

Recreation Plan

2024-2028

Bates Township, Michigan



1/31/2024

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Introduction

The 2024-2028 Bates Township Recreation Plan (Plan) has been developed to guide recreation improvements in the Township over the next five years and beyond. The Plan provides an overview of the community, presents an inventory of existing recreational facilities, and provides a framework for continued improvement and development of recreation facilities in Bates Township. The goal of the Plan is to establish a program of improvements that meet community needs but is also affordable and achievable for the Township. A five-year plan also qualifies Bates Township to apply for Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) recreation and other grants.

This Plan, prepared by GEI Consultants, was developed under the guidance of a Recreation Plan Committee on behalf of the Bates Township Board. Public comments and suggestions were taken under consideration during the development of the Plan. The Plan will continue to be updated, as needed, to address changing needs of the community. The Bates Township Board adopted the Plan on a date to be determined for the 2024 submission.

Community Description

Iron County, with a population of 11,635 (US Census Bureau 2021), is located in the southwestern portion of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, with U.S. 2 traversing the county from east to west. The county's southern boundary borders the Wisconsin state line, generally following the course of the Brule River, a popular sport fishing and canoe waterway.

A scenic area of 1,197 square miles, Iron County is characterized by rolling hills interspersed with tree framed lakes, comprising approximately 29,456 acres of pristine recreational waters. Of the 766,000 acres of land in the county, approximately 710,000 acres are forestlands, accounting for 91% of the total land area. There are numerous inland lakes and many miles of fishing streams in the County with much of them being navigable by canoe or kayak.

Iron County is a border county to the State of Wisconsin located to the south, separated for most of its border by the Brule River. A large portion of the local tourism economy consists of residents from neighboring states such as Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, and other midwestern states travelling to the area to enjoy the local rural landscape and the many outdoor activities that are available in the County and Township.

Bates Township is located near the center of Iron County with urban clusters to its east and west sides. The urban cluster on the west side is the City of Iron River. The City of Crystal Falls is the major urban and population center on its east side. Its location, along with its natural assets, allows Bates Township to provide a range of recreational opportunities within a short driving distance for many residents of the entire county as well as neighboring counties and states. In addition, US-2 bisects the Township which allows tourists and travelers to also easily access recreational features in Bates Township.

The extent and focus of the Plan and goals of Bates Township is to first enhance those areas where large numbers of people gather and then to also plan and reach out to other opportunities that can be developed to promote tourism and recreational opportunities. The recreation committee seeks to both preserve and develop the natural recreational opportunities that exist. To do this, the committee and Township Board are open to the idea of acquiring key properties that can provide these values. The Township Board has approached the County as well as the local school system in order to foster communication which may result in the acquisition of additional key properties, including river front opportunities and playground enhancement facilities.

Administrative Structure

In Bates Township, park and recreational facilities are ultimately managed by the Township Board that meets monthly according to a published schedule. The Township's Recreation Committee is responsible for advising the Township Board on items relating to upkeep, operation and expansion of the recreation facilities and programs. The recommendations of the Recreation Committee are acted on by the Township Board. Day to day activities are performed under the direction of the Township Supervisor. The Township's Planning Commission is responsible for the overall master plan for the Township which includes parks and recreation. The Planning Commission was also actively involved in the updating of the Township Recreation Plan. Current Township Board members, Parks and Recreation Committee, and Planning Commission members are as shown below:

Board of Trustees

Jon Oberlin, Supervisor
Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk
Teresa Nelson, Treasurer
Jane Adams, Trustee
Mike Franzene, Trustee

Parks and Recreation Committee

Mike Franzene
Mike Golas
Mike Stafford
Mark Gasperini

Planning Commission

Cory Shankleton
Mike Stafford
Mike Franzene
Larry Nelson
Krist Atanasoff
Michael Thibodeau

Bates Township supports and maintains recreation facilities through annual budget appropriations in addition to camping and rental fees that are collected from the Bates Township Park. Maintenance is carried out by Township employees. The Annual Recreation Budget provides approximately \$15,000 for operations and maintenance of existing facilities. Additional funding is appropriated as needed. For the budget year 2022-23 the Township's recreation budget is \$15,000.

Inventory of Existing Parks Natural Areas and Recreation Facilities

Bates Township provides and maintains access to a number of recreation facilities for both local residents and tourists. Figure 1 located in Appendix A shows the locations of the following sites in the Township.

- **Bates Township Park (Sunset Lake):** Bates Township Park which is located on Sunset Lake includes a number of different amenities that allow park visitors to enjoy swimming, fishing, boating, camping, and other activities. Park facilities include a pavilion with a concession building and covered fireplace, ball field, basketball court, playground equipment, restrooms, changing house and beach, fishing pier, boat wash station and launch, campground, and accessible trails throughout the park. A map of Sunset Lake, courtesy of Justin Nelson is included in Figure 2 of Appendix A.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (4) in which all of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

- **Chicagon Lake Public Access Boat Landing:** This property was donated to Bates Township by the late Tony Andreski. On September 28, 2005, a project including a “shallow access” boat landing, on the north shore of the lake was completed by Alex Atanasoff as an Eagle Scout project. Atanasoff organized the project, which included a donation of gravel by Dr. Robert Han, the use of equipment and miscellaneous items by Krist Oil, a bench from the Chicagon Lake Association, and a monetary donation from Iron County Wildlife Unlimited. The landing is capable of handling small boats, canoes or kayaks. A site plan map of the Chicagon Lake Public Access Boat Landing is included in Figure 3 of Appendix A.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (1) in which none of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

- **Paint River Access Site:** The Paint River Access site is an approximately 40-acre parcel that was given to the Township from Iron County on the premise that the Township develop the site into a park. The property is located on County Road 643 (Bates-Amasa Road) just north of the Paint River. In 2020 the Township was awarded a DNR Trust Fund grant to complete various improvements to the site in order to develop it into a prime recreational facility. Improvements at the site included the addition of a parking lot with handicap accessible stalls, an accessible, paved trail to the river and an accessible canoe/kayak launch. The park property is located in a prime location to enhance the Township’s Paint River Water Trails as it

located near the middle of the two sections of water trails in the Township. Additional improvements at the site included the development of a primitive cord wood style construction camping hut and nature trails on the northwestern portion of the site. These improvements can be seen in Figure 4A in Appendix A.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (2) in which some of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design. All improvements completed as part of the DNR Paint River Access Site Improvements project meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

- **Paint River Water Trail:** The Paint River Water Trail has two popular stretches of water trail. The first is an approximate 5-mile route along the Paint River that starts at Paint Dam and ends at the Bates Amasa Road at the site of the Township's Paint River Access Site. The second is an approximate 7-mile stretch from the Paint River Access Site to Erickson's Landing located to the southeast in neighboring Crystal Falls Township. The Paint River is a popular canoe and rafting river that has multiple rapids and over 65 miles of navigable waters. The Hemlock Rapids are located on the upper portion of the Township's Trail. Figure 4B in Appendix A shows the Township's Water Trail.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (1) in which none of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

- **Bates School:** The Township has recently acquired the former Bates School located on Highway US-2 just west of the Bates-Gaastra Road. The 4.9-acre site includes the former Bates School and adjacent property including parking areas, a playground, and activity field. The school building includes a gymnasium, kitchen, and other rooms that have recently been used for school activities, storage, and office space. A site plan map of the Bates School is included in Figure 5 of Appendix A.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (2) in which some of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

- **Iron County Non-Motorized Heritage Trail:** This bicycle/pedestrian trail has been developed in multiple phases with additional development planned in the future. The existing portions of the trail are shown on Figure 6 in Appendix A. The current trail links the Cities of Iron River, Caspian, and Gaastra along with Stambaugh Township. The trail begins in Iron River and currently ends at Pentoga Park located on Chicagoan Lake in Stambaugh Township. Plans for future phase include additional trail development with proposed routes through Bates Township to connect to an existing trail in Crystal Falls Township that extends into the City of Crystal Falls.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (4) in which all of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

- **Windsor Center:** Bates Township is a member of the Windsor Recreation Authority (WRA) which funds and operates the recreation programs at the Windsor Center located along Highway US-2 in the City of Iron River as indicated on Figure 1 of Appendix A. This building was the former West Iron County High School which was converted to the Windsor Center instead of being demolished. The members of the WRA are the City of Iron River, Iron River Township, Stambaugh Township, and Bates Township. Recreation activities that take place at the Windsor Center are basketball, bocce, exercise, art, woodworking, dance, and more. The Windsor Center has a gymnasium for basketball and other activities; an auditorium which is used for movies, dance recitals, plays, lectures, concerts, open mic night and other activities; cafeteria; a woodshop; bocce courts; art room; computer lab; golf simulator; tennis; pickleball; karate; and various office rooms. The Windsor Center is the primary provider for youth and seniors. The WRA is funded by the member community tax dollars as well as donations from the community, registration fees for activities, and donations from the Friends of the Windsor Center (FOWC) group. So far, the FOWC have providing funding for a professional sound system in the auditorium, entry improvements, signage, movie theater equipment, installation of broadband internet and Wi-Fi, installation of donated organ and piano, gymnasium improvements, and numerous building renovations.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (2) in which some of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

- **Bates Township Hall:** Built in 1907 the township hall is the only public historical building in Bates. Located along Highway US-2 in the township the hall is currently used for the township's monthly board meetings and a gathering place for residents. The township hall includes several office including Zoning Administrator, Clerk, Supervisor, and Treasurer. This hall also includes a kitchen area where groups can provide food for events that are hosted at this location.

An accessibility evaluation conducted by GEI resulted in an accessibility ranking of (2) in which some of the existing features meet the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design.

Natural Resource Inventory

Bates Township is largely forested with a vast number of rivers and lakes. The majority of the land can be categorized as:

1. privately owned land enrolled in the Commercial Forest Act and open to the public for recreational purposes;
2. federally owned land open to the public for recreational purposes; or
3. state owned land open to the public for recreational purposes.

Consequently, thousands of acres are available for year-round outdoor recreation. Popular activities include fishing, hunting, camping, snowmobiling, biking, walking, hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing.

The following natural resource inventory includes the types and location of recreation facilities currently available in the Township (see Figure 1 of Appendix A for locations) and accessibility assessments and rankings are provided for each site based on the parameters outlined in the “DNR Guidelines for the Development of Community Park, Recreation, Open Space, and Greenway Plans.”

BATES TOWNSHIP NATURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

Location	Activity	Owner	Facilities
Bates School Forest (1)	Natural Area/Wilderness	West Iron Schools	Forest/Natural Area
Block-House (1)	Canoe Access	Federal	Camp units (2), fishing, canoe access
Lake Emily (2)	Boat/Fishing Access	State (DNR Access)	Fishing and boat access, toilet
Lake Sainte Kathryn (1)	Campground	Federal	Camp units (25), picnic facilities, swimming, fishing, hiking
Hannah Webb Lake (1)	Boat/Fishing Access	Federal	Boat Launch
Nesbitt Lake (Camp Nesbitt) (1)	Campground	Federal	Camping, swimming, canoeing (used by schools in the U.P.)
Norway Lake (1)	Campground	Federal	Camp units (28), picnic facilities, swimming, fishing
Perch Lake (1)	Campground	Federal	Camp units (20), fishing, boat access
Winslow Lake (1)	Boat/Fishing Access	Federal	Boat Launch

- (1) None of the facilities meet Accessibility Guidelines
 (2) Some of the facilities meet Accessibility Guidelines
 (3) Most of the facilities meet Accessibility Guidelines

- (4) Facilities meet Accessibility Guidelines
 (5) Entire facility developed/renovated using principles of Universal Design

DNR Recreation Grants Inventory

Below is a summary of past DNR Recreation Grants the Township has received.

- **Bates Township Park (26-00349)**
 - In 1972 the Township received a \$30,500 grant to develop 7 acres of land to develop their park on Sunset Lake. The project included a boat ramp/launch, parking area, beach improvements, picnic area, baseball field, pavilion, horseshoes courts, swimming raft, multi-purpose court, and a bathhouse. This project has been completed and the project status is closed.
- **Bates Township Park Improvements (TF11-105)**
 - In 2011 the Township received a \$155,900 grant for some improvements at the Township's Sunset Lake Park. The park development project included barrier-free access trails throughout the site, improvements to the existing pavilion and fire place, a new accessible food service building at the pavilion, a new fishing pier, drainage improvements and upgrades to the existing access drives. This project has been completed and the project status is closed.
- **Bates Township Paint River Access Site Improvements (TF18-0039)**
 - In 2018 the Township received grant funding from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) Trust Fund in the amount of \$58,800 of the Paint River Access Site Improvements Project. The improvements included the construction of a parking area including handicap parking stalls, an accessible trail to a canoe/kayak launch, trash and recycle receptacles, and park signage. All improvements were constructed to comply with ADA requirements.

The Post Completion Self-Certification Checklists for each of the above listed projects are included in Appendix B.

Description of the Planning and Public Input Process

The Bates Township Board recognizes the need to update its recreation plan in order to continue to provide its residents and visitors with more recreational opportunities. To obtain input from residents the Township Supervisor appointed a recreation plan committee to represent interests of the Township as a whole and to develop a plan for providing the best recreational opportunities for Township residents and visitors. There were multiple methods used to gather input for the Recreation Plan as outlined below.

- A Public Workshop was held at the Township Hall on September 20, 2022 to discuss, plan, and gather public input on recreational opportunities within the Township. The Workshop was attended by the Township Board, the Parks and Recreation Committee the Planning Commission, and other community members. The workshop focused on gathering information on what types of recreational activities the Township should consider pursuing.
- Community members were provided with a list of recreational activities and opportunities that were included in the original Recreation Plan and discussed at the September 20, 2022 Public Workshop to provide a priority ranking of the activities that they wanted to see the Township address.
 - During a Parks and Recreation Committee meeting on October 27, 2022 the committee reviewed and organized the input and responses that were received on the types of recreational improvements wanted by the community.
- A draft copy of the Recreation Plan was available for review and comment at the Bates Township Hall and was available on the Bates Township webpage (www.batestownship.com). The draft copy was available for 32 days prior to the Public Hearing.
- A Public Hearing was held at the Township Hall to discuss, plan, and gather public input on recreational opportunities within the Township. An advertisement was placed in the December 13th, 2023 edition of the Iron County Reporter notifying the public of the Public Hearing. A copy of the minutes from this Public Hearing including the comments received are included in Appendix C.

Goals and Objectives

Our goals and objectives are based on our abundantly available natural resources, our current inventory of recreational facilities, our inventory of potential sites for new facilities and our population.

The Township has recognized that a large portion of the people using the Township's recreational facilities are not only full-time residents but seasonal residents and tourists. While seasonal residents may own property in the Township and participate in local recreational functions they may not be counted in official population estimates. Providing recreational opportunities that attract and retain these seasonal residents and tourist is vital to the success of the Township's Recreation Plan.

Quality of life is one of the most important attributes that brings residents and visitors to Bates Township. Our natural resources are a major part of the setting that makes this area a superior place to live, work and recreate. Development and improvement of recreation facilities is important to maintaining this high quality of life.

The Township's goals and objectives include, but are not limited to, the following:

Goal 1: To maintain and improve our existing resources and facilities.

Objective 1: Make improvements to existing features at Bates Township Park such as beach and boat launch improvements.

Goal 2: Develop additional recreation facilities in the Township to tie into and enhance recreational facilities in the surrounding area.

Objective 2A: Provide soccer fields, basketball courts, walking/biking trails, and other recreational opportunities that will allow Township residents to enjoy these activities in their community instead of traveling outside the community to enjoy.

Objective 2B: Work with other local communities to continue to develop the county wide non-motorized trail system.

Goal 3: Develop/Provide affordable recreation opportunities that allow people of all ages and abilities to enjoy.

Objective 3A: Provide parks with multiple recreational opportunities that cater to people of all ages and abilities.

Objective 3B: Ensure recreational facilities are constructed or updated to meet ADA Accessibility requirements.

Goal 4: Develop/Provide recreation opportunities that attract and retain seasonal residents and tourists.

Objective 4A: Provide parks with camping and other outdoor recreational opportunities that will attract and appeal to people from urban areas.

Goal 5: Develop/Provide access to the Paint River

Objective 5: Provide visitors and residents with new access or improve existing access to rivers for new and safer experiences.

Action Program

To meet the recreational goals and objectives of the Township, a number of recreational enhancement opportunities have been identified. These opportunities were identified through the public information and planning process that was conducted during the development of this plan. The completion of these opportunities depends heavily on the availability of funds. It is expected that the Township will apply for grant funding for the completion of these projects. These grant funds when combined with budgeted funding as well as donations of funds, materials, and/or labor are expected to fund recreation improvements within the Township. Below is a list and brief description of the proposed improvements at each of the Township's recreational sites.

Paint River Access Site

- Additional Water Trail Head Improvements
- Mountain Bike/Hiking Trail Head Development
- Expand the Water Trail to a regional trail system and collaborate with other municipalities along the Paint River.
- Continue to develop additional primitive camp sites
- Improved trails and water access near the primitive camping structures
- Toilet facilities
- Develop additional Hiking trails
- Interpretive signage
- Develop a park/picnic area at the site

Funding sources:

- MDNR Recreation Grants
- Michigan Spark Grants
- Michigan Waterways Commission Grants
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

Bates School

- Development of soccer fields
- Development of ADA accessible restroom facility to serve outdoor activities

- Development of walking loop
- Development of basketball court(s)
- Development of additional ADA accessible parking to serve the site
- Provide additional parking
- Addition of pickle ball courts

- ***Funding sources:***
 - MDNR Recreation Grants
 - Michigan Spark Grants
 - Local Funding
 - Community Donations

Bates Township Park (Sunset Lake)

- Beach and other waterfront improvements
- Boat launch improvements
- New disc golf course
- Upgrades to the existing restroom shower facility to make it ADA compliant and to separate the showers from the restrooms.
- ADA access to all park locations for everyone to use
- Upgrade the existing boat wash station

Funding sources:

- MDNR Recreation Grants
- Michigan Waterways Commission Grants
- Land and Water Conservation Fund Grants
- Michigan Spark Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

Bates School Forest

- Develop a nature trail in the Bates School Forest
- Interpretive and informational signage along the route
- Mountain bike trail

Funding sources:

- MDNR Recreation Grants
- Michigan Spark Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

Iron County Non-Motorized Heritage Trail

- Continue to assist with the development of a county wide bicycle and pedestrian trail system.
- Development of additional trail heads at significant locations within the Township. Trail heads may contain restrooms, pavilions, informational signage, parking and access areas, and other site amenities.

Funding sources:

- MDNR Recreation Grants
- Michigan Spark Grants
- MDNR or MDOT Trail Fund Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

Bates Hall

- The development of Bates Legacy Park.

Funding sources:

- MDNR Recreation Grants
- Michigan Spark Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

Windsor Center

- In 2012 the Windsor Recreation Authority hired an architectural firm to complete a study of the feasibility for continued use of the Windsor Center building. The study concluded the building is structurally sound but in need to energy conservation measures to reduce operating costs. In addition, accessibility, safety, and egress improvements were also recommended to bring the facility up to current building codes and standards. The following is a list of recommended improvements to

building to address the issues identified during the study but not limited to the following:

- Tuckpoint Exterior Brick
- Structural Repairs as Necessary to Preserve Building
- Insulate Exterior Walls
- Remodel Restrooms for Water Conservation and make Barrier-Free
- Replace Exterior Doors
- Install Fire Suppression System
- New Wall and Flooring Finishes
- Replace Door Hardware to make Barrier-Free
- Repair Terrazzo Flooring
- Increase Daylighting
- Heating and Ventilation Improvements
- Install Air Conditioning Units
- Plumbing Improvements
- Upgrade Electrical Service and Wiring in Building
- Install Backup Electrical Generators
- Upgrade Lighting System to LED Fixtures
- Upgrade Mechanical Equipment
- Remove existing fuel oil tanks

Funding sources:

- Michigan Spark Grants
- Energy Efficiency Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

Development of Township Hiking and Mountain Bike Trail System

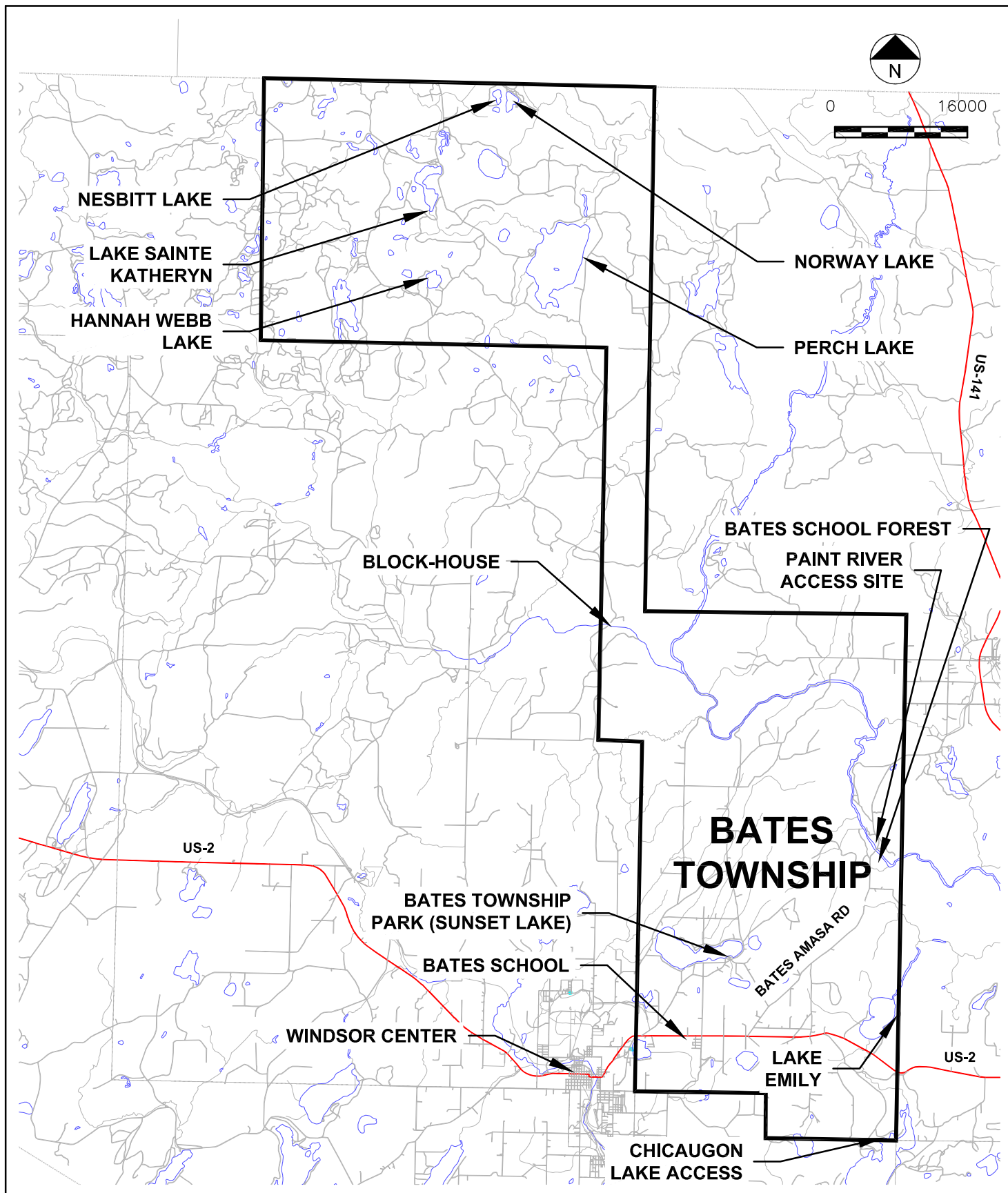
- The development of a system of hiking and mountain bike and trails throughout the Township that links the various existing recreational sites together to utilize them as trails heads. The unique forests, lakes, rivers, and other terrain in the Township would provide an attractive trail system that could potentially bring people to the area and connect with other regional trail systems.

Funding sources:

- MDNR Recreation Grants
- Michigan Spark Grants
- MDNR or MDOT Trail Fund Grants
- Local Funding
- Community Donations

Appendix A

Maps and Figures



RECREATION PLAN
2024-2028

Bates Township
Michigan



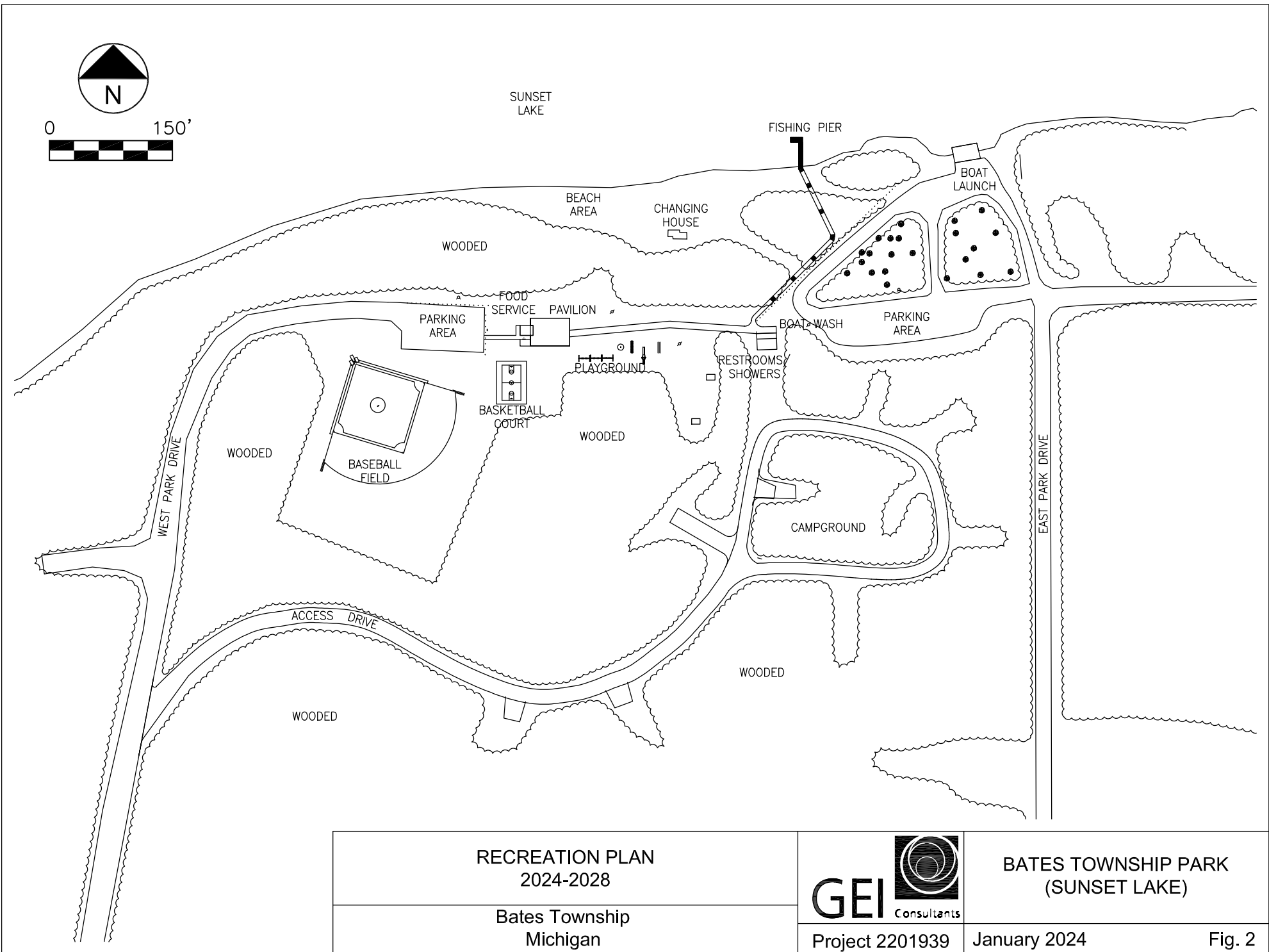
Project 2201939

RECREATION SITES

January 2024

Fig. 1

B:\Working\BATES MI TOWNSHIP\2201939 2023 Recreation Plan



<p>RECREATION PLAN 2024-2028</p>	<p>GEI Consultants</p>	<p>BATES TOWNSHIP PARK (SUNSET LAKE)</p>
<p>Bates Township Michigan</p>	<p>Project 2201939</p>	<p>January 2024 Fig. 2</p>



RECREATION PLAN
2024-2028

Bates Township
Michigan



Project 2201939

CHICAUGON LAKE PUBLIC
ACCESS BOAT LANDING

January 2024

Fig. 3



RECREATION PLAN 2024-2028

Bates Township, Michigan



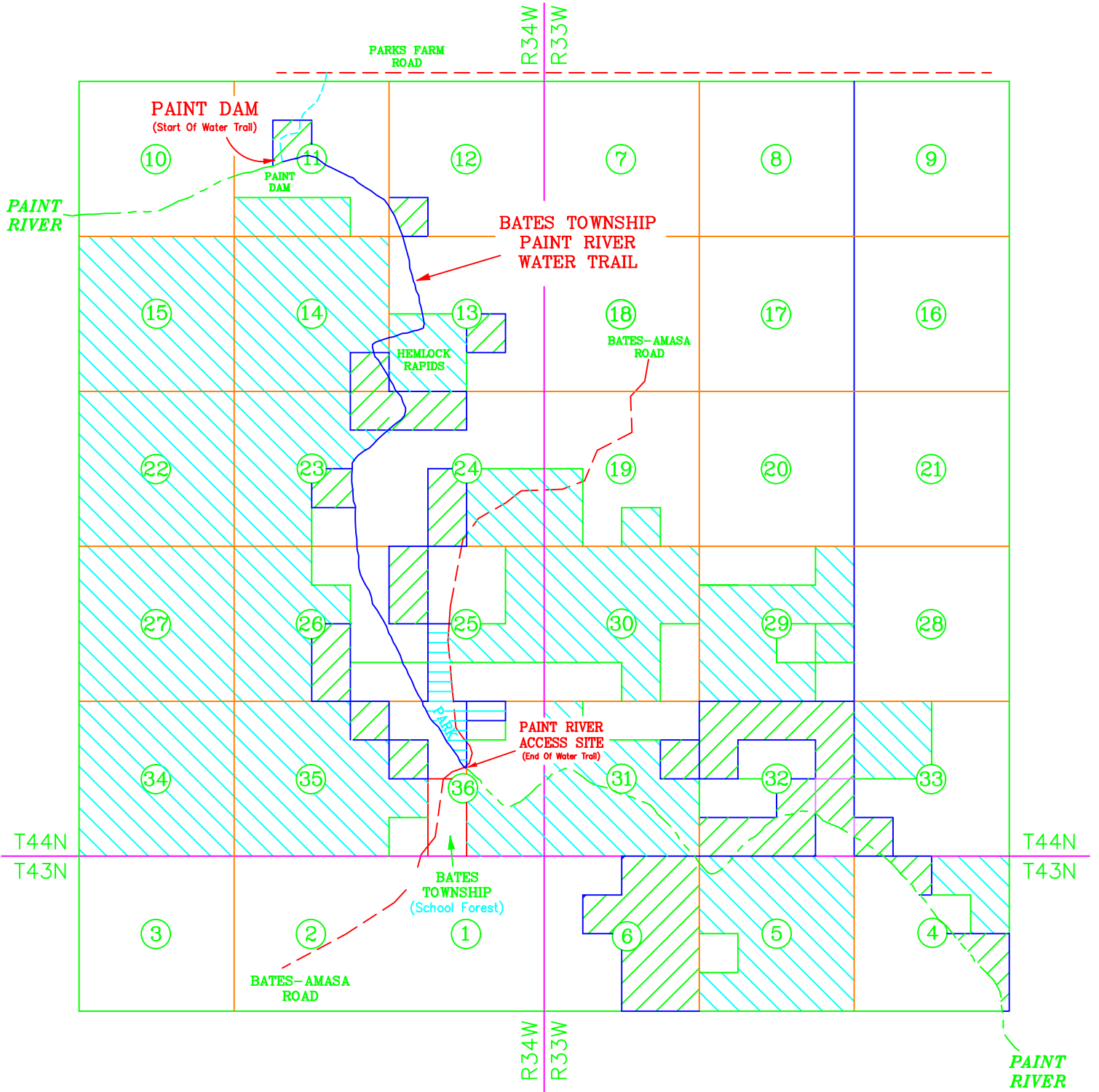
Project 2201939

DNR Paint River Access Site



January 2024

Fig. 4A

LAND AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS



EXPLANATIONS

	STATE LAND		PRIVATE - COMMERCIAL FOREST LAND		SECTION LINES
	COUNTY LAND		PRIVATE LAND - NO PUBLIC ACCESS		TOWNSHIP AND RANGE LINES

① SECTION NUMBER



RECREATION PLAN
2024-2028

Bates Township
Michigan



Project 2201939

BATES SCHOOL

January 2024

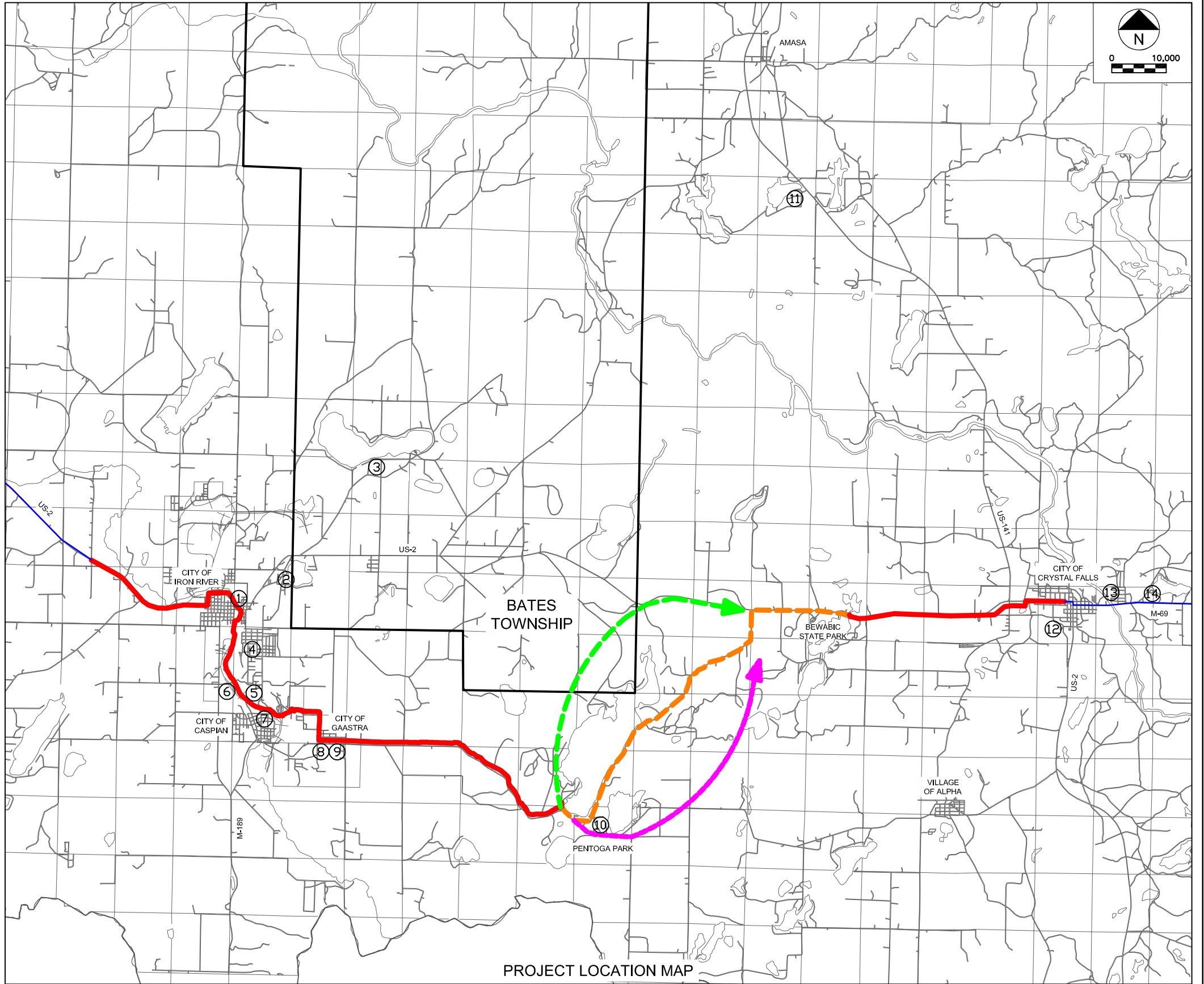
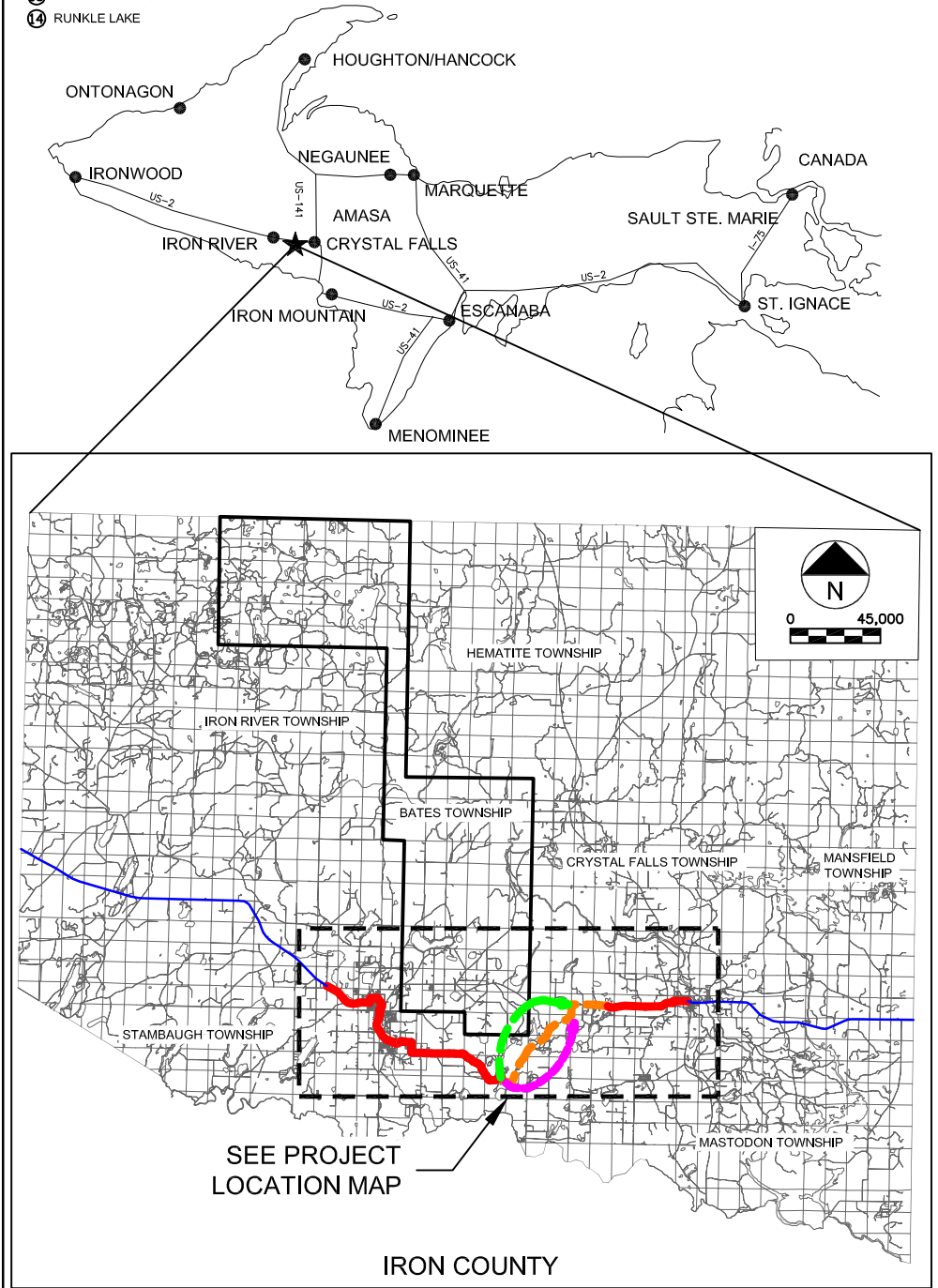
Fig. 5


MDNR RECREATIONAL TRUST FUND PROJECTS:

- ① RV PARK/CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- ② ICE LAKE PARK
- ③ SUNSET LAKE
- ④ NELSON FIELD
- ⑤ CASPIAN MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING AND ICE RINK
- ⑥ APPLE BLOSSOM TRAIL
- ⑦ APPLE BLOSSOM TRAIL EXTENSION
- ⑧ GAASTRA RESTROOM
- ⑨ ATHLETIC FIELD UPGRADES
- ⑩ PENTOGA PARK
- ⑪ GIBSON LAKE PARK
- ⑫ CRYSTELLA SKI HILL
- ⑬ PAINT RIVER BOARDWALK
- ⑭ RUNKLE LAKE

LEGEND:

- PROPOSED IRON BELLE TRAIL
- EXISTING PAVED NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL
- PHASE IN DEVELOPMENT
- ALTERNATE 1 - PROPOSED IRON BELLE CONNECTING SEGMENT*
- ALTERNATE 2 - PROPOSED IRON BELLE CONNECTING SEGMENT*
- ALTERNATE 3 - PROPOSED IRON BELLE CONNECTING SEGMENT*
- * LOCATIONS OF ROUTES HAVE NOT BEEN DETERMINED, ROUTES ARE SHOWN FOR CONCEPT ONLY



Iron Belle/Heritage Trail		SITE DEVELOPMENT MAP	
Bates Township, Michigan		Project 2201939	January 2024
			Fig. 6

Appendix B

Post Completion Self-Certification Checklists



GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

Bates Township - Iron County

Project No. 26-00349

Project County: Iron

Project Year: 1972

Project title: Bates Township Park

Project Status: Grant Closed

Grant Amount:
\$30,500.00

Scope Item

Project Description: Develop 7 acres for : boat launch, boat ramp, parking, beach improvements, picnic area, 1 ballfield, 1 group shelter, 3 horseshoes courts, 1 raft, 1 multi-purpose court, 1 bathhouse

Project No. BF89-036

Project County: Iron

Project Year: 1989

Project title: Bates Township Park

Project Status: Withdrawn

Grant Amount:
\$19,110.00

Scope Item

Breakwater

Campsites

Resurface basketball crt

Security light

Toilets/shower building

Water service

Project Description: Upgrade campground and day use facility.

Project No. TF11-105

Project County: Iron

Project Year: 2011

Project title: Bates Township Park Improvements

Project Status: Grant Closed

Grant Amount:
\$155,900.00

Scope Item



GRANT HISTORY

Grantee

Bates Township - Iron County

Clearing and grubbing, stabilize w/ native plants

MNRTF sign

New concrete slab

New fishing pier

New pavilion/food structure

New trail to fishing pier

New walkway to pavilion

Remove building and concrete slab

Repair existing fireplace

Upgrade existing driveways

Project Description: Development to include barrier-free access and improvements to existing pavilion, restrooms, and development of a fishing pier.

Project No. TF18-0039

Project County: Iron

Project Year: 2018

Project title: Paint River Access Site Improvements

Project Status: Grant Closed

Grant Amount:
\$58,800.00

Scope Item

Access Pathway 6' wide or more

Canoe/Kayak Launch or Ramp

Paved Parking Lot

Recycle Bin(s)

Signage

Signage

Trash Bin(s)

Vault/Pit Toilet(s)

Project Description: Development of a new accessible launch site on the Bates-Crystal Falls Paint River Water Trail. The project includes accessible parking, vault toilet, an accessible paddle craft launch, an accessible camp site, and other improvements to the waterfront area to enhance access to the river. Development of three additional rustic campsites, including a vault toilet, are also planned upstream of the accessible launch.

Total number of projects: 4

Total Amount of Grant Given \$264,310.00

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND
FUND

GRANTEE: Bates Township

PROJECT TF18-0039 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Paint River Access Site Improvements
Vault Toilets, Canoe/Kayak Launch, Access Pathway, Paved Lot,

PROJECT SCOPE: Signage

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee)	Contact Person	Title
Bates Township	Jon Oberlin	Supervisor
Address	Telephone	
3070 E. US-2	906.265.2787	
City, State, ZIP	Email	
Iron River, MI 49935	supervisor@batestownship.com	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?
If yes, please describe change(s). ☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐ Yes ☒ No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐ Yes ☒ No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

DPW staff performs spring and fall maintenance and all other necessary work.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☐ Yes ☒ No

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Seasonal, open 24 hours a day

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Jon Oberlin

Please print

Grantee Authorized Signature

1/11/2023

Date

Ryan Morgan

Please print

Witness Signature

1/11/2023

Date

Send completed report to:

POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: ☒ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☐ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND
FUND

GRANTEE: Bates Township

PROJECT TF11-105 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Bates Township Park Improvements

PROJECT SCOPE: Development for barrier free access, pavilion, concession stand.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee) Bates Township	Contact Person Jon Oberlin	Title Supervisor
Address 3070 E. US-2	Telephone 906.265.2787	
City, State, ZIP Iron River, MI 49935	Email supervisor@batestownship.com	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?
If yes, please describe change(s). ☐ Yes ☒ No

Has any portion of the project site been converted to a use other than outdoor recreation? If yes, please describe what portion and describe use. (This would include cell towers and any non-recreation buildings.) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Are any of the facilities obsolete? If yes, please explain. ☐ Yes ☒ No

SITE QUALITY

Is there a park entry sign which identifies the property or facility as a public recreation area?
If yes, please provide a photograph of the sign. If no, please explain. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Are the facilities and the site being properly maintained? If no, please explain. ☒ Yes ☐ No

Is vandalism a problem at this site? If yes, explain the measures being taken to prevent or minimize vandalism. ☐ Yes ☒ No

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

Is maintenance scheduled on a regular basis? If yes, give schedule. If no, please explain.

☒ Yes ☐ No

A campground hoist is employed for typical daily maintenance while the Twp. DPW staff performs spring and fall maintenance and all other necessary work.

GENERAL

Is a Program Recognition plaque permanently displayed at the site? If yes, please provide a photograph. (Not required for Bond Fund Grants)

☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Is any segment of the general public restricted from using the site or facilities? (i.e. resident only, league only, boaters only, etc.) If yes, please explain.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Is a fee charged for use of the site or facilities? If yes, please provide fee structure.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Fees are charged for overnight camping and park pavilion rental only.

There are no fees charged for entrance to the park.

What are the hours and seasons for availability of the site?

Seasonal, Open 24 hours a day.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Jon Oberlin

Please print



Grantee Authorized Signature

1/11/2023

Date

Ryan Morgan

Please print



Witness Signature

1/11/2023

Date

Send completed report to:

**POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**

**PUBLIC OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANT
POST-COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT**

*This information required under authority of Part 19, PA 451 of 1994, as amended;
the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965, 78 Stat. 897 (1964); and Part 715, of PA 451 of 1994, as amended.*

GRANT TYPE: ☐ MICHIGAN NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST FUND ☐ CLEAN MICHIGAN INITIATIVE
(Please select one) ☒ LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND ☐ RECREATION PASSPORT ☐ BOND
FUND

GRANTEE: Bates Township

PROJECT 26-00349 **PROJECT TYPE:** Development

PROJECT TITLE: Bates Township Park

PROJECT SCOPE: Boat launch, boat ramp, parking, beach and other improvements.

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY (GRANTEE)

Name of Agency (Grantee) Bates Township	Contact Person Jon Oberlin	Title Supervisor
Address 3070 E. US-2	Telephone 906.265.2787	
City, State, ZIP Iron River, MI 49935	Email supervisor@batestownship.com	

SITE DEVELOPMENT

Any change(s) in the facility type, site layout, or recreation activities provided?
If yes, please describe change(s).

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POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

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☒ Yes ☐ No

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Seasonal, Open 24 hours a day.

COMMENTS (ATTACH SEPARATE SHEET IF MORE SPACE IS NEEDED)

POST COMPLETION SELF-CERTIFICATION REPORT - CONT'D

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that I am duly elected, appointed and/or authorized by the Grantee named above and that the information and answers provided herein are true and accurate to the best of my personal knowledge, information and belief.

Jon Oberlin

Please print



Grantee Authorized Signature

1/11/2023

Date



Please print



Witness Signature

1/11/2023

Date

Send completed report to:

**POST COMPLETION GRANT INSPECTION REPORTS
GRANTS MANAGEMENT
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
PO BOX 30425
LANSING MI 48909-7925**

Bates Township, Michigan
MDNR Recreation Plan
Bates Township Park Improvements (TF11-105) (26-00349)



Bates Township Park Entrance Sign



MNRTF Recognition Sign



LWCRF Recognition Sign

Bates Township, Michigan
MDNR Recreation Plan
Paint River Access Site Improvements (TF18-0039)



Paint River Access Site Entrance Sign



MNRTF Recognition Sign

Appendix C

Notice of Recreation Plan Availability and Notice of Public Hearing and
Meeting Minutes

Affidavit of Publication

State of Michigan

NOTICE OF RECREATION PLAN AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING
BATES TOWNSHIP

THE BATES TOWNSHIP RECREATION PLAN IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR
PUBLIC REVIEW IN THE ADMINISTRATORS OFFICE AT THE BATES
TOWNSHIP HALL.

Crystal Bear

Crystal Bear, being duly sworn, says that she is Co-Editor of the Iron County *Reporter*, a newspaper published and circulated in said county and otherwise qualified according to Supreme Court Rule; that annexed hereto is a printed copy of a notice which was published in said newspaper on the following date, or dates, to-wit: **December 13, 2023**. Subscribed and sworn before me on this **13th day of December 2023**.

Wendy L. Graham

Wendy L. Graham

Notary Public

Iron County, Michigan

My commission expires January 9, 2028



NOTICE OF RECREATION PLAN AVAILABILITY AND PUBLIC HEARING

Bates Township

The Bates Township Recreation Plan is currently available for public review in the Administrators Office at the Bates Township Hall. The Recreation Plan, which will be submitted to the DNR by February 1, 2024, will state the goals and objectives of the Township's recreational opportunities along with the action plan to achieve the Township's goals. The submittal of this Plan is required to be eligible to receive recreation grant funding through the DNR. Please submit written comments by January 15, 2024, to Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk, Bates Township Hall, 3070 E. Hwy U.S. 2, Iron River, MI 49935. A public hearing is scheduled for January 15, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. at the Bates Township Hall to discuss the recreation plan, receive public comments, review written comments on the draft plan and adopt the Recreation Plan.

335343

Published December 13, 2023

BATES TOWNSHIP BOARD

**DNR Recreation Plan 2024-2028
Public Hearing**

The special meeting of the Bates Township Board was held on Monday, January 15, 2024, at 5:00PM at the Township Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to hear public comments on the Bates Township Recreation Plan.

Supervisor Oberlin called the meeting to order; Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken with Supervisor Oberlin, Clerk Benson-Stafford, Treasurer Nelson, Trustees Franzene & Adams were present. Also in attendance were P&R- Mike Golas & Mike Stafford; Ryan Morgan/GEI & Residents.

ATTENDEES

Supervisor Oberlin opened the floor to public comment and questions. Summary of Public Comments, Questions, and Responses:

Public Comment: None

Response: NA

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adopt the Resolution of the Bates Township Recreation Plan 2024-2028. Supported by Trustee Adams. Roll call vote: Supervisor Oberlin, yes; Clerk Benson-Stafford, yes; Trustee Franzene, yes; Trustee Adams, yes; Treasurer Nelson, yes. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION

ADJOURNMENT


A motion was made by Treasurer Nelson to adjourn. Supported by Trustee Adams. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM. All ayes. Motion carried. The next regular meeting will be held at the Township Hall on February 14, 2024, @ 6:00 PM.


Barbara Benson-Stafford, Clerk

Date approved: 2-14-2024

Rec Plan Special Meeting Minutes 1-15-2024

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the minutes of the Bates Township Special Meeting/Public Hearing on the 2024-2028 DNR Recreation Plan held on January 15, 2024.

 2-14-2024

Barbara Benson-Stafford
Bates Township Clerk

Date

Appendix D

Resolution of Adoption

**Bates Township
Recreation Plan**

RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION

WHEREAS, Bates Township has undertaken a planning process to determine the recreation and natural resource conservation needs and desires of its residents during a five-year period covering the years 2024 through 2028, and

WHEREAS, Bates Township began the process of developing a community recreation and natural resource conservation plan in accordance with the most recent guidelines developed by the Department of Natural Resources and made available to local communities, and

WHEREAS, residents of Bates Township were provided with a well-advertised opportunity during the development of the draft plan to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the recreation and natural resource conservation plan, and

WHEREAS, the public was given a well-advertised opportunity and reasonable accommodations to review the final draft plan for a period of at least 30 days, and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on January 15, 2024 at the Bates Township Hall to provide an opportunity for all residents of the planning area to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss all aspects of the Bates Township's MDNR Recreation Plan, and

WHEREAS, Bates Township has developed the plan as a guideline for improving recreation and enhancing natural resource conservation for the Township, and

WHEREAS, after the public hearing, Bates Township voted to adopt Bates Township Recreation Plan.

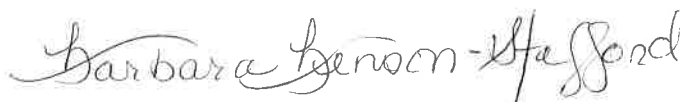
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Bates Township hereby adopts the Bates Township Recreation Plan.

Yeas: 5

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

I, Barbara Benson-Stafford, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and original copy of a resolution adopted by Bates Township Board at a Special Meeting thereof held on the (15th day of January, 2024.)



Appendix E

Transmittal Letters to Planning Agencies



Consulting
Engineers and
Scientists

January 31, 2024

Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region
400 Quincy St, 8th Floor
Hancock, MI 49930

RE: Bates Township 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find a copy of Bates Township's 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan, as adopted by the Township Board on January 15, 2024.

The Plan is being filed with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and is submitted to you per their requirements. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

GEI CONSULTANTS OF MICHIGAN, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Morgan".

Ryan Morgan
Project Engineer

RJM:plw

Cc: Jon Oberlin, Supervisor (Cover Letter)

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Consulting
Engineers and
Scientists

January 31, 2024

Mr. Mark Stauber
Board Chair
Iron County Courthouse
2 South 6th St
Crystal Falls, MI 49920

RE: Bates Township 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan

Dear Mr. Mark Stauber:

Enclosed please find a copy of Bates Township's 5-Year MDNR Recreation Plan, as adopted by the Township Board on January 15, 2024.

The Plan is being filed with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and is submitted to you per their requirements. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

GEI CONSULTANTS OF MICHIGAN, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Morgan".

Ryan Morgan
Project Engineer

RJM:plw

Cc: Jon Oberlin, Supervisor (Cover Letter)

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