11/16/22

#### **Attendance:**

*Maddie Dahlheimer, Josh Shields, Joseph Ayers-Johnson, Jyneen Thatcher, Ron Moorse, Connor Schaefer, Tom Dietrich, Nathan Moe, Sandy Breuer, Cindie Reiter, Dan MacSwain, Alex McKinney, Matt Kline, James Kelly, Tracey Kinney, JJ Williams, Aaron Bye, Jenni Pinski, Cecily Harris, Aaron Bye, Katie Bloome, Jesse Thornsen*

#### **Welcome & (Re)Introduction**

- Introductions
- Project Overview

#### **Review of TAC #2 with Updates**

- Public Engagement
- Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures

#### **Implementation Considerations**

- Cost Share, Operation and Maintenance Policy
- Strategies/Opportunities for Implementation

#### **Draft Preliminary Route Alternatives – see attached maps**

- Segment Overview
- Feedback and Discussion

#### **Next Steps**

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**Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail Master Plan**

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #4  
9:30-11:00am - 2/28/23

**Attendance:**

*Alicia Cosgrove, Michael Honer, Connor Schaefer, Matt Kline, Ron Moore, Adam Josephson, Jyneen Thatcher, Jim Kelly, Cody Christianson, Abby Williams, Ryan Hoefs, Tracey Kinney, Joe Gustafson, Nathan Moe, Matt Downing, Madeline Dahlheimer, JJ Williams, Cecily Harris, Jenni Pinski, Shawn Sanders, Dan MacSwain*

**Welcome & (Re)Introduction**

- Introductions
- Project Overview

**Review of TAC #3 with Updates**

- Key Findings
- Goals, Objectives, and Performance Measures

**Evaluation Matrix/Route Alternatives – see attached charts and corresponding maps**

- Evaluation Matrix Results Overview
- Feedback and Discussion

**Next Steps**

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## PUBLIC WORKS

Wayne Sandberg, P.E., Director, County Engineer  
Frank D. Ticknor, P.E., Deputy Director

### Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail Master Plan

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting #5  
11:00am-12:00pm - 6/27/23

#### **Attendance:**

*Alicia Cosgrove, Sharon Price, Connor Schaefer, Dave Schultz, Michelle, Madeline Dahlheimer, JJ Williams, Ryan Hoefs, Josh Shields, Cindie Reiter, Abby Williams, Jim Kelly, Ron Moore, David Olsen, Suzanne Scotty, Joe Gustafson, Alex McKinney, Lisa Yager, Jennifer Pinski, Adam Josephson, Sheila-Marie Untiedt*

#### **Welcome & (Re)Introduction**

- Introductions
- Project Overview

#### **Review of TAC #4 with Updates**

- Route Alternatives
- Route Recommendation
- Support Received

#### **Trail Amenity Recommendations – see attached maps**

- Trail Connections/Loops
- Trailhead Opportunities
- Wayfinding/Interpretation
- Feedback and Discussion

#### **Next Steps**

- Draft Plan Document
- Continue Municipal/Stakeholder Support Requests

*This meeting is being recorded in order to provide a resource for advisory committee members who may be unable to participate during this time. This recording will be made available after the meeting for those who wish to review the proceedings.*

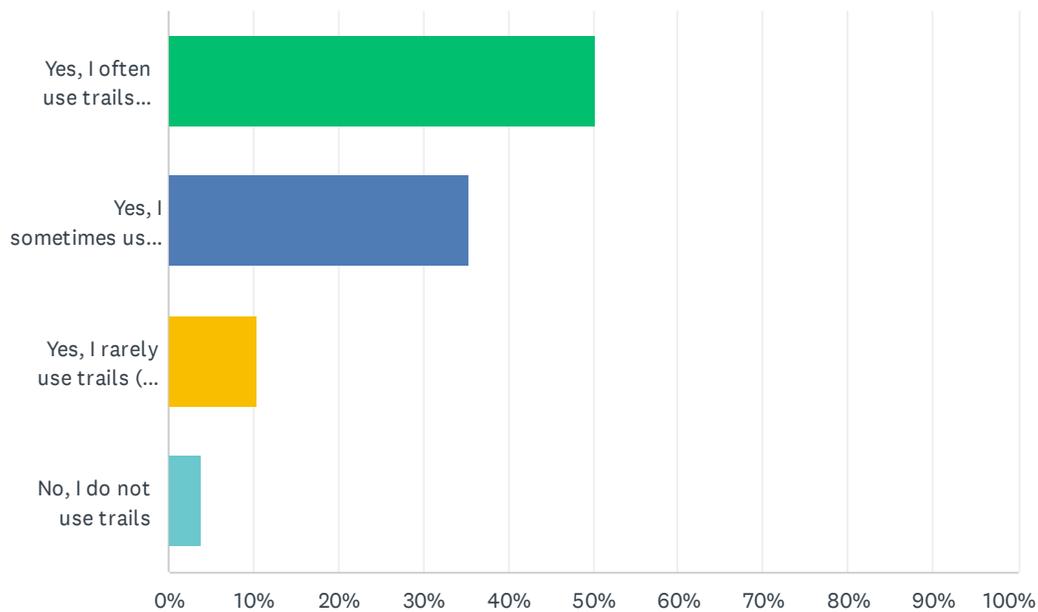
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## Q1 Do you use regional/multi-use trails? If so, how often?

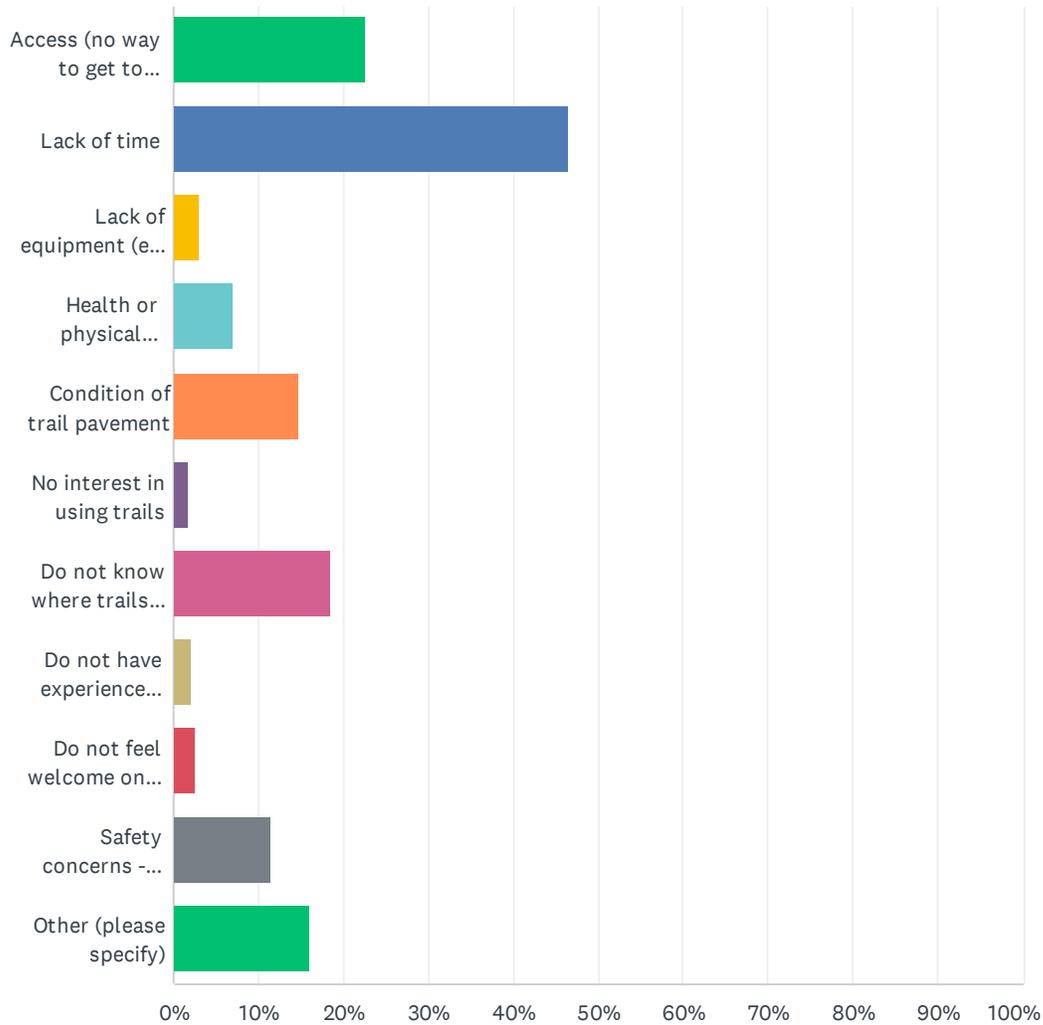
Answered: 1,103 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, I often use trails (daily/weekly or year-round)	50.23%	554
Yes, I sometimes use trails (monthly or seasonally)	35.36%	390
Yes, I rarely use trails (few times a year)	10.52%	116
No, I do not use trails	3.90%	43
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,103</b>

## Q2 What prevents you from using trails at all or more than you currently do? Select up to three.

Answered: 1,103 Skipped: 0



## Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail Master Plan - Engagement Survey

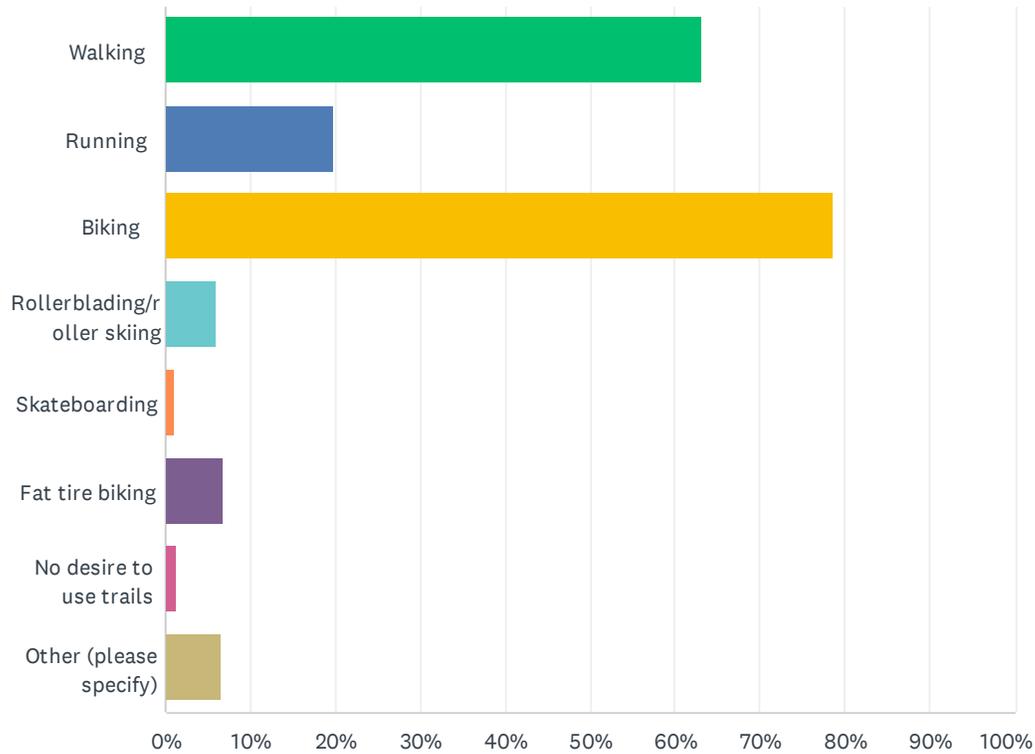
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Access (no way to get to trail)	22.67%	250
Lack of time	46.42%	512
Lack of equipment (e.g. do not have access to a bicycle)	2.90%	32
Health or physical limitations	7.07%	78
Condition of trail pavement	14.78%	163
No interest in using trails	1.63%	18
Do not know where trails exist/unaware of trail system	18.59%	205
Do not have experience using trails	2.09%	23
Do not feel welcome on trails - please explain below in question 3	2.54%	28
Safety concerns - please explain below in question 3	11.42%	126
Other (please specify)	16.05%	177
<b>Total Respondents: 1,103</b>		

### Q3 Please explain your previous answer:

Answered: 480 Skipped: 623

### Q4 What is your most common or desired activity on regional/multi-use trails? Select up to three.

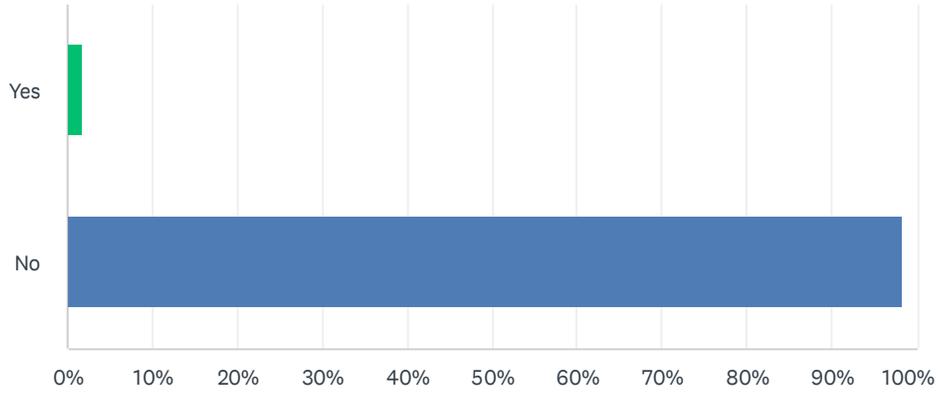
Answered: 1,103 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walking	63.10%	696
Running	19.76%	218
Biking	78.69%	868
Rollerblading/roller skiing	6.07%	67
Skateboarding	1.00%	11
Fat tire biking	6.80%	75
No desire to use trails	1.27%	14
Other (please specify)	6.62%	73
Total Respondents: 1,103		

### Q5 Do you use a mobility assistance device (e.g. wheelchair, walker, mobility scooter, etc.)

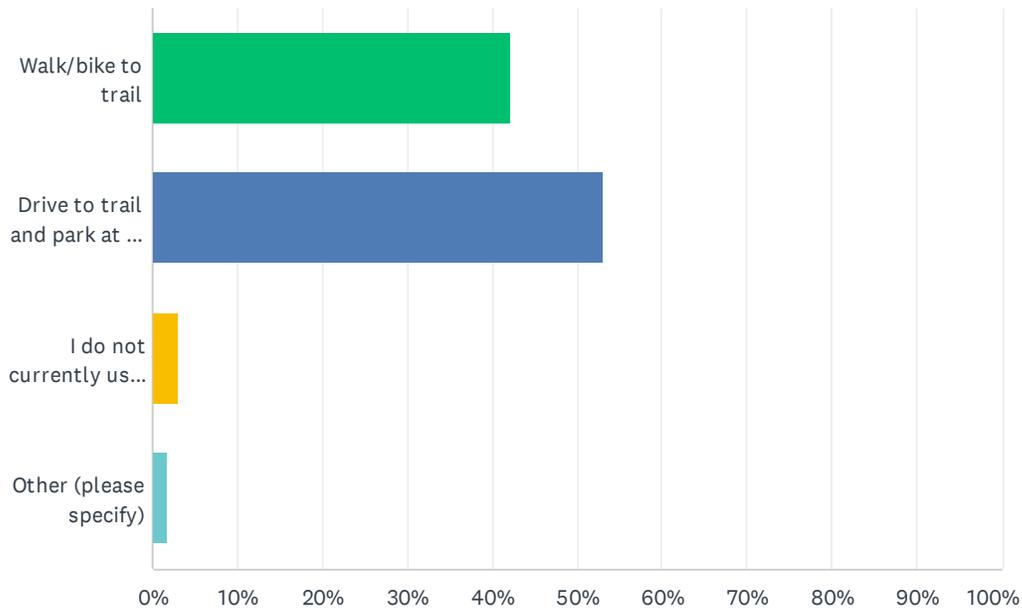
Answered: 1,093 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	1.74%	19
No	98.26%	1,074
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,093</b>

## Q6 How do you typically travel to or access regional/multi-use trails?

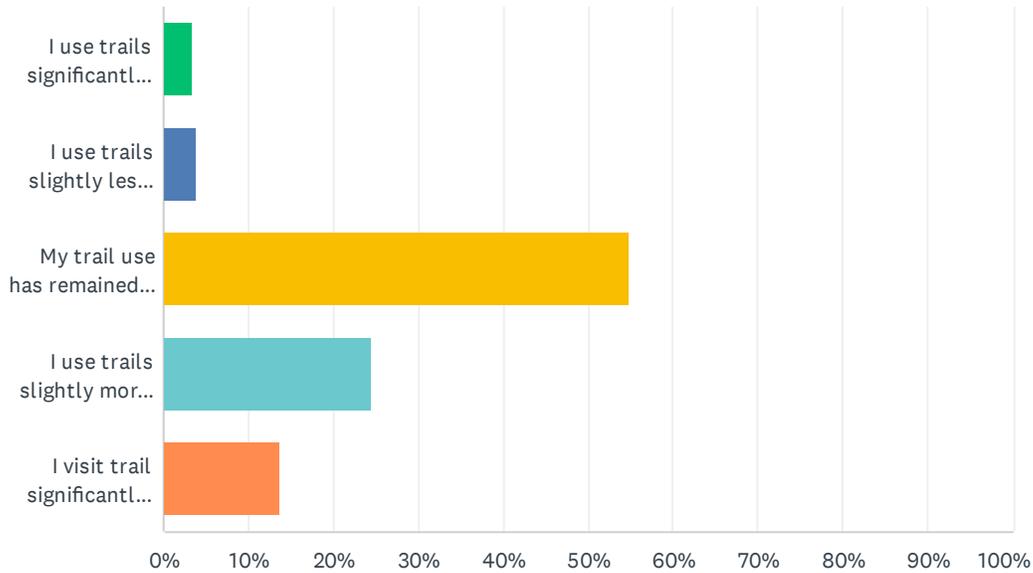
Answered: 1,103 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walk/bike to trail	42.25%	466
Drive to trail and park at a trailhead, side street, or nearby destination	53.13%	586
I do not currently use trails	2.99%	33
Other (please specify)	1.63%	18
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,103</b>

## Q7 How has the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way or frequency of how you use regional/multi-use trails?

Answered: 1,103 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I use trails significantly less than I did before the pandemic	3.35%	37
I use trails slightly less than I did before the pandemic	3.81%	42
My trail use has remained about the same	54.76%	604
I use trails slightly more than I did before the pandemic	24.48%	270
I visit trail significantly more than I did before the pandemic	13.60%	150
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,103</b>

## Q8 Why has your trail use changed or stayed the same since the pandemic?

Answered: 564 Skipped: 539

## Q9 What words or phrases come to mind when you think of a high quality trail experience? Provide up to three responses.

Answered: 859 Skipped: 244

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Keyword/Phrase #1	100.00%	859
Keyword/Phrase #2	96.51%	829
Keyword/Phrase #3	84.63%	727

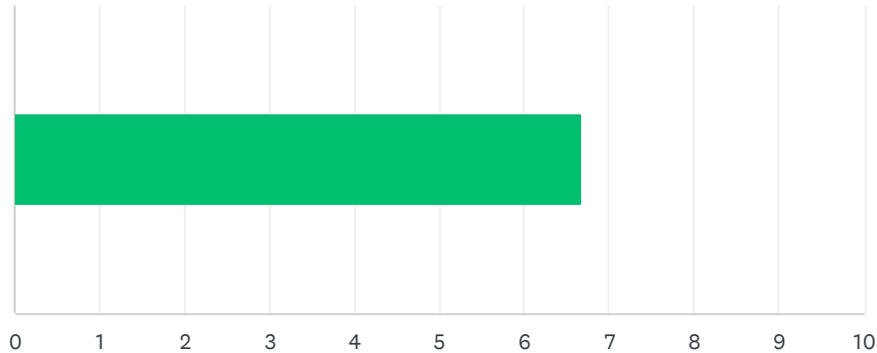
**Q10 What are the top destinations that you would like to walk/bike to?  
Provide up to three responses.**

Answered: 747 Skipped: 356

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Destination #1	100.00%	747
Destination #2	87.42%	653
Destination #3	63.99%	478

**Q11 Connector/Direct Trail:** Identify a direct route between predetermined destinations along the corridor. Trail would likely follow road alignments  
**Destination/Indirect Trail:** Identify a distinct trail experience. Trail may meander to provide connections to destinations or resources not along a direct route

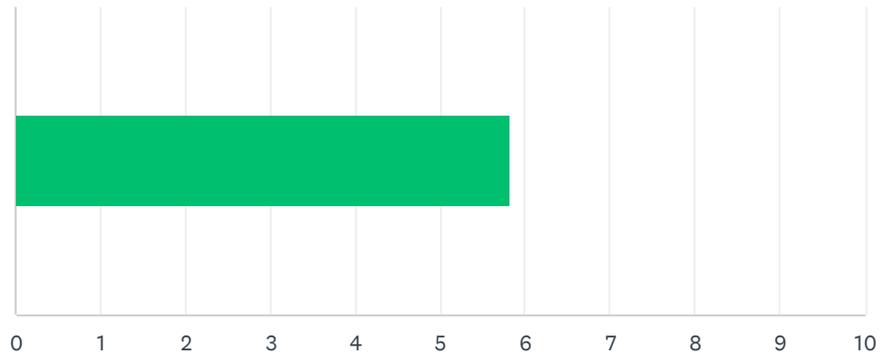
Answered: 845 Skipped: 258



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	7	5,644	845
Total Respondents: 845			

**Q12 Utilize Existing Trail Corridors: Prioritize designation of existing trail corridors – potential for reduced cost, expedited implementation**  
**Create New Trail Corridors: Prioritize new trail connections – potential for new trail facilities connecting areas in the County without an existing trail**

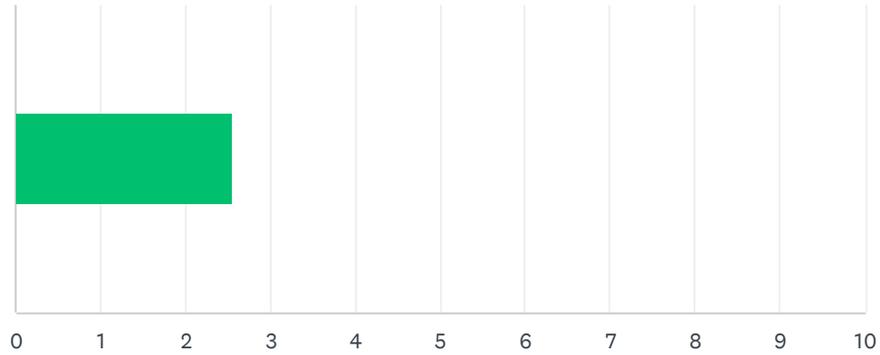
Answered: 779 Skipped: 324



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	6	4,536	779
Total Respondents: 779			

**Q13 Feature River Views: Trail alignment closer to river providing opportunities for views of river and bluff. Feature Upland/Rural Views: Trail alignment through countryside providing views of upland and rural landscape.**

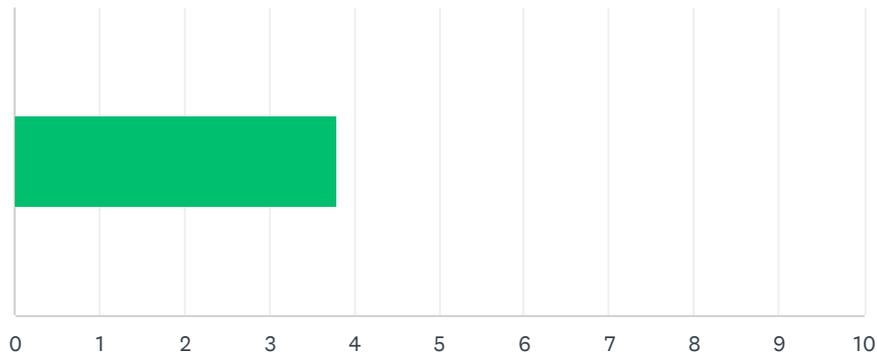
Answered: 750 Skipped: 353



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	3	1,921	750
Total Respondents: 750			

**Q14 Connect with Natural Areas/Green Space: Prioritize alignment adjacent to natural areas and green spaces or recreational experiences**  
**Connect with Downtowns: Prioritize alignment adjacent to local businesses and downtowns – potential economic benefits and conveniences**

Answered: 760 Skipped: 343



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	4	2,880	760
Total Respondents: 760			

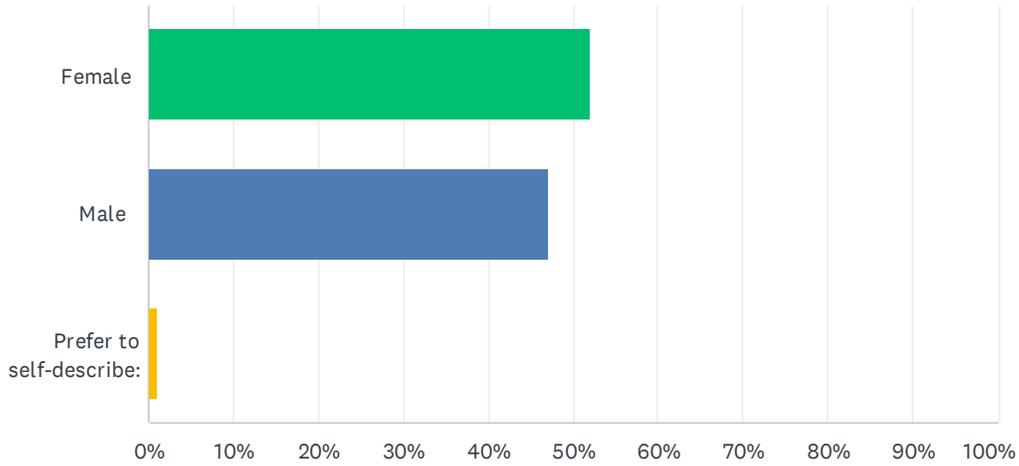
## Q15 Please provide the following information

Answered: 888 Skipped: 215

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	0.00%	0
Company	0.00%	0
Address	0.00%	0
Address 2	0.00%	0
City/Town	97.97%	870
State/Province	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	98.87%	878
Country	0.00%	0
Email Address	0.00%	0
Phone Number	0.00%	0

## Q16 How do you describe your gender?

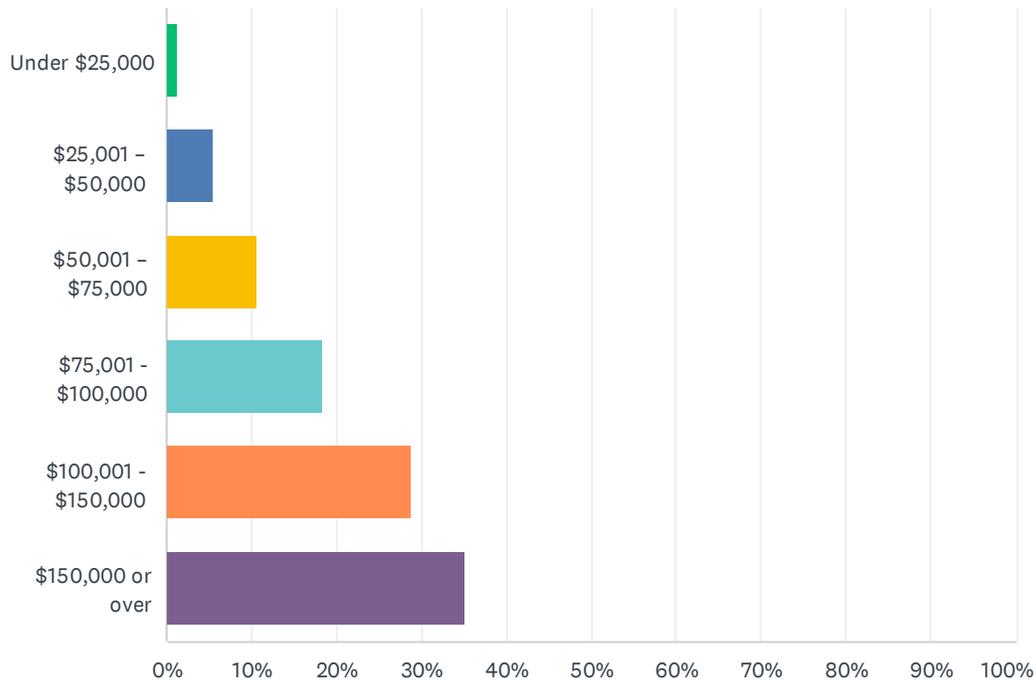
Answered: 889 Skipped: 214



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Female	51.97%	462
Male	47.02%	418
Prefer to self-describe:	1.01%	9
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>889</b>

## Q17 What is your annual household income?

Answered: 726 Skipped: 377



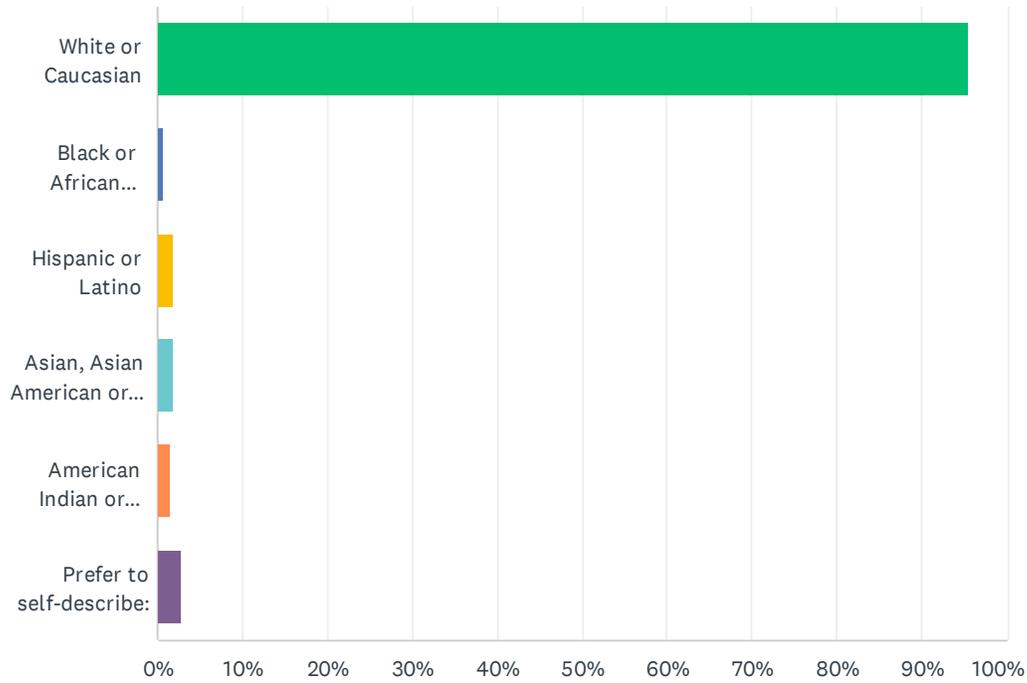
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under \$25,000	1.38%	10
\$25,001 – \$50,000	5.51%	40
\$50,001 – \$75,000	10.74%	78
\$75,001 - \$100,000	18.32%	133
\$100,001 - \$150,000	28.79%	209
\$150,000 or over	35.26%	256
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>726</b>

# Q18 How many individuals are in your household?

Answered: 851 Skipped: 252

### Q19 Which races/ethnicities are represented in your household? Check all that apply.

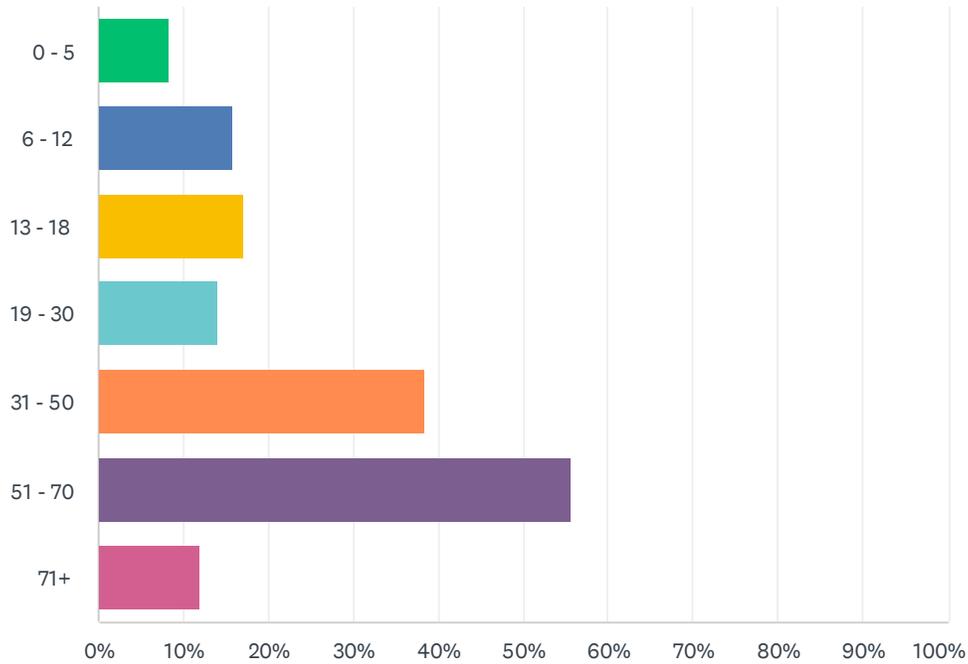
Answered: 841 Skipped: 262



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
White or Caucasian	95.60%	804
Black or African American	0.71%	6
Hispanic or Latino	1.90%	16
Asian, Asian American or other Pacific Islander	2.02%	17
American Indian or Alaska Native	1.43%	12
Prefer to self-describe:	2.85%	24
Total Respondents: 841		

## Q20 Which age ranges are represented in your household? Check all that apply

Answered: 877 Skipped: 226



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
0 - 5	8.32% 73
6 - 12	15.85% 139
13 - 18	16.99% 149
19 - 30	14.14% 124
31 - 50	38.43% 337
51 - 70	55.64% 488
71+	11.97% 105
Total Respondents: 877	

**Q21** If you would like to receive notifications regarding the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan, please provide your e-mail address. You may also sign-up for project updates on the project website. Your e-mail address will not be shared or used for any other purposes.

Answered: 479 Skipped: 624

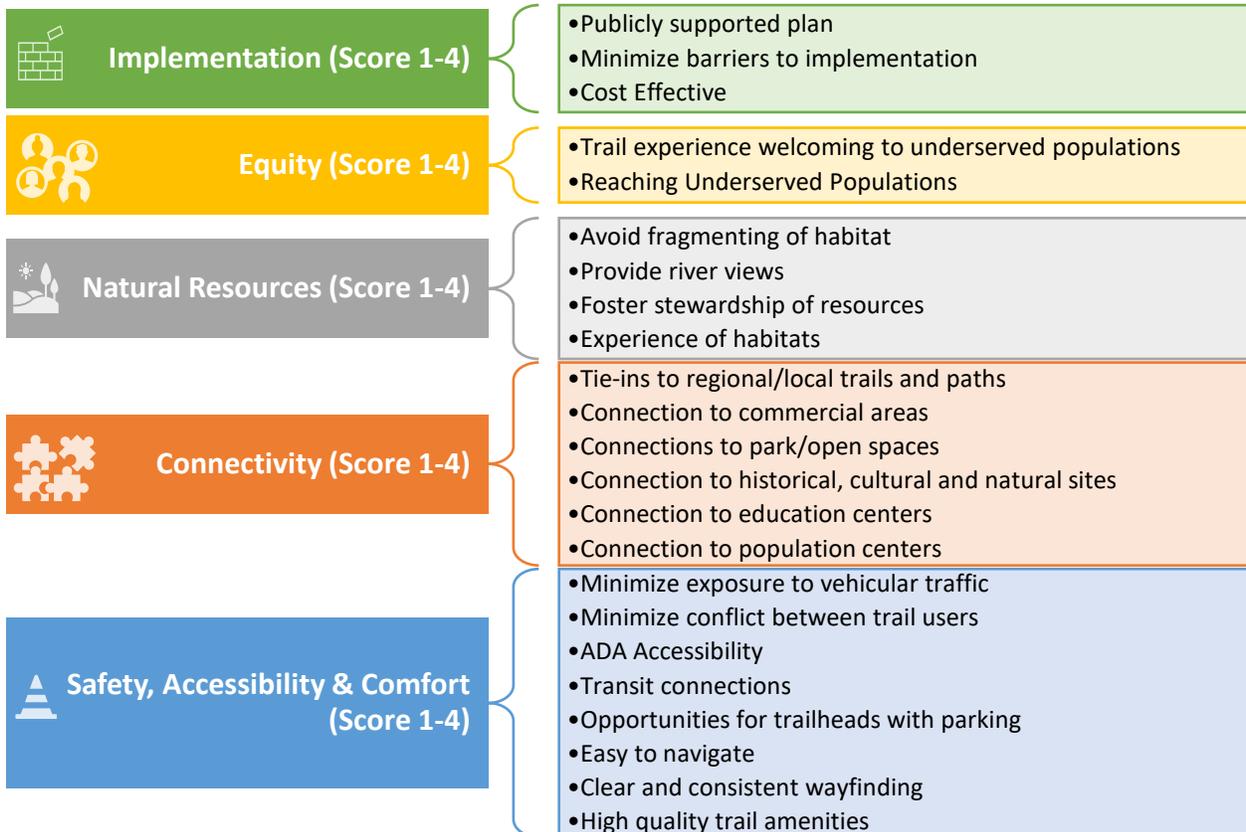
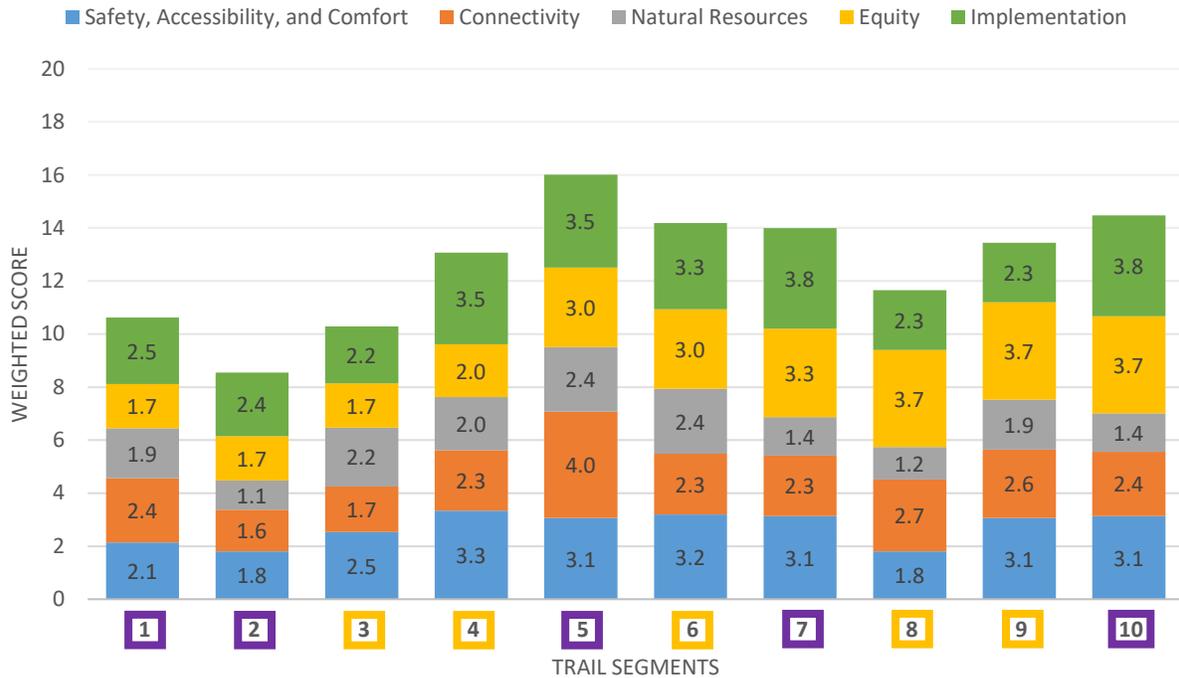
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Name	0.00%	0
Company	0.00%	0
Address	0.00%	0
Address 2	0.00%	0
City/Town	0.00%	0
State/Province	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	0.00%	0
Country	0.00%	0
Email Address	100.00%	479
Phone Number	0.00%	0

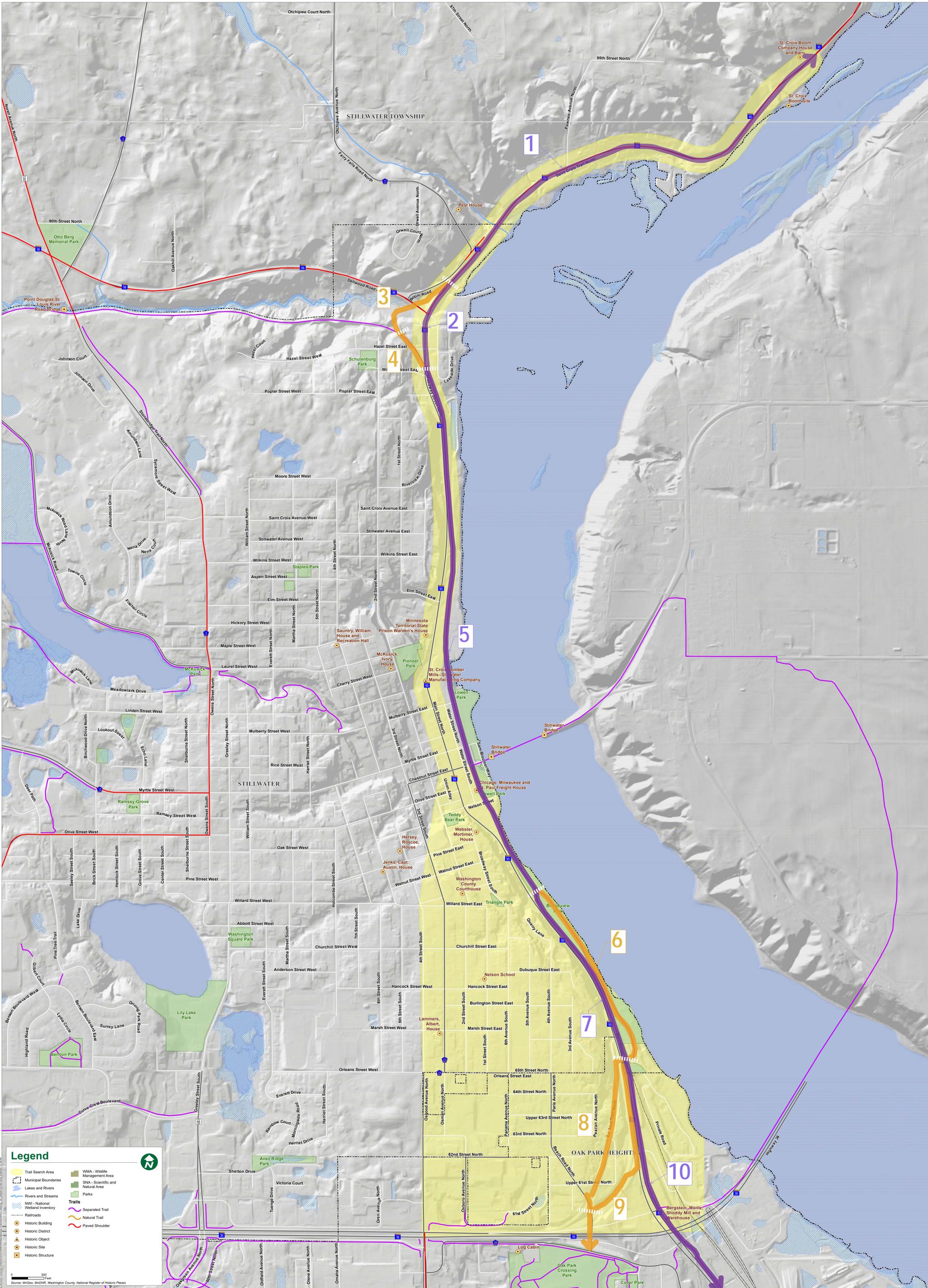
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# Appendix D:

Route Segment Evaluation Maps & Tables

# MAP 1



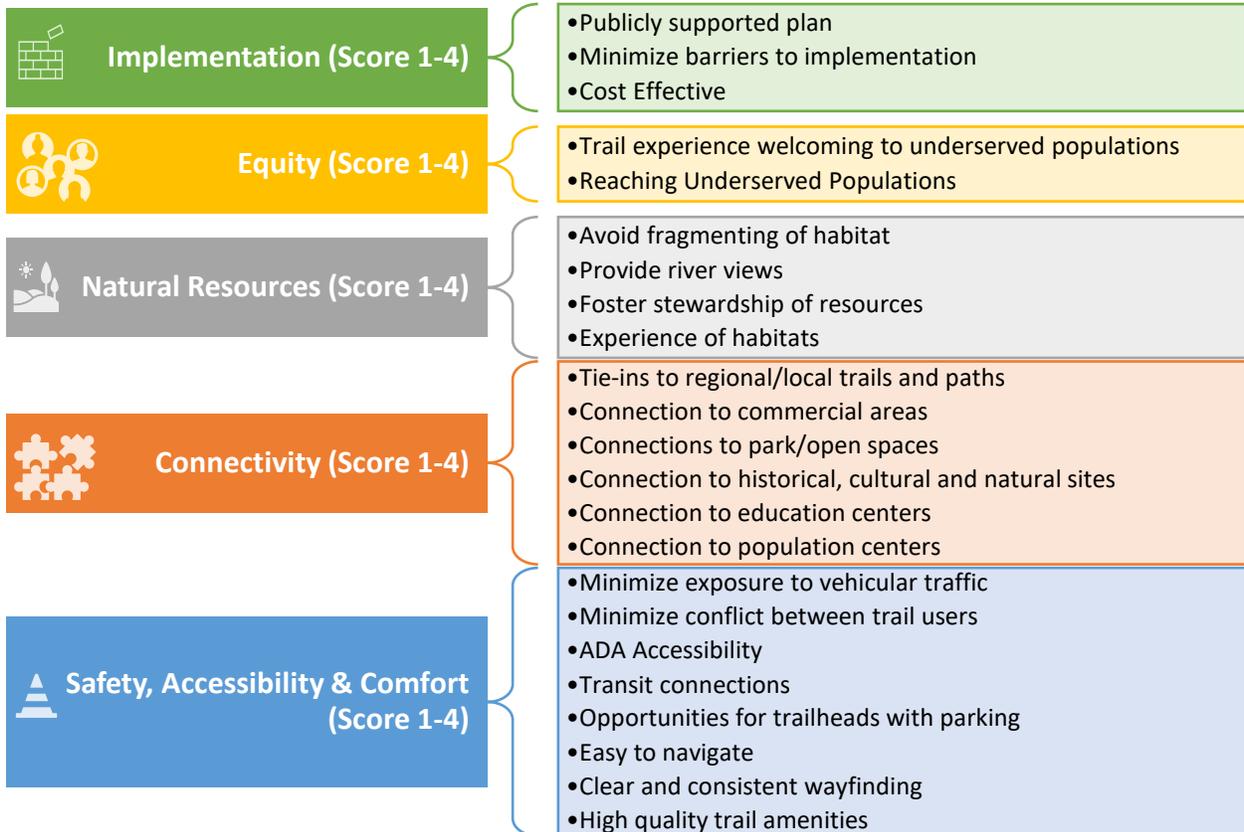
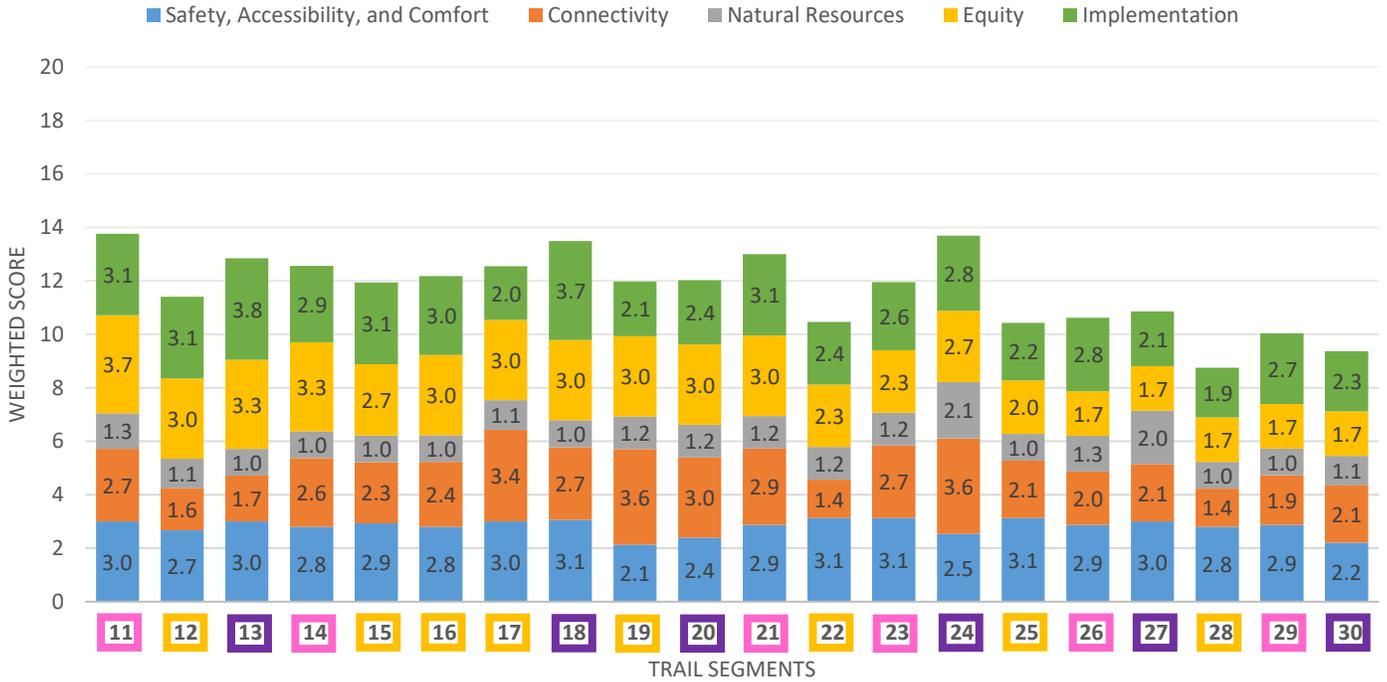


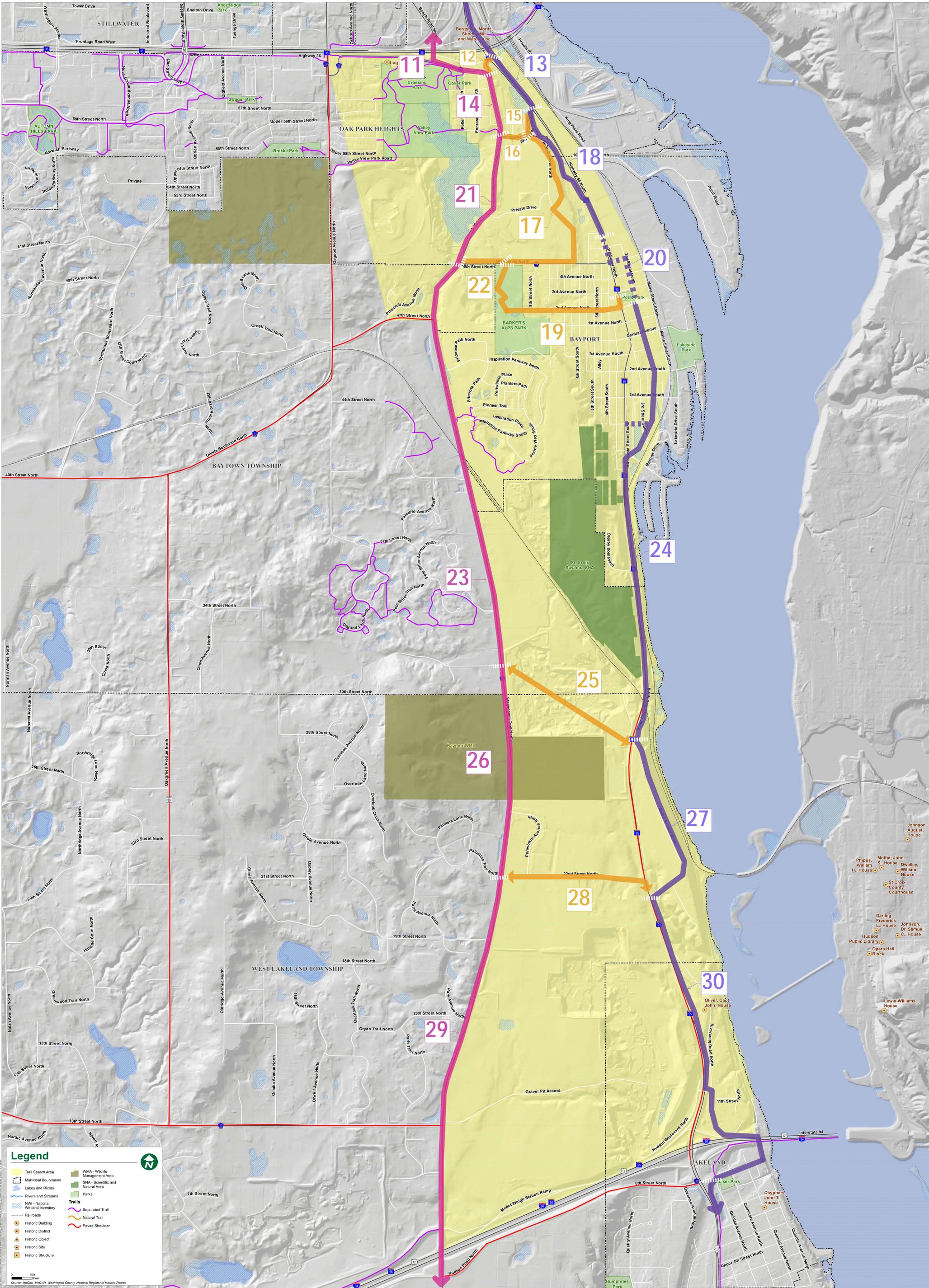
**Legend**

- Trail Search Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Rivers and Streams
- NWI - National Wetland Inventory
- Railroads
- Historic Building
- Historic District
- Historic Object
- Historic Site
- Historic Structure
- WMA - Wildlife Management Area
- SNA - Scientific and Natural Area
- Parks
- Trails
  - Separated Trail
  - Natural Trail
  - Paved Shoulder

0 500 Feet  
Source: MDCGIS, MNDOT, Washington County, National Register of Historic Places

# MAP 2



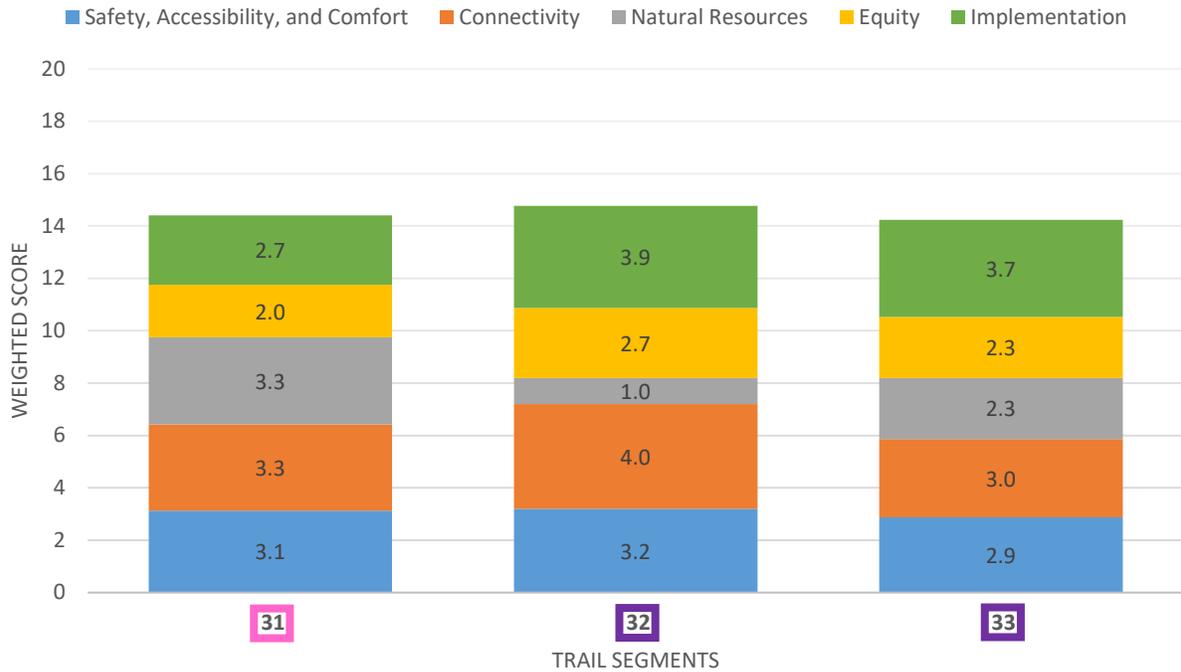


**Legend**

- Trail Search Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Lakes and Rivers
- Rivers and Streams
- NWI - National Wetland Inventory
- Railroads
- Historic Building
- Historic District
- Historic Object
- Historic Site
- Historic Structure
- WMA - Wildlife Management Area
- SNA - Scientific and Natural Area
- Parks
- Trails
  - Separated Trail
  - Natural Trail
  - Paved Shoulder

0 500 Feet  
Source: ArcGeo, MNDNR, Washington County, National Register of Historic Places

# MAP 3



## Implementation (Score 1-4)

- Publicly supported plan
- Minimize barriers to implementation
- Cost Effective

## Equity (Score 1-4)

- Trail experience welcoming to underserved populations
- Reaching Underserved Populations

## Natural Resources (Score 1-4)

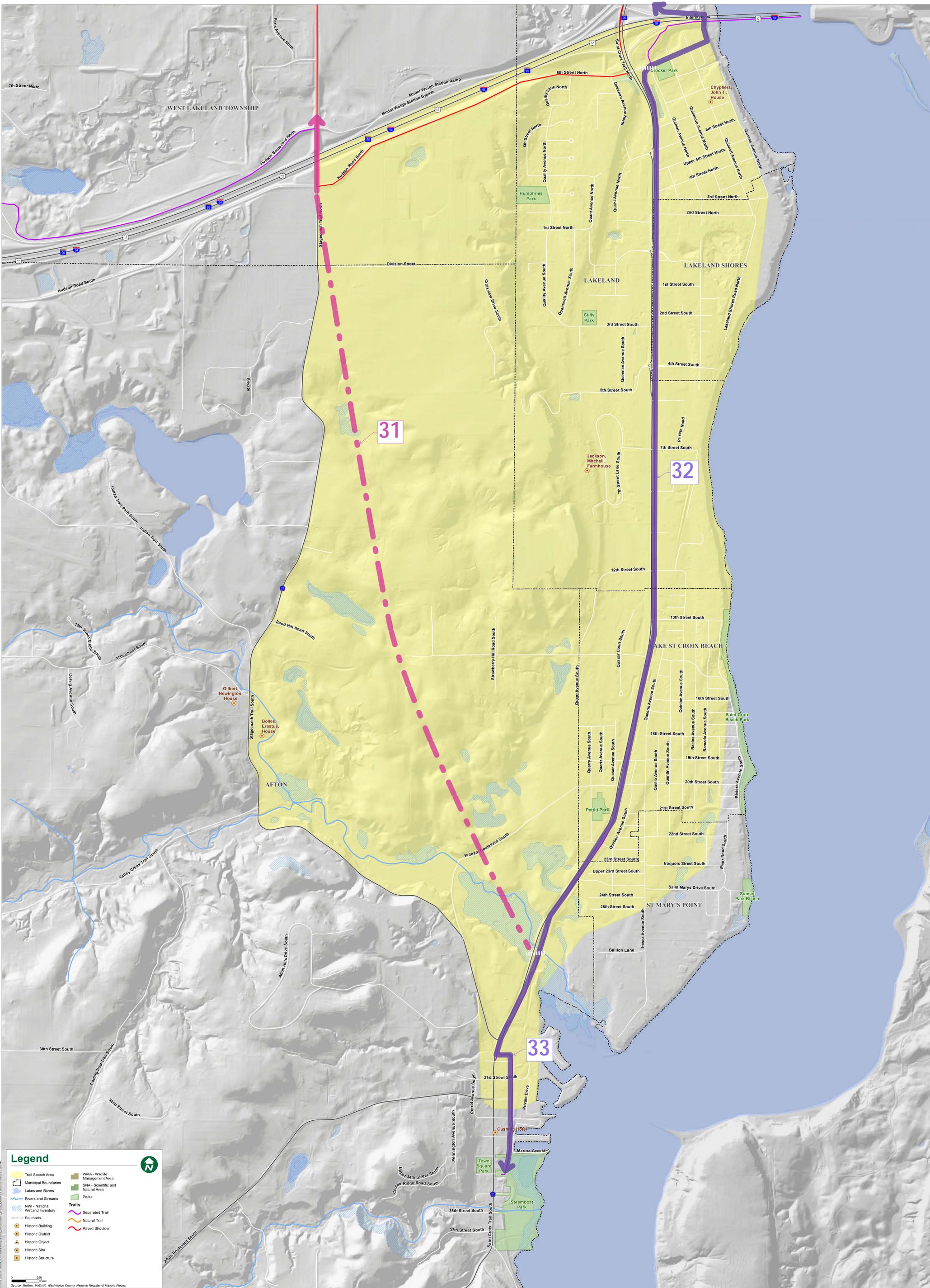
- Avoid fragmenting of habitat
- Provide river views
- Foster stewardship of resources
- Experience of habitats

## Connectivity (Score 1-4)

- Tie-ins to regional/local trails and paths
- Connection to commercial areas
- Connections to park/open spaces
- Connection to historical, cultural and natural sites
- Connection to education centers
- Connection to population centers

## Safety, Accessibility & Comfort (Score 1-4)

- Minimize exposure to vehicular traffic
- Minimize conflict between trail users
- ADA Accessibility
- Transit connections
- Opportunities for trailheads with parking
- Easy to navigate
- Clear and consistent wayfinding
- High quality trail amenities



**Legend**

- Trail Search Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Lakes and Rivers
- Rivers and Streams
- NWI - National Wetland Inventory
- Railroads
- Historic Building
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- Historic Object
- Historic Site
- Historic Structure
- WMA - Wildlife Management Area
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- Parks
- Trails
  - Separated Trail
  - Natural Trail
  - Paved Shoulder

0 500 Feet  
Source: MxGeo, MNDNR, Washington County, National Register of Historic Places

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# Appendix E:

## Resolutions & Letters of Support

- Resolutions and Letters of Support from Stakeholders/Project Partners
  - o Afton
  - o Stillwater
  - o Oak Park Heights
  - o West Lakeland Township
  - o Middle St. Croix Valley Watershed
  - o Belwin Conservancy
  - o Lakeland Shores
  - o Baytown Township
  - o Bayport
  - o Belwin Conservancy
  - o Washington County

**RESOLUTION 2023-26**

CITY OF AFTON  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA

**A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE MIDDLE ST. CROIX REGIONAL TRAIL ROUTE  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, over the past year, the City of Afton has participated, as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee, in the master planning process for the Middle St. Croix Regional Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the master planning process has involved the evaluation of numerous route segment options for the trail; and

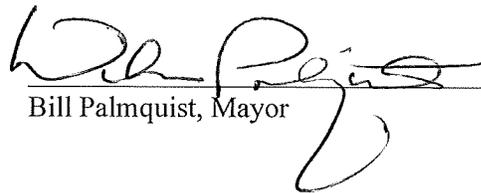
**WHEREAS**, the result of the process is a route recommendation that includes an interim route segment on Hudson Road from Stagecoach Trail to St. Croix Trail, and a long range route segment that begins on Stagecoach Trail at I-94 and runs cross-country generally southeast on land owned by Belwin to St. Croix Trail; and

**WHEREAS**, the Afton City Council has received a presentation regarding the master planning process and the final route recommendations from Connor Schaefer of the Washington County Project Team.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Afton does hereby indicate its support for the recommended route for the Middle St. Croix Regional Trail, including the Long Range Regional Designation Route (Route B) and the Interim Designation Route (Route C).

**ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AFTON THIS 16TH DAY OF MAY, 2023.**

**SIGNED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Palmquist, Mayor

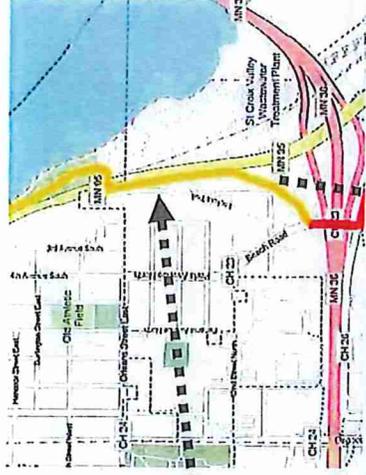
**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald J. Moorse, City Administrator

Motion by: Wroblewski  
Second by: Ross  
Nelson: Aye  
Ross: Aye  
Wroblewski: Aye  
Perkins: absent  
Palmquist: Aye

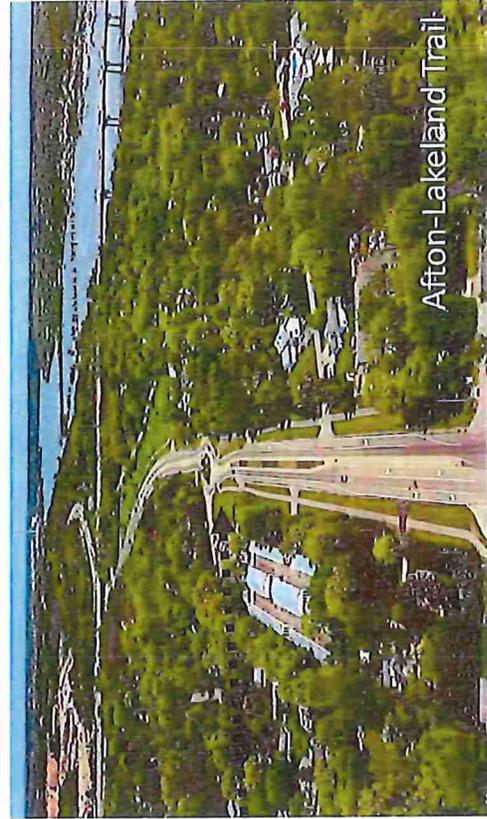
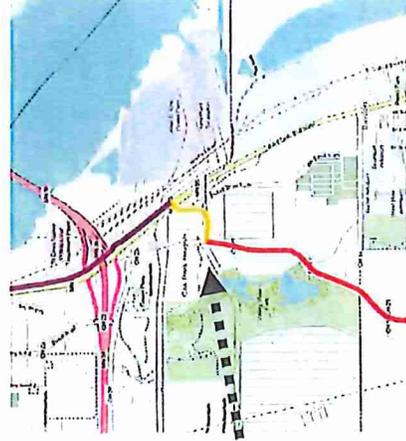
# Route B

- TH 95
- New trail to Beach Rd
- Stagecoach Trl N
- Belwin Conservancy



# Route C

- TH 95
- CR 21 ( 56<sup>th</sup> St)
- Stagecoach Trl N
- CR 18 (St Croix Trl S)



City of Stillwater  
Washington County, Minnesota

**RESOLUTION 2023-068**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY  
MIDDLE ST CROIX REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Stillwater recognizes the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail as an important component of the regional park and trail system, providing recreational and non-motorized transportation opportunities to the residents of the City and region; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan provides planning and implementation guidance for the improvements, acquisitions, and management needed to develop a regional trail that meets the needs of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the planning process for the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan included public engagement events and meetings that provided the opportunity for input from partner agencies and public stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, City of Stillwater representatives participated in the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan Technical Advisory Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Stillwater supports the acquisition, design, implementation, and operation of the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail pursuant to the master plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Stillwater supports the proposed Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

Adopted by the Stillwater City Council this 2nd day of April, 2023

**CITY OF STILLWATER,**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted Kozlowski, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Wolf, City Clerk

**RESOLUTION 23-06-22**

**CITY OF OAK PARK HEIGHTS  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE CITY POSITION ON THE  
WASHINGTON COUNTY MIDDLE ST. CROIX VALLEY REGIONAL TRAIL  
MASTER PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Washington County has launched a master planning process for the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail, a multi-use trail that would run through eastern Washington County from downtown Afton to the St. Croix Boom Site in Stillwater; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington County has assembled a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to help guide the plan. The TAC includes representatives from communities within the corridor, including City of Oak Park Heights; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the planning process, Washington County held various community engagement events as well as an elected officials work session and distributed an online survey and sought City Staff input; and,

**WHEREAS**, four possible route alternatives through the City of Oak Park Heights were presented to the TAC; and

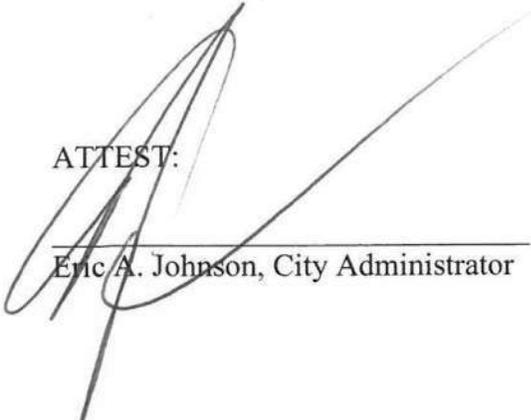
**WHEREAS**, Washington County's cost-share policy seeks an initial implementation share of 50% by the County with Cities contributing the other 50%, and a 100% County contribution for replacement and repaving. Under that policy, operations, such as plowing, and maintenance would be the responsibility of the City.

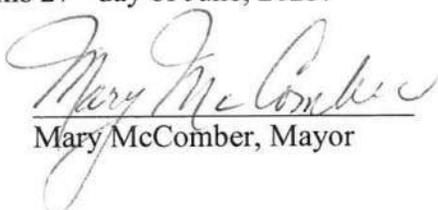
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the City of Oak Park Heights generally supports the concept of a regional trail system providing a link between eleven St. Croix River Valley towns and cities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City Council directs staff to inform the County that such local cost share expectations – which could be substantial - are inconsistent with what is expected to be a County/Regionally funded Project and that the City of Oak Park Heights does not offer any funding commitments at this time or in conjunction with its participation in such discussions or City positions on the Regional Trail Master Plan.

Passed by the City Council of Oak Park Heights this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

ATTEST:

  
Eric A. Johnson, City Administrator

  
Mary McComber, Mayor

**RESOLUTION**

TOWN OF WEST LAKELAND  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY MIDDLE ST CROIX VALLEY REGIONAL  
TRAIL MASTER PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, West Lakeland Township recognizes the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail as an important component of the regional park and trail system, providing recreational and non-motorized transportation opportunities to the residents of the Township and region; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan provides planning and implementation guidance for the improvements, acquisitions, and management needed to develop a regional trail that meets the needs of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the planning process for the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan included public engagement events and meetings that provided the opportunity for input from partner agencies and public stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, West Lakeland Township supports the acquisition, design, implementation, and operation of the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail pursuant to the master plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that West Lakeland Township supports the proposed Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

Adopted by the Town Board of the Town of West Lakeland this <sup>TH</sup> 10 day of July, 2023.



---

David Schultz, Chairman

ATTEST:



---

Carrie Seifert, Town Clerk



May 23, 2023

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

Hello Chair and Commission Members,

Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization (MSCWMO) is pleased to provide this letter of acknowledgement for the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan. The future trail will be a 14-mile north-south multiuse trail in eastern Washington County. Once fully developed, the trail will link 11 river towns and connect trail users to regional destinations and resources. Informed by the interagency and public engagement process, this master plan provides the vision and direction for the future development of this trail.

MSCWMO has been involved in the planning process and supports the improvements proposed in the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan. This plan provides long-term planning and implementation guidance for route alignment, trail uses and facilities, and corridor natural resource management. Existing and future generations of trail users will benefit from additional transportation and recreational opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to send our support. We look forward to working with all agency partners on the implementation of the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

Please contact me at 651-796-2227 or [mdowning@mnwcd.org](mailto:mdowning@mnwcd.org) if you have any questions or comments regarding this correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Downing".

Matt Downing | Administrator  
Middle St. Croix Watershed Management Organization

### **MSCWMO Member Communities**

Afton • Bayport • Baytown • Lakeland • Lakeland Shores • Lake St. Croix Beach • Oak Park Heights  
St. Mary's Point • Stillwater • West Lakeland



**CITY OF LAKELAND SHORES**

**Resolution No. 2023-05**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY MIDDLE ST CROIX VALLEY REGIONAL TRAIL  
MASTER PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, Lakeland Shores recognizes the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail as an important component of the regional park and trail system, providing recreational and non-motorized transportation opportunities to the residents of the City and region; and

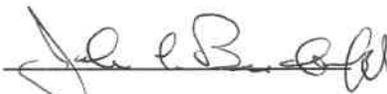
**WHEREAS**, the proposed Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan provides planning and implementation guidance for the improvements, acquisitions, and management needed to develop a regional trail that meets the needs of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the planning process for the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan included public engagement events and meetings that provided the opportunity for input from partner agencies and public stakeholders; and

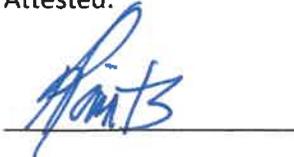
**WHEREAS**, Lakeland Shores supports the acquisition, design, implementation, and operation of the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail pursuant to the master plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that Lakeland Shores supports the proposed Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

Passed by the City Council of Lakeland Shores, Minnesota this 29<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

  
Mayor

Attested:

  
\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk



## *Baytown Township*

4020 McDonald Drive North, Stillwater, MN 55082

Website: [baytownmn.org](http://baytownmn.org)

Township Clerk: 651-430-4992 or [clerk@baytownmn.org](mailto:clerk@baytownmn.org)

DATE: July 10, 2023

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

Hello Chair and Commission Members,

Baytown Township Board of Supervisors is pleased to provide this letter of support for the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan. The future trail will be a 14-mile north-south multiuse trail in eastern Washington County. Once fully developed, the trail will link 11 river towns and connect trail users to regional destinations and resources. Informed by the interagency and public engagement process, this master plan provides the vision and direction for the future development of this trail.

Baytown Township Board of Supervisor, Aaron Bye has been involved in the planning process and supports the improvements proposed in the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan. The Baytown Board agrees with his recommendation of support. This plan provides long-term planning and implementation guidance for route alignment, trail uses and facilities, and corridor natural resource management. Existing and future generations of trail users will benefit from additional transportation and recreational opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to send our support. We look forward to working with all agency partners on the implementation of the Middle St Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Hall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

John Hall, Board Chair

**RESOLUTION NO. 23-09A**

**EXTRACT OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF THE CITY OF BAYPORT,  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA HELD MAY 1, 2023**

Pursuant to due call and notice therefore, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bayport, Minnesota was duly held at Bayport City Hall in said municipality on May 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Mayor Michele Hanson and Councilmembers Connie Carlson, Ethan Gilmore, John Dahl, and Katie Hill

Councilmember Carlson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WASHINGTON COUNTY  
MIDDLE ST. CROIX VALLEY REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bayport recognizes the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail as an important component of the regional park and trail system, providing recreational and non-motorized transportation opportunities to the residents of the city and region; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan provides planning and implementation guidance for the improvements, acquisitions, and management needed to develop a regional trail that meets the needs of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the planning process for the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan included public engagement events and meetings that provided the opportunity for input from partner agencies and public stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, City of Bayport representatives participated in the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan Technical Advisory Committee; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bayport supports the acquisition, design, implementation, and operation of the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail pursuant to the master plan; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Bayport supports the proposed Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember Dahl and upon roll call being taken thereon, the following vote via voice:

Michele Hanson - aye  
John Dahl - aye

Connie Carlson - aye  
Katie Hill - aye

Ethan Gilmore - aye

**WHEREUPON**, said Resolution was declared duly passed and adopted and signed by the Mayor and attested by the City Administrator. Passed by the City Council, City of Bayport, Washington County, Minnesota, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of May, 2023.

ATTEST:



Matt Kline, City Administrator



Michele Hanson, Mayor



# BELWIN

August 30th, 2023

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

Hello Chair and Commission Members,

I am writing to provide this letter of support for the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan. At Belwin Conservancy we focus on inspiring connection and engagement with nature through conservation, education, and immersive experiences. We support the future 14-mile north-south, multi-use trail in eastern Washington County. This trail will link 11 river towns and provide trail users regional access to destinations, resources, and wild spaces. Informed by the interagency and public engagement process, this master plan provides the vision and direction for the future development of this trail while still preserving habitat diversity.

Belwin Conservancy has been involved in the planning process and supports the improvements proposed in the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan. This plan provides long-term planning and implementation guidance for route alignment, trail uses and facilities, and corridor natural resource management. Existing and future generations of trail users will benefit from additional transportation and opportunities to engage with the natural spaces that exist on its route. Although Belwin is not able to commit to a route through our land at this time, we support the direction of the overall plan and are committed to more exploratory conversations to determine whether it would be a good fit to have a Regional Trail come through Belwin land.

Thank you for the opportunity to send our support. We look forward to more conversations with all agency partners on the implementation of the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

Sincerely,

Katie Bloome (she/her)

Executive Director

Belwin Conservancy

[katie.bloome@belwin.org](mailto:katie.bloome@belwin.org)

(651) 435-0848

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-083

DATE August 1, 2023  
MOTION  
BY COMMISSIONER Clasen

DEPARTMENT Public Works  
SECONDED BY  
COMMISSIONER Bigham

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF THE MIDDLE ST. CROIX VALLEY REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN TO METROPOLITAN COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, a regional trail 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 Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan provides planning and implementation guidance for the improvements, acquisitions, and management needed to develop a regional trail that meets the needs of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, the planning process for the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan included public engagement events and meetings that provided the opportunity for input from partner agencies and public stakeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, the draft Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan was reviewed and supported by the Washington County Park and Open Space Commission on May 18, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington County Board of Commissioners heard a staff presentation on the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan on July 18, 2023.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners supports the proposed Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Middle St. Croix Valley Regional Trail master plan be submitted to the Metropolitan Council for review and approval.

ATTEST:

*Kevin Corbid*

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

*Gary Kriesel*

COUNTY BOARD CHAIR

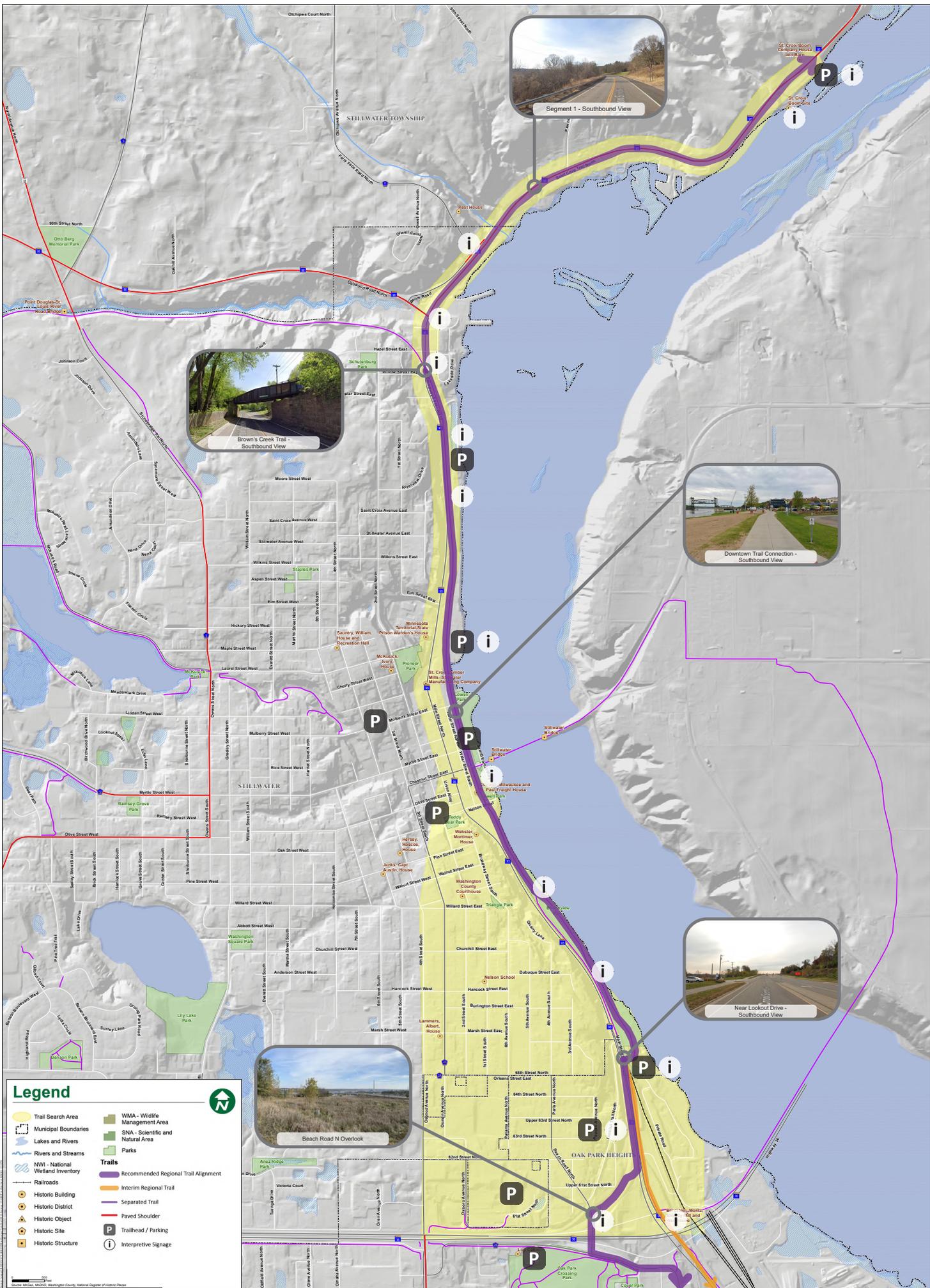
YES NO

ABSENT

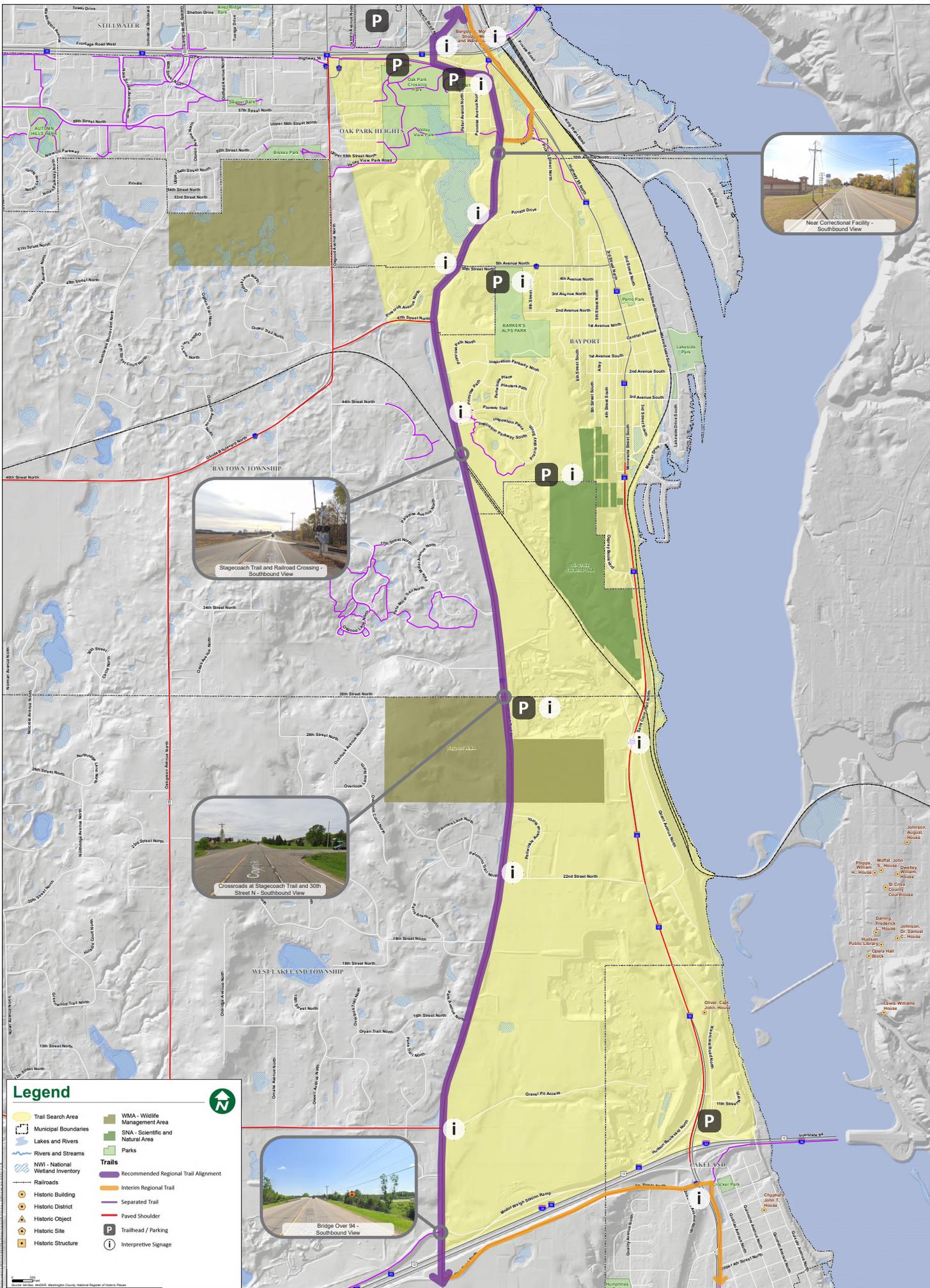
MIRON	<u>X</u>	_____
KARWOSKI	<u>X</u>	_____
KRIESEL	<u>X</u>	_____
BIGHAM	<u>X</u>	_____
CLASEN	<u>X</u>	_____

# Appendix F:

Final Proposed Regional Trail Route Maps



Source: Wisconsin DNR, Washington County, National Register of Historic Places



### Legend

- Trail Search Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Lakes and Rivers
- Rivers and Streams
- NWI - National Wetland Inventory
- Railroads
- Historic Building
- Historic District
- Historic Object
- Historic Site
- Historic Structure
- WMA - Wildlife Management Area
- SNA - Scientific and Natural Area
- Parks
- Recommended Regional Trail Alignment
- Interim Regional Trail
- Separated Trail
- Paved Shoulder
- P Trailhead / Parking
- i Interpretive Signage



- Mottal, John House
- Rhoads, William H. House
- Darling, Frederick House
- Hudson, Public Library
- St. Croix County Courthouse
- Johnson, Dr. Samuel House
- C. House
- Opera Hall
- Brock
- Lewis-Williams House



View of Trail Connection near 8th Street N and Quintan Ave



Belwin Conservation Area - View of Local Flora and Fauna



Belwin Conservation Area - View of Local Flora and Fauna



Afton to Lakeland Trail - Northbound View



Valley Creek (Near Afton) - View of Habitat Restoration Efforts



Oxbow Trail



Connection to St. Croix Scenic Bwy - Southbound View

### Legend

- Trail Search Area
- Municipal Boundaries
- Lakes and Rivers
- Rivers and Streams
- NWI - National Wetland Inventory
- Railroads
- Historic Building
- Historic District
- Historic Object
- Historic Site
- Historic Structure
- WMA - Wildlife Management Area
- SNA - Scientific and Natural Area
- Parks
- Trails
  - Recommended Regional Trail Alignment
  - Interim Regional Trail
  - Separated Trail
  - Paved Shoulder
- Trailhead / Parking (P)
- Interpretive Signage (i)

Source: Bolton & Menk, Washington County, National Register of Historic Places