NYS Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)

2014-2019
Overview of Presentation

- Recreation Resources in NYS
- Changes from the 2008-2013 SCORP
- Role of Resource and Facility Planning Bureau
- History and purpose of the Land and Water Conservation Act
- Methodology behind SCORP’s Relative Index of Need (RIN)
NYSOPRHP

- 180 state parks
- 18 nature centers
- 35 historic sites
- 8,355 campsites
- 67 marine facilities / boat launches
- 67 developed beaches
- Over 800 cabins / rentals
- 53 water recreation facilities
- 2,000+ miles of trails
- 350,000 acres across NYS
- 29 golf courses
NYSOPRHP – Growth

Growth of NYS Parks and Historic Sites (1946-1970)
NYS DEC Lands

- 4.3 million acres of land
- 907,000+ acres of conservation easements
- 52 campgrounds
- 12 fish hatcheries
- Over 400 boat launches and fishing access sites
- 4,000+ miles of trails
Other Recreation Resources

- County Parks, Beaches, Pools, Skateparks, Golf Courses, etc.
- Private Campgrounds / Recreation Areas
Changes to the SCORP

- Streamlined, succinct document
- Technology helped tremendously during the data collection and analysis phase
- A more visual document—more photos, less text
Land and Water Conservation Act
The LWCF in New York

- John B. Thacher State Park
- James Baird State Park
- Grafton Lakes State Park
- Bear Mountain State Park
- Saratoga Spa State Park
- Sunken Meadow State Park
Role of SCORP in NYS

- Statewide policy direction
- Recreation status report
- Overall guidance for recreation resource protection, planning, and development
Chapters of SCORP

- Introduction
- Planning Process
- Research and Analysis
- Goals and Recommendations
- Implementation and Funding
- Environmental Impacts
The Planning Process – Principles

- Planning is a Continuous Process
- Planning Must be Comprehensive
- Planning Must be Coordinated Process with Public Participation
Goals and Recommendations

- Enhancing and Revitalizing the State Outdoor Recreation System
  - Resource and Facility Planning
    - Master Plans completed for 15 facilities statewide
    - Management Plans completed for numerous parks / historic sites
  - Goals:
    - Redesigning / Reinventing Parks
    - Creating a sustainable parks system
Goals and Recommendations

- Improving Connections between Recreation, Economics, Sustainability and Healthy Lifestyles
  - The Value of the Outdoors (Economic, Human Spirit, and Natural)
  - Reducing Obesity through Outdoor Recreation

- Goals:
  - Launch “Explore Your Outdoors” campaign
  - Improve, expand, and repair recreation facilities
  - Reconnect kids and adults with the outdoors
  - Protect natural connections between parks
Goals and Recommendations

- Strengthening the Link between People, Nature, and Resource Stewardship
  - Engage park visitors through programming at parks and historic sites
  - Continue to restore, conserve, and protect the biodiversity of state lands
Statewide Programs

- DEC
- DOS
- OPRHP
- Canal Corporation
- DOT
- DOH
Implementation

- Keep Parks and Outdoor Recreation Areas Open
- Performance Metrics
- Improve Access
- Sustainable Recreation Facilities
Funding

- **Federal**
  - LWCF
  - Recreation Trails Program
  - Forest Legacy Program

- **State**
  - Environmental Protection Fund (EPF)
  - Grant allocation

- **Partnerships**
  - Acquisitions
  - Cooperative/Management Agreements
  - Friends Groups
  - Concessions
  - Gifts
  - Sponsors
  - Volunteers
  - Research
Research and Analysis

- Population trends and demographics
- General Public Recreation Survey
- Recreation Facility Inventory


Source: Cornell Program on Applied Demographics (PAD) and US
Public Recreation Survey

2013 Recreation Survey

At the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation we work hard every day to ensure the quality of your experience at our State Parks and Historic Sites. We also assist in the development of parks and cultural facilities at the local level. We seek the views and opinions of New York State citizens such as yourself to help us learn how we are doing and how we can best plan for the future. You have been randomly selected to participate in our latest survey. Your answers are particularly important for this effort to be successful. We wish to hear from you, even if you have not participated in any outdoor recreation activities or visited any parks in the past year. Please take the time to complete this survey form.

*Regardless of where it occurred, how many days did you participate in each of the following activities during calendar year 2012?

- Relaxing in the park - picnicking, playground use, nature areas and gardens.
- Swimming - Ocean, lake and river swimming and private pools.
- Bicycling - On and off road biking including mountain biking.
- Golfing - 18 par 3 courses, but not miniature golf in driving ranges.
- Court Games - Tennis/Hardball/Racquetball/Basketball.
- Field Sports - Baseball/Soccer/Football, etc.
- Walking for enjoyment - including jogging/day hiking.
- Camping - Tenting/Backpacking/RV usage (if of camping type). Fishing: From land or boat (if of fishing type).
- Boating - Motorboating / Sailing / Canoeing / Kayaking.

What are the 3 types of recreation facilities most needed within 30 minutes of your home?

Most Needed Type of Facility:

- [ ] Swim (please specify)
- [ ] No additional facilities are needed
- [ ] Local parks for picnicking/playground use
- [ ] Trail for hiking/biking/squash use
- [ ] Golf Courses
- [ ] Tennis/Hardball/Racquetball/Court
- [ ] Baseball/Softball/Soccer Fields
- [ ] Campgrounds
- [ ] Fishing access points
- [ ] Boating facilities (Marinas, ramps, etc)\n- [ ] Winter recreation facilities

In what ZIP code is your home located? (Enter)

How would you characterize your community?

- [ ] Rural
- [ ] Suburban
- [ ] Urban
- [ ] Mixed

Ages:

What was your age on your last birthday?

- [ ] Under 10
- [ ] 10 to 17
- [ ] 18 to 29
- [ ] 30 to 59
- [ ] 60+

Including yourself, how many members of your immediate household are in each category?

- [ ] Under 10
- [ ] 10 to 17
- [ ] 18 to 29
- [ ] 30 to 59
- [ ] 60+

- [ ] $10,000 or less
- [ ] $10,001 to $19,999
- [ ] $20,000 to $29,999
- [ ] $30,000 to $49,999
- [ ] $50,000 to $99,999
- [ ] $100,000 or more

- [ ] Student
- [ ] Retired
- [ ] Full-time employee
- [ ] Part-time employee
- [ ] Homemaker
- [ ] Unemployed
- [ ] Self-employed
- [ ] Other
Zip Codes of Survey Respondents
Results - Demographics

Population and Survey Respondents, Age

- **Census Population, 2010**
- **Survey Monkey Respondents, 2013**

Population and Survey Respondents, Income

- **American Community Survey, 2011**
- **Survey Monkey Respondents, 2013**

Source: http://www.census.gov/
## Results – Activities

### 2012 Activity Participation and Activity Days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2012 Participation</th>
<th>2012 Activity Days</th>
<th>Per Participant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking for Enjoyment - including jogging/day hiking</td>
<td>12,892,228</td>
<td>20.25%</td>
<td>19,620,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relaxing in the Park - picnicking, playground use, visiting nature areas or gardens</td>
<td>12,497,573</td>
<td>19.63%</td>
<td>159,236,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming - Ocean, lake and river swimming and public and private pools</td>
<td>9,463,546</td>
<td>14.87%</td>
<td>109,070,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On and off-road biking including mountain biking</td>
<td>5,231,355</td>
<td>8.22%</td>
<td>51,840,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor boating/Sailing/Canoeing, Kayaking, etc.</td>
<td>4,435,908</td>
<td>6.97%</td>
<td>27,826,552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Sports- Baseball/Soccer/Football, etc.</td>
<td>3,357,543</td>
<td>5.27%</td>
<td>28,580,614</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court Games - Tennis/Handball/Racquetball/Basketball, etc.</td>
<td>3,332,135</td>
<td>5.23%</td>
<td>24,730,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Winter Activities- Ice Skating/Cross Country Skiing/Snowshoeing</td>
<td>3,067,683</td>
<td>4.82%</td>
<td>17,042,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camping- Tenting/Backpacking/RV usage</td>
<td>2,831,970</td>
<td>4.45%</td>
<td>17,625,031</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing - from land or boat</td>
<td>2,721,649</td>
<td>4.28%</td>
<td>19,133,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golfing - 9/18/par 3 courses</td>
<td>1,888,807</td>
<td>2.97%</td>
<td>16,083,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downhill Skiing/Snowboarding</td>
<td>1,422,305</td>
<td>2.23%</td>
<td>9,343,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowmobiling</td>
<td>513,080</td>
<td>0.81%</td>
<td>3,517,504</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>63,655,783</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>1,096,113,786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results – Facilities Most Needed in Community

Types of Facilities Most Needed

- Local parks for picnicking/playground use: 27%
- Swimming Pools/Beachfronts with life…: 22%
- Trails for hiking/biking/equine use: 20%
- Winter recreation facilities: 6%
- Campgrounds: 6%
- Tennis/Handball/Racquetball Courts: 5%
- Golf Courses: 4%
- Fishing access points: 3%
- Baseball/Football/Soccer Fields: 3%
- Boating facilities (Marinas, Ramps, etc.): 2%
Recreation Facility Inventory

Number of sites by Region

Acreage of sites by Region
Methodology of Relative Index of Need (RIN)
Demand at Origin

For each county/activity/age combination:
Number of participants living in the county and activity days in which they participate regardless of where they occur.

Days of participation for each activity/county type combination

Target population (age 18-85 for each county)

Calculates population density value for each county
Percent Generation

For each county/activity combination:
Percent of activity days originating in the county that stay there and the percentage for other counties where they occur.
Activity Distribution

Percent Generation
(Percent of activity days originating in the county that stay there and the percentage for other counties where they occur)

Number of activity days occurring in the county regardless of where they originate.

Relative Index of Need (RIN)

Demand at Origin
Walking, jogging, and Hiking Facilities
Park and Playground Facilities
Bicycle Facilities
Field Sport Activities

Legend

nycounty
Field

nycounty
Field

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
Local Winter Facilities
Environmental Impacts
State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)

- Requires all state and local agencies to consider environmental factors in Agency decision-making process and actions
- Balances environmental impacts with social and economic factors
Action

- The Adoption of the updated SCORP
  - Guides future recreational planning, activities and development

- As Lead Agency OPRHP Prepared a Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) for SCORP
  - GEIS focuses on the adequacy, clarity, and appropriateness of the stated initiatives, goals and recommendations that implement the vision of SCORP.
Alternatives

- Not preparing a Plan
- Adopting 2008 Plan
- Preparing a New Plan
  - This is the preferred alternative
Environmental Impacts and Mitigation

- Planning Process
- Trends, Issues, and Needs
- Initiatives, Goals, and Recommendations
Environmental Impacts and Mitigation

- Land Conservation
- Statewide Programs
- Implementation
- Cumulative Impacts
Questions and Comments

- Written Comments:
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  SCORP.Plan@parks.ny.gov

Comments will be accepted until
February 21, 2014