

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION**

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, March 14, 2013

**Meeting Location:** Wallace Bldg – 4th Floor Conference Rooms  
502 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA

**MEETING AGENDA**

Meeting convenes at 9:30am

Public Participation begins at approximately 10:00am

Lunchtime Presentation: Spreading the Canopy: Promoting Trees and Urban Forests as Key to Healthy Communities at approximately 12:00pm

1.	Approval of Agenda <i>Consent Agenda (*within agenda indicates proposed consent agenda items)</i>	Decision	Commission
	*8. Contract with Becky Rose for Pine Lake Cabin Cleaning		
	*9. Salvage Timber Sale Backbone State Park		
	*10. Contract for Flight Services for Canada Goose Surveys		
	*13.1 Mississippi River – Clayton Co. – Consolidated Grain & Barge Company		
	*13.2 Mississippi River – Clayton Co. – Bunge North America		
	*13.3 Mississippi River – Muscatine Co. – Fairport Landing Marina, Inc.		
	*13.4 Mississippi River – Scott Co. – CENEX Harvest States, Inc.		
	*13.5 Sutliff Access – Johnson County – Management Agreement		
2.	Approve Minutes of 02/14/13 NRC Public Meeting	Decision	Commission
3.	Director Remarks	Information	Director
4.	Honey Creek Resort State Park Update	Information	Chuck Corell
5.	Sport Fish Restoration Outstanding Project Award in Aquatic Education	Information	Joe Larscheid
6.	Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board 2012 Annual Report	Information	Kevin Szcodronski
7.	Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board Appointments	Decision	Kevin Szcodronski
*8.	Amendment with Becky Rose for Pine Lake Cabin Cleaning	Decision	Kevin Szcodronski
*9.	Salvage Timber Sale Backbone State Park	Decision	Paul Tauke
*10.	Contract for Flight Services for Canada Goose Surveys	Decision	Dale Garner
11.	Chapter 56 – Shooting Range Grant Recommendations	Decision	Ben Berka
12.	Land Acquisition Projects		
	12.1 Gabrielson WMA – Hancock Co. – Moglestad Estate	Decision	Travis Baker
	12.2 Elk Creek Marsh WMA – Worth Co. – INHF	Decision	Travis Baker
*13.	Land Management Projects		
	*13.1 Mississippi River – Clayton Co. – Consolidated Grain & Barge Company	Decision	Travis Baker
	*13.2 Mississippi River – Clayton Co. – Bunge North America	Decision	Travis Baker
	*13.3 Mississippi River – Muscatine Co. – Fairport Landing Marina, Inc.	Decision	Travis Baker

For details on the NRC meeting schedule, visit:

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/BoardsCommissions/NaturalResourceCommission.aspx>

	*13.4	Mississippi River – Scott Co. – CENEX Harvest States, Inc.	Decision	Travis Baker
	*13.5	Sutliff Access – Johnson County – Management Agreement	Decision	Travis Baker
14.		Engineering Construction Projects		
	14.1	Lake Manawa State Park, Shoreline Armoring	Decision	Gabe Lee
	14.2	Mt Ayr Fish Hatchery, Storage Building Addition	Decision	Gabe Lee
	14.3	Prairie Rose, Lake Manawa, & Viking Lake State Parks, Vault Latrine	Decision	Gabe Lee
	14.4	Missouri River Wildlife Unit – Tyson Bend Wma, Sediment Removal	Decision	Gabe Lee
	14.5	Lacey Keosauqua State Park, Beach House Conversion – Change Order No 4	Decision	Gabe Lee
15.		Small Construction Projects	Information	Gabe Lee
16.		Engineering Professional Services: Multi-project MEP (Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing) Engineering Delivery Order	Decision	Gabe Lee
17.		Donations	Decision	Chuck Corell
18.		Contract with Iowa State University for Wildlife Monitoring in Northeast Iowa	Decision	Dale Garner
19.		Division Administrator Remarks	Information	Chuck Corell
20.		General Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterfowl Working Group Update</li> <li>• Status of 2013 Wildlife Rules (Wildlife Bureau)</li> </ul>		
Upcoming NRC Meeting Dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 11, 2013 – Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am</li> <li>• May 8, 2013 – Field Tour: Mines of Spain/EB Lyons Interpretive Center, Dubuque, IA, tbd</li> <li>• May 9, 2013 – Business Meeting: Mines of Spain/EB Lyons Interpretive Center, Dubuque, IA, 8:30am</li> <li>• June 13, 2013 - Henry Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, 9:30am</li> </ul>				

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**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Financial Statements**

**January 31, 2013**

Property Management by:  
CENTRAL GROUP MANAGEMENT LLC



**Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Property Business Critique  
January 2013**

**Operating Statistics:**

January room revenue was just shy of budget but significantly greater than last year. Lodge revenue was over budget by \$7,214 and was \$15,575 more than last year. Cottage revenue was \$9,104 under budget and \$1,492 less than 2012. The total number of occupied units was 6.4% less than budgeted and the average daily rate in the lodge was slightly lower due to special promotions. The average rate in the cottages exceeded budget by \$25.60.

According to Smith Travel Research Honey Creek Resort finished the month slightly behind its competitive set in average daily rate, but ahead in occupancy and revenue per available room. The resort achieved an occupancy index score of 112.0% (100% being even with our comp set), an average daily rate index score of 90.9%, and a RevPAR index score of 101.8%. For the twelve month period ending January 31<sup>st</sup> the resort has an occupancy index score of 114.6%, an average daily rate index score of 104.9%, and a RevPAR index score of 120.2%. For the past twelve months the resort has a positive year over year RevPAR index score of 6.8%. Our competitor's index score for the same period is a negative 0.1%.

Our reservationist and sales department booked 1,538 reservations equating to 2,754 room nights and \$351,255 in revenue. There are 21,535 room nights consumed and on the books for the fiscal year beginning July 1<sup>st</sup> accounting for more than \$2,757,000 in room revenue.

**Rooms Department:**

The Lodge and Cottages had combined revenue of \$99,438 compared to a budget of \$101,328 and \$85,355 last year. The lodge ADR was \$78.69 with group business accounting for 35.7%, corporate 1.1%, and leisure business 63.2%.

The cottages had an average daily rate of \$170.27 with 136 cottages rented. The market mix of the cottage revenue was 20.1% from the one bedroom cottages, 37.0% from the two bedroom, and 42.9% from the four bedroom cottages.

The RV Park is closed for the season.

Front office and gift shop payroll, including management and reservations, was \$339 less than budget.

Housekeeping payroll includes the housekeeping and laundry staff, housekeeping supervisor, inspectors and public space staff. Staff time for these positions was budgeted at \$12.93 per occupied room and was \$9.14 in January. Cottage housekeeping payroll was 14.2% of revenue on a budget of 18.0%.

Reservations expense includes commissions booked as a result of our Living Social offer. There were no other unusual expenditures and other expenses were \$2,373 over budget.

Gift shop revenues were \$1,731 less than budgeted. Net income was off \$1,160 from budget.

### **Food and Beverage:**

Total food and beverage revenue was \$16,878 less than budgeted and \$3,133 less than January 2012, due primarily to less banquet business. Restaurant covers were the same as budgeted and the average check was similar to budget for breakfast and down slightly at lunch and dinner. Total Grille revenue was \$2,433 less than budgeted but \$810 more when compared to last year.

Total banquet revenue which includes food, beverage and other revenue was \$20,720 compared to a budget of \$32,038.

Food cost, not including meeting room and other revenue was 44.6% of pre-discounted sales compared to a budget of 38.0%. We have been aggressively looking for more cost effective products in an effort to reduce cost and compensate for lower banquet revenue. Food Payroll was \$1,690 less than budgeted and is in line with expectations for the year. Our current food payroll expense less taxes and benefits is 38.35% of pre-discounted sales compared to a budget of 38.19%. We will continue manage our labor closely and work to come in under budget by the end of the year.

Beverage cost as a percentage of total sales was 39.5% for the month compared to a budgeted cost of 29.2%. The biggest cost discrepancies are in beer and wine. We have initiated a retraining program for our bartenders (pouring) and are adjusting the prices of several items. Beverage payroll was \$452 more than budgeted but remains 0.04% under budget for the year. Other expenses for the food and beverage department were \$2,487 over budget for the month but are \$10,686 under budget for the year.

### **Water Park:**

Waterpark pass and birthday party sales were \$1,296 under budget in January but snack bar sales were over budget by \$1,131.

Water park labor and other costs were under budget and the department exceeded expectations by \$1,797.

### **Golf:**

The Preserve posted \$390 in green fees and food and beverage as January offered a few days of mild temperatures suitable for walking guests. The balance of the revenue was a result of season pass sales and annual GPS sponsorship renewals. Season pass sales were \$4,169 compared to a budget of \$2,000. GPS sponsorship renewals were \$6,443 compared to a budget of \$5,000. We continue to focus on local season pass sales, booking additional summer outings, and marketing the course for stay and play packages and summer resort guests.

Payroll and other expenses were under budget for the month and we continue to make up the financial ground we lost during the hot summer season.

Our new cart lease has been executed and the carts with their new GPS systems should be in operation by the middle of March.

**Administrative and General:**

Administrative payroll expense was \$576 over budget for the month of January.

Credit card fees were higher for the month reflecting more reservation activity.

**Property Operations/Maintenance:**

The maintenance department payroll includes the lodge, restaurant, and cottage maintenance staff as well as landscaping and recycling staff. Payroll for the month was \$1,038 under budget.

All line item expenses were in line with budget for the month and total operating expenses were \$1,799 under budget.

The cost for electricity was \$169 under budget for the period. Propane expense was \$5,040 less than budgeted and similar to last year.

**Sales and Marketing:**

Group sales highlights for the month of January included new signed contacts in the association, corporate and government segments where we produced 42 contracts and 1500 group room nights. Group room revenue for January was 347 room nights for \$26,863, and banquet revenue generated was \$20,784. For 2013 Honey Creek Resort has 23 weddings booked, year to date.

Sales, marketing and public relations efforts included participation in the Sheraton Bridal Show, South & East Des Moines luncheon, Iowa Tourism Legislative Showcase and Religious Management Association Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Honey Creek Social Events highlights included our Woman of Wellness Retreat, Kids on the Creek, and Bridal-Prom Fair. Honey Creek Sales Staff, Front Desk, Housekeeping, and Chef Bob Newell, were highly complimented by resort guests for their efforts in production, execution and customer service. Social events produced 65 new group rooming nights for January.

Sales department focus continues to be on driving group business opportunities for Sunday through Thursday, and promoting corporate golf outings for spring and summer 2013.

The spring campaign has begun and is running through April. It includes a 3-night family package for \$249 with water park passes, four half day bike rental and \$20 snack bar voucher. Our sales team is also aggressively pushing early spring events and meeting

to be hosed at the resort. A cumulative effort of the sales team, email blasts and various other marketing and promotional efforts are helping to drive group business.

Winter promotions for January events included advertising for a Yoga Retreat, Kids at the Creek, and the Bridal, prom and Quinceanera Expo. We also ran Valentine's Day dinner specials with a room offer for \$99 along with our Murder Mystery dinner held on the evening after Valentine's Day. Distribution channels used were local publications, email blasts, Facebook and flyers.

We have increased our marketing efforts in trade publications, newspapers and bridal shows directed at brides and wedding to increase our visibility in the state as a destination resort for weddings with many outdoor venues to hold events.

A television spot has been developed and will air at the end of February through March to drive spring break stays and early spring traffic. Total commercials 1,224/Trade \$3,390/Total Investment: \$9,594. Markets are Cedar Rapids, SE Iowa and Des Moines metro, on the History, Discovery, Food Network, Hallmark and the Weather channel. These networks were chosen after reviewing out demographic research.

The website rebuild is well underway, with updates to the layout, imagery and content so the website is streamlined and user-friendly on any mobile device. We plan to go live with the new layout in early April.

Restaurant marketing initiatives included Sunday brunch coupons and weekly specials that are running in local newspapers. Distribution channels include utilizing print advertising locally and Facebook.

Golf initiatives during January included finalizing golf collateral for two golf shows in February and running early promotions for the golf season. We are running a television spot on abc5 to promote golf packages and early play in March.

### **90-Day Outlook:**

**February:** We have forecasted occupancy of 37.0% in the lodge and 20.1% in the cottages. We are forecasting an ADR of \$82.00 in the lodge and \$157.00 in the cottages. A significant weather event on the last weekend of the month will have an adverse impact on revenues. This is the first major weekend snow storm in almost two years.

**March:** We have forecasted occupancy of 47.6% in the lodge and 38.0% in the cottages. We have 47% of lodge revenue on the books and 51% of cottage revenue. We are forecasting an ADR of \$88.00 in the lodge and \$194.00 in the cottages.

**April:** We have forecasted occupancy of 40.9% in the lodge and 35.7% in the cottages. We have 73% of lodge revenue on the books and 33% of cottage revenue. We are forecasting an ADR of \$92.50 in the lodge and \$192.00 in the cottages.

**Honey Creek Resort State Park**  
**Operating Statistics**  
**For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013**

CURRENT MONTH				YEAR TO DATE		
<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>		<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>
<b><u>LODGE OCCUPANCY STATISTICS:</u></b>						
\$78.69	\$80.98	\$79.31	AVERAGE DAILY RATE	\$99.93	\$109.33	\$106.92
29.5%	25.9%	23.0%	PERCENT OF OCCUPANCY	52.3%	47.9%	46.0%
959	843	747	TOTAL ROOMS SOLD	10,810	10,822	10,388
32	0	39	COMPLIMENTARY ROOMS	401	0	352
991	843	786	TOTAL ROOMS OCCUPIED	11,211	10,822	10,740
<b><u>ADR BY MARKET SEGMENT:</u></b>						
\$87.18	\$80.29	\$85.38	CORPORATE	\$85.68	\$86.18	\$74.34
\$75.70	\$89.01	\$82.19	GROUP	\$94.35	\$108.97	\$99.13
\$80.22	\$76.36	\$77.93	TOURIST/OTHER	\$105.14	\$111.02	\$114.28
<b><u>MARKET MIX PERCENT:</u></b>						
1.1%	5.0%	2.8%	CORPORATE	0.4%	3.3%	1.0%
35.7%	35.0%	27.6%	GROUP	47.6%	42.3%	45.9%
63.2%	60.0%	69.6%	TOURIST/OTHER	52.0%	54.4%	53.0%
2.3	2.0	2.0	NUMBER OF GUEST/ROOM SOLD	2.5	2.1	2.6
\$23.18	\$20.97	\$18.20	REVENUE PER AVAILABLE ROOM	\$52.28	\$52.41	\$49.20
<b><u>COTTAGE OCCUPANCY STATISTICS:</u></b>						
\$170.27	\$144.67	\$140.05	AVERAGE DAILY RATE	\$247.27	\$257.14	\$253.66
15.7%	25.7%	20.3%	PERCENT OF OCCUPANCY	51.4%	52.4%	49.2%
136	361	176	TOTAL COTTAGES SOLD	3,095	3,153	2,964
\$26.68	\$37.17	\$28.40	REVENUE PER AVAIL. COTTAGE	\$127.13	\$134.68	\$124.89
<b><u>RATHBUN LAKESHORE GRILLE</u></b>						
4,591	4,588	4,536	NUMBER OF COVERS	58,006	56,318	56,172
\$9.69	\$9.50	\$9.15	DINING AVE COVER - BREAKFAST	\$9.21	\$9.50	\$9.37
\$9.60	\$10.40	\$10.39	DINING AVE COVER - LUNCH	\$9.92	\$10.40	\$10.05
\$10.57	\$10.95	\$10.36	DINING AVE COVER - DINNER	\$10.17	\$10.95	\$10.69
<b><u>BANQUETS</u></b>						
1,213	1,919	1,134	NUMBER OF COVERS	26,183	30,168	24,177
\$27.60	\$9.00	\$0.52	BANQUET - BREAKFAST	\$8.82	\$9.00	\$9.19
\$4.64	\$5.75	\$6.02	BANQUET - BREAKS	\$4.94	\$5.75	\$6.15
\$9.18	\$9.50	\$14.57	BANQUET - LUNCH	\$12.54	\$10.50	\$12.87
\$17.40	\$19.00	\$17.36	BANQUET - DINNER	\$20.53	\$21.40	\$23.63

**Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Combined Balance Sheet  
January 31, 2013**

**Current Assets**

Cash on Hand and in Bank	\$ 379,042.44
Accounts Receivable	\$ 14,393.94
Inventory on Hand	\$ 104,945.33
Prepaid Insurance and Expenses	\$ 170,590.30
Operating Reserve	\$ 159,551.72
Construction and Bond Reserve	\$ 202,788.21

**Fixed Assets**

Land Improvements	\$ 9,160,807.00
Buildings	\$ 29,826,988.62
Golf Course and Buildings	\$ 7,709,607.50
Furniture Fixtures and Equipment	\$ 4,615,364.65

**Other Assets**

Pre-Bond and Legal	\$ 2,053,132.82
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**Total Assets**

\$ 54,397,212.53

**Current Liabilities**

Accounts Payable	\$ 85,236.97
Advance Payments	\$ 481,086.15
Taxes Payable	\$ 10,741.81
Accrued Payroll	\$ 99,367.34
Accrued Interest Payable	\$ 245,547.50

**Long Term Liabilities and Equity**

Bonds Payable	\$ 28,000,000.00
Funding	\$ 33,391,024.17

**Retained Earnings**

Construction Expenses	\$ (2,094,171.66)
Debt Service	\$ (5,242,340.67)
Operations Retained Earnings	\$ (860,245.83)
Operating Income - Current Fiscal Year	\$ 280,966.75

**Total Liabilities & Equity**

\$ 54,397,212.53

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
 Summary Income Statement  
 For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	REVENUES	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
76,281	37.80	69,067	7,214	60,706	32.99	Room	1,201,077	32.09	1,193,342	7,735	1,125,835	31.41
23,157	11.48	32,261	(9,104)	24,649	13.39	Cottage	765,308	20.45	810,765	(45,457)	751,838	20.98
60,579	30.02	73,853	(13,274)	61,978	33.68	Food	983,407	26.27	1,053,822	(70,415)	942,186	26.29
11,658	5.78	15,262	(3,604)	13,392	7.28	Beverage	218,716	5.84	232,036	(13,320)	211,768	5.91
1,893	0.94	3,624	(1,731)	2,817	1.53	Gift Shop	37,665	1.01	47,515	(9,850)	52,848	1.47
10,076	4.99	10,241	(165)	9,165	4.98	Buccaneer Bay Waterpark	61,898	1.65	78,762	(16,864)	62,936	1.76
10,870	5.39	7,000	3,870	9,697	5.27	The Preserve - Golf	362,235	9.68	429,450	(67,215)	375,848	10.49
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Telephone	0	0.00	0	0	15	0.00
7,266	3.60	3,967	3,299	1,629	0.89	Other	112,781	3.01	119,090	(6,309)	60,631	1.69
201,780	100.00	215,275	(13,495)	184,033	100.00	Total Revenue	3,743,087	100.00	3,964,782	(221,695)	3,583,905	100.00
DEPARTMENTAL COSTS AND EXPENSES												
39,707	19.68	39,536	171	33,200	18.04	Room	340,096	9.09	355,088	(14,992)	306,304	8.55
5,452	2.70	8,144	(2,692)	8,000	4.35	Cottage	71,399	1.91	101,623	(30,224)	81,958	2.29
75,816	37.57	75,873	(57)	73,071	39.71	Food	874,153	23.35	890,294	(16,141)	816,211	22.77
10,296	5.10	8,929	1,367	12,441	6.76	Beverage	120,947	3.23	125,394	(4,447)	115,316	3.22
2,372	1.18	2,943	(571)	3,142	1.71	Gift Shop	30,111	0.80	40,922	(10,811)	47,230	1.32
13,614	6.75	15,576	(1,962)	14,689	7.98	Waterpark	114,960	3.07	124,094	(9,134)	115,382	3.22
15,476	7.67	15,771	(295)	13,660	7.42	Golf	383,459	10.24	420,739	(37,280)	387,786	10.82
3,945	1.96	3,324	621	3,305	1.80	Telephone	32,924	0.88	29,484	3,440	31,252	0.87
166,678	82.60	170,096	(3,418)	161,508	87.76	Total Dept Costs & Expense	1,968,049	52.58	2,087,638	(119,589)	1,901,439	53.05
35,102	17.40	45,179	(10,077)	22,525	12.24	Operating Dept Income	1,775,038	47.42	1,877,144	(102,106)	1,682,466	46.95
UNDISTRIBUTED EXPENSES												
35,721	17.70	34,752	969	31,913	17.34	Administrative & General	336,447	8.99	330,480	5,967	314,532	8.78
60,481	29.97	62,151	(1,670)	45,082	24.50	Sales & Marketing	376,682	10.06	408,331	(31,649)	401,598	11.21
24,203	11.99	27,040	(2,837)	23,144	12.58	Property Operation/Maintenance	235,794	6.30	209,491	26,303	189,530	5.29
34,927	17.31	40,510	(5,583)	34,897	18.96	Energy	235,716	6.30	262,650	(26,934)	254,651	7.11
155,332	76.98	164,453	(9,121)	135,036	73.38	Total Undistributed Expenses	1,184,639	31.65	1,210,952	(26,313)	1,160,311	32.38
(120,230)	(59.58)	(119,274)	(956)	(112,511)	(61.14)	Income Bf Mgmt Fee & Fixed Chg	590,399	15.77	666,192	(75,793)	522,155	14.57
18,166	9.00	18,166	0	17,253	9.37	MANAGEMENT FEES AND FIXED CHARGES	127,159	3.40	127,162	(3)	120,771	3.37
8,250	4.09	6,300	1,950	6,300	3.42	Base Management Fee	49,150	1.31	44,100	5,050	44,100	1.23
19,860	9.84	20,375	(515)	18,535	10.07	Asset/Prop Management Fees	133,125	3.56	142,625	(9,500)	121,708	3.40
122,774	60.85	122,774	0	124,390	67.59	Rent, Prop Tax & Insurance	859,416	22.96	859,418	(2)	870,733	24.30
169,050	83.78	167,615	1,435	166,478	90.46	Total Mgmt Fee-Fixed Charges	1,168,850	31.23	1,173,305	(4,455)	1,157,312	32.29
(289,280)	(143.36)	(286,889)	(2,391)	(278,989)	(151.60)	Net Income Before Taxes	(578,451)	(15.45)	(507,113)	(71,338)	(635,157)	(17.72)

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
 Summary Income Statement  
 For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

BOND FUND INTEREST		BOND FUND INTEREST		BOND FUND INTEREST		BOND FUND INTEREST					
Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	0 \$	67.59	Bond Interest Accrued	859,416	22.96	859,418	(2)	870,733	24.30
Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	0 \$	67.59	Bond Interest Accrued	859,416	22.96	859,418	(2)	870,733	24.30
(166,506)	(164,115)	(154,599)			Net Operating Income	280,965		352,305		235,576	
STATISTICS											
18,206	19,423	16,604			Total Revenue PAR	48,246		51,104		46,194	
(10,848)	(10,762)	(10,151)			Income before Fixed Chgs PAR	7,610		8,587		6,730	
(26,100)	(25,885)	(25,172)			Income Before Income Tax PAR	(7,456)		(6,536)		(8,187)	

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

ROOMS SCHEDULE											
Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
REVENUE											
959	1.26	3,372	(2,413)	1,793	2.95	4,027	0.34	30,938	(26,911)	7,806	0.69
25,888	33.94	26,259	(371)	16,931	27.89	530,416	44.16	499,086	31,330	473,145	42.03
48,615	63.73	38,636	9,979	40,523	66.75	645,675	53.76	653,118	(7,443)	629,702	55.93
819	1.07	800	19	1,459	2.40	20,959	1.75	10,200	10,759	15,182	1.35
76,281	100.00	69,067	7,214	60,706	100.00	1,201,077	100.00	1,193,342	7,735	1,125,835	100.00
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES											
3,167	4.15	3,083	84	1,773	2.92	22,167	1.85	21,581	586	17,273	1.53
6,719	8.81	7,142	(423)	6,486	10.68	56,339	4.69	61,491	(5,152)	53,727	4.77
3,348	4.39	3,348	0	1,959	3.23	23,220	1.93	23,220	0	21,356	1.90
4,112	5.39	3,774	338	3,980	6.56	45,455	3.78	47,376	(1,921)	44,496	3.95
709	0.93	1,138	(429)	942	1.55	13,191	1.10	14,011	(820)	14,482	1.29
388	0.51	843	(455)	639	1.05	8,467	0.70	10,822	(2,355)	6,455	0.57
2,359	3.09	2,666	(307)	2,519	4.15	19,989	1.66	18,662	1,327	18,924	1.68
4,235	5.55	4,557	(322)	4,114	6.78	30,710	2.56	31,899	(1,189)	29,733	2.64
1,491	1.95	2,480	(989)	1,615	2.66	18,844	1.57	20,176	(1,332)	18,309	1.63
3,088	4.05	2,888	200	3,181	5.24	25,628	2.13	28,542	(2,914)	24,386	2.17
3,460	4.54	3,546	(86)	2,488	4.10	25,178	2.10	25,432	(254)	17,453	1.55
33,076	43.36	35,465	(2,389)	29,696	48.92	289,188	24.08	303,212	(14,024)	266,594	23.68
OTHER EXPENSES											
2,547	3.34	84	2,463	301	0.50	8,459	0.70	972	7,487	1,058	0.09
1,385	1.82	1,350	35	1,348	2.22	9,695	0.81	9,450	245	9,437	0.84
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	388	0.03
(71)	(0.09)	0	(71)	0	0.00	3,445	0.29	7,500	(4,055)	223	0.02
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	871	0.07	1,300	(429)	454	0.04
236	0.31	225	11	368	0.61	3,320	0.28	1,575	1,745	2,050	0.18
295	0.39	438	(143)	295	0.49	4,979	0.41	5,627	(648)	6,715	0.60
1,369	1.79	1,433	(64)	653	1.08	13,073	1.09	18,398	(5,325)	14,430	1.28
258	0.34	373	(115)	0	0.00	3,441	0.29	4,891	(1,450)	2,319	0.21
256	0.34	67	189	0	0.00	1,081	0.09	865	216	887	0.08
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	352	0.03	0	352	358	0.03
50	0.07	0	50	0	0.00	350	0.03	0	350	150	0.01
306	0.40	101	205	539	0.89	1,842	0.15	1,298	544	1,241	0.11
6,631	8.69	4,071	2,560	3,504	5.77	50,908	4.24	51,876	(968)	39,710	3.53
36,574	47.95	29,531	7,043	27,506	45.31	860,981	71.68	838,254	22,727	819,531	72.79
STATISTICS											
8,718		7,893	825	6,938		19,609		19,483	126	18,381	
Room Revenue PAR											

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
COTTAGE SCHEDULE											
REVENUE											
4,649	20.08	5,704	(1,055)	5,151	20.90	86,145	11.26	98,986	(12,841)	93,399	12.42
8,568	37.00	12,897	(4,329)	7,629	30.95	326,643	42.68	355,991	(29,348)	312,009	41.50
9,940	42.92	13,660	(3,720)	11,869	48.15	352,520	46.06	355,788	(3,268)	346,430	46.08
23,157	100.00	32,261	(9,104)	24,649	100.00	765,308	100.00	810,765	(45,457)	751,838	100.00
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES											
1,906	8.23	3,887	(1,981)	3,431	13.92	35,215	4.60	54,317	(19,102)	43,953	5.85
649	2.80	892	(243)	1,406	5.70	8,053	1.05	10,256	(2,203)	8,550	1.14
302	1.30	476	(174)	684	2.77	4,938	0.65	7,441	(2,503)	5,841	0.78
435	1.88	542	(107)	793	3.22	3,905	0.51	4,715	(810)	4,742	0.63
3,292	14.22	5,797	(2,505)	6,314	25.62	52,111	6.81	76,729	(24,618)	63,086	8.39
OTHER EXPENSES											
894	3.86	895	(1)	894	3.63	6,260	0.82	6,265	(5)	6,256	0.83
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	1,364	0.18	2,500	(1,136)	111	0.01
13	0.06	190	(177)	0	0.00	446	0.06	2,681	(2,235)	1,790	0.24
630	2.72	602	28	178	0.72	6,022	0.79	8,513	(2,491)	6,404	0.85
0	0.00	45	(45)	0	0.00	800	0.10	630	170	0	0.00
623	2.69	615	8	614	2.49	4,378	0.57	4,305	73	4,311	0.57
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	18	0.00	0	18	0	0.00
2,160	9.33	2,347	(187)	1,686	6.84	19,288	2.52	24,894	(5,606)	18,872	2.51
17,705	76.46	24,117	(6,412)	16,649	67.54	693,909	90.67	709,142	(15,233)	669,880	89.10

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Last Year
7,588	13,826	7,135	46,856	43,417	46,031
STATISTICS					
			Cottage Revenue PAR		

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	FOOD SCHEDULE			Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
						73.18	Dining Room	572,162						
46,179	76.23	47,663	(1,484)	45,354	73.18	Dining Room	572,162	58.18	586,023	(13,861)	574,235	60.95		
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Bar Area	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00		
14,591	24.09	23,449	(8,858)	14,772	23.83	Banquet	348,731	35.46	410,547	(61,816)	308,631	32.76		
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Hotel/Room Service	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00		
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Catering	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00		
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Take Out	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00		
(4,795)	(7.92)	(1,668)	(3,127)	(3,704)	(5.98)	Discounts	(37,298)	(3.79)	(20,511)	(16,787)	(32,361)	(3.43)		
55,975	92.40	69,444	(13,469)	56,422	91.04	Food Revenue	883,595	89.85	976,059	(92,464)	850,505	90.27		
OTHER INCOME														
2,460	4.06	1,672	788	3,755	6.06	Meeting Room Rentals	43,516	4.43	29,684	13,832	41,836	4.44		
300	0.50	209	91	60	0.10	Setup Fees	9,200	0.94	3,709	5,491	7,334	0.78		
395	0.65	418	(23)	275	0.44	Misc. Banquet Income - AV	7,877	0.80	7,421	456	7,903	0.84		
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Misc. Other Income	1,044	0.11	0	1,044	1,975	0.21		
1,449	2.39	2,110	(661)	1,466	2.37	Service Charge	38,175	3.88	36,949	1,226	32,633	3.46		
4,604	7.60	4,409	195	5,556	8.96	Total Other Revenue	99,812	10.15	77,763	22,049	91,681	9.73		
60,579	100.00	73,853	(13,274)	61,978	100.00	Total Food Revenue	983,407	100.00	1,053,822	(70,415)	942,186	100.00		
FOOD COST OF SALES														
26,932	44.46	27,022	(90)	25,423	41.02	Food Consumed	340,051	34.58	337,951	2,100	317,929	33.74		
26,932	44.46	27,022	(90)	25,423	41.02	Total Cost of Sales	340,051	34.58	337,951	2,100	317,929	33.74		
33,647	55.54	46,831	(13,184)	36,555	58.98	Gross Food Income	643,356	65.42	715,871	(72,515)	624,257	66.26		
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES														
5,083	8.39	7,750	(2,667)	0	0.00	Salaries & Wages -Rest Manager	44,497	4.52	54,250	(9,753)	17,072	1.81		
9,253	15.27	8,476	777	9,560	15.42	Salaries & Wages -Dining Room	122,089	12.41	134,037	(11,948)	114,915	12.20		
5,043	8.32	6,275	(1,232)	5,572	8.99	Salaries & Wages -Banquet	53,365	5.43	62,765	(9,400)	59,609	6.33		
13,190	21.77	13,243	(53)	16,552	26.71	Salaries & Wages -Kitchen	144,999	14.74	132,406	12,593	146,944	15.60		
2,071	3.42	1,325	746	1,573	2.54	Salaries & Wages -Other	26,474	2.69	26,847	(373)	22,910	2.43		
4,704	7.77	3,689	1,015	5,482	8.85	Payroll Taxes	55,555	5.65	47,170	8,385	51,615	5.48		
2,755	4.55	3,031	(276)	2,060	3.32	Employee Benefits	22,313	2.27	22,962	(649)	17,930	1.90		
42,099	69.49	43,789	(1,690)	40,799	65.83	Total Payroll - Related Expenses	469,292	47.72	480,437	(11,145)	430,995	45.74		

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
0	0.00	278	(278)	0	0.00	127	0.01	3,905	(3,778)	640	0.07
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	1,355	0.14	1,355	0	1,355	0.14
0	0.00	100	(100)	0	0.00	763	0.08	1,800	(1,037)	2,136	0.23
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	4,477	0.46	0	4,477	2,860	0.30
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	928	0.09	900	28	942	0.10
163	0.27	139	24	0	0.00	228	0.02	1,951	(1,723)	0	0.00
353	0.58	208	145	128	0.21	2,763	0.28	2,929	(166)	2,701	0.29
2,324	3.84	1,319	1,005	2,541	4.10	20,075	2.04	18,545	1,530	22,875	2.43
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	300	(300)	304	0.03
0	0.00	69	(69)	0	0.00	633	0.06	976	(343)	299	0.03
820	1.35	0	820	1,560	2.52	2,632	0.27	1,200	1,432	2,216	0.24
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	426	0.05
0	0.00	85	(85)	185	0.30	390	0.04	0	390	0	0.00
0	0.00	208	(208)	0	0.00	0	0.00	595	(595)	188	0.02
494	0.82	694	(200)	1,025	1.65	(170)	(0.02)	2,929	(3,099)	1,887	0.20
342	0.56	208	134	86	0.14	7,671	0.78	9,760	(2,089)	8,332	0.88
218	0.36	521	(303)	108	0.17	3,193	0.32	2,929	264	1,451	0.15
0	0.00	21	(21)	19	0.03	4,540	0.46	7,320	(2,780)	4,953	0.53
79	0.13	125	(46)	89	0.14	104	0.01	293	(189)	138	0.01
76	0.13	150	(74)	0	0.00	1,512	0.15	1,757	(245)	1,596	0.17
635	1.05	444	191	309	0.50	878	0.09	1,050	(172)	996	0.11
312	0.52	0	312	122	0.20	7,690	0.78	6,246	1,444	5,889	0.63
80	0.13	100	(20)	150	0.24	694	0.07	0	694	305	0.03
309	0.51	150	159	133	0.21	495	0.05	700	(205)	900	0.10
580	0.96	243	337	394	0.64	873	0.09	1,050	(177)	599	0.06
6,785	11.20	5,062	1,723	6,849	11.05	2,959	0.30	3,416	(457)	3,299	0.35
(15,237)	(25.15)	(2,020)	(13,217)	(11,093)	(17.90)	64,810	6.59	71,906	(7,096)	67,287	7.14
						109,254	11.11	163,528	(54,274)	125,975	13.37

OTHER EXPENSES

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Last Year
0.61	0.73	0.73	0.50	0.53	0.50

STATISTICS

Food Rev/Room & Cottage

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month		Current Month		Current Month		Year to Date		Year to Date		Year to Date	
This Year	Percent	Budget	Variance	Last Year	Percent	This Year	Percent	Budget	Variance	Last Year	Percent
BEVERAGE SCHEDULE											
REVENUES											
3,585	30.75	4,433	(848)	4,008	29.93	60,668	27.74	59,131	1,537	62,694	29.61
4,682	40.16	4,654	28	4,354	32.51	56,496	25.83	62,088	(5,592)	51,816	24.47
1,866	16.01	1,995	(129)	1,786	13.34	25,718	11.76	26,610	(892)	28,269	13.35
10,133	86.92	11,082	(949)	10,148	75.78	142,882	65.33	147,829	(4,947)	142,779	67.42
309	2.65	1,463	(1,154)	1,140	8.51	37,230	17.02	29,472	7,758	39,367	18.59
879	7.54	1,672	(793)	1,916	14.31	25,655	11.73	33,684	(8,029)	20,783	9.81
337	2.89	1,045	(708)	188	1.40	12,949	5.92	21,051	(8,102)	6,869	3.24
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	1,970	0.93
1,525	13.08	4,180	(2,655)	3,244	24.22	75,834	34.67	84,207	(8,373)	68,989	32.58
11,658	100.00	15,262	(3,604)	13,392	100.00	218,716	100.00	232,036	(13,320)	211,768	100.00
BEVERAGE COST OF SALES											
1,065	9.14	1,238	(173)	1,648	12.31	21,892	10.01	18,607	3,285	20,466	9.66
2,169	18.61	1,771	398	2,613	19.51	26,944	12.32	26,816	128	23,614	11.15
578	4.96	988	(410)	571	4.26	13,645	6.24	15,490	(1,845)	8,785	4.15
196	1.68	289	(93)	496	3.70	2,636	1.21	4,341	(1,705)	5,016	2.37
604	5.18	175	429	420	3.14	3,400	1.55	1,725	1,675	1,879	0.89
4,612	39.56	4,461	151	5,748	42.92	68,517	31.33	66,979	1,538	59,760	28.22
7,046	60.44	10,801	(3,755)	7,644	57.08	150,199	68.67	165,057	(14,858)	152,008	71.78
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES											
2,989	25.64	2,142	847	3,271	24.43	28,638	13.09	22,898	5,740	27,381	12.93
214	1.84	502	(288)	375	2.80	2,281	1.04	10,106	(7,825)	3,197	1.51
463	3.97	263	200	602	4.50	4,951	2.26	3,801	1,150	5,140	2.43
195	1.67	502	(307)	406	3.03	1,970	0.90	3,430	(1,460)	2,851	1.35
3,861	33.12	3,409	452	4,654	34.75	37,840	17.30	40,235	(2,395)	38,569	18.21

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	45	0.02	0	45	0	0.00
121	1.04	107	14	0	0.00	577	0.26	1,624	(1,047)	412	0.19
200	1.72	200	0	200	1.49	1,400	0.64	1,400	0	1,400	0.66
76	0.65	140	(64)	70	0.52	1,929	0.88	2,470	(541)	1,518	0.72
1,426	12.23	265	1,161	1,769	13.21	10,427	4.77	9,375	1,052	10,533	4.97
0	0.00	160	(160)	0	0.00	0	0.00	480	(480)	0	0.00
0	0.00	18	(18)	0	0.00	110	0.05	279	(169)	204	0.10
0	0.00	31	(31)	0	0.00	62	0.03	464	(402)	70	0.03
0	0.00	46	(46)	0	0.00	0	0.00	696	(696)	643	0.30
0	0.00	92	(92)	0	0.00	40	0.02	1,392	(1,352)	2,135	1.01
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	72	0.03
1,823	15.64	1,059	764	2,039	15.23	14,590	6.67	18,180	(3,590)	16,987	8.02
1,362	11.68	6,333	(4,971)	951	7.10	97,769	44.70	106,642	(8,873)	96,452	45.55

OTHER EXPENSES

Decorations  
Glassware  
Insurance - Liability  
License & Taxes  
Music & Entertainment  
Personnel Training  
Supplies - Cleaning  
Supplies - Guest/Dining  
Supplies - Bar/Utensils  
Supplies - Paper  
Supplies-Printing/Stationery

Total Other Expenses

Beverage Department Income

STATISTICS

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Last Year
0.19	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22
0.12	0.15	0.16	0.11	0.12	0.11
			Bev Rev/Food Revenue		
			Bev Rev/Room Revenue		

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

GIFT SHOP SCHEDULE											
Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Percent	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
REVENUE											
2,067	109.19	4,264	(2,197)	4,064	144.27	42,394	55,900	112.56	(13,506)	66,104	125.08
(174)	(9.19)	(640)	466	(1,247)	(44.27)	(4,729)	(8,385)	(12.56)	3,656	(13,256)	(25.08)
1,893	100.00	3,624	(1,731)	2,817	100.00	37,665	47,515	100.00	(9,850)	52,848	100.00
GIFT SHOP COST OF SALES											
1,785	94.29	2,356	(571)	2,570	91.23	21,730	30,884	57.69	(9,154)	38,267	72.41
1,785	94.29	2,356	(571)	2,570	91.23	21,730	30,884	57.69	(9,154)	38,267	72.41
108	5.71	1,268	(1,160)	247	8.77	15,935	16,631	42.31	(696)	14,581	27.59
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES											
496	26.20	496	0	424	15.05	6,694	8,616	17.77	(1,922)	7,217	13.66
49	2.59	49	0	66	2.34	770	996	2.04	(226)	870	1.65
42	2.22	42	0	82	2.91	350	426	0.93	(76)	401	0.76
587	31.01	587	0	572	20.31	7,814	10,038	20.75	(2,224)	8,488	16.06
OTHER EXPENSES											
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	567	0	1.51	567	475	0.90
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	567	0	1.51	567	475	0.90
(479)	(25.30)	681	(1,160)	(325)	(11.54)	7,554	6,593	20.06	961	5,618	10.63
STATISTICS											
171		327		254		485	612			681	
Gift Sales PAR											

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

BUCCANEER BAY SCHEDULE											
Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
3,583	35.56	4,879	(1,296)	3,686	40.22	26,480	42.78	37,522	(11,042)	25,759	40.93
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	14	0.02
3,583	35.56	4,879	(1,296)	3,686	40.22	26,480	42.78	37,522	(11,042)	25,773	40.95
REVENUES											
6,768	67.17	4,927	1,841	5,492	59.92	37,533	60.64	37,896	(363)	39,977	63.52
989	9.82	878	111	745	8.13	5,085	8.22	6,754	(1,669)	4,867	7.73
(1,264)	(12.54)	(443)	(821)	(758)	(8.27)	(7,200)	(11.63)	(3,410)	(3,790)	(7,681)	(12.20)
6,493	64.44	5,362	1,131	5,479	59.78	35,418	57.22	41,240	(5,822)	37,163	59.05
10,076	100.00	10,241	(165)	9,165	100.00	61,898	100.00	78,762	(16,864)	62,936	100.00
SNACK BAR COST OF SALES											
1,258	12.49	1,971	(713)	1,547	16.88	10,899	17.61	15,158	(4,259)	13,227	21.02
266	2.64	263	3	(41)	(0.45)	1,202	1.94	2,025	(823)	1,530	2.43
71	0.70	290	(219)	172	1.88	2,017	3.26	2,233	(216)	1,301	2.07
1,595	15.83	2,524	(929)	1,678	18.31	14,118	22.81	19,416	(5,298)	16,058	25.51
8,481	84.17	7,717	764	7,487	81.69	47,780	77.19	59,346	(11,566)	46,878	74.49
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES											
4,145	41.14	4,346	(201)	4,310	47.03	38,188	61.70	39,615	(1,427)	41,550	66.02
3,360	33.35	3,360	0	3,262	35.59	23,321	37.68	23,520	(199)	22,689	36.05
952	9.45	1,697	(745)	1,187	12.95	11,583	18.71	14,354	(2,771)	10,907	17.33
978	9.71	935	43	1,189	12.97	7,805	12.61	8,106	(301)	8,160	12.97
1,863	18.49	1,232	631	1,285	14.02	12,614	20.38	9,389	3,225	8,648	13.74
11,298	112.13	11,570	(272)	11,233	122.56	93,511	151.07	94,984	(1,473)	91,954	146.11
Total Payroll - Related Expenses											



Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month		Current Month		Current Month		Current Month		Year to Date		Year to Date		Year to Date	
This Year	Percent	Budget	Variance	Last Year	Percent	REVENUES	Percent	This Year	Percent	Budget	Variance	Last Year	Percent
THE PRESERVE													
REVENUES													
40	0.37	0	40	18	0.19	Golf Rounds	38.59	139,770	38.59	275,470	(135,700)	156,124	41.54
4,169	38.35	2,000	2,169	817	8.43	Golf Membership	5.90	21,379	5.90	7,000	14,379	14,851	3.95
6,443	59.27	5,000	1,443	8,603	88.72	Golf GPS Sales	5.89	21,353	5.89	11,000	10,353	19,103	5.08
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Golf Lessons	0.03	100	0.03	0	100	20	0.01
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Range Fees	0.55	1,988	0.55	1,950	38	2,263	0.60
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Cart Rental	15.21	55,106	15.21	0	55,106	50,987	13.57
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Club Rental	0.46	1,655	0.46	2,075	(420)	1,820	0.48
5	0.05	0	5	18	0.19	Pro Shop Hard Goods	7.00	25,354	7.00	36,090	(10,736)	24,879	6.62
315	2.90	0	315	243	2.51	Pro Shop Soft Goods	11.98	43,410	11.98	36,089	7,321	51,320	13.65
(132)	(1.21)	0	(132)	(91)	(0.94)	Discounts	(4.00)	(14,480)	(4.00)	(8,500)	(5,980)	(11,946)	(3.18)
10,840	99.72	7,000	3,840	9,608	99.08	Preserve Golf Revenue	81.61	295,635	81.61	361,174	(65,539)	309,421	82.33
12	0.11	0	12	66	0.68	Club House Food Revenue	8.16	29,572	8.16	34,138	(4,566)	34,751	9.25
18	0.17	0	18	23	0.24	Club House Beverage Revenue	10.22	37,028	10.22	34,138	2,890	31,676	8.43
30	0.28	0	30	89	0.92	Preserve Food & Beverage	18.39	66,600	18.39	68,276	(1,676)	66,427	17.67
10,870	100.00	7,000	3,870	9,697	100.00	The Preserve Revenue	100.00	362,235	100.00	429,450	(67,215)	375,848	100.00
PRESERVE COST OF SALES													
217	2.00	0	217	(244)	(2.52)	Pro Shop Cost of Sales	10.79	39,083	10.79	46,194	(7,111)	43,705	11.63
25	0.23	0	25	0	0.00	Other Golf Cost of Sales	0.32	1,151	0.32	1,805	(654)	1,365	0.36
6	0.06	0	6	35	0.36	Golf Food Cost	3.35	12,132	3.35	12,973	(841)	13,627	3.63
7	0.06	0	7	69	0.71	Golf Beverage Cost	2.88	10,450	2.88	12,972	(2,522)	9,303	2.48
255	2.35	0	255	(140)	(1.44)	Total Cost of Sales	17.34	62,816	17.34	73,944	(11,128)	68,000	18.09
10,615	97.65	7,000	3,615	9,837	101.44	Gross Golf Income	82.66	299,419	82.66	355,506	(56,087)	307,848	81.91
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES													
11,473	105.55	12,266	(793)	10,609	109.40	Salaries & Wages-Managers	25.07	90,821	25.07	94,147	(3,326)	88,359	23.51
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Salaries & Wages-Outside Serv	2.41	8,747	2.41	15,150	(6,403)	10,568	2.81
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Salaries & Wages-Golf F & B	1.90	6,865	1.90	11,250	(4,385)	7,818	2.08
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Salaries & Wages-Golf Pro Shop	1.82	6,587	1.82	7,800	(1,213)	6,449	1.72
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Salaries & Wages-Golf Grounds	12.09	43,777	12.09	47,000	(3,223)	48,811	12.99
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	Salaries & Wages-Golf Maint	1.51	5,479	1.51	7,600	(2,121)	5,234	1.39
1,275	11.73	1,220	55	1,488	15.34	Payroll Taxes	4.53	16,410	4.53	18,202	(1,792)	17,453	4.64
1,182	10.87	870	312	813	8.38	Employee Benefits	2.93	10,597	2.93	7,796	2,801	7,115	1.89
13,930	128.15	14,356	(426)	12,910	133.13	Total Payroll - Related Expenses	52.25	189,283	52.25	208,945	(19,662)	191,807	51.03

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Percent	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,654	0.76	3,800	(2,146)	2,164	1.03
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,500	(1,500)	0	0.00
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	9,258	4.23	11,000	(1,742)	13,842	6.60
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	13,879	6.35	13,200	679	10,752	5.12
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	5,923	2.71	9,000	(3,077)	4,796	2.29
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	15,932	7.28	22,000	(6,068)	19,793	9.43
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	17,534	8.02	12,000	5,534	15,915	7.59
35	500	0.30	69	0.52	9,883	4.52	6,600	3,283	4,878	2.33
0	450	0.00	340	2.54	49,644	22.70	50,865	(1,221)	50,878	24.25
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	435	0.20	600	(165)	262	0.12
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	200	(200)	42	0.02
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	100	(100)	60	0.03
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	200	(200)	6	0.00
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	274	0.13	400	(126)	206	0.10
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	1,207	0.55	615	592	610	0.29
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	82	0.04	0	82	0	0.00
0	0	0.00	0	0.00	747	0.34	760	(13)	747	0.36
13	0	0.11	0	0.00	463	0.21	2,150	(1,687)	0	0.00
180	180	1.54	180	1.34	1,310	0.60	1,385	(75)	1,385	0.66
0	5	0.00	5	0.04	590	0.27	585	5	590	0.28
143	100	1.23	116	0.87	716	0.33	500	216	359	0.17
720	0	6.18	0	0.00	1,175	0.54	100	1,075	142	0.07
200	180	1.72	180	1.34	654	0.30	290	364	552	0.26
1,291	1,415	11.07	890	6.65	131,360	60.06	137,850	(6,490)	127,979	61.00
(4,606)	(8,771)	(41.57)	(3,963)	(38.34)	(21,224)	(29.66)	8,711	(29,935)	(11,938)	(30.13)

OTHER EXPENSES

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Last Year
981	632	875	4,669	5,535	4,844

STATISTICS

Preserve Revenue PAR

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
 Comparative Statement of Income  
 For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Last Year
TELEPHONE SCHEDULE					
REVENUE					
0	0	0	0	0	15
			0.00	0	0.00
			0.00	0	0.00
			0.00	0	0.00
COST OF CALLS					
1,515	1,240	1,242	10,948	8,680	8,623
670	379	358	5,880	4,869	4,076
			2.05	2,268	1,011
			0.59	1,011	
2,185	1,619	1,600	16,828	13,549	12,699
			2.64	3,279	1.13
EXPENSES					
55	0	0	4,163	4,000	6,618
1,705	1,705	1,705	11,933	11,935	11,935
			0.35	(2)	0.59
			0.99		1.06
(3,945)	(3,324)	(3,305)	(32,924)	(29,484)	(31,237)
			(2.74)	(3,440)	(2.77)

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Last Year
STATISTICS					
0	0	0	0	0	1
			0	0	
			0	0	



Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
17,333	16,793	540	15,705	8.53	116,290	3.11	119,697	(3,407)	112,744	3.15
1,633	1,671	(38)	1,771	0.96	9,945	0.27	13,658	(3,713)	10,238	0.29
2,202	2,128	74	1,855	1.01	15,487	0.41	14,769	718	12,812	0.36
21,168	20,592	576	19,331	10.50	141,722	3.79	148,124	(6,402)	135,794	3.79
191	300	(109)	177	0.10	2,409	0.06	2,100	309	1,763	0.05
6,325	4,895	1,430	4,946	2.69	85,374	2.28	79,336	6,038	76,626	2.14
191	0	191	431	0.23	1,125	0.03	0	1,125	158	0.00
1,849	1,960	(111)	1,961	1.07	13,032	0.35	13,720	(688)	14,238	0.40
1,389	1,000	389	0	0.00	14,507	0.39	7,000	7,507	3,133	0.09
230	0	230	0	0.00	1,219	0.03	500	719	248	0.01
0	50	(50)	0	0.00	570	0.02	350	220	1,673	0.05
20	0	20	0	0.00	400	0.01	0	400	358	0.01
0	225	(225)	0	0.00	450	0.01	0	450	28	0.00
70	750	(680)	277	0.15	5,925	0.16	2,550	(2,100)	28	0.00
0	0	0	0	0.00	1,027	0.03	6,250	(325)	5,385	0.15
833	800	33	891	0.48	7,033	0.19	5,600	1,433	708	0.02
459	450	9	445	0.24	3,939	0.11	3,875	64	6,641	0.19
520	500	20	428	0.23	3,664	0.10	4,000	(336)	3,720	0.10
702	700	2	1,004	0.55	6,035	0.16	4,900	1,135	4,231	0.12
0	0	0	0	0.00	29,448	0.79	31,650	(2,202)	5,641	0.16
0	0	0	0	0.00	804	0.02	0	804	34,379	0.96
0	0	0	0	0.00	900	0.02	900	0	0	0.00
539	1,250	(711)	760	0.41	5,039	0.13	8,750	(3,711)	8,386	0.23
243	175	68	160	0.09	1,393	0.04	1,225	168	1,126	0.03
887	1,000	(113)	997	0.54	9,312	0.25	7,800	1,512	8,208	0.23
0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
105	105	0	105	0.06	1,120	0.03	1,140	(20)	1,188	0.03
14,553	14,160	393	12,582	6.84	194,725	5.20	182,356	12,369	178,738	4.99
35,721	34,752	969	31,913	17.34	336,447	8.99	330,480	5,967	314,532	8.78

ADMINISTRATIVE - GENERAL SCHEDULE

PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES

Salaries & Wages - A & G

Payroll Taxes

Employee Benefits

Total Payroll - Related Expenses

OTHER EXPENSES

Bank Charges

Commissions - Credit Cards

Cash Short & Over

Computer/PMS Maint

Computer/Hardware Maint

Data Processing

Donations

Dues and Subscriptions

Education and Training

Human Resources

Licenses & Fees

Meals/Entertainment

Payroll Processing Fee

Postage and Telegrams

Printing and Stationery

Professional Fees

Provision for Doubtful A/R

Security

Supplies - Operating

Telephone

Travel

Vehicle Expense

Other Admin Expenses

Total Other Expenses

Total Admin-General Expenses

Current Month This Year	Current Month Budget	Current Month Last Year	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Last Year
3,223	3,136	2,879	4,337	4,260	4,054

STATISTICS

A & G PAR

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
24,821	12.30	26,250	(1,429)	24,398	13.26	175,692	4.69	182,395	(6,703)	160,982	4.49
2,644	1.31	2,612	32	2,821	1.53	16,675	0.45	20,803	(4,128)	14,982	0.42
2,246	1.11	2,789	(543)	1,679	0.91	16,149	0.43	19,383	(3,234)	16,236	0.45
29,711	14.72	31,651	(1,940)	28,898	15.70	208,516	5.57	222,581	(14,065)	192,200	5.36
SALES & MARKETING SCHEDULE PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES											
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
0	0.00	750	(750)	0	0.00	1,200	0.03	1,500	(300)	3,944	0.11
10,259	5.08	6,500	3,759	5,968	3.24	60,193	1.61	60,000	193	64,092	1.79
4,805	2.38	4,000	805	(3,266)	(1.77)	18,644	0.50	28,000	(9,356)	22,932	0.64
2,635	1.31	10,000	(7,365)	429	0.23	8,853	0.16	25,000	(19,147)	28,559	0.80
0	0.00	0	0	1,942	1.06	5,500	0.15	0	5,500	14,442	0.40
1,629	0.81	1,250	379	2,376	1.29	3,818	0.10	8,750	(4,932)	6,808	0.19
19,328	9.58	22,500	(3,172)	7,449	4.05	95,208	2.54	123,250	(28,042)	140,777	3.93
MEDIA EXPENSES											
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
0	0.00	750	(750)	0	0.00	1,200	0.03	1,500	(300)	3,944	0.11
10,259	5.08	6,500	3,759	5,968	3.24	60,193	1.61	60,000	193	64,092	1.79
4,805	2.38	4,000	805	(3,266)	(1.77)	18,644	0.50	28,000	(9,356)	22,932	0.64
2,635	1.31	10,000	(7,365)	429	0.23	8,853	0.16	25,000	(19,147)	28,559	0.80
0	0.00	0	0	1,942	1.06	5,500	0.15	0	5,500	14,442	0.40
1,629	0.81	1,250	379	2,376	1.29	3,818	0.10	8,750	(4,932)	6,808	0.19
19,328	9.58	22,500	(3,172)	7,449	4.05	95,208	2.54	123,250	(28,042)	140,777	3.93
OTHER SALES EXPENSES:											
0	0.00	900	(900)	438	0.24	4,741	0.13	6,300	(1,559)	4,407	0.12
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	3,485	0.09	2,500	985	1,985	0.06
1,052	0.52	850	202	634	0.34	5,423	0.14	5,950	(527)	4,784	0.13
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	849	0.02	0	849	23	0.00
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	447	0.01	1,200	(753)	1,626	0.05
1,614	0.80	1,500	114	428	0.23	5,608	0.15	10,500	(4,892)	13,239	0.37
0	0.00	200	(200)	350	0.19	1,543	0.04	1,400	143	3,608	0.10
1,149	0.57	100	1,049	875	0.48	6,004	0.16	700	5,304	4,005	0.11
128	0.06	0	128	21	0.01	278	0.01	0	278	21	0.00
163	0.08	0	163	198	0.11	526	0.01	0	526	820	0.02
156	0.08	400	(244)	202	0.11	2,142	0.06	2,800	(658)	1,489	0.04
153	0.08	300	(147)	270	0.15	2,559	0.07	2,100	459	637	0.02
549	0.27	800	(251)	438	0.24	4,406	0.12	5,600	(1,194)	4,290	0.12
359	0.18	450	(91)	370	0.20	2,506	0.07	3,150	(644)	2,744	0.08
3,779	1.87	1,500	2,279	1,992	1.08	20,788	0.56	11,500	9,288	10,373	0.29
2,340	1.16	1,000	1,340	2,519	1.37	9,853	0.26	7,000	2,853	12,770	0.36
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	1,800	0.05	1,800	0	1,800	0.05
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00
11,442	5.67	8,000	3,442	8,735	4.75	72,958	1.95	62,500	10,458	68,621	1.91
60,481	29.97	62,151	(1,670)	45,082	24.50	376,682	10.06	408,331	(31,649)	401,598	11.21
STATISTICS											
5,457		5,608		4,068		4,855		5,263		5,176	

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
14,914	7.39	15,898	(984)	13,824	7.51	112,784	112,717	67	106,388	2.97
1,672	0.83	1,581	91	1,715	0.93	11,169	12,859	(1,690)	10,587	0.30
1,456	0.72	1,601	(145)	1,316	0.72	13,253	10,910	2,343	9,528	0.27
18,042	8.94	19,080	(1,038)	16,855	9.16	137,206	136,486	720	126,503	3.53
PROPERTY OPER/MAINT SCHEDULE										
PAYROLL & RELATED EXPENSES										
414	0.21	1,150	(736)	354	0.19	4,985	10,050	(5,065)	1,802	0.05
2,220	1.10	1,920	300	1,169	0.64	24,868	13,175	11,693	12,191	0.34
761	0.38	300	461	0	0.00	3,551	2,100	1,451	2,077	0.06
412	0.20	500	(88)	343	0.19	11,269	5,250	6,019	3,889	0.11
0	0.00	0	0	51	0.03	109	1,200	(1,091)	541	0.02
0	0.00	0	0	36	0.02	507	1,300	(793)	605	0.02
138	0.07	0	138	55	0.03	389	700	(311)	753	0.02
64	0.03	100	(36)	0	0.00	125	700	(575)	56	0.00
566	0.28	600	(34)	555	0.30	4,434	6,400	(1,966)	4,387	0.12
617	0.31	700	(83)	79	0.04	7,238	6,300	938	13,173	0.37
(69)	(0.03)	1,100	(1,169)	1,958	1.06	10,944	11,900	(956)	11,288	0.31
0	0.00	25	(25)	0	0.00	0	175	(175)	212	0.01
67	0.03	230	(163)	397	0.22	556	1,610	(1,054)	1,106	0.03
661	0.33	500	161	624	0.34	5,982	3,500	2,482	4,080	0.11
142	0.07	600	(458)	437	0.24	22,245	7,000	15,245	5,549	0.15
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00
168	0.08	50	118	231	0.13	1,039	350	689	1,066	0.03
0	0.00	100	(100)	0	0.00	0	700	(700)	0	0.00
0	0.00	85	(85)	0	0.00	95	595	(500)	0	0.00
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	252	0	252	252	0.01
6,161	3.05	7,960	(1,799)	6,289	3.42	98,588	73,005	25,583	63,027	1.76
24,203	11.99	27,040	(2,837)	23,144	12.58	235,794	209,491	26,303	189,530	5.29
STATISTICS										
2,184		2,440	(256)	2,088		3,039	2,700	339	2,443	

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Percent	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
ENERGY COSTS SCHEDULE											
18,831	9.33	19,000	(169)	18,334	9.96	153,061	4.09	154,000	(939)	147,124	4.11
15,220	7.54	20,260	(5,040)	15,671	8.52	70,842	1.89	96,400	(25,558)	96,205	2.68
876	0.43	1,250	(374)	892	0.48	11,813	0.32	12,250	(437)	11,322	0.32
<u>34,927</u>	<u>17.31</u>	<u>40,510</u>	<u>(5,583)</u>	<u>34,897</u>	<u>18.96</u>	<u>235,716</u>	<u>6.30</u>	<u>262,650</u>	<u>(26,934)</u>	<u>254,651</u>	<u>7.11</u>
Current Month This Year		Current Month Budget		Current Month Last Year		Year to Date This Year		Year to Date Budget		Year to Date Last Year	
3,151		3,655		3,149		3,038		3,385		3,282	
STATISTICS Total Energy Cost PAR											
MANAGEMENT FEE SCHEDULE											
18,166	9.00	18,166	0	17,253	9.37	127,159	3.40	127,162	(3)	120,771	3.37
8,250	4.09	6,300	1,950	6,300	3.42	49,150	1.31	44,100	5,050	44,100	1.23
<u>26,416</u>	<u>13.09</u>	<u>24,466</u>	<u>1,950</u>	<u>23,553</u>	<u>12.80</u>	<u>176,309</u>	<u>4.71</u>	<u>171,262</u>	<u>5,047</u>	<u>164,871</u>	<u>4.60</u>
Current Month This Year		Current Month Budget		Current Month Last Year		Year to Date This Year		Year to Date Budget		Year to Date Last Year	
0.09		0.08		0.09		0.03		0.03		0.03	
STATISTICS Base Fees/Total Revenue											

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Comparative Statement of Income  
For the Seven Months Ending January 31, 2013

Current Month This Year	Percent	Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year	Percent	Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	Percent
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00
FIXED CHARGES SCHEDULE										
RENT, PROPERTY TAX, INSURANCE & CAPITAL EXPENSES										
RENT										
				Total Rent		0	0	0	0	0.00
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00
TAXES OTHER THAN INCOME, PAYROLL										
INSURANCE ON BLDG/CONTENTS										
19,860	9.84	20,375	(515)	18,535	10.07	133,125	142,625	(9,500)	121,708	3.56
19,860	9.84	20,375	(515)	18,535	10.07	133,125	142,625	(9,500)	121,708	3.56
INTEREST EXPENSE										
122,774	60.85	122,774	0	124,390	67.59	859,416	859,418	(2)	870,733	24.30
122,774	60.85	122,774	0	124,390	67.59	859,416	859,418	(2)	870,733	24.30
DEPRECIATION										
0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00
142,634	70.69	143,149	(515)	142,925	77.66	992,541	1,002,043	(9,502)	992,441	27.69
Current Month This Year		Current Month Budget	Current Month Variance	Current Month Last Year		Year to Date This Year	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Variance	Year to Date Last Year	
0		0	0	0		0	0	0	0	
1,792		1,838		1,672		1,716	1,838		1,569	
11,077		11,077		11,223		11,077	11,077		11,223	
STATISTICS										
Real Estate Taxes PAR										
Insurance PAR										
Interest Expense PAR										

Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Statement of Cash Flow  
For the seven Months Ended January 31, 2013

	Current Month	Year to Date
Cash Flows from operating activities		
Net Income	\$ (289,271.24)	\$ (578,449.50)
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities		
MC & Visa Accts Receivable	0.00	110.88
Direct Bill Accts Receivable	32,419.47	77,714.67
Guest Ledger	17,878.56	46,615.69
Accounts Receivable - Other	(65.64)	1,473.91
Inventories - Food	938.69	3,023.83
Inventories - Beverage	399.06	2,218.18
Inventories - Rooms	0.00	5,205.95
Inventories - Gift Shop	(549.66)	6,883.10
Inventories - Pro Shop	30.64	37,770.34
Inventories - Waterpark	622.04	366.88
Prepaid Exp - Insurance	1,457.00	(6,928.48)
Prepaid Exp - Worker's Comp	8,515.00	(16,168.00)
Prepaid Expenses - Other	(5,701.57)	(12,873.04)
Accounts Payable	(28,785.70)	(92,816.57)
Advance Deposits from Guests	89,708.64	(121,244.80)
Gift Cards - Unredeemed	(271.67)	27,062.03
Management Fees Payable	0.00	(6,052.42)
Reservations Payable	25.68	25.68
Taxes Payable - Sales Tax	(38,221.19)	(72,925.19)
Other Payables	0.00	4,462.98
Accrued Banquet Gratuities	(31.48)	(31.48)
Accrued Interest Payable	122,773.75	122,773.75
Accrued Payroll Payable	(12,589.16)	(55,242.82)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Adjustments	188,552.46	(48,574.93)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Cash provided by Operations	(100,718.78)	(627,024.43)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash Flows from investing activities		
Used For		
Furniture Fixtures & Equipment	0.00	(12,918.35)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash used in investing	0.00	(12,918.35)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash Flows from financing activities		
Proceeds From		
Debt Service Reserve	0.00	736,642.50
Used For		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash used in financing	0.00	736,642.50
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net increase <decrease> in cash	\$ (100,718.78)	\$ 96,699.72
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Summary		
Cash Balance at End of Period	\$ 379,042.44	\$ 379,042.44
Cash Balance at Beg of Period	(479,761.22)	(277,342.72)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net Increase <Decrease> in Cash	\$ (100,718.78)	\$ 101,699.72

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**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#5

**Information Item**

**Sport Fish Restoration Outstanding Project Award in Aquatic Education**

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The annual Sport Fish Restoration Outstanding Project awards are given by the Fisheries Administrators' Section of the American Fisheries Society are intended to both highlight the importance and effectiveness of the Sport Fish Restoration Program and recognize excellence in fisheries management, research, and education. The *"Fish Iowa! Urban Fishing Program Development and Case Study"* was the recipient of the 2012 winner in for aquatic education.

In 2005, *Fish Iowa!* initiated grants to support summer fishing programs through parks and recreation departments to better provide follow-up to school-based efforts in urban settings. We soon acknowledged the need to improve access to *nearby* fishing to support angling education efforts. The complexity of entities involved in programming and site management, as well as the diversity of stakeholders, presented unique opportunities/challenges and required a plethora of partnerships. These partnerships offered an opportunity for increased trust and collaboration among and between government agencies and residents, but little guidance analyzing how to form and maintain them exists in the literature.

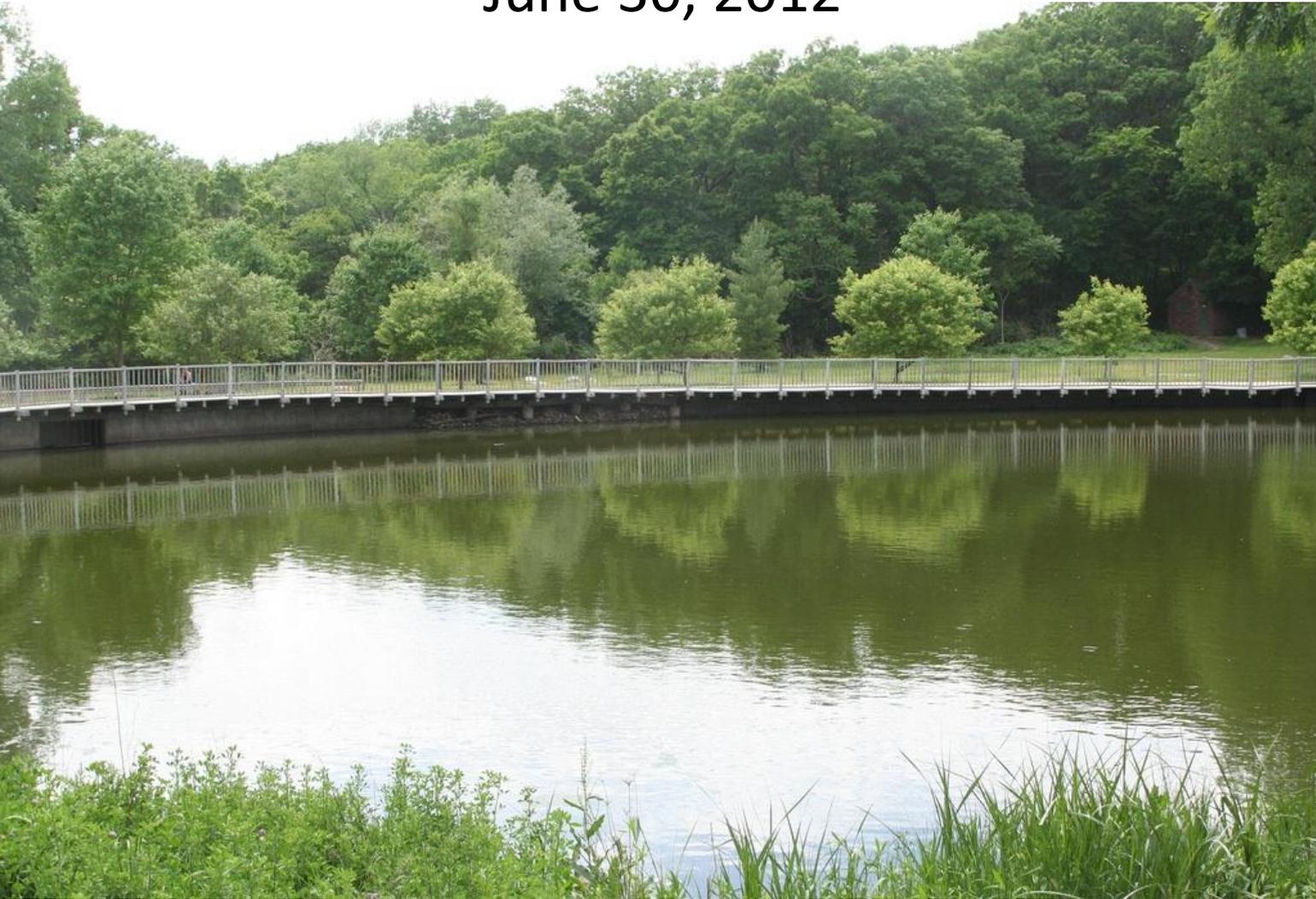
We worked with the City of Des Moines and Iowa State University to develop fisheries and watershed assessments for small urban impoundments, provide programming, and explore potential for partnering to develop and sustain neighborhood fisheries. We also contracted with Iowa State to conduct a case study of the overall process to inform future endeavors to implement a holistic urban fishing effort. Knowledge gained from this process has not only been integrated into efforts in Des Moines, but is being expanded to assessment of potential for family friendly fishing sites throughout Central Iowa.

Joe Larscheid, Fisheries Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

Attachments:  
Final Urban Fishing Program Case Study  
Des Moines Urban Fishing Completion Report - 1.12  
UFP Rubric 6.12

# Urban Fishing Formative Assessment and Case Study

Final Case Study Report  
June 30, 2012



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

## **Urban Fishing Program Assessment and Case Study**

### **Final Report**

Prepared by

Angie Carter, MS  
Graduate Research Assistant  
Department of Sociology  
Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture  
**carter@iastate.edu**

Rebecca Christoffel, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management  
**christoff@iastate.edu**

Lois Wright Morton, PhD  
Professor  
Department of Sociology  
**lwmorton@iastate.edu**

Iowa State University  
Ames, Iowa

Fulfilling Iowa State University and Iowa Department of Natural Resources Contract  
#057219162 Tasks 2b, 3b, 4 and 5

### **Funding**

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Cover drawings: Cowles Montessori School students  
Cover photo: Greenwood Park Bridge by Picture Des Moines

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## Executive Summary

### Overview

This case study documents the stakeholder involvement and planning process of a pilot urban fishing program in Des Moines, Iowa during the years 2010-2012. Analysis of stakeholder relationships, program process, and recommendations are included. In addition, two tools—a strategizing stakeholders template and a program process model—offer managers means to evaluate and plan program development and partnerships. While the Des Moines pilot urban fishing program is the focus of this case study, our findings and tools will be useful resources for state agencies and city governments collaborating on projects in which community ownership and stakeholder participation is central to project success.

### Findings

Case study data collection included focus groups with community and neighborhood representatives, interviews with key decision makers and stakeholders, and interviews with urban fishing program managers from other states. Key themes included program process and water quality. Partnerships were identified as central to program development and evolution.

### Discussion

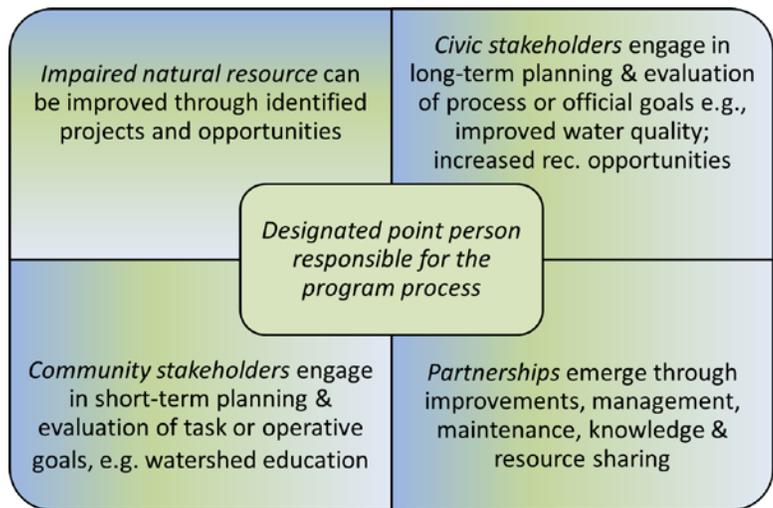
Several neighborhood and community groups had already invested significant time and effort into improving local urban park ponds. State and city agencies expressed interest in developing a program building upon these community investments. Analysis of the data informs a model for program management (Figure 1) and the following recommendations:

- Emphasize a process-oriented approach to define goals, build trust, and foster collaboration throughout program planning, process, and evaluation;
- Prioritize partnership development in program management to benefit the program's evolution and sustainability in both the short- and long-term;
- Designate a point person to oversee the program management whose position includes responsibility for the collaborative process and resource sharing.

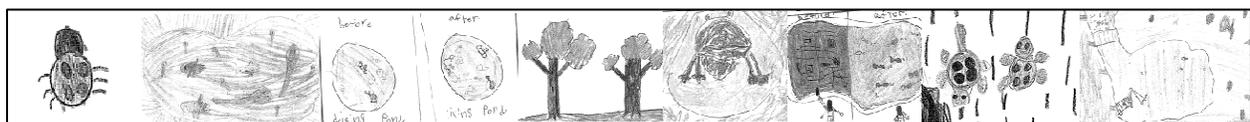
#### *Case study stakeholders*

- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- City of Des Moines
- Iowa State University
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District
- Polk County Conservation Board
- Various community and neighborhood groups within the Des Moines, Iowa metro area

Figure 1 Urban program management model



<i>Case study research questions and findings summary</i>	
1) What existing and potential partnerships might be key to this program's development?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intra- and inter-agency or government partnerships at federal, state, county, and city levels</li> <li>• Community, civic, neighborhood groups</li> <li>• Private partners</li> <li>• High profile individuals</li> <li>• Schools, museums, zoos, others</li> </ul>
2) How do these partnerships form and evolve?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared interest and motivation</li> <li>• Defined roles within the program's development</li> <li>• Ownership of the program's process and progress</li> <li>• Influence within the community or agency</li> <li>• Frequent communication and meetings</li> <li>• Mutual problem-solving</li> <li>• Evaluation incorporated within the partnership process</li> <li>• Defined and shared goals and process</li> <li>• Understanding of partners' decision-making processes</li> <li>• Designated point person whose job description specifies responsibility for the coordination of these partnerships</li> </ul>
3) What opportunities or capacity might these partnerships build within urban communities as they engage in public health, urban food source, watershed improvement, or ecological awareness initiatives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and resource-sharing</li> <li>• Increased trust and improved reputation</li> <li>• Environmental stewardship</li> <li>• Increased access to recreational opportunities</li> <li>• Integration within existing programs</li> <li>• Mentorship, intergenerational, and afterschool activities</li> <li>• Increased safety at local parks because of increased usage</li> </ul>
4) What are the barriers these partnerships may encounter within the community or city and state level agencies?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial</li> <li>• Staffing</li> <li>• Institutional culture or understanding of partners' decision-making processes</li> <li>• Communication, trust</li> <li>• Liability concerns</li> <li>• Public knowledge about water quality, watersheds</li> </ul>
5) If partnerships are one measurement of success, how does one identify the strength and potential of these partnerships?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process-oriented approach incorporating planning and evaluation</li> <li>• Process models or other tools to define goals, objectives, and outcomes for short-and long-term</li> <li>• Engaging partners in program planning process</li> </ul>



## Introduction

### Overview

This case study documents the stakeholder involvement and planning process of a pilot urban fishing program at urban park ponds in Des Moines, Iowa during the years 2010-2012.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation (City) were the lead partners in a pilot urban fishing program. Their goal was to engage urban residents in improved understanding of the function and health of their watershed through the creation of new recreational opportunities, thereby improving water quality.

**Table 1 Case study components**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Analysis of stakeholder relationships</li><li>• Analysis of partnerships</li><li>• Analysis of program process</li><li>• Summary of key themes</li><li>• Tools for program planning</li><li>• Research instruments for interviews and focus groups</li><li>• Methodology of the data collection</li></ul>	<p>Analysis of stakeholder relationships, program process, and recommendations are included in this case study report (Table 1). From this analysis, two tools have been created to assist co-management partners in the planning of their program—a strategizing stakeholders template and a program process model (Appendix B and Appendix C). These tools offer managers means to evaluate, plan, and strategize their partnerships and program process.</p>
<p>as a literature review of urban fishing program literature. Our findings are discussed in the report, and can be summarized in these three recommendations:</p>	<p>The case study includes data from focus groups and interviews with stakeholders in Iowa, interviews with urban fishing program managers from other states, as well</p>

While the Des Moines pilot urban fishing program is the focus of this case study, our findings and tools will be useful resources for state agencies and city governments collaborating on projects in which community ownership and stakeholder participation is central to project success.

## *Case Study Framework*

### *Urban Fishing Program Developments*

The program philosophy of urban fishing programs shifted in the late 1970s, as the “social relevance” of these programs was prioritized within agencies (Hunt et al. 2008). This social relevance included outreach to new anglers and partners, and required agencies to collaborate with diverse stakeholders to improve urban waters, create habitat, engage residents, and create programs (Hunt et al. 2008). Urban fishing programs are not alone in this increased reliance upon collaboration for program implementation.

Since the 1990s, natural resource management has faced challenges presented by government agencies’ budget constraints (Plummer and FitzGibbon 2004), growing urban populations, and interests groups’ questions of agency legitimacy (Wondolleck and Yafee 2000). In response to these challenges, natural resource agencies at local, state, and federal levels are shifting their traditional top-down management to incorporate more collaborative approaches, including partnerships, as they try to more effectively address environmental problems (Koontz et al. 2004). This presents a challenge to urban fishing program and other natural resource managers because the social relationships that emerge through the partnership process often require more management than the natural resource itself (Natcher et al. 2005).

Despite the growth of urban fishing programs and activities since the 1990s (Hunt et al. 2008), the literature lacks an analysis of evaluation tools that play important parts in the development, longevity, and benefits derived from the program, not only in terms of catch per unit effort, but also in respect to watershed management, partnership development, and other program facets. Without this knowledge, managers may face difficulty in the demonstration of outcomes associated with their program, and thus, justification for their continuation.

### *Urban Fishing Programs and Water Quality*

While not identified as a specific goal in the literature, urban fishing programs may offer one route to water quality improvements.

- Water quality improvements are one of the accomplishments of urban fishing programs (Eades et al. 2008).
- Fishing programming has inspired increased stewardship in communities (Penne & Cushing 2008).

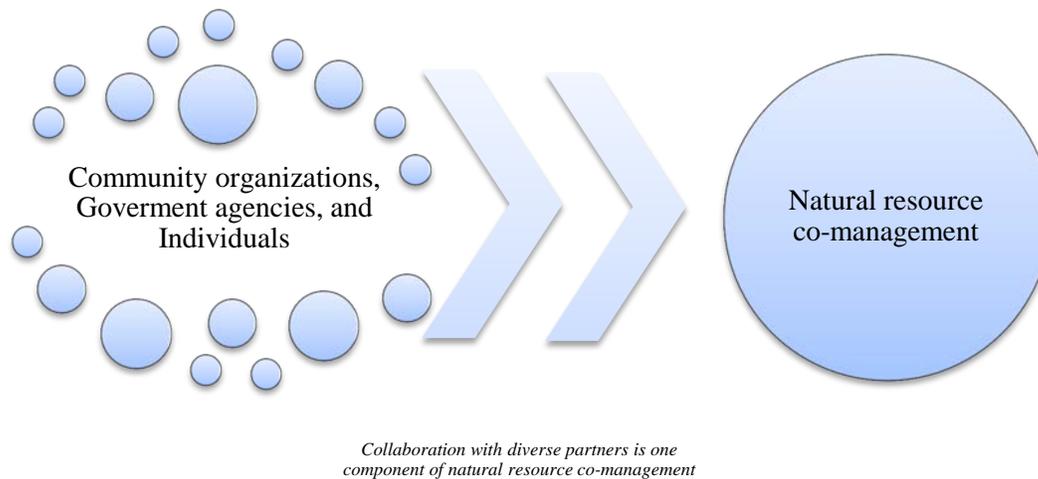
Water quality improvements and stewardship have been outcomes; increasing angling numbers and in new demographics have been primary goals.

### *Management Changes*

The top-down, expert-driven “If we stock it, they will come” mode of natural resource management is shifting to a process-oriented, collaborative, evolving and iterative management process (Carlsson & Berkes 2005, Koontz et al. 2004, Plummer & Fitzgibbon 2004). In response to the funding constraints many government agencies have faced since the 1990s (Plummer and FitzGibbon 2004), natural resource agencies at local, state, and federal levels have reoriented their traditional top-down management to incorporate more collaborative approaches, including

partnerships, in an effort to more effectively address environmental problems (Koontz et al. 2004). An example of this shift is the engagement of local-level partnerships (Figure 2), a new approach for many agencies (Plummer and FitzGibbon 2004). Pretty (2003) found “some 0.4 to 0.5 million groups have been established since the early 1990s for watershed, forest, irrigation, pest, wildlife, fishery, and microfinance management. These offer a route to sustainable management and governance of common resources” (p. 1912).

**Figure 2 Co-management process**



Carlsson and Berkes (2005) define co-management as the process of this partnership network formation that occurs as stakeholders share decision-making and responsibility for natural resource management while building trust, solving problems, and learning together through the resource management. Through this process, partners develop social capital. “Social capital exists in relationships” (Robison and Flora 2003:1189) and may be positive or negative, depending upon the situation. Pretty (2003) describes three categories of social capital: 1) individuals or groups engaging with those with similar goals or interests exhibit *bonding* social capital, 2) individuals or groups engaging for a common purpose with those with different views or objectives exhibit *bridging* social capital, 3) individuals or groups engaging with external agencies for influence or resources exhibit *linking* social capital.

### *Partners and Staff*

The incorporation of social networks and relationship management within the management of fish and aquatic habitats (Barber and Taylor 1990) is consistent with trends in natural resource management (Natcher et al. 2005) and relies upon the building of partnerships:

- Partnerships are the foundation of co-management process (Plummer & Fitzgibbon 2004).
- Agency staff may be fluent in the technical skills required for natural resource management, but new to the time and process required for collaboration (Wondolleck and Yaffee 2000).

As natural resource management shifts to address environmental problems collaboratively (Figure 2), government agencies may need to invest more in training and experience sharing among staff, or hiring of staff to facilitate these partnerships through the co-management of natural resources. The findings from this case study are consistent with Selin and Chavez's (1995) discussion of the challenges within natural resource management:

Managers need new skills to move from the expert opinion role in traditional environmental management to an empowerment role as mediator, catalyst, or broker in the new order. Managers comfortable with the hierarchical decision making of public agencies are finding it difficult to cope with the lateral decisions needed to sustain effective collaboration. (P. 189)

Collaboration success stories are valuable to program managers, but collaboration is a process rather than an end-point (Wondolleck and Yaffee 2000) and the formation of these partnerships requires trust and time (Carlsson and Berkes 2005). The integration of urban fishing programs within agencies challenges managers whose responsibilities include managing existing resources while creating new opportunities for new anglers in urban areas (Schramm and Edwards 1994). Thus, these partnerships may become points of leverage or contention as fisheries managers enter new territory.

Successful and sustainable programs are not inevitable outcomes of co-management (Singleton 2000). The literature lacks a discussion of how to navigate the inter-agency partnerships involved in the collaborative process of these programs. How do these partnerships form and evolve? What are the barriers these partnerships may encounter within the community or city and state level agencies? How can staff or agencies identify the strength and potential of these partnerships? The missing discussion of evaluation's role in collaborations is significant because as the importance of these partnerships increases, failed or conflicted collaborations present high costs in terms of staff time, funding, and social capital (Hatch 1997). Analysis of how these partnerships form provides insight to the function of partnerships within program process, structure, and sustainability.



Figure 3 Examples of community partnerships

### *Case Study Research Questions*

The increased focus on partnerships within urban fishing program management (Sweatman et al 2008; Schroeder et al. 2008a, 2008b; among others) is found throughout the larger context of co-management literature (Carlsson and Berkes 2005; Pretty 2003; Wondolleck and Yafee 2000, among others).

As agencies face funding constraints and cuts, strategic planning of these partners and the evaluation process become difficult due to increasingly limited time, staffing, and skills. Natural resource managers increasingly find that their work incorporating the management of partnerships requires more attention than expected (Natcher et al. 2005; Barber and Taylor 2000). This context shaped the development of our research questions (Table 2) for the Urban Fishing Formative Assessment and Case Study research.

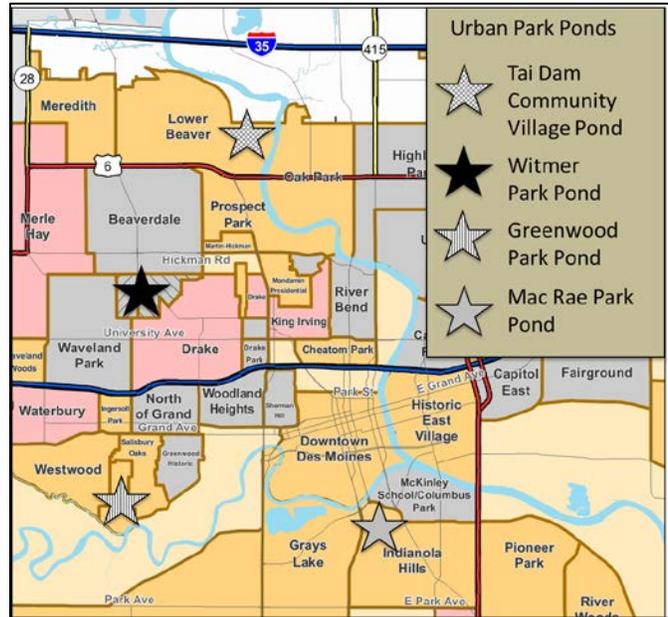
**Table 2 Case study research questions**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) What existing and potential partnerships might be key to this program's development?</li><li>2) How do these partnerships form and evolve?</li><li>3) What opportunities or capacity might these partnerships build within urban communities as they engage in public health, urban food source, watershed improvement, or ecological awareness initiatives?</li><li>4) What are the barriers these partnerships may encounter within the community or city and state level agencies?</li><li>5) If partnerships are one measurement of success, how does one identify the strength and potential of these partnerships?</li></ol>
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## Case study background

Iowa's population has shifted from rural to urban areas (Peters 2011), inspiring changes in local and state governments' planning of natural resource management and recreational opportunities. Residents of Des Moines, Iowa who participated in the City of Des Moines's Satisfaction Survey in 2007 requested more fishing opportunities within the city. In response to this, the City of Des Moines (City) and Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) began a partnership in 2009 that involved the funding of a half-time, seasonal employee to assist the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation department with summer fishing events. The success of these summer clinics and initial contacts with community groups inspired the IDNR and City to consider further collaboration on a year-round urban fishing program initiative at urban park ponds in Des Moines neighborhoods

Figure 4 Urban fishing program case study sites



In 2010, ISU and IDNR, in conjunction with the City and Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District (PCSWCD), evaluated the sustainability of Des Moines park ponds and lakes in terms of biological, chemical, and physical criteria. They prioritized four urban pond sites (Figure 4) within Des Moines, IA for potential urban fishing program development: Greenwood Park Pond, Mac Rae Park Pond, Witmer Park Pond, and Tai Dam community pond. This case study focuses on the potential for an urban fishing initiative at these four urban park ponds in Des Moines, Iowa.

The Iowa pilot urban fishing program was unique in several regards:

- A federal water improvement grant motivated the IDNR and City to focus on watershed improvements, stakeholder engagement, and potential for a city-wide urban fishing program. Program partners hoped to engage urban residents' in improved understanding of the function and health of their watershed through the creation of new recreational opportunities, thereby improving water quality.
- The pilot program was the first joint agency-city urban fishing collaboration in IA. While the IDNR has participated in the management of urban fisheries, there is no current formalized fishing program in urban areas in Iowa.
- The IDNR contracted with Iowa State University (ISU) to document the beginnings of the program process and development through a case study. Existing case studies of urban fishing programs focus upon specific components or look back at a program's evolution over time, rather than share a program's beginnings.

## Findings

Five research questions framed the inductive findings of this case study (Table 2, p.7). These questions were addressed through the context of a pilot urban fishing program in Des Moines, Iowa, as well as through analysis of interviews with urban fishing program managers in other states who are viewed as leaders in their field because of the success of their urban fishing programs. Emergent themes from interviews and focus groups suggested that partnerships are critical to the development of a community program. Our research findings (Figure 5) may change over time as state politics and funding mechanisms shift, or as programs begin, evolve, and end. However, the case study findings were consistent with the literature regarding natural resource partnerships, evaluation, and planning.

Case study findings will be discussed in terms of stakeholders, partnerships, process, tools, and recommendations for next steps.

Figure 5 Summary of findings



**Community stakeholders**

Community members were invited to one of five focus groups to discuss the potential for an urban fishing program. Four of these focus groups took place in the prioritized watersheds surrounding Greenwood Park Pond, Mac Rae Park Pond, Witmer Park Pond, and Tai Dam community pond and consisted of neighborhood members and others who had interest in the neighborhood park pond. The fifth focus group consisted of community members from various community organizations who were interested in an increase in urban fishing opportunities. Participants in these focus groups (Table 3) shared their interest, concerns, questions, and ideas related to the urban park ponds and fishing.

**Table 3 Focus group participants**

<b>County Agencies</b>	
	Polk County Conservation Board; Polk County 4-H; Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District
<b>Surrounding Neighborhood Associations and Groups</b>	
Greenwood Park	North of Grand Neighborhood; Waterbury Neighborhood; Founders Garden Club
Witmer Park	Beaverdale Neighborhood; Drake Neighborhood; Waveland Heights Neighborhood; Waveland Park Neighborhood
Taidam Village Park	Lower Beaver Neighborhood; Taidam Village Community
Mac Rae Park	Gray’s Lake Neighborhood; Indianola Hills Neighborhood; McKinley School/Columbus Park Neighborhood; Southwestern Hills Neighborhood
<b>Schools</b>	
Greenwood Park	Cowles Montessori
Witmer Park	Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Urban Campus; Drake University; Scavo High School
<b>Community Groups</b>	
	Central Iowa Anglers; Chrysalis Foundation; Freedom for Youth; Izaak Walton League; Raccoon River Watershed Association; Salvation Army; Urban Dreams

The Des Moines focus group participants raised a lot of questions regarding the urban fishing program, ranging from basic information questions such as “What is an urban fishing program?” to ecological questions such as “What species are currently in the pond? What species are native?” to more in-depth process-oriented questions such as “Is the funding continuous? What is the source?” Focus group participants were invested in their communities at varying levels and viewed improvements at the park as an asset to their neighborhood even if they were not interested in fishing.

Focus group participants shared examples of existing or lacking social capital (Table 4) as well as ideas for future engagement, concerns about challenges, and opportunities (Table 5) within their organizations and neighborhoods. Three focus groups—Greenwood Park Pond, Taidam Village Community Pond, and Witmer Park Pond—exhibited examples of existing bonding, bridging, and linking social capital—suggesting opportunities for the City and IDNR to build upon existing collaborations within these watersheds.

The *Taidam Village Community pond* was an exception on the list of prioritized ponds because the majority of it is on land privately owned by the Taidam Village Community. The City owns a bike trail that passes through the site as well as the northeastern corner of the pond that the trail passes near. Refugees from the Taidam community in Vietnam immigrated to Des Moines, Iowa in the 1970s. Their cultural community bought the land on which the pond is located in an effort to create a space for their community celebrations and to share their community's culture with the public. The Taidam Village Community bought the former brickyard and has spent significant funds and time cleaning the site to create a park for their community members, including hiring a scuba diver to inspect the pond. This is a strong example of bonding social capital among several generations of Taidam community members. At the time of the focus group, they were in the process of building the foundation of a community cultural center at the entrance to the park. Prior to the Taidam Village Community's ownership of the land, the Lower Beaverville residents had experienced increased criminal activities at the site and described it as an "eyesore." Their community's improvements at the pond site improved the safety of the surrounding neighborhood. Members of the Taidam Village Community attending the focus group described the site as a sanctuary within the city, and hoped that one day they would be able to donate the land to the City of Des Moines to thank the City for having welcomed them as refugees in the mid-1970s. The Lower Beaverville neighborhood and the Taidam Village Community already exchange information regularly. Each group had an appointed representative who attended the other's board meetings. There was a high level of trust among the participants from the two groups who attended the focus group:

I don't fish personally, but when this topic came up, like [name removed] mentioned too, [name removed] mentioned some of the other parks – it's like okay, that's all city-owned property. This is private property, and so I want to make... I guess I was concerned with, I want to make sure that the Tai Dam are not being railroaded or something, that this is to their benefit, that they agree with it and that they're in favor of it.  
*Lower Beaverville Neighborhood participant at Taidam Village Community pond focus group*

And the neighborhood. The neighborhood is important. That area is neighborhood. If the neighborhood's not involved, then what for? We don't live there. We... the people that live in that neighborhood. We come and enjoy it, but the neighbors live there, and we don't want them to complain about us. We want them to stay happy, thank you.  
*Taidam Village Community participant at Taidam Village Community pond focus group*

The relationship between these two groups was very strong and was unlike any of the partnerships shared through focus groups at other pond sites. The bridging capital they shared offered a strong existing network from which to partner with the City, County, or State on pond improvements and urban fishing program collaboration. The relationship between the neighborhood and Taidam Village Community had evolved over time and seemed strong enough to find solutions to the challenges that a mostly-privately owned program site would present.

**Table 4 Existing social capital in case study pond sites**

“Social capital exists in relationships” (Robison and Flora 2003:1189) and “it is embodied in the relations among persons” (Coleman 1990:304). Pretty (2003) describes three categories of social capital: 1) Individuals or groups engaging with those with similar goals or interests exhibit *bonding* social capital, 2) Individuals or groups engaging for a common purpose with those with different views or objectives exhibit *bridging* social capital, 3) Individuals or groups engaging with external agencies for influence or resources exhibit *linking* social capital.

<b>Social Capital</b>	<b>Community Organizations</b>	<b>Taidam Community Park Pond</b>	<b>Greenwood Park Pond</b>	<b>Witmer Park Pond</b>	<b>MacRae Park Pond</b>
Bonding	Collaboration among City, IDNR, Polk County Conservation, Isaac Walton League already underway in development of fishing opportunities in Des Moines	The Taidam community plans events year-round events open to the public; Surrounding neighborhood residents from Lower Beaver neighborhood were especially concerned about the welfare of the Taidam Village community and the potential risks and benefit of increased use at pond	High park usage among City residents; neighborhood residents recognized need for park pond improvements due to its impaired water quality	Diverse attendance at focus group in terms of age, interest, and gender, including students working at the pond site for class, teachers from surrounding schools, and representatives from several neighborhood associations—all concerned about park improvements	Little current use of park but strong nostalgic attachment to it because many had lived in the neighborhood the whole or majority of their lives; a few neighborhood residents are fishing at the park pond
Bridging	Many examples of partnership among City, State, and community organizations with staff dedicated to manage these relationships	Taidam community collaborating with City planners on property assessment	Area schools, Des Moines Art Center, and City already in collaboration with neighborhood residents concerned about park pond impairments	Drake University, Scavo High School, Des Moines Area Community College, and neighborhood groups engaged in or planning to engage in neighborhood projects	Area business association working to improve the business district but no current collaboration with neighborhood groups
Linking	Polk Co. 4-H hoped to increase outdoor urban recreational opportunities and more urban fishing access would be a benefit to their youth programs	Combination of public and private ownership	Founders Garden Club already regularly meeting with City to plan park improvements	Drake Neighborhood Association already receiving City beautification grants for neighborhood improvements	Participants felt proximity to Gray’s Lake distracted others from park pond; not currently working with City or external partners

**Table 5 Community stakeholder feedback**

Opportunities	Examples	Challenges	Next Steps
Building of Social Capital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration within school programs</li> <li>• Mentorship</li> <li>• Intergenerational activities</li> <li>• Afterschool activities</li> <li>• Increased safety because of increased park usage</li> <li>• Year-round activities</li> <li>• Convenient location</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Competing with a variety of activities and technologies for participants' time</li> <li>• Lack of engagement in neighborhoods</li> <li>• Liability concerns</li> <li>• Increased use may cause over-use and/or attract people who do not respect the neighborhood</li> <li>• Maintenance of parks and ponds</li> <li>• Lack of knowledge about regulation</li> <li>• Lack of public awareness / promotion</li> <li>• Funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Des Moines fishing map that, similar to a trail map, provides locations of urban fishing program sites, regulation and contact information</li> <li>• Meetings with City and IDNR staff to discuss the initiative in more depth with their communities with time for question and answer sessions</li> <li>• Adopt-A-Pond program to engage communities and encourage stewardship</li> <li>• 4-season park for year-round use with ice fishing in winter</li> </ul>
Environmental stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education about local habitats and watersheds</li> <li>• Reconnect residents to nature</li> <li>• Reason to clean-up neighborhood ponds</li> <li>• Family activities at low or no-cost</li> <li>• Increased partnership among City, neighborhood, and community groups</li> <li>• IOWATER trainings</li> <li>• Stewardship</li> <li>• Food source and discussion about dietary and nutrition needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of communication with those who maintain and improve the park ponds</li> <li>• Impact of fertilizers, road salts and sand</li> <li>• Invasive species</li> <li>• Water quality</li> <li>• Litter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased signage at the parks detailing native plant, wildlife, and fish species</li> <li>• Explaining fishing regulations</li> <li>• Providing information about the most recent water quality test</li> <li>• Designating interpretive tours throughout the park and including the pond's wildlife and plants</li> <li>• Highlighting the fishing program and other sites available</li> </ul>

The focus groups identified two sites at which neighborhood groups were already collaborating with the City on improvements at the pond: ***Greenwood Park pond and Witmer Park pond***. The Founders Garden Club consisted of representatives from neighborhoods around Greenwood Park and the director of the Des Moines Art Center. The group met with City staff to discuss management of the park pond and needed improvements. They were concerned about the deterioration of a sculpture on the pond bank and damage numerous floods had upon the sediment ponds. The Founders Garden Club's collaboration with the City to manage the park pond offered an opportunity for the IDNR to engage in an existing co-management partnership.

While the ***Witmer Park pond*** site was the smallest and presented challenges from a fisheries management perspective, focus group participants shared examples of bonding, bridging, and linking social capital within their neighborhood. Watershed improvement efforts were already underway. The Witmer Park focus group included students from Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Urban Campus, teachers from a nearby high school, a professor from Drake University, and representatives of neighborhood associations. The Drake Neighborhood Association had received beautification grants from the City for plantings along medians through the neighborhood, an example of linking social capital. Additionally, they were working with sorority and fraternity groups from Drake University to provide opportunities for service and volunteers hours through neighborhood improvements, an example of bridging capital. Several neighborhood organizations were very active and the bonding capital exhibited by their organization officers and members demonstrated that even if they were not interested in fishing, they recognized the collective benefits of park improvements and more recreational opportunities. DMACC Urban Campus was already collaborating on improvements at the park pond through non-native species removal and was in close coordination with the City Parks and Recreation maintenance team. The social capital present among the Witmer Park stakeholders included partnerships with individuals and groups within and outside of their neighborhoods.

***MacRae Park pond*** focus group participants were very invested in the identity of their neighborhood. Many had several generations of family within their neighborhood and had lived there for most or all of their lives. However, they felt that park use had changed a lot and the close proximity of Mac Rae Park Pond to Gray's Lake put their park at a disadvantage. Gray's Lake is the most frequented city park in the State. Recruiting participants for the MacRae Park Pond focus group was not easy and all participants agreed that the park was not much used anymore. While two participants did fish there and would like more recreational opportunities at the park, there did not seem to be examples of existing neighborhood investment in the park.

Participants in the focus groups requested several tools to further educate citizens about the neighborhood parks, pond water quality, and an urban fishing program, as well as amenities to improve the parks should an urban fishing program be developed at the park pond (Table 4.3). Many of the proposed tools and amenities provide opportunities to further engage stakeholders in partnership. For example, an Adopt-A-Pond program could be modeled after the city of Toronto's partnership with the Toronto Zoo to offer their Adopt-A-Pond program (<http://www.torontozoo.com/adoptapond/>) or a Des Moines fishing map could include information from Polk County Conservation Board or Polk County Soil and Water Conservation. Connections to local youth organizations' programming and events may provide increased use of the park ponds beyond angling. Some were concerned that increased use might cause over-use

and attract people from outside the neighborhood who did not respect the park. In each focus group, participants expressed an initial concern about safety at parks and then raised the point that increased use of the parks would increase safety. Several times throughout this case study, the City expressed concern about contacting local residents regarding the water quality and potential for an urban fishing program at their urban park pond. The community focus group consisted of representatives of organizations who had collaborated with the City and IDNR previously and many had the capacity within their organizations to provide volunteers for trainings or clean-ups. The bridging and linking capital existing at the Taidam Village Community pond, Witmer Park pond, and Greenwood Park pond may help the IDNR and City in integrating their efforts with the work already underway.

Understanding stakeholders' needs and interests is a pre-requisite to the credibility and efficacy of the program (Ballard 2008). The IDNR and City partner agency staff identified partnerships with community and neighborhood groups as a component of a successful urban fishing program and public participation as integral to a sustainable program, but lacked tools to help them with the process. Identification of the interests and needs of residents, community organizations, and key stakeholders presents opportunities for partnership and collaboration.

In order to better identify stakeholders' needs and interests, as well as potential investment, we developed a tool—a strategizing stakeholders template (Appendix B)—to contextualize the social planning steps of goal-setting, communication, and evaluation (Weil 2005). Further information about recommendations for its use can be found in the section of this case study report entitled “Tools.” Analysis of community stakeholders (Table 6) may assist managers in strategizing their time and efforts.

**Figure 6 Example of needed improvements**



**Table 6 Strategizing community stakeholders**

<b>Participant</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Influence</b>	<b>Need</b>
<b>Neighborhoods</b>					
Greenwood	Pond improvements	Primary	Medium	High	High
Mac Rae	Increase park use; nostalgia	Primary	Low	High	Low
Taidam Pond	Increase park use; create a resource	Primary	High	High	High
Witmer	Increase park use; improve the pond	Primary	High	High	Medium
<b>Schools</b>					
Cowles Montessori	Class visits to Greenwood Park	Secondary	Low	Low	Medium
DMACC Urban Campus	Courses design improvements and do field work at Witmer	Secondary	High	Low	High
Drake University	Student groups volunteer hours for improvements	Secondary	Medium	Low	Low
Scavo High School	Faculty have interest in Witmer	Secondary	High	Low	High
<b>Community Groups</b>					
Central Iowa Anglers	More youth and recreational fishing	Secondary	High	Low	Medium
Chrysalis Foundation	More activities for young and adolescent girls; working with IDNR on a pond study with 5 <sup>th</sup> grade girls in Des Moines	Secondary	High	Medium	Medium
Founders Garden Club	Improvements at Greenwood Park	Secondary	Medium	High	High
Freedom for Youth	More urban activities for recreation and mentorship opportunities	Secondary	Medium	Low	Medium
Izaak Walton League	More recreational activities in urban areas	Secondary	High	High	High
Raccoon River Watershed Association	Watershed improvements	Secondary	High	Medium	High
Salvation Army	Summer youth camps	Secondary	Medium	Low	Low
Taidam Community	Create a resource for the city	Primary	High	High	High
Urban Dreams	More urban activities for recreation and mentorship opportunities	Secondary	Low	Low	Low

## *Themes*

While levels of knowledge and understanding varied, all groups discussed water quality. Participants' concerns and questions about water quality raised questions about the approach and long-term sustainability of the initiative:

But when it comes down to actually trying to manage a water body, it just drives me crazy how little interest there is in the whole system – the mussels, the minnows, the macro-invertebrates, the water quality, the plant life, the structure. It's like dig a hole, throw the fish in.

*Mac Rae Park pond focus group participant*

The pond doesn't look that healthy to me, and I keep hoping that something like this, before you would put the fish in maybe we would clean it up a little. That was my hope that it would benefit the area.

*Greenwood Park Pond focus group participant*

Those who participated in the focus groups expressed interest in the program; however, these participants also shared feelings of distrust and uncertainty about the sustainability of the urban fishing program initiative because integral program components, such as funding, staffing, or a timeline for defining these, were not yet specified:

But what a perfect place along the other side of the walking trail, biking trail, to develop that for fishing. But I'd want to be on the other side in the pond. But, yeah, I'm with [name removed] – gee, what a great place to develop it. And of course as you draw more people in – and I think of all the DNR cutbacks financially that they're going through right now – I'm saying, okay, so now we've got this federal money to develop this. How does it get maintained? Who's going to clean up after a weekend of fishing by the public? And you're right – you guys have done such a marvelous job down there. Why would you ever want to put up with that nonsense in a pristine area that you've created there? So DNR funding scares me to death. And of course federal funding is like, it's a good thing they've got it now, because they'd never get it going forward.

*Lower Beaverdale Neighborhood participant at Taidam Village Community pond focus group*

Even if funding and staffing ceased to be concerns, Penne and Cushing (2008) cite the ability of each community to take ownership and direction of their community-fishing program as the impetus for many successful partnerships and programs. These programs provide an opportunity to bring together various stakeholders and to engage citizens in outdoor activities and education about their local ecosystems and water quality. In the Des Moines neighborhood focus groups, residents expressed varying levels of ownership. Some neighborhoods were already engaged in improvements at their local park, while others were not aware there was a pond at the park or even the location of the park:

Yeah, I think part of this is about creating a sense of ownership. Yeah, it isn't just a pond we walk by every day; it's something we ingest things from, we send our kids down to every day. So increasing usage in that way I think would at least put it in people's heads a little more, like – oh, yeah, this treatment I'm putting on my lawn could end up in my stomach someday.

*Community focus group participant*

But that would be a way of expanding sort of the knowledge base of people about, you know, why does Greenwood look the way it is? Well, look at the neighborhoods, the amount of fertilizer, the stuff coming out in the street, the salt, the chloride, all that's going into that pond. But we can do some things about that.

*Greenwood Park pond focus group participant*

People are stressed right now, economically, socially, all kinds of things, and they don't need another crusade. There's some of us that are always looking for projects and things to do and betterment and all of



**Table 7 Quotes illustrating water quality themes**

<p><b>Watersheds</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “You brought up Greenwood pond – you go to that pond and just by looking at without even doing testing it’s full of algae, it’s full of duckweed. And I’ve never done the test there, but I don’t need to – it’s full of phosphates and nitrates and everything else in the world. The reason it’s green is because the plants are growing very fast, and that’s because they have all the nutrients that they need to grow. So that’s one thing.” <i>Community Organization Focus Group Participant</i></li> <li>• “Are there erosion issues with the hillside that kind of comes around the side on the side of the pond?” <i>Taidam Community Pond Focus Group Participant</i></li> <li>• So there you’ve got a pond up there, and you’re getting bad water in it, but how are you going to prevent that? How are you going to clean it up? Because you’re not going to get everybody up the hill to quit putting fertilizer on the lawn. [...] But here we’re talking about a pond that we can’t fish in, and the reason we can’t fish in it is because 50 years ago you could fish in it because you didn’t have any chemicals on the ground, but now you’re living with chemicals. The farmers have got the chemicals; they’ve got to have chemicals to raise their crop. The people want a nice, pretty green lawn, so they’ve got to put chemicals on it. So you just aren’t going to have fish in it – right? <i>Witmer Park Pond Focus Group Participant</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Education</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “What is..., what does that mean, “watershed table”? I don’t know what that means.” <i>Greenwood Park Pond Focus Group Participant</i></li> <li>• “You bet. But that would be a way of expanding sort of the knowledge base of people about, you know, why does Greenwood look the way it is? Well, look at the neighborhoods, the amount of fertilizer, the stuff coming out in the street, the salt, the chloride, all that’s going into that pond. But we can do some things about that.” <i>Community Organization Focus Group Participant</i></li> <li>• “Yeah, and I guess again I’m naïve; I don’t know what’s actually bad, what amount, and is it pesticide or herbicide, or what is it? Is fertilizer bad and what kind, and I mean just more information.” <i>Greenwood Park Pond Focus Group Participant</i></li> <li>• “People read and have read for years articles about fertilizer. There’s probably more awareness in Iowa than a lot of states just because of the runoff, frequent articles about runoff from farm fields has effect on the water quality in lakes. But I don’t think people think about it that much in town.” <i>Greenwood Park Pond Focus Group Participant</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Nutrition / Eating Fish</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Participant #1</i>: “Would you feel comfortable eating the fish from Greenwood Park?” <i>Participant #2</i>: “I’d want to see a water report first.” <i>Greenwood Park Pond Focus Group Participants</i></li> <li>• “That was the first question I had when I saw this, because I didn’t know. When I was a little kid, we used to eat fish out of this lake all the time, and we went back 20 years later, and there’s a big warning sign – ... and all of this, and I thought, geez, you know, that stuff is persistent in the environment and they used to use it. It’s an established neighborhood, you know, an old park. So that’s the first question I had.” <i>Witmer Park Pond Focus Group Participant</i></li> <li>• “I know that’s what keeps a lot of people from fishing in Des Moines is the concern about the quality of what you catch there.” <i>Witmer Park Pond Focus Group Participant</i></li> <li>• <i>Participant #1</i>: “Well, if the pond was cleaned up, I don’t see any reason why not. I don’t think there is a huge contamination prospect there.” <i>Participant #2</i>: “Personally speaking – and I’m a food safety kind of nut – I won’t eat a fish out of any water in the state of Iowa. Sorry.” <i>Mac Rae Park Focus Group Participants</i></li> </ul>

## ***Partnership***

Partnership relationships were analyzed through two modes of data collection: 1) through interviews with urban fishing program managers in other states, and 2) through interviews with IDNR and City case study program partners.

### ***Urban fishing program manager interviews***

Successful programs featured strong partnerships (Sweatman et al 2008; Balsman and Shoup 2008, Schroeder et al. 2008a; Penne and Cushing 2008). Investment in the partnership-building process was highlighted as an important aspect of the success of programs, and many urban fishing program managers in other states stressed this as critical to their program's development and evolution:

All I can tell you – my advice if you're starting something is – Do not start it where you are critical for its maintenance and completion. Get as many people involved in it as possible. You have to do it.

*UFP Interview 2011012*

When asked about changes in their program management, the increasing constraints due to economic and staffing challenges and the ever-increasing scope of their work were recurring themes among these urban fishing program managers:

And in the various symposiums I've been to over the years on urban fishing, one of the biggest reasons I think many states have failed to launch an urban program is because they understaff and they over-expect one person to do the marketing, the promotion, the management, the stocking and the education.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011014*

Urban fishing programs integrating new partners and anglers may share some of these constraints and improve their program at the same time (Ballard 2008; Balsman and Shoup 2008). Urban fishing program managers who we interviewed in other states expressed the importance of these opportunities to their programs' successes:

So as the community gets involved and invests in it, then I think they want to take care of it. But if the DNR just goes and throws fish in it, then they don't really, they don't have that buy-in. So it's got to be a partnerships, and I don't think you're going to have much success if it's just – Well, the DNR is going to come in here and stock fish – because the city has no stake in it.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011009*

So kind of getting them involved, getting them to take some ownership, maybe even cost-sharing on things like a fishing pier or creating just more opportunities for fishing, whether it be opening up some shoreline, putting in trails, stuff like that. So I think that's been probably the biggest way to partner with them.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011010*

Particularly in the current atmosphere of budget cuts, fisheries managers are concerned about funds for pilot programs and the sustainability of funds for existing programs. Partnerships can provide sustainability even in times of budget cuts:

My point is that a lot of those partnerships and all those things are like we've moved in other directions, but one of the good things about [our program] is it was created with partnerships in mind to sustain the maintenance parts of it. So a lot of why they've been cut and I haven't is because some of our cooperators generate between a hundred and a hundred fifty thousand dollars a year to sustain the program. So how do they argue with that? You know what I'm saying? It's like a majority of what we get done to sustain what we developed in that first phase is basically because of the partnerships.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011012*

The maintenance and management of partnerships posed challenges to the urban fishing program managers whom we interviewed, though many emphasized a two-way process of learning:

And we also understand that in an urban setting our angler customers have a different expectation of what angling is than if they went to a remote lake or stream. In urban settings people are used to high levels of customer service, and if you don't provide it, then they kind of don't like the operation so well. And so we create a lot of great relationships.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011014*

It's like a majority of what we get done to sustain what we developed in that first phase is basically because of the partnerships.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011012*

You get to know the players, you develop a rapport, you develop communication. And then there's like an education thing that also goes on too; it's an education thing for us for sure because we're not park managers, and we don't know about city processes.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011007*

Partnerships with city staff, community members, and agency staff are an often undervalued and sometimes invisible component that is central to program success. These partnerships require a high level of time and energy even though they may not be specified as an aspect or focus of the manager's job duties:

They'll call me because they know that if it's not my expertise, I probably have a phone number they can call. And I enjoy that. That's why I got into all this. I got into this to be a link between the scientific community and the fishing community. I'm a passionate fisherman, and that is why I got into this. So I enjoy that, the fact that it's somebody they can trust – it's one of them that's going to give it to them straight, is not going to sugarcoat it but is going to be professional about it. And if I can't answer it, then I'll pass it on to somebody else. At the same time giving them a product, not just being an on-call information center, but providing for them something that if we weren't there it wouldn't be as good as it is. That's key. To me that's key – Are you essential? Are you doing things that make fishing better for people? Period. And that's kind of how I put the filter on for all that stuff.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011012*

In their review of the importance of evaluation in fisheries management, Barber and Taylor (1990) report that fisheries managers view their role as shifting from the management of fish to the management of people. This shift was evident in the interviews and literature review we conducted, yet it appears that the agencies may not have revised job positions, program staffing, and program process to fit these changes. Managers we interviewed shared a great deal of programmatic knowledge about urban fishing programs, but more importantly they echoed Barber and Taylor's (1990) call for a recognition of values in the goal-setting and decision-making processes of urban fisheries management.

### *Case study partner interviews*

Selin and Chavez (1995) define collaboration as “emerging process [...] between natural resource management agencies and other resource stakeholders [that evolves] in response to a host of internal and external factors” (p. 190). In the case of the Des Moines program initiative, the IDNR and City shared some common goals and had positive views of one another as partners despite some misunderstandings throughout their process, suggesting that their collaboration may evolve as work together further and learn more about one another's decision-making processes.

Improving urban watersheds was a shared goal that the IDNR and City hoped to achieve by engaging urban residents in a fishing program. Their rationale was that if one eats a fish from the pond down the street, then one might be more thoughtful of the water cycle on their yard and pay more attention to the health of the urban park pond. Knowledge of residents' perceptions of water quality and their use of current park pond sites was needed and valued by both agencies.

An institutional challenge presented throughout the interviews was that the process was new for the key stakeholders and not like other projects their staff had been involved in previously. This presents a potential barrier if the institutional cultures are not well understood; however, improved communication would provide increased collaboration and understanding that would extend beyond the urban fishing program. Additionally, the newness of the partnership contributed to frustration regarding ownership of the program.

Despite interest within each agency, it was difficult to identify point people for project coordination and there was confusion among the staff about who to contact when there were questions about the program's progress. This highlighted the need for each agency to invest in staff who have the capacity and interest in engaging in the management of the program, whether through providing more staffing support to those currently involved in the partnership or engaging staff whose responsibilities specifically include the development of the partnership.

The shared concern or lack of knowledge about water quality among neighborhood groups and other stakeholders provides the IDNR and City the opportunity to provide a valuable service to urban neighborhoods. Focus group participants' concerns and questions about water quality provide both opportunities and challenges for the IDNR and City moving forward in efforts as they try to connect individual actions in watersheds to water quality through urban fishing programs. Even if urban park ponds were not selected for improvements to be made into sustainable fisheries, residents were eager to learn more about their watershed and better understand its health. Both the City and the IDNR hoped to engage residents in increased understanding and stewardship of their watershed, but the focus group participants' discussions illustrated that a lack of shared information among stakeholders compromises this goal.

The lack of communication within the City and IDNR partnership led to important information about the health of the neighborhood park ponds and timeline for needed improvements not being exchanged with the focus groups. This occurrence is consistent with the role of "expert" knowledge within social planning (Rothman 1995) in which planners view the neighborhood residents and community organization members as consumers rather than collaborators. Water quality improvement information and program updates could be shared through community meetings or a neighborhood walk through the park with residents. Alerting neighborhood residents to stages of the City or IDNR's improvement process, e.g. days that the IDNR might be sampling fish or City staff might be surveying property, might further engage residents in the process of water quality improvements.

### ***Process***

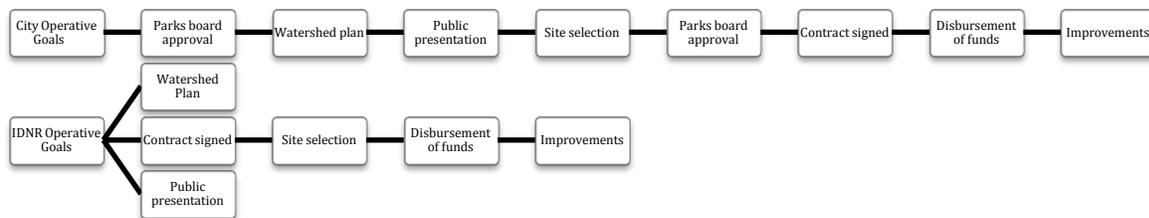
The pilot urban fishing program was the first formal collaboration between the IDNR and the City. Both described the beginning of their partnership process positively. As partnerships grow, partners move past the initial exchange mode of cooperation and begin to collaborate in the

pursuit of what neither could establish on their own (Sarason and Lorentz 1998). The collaboration between IDR and City created an opportunity mutual exchange. The City needed to respond to its constituents' demands for increased fishing opportunities and the IDNR needed to extend its reach within urban areas in order to maintain and recruit new anglers:

While the IDNR collaborates with cities to provide urban fish stocking and creation of fishing access points, this was the first time the IDNR had started a co-management relationship with a municipality to integrate watershed improvements, fish stocking, and programming into a cohesive recreational program. Staff of both agencies described the newness of this relationship as a learning experience. City and IDNR staff identified the urban fishing program as a change in the IDNR's focus and acknowledged the importance of urban areas to the future of the IDNR's work.

In participant observation at meetings, we noted that it was difficult for the two partners to determine who would be a designated point person among their staff. Topics of the meetings centered around what information the City staff would relay back to the City rather than about sharing needed information or discussing next steps together. Both the City and IDNR discussed goals outside of these meetings and had very different internal modes of decision-making that influenced their expectations of the other (Figure 8). This resulted in key information not being shared across the different stages of the decision-making.

**Figure 8 City and IDNR Goals**



Failed attempts of co-management can be traced to the lack of knowledge generation and learning (Carlsson and Berkes 2005). The absence of information-sharing among the City and

IDNR did not allow the partners to engage in the “shared understanding, empathy, and respect for others’ viewpoints” that contributes to trust and the strengthening of the collaborative natural resource management process” (Wagner and Fernandez-Gimenez 2008:340).

The stated goals of the IDNR fisheries bureau are to create more angling opportunities in Iowa and to increase anglers. The stated goal of the City’s Parks and Recreation department is to create more opportunities for recreation within the City of Des Moines. Improving water quality, engaging new anglers, increasing urban access, and integrating urban fishing within the City’s programming were all mentioned as urban fishing program goals among the partners. In reflecting about their institutional challenge working with urban areas, staff within both the IDNR and City identified changes and needs consistent with Barber and Taylor’s (1990) discussion of fisheries management shifting from management of resources to management of people.

While these goals are overlapping and compliment the goals of the partners’ agencies, the partners differed in their conceptualization of how to achieve these goals within the urban fishing program. Interviews with IDNR and City staff identified a multitude of goals without planning the means to reach them. The partnership did not develop to the point of identifying a shared process. Differences in and lack of a shared process caused frustration, as did the lack of a timeline for defining next steps. The roadblocks and frustrations were recognized as stemming from organizational or institutional challenges rather than from the individuals. However, within these agencies, views on the necessity of the partnership process varied.

Time was an additional challenge to the collaborative process between the City and IDNR. Because the decision-making processes are very different for both partners. Without frequent communication or a designated point person, the partners were unable to understand the other agency’s decision-making process. This missing link caused conflict in their process. The timeline for the disbursement of the contract money was a tight one for the IDNR—the funds needed to be disbursed within the fiscal year of 2011—and so finalizing the contract became the IDNR’s priority. The focus of the City on their traditional internal process and the IDNR on the contract supports Selin and Chavez’s (1995) finding that agencies’ institutional cultures can deter collaboration through their lack of flexibility in regards to formal agreements and financial resources.

While the IDNR had, in the beginning, emphasized understanding the City’s internal process for initiating programs, the lack of communication and missing information about the City’s internal process became a roadblock as time passed. In the fall of 2011, the designated for an improvement at one of the Des Moines urban pond sites from the Des Moines urban fishing program initiative in order to put the funds toward a pond improvement at a community college pond in a neighboring community. The misunderstanding caused by a lack of communication and different institutional processes led to the potential end of the partnership and strained the relationship between the partners. Despite the misunderstanding, the IDNR was still hopeful about future collaboration.

While interview participants expressed frustration about inter-organizational conflict, the key conflict point provided an opportunity for increased understanding and planning of the next steps.

The agencies agreed on a process for the discussed urban park pond improvements that better fit their institution's timelines: the IDNR would wait for a watershed plan from the City when the City was ready to request funds. This allowed the City to use their usual process for decisions, and the IDNR to move on in planning urban fishing programs in other communities while the City created their plan.

Evaluation was absent from the program process and would help ease the frustration of the new collaborative process. The need for evaluation was recognized as a pivotal point in the collaboration, but no one took responsibility for this because there was no designated point person in either agency. Additionally, the partners viewed one another's capacity in terms of resources (staffing, financial, infrastructure) rather than identifying and valuing the management (networking and linkages, program process) (Horton et al. 2003). This made it difficult for them to build stronger partnership because they lacked the bridging and linking capital needed to form a new network and program process, which may have helped them move forward with the implementation of a new co-management program.

The IDNR staff identified internal improvements to their process. Increased internal training for staff working in urban areas was identified as a way to strengthen the effectiveness of their approach. Sarason and Lorentz (1998) discuss this as a common need in collaborative programs and describe what is lost when agencies do not adequately invest in collaboration: "What gets obscured is that coordination is not only about linking resources but [...] *redefining* those resources (people and things) in ways that add material and personal value to the organization" (p. 58). While all levels of staff and management within both agencies articulated the value of the urban fishing program, the partnership encountered detours due to lack of communication and misunderstanding of the other's processes. These detours prevented them from building the relationships that may have led to the further development of social capital through collaborative redefinition of the project and partnership.

The urban fishing program was a means for both agencies to address concerns about water quality. In their process of assessing potential urban park ponds for the urban fishing program, the IDNR and City discovered that the sediment basins at Greenwood Park—the urban park pond that was targeted for the first stage of improvements with the project money—were in worse disrepair than they had originally thought. New dams and sediment ponds needed to be built. The shared goal of improving water quality through watershed improvements and increasing resident stakeholders' engagement in the watershed was a common point throughout all interviews.

Connecting the sampling of the watersheds to the City's stewardship goals would provide an opportunity for collaborative decision-making. This information may be a tool for the IDNR to connect City staff and urban residents to the urban fishing program initiative.

### *Evaluation*

Evaluating success of urban fishing programs is important to their evolution and integration within city and state programs, yet evaluation, while essential to a program's future, is too often

undervalued or inconsistent (Ballard 2008).

Barber and Taylor (1990) identified that “fisheries management professionals now believe that they primarily manage people, not fish.” Process and logic models might provide means to evaluate and manage these social relationships. Process models (Fedler 2001; Ballard 2008) illustrate program process through stakeholder, goal, objective, and short-, mid-, and long-term outcomes. These models offer a valuable tool for fisheries managers and staff to plan, measure, and evaluate progress of urban fishing programs

These tools may not solve the challenge many agencies face in evaluating their programs. In her discussion of program evaluations, Ballard (2008) states that the increased emphasis on evaluation conflicts with the amount of training in program evaluation possessed by urban fishing program staff. This poses an additional challenge as managers may struggle with incorporating partners’ goals within the evaluations of collaborative programs (Selin and Chavez 1995).

The role of fisheries managers in many urban fishing programs bridges organizations, agencies, and communities while building and strengthening ties of urban communities to their ecosystems. Rather than adopting a top-down method or formula for success, co-management and collaborative natural resource management literature stresses the need for place-based and stakeholder-oriented evaluation methods (Patton 1996; Conley and Moote 2003).

In our interviews with urban fishing program managers in other states, evaluation was a process that managers identified as important:

Starting out, finding out as much as you can to make sure it’s successful is definitely the way to go. Because you want to be as successful as possible right from the start.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011010*

So I would definitely tell people – Plan, filter everything through the plan, evaluate whether it’s going to help you reach your end goal, and last but not least, make sure that you say no to certain things so you can yes to others. And then in summary, tell them you’re going to do it, do it, and then tell them you did it.

*UFP Manager Interview 2011012*

Evaluation was also identified as a central component to a resilient program, one that can withstand internal changes and external pressures:

And it really came into play really critically for us these last two years-when everyone’s going through the recession and cities are looking yet at making some extreme cutbacks in their city budgets. And because we charge them a fee, we’re considered like an outside contractor. And usually when any government entity starts cutting back, they look at cutting their outside contracts first before you starting cutting back personnel. And there’s already been a couple situations now where cities had at one point considered putting their funding of the urban program on the chopping block. And when this information became available to them, it was so compelling and the media would coincidentally get a hold of it, and before you knew it mayors were begging the parks directors – “Don’t you dare touch that urban program. That’s one that’s not going away.”

*UFP Manager Interview 20011014*

Most states evaluated program effectiveness in terms of number of anglers and youth served in addition to catch and effort, but few states conducted more thorough analyses required to justify

long-term program existence such as the effectiveness of programs in recruiting and retaining anglers or cost/benefit studies (Ballard 2008; Hunt et al. 2008). A longer-term or more holistic method of evaluation is needed in managing program success. Particularly in this era of budget restrictions and cuts, evaluation might assist managers to move beyond replication of program components to an in-depth analysis of the multi-layered relationship among program stakeholders, staff, and components.

Prioritizing evaluation as a starting point rather than an end point in a program life-cycle helps the evaluative process to be “utilization-focused,” informing program implementation and development, empowering stakeholders, and building relationships (Patton 1996).

As Ballard writes, evaluation may consist of multiple methods and sources. Some urban fisheries managers with whom we spoke mentioned community partner forums where information is shared among urban partners, internal and intra-agency brainstorm and feedback sessions for improving program process, focus groups, and speaking with other program managers as ways they evaluate their programs’ effectiveness and success:

But it still always has to be more than just lip-service. You have to still be real and make what time to relate with their staff. Something we did ten years ago, twice a year we have what we call an Urban Program Roundtable meeting, where we ask all of our parks partners, we invite them all to come to a four-hour or three- to four-hour roundtable. And we talk about the urban program, and we show some of our recent videos of our program, or we talk about water quality issues, or we’ve even brought in guest speakers to talk about algae and aquatic plant control, or the newest breakout in aeration systems. [...] That’s been a really great forum for them to network and for them to compare notes across one city to the other. And we invite everyone from higher administrators to the groundskeeper to those kinds of meetings.  
*UFP Manger Interview 2011014*

Logic models, such as those shared in Ballard’s (2008) discussion of evaluation in the 2007 American Fisheries Symposium (Eades and American Fisheries Society 2008), are useful models of program process. None of the managers with whom we spoke mentioned using logic models, nor were these mentioned as tools in the case studies included in the American Fisheries Society symposium.

### *Approach*

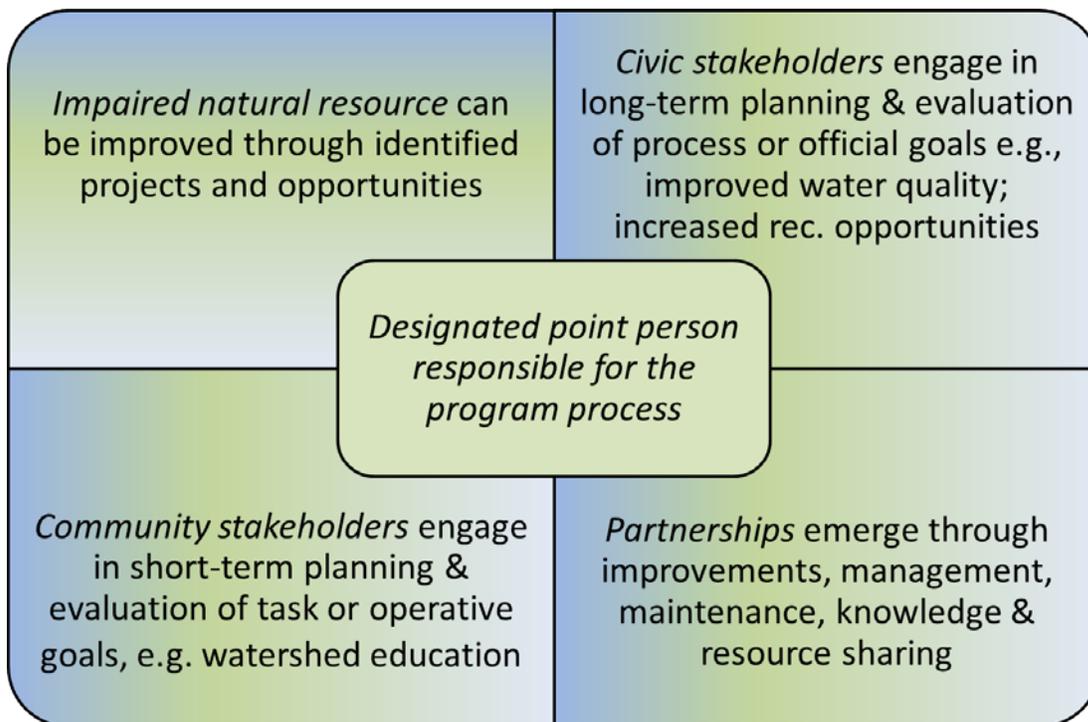
Community partnerships with local, state, and federal government agencies to collectively manage natural resources are increasing (Koontz et al. 2004; Pretty 2003). This trend represents a change in natural resource management as agencies shift from a top down approach to engage diverse stakeholders in the process of addressing environmental problems (Koontz et al. 2004). This shift presents opportunities and challenges as shared environmental goals bring together new partners.

A social planning approach to this process is another way to integrate these stakeholders within the process of program management. Social planning is a process through which diverse stakeholders provide input to shape solutions to identified problems (Weil 2005; Rothman 1995). Additionally, social planning may mitigate the impact of funding and staffing cuts to government social programs (Weil 1996) by sharing responsibility of the program process.

As noted by Weil (2005), community participation in collaborative management may not always create positive impacts within a community and may reinforce existing exclusion. The only use of this approach present within urban fishing program literature is the case study of the Minnesota Fishing in the Neighborhood program’s use of focus groups to engage new audiences and underrepresented anglers in their programs (Schroeder et al. 2008a). Approaching community engagement with a planning approach may help agencies navigate existing barriers and exclusions, assisting managers as they develop programs that are accessible, safe, and inclusive.

The City’s decision-making process through consultation with the Parks Board is an example of a social planning decision process (Rothman 1995). The use of focus groups was new to both the fisheries division of the IDNR and the City. The problem-solving focus of a social planning approach addresses the problems of the partner agencies. The IDNR needs to increase anglers and the City needs to respond to their constituents’ request in the 2007 Resident Survey to increase fishing opportunities within the City. However, very few of the focus group participants recognized or identified problems in their watershed or pond. A major concern of the City’s was that misinformation or false impressions may energize a neighborhood where a fishing program may never happen, yet neither the City nor the IDNR supplied information to the neighborhood focus groups in advance or following their biological and physical testing, nor did they follow-up with communication about the status of the urban fishing program initiative. A social planning approach (Figure 9) would require that the project partners—the IDNR and the City—would together define leadership of the planning project, guiding the planning process to connect the community’s concerns to identified problems.

**Figure 9 Urban program management model**



## **Tools**

Current evaluation tools used most often in urban fishing programs—creel and other surveys and surveys—are important and useful for evaluation of angling pressure, angler demographics, or species preference. Additional evaluation measures that fit the goals of collaborative programs and process are needed, but a standard process-oriented evaluation method has not been adopted.

Focus groups might be a useful planning tool for programs valuing information about watershed residents and community engagement with local stakeholders, as in this case study, or programs attempting to reach new demographics, such as the Fishing in the Neighborhood program in the Twin Cities, Minnesota (Schroeder et al. 2008a). Focus group participants may anticipate follow-up or follow-through, and so inaction on the agencies' part may signal to communities that their feedback or contributions to the program were not of importance.

Through our review and analysis, we formulated a process-oriented approach needed to empower fisheries managers as they work to create these connections within the urban community and maintain a program that is sustainable (Mueller et al. 2011). The strategizing partnerships template and process model (Appendix B and Appendix C) encourage partners to plan and evaluate their process throughout the program's development and in the context of the existing social capital of their co-management stakeholders. These tools present one option. The recognized need for further study within the literature and the gap in analysis of the process of partnership will hopefully encourage urban fishing program and other natural resource program managers to share and analyze their methods, especially as the trends of decentralized programs and push for partnerships continues.

### ***Stakeholders Template and Key***

To increase the efficacy of process models, we offer a strategizing stakeholders template and key (Appendix B) as a first step for managers to use when determining the types and investment of program partners.

Carlsson and Berkes (2005) describe co-management of natural resources as a dynamic process; however, identification of process components is a first step to understanding their function within the program process. Based upon literature and emergent themes from the data, the stakeholders' template and key (Appendix B) provides a tool to qualitatively assess the social capital present within different partnerships at a point in time in the management process. This tool can be used throughout the program process and for programs at any stage in their life-cycle in order to evaluate, and then to strategize, partnerships. The stakeholders' template and key will help managers to assess the variety of partners who may engage in the development, implementation, and management of an urban fishing program.

The reality of the co-management relationships as a “continuous problem-solving process” (Carlsson and Berkes 2005) stresses the importance of flexible tools, and the stakeholders' template would need to be revisited as the program evolves and partners' investment in the program process shift over time. A prescriptive approach to partnership planning would miss the variety of needs different programs have during their life-cycles, as well as the unique cultural

situations of a program's demographic. In the urban fishing program manager interviews, we learned that managers are stretched thin, "doing more with less," and the management of partnerships requires a large amount of their time. This is consistent with the literature (Barber and Taylor 1990; Natcher et al. 2005). In order to help managers identify and strategize the role of partners, the strategizing stakeholders template and key (Appendix B) can be used to evaluate the potential capacity of partners in new or existing collaborations. Recognizing that partners' abilities and interest in the program will change over time, we encourage managers to revisit this template as programs evolve and needs or staff change.

Our template enables program stakeholders to identify their specific roles and can be a useful tool in strategizing next-steps of a specific collaborative group. Penne and Cushing (2008) cited the ability of each community to take ownership and direction of their community-fishing program as the impetus for many successful partnerships and programs. The strategizing stakeholders template might be useful for collaborators to use in defining together which relationships should be included in the process model. Additionally, collaborators might identify gaps in their partnership process—for instance, managers might better plan where to start an urban fishing program, i.e. in a location where there would be a high level of support and influence. This template empowers agency and public stakeholders to discuss their limitations and contributions to program process and to better plan for future opportunities and challenges. At the same time, template categories provide managers means to organize potential contributions beyond subjective impressions, identifying the social capital that might emerge from pairing stakeholders who, for example, have high interest and need with those who have high influence. The strategizing stakeholders template is intended to be used to plan who will provide inputs to the categories within the process model.

The stakeholders template incorporate four categories for identifying potential stakeholders: interest, role, support, influence, and need. The template key contains descriptions for the different categories on the template. Urban fishing program managers can use these categories—interest, role, support, influence, and need—to assess program partnerships. For example, in choosing a new program site, it might be critical to program managers to identify sites where there is a high level of existing community engagement through schools, community groups, or private partners.

- Identifying partners' *interest* describes their motivations to engage in the program. Interest of the natural resource agency might be described as an extension of recreational opportunities to urban areas. A neighborhood's interest might be to have a safer and more usable park.
- *Role* describes the position the stakeholder holds in the program process. From our discussions with managers and review of the literature, we recognized a pattern of partners whose roles were "key" partners, or those who fulfill gaps in what the agency can offer to the community, but also partners whose roles were "secondary" yet added needed perspective and input to the program process. In most co-management programs, the key roles are held by natural resource agencies and city or local governments. Without their role in the partnership, the program would not move forward. For example, an agency with limited resources may need buy-in from the community government in order to start a new program. The community government would be a "key" partner whose support is central to the success of the program.

- **Support** describes the stakeholder's predicted level of ownership, or responsibility, for the program process.
- **Influence** describes the stakeholder's power to move the program forward within the community or agency. A new program may need partners with a high level of influence in order to establish the program within the community even if these partners do not demonstrate need for the program.
- **Need** identifies the priority the partnering agency or group gives to the program and helps to identify where opportunities might be greatest. For example, multiple towns may be interested, but some of these towns may have existing opportunities available that lead them to not need an urban fishing program in their community. The strategizing stakeholders template identifies and assists in prioritizing the partnerships that are important to program creation, implementation, and evolution. Partnerships may be short-, medium- or long-term depending upon the existing needs and value the program offers to stakeholders (Horton et al. 2003), and so partnerships will vary depending upon location and type of program, agency, and stage of program life-cycle.

After evaluating the program's partnerships, managers may use the urban fishing program process model template (Appendix C) to plan the program process with these partners in mind.

### ***Process model***

The second tool (Appendix C) is a process model to guide the development of new or expanding programs. As discussed by Fedler (2001) and Ballard (2008), process models help to plan short-term, mid-term, and long-term program outcomes.

We present this example of a process model that, as suggested by Fedler and Ballard, managers and partners can use in community or urban fishing program's development, maintenance and assessment. The specific elements included under each of the process model headings may differ depending upon geographic area and specific goal and objective as defined by the fishing program managers and partners.

Our example is offered as a guide rather than a prescription, and is based upon our research in a fishing program case study in Des Moines, IA. The University of Wisconsin- Extension<sup>1</sup> offers an extensive resource including user-friendly guidance in the development of such models and model templates.

### **Recommendations**

Communication, outreach, planning, analysis, and evaluation are all influential the process of collaborative natural resource management.

Recommendations to improve new program partnership process (Table 8) were based upon emergent themes from the IDNR and City interviews. Additionally, analysis of data from the larger case study of urban fishing program partnerships complements these recommendations. These data include interviews with urban fishing program managers outside of Iowa, as well as a review of urban fishing program and co-management literature. The IDNR hopes to create a state-wide urban fishing program and integrate it within community agencies, and so the improvements above focus on what would help the IDNR or a similar natural resource agency navigate the different processes and needed information while maintaining the social connections needed within a new partnership. Additionally, these recommendations may inform the process of other new partnerships and emerging co-management programs.

Communication, while listed separately, is embedded within the processes of outreach, planning, analysis, and evaluation. For example, both the City and IDNR were knowledgeable of our focus group sessions but did not provide information to share with residents about the status of the project, water quality, fisheries, or needed improvements. Many residents had questions for IDNR and City staff about their park pond's water quality, improvements, management, and opportunities to help, however neither agency has followed up with neighborhoods or has planned community meetings with them.

Should the IDNR and City plan to continue toward their goal of engaging community members in local water quality improvement measures, community meetings would provide an

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/pdande/evaluation/evallogicmodel.html>

opportunity to engage these neighborhood residents in learning about their watershed. Additionally, these meetings would provide the IDNR and City an opportunity to learn more about the attitudes within the neighborhood and which individuals or organizations may be important allies to the maintenance and success of future water quality improvements.

The two tools proposed in this case study may assist partners in engaging in these process components with one another and community stakeholders.

**Table 8 Recommendations for new urban fishing programs between IDNR and city or county agencies**

<b>Process components</b>	<b>Approach</b>	<b>Output</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Communication	Centralize and increase	Point person designated, Listserv, Stakeholder meetings, inter- and intra-agency meetings, sharing plans and showing outputs	Improved understanding of institutional cultures, timeline, and identification of goals; strengthening of inter-and intra-organizational relationships; trust
Outreach	Extend	Community meetings and presentations, invitations to residents to come out to learn more about improvements	Engagement of community stakeholders, transparency of process, education of water resources; ownership
Planning	Increase	Maintain a schedule of regular to attend to questions, challenges, and address opportunities	Increased institutional understanding and support; ownership; refined program implementation; trust
Analysis	Increase	Maintain a regular schedule of meetings with a research team to strategize and incorporate data analysis into project implementation	Incorporation of evaluation and assessment
Evaluation	Include	Based upon defined goals and timeline, identify measurable outcomes and methods for evaluation of these	Program model that evolves to be more sustainable over time, fit current user needs and organizational structure

## *Implications*

Inputs required for an urban fishing program seem straightforward on paper. Most existing urban fishing programs have been managed through biological science with little incorporation of social study of stakeholders or their resources or needs (Magill 1988 in Fedler and Ditton 1994). Understanding the importance, as well as the opportunities and challenges, of the partnerships created through the implementation, maintenance, and evolution of an urban fishing program is central to the program's success. Even if funding and staffing ceased to be concerns, the role of social capital influences programs' futures.

Findings from this case study are consistent with Selin and Chavez's (1995) discussion of the challenges within natural resource management as managers transition from "expert" to "mediator, catalyst, or broker in the new order," (p. 189).

Penne and Cushing (2008) cited the ability of each community to take ownership and direction of their community-fishing program as the impetus for many successful partnerships and programs. The most recent surveys in the field have not asked specifics about partnerships and collaborations, though these are likely elements that will carry urban fishing programs through hardships in funding or staffing. While these social components may seem less clear than biological or economic components because they vary upon location, their cultivation and measure contribute to a program's resilience and sustainability. To date, most programs have evaluated themselves based on participation at local events or on a short-term basis. Greater effort to truly assess whether urban fishing programs meet the objectives set for them, such as angler recruitment and retention, is needed.

In their summary of the 2007 American Fisheries Symposium on Urban and Community Fisheries Programs, Neal and Eades (2008) list "create partnerships" as the first of seven steps to a successful program and emphasize the multi-disciplinary and numerous opportunities for partnership. "Evaluate program" is the seventh and final step, which the authors describe as "perhaps the most overlooked part of a successful program," but also a process that "can help urban managers develop a resilient program which is responsive to program outcomes and flexible to refinement." While Neal and Eades' seven steps to a successful program may sound prescriptive, the process is dynamic. The responsiveness of these partnerships and resilience of the program are shaped by the social capital generated throughout the partnership creation and management. Steps one through seven, from "create partnerships" to "evaluate program," represent an iterative process as partners test, refine, and adopt program components to fit within the structure of their program. Considering these steps as part of a program process rather than a prescription will strengthen program management.

The template and process model are two tools the managers might use with partners in this process-, rather than prescription-, oriented approach. These tools assist program partners in the management of the social capital offered through these partnerships and within the program

process. Additionally, the social capital—whether negative or positive—within the relationships among the agency and community partners shapes the course of these collaborations.

The case study partners are only just beginning their partnership process with one another and have not yet begun collaboration with community stakeholders. Water quality was a common interest and concern for the agencies and community residents, and may provide opportunities for further engagement of existing and new social capital within the community. The Des Moines partners struggled with knowledge-sharing and communication, two aspects of the co-management process that are needed to generate trust, yet they continue to try to move forward together. If the urban fishing program were to continue to focus on partnership building, then it is possible that the common theme of water quality may bring together diverse stakeholders through knowledge exchange and engagement. As Berkes summarizes, “Successful co-management is a knowledge partnership,” (2009) and the template and process model provide two means to illustrate and share existing knowledge about existing or potential opportunities for knowledge exchange through partnerships.

## **Conclusion**

Most existing urban fishing programs have been managed from a biological perspective in terms of habitat, water body improvements, and sustainability with little incorporation of social study of stakeholders or their resources or needs (Magill 1988 in Fedler and Ditton 1994). The increased focus on collaborative resource management suggests that urban fishing program managers’ responsibilities will continue to be complex, especially as funding constraints continue. The Des Moines urban fishing program pilot project attempted to include new partners in efforts to improve water quality through a recreational fishing program. The challenges in the new partnership slowed the progress of its development, yet the partners continued to share opportunities for needed actions. The urban fishing program case study reveals that further analysis of partnership process and evaluation measures is needed. Understanding the importance, as well as the opportunities and challenges, of the partnerships created through the implementation, maintenance, and evolution of an urban fishing program presents potential for systemic intervention in how urban stakeholders interact with their natural world and one of our most limited resources.

## **Acknowledgements**

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## Appendix A List of Case Study Products

<b>Case Study Research Presentations and Posters</b>
<p>Carter, A. Rebecca Christoffel, Lois Wright Morton. Presentation. "What's the Catch? Urban Fishing Programs, Stakeholders, and Water Quality." Pathways to Success Conference: Integrating Human Dimensions into Fisheries and Wildlife Management. Breckenridge, Colorado. September 24-27, 2012.</p>
<p>Carter, A. Rebecca Christoffel, Lois Wright Morton. Presentation. "Navigating the Waters: Engaging Women Landowners and Agency Partners in Water Conservation." Rural Sociological Society Annual Conference. Chicago, IL. July 28, 2012.</p>
<p>Carter, A., Lois Wright Morton, Rebecca Christoffel. Presentation. "Is There a Hook? Urban Fishing Programs and Water Quality." National Sea Grant and Land Grant Water Quality Conference. Portland, Oregon. May 30, 2012.</p>
<p>Carter, A., Rebecca Christoffel, Lois Wright Morton. Presentation. "What's the Catch? Success Indicators in Urban Fishing Programs," Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Urban Fishing Symposium, Des Moines, IA. December 2011.</p>
<p>Carter, A., Rebecca Christoffel, Lois Wright Morton. Presentation. "Can We Eat It? Urban Fishing Programs and Water Quality," Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Human Linkages Symposium, Des Moines, IA. December 2011.</p>
<p>Carter, A. and Rebecca Christoffel. Presentation. "Success Indicators in Community Program Development and Partnerships: a Case Study of an Urban Fishing Program," American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA. September 2011.</p>
<p>Carter, A. and Rebecca Christoffel. Presentation. "Success Indicators and Partnerships: a Case Study of an Urban Fishing Program," International Symposium of Society and Resource Management, Madison, WI. June 2011.</p>
<p>Carter, A. and Rebecca Christoffel in conjunction with Ben Dodd, Barb Gigar, and Steve Konrady. Poster. "Success Indicators and Partnerships: a Case Study of an Urban Fishing Program." 2<sup>nd</sup> place student poster contest. Iowa Water Conference, Ames</p>
<b>Case Study-Related Publications</b>
<p>Carter, A. and Rebecca Christoffel. "Keeping Them On the Line: A Review of Evaluation's Role in Urban Fishing Programs." Under review in <i>North American Journal of Fisheries Management</i>.</p>
<p>Christoffel, R. and Angie Carter. "Strategizing stakeholder template." Iowa State University Extension. In preparation.</p>
<p>Carter, A., Rebecca Christoffel, Lois Wright Morton. "What's the Catch? Partnerships in an</p>

Urban Fishing Program.” In preparation.

Carter, A. Rebecca Christoffel, Lois Wright Morton. “Can We Eat It? Urban Fishing Program and Water Quality.” In preparation.

Carter, A. 2012. Strategizing agency and community partnerships: a case study of an urban fishing program. MS Thesis. May 2012. Iowa State University.

Carter, A., Rebecca Christoffel, Lois Wright Morton. Urban Fishing Program Formative Assessment and Case Study reports submitted to Iowa Department of Natural Resources 2011-2012. <http://www.soc.iastate.edu/ext/extension/urbanfishingprogram.html>

**Case study-related websites**

<http://www.soc.iastate.edu/extension/urbanfishingprogram.html>



## Appendix B Strategizing Stakeholders Template and Key

Stakeholders	Interest <sup>2</sup>	Role <sup>3</sup>	Support <sup>4</sup>	Influence <sup>5</sup>	Need <sup>6</sup>
State agency (e.g., Department of Natural Resources)					
County agency (e.g., conservation agencies, Natural Resource and Conservation Service)					
City government (e.g., Parks and Recreation, City Council)					
Neighborhoods (e.g., home owners associations, neighborhood organizations)					
Schools (e.g., community colleges, universities, elementary and secondary schools)					
Community groups (e.g., youth, church, community service, scouts, friends of parks)					
Private partners (e.g., companies, local businesses, fishing or outdoors stores)					
Other (e.g., museums, science centers, zoos)					
High profile individuals (e.g., donors, community leaders, celebrities)					

<sup>1</sup> Interest=motivation to engage in the program

<sup>2</sup> Role=position of partner within program process

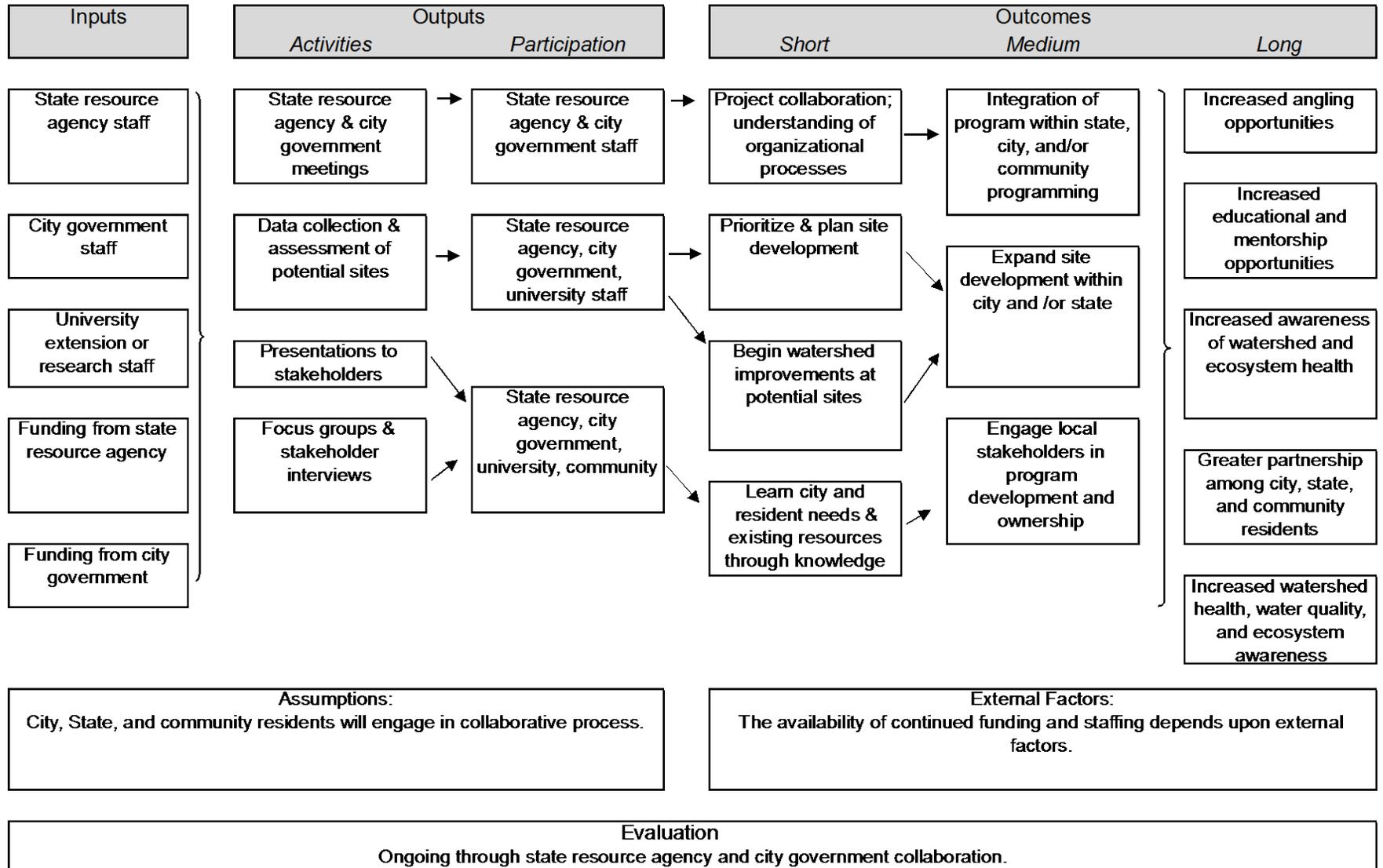
<sup>4</sup> Support=ownership of program process

<sup>5</sup> Influence=the stakeholder's power to move the program forward within the community or agency

<sup>6</sup> Need=how the program partner prioritizes the program as fitting within existing goals and structure

<b>Interest</b>	
From the partner’s point of view, describe their interest in the project. For example, a near-by elementary school may be interested in visiting the resource for class field trips.	
<b>Role</b>	
Key	Original and central stakeholder whose ownership of the process is central to program success. Responsible for aspects of program development including funding, staffing, and evaluation. Assumes ownership.
Primary	Central stakeholder whose ownership of the process is central to program success. Collaborator in the process of program implementation.
Secondary	Interested stakeholder whose collaboration and partnership will add diversity, longevity, and investment to the program.
<b>Support</b>	
High	Has already committed or shows interest in committing funding and staffing in the development of the program. Has already assumed or would like to assume ownership of all or some aspects of the program such as improvements, funding, staffing, mentorship programs, trainings, volunteers, etc. Assumes ownership.
Medium	Shows interest in the program through attendance at focus group or in interview and sees possibilities for integration within current or future responsibilities or project.
Low	Shows interest in the program through attendance at focus group or in interview but sees little integration within current or future responsibilities.
<b>Influence</b>	
High	Capable of putting forward the economic and social capital needed to move the program forward.
Medium	Capable of collaborating to move forward the economic and social capital needed to move program forward.
Low	Capable of providing input needed to move program forward.
<b>Need</b>	
High	Articulated that an urban fishing initiative has been expressed as a need in their organization.
Medium	Articulated that an urban fishing initiative would complement or support their work and/or organizations needs.
Low	Interested, but did not articulate that an urban fishing initiative is needed by their organization.

## Appendix C Program Process Model Template



## Appendix D Interview Guide

The following guide was used in interviews with key stakeholders in the case study.

1. How important is a fishing program in [name of community]?
  - a. *What potential benefits might a fishing program present to [name of community] citizens? To the [name of community]?*
  - b. *What potential concerns might a fishing program present to [name of community] citizens? To the [name of community]?*
  - c. *Are you familiar with urban fishing programs in other cities or states?*
  
2. In your opinion, what would make a fishing program successful in [name of community]?
  - a. *Who would use a fishing program in [name of community]? (e.g., youth, families)*
  - b. *What types of activities or programs would be important to them?*
  - c. *What are your thoughts about sites for the pilot program?*
  - d. *Who do you think would be important partners in the success of the program?*
  - e. *How might a fishing program in [name of community] be staffed and funded?*
  
3. In your opinion, how do [name of community] metro citizens view water quality within the city?
  - a. *What do you think [name of community] metro citizens think about the safety of eating fish from [name of community] water bodies?*
  - b. *Are there differences among citizen groups?*
  - c. *Would a fishing program connect to existing efforts to manage water quality in [name of community]?*
  - d. *How might a fishing program motivate changes in citizens' awareness about water quality?*
  
4. What opportunities would the development of a fishing program present [name of community]?
  - a. *Are there connections between the development of a fishing program and existing projects or programs?*
  - b. *Are there possibilities to integrate a fishing program with current city projects or programs?*
  - c. *What community organizations or businesses might be interested in the development of the fishing program?*
  
5. What challenges might be faced in developing a fishing program in [name of community]?
  - a. *What preconceptions might be faced?*
  - b. *What are the institutional challenges?*
  - c. *What might be the challenges within [name of community] neighborhoods?*
  - d. *Would there be any safety concerns in managing a fishing program?*
  - e. *What recommendations do you have for addressing these challenges?*

6. Would the development of a fishing program in [name of community] impact any of your position's responsibilities?
  - a. *How long have you been in your position?*
  - b. *What could your position offer to the development of the program?*
  
7. What steps are needed to move this project forward?
  - a. *Who are the key decision makers regarding this program's development within the City?*
  - b. *What additional information might be needed for City staff? For citizens?*
  
8. What questions do you have regarding the structure or development of the program?

## Appendix E Focus Group Guide

The following guide was used in the case study focus groups. This guide can be used in meeting with community and neighborhood groups. Further information about planning, scheduling, and facilitating focus groups can be found through Iowa State University Extension PM1969A “Can You Call it a Focus Group?” and PM 1969B “Focus Group Fundamentals.”

### Introductions

Hello. My name is [facilitator’s name]. I am [introduce your role]. I am meeting with neighborhood and organization groups in the [name of community] to learn more from you about how a fishing program might influence your community. Your thoughts, ideas, and questions about the program are valuable to the development of a [name of community] fishing program as well as to the future development of a fishing program in other cities and towns across Iowa. I appreciate the time you have set aside to be here this evening. I have passed out a short survey in order to learn more about you. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey.

We will begin with introductions and then discuss the potential impact of an urban fishing program in your area. Our time together tonight should last approximately an hour and a half. Please feel free to excuse yourself at anytime.

### Questions

1. What is your interest in fishing?
  - a. *Have you ever gone fishing in [name of community]?*
  - b. *If yes, what did you enjoy most about this fishing experience?*
  - c. *What types of fish do you like to catch or are you interested in catching?*
  - d. *If you had access to a nearby fishing area, what would be your interest in learning to fish?*
  - e. *If you had access to a nearby fishing area, would you take family members to the area?*
  
2. Would you be interested in a fishing program in your neighborhood?
  - a. *Who do you think would use a fishing program in [name of community]?*
  - b. *What types of fishing-related activities do you think would interest this audience the most?*
  - c. *What would be the best way to share information about the program with them?*
  - d. *What types of fishing would be most popular at the park? (e.g., fishing for food, catch and release)*
  - e. *What types of fish would you most like to catch?*
  - f. *How important would a fishing program be to your neighborhood?*
  - g. *What impact would a fishing program have upon your neighborhood?*
  
3. How would you describe the water quality in [name of community]?
  - a. *What is the source of water at the park?*
  - b. *What are your thoughts about the quality of the water at the park?*
  - c. *Where does water run-off from your yard go?*
  - d. *Have your thoughts about water quality changed during the past few years?*

- e. *What are your thoughts about eating fish from [name of community] area water bodies?*
4. What challenges might a fishing program face in your neighborhood?
    - a. *What improvements or additions would be needed at the park in order to accommodate a fishing program?*
    - b. *How would you describe the safety of the park?*
    - c. *What safety concerns might a fishing program pose at the park?*
    - d. *How could these concerns be managed? (e.g., community involvement, water safety classes, safety patrols, etc.)*
  5. What opportunities might a fishing program present your neighborhood?
    - a. *Are there individuals who are actively involved in your neighborhood?*
    - b. *What neighborhood groups or homeowners' associations are involved in your neighborhood?*
    - c. *What local businesses or organizations are involved in your neighborhood?*
    - d. *What might be their interest in a fishing program in your neighborhood?*
  6. What would you recommend that city or state staff think about as they develop the fishing program in [name of community]?
    - a. *Have you been involved with a city or state program before?*
    - b. *What information would be most valuable to your community if a fishing program were developed at the park? (e.g., regulation, advisory, educational information)*
    - c. *How does your neighborhood share information? (e.g., neighborhood listserv, website, monthly meeting)*
  7. Do you have ideas or questions you haven't mentioned yet but would like to share?

Thank you for sharing your ideas and questions with me. I appreciate your time.

## Appendix F Focus Group Survey

Instructions: Please answer every question. Use **black or blue ink**. Mark boxes like this . If you want to **change** your response, completely fill in the incorrect box and mark the appropriate one.

*Your participation is completely voluntary and confidential. Do not write your name or address on the survey. Please do not fill out this survey more than once.*

1. Why have you chosen to take part in this focus group?
  
2. Do you apply fertilizer to your lawn?
  - Always
  - Often
  - Sometimes
  - Rarely
  - Never
  
3. Do you recycle?
  - Always
  - Often
  - Sometimes
  - Rarely
  - Never
  
4. Do you currently own or rent where you live?
  - Own
  - Rent
  
5. How many years have you lived in the area?
  
6. What recreational activities have you taken part in at the park?

<input type="checkbox"/> Walking/jogging/running	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports events
<input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking	<input type="checkbox"/> Ice skating
<input type="checkbox"/> Sun bathing	<input type="checkbox"/> Biking
<input type="checkbox"/> Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):
<input type="checkbox"/> Playground use	_____
  
7. Who comes with you to use the park? Please check all that apply.

<input type="checkbox"/> Children	<input type="checkbox"/> Go alone
<input type="checkbox"/> Friend	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grandchildren	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse or partner	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pets	

8. Which of the following do you think affects water quality at the park? Please check all that apply.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fertilizers                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewage                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sediment/Erosion/Soil loss              | <input type="checkbox"/> Pet waste                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pesticides                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmaceuticals              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bacteria                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial waste             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Petroleum products (e.g. oil, gasoline) | <input type="checkbox"/> Litter                       |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Road salts or other minerals |

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	No Opinion
9a. Water quality at <i>name of proposed site here</i> is an important issue for me.					
9b. The water quality at <i>name of proposed site here</i> affects my community.					
9c. The water quality and condition of <i>name of proposed site here</i> affects the value of my home and property.					
9d. Water quality is important to the activities that I engage in at <i>name of proposed site here</i> .					
9e. Concern for water quality in my neighborhood has increased since the floods of 2008.					
9f. Fish caught at <i>name of proposed site here</i> are safe to eat.					

10. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some high school            | <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school graduate/GED    | <input type="checkbox"/> Some graduate school            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technical/vocational school | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate or professional degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some college                |  |

11. Are you

- M  
 F

Thank you for completing this survey.

## **Appendix G Methodology**

This case study presents exploratory findings from a pilot urban fishing program in Des Moines, Iowa. The case study is an appropriate method of research in order to “retain the holistic and meaningful characteristics of real-life events—such as individual life cycles, small group behavior, organizational and managerial processes, neighborhood change” (Yin 2009). The new partnership between two government entities—the City of Des Moines (City) and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)—presents an opportunity to analyze the life-cycle of the urban fishing program, the attitudes of the neighborhood and organizational stakeholder groups within Des Moines, and the impact of the potential program within these institutions, organizations, and neighborhoods. A mixed-methods approach including participant observation, interviews, focus groups, analyses of a pre-existing survey and available archival data was used.

This case study includes focus groups with community members and semi-structured interviews with key stakeholders. The IDNR and City suggested contacts within their own and related organizations for interview and focus group participation. Interview and focus group participants (Table 1) were selected using purposive snowball sampling, a method by which initial interview participants identify others, creating a chain of participants (Coleman 1959). Through purposive snowball sampling, initial contacts identified other stakeholder participants who have already invested social capital in the urban fishing program initiative. I first interviewed those staff from the IDNR who led the urban fishing program initiative in Des Moines. Through these interviews, additional interview participants were identified who were involved in the project development or whose perspective offered further insight about the future and scope of the collaboration. Resident focus groups consisted of four focus groups composed of neighborhood residents from the four prioritized urban park pond watersheds as well as residents from those neighborhoods immediately surrounding the park. Additionally, a fifth focus group comprised of community organization representatives who were interested in the urban fishing program as it related to their agency or group’s city-wide youth or environmental education programming provided data concerning opportunities for the expansion of social capital beyond the neighborhoods’ borders.

Individuals contacted for interviews included those whose roles within or in relation to the IDNR and City were identified as key to the program’s success. The IDNR staff involved in the project also suggested names of urban fishing program managers whose work was featured in the 2007 American Fisheries Society’s Urban and Community Fishing Program Symposium (Eades et al. 2008). Inclusion of these interviews with urban fisheries managers from outside the state of Iowa strengthens the case study’s external validity. Additionally, these interviews with urban fisheries managers outside the state were analyzed in relation to interviews with Des Moines City staff and IDNR staff to ensure construct validity.

Semi-structured interview and focus group guides (Robson 2002) were used and incorporated open-ended questions focusing on five themes: interviewee’s role, program structure, challenges, opportunities, and lessons learned (Appendix D and Appendix E). Research design and instruments were reviewed by the Iowa State University Institutional Review Board to protect participants and assure confidentiality. Interviews and focus group discussions were recorded, transcribed, and then analyzed using Nvivo 9 qualitative data management software (QSR International Pty Ltd. Version 9, 2010) to identify recurring themes and patterns in the data using open, axial, and selective coding. I analyzed data to find patterns and emergent themes from the

interview and focus group data using an inductive approach based on grounded theory (Corbin and Strauss 2008; Charmaz 2007). Focus group participants completed a short questionnaire about park use, environmental awareness, and neighborhood involvement, as well as demographic information, prior to the start of the meeting (Appendix F). Focus group participant questionnaires were analyzed by hand to identify recurring themes and patterns in demographic data such as how long residents have lived in the neighborhood, if they rent or own their homes, their age groups, and how often and how they use the park. The research team coded data independently and then compared and reconciled their analyses to ensure intercoder reliability.

**Table 9 Case study data collection**

	Resident focus groups	Key informant interviews with Des Moines urban fishing program stakeholders	Urban fishing program manager interviews from other states
#	5	18	6
Notes	4 with neighborhood residents from the watersheds around the prioritized pond sites; 1 with community members at-large	18 interviews in total with 16 participants, 2 were follow-up interviews	Managers were from 5 states other than Iowa
Purpose	Learn opportunities/barriers within communities		
Sampling	Purposive Snowball Sampling		

Participants for interviews or focus groups were contacted by phone or email and, if interested, requested to suggest a 45 minute time during the business day that would be convenient for them to meet with me at their office. In interviews and focus groups, I reviewed the consent forms with participants based on ISU IRB protocols prior to their participation in the study. For those interviewed by phone, the consent form was mailed in a confirmation email so that the participant would have the document in hand when we began our conversation by phone. I interviewed six urban fishing program managers from 5 other states and one IDNR staff member by phone because their offices were over a 3-hour drive from Iowa State University. When contacting neighborhood associations or community organizations, I first called the director or chair, and in all cases these contacts said that they would send out an email or make phone calls to others in the group to notify them of the focus group and ask their participation. Additionally, two neighborhood associations posted the focus group on their neighborhood listserv or website. I scheduled focus groups for weekday evenings at a location convenient to the neighborhoods and parks, such as a local church or community center, and offered light refreshments.

Participants in the focus groups were entered into a raffle for one \$25 Bass Pro gift card provided by the IDNR per focus group as incentive and a token of appreciation for their participation. Additionally, Bass Pro Shop donated t-shirts and caps to raffle to focus group participants. Participants in each focus group were entered into a raffle for the gift card, t-shirt, and cap and

three participants were chosen randomly at the end of each focus group. Interview participants were not entered into the raffle because their participation occurred during work hours at their workplace. Participants will be offered a copy of the final case study by downloading it from the Iowa State University Sociology Extension and Wildlife Extension websites upon its completion.

## Appendix H Summary of Research Questions and Findings

<p>1) What existing and potential partnerships might be key to this program's development?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intra- and inter-agency or government partnerships at federal, state, county, and city levels</li> <li>• Community, civic, neighborhood groups</li> <li>• Private partners</li> <li>• High profile individuals</li> <li>• Schools, museums, zoos, other</li> </ul>
<p>2) How do these partnerships form and evolve?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared interest and motivation</li> <li>• Defined roles within the program's development</li> <li>• Ownership of the program's process and progress</li> <li>• Influence within the community or agency</li> <li>• Frequent communication and meetings</li> <li>• Mutual problem-solving</li> <li>• Evaluation incorporated within the partnership process</li> <li>• Defined and shared goals and process</li> <li>• Understanding of partners' decision-making processes</li> <li>• Designated point person whose job description specifies responsibility for the coordination of these partnerships</li> </ul>
<p>3) What opportunities or capacity might these partnerships build within urban communities as they engage in public health, urban food source, watershed improvement, or ecological awareness initiatives?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education and resource-sharing</li> <li>• Increased trust and improved reputation</li> <li>• Environmental stewardship</li> <li>• Increased access to recreational opportunities</li> <li>• Integration within existing programs</li> <li>• Mentorship, intergenerational, and afterschool activities</li> <li>• Increased safety at local parks because of increased usage</li> </ul>
<p>4) What are the barriers these partnerships may encounter within the community or city and state level agencies?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial</li> <li>• Staffing</li> <li>• Institutional culture or understanding of partners' decision-making processes</li> <li>• Communication, trust</li> <li>• Liability concerns</li> <li>• Public knowledge about water quality, watersheds</li> </ul>
<p>5) If partnerships are one measurement of success, how does one identify the strength and potential of these partnerships?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Process-oriented approach incorporating planning and evaluation</li> <li>• Process models or other tools to define goals, objectives, and outcomes for short-and long-term</li> <li>• Engaging partners in program planning process</li> </ul>

**PROJECT:** Urban Fisheries Assessment in the City of Des Moines

**PROJECT LEADERS:** Iowa State University: Steven J. Konrady, Joseph E. Morris  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources: Ben Dodd, Andy Otting

**LOCATION:** City of Des Moines (Polk County)

**PERIOD OF RESEARCH:** October, 2009 to January, 2012

**ABSTRACT** – *The Des Moines urban fisheries investigation has discovered that many of our small urban ponds are very similar in their impairments to typical Iowa farm ponds. High nutrient and sediment levels are the primary issues effecting the long term stability and sustainability of these water bodies and the fishery that they provide to anglers. Although these fisheries have their problems, many have large numbers of small sized but easily caught fish species such as bluegill and may prove adequate to most of the client base: youth and family anglers. With some typical lake restoration improvements, they could serve a wider and bigger audience than they are currently able to support. Improvements such as these are typically expensive, however, so focus should be placed upon sites with the highest priority based on many factors that assess the demand and interests of the client base and local organizations as well as biological, chemical, and physical factors of the ponds and their watersheds that may limit or enhance success. The study led Iowa State University and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to recommend a focus on Greenwood Pond in Des Moines for first potential improvements. A list of improvements and an order to approach them at this site was also developed. Three other sites were investigated as alternatives, and lists of improvements were developed for these sites as well.*

## INTRODUCTION

The Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department conducted a survey prior to 2008 to assess residents' and park users' opinions of their city parks. Those surveyed listed fishing, water quality, and pond health as high priority needs that were not being met. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Aquatic Education group has provided the city with a summer fishing educator each year since 2008. By 2010 these educational efforts had shown great promise, with over 7000 youth participants taking part in programs near or on several city park ponds. However, fishing success was low for most groups.

The assessment of fishery status in Des Moines began in 2009 by the Iowa DNR in response to requests from city Parks and Recreation Department personnel and a growing interest from the Iowa DNR to improve fishing and recreation quality for the urban residents of Iowa. The Iowa DNR Fisheries crew of Boone (Central Iowa District) began standard sampling procedures on 13 water bodies which the city had named as ponds that may be used as public fisheries. In 2010 this work was continued after an AmeriCorps position was created to begin a deeper investigation of these fisheries and prioritize them for future improvements. A contract was formed

between the city, Iowa DNR, and Iowa State University (ISU) Department of Natural Resources Ecology and Management (NREM) to fund these efforts further.

The 2010-2011 contract funded both equipment and travel expenses as well as a full time research associate with ISU, and part-time technician for data gathering and assessment. The lake list narrowed to nine city owned properties at this time; four lakes were dropped from the list due to accessibility issues (e.g. no fishing allowed). The overall goal of the project was to assign priority status to the nine lakes and narrow the list further to those ponds thought to possess the most potential for sustainable urban fisheries. Local interest (social capital) and potential effectiveness of future restoration efforts was also assessed for each site. A final list of four priority water bodies was assigned through the work of the project.

In the interest of brevity, tables and raw data representation will be low in this report. Due to the scope and length of the project that this report is concerned with, there is a wealth of raw data that will be summarized to important pieces. The full breadth of these data will be made available in a temporary database structure at the project's website ([www.nrem.iastate.edu/research/urbanfish](http://www.nrem.iastate.edu/research/urbanfish)) and eventually in a more appropriate database structure as outlined in the continued contract.

## STUDY AREA

Greenwood Pond (2.3 acres), Witmer Pond (1.2 acres), MacRae Pond (1.7 acres), and Tai Dam Pond (~6 acres)

were named as the primary study areas for this project under the joint decision of Des Moines Parks and Recreation, Iowa DNR Fisheries, and ISU NREM with some additional assistance through an ISU Sociology sister project and consultants from Polk County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS).

These sites were chosen through a composite look at the data categories described in the methods section. Many of the conclusions and recommendations for the non-priority sites have been mentioned in other reports and publications, and therefore we will focus on the four priority water bodies.

## METHODS

The prioritization of water bodies was one of the key goals of the contract and was an evolving process throughout the survey period. A combination of social, biological, physical, and chemical information was assessed for each site to both narrow the list to the four sites mentioned above and also to rank that list of four. Notes about the information assessed and methods of assessment in each of these categories will be described below.

**Social:** Local stakeholder interest was assessed through a "social capital" evaluation by the sister project in ISU Sociology under graduate student Angie Carter and principle investigators Rebecca Christoffel and Lois Wright Morton (Carter and Christoffel, Iowa State University, unpublished data). Primary methods involved focus groups and interviews of stakeholders and

interest groups. Additional information may be found from this project's reports through [carter@iastate.edu](mailto:carter@iastate.edu).

Angler information was also assessed at Greenwood Pond and Witmer Pond in the form of an angler survey (creel) carried out by ISU NREM during the summer of 2011. The creel survey was done via a roving design of Randy Schultz, Iowa DNR. Information from interviews and counts was linked with GPS coordinates through a Trimble hand-held unit and evaluated with standard methods.

**Biological:** Fish assemblage data was gathered and assessed through the joint efforts of ISU NREM and the Iowa DNR. Two fish sampling methods were used. Boat electro-fishing consisted of a 5000 watt generator that powered a Wisconsin Box © and produced pulsed DC. Settings varied over the sample period, as American Fisheries Society (AFS) standards were adopted during the final year of sampling. Baited tandem hoop nets were used to Iowa DNR standard: 0.5 inch tarred mesh hoop nets set in series of three, baited with soybean cake.

Evaluation of these data included relative weight ( $W_r$ ) assessment of body condition (Anderson and Neumann 1996), greater than or equal to quality length vs. stock length proportional size distribution (PSD) (Guy et al. 2007), and catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) measures (Ricker 1975) for each species.

Aquatic vegetation diversity and abundance was assessed by ISU NREM. These were both done to the standard sampling protocol of the Iowa DNR as outlined by Clayton et al. (2008).

Transects numbers varied on lake size and were randomly dispersed straight lines perpendicular to the shore. A two sided rake with depth marked shaft was used for submerged vegetation assessment. Visual assessment was used for floating and shoreline plants.

**Chemical:** The primary source of water quality information was gained through Iowa's volunteer water monitoring program, IOWATER. Information on methods and materials used for these data can be found from [www.iowater.net](http://www.iowater.net) and their administrative contacts.

Supplemental water quality data was taken for the priority sites by ISU NREM to get a closer look at several important parameters: chlorides (road salt), nitrogen (nitrates, nitrites, ammonia), phosphorous, alkalinity, and hardness. These samples were gathered with standard sampling practices: mid-lake, two meter column sample, mixed, bottled, and chilled. The lab used to assess the samples is under purview of Joseph E. Morris at ISU, and is unaccredited.

**Physical:** Watershed and water body mapping was conducted as part of this survey for three of the four water bodies (Tai Dam was excluded due to mapping difficulties). Watershed maps were drafted by Jesse Leckband of Des Moines Public Works using ArcGIS, LiDAR, and departmental data. Water body bathymetric mapping was conducted by the Iowa DNR through ice in the winter of 2009-2010. Transects and points per transect varied with lake size. Water depth and sediment depth were taken with a measuring push rod. Data were converted to usable map form using ArcGIS.

Assessment of water body and watershed features was done visually via site visits with consultants from Polk County SWCD and IDALS.

Observational watershed assessment was conducted at Greenwood and Witmer ponds during site visits and assisted by watershed maps. Assessment of Tai Dam and MacRae watersheds was done with maps and satellite imagery.

## RESULTS

**Social:** The social capital assessment (Carter and Christoffel, unpublished) evaluated the responses from stakeholder interviews and focus groups and combined them into a simple high/medium/low evaluations of support, need, and influence. Combining these evaluations, we were able to distinguish the four priority sites from one another based on local social capital values.

Greenwood Pond had high local interest in improving the park and pond from many neighborhood participants and management stakeholders alike. The support for these improvements and the overall urban fisheries project was ranked as medium to high among participants. Witmer Pond had medium to high local interest in improving the park and the same support level among stakeholders.

Tai Dam Pond had high local interest for improvements and the locally based neighborhood group that manages the majority of the area. City and state stakeholders possessed only medium support of the project there, as public ownership was somewhat limited and public access (at time of authoring the sociology study) was extremely limited.

MacRae Pond had low local interest in improving the park and pond, as many of those surveyed did not actually use the area much. Regardless, it possessed a medium to high level of support from the management stakeholders similar to the other parks.

The creel survey took place from May 15th to September 15th of 2011. During this 124 day season (containing 38 total weekend and holiday days and 86 total weekday days), random samples of 24 weekend/holiday days and 24 weekdays were surveyed. Each survey day was split into a two hour session at each site; Greenwood Pond and Witmer Pond. The two hour sessions were randomly distributed within the hours of 0630 and 2130, a 15 hour active period. For data analysis this was split into strata by month and "early", "middle", and "late" day periods.

At Greenwood Pond, 28 anglers were counted and surveyed on the 24 weekend/holiday days and nine anglers on the 24 weekdays. Witmer Pond had 10 and five anglers counted/surveyed respectively. Park user counts numbered 914 for Greenwood and 297 for Witmer.

Extrapolation of these data over the course of the 124 day season led to representative mean angler estimates of more than 123 anglers for Greenwood Pond, and more than 53 anglers for Witmer Pond. As expected, more anglers per day on the weekends and holidays were observed and estimated compared to the weekdays. Average effort per angler were between 45 minutes and 75 minutes for Witmer and Greenwood respectively (~90 percent completed trips). Yearly per acre fishing effort was estimated to be 67 hours/acre

for Greenwood and 33 hrs/acre for Witmer.

Harvest was nearly non-existent among all anglers surveyed, most proclaiming themselves as catch and release only. An exploitation rate between zero and five percent is expected based on the creel data. Catch rates per angler were also low. Average estimated catch was less than one fish per trip for both lakes, though CPUE for Greenwood peaked at 1.8 fish/hour. In spite of this, the lakes and fisheries were rated an average of a three (one to five scale) for both lakes among surveyed anglers.

Nearly all anglers surveyed cited the pond's proximity to home as the biggest perk for these sites with fun and recreation being the most common reason for fishing. Both sites showed anglers were typically seeking any species of fish, and the most caught species was bluegill ranging between three and five inches. Common complaints at Greenwood centered around dirty water, abundant vegetation (algae), and low fish abundance. Witmer's complaints included access issues and fish abundance issues.

Angler demographics at Greenwood were primarily Caucasian male, under 16 years of age, and local. Witmer saw more variety in both age and race, though most were local residents as well (as determined by ZIP codes). Due to many anglers being less than 16, non-license holders were a common feature in both parks. Non-compliant, of-age anglers were also present and made up approximately 50 percent of surveyed adults.

Park users for the sites were estimated using the same strata and count intervals as the anglers. Estimated average park users per season were more than 3900 for Greenwood and more than 1200 for Witmer. The most common recreational activities at both sites were walking, jogging, or other forms of exercise. Large groups made up a good proportion of Greenwood's park users as well; primarily using the shelter, playground, and wading pool area.

**Biological:**

Fisheries data is summarized for important game species in Table 1.

**Table1.** Summarized fisheries information for all lakes and all years in the survey.

Active (gear) = daytime electrofishing; Passive (gear) = baited tandem hoop nets  
 LMB = largemouth bass; BLG = bluegill; BLC+WHC = crappie spp.;  
 CCF = channel catfish

**Greenwood Pond**

		Species			
		LMB	BLG	BLC+WHC	CCF
Sampled	(n)	8	112	81	0
Active CPUE	(fish/hr)	10.67	100	11	n/a
Passive CPUE	(fish/day)	n/a	6.17	11.67	n/a
Average Length	(mm)	355	136	179	n/a
Average Weight	(g)	808.75	49.7	67	n/a

Average Wr	(% of expected)	106	94	84	n/a
Average PSD	(Q+/S+ * 100)	91.67	25.1	0	n/a

### Witmer Pond

		Species			
		LMB	BLG	BLC+WHC	CCF
Sampled	(n)	5	93	45	9
Active CPUE	(fish/hr)	5.67	36.54	3.76	n/a
Passive CPUE	(fish/day)	n/a	20.33	14.33	3
Average Length	(mm)	238	141	161	587
Average Weight	(g)	433	56.18	53.11	1870
Average Wr	(% of expected)	88	96	86	85
Average PSD	(Q+/S+ * 100)	100	22.7	2.22	100

### MacRae Pond

		Species			
		LMB	BLG	BLC+WHC	CCF
Sampled	(n)	7	149	28	38
Active CPUE	(fish/hr)	18.44	129.9	6.31	n/a
Passive CPUE	(fish/day)	n/a	11.83	4.17	6.33
Average Length	(mm)	228	132	156	442
Average Weight	(g)	256.4	59.4	60.7	962.5
Average Wr	(% of expected)	112	103	107	96
Average PSD	(Q+/S+ * 100)	25	11.75	6.25	67.9

### Tai Dam Pond

		Species			
		LMB	BLG	BLC+WHC	CCF
Sampled	(n)	13	65	58	0
Active CPUE	(fish/hr)	12.2	48.38	2	n/a
Passive CPUE	(fish/day)	n/a	1.67	19	n/a
Average Length	(mm)	253.7	115	166	n/a
Average Weight	(g)	338.8	29.3	56.6	n/a
Average Wr	(% of expected)	109	85	85	n/a
Average PSD	(Q+/S+ * 100)	44.4	13.33	9.83	n/a

Also encountered at the sites were a varying range of nuisance species. Greenwood Pond had several large goldfish (carp equivalent) as well as the often invasive Chinese mystery snail (*Bellamya chinensis*) and common nuisance species: black bullhead. Witmer Pond had several common carp and some miscellaneous aquarium fare such as goldfish and oscars. Bullheads and green sunfish were also encountered.

MacRae also had common carp and green sunfish in moderate numbers, along with hybrid green sunfish/bluegill (stocked from Iowa State Fair, 2010). Tai Dam was the area of most concern for nuisance fish due to its proximity to the river. Present in moderate numbers were gizzard shad, common carp, and green sunfish.

Vegetation at the ponds varied widely over the years. When sampled in 2011, Greenwood Pond had moderate concentrations of floating duckweed and algae at the transects (10-20% coverage, 70:30 algae:duckweed). The edge saw a mix of sweetflag, reed canary grass, arrowhead, water lily, and rushes/sedges in trace amounts. Submergent vegetation consisted primarily of sago pondweed and algae in concentrations between one and 10 percent. During July/August of 2011 however, near 100% coverage of algae and duckweed was observed over the whole of the pond.

Witmer Pond had a mix of willows, sweetflag, cattails, and arrowhead on the edges in trace amounts. Surface sampling saw algae and duckweed abundances between a trace and 5%. Coontail and sago pondweed were the most common submerged vegetation, with abundances up to 50% in some transects. This was relatively low abundance compared to 2009, in which massive collections of coontail and sago were observed in the full depth range of the pond, and algae and duckweed mats choked the surface.

Mac Rae Pond shoreline had several patches of arrowhead up to 20% coverage. The surface saw trace to 10% coverage of algae, and submerged vegetation consisting of sago pondweed and curlyleaf pondweed had low abundance (2.5-5%). Curlyleaf pondweed is considered a nuisance species in Iowa, however it only occurred in one transect and may be easily treatable.

Tai Dam Pond had the most pervasive vegetation growth-at-depth observed in

2011, likely due to the high water clarity. Shoreline species included sedges, rushes, cattails, horsetail, and smartweed in trace concentrations. All transects showed trace amounts of floating algae for surface plants. Submerged plants included pondweed (sago, longleaf, others) and skunkgrass down to 2.5 meters of depth between trace and 3% concentrations.

#### **Chemical:**

A per lake water quality summary will be provided from the range of data sources mentioned and will be broken down in a per lake basis:

Greenwood Pond's phosphorous levels were the highest of the four priority lakes surveyed with an average mg/L of 0.2 and a high of 0.6. Greenwood also showed relatively high averages of ammonia (1.085 mg/L), and nitrate+nitrite (0.412 mg/L) levels compared to the other water bodies surveyed. Alkalinity, hardness, and pH values were within advisable thresholds however tended towards higher alkalinity/hardness and nearly neutral pH. Chloride levels ranged between a maximum of 169, and a minimum of 28 mg/L, with an average of 101.

Secchi and turbidity readings varied widely depending on time of year: 26 to 106 cm with an average of 45, and 3.48 to 25.20 NTU (average 10.14). Dissolved oxygen levels also varied widely, but generally tended to stay above 5 mg/L at the surface. Hard stratification typically did not occur (one of four years), and during the one occurrence the thermocline was encountered at a depth of 2.5 meters.

Witmer Pond demonstrated slightly lower phosphorous levels than Greenwood, at an average of 0.1 and a maximum of 0.5 mg/L. Ammonia (0.62 mg/L) and nitrate+nitrite averages (0.312 mg/L) were on par with Greenwood while alkalinity and hardness levels were approximately half that of Greenwood levels. The pH was typically observed to be right at neutral. Chloride levels ranged between 78 and 25 with an average of 45 mg/L.

Secchi and turbidity readings varied between 45 and 213 cm, with average readings of 60 cm and NTU's of 5.56 to 26.70 with an average of 9.8. Dissolved oxygen here was the most variable of all lakes surveyed, likely varying with extreme vegetation blooms observed during some years. A low average of 1.8 mg/L was observed in 2009, however the rest of the years sampled maintained a surface average of 6.4 mg/L. No stratification was discovered at Witmer Pond during the survey.

MacRae Pond had less data presence than the other locations, however phosphorous concentrations were high at 0.6 mg/L in one survey. Ammonia levels of 0.47 mg/L and nitrate+nitrite of 0.416 mg/L were recorded in 2011. Alkalinity and hardness were moderate and pH tended towards basic (>7). Chloride levels were some of the highest, 210 mg/L peak with an average of 89 mg/L and a low of 25 mg/L.

Secchi and turbidity readings varied between 19 and 106 cm, with an average of 45cm and 7.51 NTU (one sample only). Dissolved oxygen averaged 5.9 mg/L at the surface, and no stratification was seen to occur.

Tai Dam Pond has the least water quality data of all sites in this survey. Lab data in 2011 showed lower nutrient levels than other sites, at 0.05 mg/L phosphorous, 0.11 mg/L ammonia, 0.104 mg/L nitrate+nitrite. No chloride samples were taken due to a lack of roads in the watershed. Secchi and turbidity readings averaged 187 cm and 17.6 NTU respectively. Dissolved oxygen averaged 5.22 mg/L at the surface and remained near that level to depths of 5 m. Stratification commonly occurred at depths around 8 m.

#### **Physical:**

Greenwood Pond possessed good maximum depths at 14.2 feet with an average of 5.9 feet, however the upper end is becoming shallow rapidly and a sediment volume of 13,185 cubic yards was estimated. The watershed ratio was found to be 85.2:1 and the primary land use in the watershed was low density residential with a high amount of impervious surfaces. Watershed tours at the site found three flood-damaged, non-functional sediment basins and a moderate to high amount of gully erosion in two of the primary input streams and rill erosion in the surrounding grades. Stormwater capture for Greenwood extends over the whole of the watershed, and rain event evidence of extreme flows were observed.

Witmer Pond had a maximum depth of 13.3 feet with an average of 7.0 feet. Contours showed it possessed steep sidedness mid-lake, however the upper end showed low to moderate siltation and shallowing. Despite this, sediment volume was estimated at a relatively low amount of 3,432 cubic yards. A watershed ratio of 86.67:1 was recorded

for Witmer, with primary watershed practices of small scale residential with a high amount of impervious surfaces. A watershed tour did not indicate any severe gully erosion, however stormwater flow is likely swift through the area. A concrete, dry retention basin is immediately above Witmer Pond and has been shown to slow flows during rain events. The basin was seen to be appropriately maintained over the study period, with sequestered sediments removed at least yearly.

MacRae Pond was the shallowest of the priority ponds, at 8.1 feet of maximum depth and 3.6 feet average. Approximately a quarter of the lake's surface acreage (1.7 acres) is the 1-3 foot deep upper end, which is showing moderate sedimentation. Whole lake sedimentation estimates came to 6,089 cubic yards. MacRae also had the largest watershed ratio (157.6:1) and the watershed consists primarily of medium density housing, high grade land, and a moderate level of impervious surfaces. Stormwater drainage was observed to be extensive, and periods of high flow were observed overtopping existing sediment barriers. Gully erosion was moderate to low in the one primary channel.

Tai Dam Pond was not mapped during this project due to depth and size concerns with the thru-ice method of mapping. Depth finder tours showed typical pit lake structure (steep sides, very deep) and 30-40ft of depth was not uncommon in the middle of the pond. The watershed is likely small for Tai Dam, but no official data was collected on it. Much of this watershed is privately owned woodlands based on satellite imagery and site tours. One area of concern with Tai Dam revolves

around its proximity to the Des Moines River. No flood inundation was observed during the survey period, but presence of gizzard shad and common carp indicate that flooding has likely occurred in the past. A levy exists between the two water bodies, but the outlet structure is of unknown construction/integrity.

## DISCUSSION

Carter and Christoffel's (unpublished) work have guided many of our decisions in the later portions of this study, including choosing the lakes on which to conduct the angler survey. Advising the City of Des Moines to focus on Greenwood Pond was also due in large part to the social capital study. Moving forward from this point, we will have their information in mind as we try to implement improvements and future monitoring.

The creel survey gave much needed information about the amount of angling that actually occurs in typical urban ponds. Compared to a "high effort" lake like Polk County's Big Creek Lake (116 hrs/ac) (McWilliams 2003), both of the lakes surveyed (Greenwood and Witmer) had medium to low effort respectively. Also, nearly 0% exploitation demonstrates that most people who are fishing these ponds are not necessarily interested in keeping any fish. This was echoed in the survey questions assessing sought fish (typically: anything). The parks themselves receive a high amount of use, but angling seems to be a low percentage of total recreational activity.

The creel survey also helped to assess the access issues at each of the sites.

Witmer in particular had two to three areas where anglers tended to congregate because the rest of the shoreline was either too steep and/or covered in trees and shrubs. Greenwood Pond also had concentration sites for anglers, but the entire shoreline is relatively free of obstruction and this concentration wasn't as severe as at Witmer. The drop off of anglers in July-August at Greenwood was likely associated with the severe green algae bloom.

Water quality concerns are similar to those found in agricultural areas of Iowa. High phosphorous is the primary concern, and most of the ponds are well above eutrophic standards as outlined by Hudson (1998). Chloride issues may exist in the ponds with significant stormwater and street based inputs (Greenwood, Witmer, MacRae), however they are lower than typical US EPA standards. Chronic chloride damage to aquatic biota is under-researched however, and newer data may suggest that some sites have chronic chloride issues at some times of year (Richardson 2012).

#### **Pond by Pond Breakdown:**

**Greenwood Pond:** Fish assemblage is the typical stunted panfish with low bass numbers as seen in many Iowa waters. Crappie and bluegill numbers are high, but small size may deter some anglers. Bluegill PSD was the highest among lakes surveyed, but still very low compared to other popular panfish sites (Murphy and Willis 1996). Largemouth bass numbers are low, but restocking and catch and release promotion efforts of previous years through educational signage may help aid this. Notable lack of catfish in all survey years led to an advanced fingerling stocking in the

summer of 2011, which should add an additional aspect to the fishery. Black bullhead numbers were low and the goldfish in the pond do not seem to be reproducing, so nuisance species problems are minimal.

High nutrient loads were seen in IOWATER and ISU data reports, as well as hinted at by the presence of excessive algae/duckweed growth. Green algae mats are the primary concern. They hinder access and may lead to summer/winter fish kill conditions when algae death/decay occur and oxygen levels drop. Typical watershed best management practices (BMPs) may prove effective in lowering nutrient levels.

High sediment loads are present at Greenwood as seen in the Iowa DNR sediment map – 8-10 ft of silt depth in spots and overall sediment content at ~13,000 cubic yards. This can be related to watershed practices and the gully and sheet/rill erosion seen in the watershed tour. Removal of some of the sediment would restore historical maximum depths of 20+ feet.

The dam at Greenwood is another area of concern discovered during the watershed tour. Significant overland flow has led to backside head-cutting of the dam. Patch attempts with riprap and refuse have proved ineffective. The dam will likely need to be inspected for safety concerns, however it is a large dam and is in no immediate danger of a breach. The outlet structure also needs further investigation as many stakeholders reported higher water levels at Greenwood in the survey time period than historically.

Witmer Pond: Catfish number/size is quite good and one of the best of all ponds surveyed. Largemouth bass numbers are very low. A 2011 stocking may have assisted this, as well as the educational signage that was installed. Average panfish sizes are generally low. Crappie numbers are very low, though that is not necessarily a bad thing for a small pond. Bluegill numbers are adequate and some even demonstrate acceptable sizes. Carp numbers may be problematic for this small pond, and their associated nutrient re-suspension may be contributing to some years' vegetation problems.

Moderate to high nutrient loads were encountered based on IOWATER and ISU data. Some extreme vegetation problems were present depending on year (2009 was extreme, 2010/2011 were normal). Low dissolved oxygen was often encountered in summer due to vegetation die offs. A partial winter kill was reported in 2011, and future kills may be expected.

Sediment loads are low compared to other ponds in the survey. A well maintained concrete detention area may be helping this, though improvements to it could assist in the nutrient loading problem as well. Pond depth is good to fair in most areas. Steep sidedness should help reduce vegetation pervasiveness, however 2009 showed that this is not always the case. Dam integrity should also be assessed in the future due to tree growth and outlet structure appearance.

Watershed BMPs can also make a difference at Witmer Pond. Neighborhood interest and support was moderate to high for the area and several

stakeholders also strongly supported a project. A few areas exist in the watershed where sediment ponds could be constructed, however the best sites are located on developed public ground. Any attempt at construction here would be challenging unless full landowner cooperation is acquired.

MacRae Pond: Low angling pressure is guessed to occur at Mac Rae due to access issues and observational experiences from the survey period. Catfish numbers and size are excellent here, while largemouth bass numbers are quite low. Panfish numbers are moderate, but size remains a primary issue across the board. Additional stockings of Iowa State Fair leftover fish have been conducted in 2010 and 2011 and consist of hybrid bluegills (bluegill X green sunfish) along with channel and flathead catfish.

Vegetation abundance is low to moderate, but an area of concern is the curlyleaf pondweed found in 2011. This nuisance species may spread rapidly within the pond if left unaddressed. As of now, it is a small scale issue and could possibly be spot treated.

Moderate nutrient loads were seen in IOWATER and ISU data reports, which is supported by low to moderate vegetation abundance. High sediment load is seen in portions of the pond. This is likely due to the large size of its watershed and the lack of any functional upstream structures. This sedimentation may prove to be detrimental to the fishery since the pond already has relatively low depth. A winter or summer kill in the future would not be unexpected.

Upstream of the pond on park ground, very steep grades increase local stormwater flow to high levels. Some of this is being addressed with prairie plantings and other BMPs. Outside of park ground, the sheer scale of the watershed will prove problematic for any BMP implementation. Social data also indicates a low level of interest in these types of changes. A possible partnership with the nearby school could help with this. A destroyed sediment basin or flow-slowing structure was discovered very near to the headwaters of the pond. It may be possible to retrofit this into a functioning retention cell for better sediment and nutrient control.

Tai Dam Pond: Fish assemblage may need some work. Low bass numbers on paper may be a result of ineffective sampling. Night electrofishing may lead to better results. Panfish population is moderate in number, but poor in size distribution – typical for pit-type ponds/lakes. Apparent lack of catfish was addressed with a 2011 stocking and stocking success will need to be reassessed in the future. Presence of gizzard shad and carp indicates fish infiltration or flood introduction from the nearby Des Moines River. An assessment of the outlet structure and flood history may assist in determining the likely source.

Nutrient and sediment loads seem moderate to low based on vegetation data and pond construction, but further investigation of watershed characteristics is needed. Depths of 40+ft will likely make sedimentation a minor or non-issue at this site in the future.

Angler access is currently poor due to distance from primary roads. Shoreline access is fair however and vehicle access is being developed by the local community. The local community is very interested in implementing an improvement project at this site, however local municipality interest is relatively low due to their limited land ownership in the area.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the results of this study, overall data suggest that a focus should be placed on the area of highest priority and lowest number of overall problems. Through the data collected it has been concluded that the City of Des Moines should focus on Greenwood Pond for improvements. Following Greenwood, Witmer showed the highest potential for improvement effectiveness and support for those improvements.

Tai Dam Pond represents a special case in that much of the management falls under a local neighborhood group. The support is very high, but impact for the anglers of the Des Moines metro will be low unless significant promotion of Tai Dam as a resource is conducted. This may not prove to be desirable to the local management organization. City involvement at Tai Dam will likely be low as well due to their limited land ownership.

MacRae Pond presents with the greatest challenges for improvement based on the low neighborhood interest and severity of impairments surrounding it. The fishery at MacRae, however, is one of the strongest of the four sampled, so vast improvements may not be necessary to make it a valid urban fishery resource.

The improvements recommended for each of these projects follow closely to those that the Iowa DNR uses in its lake restoration program (National Water Program 2009). Fixing the watershed before fixing the fishery is often the best course of action for sustainable improvement success at any pond or lake. Each site, besides Tai Dam, has readily apparent watershed issues discussed in the results and discussion section that could be addressed. Additionally, pond structure (i.e. dam and outlet) concerns exist at most of the sites and would need to be addressed before the watershed issues. Following that, fishery renovation and dredging may be the best steps towards total restoration.

Following is a ranked list per site of improvements that would move each water body on the path towards successful, sustainable urban fishery status. These recommendations were formulated as a result of several meetings with the "Urban Fisheries Tactical Team" consisting of Joseph E. Morris, ISU; Ben Dodd, Iowa DNR; Jennifer Welch, Polk County SWCD; Wayne Peterson, IDALS; et al. Future assessment is also suggested to quantify the effects of each of these potential improvements if/when they are implemented.

#### Greenwood Pond:

1. Dam and outlet structure assessment, repair, and maintenance.
2. Watershed BMP implementation to reduce nutrient loads, such as sediment ponds and stream

- bank/rill stabilization in the city owned portions of the watershed.
3. Private landowner BMP promotion in portions of watershed including rain gardens, rain barrels, lawn clipping/yard waste removal.
4. Aeration and vegetation (algae/duckweed) control may be needed to prevent fish kills and improve fishing accessibility.
5. Sediment removal through dredging to restore depth and alter contours.
6. Shoreline stabilization throughout, and fish habitat installation around primary areas of angler activity. Amenities improvement at site including bathrooms, etc.
7. Fishery renovation and bass, bluegill, catfish stockings.

#### Witmer Pond:

1. Dam and outlet structure assessment, repair, and maintenance (tree removal, primarily).
2. Detention structure improvement to further slow water flow during storm events. Currently adequate at reducing sediment flow, but inadequate at reducing nutrient flow.
3. Watershed BMP implementation including rain gardens, rain barrels, grass clippings/yard waste removal.
4. Aeration may be required to reduce occurrence of fish kills

- and increase available dissolved oxygen.
5. Shoreline access improvements around the pond, primarily tree removal on the least steep side of pond. Amenities improvement at site including bathrooms, etc.
  6. Fishery renovation and restocking of bass, bluegill, catfish.

**MacRae Pond:**

1. Upstream modification of watershed including installation of sediment basins and/or retention areas.
2. Sediment removal and deepening needed to insure against potential fish kills. Aeration would also be beneficial.
3. Access improvements around pond, primarily in the areas of parking and amenities. Bank leveling or fishing platform installation would also be useful.
4. Fishery renovation and bass, bluegill, catfish stockings.

**Tai Dam Pond:**

1. Access improvements (parking/road) to the pond area are needed along with promotion of the area as a public fishing site.
2. Outlet and flood history investigation to determine source of riverine nuisance species.
3. Fish habitat installations and shoreline access improvement at key sites, with angler safety and

pit lake management methods in mind.

4. Potential alternative fishery species stockings including hybrid striped bass and catchable trout could be considered in the future.
5. Continued stockings of catfish and largemouth bass after assessment.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Funding provided primarily by Iowa DNR Aquatic Education through Sport Fish Restoration funds. Additional funding, equipment, and consultation provided by Des Moines Parks and Recreation and Public Works Departments, Iowa DNR, Polk County SWCD, and IDALS. We thank all of our assistants and consultants along the way that have made the entirety of this project possible, and our partnerships strong.

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# Initial Site Selection Rubric

## Social (Local Management)

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
The local management unit has spent significant time and money on site development already and/or has plans for future site improvement. Funding/in-kind cooperation for future work is earmarked.	Local management has developed some basic plans for improvement and is securing funding, has funds earmarked, is looking for funds actively, or is willing to provide in-kind cooperation.	Local management has ideas for improvements but no plans to implement them. No funding has currently been secured outside of the standard budget for park/location improvements.	Local management is interested in doing some work, but has no concrete ideas as to what needs to be done or what they want to do. Funding or in-kind cooperation is questionable.	Local management is uninterested in any improvements at the site and cannot make any investments.

## Social (Local Non-management)

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
Active neighborhood groups that would be willing to participate in some way with any future restoration projects and have already done similar things in the past.	Neighborhood that is supportive of future work at the site, and possibly interested in participating in some way with said work, but have not done so to date.	Neighborhood that is generally uninterested and/or undecided about a potential project at the site. Open to ideas, but so far no action.	Neighborhood that is uninterested and possibly unwilling to participate with restoration efforts.	Neighborhood completely unwilling to change existing management practices of area.

## Location

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
Plenty of parking, amenities, and access points (e.g. fishing piers, boat ramps) easily accessible to large, nearby user base.	Some parking and amenities. Access points somewhat developed (e.g. gravel ramp, cleared shoreline) Short drive for potential user base.	Very little parking and amenities. Fishing access acceptable for shoreline anglers only. Some distance from residential areas.	Street parking only. No amenities. Overgrown shoreline (e.g. trees). Road access may be difficult (e.g. major thoroughfare, gravel road).	No amenities or parking on site. Poor access. Far from roads or residential area.

Safety (crime) issues? \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_\_ Yes

Flood history? \_\_\_\_ Frequent \_\_\_\_ Rarely \_\_\_\_ Never

## Watershed Features

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
Great watershed to lake ratio (watershed area to lake area < 25:1). Many existing best management practices (e.g. rain gardens, bioswales). Well developed sites (no disturbed ground).	Moderate watershed to lake ratio (< 50:1). Some best management practices implemented and many areas for others. Some development currently active.	Higher watershed to lake ratio (>50:1). Very few best management practices implemented but many potential sites. Moderate development currently active.	Higher watershed to lake ratio (>50:1). No best management practices implemented and few potential locations available. Moderate to high development or agricultural activity.	High watershed to lake ratio. No public ownership in watershed.

### Pond Features

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
Maximum depth adequate (>10 ft) and over wide area of pond. Bottom contour sufficient for vegetation control (3:1 slope). Shoreline well maintained or rocked. Outlet and dam in good repair.	Maximum depth adequate (>10 ft) in small area of the pond. Bottom contour passable. Some shoreline erosion at typical sites (points, windblown side). Dam in good repair, outlet fair.	Maximum depth borderline (7-10 ft) or one very small hole of >10 ft. Large areas of shallow water contained to upper end. Shoreline unkempt with widespread erosion. Dam in good repair, outlet unmaintained.	Maximum depth questionable (4-7ft) with no distinct holes. Large areas of shallow water throughout pond. Shoreline erosion severe. Dam damaged and outlet unmaintained.	Maximum depth poor (<4ft). Dam on verge of failure.

### Biological

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
No visible algae or other vegetation problems. No known invasive/problem species (e.g. carp). Good reports from anglers on fish size/quantity.	Minor algae and vegetation issues. No known invasive/problem species. Good to moderate reports from anglers on fish size/quantity.	Moderate algae and vegetation problems. Some invasive/problem species. Fair to poor reports from anglers on fish size/quantity.	Severe vegetation problems. Invasive/problem species prevalent. Poor reports from anglers on fish size/quantity.	Severe vegetation problems. Undesirable species majority of biomass.

### Chemical

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
Dissolved oxygen content high (>8 ppm) in the morning. IOWATER data shows no red flags.	Dissolved oxygen content moderate (4-8 ppm) in the morning. Few red flags in IOWATER data.	Dissolved oxygen content moderate (4-8 ppm) in the morning. Several red flags in IOWATER data or no IOWATER data available.	Dissolved oxygen marginal (<4 ppm) in the morning. Many red flags or no IOWATER data presence.	Dangerously low dissolved oxygen (0-2 ppm).

## Advanced Site Selection Rubric

### Fish

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
High numbers of desirable species in good body condition. Good size distribution. Target species mix (bass, bluegill, catfish typically) is the vast majority. No problem species present.	Moderate numbers of desirable species in varying body condition. Moderate size distribution. Supplemental stocking needed in one species. No problem species present.	High numbers of desirable species in poor body condition. Poor size distribution. Supplemental stocking needed in more than one species. Few problem species present.	High numbers of desirable species in poor body condition OR low overall biomass. Heavy stocking needed. Many problem fish species present in high numbers.	No fish present due to environmental conditions OR only species present non-game/problem species.

### Vegetation

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
Healthy amount of diverse vegetation that does not inhibit angling, but provides cover for fish and aesthetic enhancement of pond.	Low diversity of vegetation in moderate amounts OR mostly devoid of vegetation. Minor angling hindrance. Minor pond aesthetics drawbacks.	Low diversity in moderate to high amounts OR some invasive species present. Periodic moderate-high levels of angling hindrance. Moderate impact to pond aesthetics.	High density of problematic vegetation OR majority of vegetation invasive. Nearly constant impact on angling. Vegetation die-offs likely to cause fish kills. Severe impact on pond aesthetics.	Completely choked with vegetation (invasive or non-invasive).

### Watershed

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
Very little stream based erosion. Existing upper watershed control structures such as sediment basins or wetlands. Nutrient and sediment inputs minimal.	Some stream based erosion. Few existing upper watershed structures and many sites for potential structures. Low nutrient and sediment input.	Several areas of gully erosion. No watershed structures, but many sites for potential structures. Moderate nutrient and sediment input.	Severe gully erosion. No watershed structures and few sites for potential structures. High nutrient and sediment input.	No potential for watershed improvements and extreme problems with pollutants.

### Pond

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
“Deep and steep” structure typical of newly constructed/well maintained Iowa ponds with little sedimentation. Fish habitat abundant (natural or man-made).	Fair pond structure and low to moderate sedimentation. Fish habitat sparse, but potential habitat sites abundant.	Marginal pond structure with moderate to heavy sedimentation. Fish habitat non-existent, but potential sites abundant.	Very heavily sedimented. Poor bottom contours. Fish habitat non-existent and potential sites limited.	Prohibitively sedimented or unworkable original pond structure (e.g. hard bottom very shallow).

### Chemical

<i>Excellent</i>	<i>Acceptable</i>	<i>Needs Work</i>	<i>Needs Significant Work</i>	<i>Unworkable</i>
All water quality parameters fall within lower end of acceptable state guidelines. Most often the water looks “clean and clear” to outside observers.	Water quality parameters fall within upper end of acceptable state guidelines. Water aesthetics variable thru year with some periods of “clean and clear”.	Few parameters fall outside of acceptable state guidelines. Water rarely achieves “clean and clear” look. Smell or other aesthetic concerns.	Several parameters fall outside of acceptable state guidelines. Water very rarely achieves “clean and clear” look. Some worrying pollutant issues (e.g. ammonia, e-coli).	Most parameters outside of state guidelines. Water appears dirty all the time. Severe pollutant issues.

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

**#6**

**Information Item**

**Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board 2012 Annual Report**

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Pat Reed, Chairperson of the Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board, will present the 2012 Annual Report. Mr. Reed will show photos and maps during the presentation to allow commissioners and attendees to better visualize the Board's activities.

Kevin Szcodronski, State Parks Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

Attached: Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board 2012 Annual Report

**Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board**  
**2012 Annual Report**  
**Presented to the IA DNR Natural Resource Commission 03/14/13**

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Board Members: Pat Reed, Linda Jenny, Ron Jacobson, Beth Aswegan, Lori Lange, Doug Follman, Tom Putnam, Amber O'Neill, Kevin Szcodronski

**Events of 2012**

Linda Jenny was reappointed and new member Doug Follman was welcomed as well as new Preserves Board representative Tom Putnam. Sadly, we lost long time board member Mike Tinkham. In memorial, a Bur Oak was planted in the South Campground. His position was left vacant for the year. Three positions are up for election for 2013.

A leadership team meeting (DNR director, deputy director, and DNR division administrators) was held in March at Brushy Creek. This was an opportunity to showcase the area and identify needs.

In April, trail workday volunteers helped plant willow stakes for bank stabilization along the preserve trail (previous effort was washed out in the 2010 flood) and pruned the Clay Hill and Preserve trails.

It was another trying year budget-wise. Brushy remained short 2 full-time staff members and down on seasonal hours. Thanks to great seasonal staff, campground hosts, and volunteers the park and trails remained as well-kept as possible. A new park ranger was hired mid-October. Eddie Elkin will attend the law enforcement academy January-April 2013 and will serve both Brushy Creek and Dolliver State Park and will move into the park residence at Brushy. Formation of an official park "friends" group was discussed. Finding a way to combine such various user groups may prove difficult, but is something that park staff would like to pursue in the future.

Board members discussed the possibility of placing some horse traffic warning signs along county road D-46 and along the main park road. This would give motorists an extra reminder to be cautious and slow down because we do have horse-driven wagons using the roads and when trails are closed horse riders often ride the road shoulders. The county road engineer approved the idea, so now we will pursue funding routes and hopefully have something in place for 2013. The signs will each cost around \$100.

Drought conditions caused an unpopular burn ban which included campfires. One positive result of the lack of rain was trails being closed very few times, in fact there was never a full weekend of trail closure all year long. Many water crossings completely dried up or became a trickle and the lake is down several feet. Boat ramps were usable but the docks sat very high off the water. Although the extremely hot weather kept some campers away in July and August, overall camping was slightly up from last year. Labor Day weekend numbers were down.

**Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board**  
**2012 Annual Report**  
**Presented to the IA DNR Natural Resource Commission 03/14/13**

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Trails Program Coordinator, Whitney Davis, presented to the board at the July meeting. She explained the history, funding, and goals of the program. One of the goals here at Brushy has been to place a trail bridge below the spillway to cross Brushy Creek. Currently there is a rock dam crossing that has been completely washed out in the last 3 floods and often suffers damage during the spring rains and snowmelt making it virtually unusable. Horse riders are forced to cross the creek itself. During dangerously high water levels, riders are forced to ride up above on the dam road. Inexperienced riders also do not feel comfortable crossing the sometimes deep water of the creek and the water can be quite cold in the spring and fall. A bridge will allow hikers and bikers to complete the Lake Trail rather than being forced to use the road and will offer a safe alternative for horse riders. Whitney Davis submitted this bridge proposal to the State DOT Recreational Trails Grant Fund and the project was approved. Once the archeological study is completed, construction will begin in 2013 to place a trail bridge below the spillway. The DNR trail crew will also construct the new section of trail leading up to the bridge. Other upcoming construction projects for 2013 include 2 year-round cabins placed near the beach. Due to some product issues, the South Campground playground equipment will be re-bid and placed spring of 2013.

A survey has been requested for an area known as the Lost 40 bordering our southeast property that was given to us by Webster County Conservation Board. The terrain and flood probability will have to be determined for any future trail expansion.

Naturalist, Erin Ford, continues to offer many programs such as a geo-caching event, National Kids to Park Day, a kids fishing derby, No Woman Left Inside, Moonlight Canoe paddles, night hikes, and campground movie nights.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2013 at 6pm with a 4 pm tour (weather permitting). Our meetings are always open to the public. Please let Pat Reed or Amber O'Neill know if you are interested in attending any of our meetings. A volunteer trail work day has been tentatively scheduled for April 20, 2013, details to be posted on TAB webpage.

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#7

**Decision Item**

**Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board Appointments**

---

Commission approval is requested for the following recommended appointments to the Brushy Creek Trails Advisory Board. The Trails Advisory Board advises the Department and Natural Resource Commission regarding issues and recommendations relating to development and maintenance of trails and related activities at or adjacent to the Brushy Creek Recreation Area.

As outlined in Iowa Code 455A.8, the Board is comprised of 10 members: the DNR Director or his designee, a member of the State Preserves Board, the park employee responsible for Brushy Creek Recreation Area, and seven members recommended by the Director and appointed by the Natural Resource Commission. Board members must actively participate in recreational trail activities such as hiking, bicycling, an equestrian sport, or a winter sport at the Brushy Creek Recreation Area.

The DNR Communications Bureau prepared two statewide press releases with the first being sent on December 6, 2012, and the second on December 31, 2012. The Fort Dodge Messenger publicized the announcement for both press release dates. We also announced the opening in our DNR website under the heading of "Boards and Commissions" and Brushy Creek's web page. The two web sites were linked to assure applicants could access the application form, application period, and a description of the Trail Advisory Board.

The recommended appointments are based on average scores and include consideration for gender balance, length of term in coordination with the staggered term system, and spouses not serving on the board at the same time. The scoring was conducted by DNR staff Amber O'Neill, Sherry Arntzen, Angela Corio, Greg Van Fosson, Steve Derrmand, and Travis Baker. The following table lists the applicants and their respective average score.

Brushy Creek Advisory Board Applicants 2013

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Average Score</b>
Sandstrom, Preston	33.0
Peterson, Jake	32.3
Jacobson, Ron	31.8
Steele, Mary	29.5
Doll, Karl T.	23.5
Bacon, Tony	27.3
Bohan, Michael G.	15.8

The NRC is requested to appoint the following three applicants for the following terms of service: Preston Sandstrom to serve a one year term to replace Mike Tinkham's vacated position. Jake

Peterson to serve a three year term, and Mary Steele will fill the other three year term to maintain gender balance.

#### Preston Sandstrom

Preston lives in Harcourt and works for the USDA Rural Development as a Community Programs Specialist. In this capacity Preston helps rural communities with financing needs. This will be his first year serving on the board; however, he is a long time user of Brushy Creek. He is an avid mountain biker, hiker, kayaker and camper.

#### Jake Peterson

Jake lives in Webster City and works for Peterson Construction out of Webster City. He and his family use the recreation area for hunting, horseback riding, snowmobiling, camping and fishing. He is a year-round multi-user of the recreation area. This will also be Jakes first time serving on the board.

#### Mary Steere

Mary lives in Greene and is a retired school teacher. Mary founded the Iowa Trail Sisters which is a group of over 1300 women who enjoy equestrian trail riding in Iowa. Mary and her family enjoy camping, fishing, hiking, trail riding, and hunting. This appointment will also be Mary's first time serving on the board.

The three new appointed members will join the 4 standing members (Pat Reed, Beth Aswegan, Doug Follman, and Linda Jenny), Tom Putnam (Preserves Board designee), Amber O'Neill (Park Manager), and Kevin Szcodronski (DNR Director Designee) to make up the 10 member board.

Kevin Szcodronski, State Parks Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

**#8\*** (*\*indicates proposed consent item*)

**Decision Item**

**Amendment with Becky Rose for Pine Lake Cabin Cleaning**

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Commission approval is requested for a one year-service contract amendment with Becky Rose of Eldora, Iowa. The amendment will begin on May 17, 2013, and terminate on May 16, 2014. This is the third amendment to the original contract. This amendment will be for \$11,440.00. The total amount of the original contract and all amendments is \$43,680.00. DNR shall have the option to renew this contract as long as this contract and any extensions do not exceed a six-year period. This contract will be funded through State Park funds.

The DNR entered into the original contract in 2010 for the purpose of retaining the Contractor to provide general house cleaning and deep cleaning for the four (4) family cabins owned by the DNR at Pine Lake State Park in Eldora, IA. With only one full-time staff member it was necessary to provide this service to ensure the cleanliness of the (4) cabins though out the year. The cabins have a 66% occupancy rate and maintain a profit each year which more than pays for the service and general maintenance of the (4) cabins.

In 2010, an informal bidding process was used and an RFP was posted to TSB. One bid was received and accepted. Becky Rose has provided quality and economical service since the original contract.

Kevin Szcodronski, State Parks Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#9\* (*\*indicates proposed consent item*)

**Decision Item**

**Salvage Timber Sale Backbone State Park**

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The Department requests Commission approval of the sale of an estimated 23,600 board feet of mixed hardwood trees at Backbone State Park in Delaware County. The sale consists of 113 trees. There are an additional 12 cull trees marked for harvest. These trees may be harvested, but are not included in the board foot volume of the sale. This sale was presented at a public meeting on January 22, 2013

The purpose of this sale is to improve the health and aesthetics of Backbone State Park by salvaging trees that have been damaged by wind storms and flooding in recent years. The trees being harvested are damaged, uprooted or dead and are potentially hazardous to park visitors. This harvest includes scattered trees on 25 acres as shown on the attached maps. Oak and walnut seedlings will be planted following the harvest.

A natural areas inventory was conducted and there are no known threatened and endangered species in the harvest areas. Best management practices (BMP's) will apply to the harvest. Harvesting is to occur only when ground is firm or frozen to minimize soil disturbance. Skid trails and landing areas will be repaired following the harvest. Harvesting will only be allowed from November 15 to March 15 when the park can be closed for public safety.

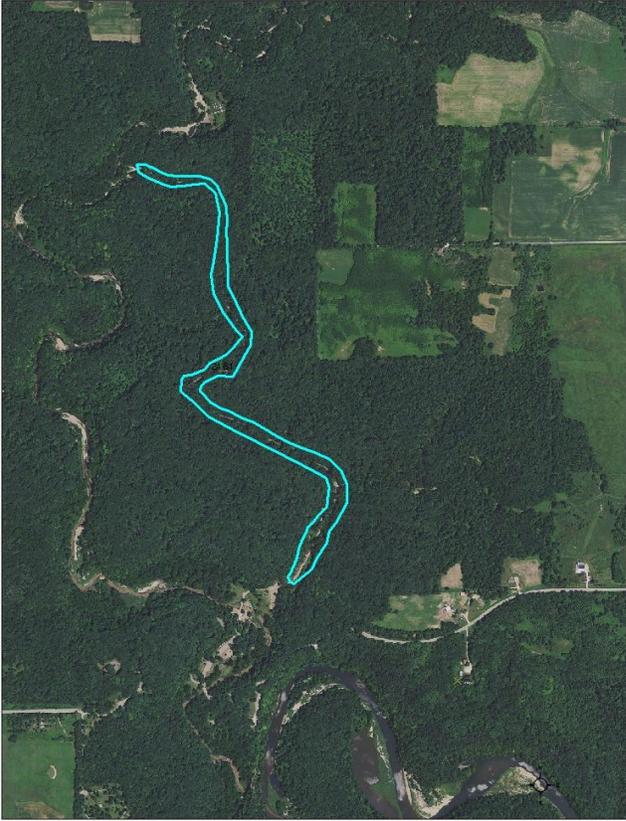
The following bids were received for the sale:

<b>Company</b>	<b>Amount of Bid</b>
Kendrick Forest Products	\$27,916.00
Jones Wood Heating and Logging	\$24,920.00
Dan Jones Logging	\$24,723.00
Merle Hershberger	\$21,840.00

The Department requests Commission approval to execute a contract with the high bidder, Kendrick Forest Products for \$27,916.00.

Paul Tauke, Forestry Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

Attachment: timber sale maps



**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

**#10\*** (*\*indicates proposed consent item*)

**Decision Item**

**Contract with P&N Corporation for Aerial Goose Surveys**

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Commission approval is requested for a contract with P&N Corporation of Marion, IA. The contract period will begin on April 1, 2013, and terminate on March 31, 2014. The contract is to perform the annual statewide Canada Goose survey and shall not exceed \$28,050. Pursuant to the terms of the contract, DNR has the option to renew the contract as long as the contract and any extensions do not exceed a six-year period.

The Canada goose population is monitored annually via a statewide aerial survey. Population status is used to determine appropriate hunting regulations each year. Federal regulations also require the Canada goose population be monitored annually to use lethal control methods in Iowa.

Two bids were received; one from Bachman Aero, Inc., Skokie, IL, and one from P&N Corporation. P&N Corporation was chosen using the informal competitive selection process. They achieved the highest overall score in the selection evaluation process due to the model and flying abilities of their helicopters, low level flying experience, and efficiencies gained through their GPS navigational systems for identifying location of survey sites. This contract will be funded through the Fish and Game Trust Fund.

Proposals Received	City, State	Criteria Ranking	Proposed Cost
P&N	Marion, IA	1	\$28,050.00
Bachman Aero, Inc.	Skokie, IL	2	\$26,175.00

Dale Garner, Wildlife Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#11

**Decision Item**

**Chapter 56 – Shooting Range Grant Recommendations**

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The Commission is requested to approve grants recommended by the review and selection committee pursuant to Chapter 56, Shooting Range Grant Program.

The grant review and selection committee met on March 6, 2013, to evaluate applications and to provide recommendations for grant awards. The review and selection committee consisted of six members:

- Iowa State Archery Association (1)
- Iowa State Trapshooting Association (1)
- Iowa State Rifle and Pistol Association (1)
- DNR Staff (3)

The committee scored each application and individual scores were summarized. Funding available for this grant cycle include:

- \$50,001 fish/game trust fund for development or equipment
- \$32,100 federal funding (equipment only)

The committee recommends funding to the top 3 ranked development projects and top 2 ranked equipment projects. If the highest ranked projects decline the funding, the Department requests authority to offer those funds to the next highest scored projects that meet the grant criteria or return the funds to the grant program for distribution in the next grant cycle.

<b>DEVELOPMENT/EQUIPMENT GRANT</b>					
<b>Ranked by Score</b>	<b>Grant Applicant</b>	<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount Requested</b>	<b>Recommended Award</b>
<b>100</b>	<b>City of West Des Moines</b>	<b>Development</b>	<b>Raccoon River Park Archery Facility</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$23,682.00</b>
<b>99</b>	<b>Three Mile Shooting Sports Complex</b>	<b>Development</b>	<b>Three Mile Shooting Sports Complex</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>\$23,682.00</b>
<b>90</b>	<b>Waltonian Archers of Linn County</b>	<b>Development</b>	<b>Handicaped Parking for Indoor Ranges</b>	<b>\$2,560.00</b>	<b>\$2,637.00</b>
83	Iowa State Trapshooting Association	Development	Traphouse Replacement	\$8,775.00	0
81	Crawford County Shooting Sports Association	Development	Crawford County Trap and Rifle Range	\$50,000.00	0
79	West Liberty Gun Club	Development	Rebuild Indoor Range and Building	\$50,000.00	0
78	Des Moines County Conservation	Development	Kevin J. Gahn Shooting Sports Complex Phase I Development	\$26,580.00	0

68	Fremont County Conservation	Development	Fremont County Archery Range	\$12,050.00	0
65	Linn County Conservation	Development	Matsell Bridge Natural Area	\$35,000.00	0
51	Dragoon Trail Chapter of the Izaak Walton League	Development	Range Improvement Grant	\$50,000.00	0
46	Des Moines County Conservation	Development	Big Hollow Shooting Range Improvement	\$36,345.00	0
<b>DEVELOPMENT GRANT TOTALS</b>				<b>371,310.00</b>	<b>50,001.00</b>

<b>EQUIPMENT GRANT</b>					
<b>Ranked by Score</b>	<b>Grant Applicant</b>	<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Grant Amount Requested</b>	<b>Recommended Award</b>
<b>90</b>	<b>AVAD Hunt Club</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>2013 Range Expansion - Bunker</b>	<b>\$27,225.00</b>	<b>\$27,225.00</b>
<b>81</b>	<b>Crawford County Shooting Sports Association</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>Crawford County Trap and Rifle Range</b>	<b>\$11,522.00</b>	<b>\$4,875.00</b>
68	Dragoon Trail Chapter of the Izaak Walton League	Equipment	Equipment Grant Application	\$8,966.00	0
<b>EQUIPMENT GRANT TOTALS</b>				<b>47,713.00</b>	<b>32,100.00</b>

Ben Berka, Shooting Sports Coordinator  
 Conservation and Recreation Division  
 March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#12

**Decision Item**

**Land Acquisition Projects**

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**1. Gabrielson WMA – Hancock Co. – Moklestad Estate**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the acquisition of a tract of land located 3 miles Southeast of Forest City adjacent to the south side of County Road B-14. This 82.38-acre parcel is offered by the Joyce Moklestad Estate for the appraised price of \$103,000.00. Licensed appraiser, Fred Greder, Benchmark Agribusiness, Inc., Mason City, Iowa submitted the appraisal. The purchase agreement was negotiated by Jerry Gibson.

The subject tract consists of 80.44 acres that are enrolled in the Wetland Reserve Program, and 1.94 acres of road right-of-way. Cover types include 66 acres of pasture and 16.2 acres of timber. Restoration will include 58 acres seeded to native prairie; 6 acres of wetlands; and 18.2 acres of timber. There are no buildings. The tract is immediately adjacent to the west side of the 610-acre Gabrielson Wildlife Management Area, and one half mile south of Pilot Knob State Park. The Wildlife Bureau will manage the property.

Acquisition funding will be North American Wetland Conservation Act (Prairie Lakes 5 NAWCA). Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Staff recommends approval of the land acquisition.

**2. Elk Creek Marsh WMA – Worth Co. – INHF**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested to purchase a tract of land located in Worth County one-quarter mile east of Elk Creek Marsh Wildlife Management Area. The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation offers this 75.8 acre tract for \$81,000. The appraised value is \$85,500. Fred Greder, Licensed Appraiser of Mason City, Iowa, submitted the appraisal.

The property is located 4.5 miles northeast of Kensett and 6 miles southwest of Northwood. The majority (70.24 acres) of the property is encumbered by a Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) easement with the south half lying within the 100-yr flood plain of Elk Creek. The topography varies from nearly level alluvial ground at the south end to rolling upland at the north end.

County Highway A34 passes along the north side with one quarter mile of frontage providing excellent access. The tract will be managed as part of the Elk Creek wetland complex for migratory and grassland birds and to provide enhanced outdoor recreation. The Wildlife Bureau will manage the property. Acquisition funding will be provided by a federal NAWCA grant. No surveying or fencing costs is anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Staff recommends approval of the acquisition.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

**#13\*** (*\*indicates proposed consent item*)

**Decision Item**

**Land Management Projects**

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**\*1. Mississippi River – Clayton Co. – Consolidated Grain & Barge Company**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Barge Fleeting Lease with Consolidated Grain and Barge Company.

The location is described as a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River bed in Sections 1, 6, and 7, Township 93 North, Range 2 and 3 West of the 5th P.M., Clayton County, Iowa, at approximate River Miles 624.1-622.34. The lease area consists of four segments in three locations listed as:

Segment A is located at River Mile 624.1 consisting of 400 feet of frontage and 175 feet of depth.

Segments B and C are located at River Mile 623.44 and extend to River Mile 623.74. This area contains 1400 feet of frontage and 175 feet of depth.

Segment E begins at River Mile 622.28 and ends at river mile 623.37. This area contains 2200 feet of frontage by 175 feet of depth.

This area has been under a barge fleeting lease since 1982. A Public Notice was printed in two local newspapers. No comments were received. The annual fee is \$25,181.00 and will be increased annually based on the percentage increase of the consumer price index. The term of the lease will be five years.

Staff recommends approval of the lease agreement.

**\*2. Mississippi River – Clayton Co. – Bunge North America**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the renewal of Chapter 17 Barge Fleeting Lease No. 18-R with Bunge North America, Inc. formerly AGRI McGregor Terminal, L.L.C. of Ankeny, Iowa. In November 2010, Bunge purchased AGRI. The operation will remain the same.

The location is described as a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River including approximately 1000 feet of frontage by 140 feet of depth located at Mississippi River Mile 633.3 located in Section 22, Township 75 North, Range 3 West of the 5th P.M., Clayton County, Iowa.

The site is used as a barge fleeting area for a grain elevator and has been under a barge fleeting lease since 1983. A Public Notice was printed in two local newspapers. No comments were received. The annual fee is \$7,554.00 and will be increased annually based on the percentage increase of the consumer price index. The term of the lease will be five years.

Staff recommends approval of the lease agreement.

**\*3. Mississippi River – Muscatine Co. – Fairport Landing Marina, Inc.**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to recommend to the Executive Council approval of a Chapter 18 lease with Fairport Landing Marina, Inc. for a portion of the riverbed of the Mississippi River.

The lease area consists of a man-made harbor in a portion of the Mississippi River bed with 150 feet of frontage by 100 feet of depth located in Section 31, Township 77 North, Range 1 East of the 5th P.M. at Mississippi River Mile 463.2, Muscatine County, Iowa. The leased area is used for commercial purposes as part of a marina and restaurant operation. This site has been under lease since 1983.

The proposed lease will be for a five-year period. The annual fee is \$1,200 with a condition that the fee will be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. Staff recommends approval of the lease agreement.

**\*4. Mississippi River – Scott Co. – CENEX Harvest States, Inc.**

The Natural Resource Commission is requested to recommend to the Executive Council approval for the renewal of a Chapter 18 lease with CENEX Harvest States, Inc. for a portion of the riverbed of the Mississippi River.

The location is described as a portion of the bed of the Mississippi River approximately 215 feet of frontage by 45 feet of depth located in Section 25, Township 77 North, Range 2 East of the 5th P.M. at Mississippi River Mile 475.7, near the town of Buffalo, in Scott County, Iowa. The site is used for barge loading and unloading. The location has been under lease since 1998.

The term of the lease will be for five years. The annual fee is \$1,500.00 with a condition that the fee may be adjusted to comply with adopted administrative rule changes that affect lease fees. Staff recommends approval of the management agreement.

**\*5. Sutliff Access – Johnson County – Management Agreement**

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the renewal of a management agreement with the Johnson County Conservation Board and the DNR. This agreement authorizes the Johnson County Conservation Board to manage Sutliff Access through 2037.

Sutliff Access is a small, one-half acre area, located nine miles northeast of Solon in the settlement of Sutliff. There is a picnic area and boat ramp which provides access to the Cedar River for boating and fishing.

The County desires to continue to manage the area. Staff recommends approval of the management agreement.

Travis Baker, Land & Waters Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

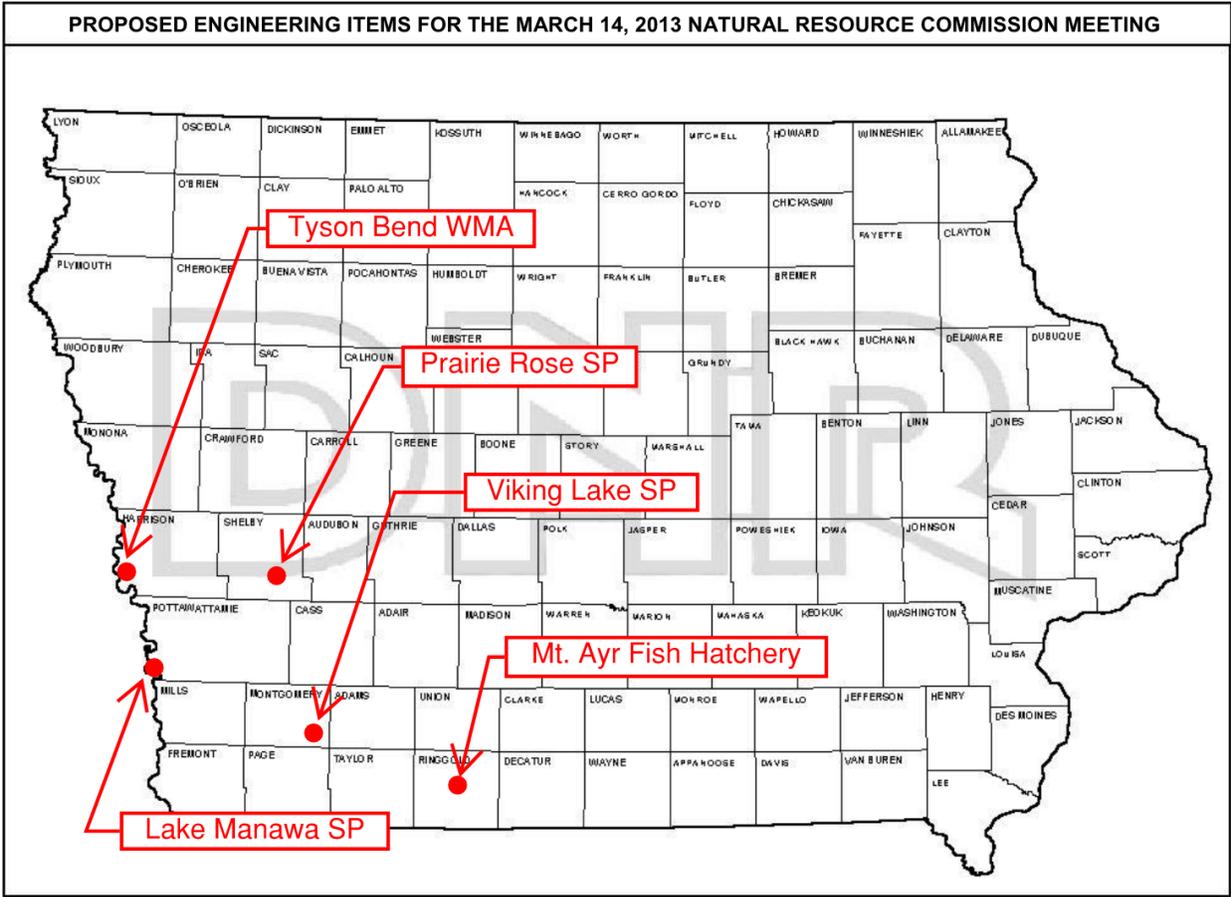
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission

#14

Decision Item

Engineering Construction Items

The Department requests Commission approval of the following construction projects:



1. LAKE MANAWA STATE PARK, SHORELINE ARMORING  
POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY-- PROJECT # 13-04-78-03

**Project Summary:** Project is needed to install riprap armoring along the eastern shorelines of the western canals of Lake Manawa. Boat traffic and wind action has caused erosion to the banks of the canals. The banks have to be stabilized to reduce future erosion.

**Function of the Project:** To protect and reduce erosion of the embankment. The project goal is to armor the shoreline due to safety issues and to mitigate soil erosion from getting into the lake. The banks have eroded over the years. Fluctuations of water levels have had impacted on the banks. Some parts of the shoreline have lost two or three mower widths in the last 10 years. Last summer, a DNR summer aide was killed while mowing along this bank. Stabilizing this part of the shoreline is imperative to safety.

**Construction Needed:** This project consists of installing riprap along the eastern shoreline of the western canals at Lake Manawa State Park and reseeding/mulching all disturbed access areas.

**Green Features:** None.

**DNR Project Manager:** Brett Johnson, PE; Engineering Bureau  
**Designer:** Brett Johnson, PE; Engineering Bureau  
**DNR Inspector:** Mark Johnson, Engineering Bureau  
**Operating Bureau:** Parks and Preserves  
**Funding Source:** 50/50 Marine Fuel Tax & Coast Guard  
Capital Link #130  
**Cost Estimate:** \$172,940.00  
**Plans Issue Date:** 1/31/13  
**Bid Letting Date:** 2/21/13  
**Plan Holders:** 14  
**Number of Bids Received** 16

**Bidders**

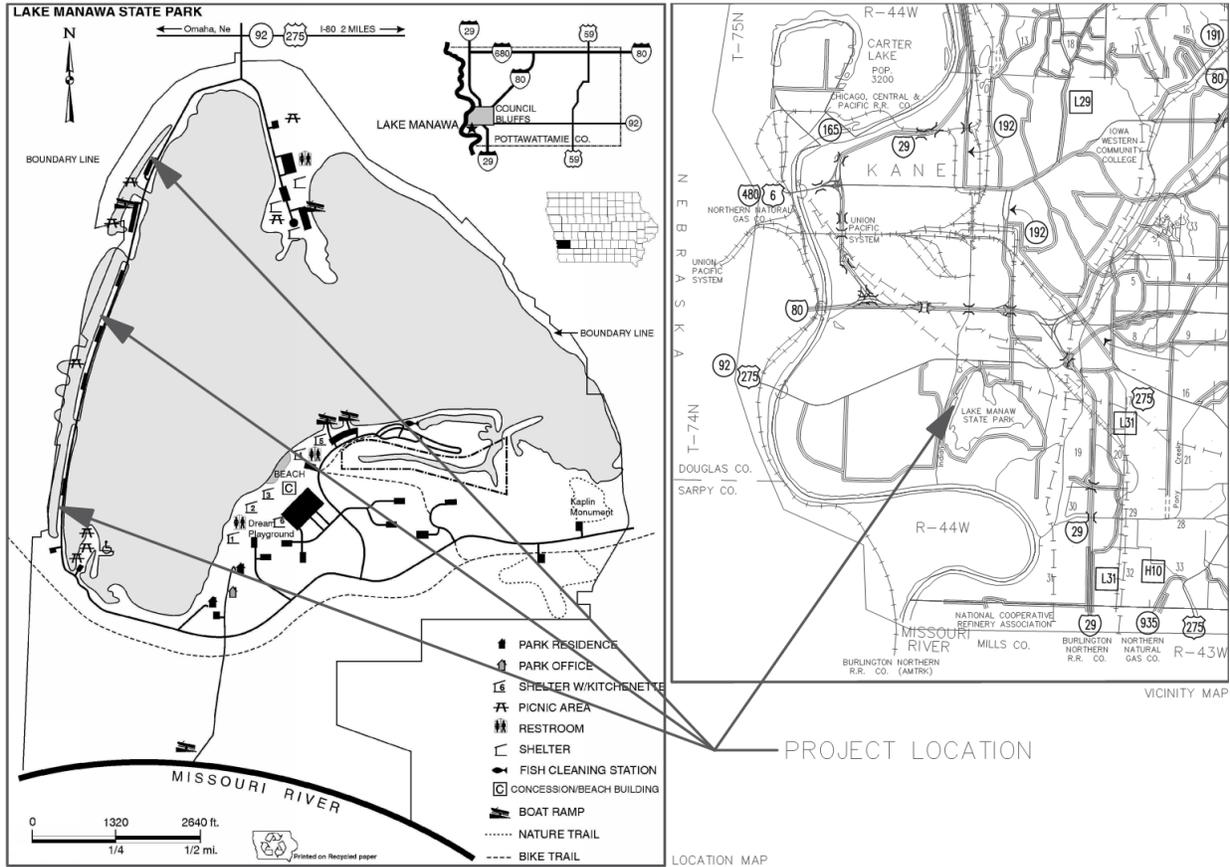
TEK Builders, Inc.	Mount Ayr, IA	\$150,486.80
Peterson Contractors, Inc.	Reinbeck, IA	\$161,530.00
L.A. Carlson Contracting, Inc.	Merrill, IA	\$167,033.80
LRC, Inc.	Vermillion, SD	\$167,734.00
Murphy Heavy Contracting	Anita, IA	\$169,661.19
Carley Construction	Treynor, IA	\$174,750.00
K.M. King, Inc.	Burlington, IA	\$178,488.80
Nelson & Rock Contracting Inc.	Onawa, IA	\$180,545.00
Torco Enterprises Inc.	Lavista, NE	\$186,267.20
Big River Construction Co.	Nebraska City, NE	\$199,560.00
Action Contracting Inc.	Valley, NE	\$199,700.00
Kent Loynachan dba KLC Construction	Russell, IA	\$206,300.00
K & L Landscape & Construction, Inc.	Sergeant Bluff, IA	\$215,020.00
Brunow Contracting, LLC	Council Bluffs, IA	\$220,285.00

MLS Landscape & Design Inc.  
Superior Seawalls Inc.

Granville, IA  
West Illinois City, IL

\$248,937.74  
\$283,280.40

**IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to TEK Builders, Inc. pending Federal forms verification.**



## 2. MT AYR FISH HATCHERY, STORAGE BUILDING ADDITION RINGGOLD COUNTY-- PROJECT # 13-04-80-02

**Project Summary:** The Fisheries Building is located near Mt Ayr in Ringgold County, IA. The Fisheries staff at this facility are responsible for both the management of approximately 45 public fishing areas in an eight county area and operation of a fish rearing facility raising wipers and largemouth bass. The existing building measures 60 feet long by 32 feet deep. The building houses the offices and has a small shop that has unconditioned space. The remainder is unheated and used to store the some of the ground maintenance equipment. This project consists of the construction of a one story, pre-engineered stick-frame building addition with a metal roof and metal siding, approximately 28'-0"x 32'-0", including one cold bay with an overhead door and

egress door. The work also includes five (5) separate alternates for paving, new loading dock, roofing, new doors, and bollards. This project would allow increased square footage for storage of the remainder of the maintenance and fish handling equipment.

**Function of the Project:** Provide Fisheries Bureau with cold storage space for equipment and supplies. Staff at this location are responsible for both fish rearing and fish management in an eight county area. The increased storage area will be used to house the equipment used for the fish rearing and to maintain the grounds. The fish rearing equipment commonly utilizes large quantities of rubber and PVC material. These materials are sensitive to sunlight thus requiring rebuilding every few years, if stored outside. Storing these materials indoors, when not in use, will extend equipment life minimizing rebuilding by staff. The fisheries staff also use boats and trailers which are necessary in managing the fishery. This equipment is expensive and when exposed to the elements the equipment has a shortened life and is difficult to properly maintain. Construction this building addition will reduce equipment maintenance costs and increase resale value.

**Construction Needed:** Cutting and filling of current location, utility runs to location, concrete foundation work, building erection and finish work.

**Green Features:**

- Metal Roof – Fully Recyclable.
- Re-wall Essential Abuse Board (post-consumer recycled plywood alternative).
- Pervious paving throughout the equipment yard.

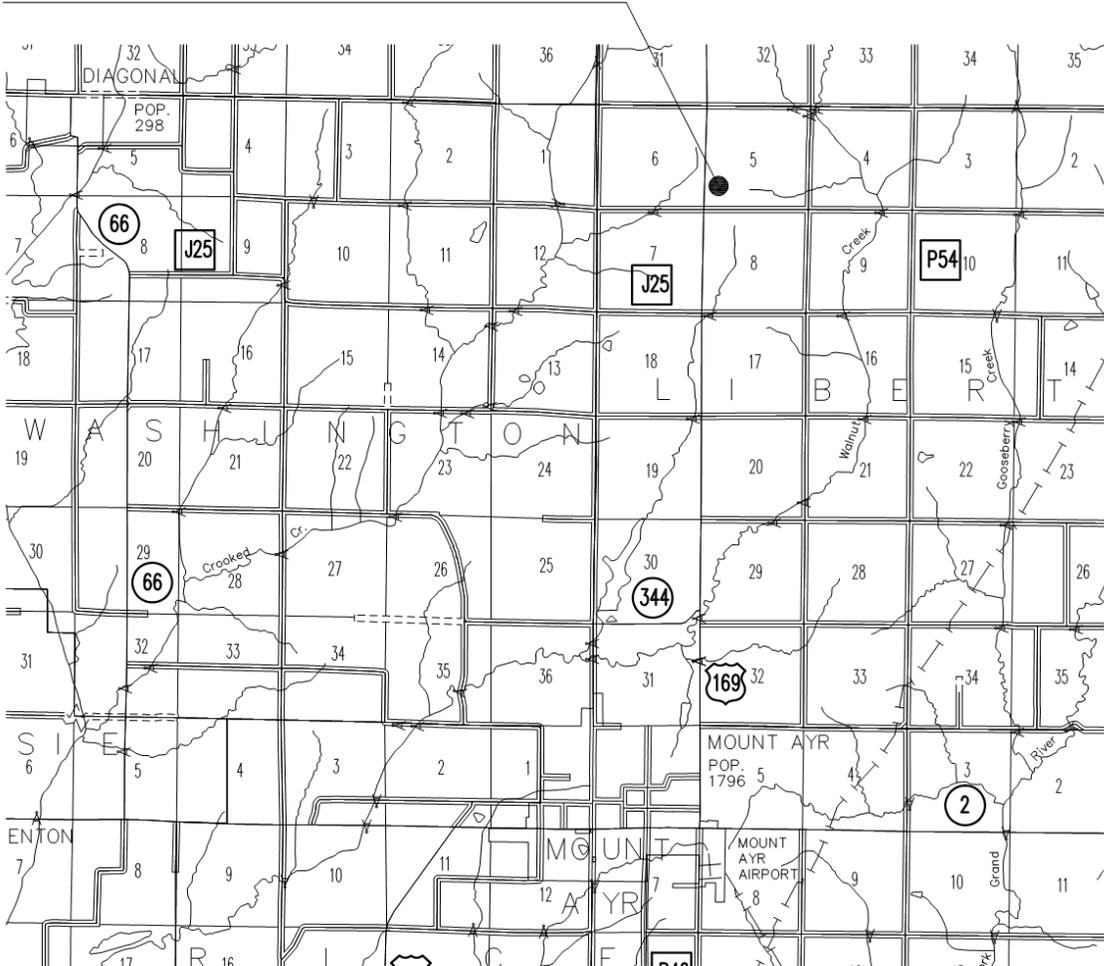
**DNR Project Manager:** Ryan Richey, NCARB; Engineering Bureau  
**Designer:** Ryan Richey, NCARB; Engineering Bureau  
**DNR Inspector:** Mark Johnson, Engineering Bureau  
**Operating Bureau:** Fisheries  
**Funding Source:** 100% F & W Trust, Fisheries Non-Habitat Stamp  
Capital Link #34  
**Cost Estimate:** \$75,000.00  
**Plans Issue Date:** 1/31/13  
**Bid Letting Date:** 2/21/13  
**Plan Holders:** 9  
**Number of Bids Received:** 6

**Bidders**

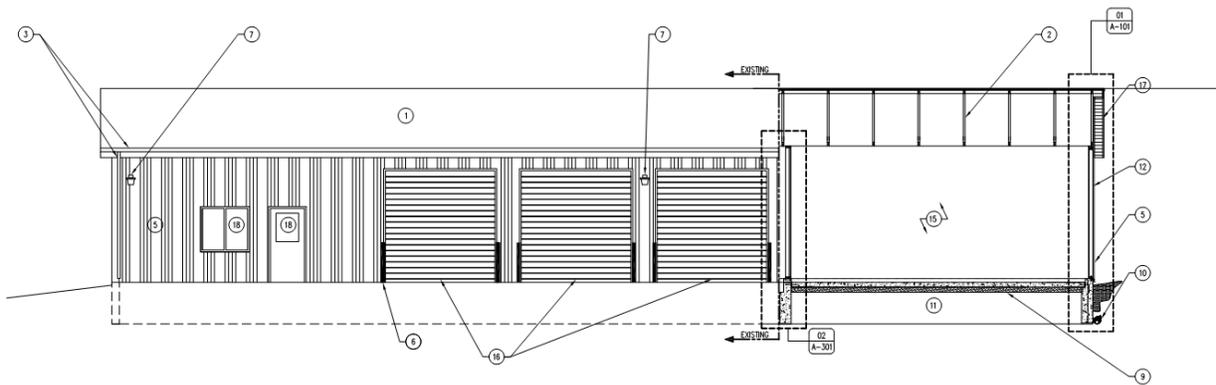
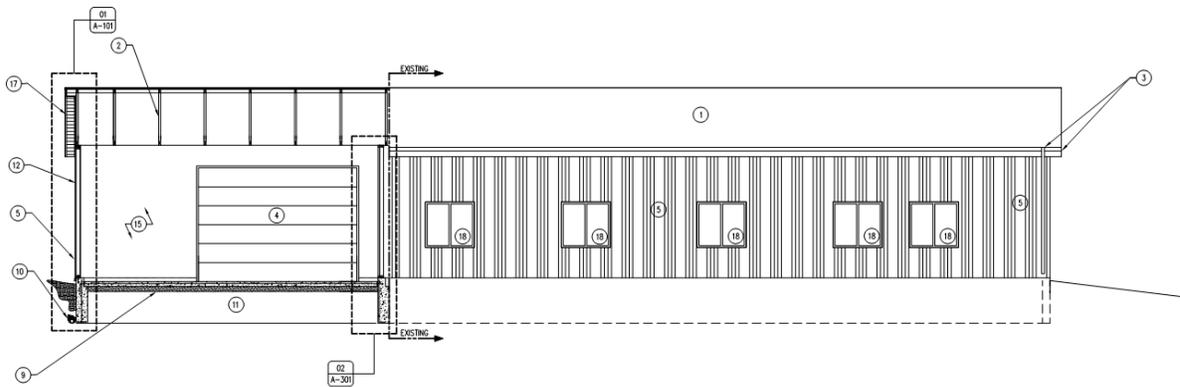
Hymbaugh Construction	Creston, IA	\$94,780.40
Burkett Construction LLC	Winterset, IA	\$119,004.90
Winterstien Construction LLC	Creston, IA	\$142,753.70
Larry Elwood Construction Inc	Mason City, IA	\$164,841.11
AAA Concrete dba Caliber Concrete	Adair, IA	\$186,921.05
Lansink Construction Inc.	Johnston, IA	\$201,145.60

**IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to Hymbaugh Construction.**

# PROJECT LOCATION



VICINITY MAP



3. PRAIRIE ROSE, LAKE MANAWA, & VIKING LAKE STATE PARKS, VAULT LATRINE  
SHELBY, POTTAWATTAMIE, & MONTGOMERY COUNTIES, PROJECT # 13-04-83-02

**Project Summary:** This project consists of construction of one campsite and demolition of 3 existing vault latrine buildings, the procurement and installation of 3 precast concrete vault latrine buildings, necessary utility work, concrete flatwork, site restoration and incidental items as required by the project documents and the IDNR Construction Inspector at Prairie Rose, Lake Manawa and Viking Lake State Parks in Shelby, Pottawattamie and Montgomery Counties, Iowa.

**Function of the Project:** At two of the three sites, the existing vault latrines have outlived their design life and are in need of replacement and at the third site, a vault latrine is being added to enhance the use of the site.

**Construction Needed:** Work includes construction of one campsite, demolition of existing buildings and installation of new vault latrines in new locations, installation of underground utilities as needed, and provide concrete access.

**Green Features:** Solar powered interior lighting.

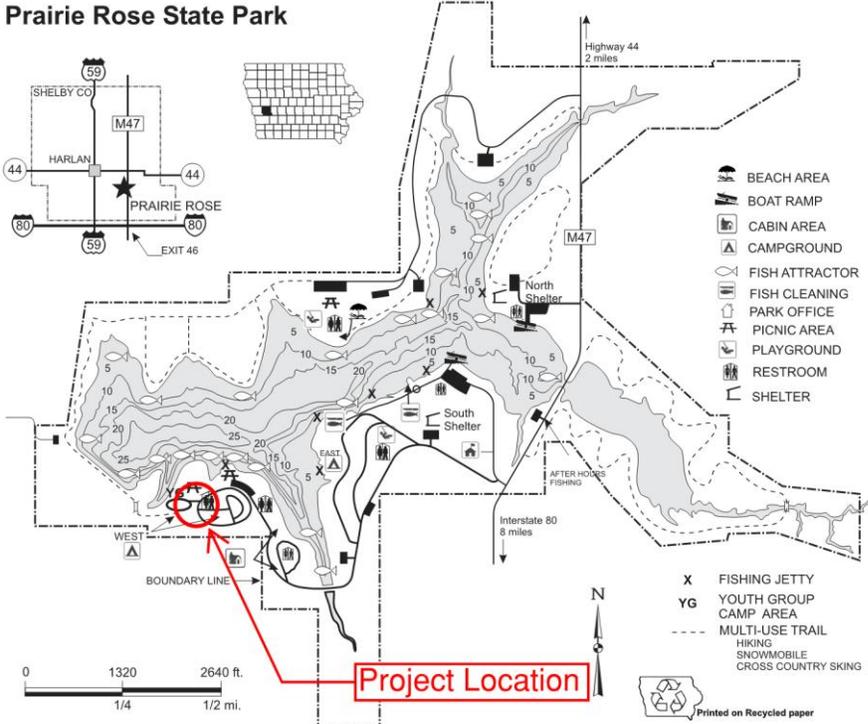
**DNR Project Manager:** Prairie Rose, Lake Manawa – Mandi Aldrich, PE; Engineering Bureau  
Viking Lake – Brett Johnson, PE; Engineering Bureau  
**Designer:** Prairie Rose, Lake Manawa – Mandi Aldrich, PE; Engineering Bureau  
Viking Lake – Brett Johnson, PE; Engineering Bureau  
**DNR Inspector:** Mark Johnson, Engineering Bureau  
**Operating Bureau:** Parks  
**Funding Source:** Prairie Rose State Park - 100% I-Jobs 2  
Capital Link #267  
Lake Manawa State Park - 50% Marine Fuel Tax; 50%  
Federal-Boat Safety Coast Guard  
Capital Link #126  
Viking Lake State Park - 100% Infrastructure 2013  
Capital Link #242  
**Cost Estimate:** \$127,000  
Prairie Rose State Park - \$57,000  
Lake Manawa State Park - \$32,000  
Viking Lake State Park - \$38,000  
**Plans Issue Date:** 1/31/13  
**Bid Letting Date:** 2/21/13  
**Plan Holders:** 8  
**Number of Bids Received:** 5

**Bidders**

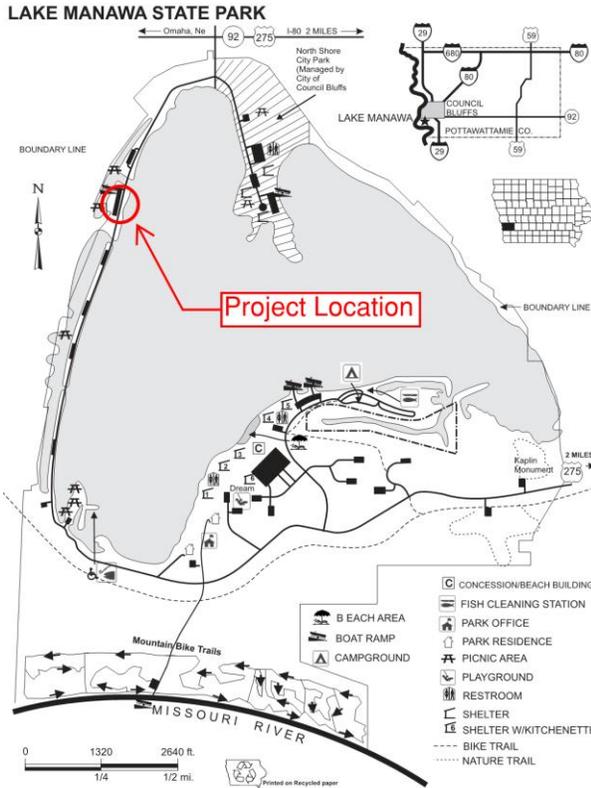
AAA Concrete LLC dba Caliber Concrete	Adair, IA	\$139,189.34
TEK Builders, Inc.	Mt Ayr, IA	\$146,263.00
Drake Construction LC	Menlo, IA	\$175,914.00
Andersen Construction Company	Council Bluffs, IA	\$254,382.00
KE Builders LLC	Boone, IA	\$336,766.00

**IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to AAA Concrete LLC dba Caliber Concrete.**

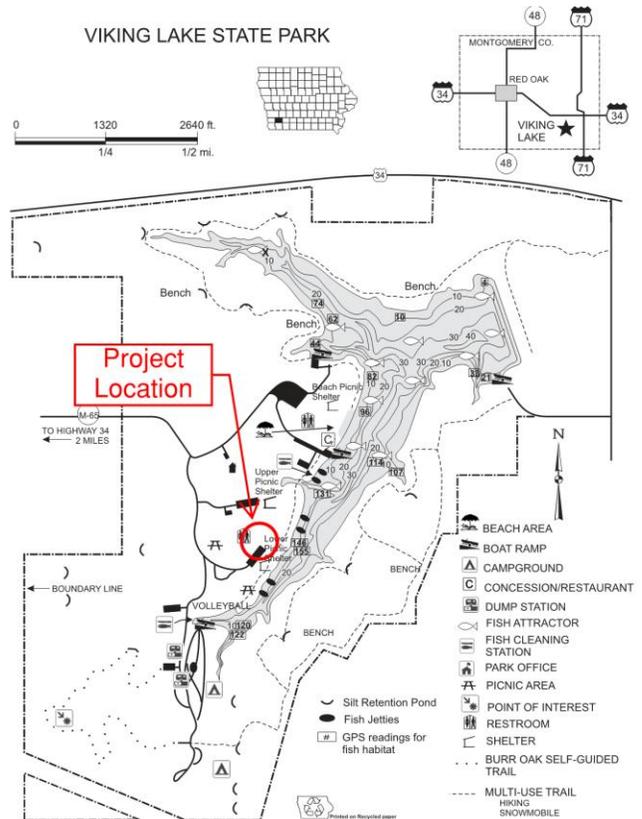
# Prairie Rose State Park



# LAKE MANAWA STATE PARK



# VIKING LAKE STATE PARK



4. MISSOURI RIVER WILDLIFE UNIT – TYSON BEND WMA, SEDIMENT REMOVAL  
HARRISON COUNTY -- PROJECT # 13-04-43-01

**Project Summary:** Remove and dispose of the sediment from the river boat ramp parking area and access road into the Missouri River. Then place new gravel on the parking area and access road and seed disturbed areas.

**Function of the Project:** The silt was deposited by the 2011 flooding of the river and is being removed to return the area to pre flood condition.

**Construction Needed:** Sediment removal and placement of new gravel on the boat ramp parking area and access road.

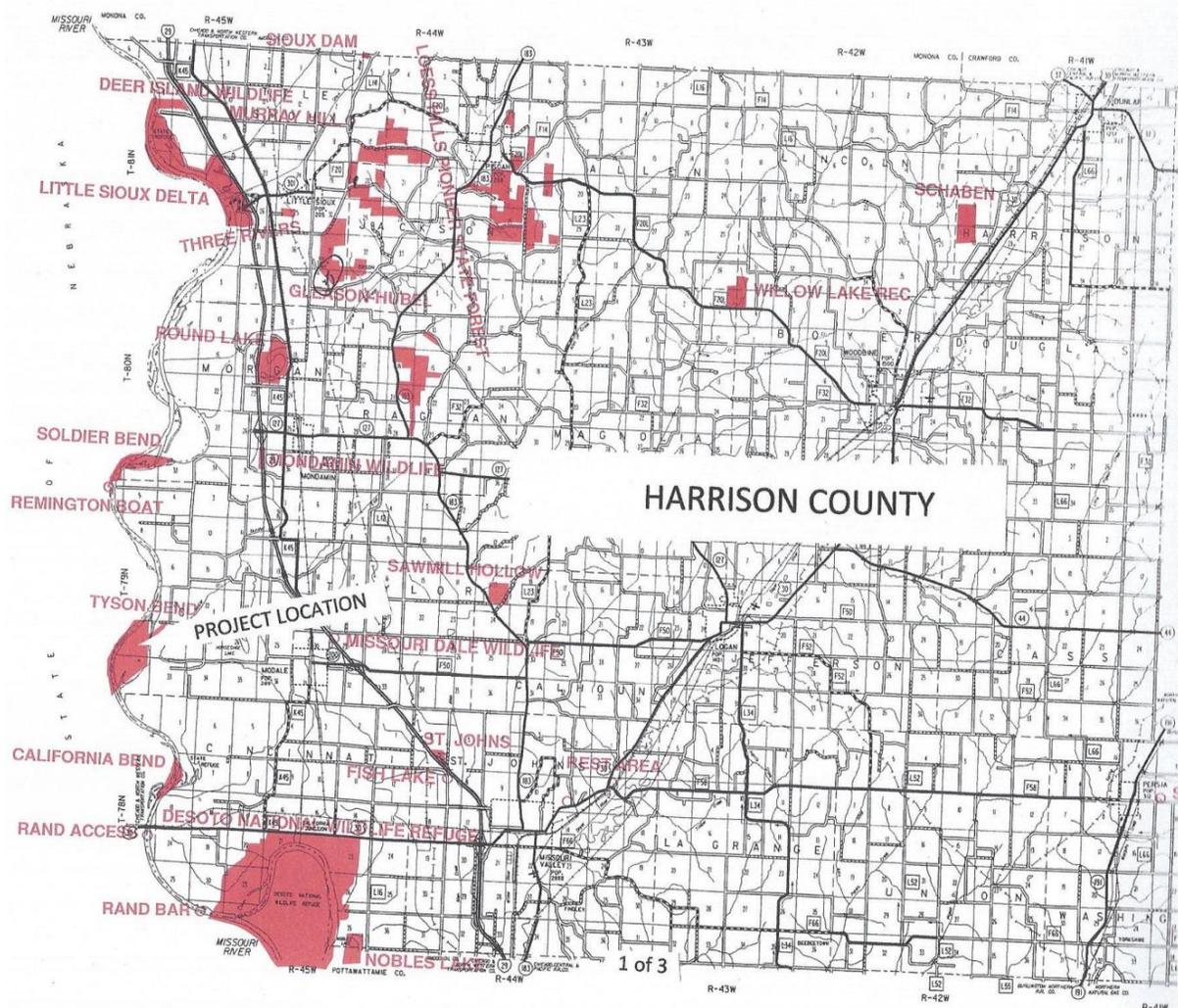
**Green Features:** None

**DNR Project Manager:** Mark Johnson, Engineering Bureau  
**Designer:** Mark Johnson, Engineering Bureau  
**DNR Inspector:** Mark Johnson, Engineering Bureau  
**Operating Bureau:** Wildlife  
**Funding Source:** 75% FEMA, 25% F&W Trust-Wildlife Non-Habitat Stamp  
**Cost Estimate:** \$94,100  
**Plans Issue Date:** 2/8/13  
**Bid Letting Date:** 2/21/13  
**Plan Holders:** 8  
**Number of Bids Received:** 7

**Bidders**

Hill Contracting	Leon, IA	\$52,316.07
Carley Construction LLC	Treynor, IA	\$55,669.65
TEK Builders, Inc.	Mt Ayr, IA	\$60,368.98
Richards Construction Co., Inc.	Sac City, IA	\$66,533.65
K & L Landscape & Construction, Inc.	Sergeant Bluff, IA	\$83,905.05
Murphy Heavy Contracting Corporation	Anita, IA	\$111,224.16
L.A. Carlson Contracting, Inc.	Merrill, IA	\$114,384.60

**IDNR recommends awarding the Bid to Hill Contracting pending qualifications verification.**



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5. Lacey Keosauqua State Park, Beach House Conversion – Change Order No 4  
Van Buren County – Project # 11-06-89-01

A contract was awarded to Smith Seeding Inc. on July 14, 2011. The contract included items to renovate an existing beach house building for conversion to rental space for family gatherings. Work includes interior modifications, finishes, and exterior repairs to the roof, siding and openings. Site repairs were also included to improve storm water drainage and repair the stone retaining walls. The low bid contract amount was \$132,000.

A deteriorating unused concrete water supply tank at the beach house site needs to be demolished was included in the original scope. The tank is adjacent to grading required for the beach house project. Demolition included removal of the upper concrete slab and vertical walls, fill the excavation, and site grading. The concrete slab had deteriorated significantly and had become a safety hazard. Work also included removal adjacent concrete block building.

The paperwork for this change order was prepared by Dave Heer (SE District Engineer) shortly before he retired on December 23, 2011. This change order was part of a large amount of paperwork to be process after he left. This change order was inadvertently missed by the Bureau Chief and therefore not forwarded to the NRC for approval. The purpose for this request is to rectify the error.

Change Order #4

Demolish Water Supply Tank and Building	L.S.	\$15,000.00
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**DNR recommends awarding the contract change order to Smith Seeding, Inc.**

Gabe Lee, PE, Engineering Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#15

**Information Item**

**Small Construction Projects**

The following Engineering managed projects have been let utilizing the Competitive Quotation process for projects \$100,000 or less:

<b>Bid Date</b>	<b>Project No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Cost Estimate</b>	<b>Bids</b>
2/14/2013	12-05-04-07 Parks	Honey Creek Resort	Appanoose	Modify the existing Activities Center. One of the two solar panel inverters is currently inoperable and needs replacement. Install new inverter and hook all sensing equipment into inverter and send old inverter back. Contractor will provide and install two check valves and two mixing valves.	\$10,000	<b>\$7,825.00</b> \$8,500.00
2/21/2013	12-05-62-01 Parks	Lake Keomah State Park	Mahaska	Replacement of shingles, gutters, downspouts, fascia, soffit, flashing, drip edge, and pipe boots.	\$12,000	<b>\$13,600.00</b> \$14,679.00
2/21/2013	13-06-92-01 Parks	Geode State Park	Henry	Install a precast concrete pit latrine, 15 feet of new PCC sidewalk for access to the precast concrete structure from the parking lot, and a 20'X15' concrete pad for a new handicap parking stall.	\$27,108	<b>\$36,091.00</b> \$44,688.46
2/21/2013	13-06-92-02 Parks	Fairport SRA	Muscatine	Install a precast concrete pit latrine, 100 feet of new PCC sidewalk for access to the precast concrete structure from the parking lot, and a 20'X15' concrete pad for a new handicap parking stall.	\$28,584	<b>\$37,369.00</b> \$45,933.74

Gabe Lee, PE, Engineering Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#16

**Decision Item**

**Engineering Professional Services: Multi-project MEP (Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing) Engineering Delivery Order**

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The Department requests Commission approval of the following professional services:

**Multi-project MEP (Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing) Engineering Delivery Order**

For the following projects the MEP Engineers are to complete the following tasks.

**Projects**

**Otter Creek Wildlife Renovation** – 3,500sf renovation of existing building, requires MEP services

**Colyn Wildlife Shop Addition** – 960sf heated addition will require MEP services

**Brushy Creek Cabins** – 500sf cabins will have in-floor heat and require MEP services

**Unions Grove Cabin** - 500sf cabin will have in-floor heat and require MEP services

**Wapsipinicon Storage Building** – 2,400sf shop will require electrical services only

**Odessa Wildlife Headquarters & Shop** – 5,000sf office and shop, requires MEP services

**Tasks**

1. Prepare final designs, including drawings, specifications and cost estimates for the Project at milestones described in the Project Schedule found in Section 4.5;
2. Attend one onsite pre-design meeting at all sites;
3. Prepare construction documents;
4. Answer pre-bid questions;
5. Issue necessary addenda to Iowa DNR project manager, for distribution, during the bidding phase;
6. Construction Administration, including but not limited to: answering all questions by Iowa DNR project staff or contractor(s), receiving, logging and replying to all shop drawings, submittals and RFIs until project closeout.

Using a RFP process, proposals were accepted through February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013. There were two proposals received. The proposals were evaluated based on design capability, technical expertise, work plan, and cost. Using the selection criteria, the selection committee of four DNR staff recommends KCL Engineers as the professional services consultant.

Proposals Submitted	City, State	Rank	Score (400)	Proposed Project Cost
KCL	Des Moines, IA	1	309	\$30,125
KJWW	Des Moines, IA	2	277	\$113,215

**IDNR recommends accepting KCL Engineer's proposal for the MEP Delivery Order not to exceed \$30,125.00.**

Gabe Lee, PE, Engineering Bureau Chief  
Conservation & Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

#17

**Decision Item**

**Donations**

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The Natural Resource Commission is requested to approve the following donations:

Donation to:	Amount	Description	Donation Provided by:
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$5.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jerry McClanahan.	Sally Marriott
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$10.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund in memory of Jerry McClanahan.	Patricia Lehner
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$25.00	Funds in memory of Edna G. Hoehle to be used toward the purchase a spotting scope for a recently installed viewing platform.	John and Gwen Detlefsen
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$25.00	Funds in memory of Edna G. Hoehle to be used toward the purchase a spotting scope for a recently installed viewing platform.	Marjorie Hoehle
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$25.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Dan Brown, ConAgra Mills
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$35.00	Funds in memory of Edna G. Hoehle to be used toward the purchase a spotting scope for a recently installed viewing platform.	James Ferree & Elizabeth Baum-Ferree
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$50.00	Funds to support the Wildlife Diversity Program	Marilyn and Lawrence Staples
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$50.00	Funds in memory of Edna G. Hoehle to be used toward the purchase a spotting scope for a recently installed viewing platform.	Ann Detlefsen-Hoehle
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$50.00	Funds to support Fisheries in memory of Jerry Stegge.	Jake and Ruth Graves
Hunting and Conservation Camp	\$50.00	Funds to support hunter education programs in memory of Bill Blume, who enjoyed the outdoors and encouraged safe and responsible hunting and fishing.	Larry and Phyllis Lepke
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$80.00	Funds in memory of Edna G. Hoehle to be used toward the purchase a spotting scope for a recently installed viewing platform.	anonymous
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$150.00	Funds in memory of Edna G. Hoehle to be used toward the purchase a spotting scope for a recently installed viewing platform.	Jerry Hoehle
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$200.00	Funds to support the Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	Janice Kerkove
Lake Macbride State Park	\$300.00	Labor for taxidermy mount of otter	Tim Kleinmeyer

Big Creek Lake	\$393.74	Funds toward the construction of a fish barrier	Teeg Stouffer, Director Recycled Fish
Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund	\$500.00	Funds to support the Iowa's wildlife	Chloris Robinson
Prairie Rose State Park	\$500.00	Trees for Prairie Rose State Park	Dan Crees, Crees Garden Center
Wildlife Diversity Program	\$500.00	Funds in memory of Edna G. Hoehle to be used toward the purchase a spotting scope for a recently installed viewing platform.	Robert Hoehle II
Iowa DNR Prairie Resource Center	\$500.00	Labor harvesting 34 lbs. of Baptisia alba seed	Glenn Pollack
Parks Central Shop	\$725.00	250 board feet of 8x4 black walnut for furniture construction	Elk Creek Gardens
Lake Macbride State Park	\$1,000.00	Funds to support Lake Macbride State Park	Dick and Sunday Antrim
Lake Macbride State Park	\$1,500.00	Funds to support improvements at Lake Macbride State Park	Solon Beef Days Committee
Big Creek State Park	\$2,330.00	Cross country ski trail grooming equipment that includes 1 1996 Ski-Doo snowmobile, 1 6' Tidd Tech Roller, 1 4" Tidd Tech Tenderizer, 1 20" x 24" Tidd Tech Tracksetter.	Thomas F. Wilton
Red Haw State Park	\$2,829.00	Funds to purchase and labor to install 22 ground grills at Red Haw State Park campground	Ben Morrett, Boy Scout Troop 149
Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area	\$5,000.00	50 bags of corn seed	Tom Barnett
Big Marsh Wildlife Management Area	\$5,000.00	50 bags of corn seed	Epley Brothers Hybrids
Lake Darling State Park	\$7,875.00	48'x 8.5' aluminum semi trailer; trailer will be used in the construction of a trail bridge which will cross a creek at Lake Darling.	Cobb Oil Co., Inc.
Mines of Spain	\$33,802.74	Funds to support the purchase of trail maintenance materials, interpretive materials and supplies, park improvements, and facility and equipment maintenance	Douglas Oik, President Friends of the Mines of Spain

Chuck Corell, Administrator  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

**#18**

**Decision Item**

**Contract with Iowa State University for Wildlife Monitoring in Northeast Iowa**

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Commission approval is requested for a 1 year-service contract with Iowa State University Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management of Ames, Iowa. The contract will begin on March 15, 2013 and terminate on March 14, 2014. The total amount of this contract shall not exceed \$30,000.00. DNR shall have the option to renew this contract long as this contract and any extensions do not exceed a six-year period.

This contract will be funded through the Timber Improvement portion of the State Fish and Game Trust Fund. That fund comes from the sale of timber on our forested Wildlife Areas and is intended to be utilized on those Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). Sampling of birds and butterflies is intended to serve as an indicator of how well the habitat improvement practices conducted through the grant are working for open woodland species. These taxa were chosen because they are early colonizers of newly created habitat. This project is part of a larger, multi-State Federal grant through the Competitive State Wildlife Grants program to improve the habitat on forested Wildlife Management Areas in Northeast Iowa. We committed to monitoring birds and butterflies in the project area as part of our state match for the grant.

The parties propose to enter into this Contract for the purpose of retaining the Contractor to conduct surveys of the bird and butterfly community within the forested Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) in northeast Iowa and within the area contained within a 3 mile buffer of those WMAs. In addition, the purpose is to compile the results of the bird and butterfly community surveys, conduct statistically sound and biologically relevant analyses of the data which contribute to improved an understanding of the distribution of bird and butterfly species, the patterns of occupancy for selected species, and the use of DNR's forested Wildlife Management Areas by birds and butterflies in northeast Iowa.

Iowa State University was chosen using the Intergovernmental agreement process. Iowa State University-NREM was chosen for this project because their faculty have the relevant expertise to conduct statistically sound sampling design, properly conducted ecological surveys for birds and butterflies, and analyze the resulting data in a way that is relevant to our wildlife management decisions.

Dale L. Garner, Ph.D., Wildlife Bureau Chief  
Conservation and Recreation Division  
March 14, 2013